

## **Confidence and Communication subgroup**

### **Minutes of meeting 17 January 2023**

Present: Rosa Dean, Chair  
Diana Fawcett  
Stephen Leake

OSC: Phil Hodgson  
Kathryn Montague  
Gareth Sweny

Apologies: Nick Ephgrave

#### **1. Updating the Confidence and Communication strategy and work plan**

Phil presented the findings and recommendations from the recently published research reports on equality and diversity and public confidence in the criminal justice system and sentencing. She set out the implications of these findings for the Confidence and Communication Strategy and work plan.

Members agreed with this approach to revising the strategy and that Phil should bring back to the March meeting a revised strategy, identifying priority audiences and actions, and a work plan. They also suggested some actions for inclusion in the work plan.

In the meantime, members asked the communication team to prioritise work identified in relation to disparities in sentencing outcomes.

##### **Action**

Phil to revise the Confidence and Communication strategy and work plan for consideration at the March 2023 meeting.

#### **2. Referring to respondents in consultation response documents**

Members considered the paper prepared by Vicky Hunt on how we should refer to consultation respondents in response papers.

Members selected option 4 – a hybrid approach, to name all organisations or those responding in a professional capacity, with an option to opt out, and allow individual members of the public the option to opt in.

##### **Action**

Phil to report the subgroup's decision to Vicky Hunt and the policy team.

#### **3. Risk**

Members reviewed the controls and actions we have put in place to mitigate risk 5 (Lack of confidence in sentencing and the work of the Council) and recommended inclusion of:

Controls: Monitoring social media; daily news items bulletin

Actions: Periodically revisit equality and diversity and public confidence research

**Action**

Phil to update the risk register and forward to the governance subgroup.

**AOB**

Phil notified members that:

- the subgroup will meet in March, July and October. Gareth will circulate potential dates once the governance subgroup have set their dates;
- part of her digital role has moved over to the policy team who will in future be managing the maintenance and development of digital guidelines and related tools; and
- Bill will be invited to all future confidence and communication subgroup meetings.