

## PARTNERSHIP AGENDA ADVANCED AT STRATEGY CONFERENCE

The culmination of the Association's work on the "localism" agenda - the Local Partnership Development Strategy ([click here to download](#)) - was launched this month.

Representatives of the Local Government Association, Magistrates' Association, the Probation Chiefs' Association and the National Offender Management Service spoke at the conference to launch the document. The event was led by Ian Fox, the Association's Policy Development Manager.

Delegates, who included trusts chairs, chief executives and other senior managers, took an active part in the day by questioning the panel and prioritising the contents of the strategy from the perspective of their trusts.

Many practical steps were suggested for engaging with

Community Safety Partnerships as a Responsible Authority. These included:

- Convening an introductory meeting with all CSP representatives
- The trust chair to communicate with relevant local authority cabinet members
- Trust boards to undertake a self-assessment exercise to establish organisational fitness for purpose

It was also agreed that the Association will work towards offering models for a more flexible performance framework to reflect both local targets and national indicators. National Indicators relating to crime

reduction are expected to be reduced, easing this tension.

Individual comments included:

- Work with MoJ/NOMS to introduce more freedoms
- Reduce audit, duplication
- Develop reoffending data
- Simplify the trust contract
- Develop Total Place as a working model

"This conference reinforced the value of probation's contribution and the importance others place on being able to collaborate with us on community safety," said Chief Executive Christine Lawrie afterwards.

Ian Fox said the day "clearly underwrote the Association's direction of travel on 'localism' and cemented relationships between the major stakeholders and collaborators".

## EMPLOYER STRATEGY GROUP MEMBERS ARE CONFIRMED

The newly established Employers' Strategy Group met for the first time on 18 May. It was very much an induction event and covered a wide range of topics.

Adrian Heffernan was appointed as chair, with Joe Kuipers as vice-chair. Core business achieved was the selection of members to sit as the employers' representatives on the NNC and SCCOG. These are, respectively, Lesley Bessant, Ken Bellamy, James Kelly, Jane Wilson, Joe Kuipers, Malcolm Fearn, Adrian Heffernan, Hilary Tucker and Carol Butler.

The Standing Committee representatives

are Malcolm Fearn, Adrian Heffernan, Hilary Tucker and Carol Butler. Membership of the NNC and SCCOG Joint Working Groups was also confirmed. As it is an associate member of the Association, the ESG was happy to agree the Probation Board for Northern Ireland's request for observer status.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9 July. The issue of how ESG representatives communicate with members' to build a robust collective capacity to drive the employment relations agenda forward in an increasingly challenging environment will be considered.

## CONTRACT VARIATION REMAINS AIM OF REVIEW PROCESS

Four working groups, with membership drawn from trust chairs and secretaries and NOMS, are being formed to take forward the trust contract review process.

Each working group will be chaired by a trust chair.

A number of important issues remain unresolved and the aim is to collectively agree to changes that can be introduced as Contract Variations at a meeting of the main Contract Review Group in September.

There is a central difference of view

between NOMS and PA about whether or not each trust can also negotiate individually to agree local variations to contracts.

NOMS' position is that the contract is applicable to all trusts; PA believes that while the core contract is likely to be common to all, it should be possible to negotiate local amendments.

The Association considers the priority is to complete the review process but will continue to argue for the principle of local contract variations.

## OFFICE DIARY

2 June	PA Chair, Chief Executive, Business Development Manager: Local Partnership Strategy Conference
7 June	PR & Communications Manager: Local Crime: Community Sentence National Steering Group video screening
8 June	Chief Executive and Projects Manager: NOMS/PA Benefits Realisation Workshop
9 June	Chief Executive, PR & Communications Manager: NOMS/PA Benefits Realisation Workshop Governance Services Manager: NOMS Facilities Management Working Group
10 June	Governance Services Manager: Member Development Planning meeting
11 June	Governance Services Manager: Trust Secretaries' Group
15 June	Chief Executive: meeting with Sue Hall, Probation Chiefs Association
16 June	Chief Executive: Meeting with NOMS HR managers
17 June	PA Council Governance Services Manager: NOMS Estates Conference Planning Group
18 June	Projects Manager: FORT II meeting Governance Services Manager: East Midlands Trust Board Member Induction, Nottingham Chief Executive: Probation HR meeting
22 June	Chief Executive: Academy Executive Group
23 June	Probation Association Managers' meeting
24 June	Governance Services Manager: Trust Contract Review
25 June	Governance Services Manager: Trust Contract Review
29 June	Projects Manager: Bill McWilliams Memorial Lecture
30 June	Governance Services Manager: Trust Contract Review

## NEW HR MANAGER TO TAKE UP POST

Lynne Last is to succeed Chas Dowden as the Association's Employment Relations, Pay and Policies Manager.

Lynne, who currently works as HR Director for Kent Probation, will take up post on August 31.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO SPEAK AT CJM

Christine Lawrie will be one of the key speakers at this year's CJM 2010 - the main national conference for the criminal justice sector. [Click here](#) to go to the event website.

## LOGO LAUNCHED

The Association launched a new logo this month to reflect both the creation of probation trusts and its own modern and professional outlook and practices.