

West Midlands Probation – Community Resettlement & Integration Boards

[keywords: *resettlement*]

Overview

Introduced in early 2024, the CRIB (Community Resettlement and Integration Board) at Hewell Prison brings together a wide range of agencies – both in prison and outside – to help ensure that no prisoner leaves the establishment with unaddressed resettlement needs. A dedicated CRIB co-ordinator liaises with the different departments in the establishment, and records any identified resettlement needs and whether they have been addressed, entering the data into an IT tool developed for the purpose. The system flags up any prisoners close to release with outstanding needs, and the CRIB co-ordinator convenes a CRIB meeting to consider their case – including the in-prison pre-release team, chaplaincy, healthcare, psychology, neurodiversity lead, substance misuse services, the housing team, benefits advisers, and outside probation.

Its impact

Since introducing the CRIB model into the prison, we have seen a significant improvement in the quality and range of resettlement support offered to prisoners, with few if any men leaving the jail without any outstanding needs first being identified and addressed.

What's special about it

We believe that the quality and range of resettlement support offered at Hewell, as a result of CRIB, is an example of best practice.

Wider applicability

The intention at the time of writing (October 2024) is for CRIB to be rolled out across West Midlands. The approach does require a full-time person to record prisoners' resettlement needs and status, and co-ordinate meetings.

Further information

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See also: [KnowX.uk/WestMids1-KBT24.pdf](https://www.knowx.uk/WestMids1-KBT24.pdf) (Presentation)