



Department
for Education

Prisoner apprenticeships - creating opportunity and reducing re-offending

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6 October 2022

Reoffending is a complex issue, with no single solution but evidence suggests we can make a difference

Employment & Finance

Offenders who found P45 employment in the 12 months after release had one-year reoffending rates that were 6-9 percentage points lower than similar offenders who didn't find employment

Accommodation

66% of those that are homeless or living in temporary accommodation shortly after release reoffend, compared to 51% for those in stable accommodation

Family Relationships

The odds of reoffending are 39% higher for prisoners who had not received visits compared to those who had



Education

Prisoners who undertake any form of learning have a reoffending rate that is 9 percentage points lower than their peers

Health

Among those who committed an offence in the two years prior to engaging with community-based drug or alcohol treatment, 44% did not go on to reoffend in the two years following treatment.

We currently know that the factors left and below can drive or reduce reoffending.

- Strong offender manager-offender relationships, and a integrated approach that pairs supervision with structured support
- Identity, motivation and agency of offender
- Peer networks and community links
- Social stigma and risk aversion

While we know the factors associated with reoffending, our evidence is weaker on the specific intervention that delivers a crime free outcome for the offender.

The Prison Leavers Project – a successful £20m Shared Outcomes Fund bid – is looking to develop innovative new approaches to reduce reoffending – for example a tech sector challenge.

Press Release - NAW

'Polling published last year found that nine out of ten businesses that hire ex-offenders say they are reliable, good at their job, punctual and trustworthy.'

Currently prisoners are unable to take advantage of apprenticeships, which would give them access to gold-standard training they can gain the skills needed to secure work on release - with evidence showing that prison leavers in work are significantly less likely to re-offend.'

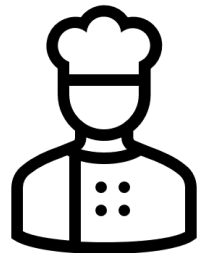
The government will change the law so that prisoners at open prisons across England are able to apply for apprenticeship opportunities in vital industries, including hospitality and construction , providing direct routes into jobs with businesses in the community.'

The scheme will initially be offered up to a hundred prisoners across England before being rolled out across the wider prison estate.'



Prisoner Apprenticeships

Supporting Transition to
Employment



- Prisoners Near Release (Phase 1 ROTL)
- Start their apprenticeship in custody and complete it on release (same or a different employer)
- Same eligibility criteria as all other apprenticeships
- First start 30th September
- Targeting 100 starts each year for next 3 years

Phase 1: Release on Temporary Licence

There are currently 4,760 prisoners in the open estate including the two female open prisons. Of these 4,605 are adult males and 155 are female. All of these prisoners are eligible for ROTL – all prisoners become eligible once they move into the open estate.

There are around 900 prisoners working in the community at any one time which equates to around 20%.

Buy in from Prison Governors



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graph TD; A[Buy in from Prison Governors] --> B[Raising awareness amongst Prisoners]; B --> C[Engaging with Employers]; C --> D[Managing Risk]; D --> E[Accessing Apprenticeships]
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Raising awareness amongst Prisoners

Engaging with Employers

Managing Risk

Accessing Apprenticeships

Employer Engagement

New Futures Network

- **Employment Advisory Boards:** new, non-statutory boards attached to each prison, chaired by a senior business person. They advise businesses on their employment strategies and provide insight on the labour market.
- **Employment Hubs:** the equivalent of a 'job-centre in a prison', where prisoners can find out about job opportunities and access support with applications.
- **Prison Employment Leads:** a new role, responsible for delivering for employers connected to the prison, running the employment hub and developing an employment strategy for the prison.



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