



Pathways to Resettlement

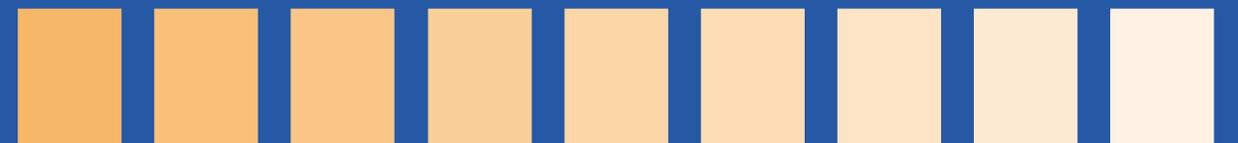
Regional Framework for Yorkshire & the Humber

Executive Summary


 Sheffield Hallam University
 Research Centre for Community Justice



2003-2006



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- 10000+ prisoners return to their homes each year from custodial regimes in the region
- 42 % of prisoners released have no fixed abode
- Around three-quarters of those who have served short sentences for burglary or theft are convicted of a further offence within two years of release
- Homeless ex-offenders are twice as likely to be reconvicted than those with stable accommodation
- High level of drug misuse amongst young people, particularly those who are serious and persistent offenders
- 40 % of women prisoners received help or treatment for a mental health problem in the year before prison
- 60 per cent of offenders who are re-convicted are unemployed

Effective resettlement is central to the economic and social regeneration of communities and the protection of victims. Reducing re-offending is not just a criminal justice issue: it is a health issue, a drug rehabilitation issue, an employment issue and a housing issue.

The Strategy stresses the community and collective responsibility for achieving the aims of resettlement which are to

- prevent future re-offending
- provide opportunities for the development of good citizenship
- minimize risks to community safety and ensure public protection
- contribute to community renewal and regeneration

Resettlement is, in short, everyone's business. If we get resettlement right, then there will be significant benefits for local communities. A region with effective resettlement strategies would expect to see less crime, fewer victims of crime, reduced homelessness, a larger and more skilled labour market and more cohesive communities. There would also be large financial savings through lower criminal justice costs, health costs and the costs to victims of crimes.

This is the vision that the Yorkshire and Humber Resettlement Strategy sets out for our region. The challenge now is for local, regional and national partners to commit to working together to deliver this vision in order to bring about benefits to all of our communities.

The Strategy aims to

- deliver a coordinated and integrated response to the resettlement and rehabilitation of offenders in the Yorkshire and Humberside region
- reduce the risk of harm to victims, communities and vulnerable groups
- contribute to the building of safer communities through the provision of effective programmes for offenders before, during and post custody, that will play a key part in the regeneration of the region
- contribute to the overall aim of the Criminal and Youth Justice System to prevent re-offending and protect the public. Specifically, it will enable prison, probation service and Youth Offending Teams to achieve the shared target of reducing re-offending by 5%

- reduce the fear of crime within our communities and reduce the number of victims of crime
- put evidence based practice and integrated case management at the heart of resettlement
- enhance the contribution of the voluntary and community-based sector
- contribute positive to the Housing, Basic Skills, Employment, Health and community regeneration agenda
- align the efforts of key agencies and achieve co-ordination between national, regional, area and local policies and practices such as the Street Crime Initiative, Narrowing the Justice Gap and Drug Treatment Strategy that share aims of reducing re-offending, tackling drug abuse and dealing with persistent offending

Ultimate responsibility for delivering this strategy will rest with the Steering Group. Day to day delivery of the strategy will be the role of a new Delivery Team which will be funded jointly by the stakeholders. The Steering Group and the Delivery Team will:

- prioritise those Strategic Pathways designed for Year One implementation
- develop a detailed Action Plan for translating the Strategic Pathways into policy and practice
- support designated lead agencies in delivering aspects of this strategy
- identify and manage the work over the three year Implementation Plan
- agree with the region processes for monitoring the implementation of this strategy
- co-operate with the Evaluators to ensure that evidence emerging of effective processes are embedded in the development of the Strategy

Strategic Pathways

There are 11 Strategic Pathways which form the detailed agenda for action over the next three years. It is important to recognize that work will continue in all the pathway areas and for some individual agencies this will remain their first priority.

The Strategic Pathways are:		6	Financial Management
1	Accommodation	7	Managing Diversity
2	Learning and Skills	8	Young Offenders
3	Employment	9	Offending Behaviour
4	Health	10	Family and Social Support
5	Drug and Alcohol Misuse	11	Case Management

However, through the consultation process, and through meetings of the Steering Group, three key priorities have been identified for action in Year One. These priorities will underpin the subsequent delivery of the other pathways. The three Year One priorities are:

- Accommodation
- Learning and Skills
- Employment



Further information and the full report available electronically from www.cjp.org.uk