



# Reducing Reoffending Strategy

2018 - 2020



# Contents

**01**  
Introduction

---

**02**  
Outcomes

---

**03**  
Principles

---

**04**  
Pathways

---

**05**  
Priorities

---

**07**  
Governance

---

**08**  
Contact

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A vertical photograph on the left side of the page shows a person from the back, wearing a red jacket, looking out over a hazy, green landscape. The person's hands are on their hips. The background is a soft-focus view of rolling hills or fields under a pale sky.

# Introduction

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Reoffending costs the UK taxpayer billions every year, damaging communities, creating victims and producing a significant drain on a broad spectrum of public services.

Reducing reoffending is an important component within the Police and Crime Commissioner's Police and Crime Plan 2018-2020, which focuses on the following 6 priorities:

1. Tackling crime and keeping Surrey safe
2. Building confident communities
3. Supporting victims
4. Preventing harm
5. Making every pound count
6. A force fit for the future

On average, fifty-two Surrey residents are released from prison back into our community every month with the majority, at around 87%, being male. Some of the key factors that can lead to those people reoffending are being homeless on release, not having positive relationships, substance misuse and mental health issues. At around 24%, Surrey has one of the lowest reoffending rates in the country but there is clearly, still room for improvement.

Whilst punishment is an important way of dealing with crime, on its own it is often not enough to prevent reoffending. Prison sentences are not succeeding in turning the majority of offenders away from further criminal behaviour. This is especially the case for those serving short sentences of 12 months or less where around 59% go on to reoffend. The justice system needs to punish people appropriately for the crimes they commit, but it also needs to support those who are motivated to move away from criminal behaviour. Reducing reoffending is recognised as a major challenge and equipping offenders for a life after prison, community sentence or diversion by helping them to find employment and addressing any social problems they possess has been shown to reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

This strategy cannot be delivered in isolation and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will seek to work collaboratively through partnerships and with other agencies, statutory and voluntary, that are involved in the Criminal Justice System.



# OPCC Reducing Reoffending Strategy Outcomes

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner's (OPCC) Reducing Reoffending Strategy sets out how the office, in partnership with all relevant agencies, will work towards reducing reoffending by adults and young people. There will, however, be a particular focus on adults within this strategy to reflect the extremely positive impact that the Surrey Youth Restorative Intervention has already had on reducing youth reoffending since its introduction in 2011.

Through delivery of this two year strategy the OPCC seeks to achieve the following outcomes:



**Reducing the number of people who reoffend and relieving the burden on the prison service, recognising that a prison place costs over £40,000 per year.**



**Improving support and supervision of offenders who present the higher risks to society.**



**Improving victim outcomes and satisfaction rates.**



**Introducing more effective outcomes for people who are diverted from the formal justice system with better use made of community-based options.**

The strategy will be reviewed annually, following evaluation of commissioned reducing reoffending services and any new Government policy.

# The Principles Underpinning the Surrey Reducing Reoffending Strategy

## 01 Evidenced Based

Our approach to the commissioning of services will be based on available national research and evidence relating to the reoffending pathways alongside local reoffending data. Our focus will be on strengthening and supporting existing provision and being open to innovation.

## 02 Integrated

We will work together with our partners to reduce reoffending through joint strategic planning and make the best use of our resources by jointly commissioning services where possible.

## 03 Localised

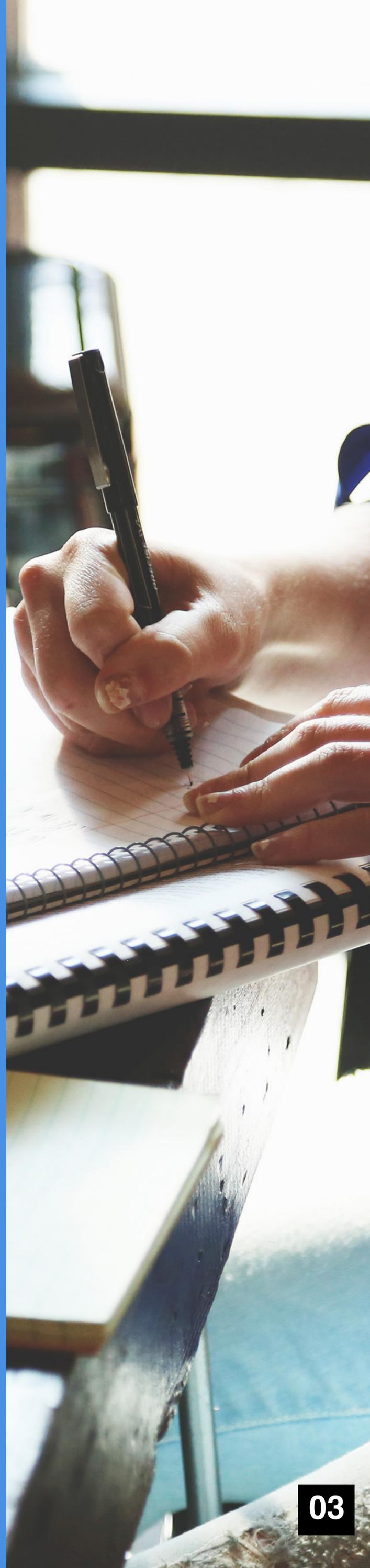
We will respond to the specific needs of our residents and together with our partners, will deal with local issues to reduce reoffending in Surrey.

