



HM Prison &
Probation Service

Probation
Service



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Kim Thornden-Edwards
Chief Probation Officer

Date: 14th Feb 2024

Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP

Dear Caroline,

RE: Women and Equalities Select Committee: Inquiry into the Escalation of Violence Against Women and Girls

Following the evidence session that Alice Adamson and I attended with the Committee on 17 January we were asked to provide follow up in writing on some of the questions asked.

The Committee asked whether we hold data on reoffending rates on violence against women and girls. Data on justice outcomes and offending are recorded against the specific offence/legislation within which they fall. Court data is collected for operational purposes primarily, and information on victim demographics, such as age and sex are only recorded where it is part of the offence description, for example, 'rape of a female aged 16 or over'. Most offence descriptions do not identify victim demographics and since VAWG can take the form of such a broad range of offending, in many cases, it is not possible to uniquely identify a VAWG offence or reoffence.

We were also asked whether further information is held about 'waiting lists' for perpetrators of VAWG. The information shared at the evidence session came from management information which is monitored and held locally within Probation regions and as such we are not in a position to share at this stage. There are 3 different classifications for what might constitute a 'waiting list'; not referred, referred and ready to start, referred but not ready to start. We are in the process of commissioning a data set to support operational delivery and will consider the merits of holding this dataset nationally.

We look forward to receiving the report from the Committee in due course.

Kind regards,

Kim Thornden-Edwards
Chief Probation Officer
HM Prison and Probation Service