

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....23rd March 2016

1. Title of Item/Report

Update on the delivery of Probation Services in Stockton

2. Record of the Decision

Consideration was given to a report on the current arrangements in Cleveland following the Ministry of Justice 'Transforming Rehabilitation' programme 2013.

The 'Transforming Rehabilitation' approach led to a significant change in the management and delivery of probation services. Local Probation services were essentially split with 30% of the caseload (most serious offenders) allocated to the National Probation Service (NPS). The remaining 70% caseload was assigned to 35 Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRC) across England and Wales which were subsequently put out to tender. Expressions of interest were encouraged from both private companies and mutual organisations.

Prior to Transforming Rehabilitation, Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust was considered one of the highest performing services nationally. In an attempt to reduce the impact of change and to provide the best possible chance of maintaining service quality a not for profit Community Interest Company (CIC) was established to bid for the Durham Tees Valley CRC under the name of ARCC (Achieving Real Change for Communities). Following a successful bidding process ARCC won the contract to deliver probation services across Durham and Tees Valley. The contract which came into effect on 1st February 2015 is for an initial 7 years with the option for a further 3-year extension. ARCC was the only not for profit organisation nationally, delivering probation services. ARCC was made up of the following partners from the Public, Private and Third sectors:

- Stockton-On-Tees Borough Council
- Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
- Darlington Borough Council
- Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust
- Thirteen Group
- The Vardy Foundation
- The Wise Group

- Safe in Tees Valley
- Changing Lives North East (CIC)

A key characteristic and motivation for the creation and continual development of the CRC was to put the needs of the community and the offender at the forefront of the service. While it was imperative that the overall budget was balanced the generation of significant profits was not a priority. Any profits that were generated through good practice and performance would be reinvested in the service. The CRC had a high level Service Delivery Manual which was available to all partners.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

3. Reasons for the Decision

This report is for information only.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Nelson declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of agenda item 6 - Update on the Delivery of Probation Services in Stockton-on-Tees as he was a member of Tristar Board.

6. Details of any Dispensations

N/A

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Midnight, 4th April 2016

Proper Officer  
29 March 2016