

Construction begins at revolutionary first secure school

- New world-leading approach to youth custody takes shape
- Education placed at heart of new 'school within prison walls' to cut crime and keep our streets safe
- Young people supported into training and jobs upon release

The school – based on the site of the now closed Medway Secure Training Centre in Kent – will see young offenders go straight from the courtroom to the classroom, with every single pupil enrolled in formal education or training and encouraged into further learning or employment on release.

It will be run by education provider Oasis Restore rather than the Prison Service, and inside it will be laid out like a school inside the prison walls. Staff will be trained to offer a broad curriculum and offer one-to-one learning support, and they will set challenging targets in core academic subjects such as English and mathematics. Ofsted inspectors will hold the establishment to the same standards as all other schools nationwide – ensuring the education on offer is of the best possible standard.

Young people will also participate in a weekly programme of rigorous physical education and have the opportunity to work towards sports and leisure qualifications. This will teach important life skills and provide an invaluable asset towards independence and employability.

Since 2012 the number of children in custody has fallen from around 2,000 in 2012 to around 500. These young offenders are around 50 percent more likely to reoffend than adult offenders.

Though wider youth reoffending rates for children who received custodial or community sentences have fallen from 38 percent in 2012 to 34 percent in 2022 they stubbornly remain nearly 9 percentage points higher than adult reoffending.

They are also much more likely to have had a disrupted a disrupted education. 60 percent are not engaged in education before entering custody due to truancy, suspension, or expulsion, meaning they have lost out on months' or years' worth of learning which would have given them the opportunities to steer clear of a life of crime.

Around eight in 10 prolific adult offenders begin committing crimes as children, with the estimated cost to the taxpayer around £17 billion per year.

Deputy Prime Minister, Lord Chancellor & Secretary of State for Justice, Dominic Raab MP, said:

This secure school is a first. It's effectively a school with prison walls around it that will give the stubborn hard core of young offenders, who need to be in custody, the tailored curriculum and mental health support they need to turn away from crime and get into training and work.

It's the right thing to do for them and the public, driving down reoffending, and making our streets safer.

The design of the new school is based on international, peer-reviewed research which shows that smaller settings, high-quality education and healthcare provision, and a specialised workforce of teachers and youth workers are vital to successfully rehabilitating young people in custody.

The old prison-style features at Medway have been stripped out and the finished site will look like a residential school rather than a custodial facility, within secure prison walls.

It will house 49 children when full, and will include state-of-the-art, bar-less windows as well as the latest secure in-room technology which will allow children to continue homework and projects in their rooms, organise their routines and contact their families in a safe and secure way.

Construction work will continue until autumn 2023 when the site will be handed over to specialist education provider and operator Oasis Restore, with the first pupils expected to arrive in 2024.

The Rev Steve Chalke MBE, Founder of Oasis, said:

For too long society has bought into the idea that punishing young people will somehow benefit them. All the research shows this does not work. You can't help a child by harming them. You can't take children who have been wounded psychologically and somehow hope that punishment will heal them. Then, when you release them, wonder why so many reoffend.

Oasis is not trying to ignore a young person's crime, or to minimise the pain of their victim and family. But, it's time for a revolution in youth justice. And, we're excited that Oasis Restore – the country's first secure school – with an emphasis on therapeutic care, education and positive settlement into life beyond our gates, which enables them to thrive – will be that revolution.

The school's core focus on getting troubled young people into jobs or further education is part of the Government's ambitious plan to further drive down

reoffending – following a five per cent fall over the last decade.

The construction of the new school builds on the Government's commitments under the Prison Strategy White Paper to drive up standards of adult education in custody, while also tackling drug and alcohol addiction and ensuring offenders are ready for work on release.

