Our Ref: CDL/2022

Bob Neill MP
Chairman
Justice Committee
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

29 August 2018

Dear Bob,

Thank you for your letter of 24 July regarding the Reducing Reoffending Board. The Board will meet quarterly, and has been convened to support cross government work to tackle some of the main causes of reoffending including employment, health and accommodation.

I chair the Board, which has a standing core membership of the Secretaries of State in the Ministry of Justice, Home Office, Cabinet Office, HM Treasury, Department for Work and Pensions, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Department for Education, Department of Health and Social Care and the Wales Office.

I’m committed to ensuring that the Board develops deliverable and measurable proposals that will result in public announcements. Though no details of the discussions will be made public in order to ensure the frankness and candour of internal discussion, the Lord Chancellor will keep you informed of developments. The Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Group, chaired by Anne Fox, will be a formal reference group to the Board. This will enable us to access knowledge and expertise from the voluntary sector, and ensure the sector is represented when the Board makes policy decisions.

The Board is supported by the Cabinet secretariat. It has an officials group beneath it to drive through progress between meetings. My officials are responsible for tracking the actions agreed, and for collating and analysing the data to hold departments to account for tackling this problem and to measure progress.

Rt Hon David Lidington CBE MP