

SUPPORTING EVIDENCE – STRATEGIC LINKS AND NEEDS INFORMATION

Client Group: Offenders and People at Risk of Offending

1. Strategic documents that have been referred to as part of the client group analysis (tick those applicable)

Homelessness Strategies		Joint Investment Plans	
Housing Strategies		Better Care Higher Standards	
Community Strategies		Performance Assessment Framework	
Best Value Performance Plans		Domestic Violence Strategy	
Comprehensive Performance Assessment		YOT Accommodation Strategy	
Community Strategy		Affordable Warmth Strategies	
Drug Action Plans		HIV/Aids Strategy	
DAAT Annual Plan & Report	√	Connexions Strategy	
Crime & Disorder Reduction Strategies		East Midlands Regional Resettlement Strategy	√
Community Care Plans		Managing Offenders, Reducing Crime	√
Local Delivery Plans		Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Plan	
National Service Framework – Older People		National Drug Strategy	√
NSF Mental Health			
Teenage Pregnancy Strategy			
Valuing People			
Regional Housing Strategy	√		
Older Persons Strategy			
Joint Action Plans for Learning Disabilities			
Prevention of Substance Misuse Strategy			
Young Persons Substance Misuse Strategy			
Adult Commissioning Strategy			

2. Main SP related priorities set out in strategies referred to for this client group

Strategy	SP linked priorities
Regional Housing Strategy	<p>Policy 9 – tackling the causes of homelessness – recognises the link between drug use/offending behaviour and homelessness. Encourages joint working between LAs, other housing providers, DAATs and SP in addressing the needs of these vulnerable groups and the role of initiatives such as CJIP. Recognises the role that tenancy sustainment and floating support can play. Highlights the need to consider the resettlement needs of ex offenders to prevent homelessness. SP linked recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory and voluntary agencies should work together to develop homelessness strategies and services which will tackle the causes of homelessness (recognising the link between drug use/offending behaviour and homelessness) • Local Housing Authorities should work with DAATs and CDRPs to identify the level of housing need and current service provision for current and recovering drug users and ex offenders as part of the crime/drugs audit process • Local Housing Authorities should agree targets (with DAATs, Supporting People Partnerships and other partners) for needs based provision for current and recovering drug users and ex offenders as part of their housing strategies <p>Policy 13- ensuring that all sub regions understand and address the needs and aspirations of diverse sectors of their communities – recognises the scope to identify and address the need for housing with support for vulnerable groups. Outlines the importance of linking future Housing Corporation capital commitments to priorities identified within Supporting People strategies. SP linked recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Supporting People RIG will inform integration of capital and revenue funding commitments. The Group should review SP Strategies to provide advice about future commitments, priorities and programming arrangements • Partners should ensure that planning for major new developments includes an appropriate proportion of new housing allocated for accommodation in response to locally identified and prioritised needs of vulnerable groups, with the aim of ensuring balanced communities across the whole region

<p>East Midland Regional Resettlement Strategy</p>	<p>Recognises the high level of reoffending behaviour among ex prisoners and the importance of a co-ordinated approach to tackling reoffending. Highlights links between offending behaviour and other support needs such as drug misuse, mental health needs. Consider diversity issues such as needs of women or BME offenders. Specific key strategic elements linked to SP include:</p> <p>Drug and alcohol misuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing better integrated Care pathways between agencies • Linking in with Resettlement Teams, Probation Officers, Sentence Planning to plan for a release • Referral to appropriate agencies and support services <p>Health and mental health issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the importance of sharing information pre and post release • linking in with community support for self harmers post release <p>Institutionalisation and life skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offenders should be given opportunities to improve and develop their life skills prior to release from custody • offenders should be given post release support/mentoring (including linking in with Supporting People services) <p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation status will be identified as part of the Pre Sentence Report and passed to receiving prison when an offender enters custody • Action will be taken during custody to preserve or close down accommodation as appropriate • Assessment of accommodation needs on release is completed as part of the Induction process and built into the Sentence Management process for all those serving over 12 months (3 months for YOs) • Appropriate work to be carried out by Resettlement Teams for prisoners serving under 12 months who have no suitable accommodation to go to on release • Approved premises (funded under SP) are available for those offenders who require an enhanced level of residential supervision in order to reduce the likelihood of reoffending • Support and advice for those who have accommodation problems during licence period <p>Financial support and debt management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments of financial management skills to take place during custody and intervention to
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	<p>prevent housing rent arrears</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Probation supervision to include support and referral on this issue <p>Work of local CDRPs, including persistent offending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links with CDRPs to work together to reduce crime and reoffending by ex prisoners • Linking in persistent offenders with relevant schemes post release
Managing Offenders, Reducing Crime (Patrick Carter)	<p>Reviews current correctional services and highlights the need to move towards a comprehensive system of offender management by bringing the Prison Service and Probation service together to form the National Offender Management Service. Emphasises the role of offender management in preventing reoffending, both during custody and post release. Supporting People services will have a clear role to play in successful offender management.</p>
National Drug Strategy	<p>Sets out a range of policies aimed at reducing harm that drugs cause to society, communities, individuals and their families. Recognises the link between drug misuse and acquisitive crime and the impact that drug related crime has on local communities. Specific objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing drug related crime and its impact on communities • Reducing drug use and drug related offending through treatment and support
Nottinghamshire DAAT Action Plan 2004/5	<p>Outlines actions that will be undertaken by Nottinghamshire DAAT in order to deliver the National Drug Strategy in the County. Linked SP actions:</p> <p>Treatment and harm minimisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop forum with Supporting People and housing providers, employment, education and training services to ensure drug users, including offenders, have access to supported housing and sustained tenancies and access to employment, education, training and welfare rights • Increase range and number of places available in supported housing to meet needs of clients, including offenders <p>CJIP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement an end to end CJIP approach for users entering into treatment • Assess the number of problematic drug users refraining from reoffending following treatment and aftercare provision <p>Alcohol</p> <p>Develop long term support for prisoners on release with identified alcohol related problems</p>