Notes to editors

- Read more about the [Prisons Strategy White Paper](#)
- Since 2012 reoffending rates have decreased from 30.9% to 25.6%.
- Reoffending among children has fallen by around 4 percentage points (from 38.3% to 34.2%).
- The number of under-18s in custody has gone down from 1,966 in the year ending March 2012 to 454 in the year ending March 2022.
- The latest annual figures from 2019/20 show that young people have a 63.7% risk of reoffending when they leave custody compared to 42% of adult prisoners.
- Learn more about Oasis Restore by visiting www.oasisrestore.org or via Twitter at www.twitter.com/OasisRestore
- Apply to become a teacher or youth worker at [Oasis Restore](#)

[Border Force and French Police Aux Frontières joint statement](#)

News story

Joint statement from UK and French agencies on the management of the shared border.



The Director General of Border Force, Phil Douglas and the Deputy Director General of the French Police Aux Frontières, Brigitte Lafourcade, have made a joint statement today on the management of the shared border.

Statement by UK Border Force and French Police aux Frontières

France and the UK have been working closely together over recent days to prepare for the management of our shared border through the current period of increased passenger traffic.

Both Police Aux Frontières and UK Border Force, in partnership with the port operators, have put plans in place at the juxtaposed controls on both sides of the Channel this weekend to maximise passenger flows.

France and the UK will continue to work together intensively to support fluidity of freight and passengers across the Channel through the summer period and beyond.

Communiqué de la Police Aux Frontières et de la Border Force Britannique

La France et le Royaume-Uni ont travaillé en étroite coopération au cours des derniers jours afin de planifier la gestion de notre frontière commune au cours de la période actuelle marquée par une augmentation du nombre de passagers.

La Police aux Frontières française et la « Border Force » britannique ont, en partenariat avec les opérateurs portuaires, pris les mesures nécessaires aux points de contrôles juxtaposés de chaque côté de la Manche afin d'optimiser les flux de passagers au cours de ce week-end.

La France et le Royaume-Uni continueront à mettre en œuvre tous les efforts pour assurer la fluidité du trafic des passagers et des véhicules de fret à travers la Manche tout au long de la période estivale et à l'avenir.

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[Kenya launches 2050 calculator to advance Climate Change mitigation in East Africa](#)

Kenya's Ministry of Energy, the British High Commission Nairobi, and Strathmore University have jointly launched the Kenya Carbon Emission Reduction Tool (KCERT 2050), a bespoke energy and emissions model to assist Kenya in achieving its climate goals.

The interactive energy model – the first in East Africa – was delivered under the UK Government’s international 2050 Calculator programme, which is funded by the UK’s International Climate Finance, and led by global engineering, management and development consultancy Mott MacDonald, and a consortium which includes Imperial College London, Climact and Ricardo.

KCERT 2050 allows users to trial options for reducing climate change-inducing carbon emissions at a faster rate and to build a pathway that meets long-term emission targets to 2050 and beyond. It can be used to support policy-making to allow governments to increase national action on climate change and strengthen ambition in line with the 2015 Paris Agreement.

KCERT 2050 will play a key role in helping policy-makers, energy producers and consumers, including the public, in Kenya to understand the energy and emissions related choices they are making. It also provides a platform for engaging in dialogues on the challenges and opportunities of the future energy system and the responses to climate change. The project gives Kenya the opportunity to pioneer climate mitigation approaches across the East African region.

H.E Jane Marriott British High Commissioner to Kenya said:

As part of strengthening our UK-Kenya Strategic Partnership on climate action, the British High Commission welcomes the launch of the Kenya Carbon Emissions Reduction Tool 2050. This tool, which is a first in East Africa, will support government departments in Kenya to design and deliver evidence based, inclusive policies on emissions reductions, energy access, and matching energy supply and demand. I look forward to Kenya acting as a pioneer in championing the use of this innovative tool that will provide options for implementing Kenya’s emission reduction strategies and achieving net-zero development pathways by 2050.

