



supporting voluntary organisations that
work with offenders and their families

**Statement from Clive Martin, Director of Clinks on Ministry of Justice
rehabilitation contracts announcement.**

Changing people's lives and reducing re-offending is the day to day business of the voluntary sector, and to see them at the heart of these reforms is an endorsement of the sector's long-standing expertise and professionalism in supporting offenders and their families.

These innovative partnerships have the potential to bring new skills and energy to improve rehabilitation services and give hope to people on the margins of our society. We wish the new providers every success at the start of this new era.

Although many of these organisations and partnerships are new, we are sure that in developing their successful bids they have understood the importance of solid collaboration at a local level. It is here that they will find over 1400 voluntary and community groups that are fundamental to turning people's lives around. It is vital that the voices of these groups are listened to and get a decent share of the resources to bring about the changes we all hope for.

While we are very pleased with this endorsement of the sector, there is now a need to ensure that these partnerships are able to work together with other organisations, both voluntary and statutory, to provide joined up and complementary services to offenders and their families. Those working in prisons, with high-risk offenders, and outside of the Transforming Rehabilitation partnerships are equally fundamental to changing lives and

improving community safety. We must ensure that these organisations continue to be listened to and are suitably resourced.

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Notes to Editors

Involvement of specialist services: Clinks believe it is critical to the success of these new partnerships that they involve specialist services that provide appropriate interventions to distinct groups in the Criminal Justice System, for example, services for women, young adults, families, and people from Black, Asian, and minority ethnic communities. We will continue to campaign on these issue.

Development of supply chains: the Transforming Rehabilitation competition is an ongoing process and Clinks will be paying close attention to the quality of voluntary sector involvement in local supply chains.

About Clinks

Clinks is the national membership body that supports, represents and campaigns for the voluntary sector working in criminal justice. Clinks aims to ensure the sector and all those with whom they work, are informed and engaged in order to transform the lives of offenders.

www.clinks.org | [@Clinks Tweets](https://twitter.com/Clinks)

Ministry of Justice press release: www.gov.uk/government/news/voluntary-sector-at-forefront-of-new-fight-against-reoffending

Further information: www.clinks.org/transforming-rehabilitation

Interviews and more information

Clive Martin (Director) is available for interview. Contact Nathan Dick, Head of Policy and Communications (07891 293093) to arrange.