

**Westminster Legal Policy Forum Keynote Seminar:
Probation services in England and Wales - the future of the *Transforming Rehabilitation* framework
and priorities for *Through the Gate* resettlement**

Timing: Morning, Tuesday, 7th November 2017

Venue: Central London



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Laming
- 9.05 - 9.25 **Evaluating the *Transforming Rehabilitation* programme**
Lawrence Burke, Reader in Criminal Justice, Liverpool John Moores University and Editor, Probation Journal (2007-2016)
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 9.35 **Delivering value for money in probation**
Oliver Lodge, Director, Ministry of Justice Value for Money Audit, National Audit Office
- 9.35 - 10.25 **Operational challenges for the probation framework - latest thinking on funding, performance and CRC contracts**
How warranted are current concerns over lower than expected numbers of offenders under supervision by community rehabilitation companies, and what are the implications of this shortfall for the viability of CRC contracts? How successful has the Transforming Rehabilitation framework been so far at incentivising innovation in the approaches that are taken to reducing re-offending; for example, to what extent does the current application of payment by results (PbR) encourage providers to develop new approaches to supervision? Following reports of low morale and staff shortages in CRCs, what can be done to further develop the probation sector's workforce? After the National Audit Office raised concerns that inadequate IT infrastructure was having a negative impact on information-sharing between relevant agencies, how can communication and case-management be improved, and what are the implications for operational efficiency? As the Clinks, NCVO and Third Sector Research Centre's 'TrackTR' project continues to indicate a lack of engagement between probation providers and third-sector organisations, how might CRC contracts be revised to incentivise greater communication and collaboration in this area?
Ian Lawrence, General Secretary, Napo
Nathan Dick, Head of Policy and Communications, Clinks
Yvonne Thomas, Managing Director, Justice, Interserve
Barbara Parn, Justice Account Director, Sopra Steria
Speaker confirmed from the **Magistrates' Association**
Questions and comments from the floor with **Oliver Lodge**, Director, Ministry of Justice Value for Money Audit, National Audit Office
- 10.25 - 10.30 **Chair's closing remarks**
Rt Hon the Lord Laming
- 10.30 - 11.00 Coffee
- 11.00 - 11.05 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord German, Liberal Democrat Lords Spokesperson for Rehabilitation, Probation and Prison Reform
- 11.05 - 11.35 **'Can probation services deliver what we all want and expect?'**
Dame Glenys Stacey, HM Chief Inspector of Probation
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.35 - 12.30 **The future of *Through the Gate* resettlement - next steps for housing, healthcare and new partnerships**
*Stakeholder perspectives on Government's *Through the Gate* resettlement programme, and emerging priorities for improving its performance. Following a series of critical reports from the Criminal Justice Inspectorates, how can probation services increase the education, training and employment (ETE) opportunities available to ex-offenders? With concerns that third-sector involvement is less than that promised by CRCs during the bidding process, what can probation services do to facilitate greater engagement with providers of these services? What progress has been made so far in improving the employment opportunities available to ex-offenders, and how can programmes such as 'Ban the Box' be expanded to ensure offenders have the broadest possible range of opportunities available? How can the information available to ex-offenders and probation staff be improved so that the housing needs are met prior to release and referrals meet the specific requirements of the individual? How can Government facilitate the development of better communication and referral pathways between CRCs and relevant health agencies, where studies have revealed inadequate mental health provision for offenders in the community?*
Joanne Drew, Director of Housing, Nacro
Dr Coral Sirdifield, Research Fellow, School of Health and Social Care, University of Lincoln
Peter Dawson, Director, Prison Reform Trust
Bronwen Elphick, Chief Executive, Durham Tees Valley Community Rehabilitation Company
Senior representative, employment
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Emerging priorities for *Transforming Rehabilitation***
Senior speaker to be announced
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Lord German, Liberal Democrat Lords Spokesperson for Rehabilitation, Probation and Prison Reform
Marc Gammon, Associate Editor, Westminster Legal Policy Forum