

EXTERNAL SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE - UPDATE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PAST REVIEWS OF THE COMMITTEE

Committee name	External Services Select Committee
Officer reporting	Nikki O'Halloran, Chief Executive's Office
Papers with report	Appendix A - Updates on previous review
Ward	n/a

HEADLINES

The attached paper provides a brief summary of progress with regard to the implementation of recommendations agreed by Cabinet on the following reviews:

- Community Sentencing

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the External Services Select Committee notes the updates provided in Appendix A and provides comment, as appropriate.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Hillingdon's Policy Overview, Scrutiny and Select Committees have a vital responsibility in monitoring Council and other public services in the Borough, influencing policy and engaging residents and local organisations in this important work. Over the years, Committees have undertaken successful in-depth reviews of local services and issues. This has resulted in a number of positive changes locally, with some also affecting policy at a national level. Such committees engage Councillors in a wide range of Council activity and make recommendations to the decision-making Cabinet. This report provides Members with an update on the progress made in implementing scrutiny recommendations that have previously been accepted by the Executive.

The Committee is invited to review the action (detailed in Appendix A) taken to implement recommendations previously accepted by the Executive in relation to the following completed scrutiny activities:

- [Community Sentencing](#) – this review was considered by Cabinet on [24 May 2018](#).

Whilst the actions taken in relation to the resolutions made by Cabinet can be found in Appendix A of this report, Members may wish to note that there has been other recent activity in relation to this issue in the media. On 16 May 2019, the BBC reported¹ that the supervision of all offenders on probation in England and Wales will be put back in the public sector after a series of failings with the part-privatisation of the system. This reverses changes made in 2014 by the then Justice Secretary, Chris Grayling. The National Audit Office has said that problems with

¹ <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-48288433>

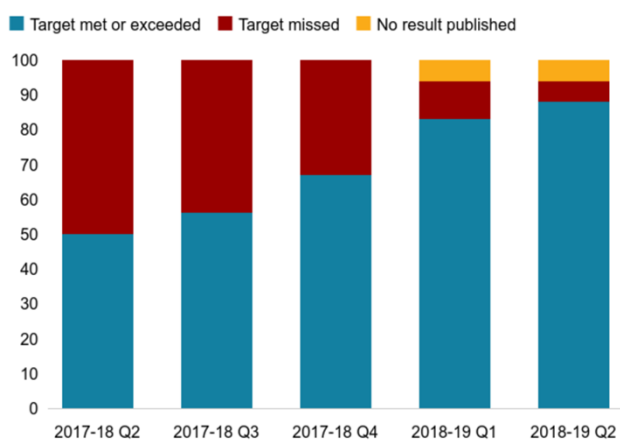
the part-privatisation had cost taxpayers nearly £500m. All offenders will be monitored by the National Probation Service from December 2020.

Justice Secretary, David Gauke, recognised that "the system isn't working" and renationalisation was the best way to reduce reoffending and rehabilitate people. But he believes that there is still a role to be played by private companies, as well as charities. Under the new system, released prisoners and those serving community sentences will be monitored by staff from the National Probation Service based in eleven new regions. Each area will have a dedicated private or voluntary sector partner, responsible for unpaid work schemes, drug misuse programmes and training courses.

Payment by results (a key element of Mr Grayling's model) will not be used. The community rehabilitation companies' contracts are not being renewed.

The National Probation Service is now hitting most of its targets

Performance against quarterly targets (%)

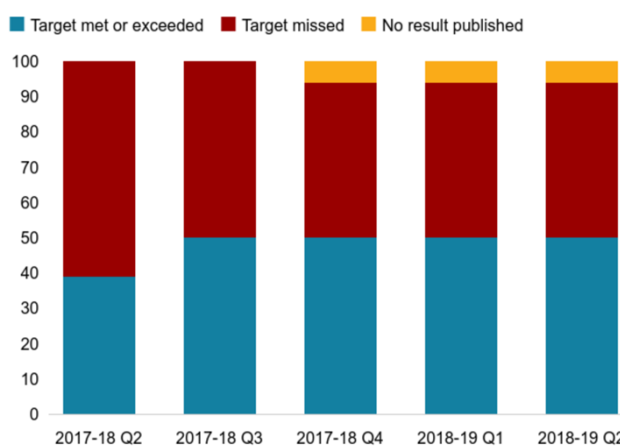


Source: National Audit Office analysis of Ministry of Justice data



Community rehabilitation companies are hitting fewer targets than the probation service

Performance against quarterly targets (%)



Source: National Audit Office analysis of Ministry of Justice data

