



## Overview: *New Generation Policing* project June 2020

### **1. About Revolving Doors Agency**

Revolving Doors Agency is a national charity that aims to change systems and improve services for people 'in the revolving door' – i.e. people who come into repeat contact with the criminal justice system due to multiple unmet needs such as mental ill-health, poverty and traumatic life events.

We work to create a smarter criminal justice system that makes the revolving door avoidable and escapable. We do this by working alongside national and local decision-makers. We combine lived experience insight, robust research and system knowledge to create policy and practice solutions that work.

### **2. About New Generation Policing**

New Generation Policing is delivered by Revolving Doors Agency and supported by three independent funders, the Barrow Cadbury Trust, the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, and the Lloyds Bank Foundation. It is a three-year programme supporting police and crime commissioners and police services to develop and implement new interventions to stop young adults from being caught in the cycle of crime and crisis.

Our partnership with local commissioners and police services broadly aim to create more evidenced and deliberate interventions to divert young adults at the cusp of 'revolving door' away from the criminal justice system. Evidence suggests this can be best done by narrowing the net by pre-arrest and at-the-point-of-arrest diversion schemes and deferred prosecutions.

While we do not take a prescriptive approach to the local partnerships, we believe the alternative approach will need to address three main drivers of 'revolving door': that is the profound and persistent experiences of trauma, poverty and racism among this population.

### **3. The Project Steering Group**

New Generation Policing is informed by an influential group of senior leaders in policing, public health, and experts in service design and academics. The steering group members are:

- HMI Wendy Williams, HMICFRS
- CC Mark Collins, Dyfed-Powys Police
- CC Andrew Rhodes, Lancashire Constabulary

- Susannah Hancock, Chief Exec APCC
- Prof. Kieran McCartan, University of West of England
- Prof. Huw Williams, University of Exeter
- Dr Eamonn O'Moore, Public Health England
- Neena Samota, St Mary's University
- Myron Rogers, Lankelly Chase Chair

#### **4. Why is this project needed, now?**

Data obtained by Revolving Doors Agency under the Freedom of Information legislation reveals that:

- Over half of all reoffences committed by young adults are theft and summary non-motoring offences.
- Young adults whose index offences are theft and summary non-motoring offences also have the highest rates of reoffending in the same category as their index offence.
- Theft creates the highest level of churn of repeat offences in the same category, with a ratio of 994 reoffences per 1,000 reoffenders.

This rate is strikingly above any other crime category. It is 12 times higher than repeated possession of a weapon (for example carrying knives) and 6 times higher than repeated violence against a person.

These figures expose the difference in demand created by young adults committing more serious and sometimes violent crime and the group often called 'the revolving door' who commit persistent low-level offences driven by a combination of needs stemming from complex trauma and poverty. These repeated, non-violent offences drive demand for our police, courts and justice system but are driven by underlying, unaddressed need.

The volume and churn of young adults who are sucked into the criminal justice system for relatively minor offences highlights the need for a radical new approach. The current failing approach resulted in the proportion of people with a history of repeat offending reaching at its highest ever level, accounting for nearly two fifths of all offenders. This creates a significant financial cost to public purse and harms our communities.

#### **5. Our ways of working**

##### **5.1. Trailblazers:**

We are offering bespoke consultancy and intensive on the ground support for five areas. The trailblazer sites will benefit from our research, lived experience, policy and service design expertise free of charge.

The selection of trailblazer sites was based on a robust process to ensure geographical coverage and the area of need (due to the prevalence of crime type, 'offender' profile or deprivation index or all three).

The announcement of sites is due July 2020, however initiatives we are supporting include:

- Development of a trusted adult network as part of a diversion scheme to support care leavers (16-25) and other young adults who are in repeat contact with the criminal justice system and embedding the support in police processes.
- Creating a diversion hub across a large devolved area and supporting police, statutory and non-statutory services to create and implement a system change action plan and facilitate cross-agency working for diversion.
- Developing and implementing a peer support mechanism in a local diversion service
- Designing a new hospital intervention liaison service for young adults who are admitted to A&E for alcohol/drug toxicity, mental health crisis and injuries from domestic abuse.
- Implementing a trauma and poverty informed case management model for young adults repeatedly involved in the criminal justice system and developing its reach to rural areas

## **5.2. Communities of Practice:**

We have received expression of interest from 19 police areas (OPCCs and police services) for trailblazer sites. Going forward we will be offering a communities of practice approach to share learning and improve practice. The communities of practice take place on a quarterly basis providing peer learning opportunities for those interested and working in policing on:

- Evidence on the size and needs of the population (both through user research and data analysis)
- Current policing approaches, their limitations and advantages
- International good practice
- Emerging evidence from local sites
- Barriers and opportunities for change

## **5.3. Lived Experience Voice**

New Generation Forum aims to give young adults a voice on the criminal justice system, particularly policing. Our aim is to bring together a diverse group of young adults with experience of repeat contact with the criminal justice system (i.e. 4 or more cautions or convictions) to inform and influence local and national decision makers.

This summer, young adults will be taking part in phone/video interviews to share their views and experiences on a range of subjects, including their experiences immediately prior to their last arrest, their experiences of services and police, how they access support, who they trust, what they want to achieve, and barriers and opportunities for them.

Following this initial phase of interviews, we plan to carry out:

- Monthly local meetings at trailblazer sites to review the progress of projects and discuss new ways forward
- Quarterly national meetings share learning from local sites, and set new goals. The events will host professionals so that you can share your insights directly with them and influence their decisions. You will also report from these events to our Project Advisory

Board made up of Chief Constables, Police Inspectorate, public health leads, and academics

- Further peer-led research projects to gather the views of other young adults in the criminal justice system.

#### **4.4. Research and evidence**

We are slowly building an evidence base on:

- The size, characteristics and needs of the young adult population who come into repeat contact with the criminal justice system, based on MoJ/Home Office and local policing datasets
- International good practice for police-led diversion schemes that address experiences of poverty, trauma and racism
- Lived experience insight, including development of personas, user journeys and testing through our New Gen Forum members and other peer research projects
- Evaluation and learning from trailblazer sites.