In his remarks, the Principal Secretary Ministry of Energy, Maj. Gen (Rtd). Dr. Gordon Kihalangwa noted;

Energy is about security, about development, but if we use it badly it will affect us negatively. Kenya has complied with the Paris Agreement by submitting a revised NDC. A country like this is privileged to use renewables, and the tool will help us work out how we will get to net-zero by 2050. This KCERT 2050 will be used to support the reduction of emissions and create resilience to climate change in the energy sector in Kenya

Dr John Olukeni, Head of Data Science and Analytics at Strathmore University and Lead KCERT Modeller said:

The Kenya Carbon Emission Reduction Tool (KCERT) 2050 is an

important data driven policy making tool in climate change. It will help every Kenyan, expert or non-expert, to engage in a well-informed climate change debate. The calculator considers all sectors, stakeholders' input and various scenarios that provide enormous volume of data and hence sets a foundation to applying AI and machine learning to monitor and decrease carbon emissions, streamline operations to empower every policy maker to recognize that climate action provides an opportunity to create value by tapping into new markets and meeting growing demand for low-carbon plus greener services.

David Orr, Emerging Markets Trade and Investment Lead for Mott MacDonald and Programme Country Manager for Kenya, noted:

It has been such a pleasure working with the team to build the KCERT 2050 tool. Over the coming years, the tool will play a core role in advancing Kenya's net zero transition, inspiring policy-makers across East Africa.

Dr Onesmus Mwabonje, a Research Fellow at Imperial College London's Centre for Environmental Policy and core member of the Consortium team for Kenya, added:

KCERT will support and stimulate the decarbonisation debate in Kenya, helping to break down silos and generate the consensus across government departments needed to effectively combat, mitigate and adapt to climate change. The decision support capacity that the International 2050 Calculator programme has developed on the modelling of complex transitions and technological options will have a lasting impact in the country and beyond.

The KCERT is available at <http://kcert.ilabafrica.ac.ke/>

Further information

Background to the 2050 Calculator programme in Kenya

- KCERT 2050 is an integrated model of energy demand and supply, emissions, and land use in Kenya. It aims to identify energy secure pathways for energy demand and supply between 2015 and 2050. It is developed on the framework of the UK 2050 Calculator and was built in Kenya, by Kenyans, for Kenya.
- In 2010, the UK Government developed the original 2050 Calculator for the UK; although it has a very flexible structure which can be (and has been) adapted and updated to integrate and suit different economies. Since 2012, UK International Climate Finance has supported the creation of 19 national and 6 regional energy models, which have been used to develop NDCs and action plans, raise awareness and inform long-term

energy strategies. In 2020, BEIS launched an updated 2050 Calculator, the MacKay Carbon Calculator.

- It is a uniquely open, transparent and interactive energy model that allows users to explore options for reducing emissions in a city, region or country, develop evidence-based policies and build pathways to meet long-term emission targets. It sets out a range of four trajectories for the types of changes that might occur, ranging from business as usual to high ambition. These trajectories are intended to reflect the whole range of potential future scenarios that might be seen in that particular sector.
- The 2050 Calculator and other UK ICF programmes play a critical role in enabling countries to set, plan for, and ratchet ambitious climate targets to act with the urgency that we need today.

Objectives of the KCERT 2050

- To help users (government, businesses, academia and individuals) to understand the wide range of possible energy pathways available to the country as Kenya develops its green growth transition.
- To provide quantities of energy demand, supply, emissions, and potential implications for key sectors in Kenya on issues such as import dependence and land requirement.
- To offer a platform to facilitate policy debate about the possible future pathways for the Kenyan energy sector and enable potential policy interventions for deeper analysis.
- To help planning to meet Kenya's updated NDC, which commits to abate GHG emissions by 32% compared to the business-as-usual scenario in 2030. To help attain this target, the Calculator will support Kenya to undertake sophisticated multisectoral planning.

