

Seeking positive change for offenders in Wales

The 'Framework to support positive change for those at risk of offending in Wales 2018-23' sets out how organisations involved will work closely together to provide support to any offender who requires it. It aims to ensure positive outcomes are achieved not only for offenders but also those at risk of offending, as well as their families and our communities.

The document, published today, builds on the success of The Reducing Reoffending Strategy 2014-16 and has been developed jointly by Welsh Government and Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service in Wales, on behalf of the All Wales Criminal Justice Board.

Alun Davies said:

"We are committed to reducing offending and reoffending, to help ensure our communities remain safe.

"The previous Strategy was a success due to organisations in Wales, devolved, non-devolved and third sector, committing to working in partnership. I am pleased the new Framework will promote further collaboration but will also focus efforts on early intervention to reduce the number of offenders entering the criminal justice system, as well as working with women and young people at risk."

Justice Minister Dr Phillip Lee said:

"This work will bring together vital agencies in Wales, including health, education and housing, to give offenders the network of support services they need to help them reintegrate into society.

"We remain committed to working in collaboration with our partners in Wales to continue to protect the public and give offenders the skills they need to lead more constructive lives on release."

Greater and continued collaboration across Wales will reduce the demand on services provided for those at risk of re-offending at the point of crisis, by moving the focus to early intervention. This will also help manage demand on health and social services for people who are not in the criminal justice system.

It also considers how we can better support the children of offenders from entering the criminal justice system themselves, and how we can provide better support to young people and care leavers to prevent a deterioration of behaviour into crime. It also covers those adult offenders already in the

criminal justice system, and how we can better support them to come to terms with their own actions and in doing so, support their rehabilitation and improve their resettlement.

The Framework will be formally launched on 19th April in Cardiff, where key stakeholders will reflect on the progress made to date under the Reducing Reoffending Strategy and be invited to consider how they can support an Integrated Offender Management approach to the Framework's priority groups in future.