

# Reducing reoffending: Providing Support on Release From Prison



## What are we trying to achieve?

We are aiming to support people on release from prison to ensure that they have access to housing, healthcare, financial advice and throughcare mentors to support them to positively contribute to their community and reduce the likelihood of reoffending.

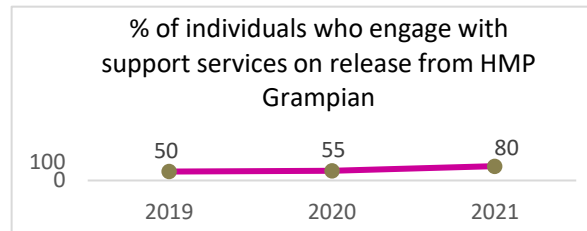
## How are we doing this?

Through our multi agency project we are testing the following improvements:

- Planning for release earlier (8 weeks' pre-release)
- Providing face to face support meetings prior to release (benefits assessments and mentor meetings)
- Introducing a whole system approach to improve access to all supports on day/week of release (e.g., housing, GP, food, benefits)
- Introducing the use of 'Making Every Opportunity Count' (MEOC) conversations to encourage engagement

## What have we achieved?

- **Aim achieved** with **80%** of individuals have engaged with support services on release in 2021, a **30%** increase since 2019.



- **100%** of individuals have accessed suitable accommodation on day of release throughout 2021, an increase of **13%** since 2019.
- **100%** of individuals have registered with a GP within 1 week of release since July 2021 compared to an average of **66%** in 2019.
- **77%** of individuals have had access to their benefit claim within 7 days of release since July 2021.
- **58%** of individuals have accessed food parcels from CFine since their partnership with the New Routes Mentor team. **1 in 5** of prison releases have gone on to join the CFine Community Pantry accessing affordable food for their families.
- **40%** of individuals have engaged in a MEOC conversation since July 2021.

## What impact have we had?

*"I just wanted to actually call you for a change and say thank you; my house feels like a home, you sorted my PIP, got me my benefits sorted, you've always been on the end of the phone"*  
Individual post liberation



## What have we learnt?

- Earlier planning and face to face pre-release meetings increase the quality of awareness and likelihood of engagement in the community
- Partnership working has increased access to and uptake of support services on release
- Engagement with one community support service significantly increases the likelihood of engagement with others.