

# Developing buy-in to address criminal justice-related health inequalities



**Trio lead**

**Steve Duffy**

Probation Officer/Senior Intervention Worker

GM PROBATION – OPD PATHWAY

**Trio members**



Siobhan Savage



Andrea Gallagher



Richard Perry

Start

Frustrated

Optimistic

Motivated



Prevention

Reducing inequalities

## Our starting point

We aimed to improve access to physical health services for people on probation, who face barriers to support. Those released from prison have a life expectancy of 67, compared to 86 for the general population. Our work highlights the lack of proactive outreach, leading to long-term health and financial costs.

## System barriers

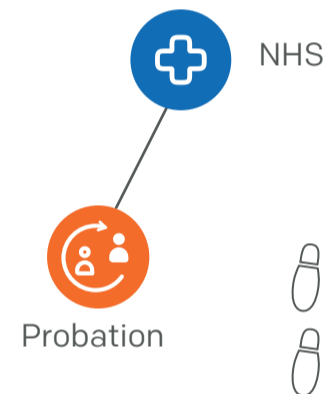
Purpose and outcomes defined primarily within services against national KPIs

Exhausted front line teams focused on managing demand and risk

Organisations operating at the margins, on short-term funding

## Our system shifting trio

Our trio blends front-line staff, working day-to-day, with people on probation struggling to accessing health provisions, with strategic staff with the organisational links to help us make progress. We have also partnered with Public Health England.



## Lightbulb moments

- Our first 'lightbulb moment' was realizing that change requires funding, and as operational staff, funding applications were new to us, meaning securing funding had to come before any practical steps.
- Our second moment was understanding how long system-shifting takes, with diary alignment and seeking approval from senior colleagues often delaying progress.
- Our third moment was connecting with a colleague in Public Health, who opened doors, connected us with the right people, and helped craft our proposal to align with shared priorities.

## Our biggest challenges

Finding time to engage with work outside of our typical roles and understanding the need to hold it lightly.

A developing understanding of complex health systems and processes for securing funding.

## Our insights and breakthrough

- Discovering that our goal is shared across services and sectors – it is only the 'how' we need to focus on.
- Our biggest breakthrough has been the opportunity to present to the Public Health colleagues via the Health Check Steering Group.

Now

Emboldened

Patient

Helpful

## Next Steps

- We'll present our proposal to the Health Check Steering Group for clinical support and funding for a pilot.
- The 12-18 month pilot will test uptake and evidence the approach's effectiveness in addressing justice-related health inequality.

**We discovered that our goal is shared across services and sectors – it is only the 'how' we need to focus on**