

News Release

Durham Tees Valley
Probation Trust



16th April 2012

INTERSERVE JOINS FORCES WITH DURHAM TEES VALLEY TO REDUCE REOFFENDING

Interserve, the international support services and construction group, has today announced a new alliance with Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust to collaborate on developing offender management and rehabilitation services.

Interserve has a long track record in working with government as a Public Sector provider in welfare, defence, health and justice, whilst Durham Tees Valley was recently named as the only four-star provider of probation services in the country. By working together the agreement will see both parties sharing skills and expertise to build high-quality and effective solutions to crime.

This is the first national agreement between a private provider and a probation trust. The first step in the alliance involves proposals to run three prisons – HMP Durham, HMP Onley in Northamptonshire and HMP Wolds in Humberside.

Interserve has been approved by the Ministry of Justice to bid in the latest round of prison competitions. If its bid is successful Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust will support Interserve in the delivery at these three prisons. The Trust's probation managers will join with Interserve's prison management team to lead and shape the integrated rehabilitation and resettlement services.

Interserve's justice team is led by Yvonne Thomas, who previously held senior posts with the National Offender Management Service.

INTERSERVE AND DURHAM TEES VALLEY ALLIANCE ...2

She explains "This groundbreaking alliance will bring together two unique sets of organisational expertise which will enable us to develop and sustain new ways of working to reduce reoffending and protect the public.

"We are particularly pleased to have Durham Tees Valley as our partner because of the excellence of their professional practice, their innovative approach to effective service delivery and their very strong performance as a Public Sector provider. They have also gained praise for their strong strategic leadership in a recent inspection report from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation."

Adds Sebert Cox OBE, Chairman of the Durham Tees Probation Trust "Like every other public sector organisation we must constantly explore new ways of doing business and that includes looking to develop partnerships to share expertise, resources and investment.

"In our discussions with Interserve we have been impressed by their understanding of the role of the probation service and the fact that their justice team is led by someone such as Yvonne Thomas, who brings to the role an in-depth knowledge and appreciation of what probation does and what we can bring to the partnership.

"Our core purpose is to protect the public by managing and rehabilitating offenders effectively--and that will be the heart of this agreement."

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Interserve's vision is to be the Trusted Partner of all our stakeholders. We are one of the world's foremost support services and construction companies, operating in the public and private sectors in the UK and internationally. We offer advice, design, construction, equipment and facilities management services for society's infrastructure. Interserve is based in the UK. It has revenue of £1.9 billion and a workforce of nearly 50,000 people worldwide.