

## New programme guide launched

We've launched a 2017 guide which details all the accredited programmes we run as well as how we deliver the Rehabilitation Activity Requirement (RAR).

Magistrates can download a copy of the guide from their intranet. We've sent Crown Court teams hard copies to distribute to judges.

Alternatively, a digital version of the guide can be downloaded from the KSS CRC website <http://ksscrc.co.uk/>

sentencer-information.

The programme guide has an overview of who programmes are suitable for and their aims.

If you have any questions about the guide, please do not hesitate to contact us at [comms@ksscrc.scc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:comms@ksscrc.scc.gsi.gov.uk).



## Community Payback project wins national wildlife award



A wildlife project in Surrey which helps rehabilitate individuals who have committed crimes has won a prestigious national award.

The project has involved individuals supervised by KSS CRC carrying out hundreds of hours of Unpaid Work in the last year, known as Community Payback, at the Colman Redland Centre in Reigate.

Thanks to the work of individuals, who have learnt useful conservation skills while building new wildlife habitats and putting up bird boxes at the project, the centre now boasts a large collection of bugs, birds, flower and flora.

They have also completed work to make the area safer and more welcoming for the Brownie groups by erecting new fencing and creating seating areas from fallen trees.

The work has won the National Offender Management Service Wildlife Award in the Community and Outreach category. The project was also judged as joint "Overall National Highly Commended".

Dr Phil Thomas, Head Judge of the NOMS Wildlife Award, said: "As Head Judge, I'm constantly amazed at the dedication and innovation of the wildlife applications that we judge each year, especially with regards to the buy-in from local communities and the offenders themselves, who gain valuable learning and skills from these amazing projects; and this has certainly been admirably demonstrated at the KSS CRC community project, which we as judges were suitably impressed by."

**Your feedback: If you have questions, or would like to share your feedback with us, or suggest what you'd like to see covered in our bulletin, please contact us at [comms@ksscrc.scc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:comms@ksscrc.scc.gsi.gov.uk).**

## New system, MySIS, to 'go live'

A new end-to-end case management system will be introduced later in the year to help KSS CRC achieve the best possible results with individuals and in so doing reduce reoffending.

My Solution Information System (MySIS) will be used to record and schedule all contact with service users, replacing national probation systems such as nDelius.

It will be more efficient and simpler for staff to use – meaning they can spend more time rehabilitating service users and less time on record keeping.

MySIS will also house KSS CRC's assessment tool (M-SAT), engagement plan (M-SEP) and a practitioner toolkit to enable Responsible Officers to deliver the right intervention at the right time to change and develop the skills individuals need to become crime-free.

The introduction of MySIS is the last milestone to fully integrate KSS CRC's unique operational model – My Solution Rehabilitation Programme – which puts service users at the heart of their rehabilitation journey.

Paul Jones, KSS CRC's Head of Business Transformation, says: "The new system will provide us with a much better understanding of the data, which we can use to improve our ability to reduce reoffending, as well as results for our service users."

"MySIS also means staff time is spent where it matters most, with service users, rather than in front of the computer."

The system is planned to roll out to all offices during the latter part of 2017.

# Programme to challenge violence

Individuals convicted of violence, intimidation, blackmail and criminal damage, can be sentenced to a programme to challenge their behaviour and prevent reoffending.

The Resolve Programme, a 26-session course accredited by the National Offender Management Service (NOMS), aims to make individuals understand why they behave violently so they can change their behaviour.

Individuals can be required to complete the programme as part of a community order or a suspended sentence order.

The Resolve programme, which takes about nine months to complete, is a mixture of group and one-to-one sessions.

KSS CRC has been training new facilitators to run groups in Kent, Surrey and Sussex, where there is sufficient demand.

Carl Hall, Head of Service (Interventions), said: "By examining how personal issues affect the men's behaviour, service users are more likely to stop offending."

The course can accommodate eight to 12 individuals at a time. The groups are male only.

KSS CRC recommends that a sentence of at least 18 months duration is given for men to complete the group.

Please ask the court officer to contact the programmes team for further information about Resolve including local availability.

# One-stop shop offers rehab support



A "one-stop shop" was held in Maidstone, Kent this month to give individuals on probation access to a range of rehabilitative support.

The day offered those serving community sentences or licences access to employment, accommodation, health and substance misuse help.

Partner agencies involved in the event included Ixion, NACRO, MADM, Maidstone Day Centre, Shepway Chariots, CGL, User Voice, NHS Health Trainers and the Learning Centre.

Donna Ince, KSS CRC's Probation Officer, who set up the day, said: "We find this approach extremely helpful as service users are more likely to engage with all the relevant agencies they need to because they do not have the barrier of trying to find out their details and having to go to lots

of different appointments. By bringing agencies together, our service users can get the rehabilitative support they need all in one place."

"We are really pleased so many agencies attended this first event and look forward to setting up others in the future."

Service users spoke positively about their experience of the day.

Harry, who had just been released from prison the day before, said: "I have spoken to several of the agencies. My goal is to get a place at college and this has helped me to build the initial contacts with relevant agencies I need."

Zac, who is currently on a community order, commented: "Today's been really helpful. I have managed to talk to the Health Trainer about CBT training and I've also been given information about courses which I can access. It's a positive step and is helping me get back on the road to recovery."

Following the success at Maidstone, KSS CRC is looking to set up more "one-stop shops" across our offices in Kent, Surrey and Sussex.

# Dean: Activity helps to address problems

Dean says that the 40 activity days that formed part of his Rehabilitation Activity Requirement have helped him to address key issues in his life that led to this and previous offences.

His offending history includes assaults and being drunk and disorderly.

He says that during his sentence he was able to confront his drinking as well as his trust and anger issues.

Dean's latest offence was assaulting a friend after losing his temper, but he also admits to having been aggressive and threatening in his relationship with his former partner.

His Responsible Officer felt Dean would benefit from attending the domestic abuse programme – a 12 session course run in groups, which would help him to consider the impact of his abuse on others and would teach him skills to manage his anger.

Dean says the programme, which he has successfully completed, helped him to understand that he is responsible for changing his behaviour.

He also learnt during the programme, that when a "red mist" starts descending, he needs to take himself away from the situation so that he can calm down, rather than act on impulse.

Dean says: "It's helped me to reflect on my own situations and use what I've learnt to help me identify what I need to change."

During his order, Dean also had one-to-one RAR sessions where he was able to discuss his drinking, which had recently become a problem again. His Responsible Officer was able to support him to identify triggers to his drinking and helped him identify strategies to overcome these issues.

He also received help to find suitable accommodation, resulting in him securing a place at a local hostel.

Dean says: "The work has given me the support, confidence and skills to help me move forward in my life."