

New Senior Probation Leaders in London

The Ministry of Justice has appointed Sara Robinson as Deputy Director of the National Probation Service (London) and Nick Smart as Chief Executive for the London Community Rehabilitation Company.

National
Probation
Service



Sara Robinson,
Deputy Director –
London National
Probation Service

I am delighted to have been appointed as Deputy Director (London) in the new National Probation Service. My journey in London Probation began in 1992 as a Probation Service Assistant at Horseferry Road Magistrates Court. I went on to qualify as a Probation Officer in 1995; since this time I have held a variety of roles across the service.

Following my appointment as Assistant Chief Officer in 2005, I have been involved in leading frontline operations and developing strategy, policy and best practice in relation to Courts, Extremism and Hate Crime as well as establishing probation's strategic partnership with the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime.

Throughout my career I have been committed to achieving high professional standards in my own practice and have promoted excellence in others. I have worked hard to develop effective strategic relationships both at the regional and local level. I am committed to maintaining these relationships, as well as establishing an effective working relationship with the London Community Rehabilitation Company, in order that we can meet our joint objectives of delivering the sentence of the court, managing risk and reducing reoffending rates in the capital.

There will be some challenging times ahead as we transition to the new rehabilitation arrangements and I am grateful that we have already received significant support from our partners to assist with this process. I look forward to continuing the dialogue and utilising the opportunities to build on the progress we have made to date in relation to improving the quality of our work and achieving positive outcomes for victims, offenders and our communities.

I look forward to working together in partnership to shape a service we can be proud of in London.

London
Community Rehabilitation Company



Nick Smart,
Chief Executive of the
London Community
Rehabilitation Company

I am delighted to be returning to work again in London and to take on the role of Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) Chief Executive at such a critical time for the future of our profession.

I joined the Probation Service in 1979, straight out of university. I worked in a probation hostel, as a probation officer in West Sussex and at the Inner London Day Training Centre working with persistent offenders.

I taught trainee social workers and probation officers in London, returning to Sussex as a Senior Probation Officer in 1994. In 2001, I was seconded to the National Probation Directorate advising London on performance and practice development.

I was appointed as Assistant Chief Officer in Sussex in 2002 and then Director of Operations in 2008. I became Chief Executive of Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust in November 2011.

I am passionate about Probation and its capacity to enable change. My interest in practice is what drives me and I have always sought opportunities to promote and develop it. I bring this passion for practice to the critical task of achieving a safe and sustainable transition into the new Probation structures for the staff and service users of London Probation Trust.

I also want to ensure that the excellent partnership work that characterises the best Probation practice is sustained and developed including a strong and co-operative working relationship with colleagues in the National Probation Service.