Dear Colleagues,

This note is to advise you that we have now established a Covid-19 OMU Support Hub to assist prisons on matters relating to ROTL, HDC and Bail. The hub will also provide significant assistance in delivering End Custody Temporary Release arrangements (ECTR)

The Covid-19 OMU Support Hub is physically based in Birmingham and is now operational. The Hub itself has a core group of staff on site and the majority of the team are working remotely but remain connected by IT and telephony to the Hub.

Hub staff are there to support colleagues in prisons and community partners in a range of ways, including:

* to explain the principles of End of Custody Restricted Release (ECTR) policy
* Directly co-ordinate and manage key parts of the ECTR process on behalf of prisons, including police and address checks as well as decision making.
* to offer advice and guidance on ECTR/ROTL/HDC and Bail processes and related documentation.
* to liaise with community based probation and police partners where necessary, especially if blockers emerge which prevent cases progressing

Each Covid-19 Silver Command will be supported by at least one named member of the Covid-19 OMU Support Hub to provide consistency and continuity of support, both for the prisons in each group and the Silver Command teams.

An organisation chart and contact details have been circulated seperately.