

## **FEMALE OFFENDERS STRATEGY**

### **Additional Questions from Professor James (May 2020)**

1. **Was this issue raised by the MoJ when they attended the LCJB meeting a few months ago?**  
No
  
2. **Has the OPCC now received the data it was awaiting in relation to the custody-based Liaison and Diversion service that screens all female offenders passing through police custody and, if so, what do they reveal about the extent of vulnerability among those female offenders that the service has screened?**  
Information has not been received – the last strategic meeting of Liaison & Diversion service c was cancelled due to COVID and currently waiting for it to be re-arranged.
  
3. **Has the Force yet introduced any of the changes that were being considered in relation to increased use of Restorative Justice for female offenders, and the use of a new Outcome 22 (where some positive police action is taken even if it does not result in a ‘formal prosecution’ or ‘detection’).**  
Last Complete Victim Care meeting (1 May) confirmed that progress is being achieved in relation to increased use of RJ in Force, particularly in relation to use of Community Resolutions (outside the formal criminal justice system), although I cannot say the extent to which that applies to female offenders specifically.
  
4. **Why is there no single Force lead for managing initiatives relating to female offenders, instead of these being spread across a number of Superintendent portfolios? Is this arrangement sufficient to lead "the cultural and practical changes required" and to ensure a uniform approach across the Force area?**  
They have – it is now Supt Delphine Waring who leads on Vulnerable Female Offenders, (although to be clear, she does not lead on related matters such as Force policy on use of Out of Court Disposals).
  
5. **in view of the research evidence compiled by the MoJ about the high levels of vulnerability among female offenders which it used to support its recommendations for police forces to develop a female offenders strategy, when will female offenders be included in the Priority 1 (Protecting Vulnerable People) section of the Police and Crime Plan?**  
This is a matter for the PCC. Although not specifically mentioned – female offenders are regarded as vulnerable people and as such, has featured in our considerations as far as the local Criminal Justice Board is concerned for a couple of years now and has been recognised as such in the LCJB Delivery Plans.