



HM Prison & Probation Service

Simi Badachha
Head of NPS Inspections
HM Inspectorate of Probation
1st Floor, Manchester Civil Justice
Centre,
1 Bridge Street West,
Manchester ME3 3FX

Sonia Flynn
Chief Probation Officer
HM Prison and Probation Service
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

24 June 2021

Dear Simi

HMI PROBATION ACTION PLANS – KENT SURREY SUSSEX PROBATION SERVICE

In preparation for the new unified Probation Service, all NPS regions and Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) provided a final RAAG rated progress update on their existing HMI Probation actions plans.

HMPPS Operational and System Assurance Group held workshops from March to May 2021 with each NPS Region alongside the HMPPS Contract Management team and CRC representatives. The aim of these workshops was to review all the CRC and NPS HMI Probation recommendations and actions with a view to closing them or moving them over to respective Regional Probation Directors to take forward into their Business as Usual (BAU) activity. Colleagues were also encouraged to share experiences of any positive practice.

This letter provides a summary of the findings from Kent, Surrey and Sussex region's workshop. Some of the key HMIP actions that the CRC and NPS have achieved across the area include

- Governance and assurance processes have been used locally to drive improvements in response to HMI Probation recommendations. This has included oversight from a regional HMIP Board, local cascade through Best Practice boards and a robust Quality Assurance Framework.
- Local leaders report a robust and systematic approach to embedding new approaches in response to HMI Probation recommendations, supported by Continuous Professional Development events for staff and follow-up audits.
- Improvements in several areas, including the quality of Court Assessment, structured Case Supervision and embedding the four-pillars approach to risk management.

Seven of the original fifteen CRC and NPS recommendations will continue to be progressed in their BAU activity by the KSS Regional Probation Director, Mary Pilgrim following Probation Reform. Please see the attached action plan for further details.

The remaining seven objectives located in the Regional HMIP action plan will be carried forward into the Regional Business Plan 2021/22. I will ensure these actions are completed through the routine reviews of the Regional Business Plans. On that basis I would wish to recommend to HMIP our response to the Inspections conducted in KSS CRC in February/March 2019 and in the NPS Region in May/June 2019 has been fully executed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonia Flynn', written in a cursive style.

Sonia Flynn

Chief Probation Officer, HM Prison and Probation Service

Copied to:

Amy Rees

Sian Hibbs

Craig Watt-Peters

Regional Probation Director Kent, Surrey and Sussex – Mary Pilgrim