

West Mercia Probation Trust

Diary Note and Press Release

24 April 2008

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Stakeholder Consultation Event to be held at Leswell Street Training Centre, Kidderminster.

Friday 25 April 2008 – 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

New Probation Trust consults

Following its launch on 1 April, the new West Mercia Probation Trust is consulting with key stakeholders in the community about working together to tackle crime locally.

An event, hosted by probation, is being held on Friday in Kidderminster. Key representatives from organisations such as accommodation providers, councils and charities will meet and work together to design a relevant approach for delivering probation locally. This particular event will focus on accommodation issues and alcohol abuse which are key problems within the area.

David Chantler, Trust Chief Executive, said, "Trust status has given us the opportunity to think more about 'how' we can do things locally to reflect the needs of our communities".

"We intend to take maximum advantage of this change and want to work with our stakeholders to tailor interventions that will work locally. The whole point of becoming an independent trust is for it to be sensitive to local needs".

West Mercia is one of six probation areas to become a Trust in the first wave of 'pathfinder' Trusts under the Offender Management Act.

ENDS

NOTES FOR EDITORS

- You are welcome to attend this event which is being held at Leswell Street Training Centre, Kidderminster on 25 April 2008, 10.00 am – 1.00 pm
- David Chantler, Chief Executive and James Kelly, Trust Chair will be available for interview.

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