## 04 Tailored responses

Interventions will be targeted where they are most needed and with the highest likelihood of success.

## 05 Outcome focused

Our commissioning of preventing reoffending services will seek to obtain long-term changes with social, environmental and economic outcomes at the heart of what we do.





# Reducing Reoffending Pathways

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The Surrey Reducing Offending Strategy will focus on the following key social factors that need to be addressed in order to reduce reoffending:

- **Accommodation**
- **Finance, benefit and debt**
- **Mental and physical health**
- **Children, families and relationships**
- **Education, training and employment**
- **Drug and alcohol misuse**
- **Attitudes, thinking and behaviour**
- **Support for women who have experienced sexual or domestic abuse**
- **Prostitution**

Evidence from criminological and social research shows that these factors can have a huge impact on the likelihood of an individual reoffending and some of this research reviewed alongside local reoffending data presented by Kent, Surrey, Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSSCRC), has resulted in the priorities and focus of this strategy for 2018/19 as outlined below.

# Priorities and Focus for 2018/19

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A performance dashboard will be developed to track progress against the following outcomes and priority objectives:

## 01 Effective through the Gate Services

Since the 1st May 2015, the Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) have had responsibility for delivering 'Through the Gate' (TTG) services to offenders. These are rehabilitative services provided for a specific period prior to release from prison that continue once people return to the community.

Research has indicated that services delivered to offenders through the gate are often the most successful. We will work with Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) the Community Rehabilitation Company and their partners to deliver services to prisoners when they are nearing the end of their sentence, which will continue in the community on release.

### **Objective:**

To support Kent, Surrey and Sussex CRC, and Surrey prisons, in the delivery of TTG programmes, identifying and responding positively to any gaps in local provision.

## 02 Integrated Offender Management

Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a multi-agency approach to dealing with repeat offenders in the community who are causing harm or nuisance to local people with their re-offending.

The IOM Scheme concentrates its activity on a minority of individuals responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime or anti-social behaviour in the local area. Each offender becomes the focus of a pro-active action plan, the aim being to reduce re-offending and community impact by tackling the underlying issues of the offender's behaviour.

### **Objective:**

To engage with the IOM team and support their activities, particularly in their work strand that involves the rehabilitation and resettlement of offenders.



### **03** Increasing opportunities for early intervention and addressing multiple disadvantage

Surrey Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner will be introducing a new deferred prosecution scheme in late 2018 for all eligible adults in Surrey. Based on Durham Constabulary's highly successful Checkpoint scheme, Surrey Checkpoint will provide people who have committed low level offences with the opportunity to engage in a 4-month long process that will involve targeted interventions, designed from an individual needs assessment, to tackle the reasons behind their offending behaviour. Increased Victim satisfaction will be a particular focus for this scheme with victims being consulted in every case and being offered the opportunity for engagement in restorative justice where appropriate.

Surrey will enhance their scheme by introducing a process that will support people with multiple disadvantage. At least 58,000 people in England face a combination of homelessness, substance misuse, mental health problems and repeat contact with the Criminal Justice System. Delivering more co-ordinated and timely interventions has been shown to improve their wellbeing, reduce reoffending and the associated service costs.

This element of the scheme, that will have different eligibility criteria, will be known as Checkpoint Plus and will operate in a similar way to that of Surrey's existing and successful Women's Justice Intervention.

#### **Objective:**

To support Surrey Police with the successful introduction of Checkpoint and Checkpoint Plus, their new out of Court disposal scheme for all adults in Surrey.

# Governance

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## Surrey Reducing Reoffending Group

The Surrey Reducing Reoffending Group brings together key partners from criminal justice and community safety and will oversee delivery of this strategy. The group will work closely with the Surrey Transforming Justice Board and escalate matters to the Surrey and Sussex Criminal Justice Partnership where necessary.

### Surrey Reducing Reoffending Group Membership

Surrey Office of the Police  
and Crime Commissioner

Surrey Police

NHS England -  
commissioners, advisors and  
providers

Kent Surrey Sussex  
Community Rehabilitation  
Company

HM Prison and Probation  
Service

Family Support Services  
(Surrey County Council)

Surrey Public Health (Surrey  
County Council)

# Contact

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David Munro was elected as Surrey's Police and Crime Commissioner for Surrey in May 2016 and is responsible for overseeing the work of Surrey Police, holding the Chief Constable to account and helping to tackle the crime issues that matter to residents.

To find out more about David's Police and Crime Plan and the work of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, please use the links below:

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