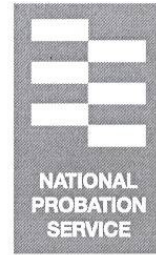


National Probation Directorate

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Probation Chief Officers
Probation Board Chairs
Probation Boards' Association
NAPO

5 October 2006

Dear Colleague

Workload Measurement Tool and Workload Prioritisation

Eleven Areas are now in the process of going 'live' with the WMT and a further eight are due to adopt the tool in the near future. As many of you know, there have been considerable delays caused to the implementation of the WMT by Steria bureaucracy. I was told by Chief Officers at yesterday's Northern Assembly that there are still some local problems with Steria. If you are experiencing problems with Steria will you please notify Martin Walpole in NPD HR who leads on the WMT.

In the wider context, I made it clear last year that I expected each Area to adopt the WMT unless they had an agreement with their local trade unions to use a different workload measurement tool. I now require a clear statement as to the date that each Area intends to adopt the tool. The NPD WMT team is working with London which, because of its size, provides unique problems for the implementation of the WMT.

I also wish to be assured that each Area has in place systems for monitoring and ensuring that there is effective workload prioritisation.

NAPO and Unison are raising real concerns about the speed of adoption of the WMT and, in their view, the lack of effective workload prioritisation.

Would you please notify Martin Walpole of the date you anticipate adopting the WMT and a statement as to the effect that your Area has an effective system of workload prioritisation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R Hill".

Roger Hill
Director of Probation