

Solihull Reducing Reoffending Delivery Plan 2022-24

Reducing reoffending in partnership

Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) have a statutory responsibility under the Policing and Crime Act 2009 to develop a strategic approach to reduce reoffending. The emphasis on 'reoffending' is because around half of all crime is committed by individuals with previous convictions, whilst a formal definition of 'prolific offender' is applied to young adults with 8 or more recorded offences and older adults (25+) with 16 or more offences. Activity targeted at repeat offenders can therefore gain disproportionately better results for communities.

Prevention of crime of any sort is the ideal goal, and stability across a range of factors, employment, accommodation, relationships, health, substance misuse, is a significant influence on steering most people away from any form of criminal conviction in their lifetime. The 'Public Health' approach to crime and violence, which focusses on creating positive opportunities and outcomes from maternity onwards epitomises this. Detection and bringing individuals to justice is another key thread in maintaining safer communities, with punishment, including imprisonment, also contributing to community safety. In all but the most extreme cases, however, incarceration is finite and there is a need to develop rehabilitative strategies to channel individuals away from further crime. These are typically known as 'pathways'. The seven pathways that have been broadly recognised over the last 2 decades are:-

- Accommodation
- Education, training and employment
- Finance, benefit and debt
- Children and families
- Drugs and alcohol
- Health
- Attitudes, thinking and behaviour

These provide a framework for grouping interventions, albeit it is important that they are responsive to different protected characteristics, particularly the needs of female offenders, who can be overlooked in the system as they typically make up only 10% of the offending population.

Statutory supervision

A significant proportion of active convicted offenders are subject to statutory supervision by the Probation Service. The number of Solihull residents in active statutory community supervision (either a court mandated community order or suspended sentence order or post-release licence supervision) at any one time is around 350. The existence of orders and licences that are legally enforceable provides a mandate for engaging offenders in interventions. Other offenders may be managed by the police on a non-statutory basis and are also in scope for interventions. While non-compliance cannot be enforced in the same way with a non-statutory cohort, any rehabilitative activity is likely to be more successful if achieved through motivation rather than compulsion.

Current partnership frameworks

Youth Justice Service – Solihull’s Youth Justice Service addresses reoffending challenges from children aged 10 to 17. It is a multi-agency initiative comprising the Local Authority, health, police and probation and is overseen by a management board which takes responsibility for ensuring relevant pathways are available.

MAPPA – Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements are a mechanism by which agencies collaborate in the management of sexual and serious violence offenders. Police, probation and prisons are the ‘responsible authorities’ whilst a wider range of organisations have a ‘duty to cooperate’. Offenders tiered at levels 1, 2 and 3, with oversight highest at tier 3. Governance sits at West Midlands level.

IOM – Integrated Offender Management was relaunched by the Government in 2021 focussing on a multi-agency approach to managing prolific ‘neighbourhood’ offenders, including robbers and burglars. These groups are the focus of ‘fixed’ and ‘flex’ cohorts with greater local autonomy around selection of a ‘free’ cohort. In West Midlands, regional IOM guidance is being established at police force area level but management of the cohorts sits firmly at LA level.

Reducing reoffending pathways plan

Need	Priority issue	Action	Owner	Timescale	RAG rating
Accommodation	Enable access for offenders to appropriate, available, affordable accommodation in borough	Create appropriate links with Multi-Agency Homelessness Forum to ensure offender need is factored into commissioning process	Probation/ MAHF	March 2023	MAHF is well-established.
		Maximise use of Probation Service 'Commissioned Rehabilitative Service' (CRS) with NACRO to assist men subject to statutory supervision to source and retain accommodation	Probation	March 2023	Service is established. Current action plan to increase referrals
		Maximise use of Probation Service 'Commissioned Rehabilitative Service' (CRS) with Changing Lives to assist women subject to statutory supervision	Probation	March 2023	Service is established. Current action plan to increase referrals
		Explore access to sheltered accommodation for older offenders with support needs	Probation/ SMBC	June 2023	Over 55s is growing demographic
	Clarify the offender accommodation pathway in the borough	Map the offender accommodation pathway	SMBC/ Probation/ NACRO	March 2023	

		Promote 'Duty to Refer' of those at risk of homelessness to the Local Authority	SMBC/ Probation	March 2023	Legislative requirements need more consistent application
	Ensure priority offender-specific accommodation is appropriately targeted	Monitor use of commissioned provision (Greensquare Accord) to ensure it is targeted at those in greatest need	SMBC/ Probation	March 2023	Continuation of existing review process
		Contribute to SMBC review of commissioned offender-focussed provision	Police/ Probation	September 2023	Requires more effective data gathering
	Monitor placement of Solihull offenders with Birmingham accommodation providers	Monitor volume of out of borough placement of offenders and types of accommodation to which they are being moved	Probation	March 2023	Data required to identify unmet need
	Respond to needs of offenders who rough sleepers	Ensure new Rough Sleepers Pathway is responsive to needs of offenders who are at risk of rough sleeping	SMBC/ Police /Probation	March 2023	New initiative
Finance, Benefit & Debt	Ensure advice and support exists for offenders where finance and debt is a trigger for offending	Utilise Probation Service CRS provision with Ingeus to assist 'complex' male offenders to access debt advice and support in achieving financial resilience	Probation	March 2023	New service requires embedding
		Utilise Probation Service CRS provision with Changing Lives to assist 'complex' female offenders to access debt advice and support in achieving financial resilience	Probation	March 2023	Positive use

