



**Dame Glenys Stacey**

HM Chief Inspector of Probation  
HM Inspectorate of Probation  
6th Floor, South Wing  
Trafford House  
Chester Road  
Stretford  
Manchester  
M32 0RS

9 November 2016

Dear Dame Glenys,

**A MULTI AGENCY APPROACH TO FEMALE OFFENDERS: FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

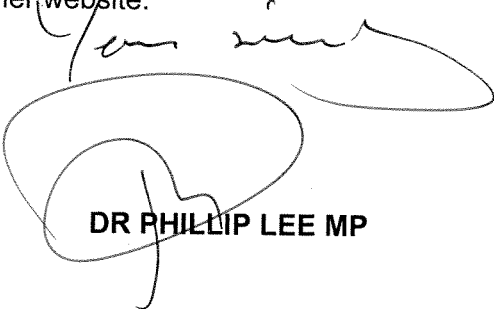
I am pleased to let you know that the Ministry of Justice is today launching a competition for seed funding to help local areas develop multi-agency approaches to female offenders and other women with complex needs. The Ministry of Justice is making £800k available over the remainder of this Parliament (£200k per annum), and we are inviting bids for multiple year funding.

In order that we reach as many potential bidders as possible, I am writing to ask you to promote this competition in your respective agencies/areas. We are also inviting unsuccessful bidders in the last funding competition to consider submitting a fresh bid. Applicants will need to be able to demonstrate the leadership necessary to bring together a wide range of agencies and develop a new way of working. I attach the application pack for onward sharing. The deadline for bids is 30 January 2017.

This seed funding is intended to help local areas unlock funding and other resources to support the development of a transformative, and locally sustainable, multi-agency (criminal justice, statutory and third sector) approach. Through early intervention at the point of entry to the criminal justice system, and the provision of holistic support throughout a woman's justice journey, we will be able to help offenders to turn their lives around. We hope, as a result, to see fewer women coming into the justice system, in courts, serving short custodial sentences and reoffending. We expect there to be important social benefits too, such as fewer demands on health and other services, reduced levels of truancy, and fewer victims of domestic violence, resulting in stronger local communities.

We know that some areas may prefer to address the needs of female offenders within a wider cohort of women with complex needs, and would be happy to receive bids for funding on that basis. Local areas will be asked to share emerging learning and evidence of impact with MoJ and other local areas, to inform understanding of best practice, and how different approaches to service provision can support women in different types of areas.

Thank you for your support. If you have any questions about this competition please contact the Female Offender Policy team on [cjwst@justice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cjwst@justice.gsi.gov.uk). Please also let the team know if you would like to join the Whole System Approach Yammer website.



DR PHILLIP LEE MP