

RR3 Special Interest Group on Commissioning Terms of Reference

Background

The Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Group (RR3) has established a special interest group (SIG) on Commissioning, which is being set up in order to influence the re-tendering of the next generation of commissioned rehabilitative services (CRS) – known as ‘core services’.

The Group will focus on the following areas:

- People-centred and outcome-driven services
- Effective multi-agency delivery, access to data and information, and efficiency of processes
- Building a robust supply chain incorporating the expertise of smaller, specialist organisations

This group terms of reference sits alongside [the terms of reference for the main RR3](#).

Membership

The chair of the SIG is Sam Julius (Clinks Head of Influence & Communications), and the sponsor of the SIG is Helen Dyson (Nacro), in her role as the RR3 seat-holder for resettlement. The secretariat is provided by Clinks.

Meetings will be attended by relevant permanent members of the RR3, which will be confirmed through direct expressions of interest from RR3 seat holders. These will be confirmed in due course.

The chair and secretariat will also co-opt additional members from the wider voluntary sector for their specific expertise, as per the RR3 term of reference. These will be recruited through Clinks’ communications channels, supported by the SIG’s sponsor.

Purpose:

To advise the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and His Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) officials – and specifically the MoJ’s National Strategic Contract Management team – on the shape and content of the next generation of core Commissioned Rehabilitative Services. The Group will draw on the input of a wide range of voluntary organisations – with a focus on platforming and representing the voices of smaller, specialist organisations – and provide specific feedback to the MoJ’s recently constituted CRS Recommissioning – Stakeholder Reference Group.

The SIG will:

- Highlight what works effectively in the existing provision of rehabilitative support through the building of a wide-ranging evidence base highlighting existing best practice
- Ensure sectoral input on what needs to be contained within the CRS’s moving forward in order to drive improved resettlement outcomes and an outcome-centred approach
- Explore how the people accessing these services can be placed at the heart of the processes governing these contracts

- Set out the steps required to bolster effective multi-agency delivery of CRS's, improve existing processes to reduce inefficiencies, and ensure access to the right data and information for all relevant practitioners
- Incorporate the expertise of smaller, specialist organisations
- Culminate in the production of a range of pragmatic and realistic recommendations designed to mitigate the barriers faced by people accessing these services through the next generation of CRS contracts

The final output will bring together all of the evidence and information gathered throughout the duration of the SIG, into a paper to be shared with the relevant stakeholders.

Officials

The Group will include input from a range of officials from the MoJ/HMPPS that will liaise with the group on an ad-hoc basis. This list will be shared with the SIG's members once it has been finalised and will be subject to change based on the future direction of the SIG, with additional officials to be invited depending on the topics being discussed.

- Janet Phillipson – Head of Commissioned Rehabilitative Services, His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
- Anthony Lowes – Head of Resettlement, His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service
- Kate Haseler-Young – Head of Resettlement Policy, Ministry of Justice

Frequency

Meetings to be convened when required (with the first session held on Wednesday 15th November), with the expected frequency of approximately one every three months. RR3 chair, sponsors and secretariat to agree with a programme of meetings as early as possible.

Communication

Officials will be open with information when they can, with the caveat that some information shared with the group may not be in the public domain yet and must not be shared publicly. Products discussed will be subject to further development and senior official approval through the relevant HMPPS governance structures.

A summary note will be published after each meeting on the Clinks website. Comments will not be attributed in the notes, and both SIG members and officials will have the chance to review notes prior to them being published.