



HM Prison &
Probation Service



Mark Troman

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Dear Mr Troman

As announced by the Lord Chancellor in his recent written statement to the Houses of Parliament and following the commitment given by him in June last year, I am pleased to confirm we have now reached a major milestone for our Criminal Justice System and unified our probation services.

In London, we are delighted to welcome over 1,100 talented and committed probation professionals to our unified model, either directly into probation services or employed by one of the organisations we have appointed to deliver Commissioned Rehabilitative Services to offenders.

Whilst this heralds significant progress for both probation and the wider Criminal Justice System, unification also represents an example of excellent delivery of a major and very complex Government project. This has been delivered on time and to budget during a global pandemic and we are rightly proud of the scale of this achievement and grateful to all our staff and stakeholders for their contributions to make this possible.

From a national perspective, we are investing an additional £155M a year to establish this strengthened unified probation service. A service that keeps the public safe, supports victims of crime and gives the right rehabilitative support to address the often-complex causes of offending.

As one of 12 regions in England and Wales, London has received investment including a recruitment drive to recruit more people to train as probation officers. You can expect more local accountability, partnership working and delivery of services that more closely meet the diverse needs of individuals in London. We have resources of over £5.8M for our Commissioned Rehabilitative Services and our Regional Innovations and Outcome Fund. We want to develop our work in Courts to ensure we provide a suite of disposals as sentencing proposals. In addition, we will continue to build on our partnership working with other statutory agencies and the third sector to deliver our shared ambition for less victims and safer communities.

We will now begin to implement the reforms to our Probation Service set out in our new Target Operating Model, whilst continuing with our recovery from Covid-19. Our new Probation

Service is now responsible for all sentence management for community supervision orders and prison licences in both England and Wales, along with Accredited Programmes, Unpaid Work, and Structured Interventions. This simplifies delivery, making it easier for those we work with and giving us greater control of resources to be able to deliver reform.

In sentence management, we want to strengthen the probation worker's relationship with those they supervise by promoting the necessary skills, activities and behaviours to achieve the most effective outcomes and enable offenders to make positive changes to their lives. This will include improved assessments, more consistent delivery of sentence plans and management of risk.

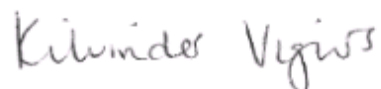
For Unpaid Work, Accredited Programmes and Structured Interventions we want to drive up completion rates and deliver better outcomes by making placements and programmes available locally, making improvements to the assessment and induction process, more regular reviews of active cases and ongoing professional development for staff delivering interventions.

We want to develop an even better Unpaid Work service - one which is bold, ambitious and highly visible to the public. In addition to our individual placements, we want to progress towards incorporating larger national projects with public bodies and charities. We are keen to involve our stakeholders as much as possible in our plans. If you would like to discuss opportunities for us to put Unpaid Work to use in support of your wider priorities, or find out more about how you could get involved with our plans, then please let me know.

Our reforms will deliver a stronger, more stable probation system and working in closer corporation with our partners, will also help us respond to both local and regional issues.

I am looking forward to seeing what we can achieve together in London and will provide further updates on our progress. As always, thank you for your continued interest in our work. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kilvinder Vigurs". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Kilvinder Vigurs

Regional Probation Director