Benefits to Kenya

- The KCERT 2050 will increase capacity of departments across the Government of Kenya to carry out strengthened energy systems analysis. The tool allows planners, decision-makers to answer important questions, such as how much greenhouse gas emissions can be reduced and how energy demand can be met, with four different levels of effort and respective emissions levels over years.
- The tool also allows users to verify the viability of long-term goals, encouraging the participation of disparate opinions, facts, and scientific analysis.
- It can engage Kenya energy experts and non-experts alike in debate around policy-making towards a more secure, sustainable, and affordable energy future for the country; improving inclusivity of energy policy assessment, policy formulation, and energy planning. The tool also allows users to verify the viability of long-term goals, encouraging the participation of disparate opinions, facts, and scientific analysis.

References

Russia's record of barbarism and criminality in the five months since they invaded Ukraine: UK statement to UN Security Council

Thank you President. And I join others in thanking Ambassador Byrne-Nason for her stalwart and eloquent defence of international peace and security during your tenure on the Security Council and elsewhere. We will miss you.

President, I'd like to start by thanking Under-Secretary-General DiCarlo for her briefing.

First, we join others in welcoming the 22 July deal agreed in Istanbul to export the grain trapped by Russia's blockade of Odesa and other ports.

We commend the role of the UN and Turkiye in brokering this solution.

The agreement is undoubtedly important. Its implementation is now vital.

So that Ukrainian farmers' grain can once again be baked into bread in markets and on tables around the world – and enable the World Food Programme to address pressing famine conditions in Somalia and Ethiopia.

Second, we cannot forget the record of Russia's atrocities and crimes in the over five months since Russia invaded Ukraine. Before the ink was even dry on the 22nd of July grain agreement, Russia brazenly attacked Odesa port. This latest attack follows others: breaches of international humanitarian law in Bucha and Irpin, the attacks on civilians in the Mariupol theatre, Kramatorsk train station, Kremenchuk shopping mall, apartment buildings in Chasiv Yar and Vinnytsia, and the widespread torture and abuse of detainees, including women and children, as identified by Human Rights Watch and the OSCE Moscow Mechanism.

The video this week of the castration of a Ukrainian prisoner of war by Russian soldiers is an illustration of Russia's barbarism and criminality.

Third, Russia has violated the UN Charter and breached its obligations under that charter. For five months, Russia has been engaged in an illegal invasion of another Member State in breach of its obligations under the UN Charter, and in complete disregard of resolutions of the General Assembly and orders of the ICJ.

Preparations for sham referenda in Kherson and Zaporizhzhya are the latest examples of Russia's breaches of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity.

So, Mr President, we continue to demand that Russia end its invasion, withdraw from Ukraine and uphold its obligations under the UN Charter.

GAD's wide-ranging skills

News story

GAD's wide ranging work including the use of data science and modelling, was discussed at a recent event attended by analysts from local authorities.



The wide remit of work undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department (GAD) and the changing roles of actuaries were discussed at a recent local government webinar.

Actuaries from GAD joined members of the Local Government Advanced and Predictive Analytics Network (APAN) at its 10th webinar. This virtual event was attended by analysts from local authorities across England and Wales.

Current challenges

GAD presenters explored examples of how we use data science, insurance mechanisms and quality assurance processes as part of projects. We also considered how this work could be relevant to the current challenges being faced by local government.

The session included case studies on:

- COVID-19 – covering our work with the Department of Health and Social Care, to identify and prioritise vulnerable people during the pandemic
- data science – we shared information about models and predictive data analytics when it comes to modelling potential drought outcomes in sub-Saharan Africa
- quality assurance – we shared tips and examples of good quality assurance in projects, using projects relevant to local government
- insurance – where protection is important and how we help departments

address deficiencies in insurance cover

- contingent liabilities – we shared expertise on the complex area of contingent liability in projects, including commercial insurance and indemnities

Sharing expertise

GAD actuary Jon Day said: “As an advocate for the use of data science and predictive analytics across the public sector, we were able to share our case studies with the APAN members.

“We help the network consider how predictive analytics, model quality assurance and insurance principles could help provide solutions to the challenges facing local authorities.”

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