

Group 3

Responses to Q 5 and 6

Principles that can be agreed upon:

There should be a sentence management and release plan developed and in place for high risk prisoners from as early as possible and updated as needed.

The plan should be developed and shared, as far as possible, with the prisoner.

There should be data sharing between prison, probation and other relevant services and authorities in sentence planning (INSTAR and ISM).

The plan should address, as a priority, factors and issues likely to heighten risks in the community e.g. isolation, frustrations, coping behaviour, problem solving, self management....

Importance of the relationship and engagement between the prisoner and workers .



More.....

The release process should be staged and supported through open prisons, step-down facilities, halfway houses and supported living to independence. 'Normal living' (normalisation) should begin in custody in preparation for release.

Mainstream services, NGOs and community support bodies should begin engagement and work with prisoners in custody and continue through the transition to the community.

There should be a post-custody 'community guarantee' for released (high risk) prisoners, as in Denmark

There should training for personnel working in release transition with prisoners to ensure awareness of relevant principles, factors, likely issues, possible solutions, resources and joint working, including with the prisoner.

Gender specific interventions for female high risk



Principles.....

Principles with differences (Due to organisation)

Prison Officers, familiar with positive relationships, continue working with prisoners in the community after release.

Parole Board management/decision-making on high risk prisoner release.

Principles that cannot be agreed upon

Preventive detention.

Release of high risk prisoners without post custody supervision, support or monitoring.

Unlimited, never-ending, periods of post custody release.



Best practices that can be continued.....

Sentence and release plan

Cross and multi-disciplinary team ('joined-up') working with high risk prisoners in preparation for and after release.

Information exchange between prison and probation e.g. Instar

Information sharing with service providers and authorities

Multi-agency pre-release case conferences management conferences on high risk prisoners prior to release.

Written notice to local municipality, authorities and service providers.

Supervised probationary freedom

Relationship and engagement between prisoner and workers .



Questions 5 conclusions....

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Question 6 In the community

Principles that can be agreed upon:

For high risk prisoners there should be a minimum period of post-custody supervised conditioned release whether released 'early' or on full-sentence release.

Balance of care and control in supervision and support of high risk prisoners post custody.

Clarity and purposefulness in conditions, obligations and requirements imposed on high risk prisoner on release.

Structured supervision plan reviewed and revised as appropriate shared with all contributors and participants.

Reviewed and revised risk and need assessments.

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More....

Well trained, experienced and supported personnel in supervision.

Good communication and information sharing between services.

Active engagement of mainstream services, municipalities and community services in support and resettlement (normalisation) of high risk offenders in the community.

Use of halfway houses, step-down facilities and supported living provision on release for high risk prisoners

'Joined-up' supervision shared between services based on effective engagement and relationship with ex-prisoners.

Clarity and certainty in consequences for non-compliance with timely enforcement action.

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Question 6in the community

Principles with differences

Ex-prisoners returning to prisons for access to services e.g. prison psychologist (preference that released prisoners should access community services)

Prison staff working with released prisoners for up to 6 months post release

Principles that cannot be agreed (or acted) upon

High risk prisoners serving short sentences - no real opportunity for intervention

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Best practices that can be continued.....

FoKuS process in action

In-reach by community services into prison and continued afterwards e.g. accommodation providers, social financial support agencies etc)

Increased use of NGOs and voluntary/community organisations to support resettlement/specialist services for high risk prisoners in the community (and, as part of throughcare, beginning in custody).

'Joined-up' co-operation and partnerships (shared accountability and responsibility?) by services and service providers in supervision/resettlement of high risk prisoners e.g. SORAM

Court mandated post custody supervision.

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Best practices that can be continued..... Conclusions.....

- Importance and influence of the relationship and engagement between prisoner and supervisors.
- Relapse is a normal part of the change process and must be understood in the change management and resettlement plan.
- Exercise of discretion and judgment in decision-making
- Clear consequences and enforcement for non-compliance
- Maximum use of community partners and resources
- 'Normalisation'
- .



Q6 Conclusions.....

Mandatory post release supervision for all high risk offenders in the community

Shared case management, service delivery, supervision and accountability

Gender specific interventions for female high risk prisoners. Women and men are different!

Relationships are important! The relationship and engagement between prisoner and supervisors

Relapse is an acknowledged part of change and recovery processes and must be understood in the change management and resettlement plan and supervision.

(Fail, Fail again, Fail betterSamuel Beckett)

Discretion and judgment in decision-making....





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