**Recovery of TTG Services**

I am writing as the HMPPS TTG Recovery Lead to update you on the progress of the workstream following the instigation of the TTG Recovery Board. An initial review of the data we have received from CRC TTG teams shows that the majority of CRCs have now agreed safe systems of work with their local prisons. While understandably, the restricted regimes that continue to be run across the prison estate are limiting the amount of face to face contact with service users it is heartening to see that TTG staff are working hard with their prison colleagues to ensure they are continuing to safely deliver the TTG service through a number of different methods including the use of in cell telephony and questionnaires.

Prison Recovery Readiness Assessments

We want to ensure that not only does the recovery of TTG services align with the recovery of prison regime services but that we are also in a position to be able to support the change of TTG delivery and review how services are delivered when prisons have to regress and return to a more restricted regime. We have been working to ensure information regarding the readiness of prisons to enable TTG staff and their services to restart continues to be submitted and reviewed. I have previously written to emind all governors and directors of resettlement prisons, and those non-resettlement prisons that have embedded TTG teams, to consider the needs of TTG staff when completing their prison’s Recovery Readiness Assessment (PRRA).  When I wrote there wasn’t a reminder box for this important regime area on the PRRA but there is now a statement included in the updated versions of the Stage 3 and 2 Assessments that were issued by the COVID-19 Regime Management Team on 3rd September. Unfortunately, it seems that some governors are still using the old version without the specific TTG box and this is not helping us provide the assurance we need.

In my earlier note, I asked governors to specifically consider the needs of the TTG teams with regard to their access to their prison. It now seems likely that we are entering the 2nd wave of the pandemic and the safety of both staff and prisoners is increasingly important, however it continues to be important that TTG staff are able to provide this valuable service and to allow us to retain oversight of the recovery / regression position at a national level. I would be very grateful if you could encourage governors and directors to complete the new version of the PRRA when they are submitting any Stage 3 or 2 regime amendments or any regime regression requests which can be found on this link <https://hmppsintranet.org.uk/except/recovery/>.

The form only requires a tick box response, but a number of governors have included details of the service being provided, in addition to this information regarding any current restrictions in place is incredibly helpful as it allows us to cross check against the returns received from the CRCs and provide assurance of the TTG service being delivered through the different stages of recovery. It would therefore be great if you encourage governors and directors to take this approach.

Completion of BCST1s

Another issue related to the recovery of TTG services in prisons is the completion of BCST1 forms by prison officers in the first 72 hours of custody. This completion triggers the completion of BCST2 forms that CRC TTG teams complete to assess each prisoner’s resettlement needs and ensure immediate resettlement needs are delivered against. We are receiving evidence that BCST1s are not being consistently completed across the system and I am concerned that this will mean the prisoners will slip through the resettlement net. I appreciate staff are under increasing pressure as sickness levels in prisons rise but I wonder if you could remind governors and directors about the consequences of non-completion of BCST1s and encourage them to work with their local TTG teams to find ways of making this process work better during the Covid period?

Please let me know if you think it would be better for me to write direct to governors and directors or if you would like to discuss further before either of us take any further action?

With thanks in advance.

Fiona