3. Other data sources used in this client group analysis

District Council/housing department data		Probation data	
Housing Register		ACE/OASys assessment systems	√
Special Needs Register		Contacts / attendance recording systems	
Waiting lists eg for housing adaptations		Individual Case Files	
Supported Sheltered Housing Register		Health data	
Homeless Register		Common Information Core CIC	
Housing application form		HIMP	
Sheltered housing application form		NHS Trust records re delayed discharges	
Disablement/medical questionnaire		PCT and other Primary Care records	
Tenancy support team assessments		District nurse contacts	
Homelessness P1E returns		Individual case notes	
Homelessness surveys		Supporting People specific data	
Other ad hoc surveys		SP Needs Survey	
Statutory returns e.g. HIP		SP BME Snapshot Survey	
Provider data		SP Performance Indicators	
Tenant records/registers		JCSHR data	
Applicant registers		SPLS data	√
Care/support assessments, inc move on needs			
Individual case files			
County Council/social services data			
Client index systems/registers		Local research	
Individual case files		BME Housing Study	
Community Care registers		Housing Young People In Nottinghamshire	
Community Care assessment systems		Custody to Community	√
Commissioning Plans			
Purchasing Plans			
Care Plans			
Billing systems – eg home/domiciliary care			
Residential care records incl placements to homes			
Child protection registers			
Children in Need: First National Collection for DoH			
Joint investment Plans			
Other statistical reports / returns e.g. DoH returns			

Data source	Comments
Custody to Community – Examining Developmental Opportunities for the Resettlement of Problematic Drug Users Across the East Midlands (John Turner, supported by the East Midlands Regional Drug Strategy Team, September 2003)	<p>Recognises the need for comprehensive throughcare and aftercare pathways and the co-ordinated inter agency approach required to achieve this. Highlights the impact effective resettlement can play in breaking the cycle of offending behaviour. Specific SP related recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The quality and quantity of release plans should be monitored • Further investigation should be conducted into why release plans are not always completed • Post custody drug workers and community agency drug workers should take a proactive approach to re-engage clients with an appropriate service • Tenancy agreements should be closed as soon as possible after imprisonment • Arrangements should be made by all prisons to enable the repayment of rent arrears by prisoners • Probation officers and prison resettlement workers should give full details of previous convictions and risks to all accommodation providers if they are requested as part of the application for accommodation • More drug free accommodation should be developed that allows ex prisoners who no longer use drugs to live in a safe environment • Separate, but co-ordinated, services should be developed across the region to provide drug support to different user groups • Prisoners should be assessed by community organisations prior to release whenever possible • A case management approach should be adopted in order to ensure the resettlement work identified on sentence plans or custody plans is co-ordinated
OASys Data	Data provided by the Probation Service has been included within the text* and has been used to provide needs information regarding accommodation and other support needs of offenders in contact with the Probation Service in Nottinghamshire
SPLS data	Supply mapping figures have been taken from SPLS data

* Extract from Offenders Commissioning Strategy
(text in red indicates data yet to be included in the draft)

Other issues and priorities identified from needs information

Waiting lists and/or the level of referral enquiries at existing services indicate an overall lack of provision for this user group. Figures from the Probation Services suggest a higher number of service users with support needs than places

available in the County. Of approximately 2220 new orders/licences commenced annually within the Nottinghamshire Probation area, around 46% of users are identified as having accommodation problems. In addition, around 400 of these new orders/licences are commenced where service users are in transient accommodation or no fixed abode. At any one time, MAPPA will be working with approximately 13 high risk offenders in Nottinghamshire.

Based on these figures, and an assessment of support needs the Probation Service suggest that floating support placements for around 1000 service users and accommodation based units for 85 service users would be required over the course of one year. By district....

Options such as tenancy sustainment for offenders serving short sentences should also be considered to minimise the loss of accommodation during custody.

A current lack of emergency access accommodation (compounded by the 'silting up' of existing services) makes it particularly difficult to manage prison discharge effectively or provide timely interventions that could prevent re-offending. (discharge figs from Ken Cartwright/regional resettlement strategy).

Services should be more responsive to multiple needs. Links between offending behaviour and substance misuse are well established and locally a significant number of Probation users have past or current substance misuse problems (approximately 54%). Other identified support needs include mental health problems, lack of budgeting skills and alcohol misuse.

The CJIP have identified a need for additional services (both floating support and approximately seven units of accommodation based support) in all areas of the County for drug using offenders. Through CJIP and existing links with the DAAT, opportunities now exist to ensure joint planning and development of treatment and support services.

A large proportion of Probation service users with accommodation needs are under the age of 25 (approx 48%) and there is scope to ensure existing SP services for young people are more responsive to the needs of young offenders. *YOT info*