

INTERIM RE-CONVICTION FIGURES FOR PETERBOROUGH SOCIAL IMPACT BOND PILOT

SOCIAL FINANCE STATEMENT

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Today, the Ministry of Justice released interim re-conviction statistics for the Payment by Results pilots in HMP Peterborough and HMP Doncaster ([link](#)). These figures show that there has been more than 6% decline in the frequency of reconvictions events per 100 Peterborough prisoners from 2008-10 to 2010-2012. This compares to 16% increase nationally from 2008-10 to 2010-12.

The published figures include most of the short-sentenced prisoners on the Peterborough Social Impact Bond pilot. While these figures offer encouragement that there has been a reduction in reoffending among Peterborough short-sentenced offenders, they do not measure reoffending behaviour over as long a period as the Social Impact Bond will be judged and are not compiled on precisely the same basis as will be used by the Independent Assessor during the course of 2014 to determine whether a payment is due.

Table 1: Peterborough (and national equivalent) interim re-conviction figures using a partial (19 month) cohort and a 6 month re-conviction period¹

Discharge Period	Peterborough			National		
	Cohort Size	Re-conviction rate	Frequency of re- conviction events per 100 offenders	Re-conviction rate	Frequency of re- conviction events per 100 offenders	
Sep05-Mar07	725	39.7%	72	36.6%	61	
Sep06-Mar08	870	40.3%	81	37.8%	64	
Sep07-Mar09	1,031	40.7%	84	38.3%	68	
Sep08-Mar10	981	41.6%	87	37.3%	69	
Sep10-Mar12	844	39.2%	81	39.3%	79	

Source: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-justice/about/statistics>

The Peterborough pilot is being assessed on its impact on the frequency of re-conviction events. The figures published today track six months of reoffending behaviour and are compared to an historic baseline. The Social Impact Bond will be measured on 12 months reoffending behaviour compared to a control group of similar offenders across the country.

David Hutchison, CEO of Social Finance says, "We are very proud of the work being done in Peterborough by all our local partners and hope that this will lead to success for the Peterborough Social Impact Bond, which will be determined by the summer of 2014. Today's

¹ Figures for Sep09-Mar11 have not been provided as they partially overlap with the pilot cohort 1 period

figures offer an insight for the first time into the reoffending behaviour of our clients, relative to a national average, and re-affirm the importance of offering targeted interventions to a group with complex needs that has hitherto been overlooked. We welcome the Ministry of Justice's commitment to providing support nationally to short-sentenced prisoners and hope that this support will lead to a significant reduction in reoffending and crime."

For more information, please contact Alisa Helbitz, Director of Communications on 020 7667 6388 or 07500 433 044.

Notes for editors:

- 1) Social Finance developed and launched the first Social Impact Bond to reduce reoffending in 2010. Social Impact Bonds are an innovative financing mechanism which provides non-Governmental investment for social interventions. If the interventions are successful, the Government commits to repay the investors.
- 2) Social Finance raised £5m from socially motivated investors to pay for a set of interventions (the One Service) for all short-sentenced (under 12 months) adult male offenders being released from Peterborough Prison. The investment was raised on the back of a contract with the Ministry of Justice under which the investors receive payments from the Ministry of Justice and the Big Lottery Fund in the event that the One Service interventions reduce the measured rate of re-offending.
- 3) The investors will receive a return if the number of reconviction events among Peterborough prison leavers, triggered by offences committed within a 12 month period following release, falls by at least 10% per cohort or 7.5% overall relative to a national average. If the Social Impact Bond delivers a drop in reoffending beyond the minimum requirements, investors will receive an increasing return capped at a maximum of 13% per year over an eight year period.
- 4) The success of this Social Impact Bond will be measured by a reduction of reconviction events by all of the short sentenced male prisoners from Peterborough prison - whether or not they engage with the service. Each cohort (which takes on average two years to be released from prison) will be compared by an independent assessor to a similar group of up to 10-1 prisoners across the UK from the Police National Computer. The first results will not be available until 2014.
- 5) The pilot is not being measured by a binary measure (the reconviction rate in the table overleaf) but rather by a frequency measure (the combined number of reconviction events). This encourages the providers from the One Service to work with all the clients, including those who are the most prolific reoffenders.
- 6) The project began on 9 September 2010 and offers interventions to 3000 prisoners over a six year period (three cohorts of 1000 prisoners). The One Service has contracted St Giles Trust, Ormiston Children and Families Trust, SOVA, YMCA and MIND to deliver the interventions. The One Service works closely with HMP Peterborough (operated by Sodexo Justice Services) as well as with the Safer Peterborough Partnerships and other local providers to offer prisoners support before and after release.