Improving Health, Supporting Justice

Richard Bradshaw, Director of Offender Health
Department of Health/National Offender Management Service
Offender Health

Partnership between Ministry of Justice and Department of Health, working with NHS, social care and criminal justice system organisations to improve the standard of health and social care for offenders.
Context

- Health inequalities
- Disadvantaged backgrounds and communities
- Personal, social and economic impacts
- Difficulties in accessing appropriate primary and secondary care services for offenders in the community
- Lack of continuity of care
- Increased risk of self-harm / suicide
Approach

Margin → Mainstream
Health Care → Health
Offenders → People
Equivalence → Integration
Progress to date

- Mental health transfer wait
- Integrated Drug Treatment System
- Complaints handling
- Escorts and Bedwatches
- Performance Management
- Women's programme
- Clinical IT system
- Strategic Health Authority / Primary Care Trust involvement
- Private prisons
- Increased resources
- Commissioning improvements
- Public health (TB, sexual health, BBV, Swine flu)
- Health trainers
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Key recommendations focus on:

• early intervention
• better information sharing
• more joined-up approach between criminal justice and NHS
• creation of National health and Criminal Justice Programme Board / National Advisory Group
Health and Criminal Justice Programme

Health and Social Care

Prison
Probation
Courts
Police
Areas of focus

- Improving assessment
- Integrated care planning
- Discharge and resettlement planning
- Commissioning
- Prevention and health promotion
- Older adults
- Women / Corston Review
- Children and young people
- Learning disabilities
- Black Minority Ethnic and other diverse groups
- Mental health
- Alcohol
- Patel Review - Drugs
- Training
- Improving family support
- Role of third sector
Structure

Health and Criminal Justice **National Programme Board** established, bringing together relevant departments for health, social care and criminal justice, for children and adults.

**David Behan** (Department of Health, Director General of Social Care, Local Government and Care Partnerships) appointed as chair.

**National Advisory Group** being established, ensuring wider involvement from interested organisations.
Challenges and opportunities

- Enhancing Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Commissioning – demand and quality
- Sound financial investments, prioritised according to need, service requirement and value
- Partnership working
- Mainstream provision / competing priorities
- Resources and knowledge management
- Performance management
- Information sharing across the criminal justice system (inc. GP registration)
Role of Offender Health Research Network

- Improving **quantity** and **quality** of service relevant healthcare research and development
- Increasing research **capabilities** in frontline clinical and criminal justice staff
- Facilitating research once funding available
Next steps

Health and Criminal Justice Strategic Delivery Plan to be published by end of October, drawing on:

- Bradley Review and analysis of recommendations
- Earlier consultation on *Improving Health, Supporting Justice*
- Other policy initiatives not covered by above

Implementation event to be held in November 2009 for key national and regional stakeholders (closed invitation list)
Questions?

Further information: