

Vision

Participating in
a **positive** future



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Welcome

Welcome to Vision – our quarterly newsletter for all stakeholders working with DTV CRC. I hope you find it interesting and informative and we would welcome any feedback you may have.

I was pleased to see DTV CRC feature at the top of the Offender Management Survey national statistics for the service we deliver to our participants.

The latest survey, which was conducted in May 2016 and included 10,661 completed returns, showed 78.8% of offenders surveyed nationally were satisfied with their experience of probation while DTV CRC's overall satisfaction topped the table at 92.2% - up 0.9% from November 2015.

This is a great result for DTV CRC and demonstrates that our performance is strong and service delivery remains high. We have received consistently high praise by our local prisons and Ministry of Justice, which is credit to the quality of the work that our staff deliver to offenders and the effective partnerships we have established.

Our aim is to reduce reoffending through a variety of evidence-led interventions as we work with key partners to protect communities. We believe in the ability of individuals to change their lives. Our job is to support people in doing so and these results demonstrate our ability to do this.

Bronwen Elphick
Chief Executive



The latest participant survey showed an increase of 4.5% in satisfaction. A total of 541 surveys were completed with 92.2% showing positive across the CRC – an improvement from 87.7% last time.

Team	Number Completed	Percentage
North	151	90.9%
South	107	96.6%
West	125	89.7%
East	158	92.6%

New Chair appointed

Mike Maiden has been appointed as Chair of the ARCC and DTV Boards. Mike was former Assistant Chief in the old County Durham service and has worked as Chief Executive at Cumbria and Staffordshire and West Midlands Trusts and worked



on the Transforming Rehabilitation programme on behalf of the Ministry of Justice. He has also worked in the private sector developing a bid for some of the Transforming Rehabilitation contracts.

Commenting on his appointment, Mike said, "My approach to leading the Board of ARCC and DTV will be to encourage the developments that create the right environment for rehabilitation and hold the Executive to account for delivering them. I am really looking forward to meeting staff along the way and seeing the excellent work I already know that they are doing."

Understanding desistance from crime

The DTV CRC has been delivering accredited programmes across the Durham Tees Valley area since 2000 and a lot has changed over that time particularly in the way we work with participants and the theories behind changes in service structures.

Attendance at a recent conference reassured us that we are already meeting some of the desistance research that was presented around how we can support participants to move away from a lifestyle of crime.

Desistance is a long-term abstinence from criminal behaviour amongst those to whom offending has become a pattern. The 'event' or 'process' is that people desist at a particular point in their lives e.g. when they get a job, or start a new relationship and then never commit a crime again.

Some zigzag in and out of crime before eventually giving up whilst others gradually change their behaviour by committing less serious forms of crime, or committing anti-social acts that are not criminal.

Initially there are three main factors that appear to support:

- Social bonds – commitment to a partner or work – severing links to a criminal past or criminal associates.
- Participants gradually investing in either a job or relationship until they reach a point where crime is irrelevant, or they do not wish to risk losing it.
- Forming relationships with others who do not have a history of crime, interest and opportunities to commit crime decrease, and sometimes they are given ultimatums by others that they were to avoid crime or their new relationship / job etc. would be at risk.

Later research added the role of 'agency', taking into account the participant, his/her choices, free will, and self-determination. Where individuals who had made up their minds about their future and were capable of carrying out their plans.

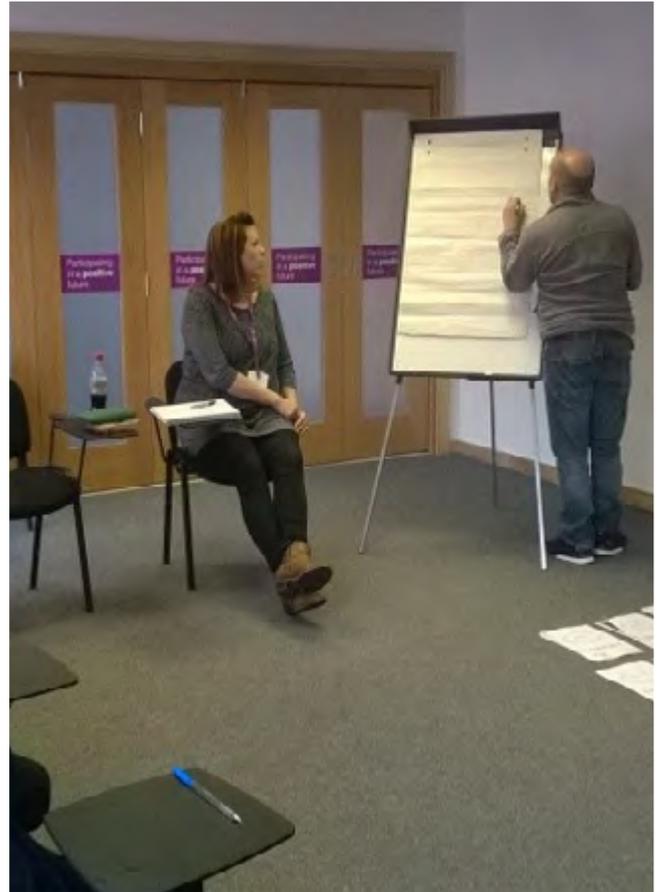
Professor Stephen Farrell is conducting a long-term research project on the effects of probation, by carrying out regular interviews with probationers, looking at the social context that participants live, including their motivation to change such as employment, new relationships and moving house etc - factors that are most associated with assisting participants to desist.

In earlier interviews, participants were ambivalent about the value of probation – however in 2014, individuals were able to look back and reflect on their time on probation.

So those participants more deeply embedded in crime might 'store' insights learned during supervision until a time they were more receptive, and it is possible that for many participants, the effects of supervision actually increases over time. In nationally accredited programmes, we are working towards an integrated approach of Risk/Needs/ Responsivity & Desistance & Good Lives Model.

The AAA Model – How we can apply desistance to everyday practice

Approach	Activities	Abilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aspirational • Clear focus on the individual's future • Optimism and hope • Empowerment in decision making • Positive identity and use of non-labeling language • Supportive environment • Rehabilitative culture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on positive future self • Goal setting/life plans • Assessment as a shared activity • Building social capital • Identification of skills and resources required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on achievements and motivational skills • Interest in the individual • Warmth empathy and understanding • Confidence and faith in people's ability to change • Excellent therapeutic alliance • Use of specific praise



Side by Side programme

The DTV CRC has partnered with Safe in Tees Valley, Youth Focus: North East and Time 4 You to develop a new programme to train Peer Mentors and Volunteers with experience of mental health problems to become 'Peer Supporters' by offering support to participants who are experiencing mental health problems.

The Peer Supporters have completed their 'mental health awareness' and 'peer supporter's training' and will soon be delivering a one-day interactive workshop to participants to help them realise their own coping skills, how to bounce back from difficult experiences and be ready for their next steps.

The workshops were available for participants over the age of 18 who has experienced the Criminal Justice System; specifically those serving either a Community Order or on Prison Licence and are currently being supervised by DTV CRC in the Teesside area (Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland, and Stockton-on-Tees).

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