



HMIP ACTION PLAN 2021: North East Probation Service

An Action Plan summarising key remaining activity within the North East Probation Service, in response to HMI Probation recommendations made to North East NPS (June 2019)¹ and Durham Tees Valley CRC (April 2020)² and Northumbria CRC (February 2020)³.

¹ The North East of England NPS HMIP Action Plan has been closed.

² The Durham Tees Valley CRC Action Plan will be closed upon unification of Probation Services in July 2021.

³The Northumbria CRC Action Plan will be closed upon unification of Probation Services in July 2021.



HM Prison & Probation Service

1. Domain and reference number	2. Recommendation ³	3. Agreed/ Partly Agreed/ Not Agreed	4. Response Action Taken/Planned	5. Responsible Owner (including named individuals and their functional role or department)	6. Target Date
NPS Specific 5074	Ensure that pre-sentence reports draw sufficiently on available sources of information, including through obtaining police domestic abuse and children's services safeguarding checks.	Agreed	<p>Work to gain access to police information and intelligence systems which would, if successful, obviate the need for court staff to rely on the timeliness of enquiry response (for domestic abuse call-out information). Progress will be reported to the NE SLT and views gathered from court staff should NPS NE be successful in securing access.</p> <p>Discussion to take place with local police force areas (Northumbria; Durham; Cleveland) to explore training of NPS staff in access to domestic abuse call out information on police systems. Work had already commenced in DTV CRC however was impacted by Covid19; this will be progressed as part of transition and recovery plans across the Region.</p> <p>Until access has been sought to such systems, there will be ongoing assurance activity undertaken by the QDO Team to ensure such checks are being undertaken and recorded as expected; results are fed back via the NE Court Managers Meeting.</p>	Regional Probation Director	January 2022
Organisational Delivery 1207	The North East Probation Service should provide sufficient private interview space to allow all structured interventions and sensitive discussions to take place confidentially.	Agreed	Northumbria CRC removed all of the "booths" owing to social distancing restrictions as part of the pandemic. A review of the current position and necessary actions will be undertaken to establish whether there is a need for additional private interview space.	Regional Probation Director	January 2022

³ Recommendations have been taken directly from HMIP reports following inspections of DTV and Northumbria CRC, and NE NPS and reworded only as necessary to reflect unified arrangements. Recommendations have been grouped firstly by HMIP domain and secondly by the original provider.

Organisational Delivery 1193 & 1195	The North East Probation Service should improve the quality of work to assess, plan for, manage and review work to protect potential and actual victims. This recommendation has been repeated from the previous inspection.	Agreed	One DTV case administrator had been placed in each Durham & Cleveland Police Force Domestic Violence Unit to facilitate access to information, which will support the Responsible Officer's in identifying and managing risks posed to past present and potential future victims, including specifically safeguarding concerns for adults and children. The North East Probation Service plans to explore expanding this across the region.	Regional Probation Director	January 2022
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