



Press Release

For immediate release

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MP Peter Luff salutes the work of the probation service

Government moves to increase the use of community sentences have been welcomed by local MP, Peter Luff.

Mid Worcestershire MP, Peter Luff, visited his local probation office in Worcester where he met with the West Mercia Probation Trust Board Chair, James Kelly and the Head of Service for Worcestershire, Tom Currie.

He also had the opportunity to meet with probation officers and managers to talk about their work with offenders locally. In particular they discussed drug requirements, prolific offenders, public protection, and provision of services to women offenders in Worcester.

Andrew Denning, and Jenny Gibbon from the Community Payback Team in Worcester, explained the successful partnership arrangements West Mercia Probation Trust has in place with the City Council and the County Council, whereby work parties of offenders carry out jobs for the community that would not otherwise get done, and in return they contribute to the cost of the supervisors.

Mr Luff said that he enjoyed the visit immensely and really appreciated the opportunity to hear first hand from staff engaged in delivering services to offenders.

He said, "I have known the local probation service for many years now and have been constantly impressed with its commitment to the community and the service it provides. The innovative approach that West Mercia uses to involve local councils, charities and others in the delivery of its Community Payback schemes should be a role model for other Probation Trusts. I would like to see the Trust given more

freedom to pursue its own initiatives to enable it to build on its outstanding track record of success”.

ENDS

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