

Reducing Reoffending Action Plan

1. Further to earlier consideration of this issue, the Partnership agreed to prepare an Action Plan addressing the 8 'pathways' of
 - (a) Accommodation
 - (b) Alcohol
 - (c) Drugs
 - (d) Employment
 - (e) Family Support
 - (f) Finance, Benefits & Debt
 - (g) Health; and
 - (h) Life Skills & Offending Behaviour
2. At the time of writing the pathway lead officers have submitted drafts for seven of the eight pathways with 30 action points in total. One has not yet been received, due to long-term sickness.
3. In some cases the drafts will need some refinement to make them more precise, particularly in terms of identification of lead people for each action, and of precision and measurement of the targets.
4. Some further work is also required to consider an overarching target for the Plan, i.e. baseline for the rates of current reoffending, and consideration of a challenging but realistic level of reduction. The overarching target will need to take account of National Indicator 18, which measures the rate of adult reoffending, in terms of offences (based on convictions). Probation colleagues have to date received three sets of quarterly data from the Ministry of Justice, and a fourth quarter's data is expected during February. These four quarters will then provide the baseline rate of reoffending in Stockton.
5. At least two other National Indicators, numbers 143 and 144, will also be relevant to the Plan, in relation to the Accommodation and Employment pathways respectively. No baselines at unitary authority are yet available, only at Probation Service level, and these will be needed in order to set sensible targets.
6. In view of the further work needed, it is proposed to bring a further report to the next meeting of the Partnership, in March, with a proposed final version of the Plan for endorsement.

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