

# Health and Social Care in Prisons Programme

## A Refreshed National Network to support Health and Social Care Delivery in Prisons

We are delighted to be able to advise that a refreshed national network to support health and social care delivery in prisons will be hosted by National Services Division (NSD), NHS National Services Scotland from July 2019. NSD has significant experience in hosting a range of national networks.



# What are the benefits for people in prison?

- The expertise of NSD will strengthen governance links to service commissioners. This will mean that the **recommendations and guidance developed by the Network can be more easily implemented**, resulting in more consistent, higher quality services.
- A greater focus on clinical service delivery within the Network, supported by **enhanced resources for clinical leadership** within the Network.
- A **dedicated team** including a Programme Management expertise to provide a stable platform for delivery.
- An **improved patient pathway across the justice system** through closer working with the Police Care Network, which is also hosted by NSD.
- **Advocacy** at national level to influence service development, policy and strategy.

# What are the benefits for health and social care professionals and SPS staff working in prison?

- Access to a **wide range of expertise** including healthcare professionals, Prison officers, public health professionals, data analysts and academics working the area of health and social care in prisons to inform and improve service delivery.
- A forum for **partnership working between the Scottish Prison Service, NHS Boards and IJBs** and a space to resolve issues requiring national agreement between agencies through collaborative working.
- A forum for **mutual support, sharing best practice** and **sharing learning** as it relates to service improvement.
- Support for service delivery through the **development of clinically assured, evidence informed guidance**.
- A forum for peer support for health and social care professionals to support **continuous professional development**, working with NHS Education Scotland and wider academic partners to support the development of training courses or resources where training needs are identified.
- An enhanced scope to support **integrated health and social care services in prisons**.
- Advocacy at national level to influence **service development, workforce planning, policy and strategy**.
- An opportunity to share best practice between Networks.



## What are the benefits for wider NHS Boards, Integrated Joint Boards and the Scottish Prison Service?

- A **forum for national strategic leadership, expertise and advice** in relation to the delivery of health and social care services in prisons.
- Clearer structures for the commissioning of the Network's work, which **supports the strategic and operational delivery plans** of partner agencies.
- A forum for **partnership working** and resolving issues requiring national agreement between partners through collaborative working.
- **Economies of scale** derived from pooling national resources.

## What is the scope of the Network?

Currently NHS Boards and Integrated Joint Boards do not have responsibility for social care provision in prisons, however as services move towards greater integration of health and social care, there is a need to consider where responsibility for social care best sits.

Work is underway through the Health and Social Care Integration Workstream of the Health and Social Care in Prisons Programme to take this forward. In the future the Network will have a key role in supporting the implementation of the findings from the Workstream.

**How will NSD support the refreshed network?**

**Additional resource** will be provided to the Network to enhance the network support team to include clinical leadership time as well programme management and administrative support.

**How will the Network be funded?**

**The Network will be funded by Scottish Government for a period of 3 years**, after which it will be reviewed to ensure the delivery structures remain. If it is found to be successful, funding will be provided through Integrated Joint Boards.

**What happens next?**

Over the coming months, NSD will be working with partners, and in particular members of the existing network, to ensure smooth transition arrangements are in place. NSD will also be consulting stakeholders on a refreshed network structure as well as the top priorities for the network, **with a view to launching in July 2019.**

## Why has this change come about?

A number of public reports highlighted the need to improve health and social care delivery in prisons and enhance the role of the existing National Prisoner Healthcare Network. Over the course of 2018, the Health and Justice Collaboration Improvement Team worked with over 70 stakeholders to co-produce a national structure. There was also agreement that local delivery partners would benefit from a mechanism for coordinating with one another; drawing on local and national sources of expertise across the health and social care sector; and working together to coordinate delivery with the Scottish Prison Service.

A range of delivery options were considered, an Options Appraisal undertaken and consultation and engagement took place with a range of national organisations as well as Chief Officers of Integrated Joint Boards. The conclusions from this were that an enhanced network model should be developed and the network should be hosted by National Services Division with clear governance and accountability through the Integrated Joint Boards.

For the full report on this work, please contact Hannah Cornish – [hannah.cornish@gov.scot](mailto:hannah.cornish@gov.scot)

# Thank You

The Health and Justice Collaboration Improvement Team would like to take this opportunity to thank all that have been involved in the National Prisoner Healthcare Network, and to those who deliver health and wellbeing services in prison for all of their input in developing this new model, for their patience and expertise as this process has evolved. We wish the new network every success.

For more information, please contact Hannah Cornish, Health and Social Care in Prisons Programme, Scottish Government [hannah.cornish@gov.scot](mailto:hannah.cornish@gov.scot) or Kate Burley, Associate Programme Director, NSD [kate.burley@nhs.net](mailto:kate.burley@nhs.net)