		Ensure pathways to other services (Community Wellbeing Hub/Colebridge Trust / CAB) are clear for less complex and non-statutory offenders	Police / Probation	March 2023	Established pathway
Employment, education & training	Increase proportion of people under statutory supervision and other active offenders who are actively engaged in ETE	Utilise Probation Service CRS provision with Maximus to assist male offenders to access training opportunities and employment	Probation	March 2023	Service is established. Current action plan to increase referrals
		Utilise Probation Service CRS provision with Changing Lives to assist female offenders to access training opportunities and employment	Probation	March 2023	Service is established. Current action plan to increase referrals
		Utilise CFO3 ESF/HMPPS-funded service delivered by IXION to assist offenders not meeting the threshold for CRS provision to access	Probation	September 2023	Well-used pathway but ESF funding will end
	Develop an 'employer offer' to enhance pathways for offenders into the workplace	SMBC to liaise with all relevant parties to establish and clarify network of interested providers	SMBC	September 2023	Currently ESF-funded
	Ensure offender access to mainstream employability pathways	Improve links with DWP and ensure available provision is publicised and accessed	DWP / Probation	March 2023	Stronger links required
Children and families	Develop an early help offer for children in families impacted by the offending of a parent	Clarify current early help offer and ensure that practitioners working with offenders are familiar with it	SMBC / Police / Probation	June 2023	Need to tap into developing early help offer

	Address disadvantage experienced by children when a parent is imprisoned	Contribute to Local Safeguarding Children Partnership initiative on impact of parental imprisonment	LSCP / Probation / Police	March 2023	Task and finish group commences Nov 22
	Respond to the potential harm caused by substance misusing parents	Ensure links with the Birmingham and Solihull Family Drug and Alcohol Court	Probation	March 2023	
		Clarify pathways and ensure practitioners are aware of the commissioned 'Hidden Harm' service provided by SIAS	Public Health		
Drugs and alcohol	Positively exploit pathways into court-mandated treatment	Utilise 'testing on arrest' to channel offenders toward treatment at first point of contact.	Police	March 2023	Well-established police activity
		Ensure early identification of suitable candidates for Drug Rehabilitation Requirements / Alcohol Treatment Requirements	Police / Probation/ Cranstoun	June 2023	Volumes impacted by COVID. Improvement required
		Promote and improve volume of Alcohol Abstinence Monitoring Requirements	Probation	March 2023	Recent provision. Requires embedding
	Role of drug testing in risk management / enforcement	Ensure appropriate inclusion of drug testing requirements, to manage risk of reoffending and risk of harm, in post-release licences	Probation	March 2023	Volumes impacted by COVID. Improvement required
	Monitor alcohol use of released prisoners on licence	Promote usage of Alcohol Monitoring on Licence provision, to enforce abstinence or to monitor alcohol intake as appropriate	Probation	March 2023	Recent provision. Requires embedding

	Maintenance of treatment from custody to community (through the gate)	Improve systems and processes to ensure those released from custody (particularly non-opiate users) engage promptly with community treatment providers	Public Health / SIAS/ Probation	June 2023	National priority. New Health and Justice Coordinator posts will assist
Health	Lack of GP registration can hinder access to services	Boost registration prior to prison release	Prisons	March 2023	
		Ensure GP registration is addressed at probation induction	Probation	March 2023	Ongoing initiative
	Access to mental health pathways	Ensure pathway access is clearly understood by police and probation	Health	March 2023	Further mapping required
	Exploit access to services providing support relating to neuro-diversity	Embed newly commissioned neuro-diversity services, initially focussed on IOM cohort	Probation / Police	March 2023	Service about to be launched
	Positively exploit pathways into court-mandated treatment	Ensure individuals are appropriately targeted for mental health treatment requirements	Probation	March 2023	Volumes impacted by COVID. Improvement required
	Maintenance of treatment from custody to community (through the gate)	Exploit new Health and Justice Partnership Co-ordinator role to ensure continuity of care both or mental and physical health	Probation	June 2023	New regional post. Potential to be explored
Attitudes, thinking and behaviour	Maximising utilisation of accredited behaviour-changing interventions	Ensure all offenders under statutory supervision are referred into specific interventions particularly accredited programmes, structured interventions and toolkits	Probation	March 2023	Current action plan in place to increase volumes

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