1. Purpose of Presenting the Report and Decisions Required

1.1 To update the Partnership on progress in the Transforming Rehabilitation Programme.

1.2 It is recommended that the Community Safety Partnership Board:

- note the information presented.

2. Transforming Rehabilitation: Preferred Bidder for the CRC

2.1 At the end of October 2014 the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) announced that the preferred bidder for the London Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) is MTCNovo. MTCNovo is a joint venture between MTC, a private company, and Novo, a consortium involving a number of public, private and third sector shareholders.

2.2 Management Training Corporation (MTC) is an established provider of correctional services in the US, including the running of prisons and the delivery of prison programmes and interventions. In addition, MTC holds federal contracts to deliver employment programmes.

2.3 Novo is a consortium of third, public and private sector organisations including, but not limited to:

- RISE: the emergent London CRC mutual;
- A Band of Brothers: a charity providing social change pathways for 18-25 year old male offenders;
The Manchester College: an educational provider;
Thames Valley Partnership: a charity specialising in Restorative Justice and mentoring; and
Amey: a public services provider working with local and central government.

2.4 Whilst MTCNovo is the prime provider, they will be working with other partners to deliver frontline services (Tier 2 providers). Currently it seems that the following Organisations are likely to be Tier 2 providers:

- SOVA: a charity known for volunteer work. Likely to be involved in the under 12 months ‘Through The Gate’ work;
- Crime Reduction Initiatives (CRI): a charity currently delivering drugs and alcohol services to offenders;
- Northern Inclusion Consortium (NIC): a consortium of northern-based charities, specialising in drugs and women’s issues;
- Prison Advice and Care Trust (PACT): a national charity supporting offenders and families affected by imprisonment;
- St Andrew’s Healthcare: a not-for-profit mental health care charity;
- Step Change Debt Charity: provider of debt management plans; and
- Sanctuary Supported Living (SSL): a national provider of supported living housing for vulnerable people.

2.5 During the current ‘preferred bidder’ stage of procurement, existing publicly owned CRCs are prevented from engaging in dialogue with preferred bidders about their proposed operating models. However, the MOJ contracts for taking on the CRCs are expected to be signed on 4 December, followed by the mandatory legal ‘cooling off’ period. It is therefore expected that from 18 December, MTCNovo will be engaging with the CRC in London to explain the future operating model for the delivery of services going forwards and to start mobilising towards the start of contracted services on 2 February 2015.

2.6 Going forwards, contracts will expect proven reduction in re-offending rates, and it seems sensible to assume that MTCNovo will be keen to ensure that much of the effective ‘business as usual’ work being delivered by Probation staff in the borough continues. However, until 18 December, it is impossible to comment on whether there will be any changes to how that delivery will be structured, or on how MTCNovo propose to use its partners in delivery at a local level.

2.7 The Ministry of Justice has been clear throughout the bidding process that successful bidders will have responsibilities to engage with existing borough partnership arrangements, and MTCNovo will be aware of the important of working in partnership to reduce re-offending.

2.8 A further briefing can be given to the Partnership after 18 December 2014.