

North East Probation & Ingeus – Rehabilitation and Social Inclusion Hubs

[keywords: *female offenders, social inclusion, engagement*]

Overview

North East Probation, in partnership with Ingeus, have set up a number of “hub” facilities, primarily for women on probation, across the region. Ingeus provide the venues for the hubs, which bring together a wide range of services to help meet the women’s needs – including housing and benefits support, substance misuse services, counselling, and health care, as well as mentoring sessions with trained “lived experience mentors”. They are also where Probation carry out their supervision sessions. The hubs provide a “one-stop-shop” where the women can receive their supervision, and access wrap-around support, in one place, in a female-only space, away from a typical criminal justice environment.

Its impact

The women really value having everything together under one roof, the female only environment, the fact that its away from more traditional criminal justice settings, and the supportive culture of the hubs. Compliance with supervision, and take up of wider support services, have both increased markedly since the hubs were introduced – and many of the women continue to access the hubs even after completing their probation.

What’s special about it

While there are other hubs in other parts of the country, we believe that what we are able to offer, in partnership with Ingeus, mark ours out as particularly good examples of the approach.

Wider applicability

We believe that this approach has wider relevance across the country, and with male offenders too; and we have recently started opening some of the hubs to men as well (on separate days to the women-only sessions).

Further information

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