



Exceptional Work across the Project – Nominee

Rob Stone – The Wise Group (Sub-Contractor- APM)



I would like to nominate Rob Stone of the Wise Group for the fantastic CFO3 work he has conducted in HMP Low Newton. Rob is a qualified mentor and the service he has shown to HMP Low Newton since the mobilisation of CFO3 has been outstanding. Rob has taken it upon himself to build links with the head of reducing reoffending and the head of learning and skills to ensure that CFO3 is implemented within the regime, whilst also working in collaboration with other services. This has resulted in a seamless delivery model where the female participants on programme are supported across all pathways. Rob has ensured that the cohort of 'inactive' and 'disengaged' females have received an introduction to CFO3, with many enrolling onto the programme as a result.

Rob is highly respected by staff and inmates alike in HMP Low Newton. Through his mentoring expertise, he has engaged and maintained participants on the CFO3 programme, ensuring that they are supported in all aspects of their journey – particularly in areas of personal and social development. Rob regularly goes that “extra mile” for his participants, preparing them for through-the-gate transition by linking in multi-agencies of support. A real example of exceptional working was Rob’s intervention in supporting a participant’s parole application. The participant had two previous applications denied but



the third in January 2017 was accepted due to Rob's support. The customer wrote an open letter to APM, with the following extracts taken:-

"I came to HMP Low Newton in 2014 and received a two year knock back on my parole. However, after a lot of hard work and support, I sat my parole in January and was granted release in March 2017. As exciting as it is, after 17 years of incarceration, it is also very scary and overwhelming. Rob Stone has been instrumental in supporting me to deal with my release. He has kept me calm with all of the things I have been worried and stressed about. The sort of help I am talking about is, support with setting up a bank account and obtaining ID, help with contacting my hostel and answering questions which I have been really stressed about. Rob has also explained to me how to use a mobile phone when I'm out, so that I can get in touch with the relevant people to help with my situation. One of my biggest concerns is how I am going to get back to Birmingham when I'm released. However, Rob is going to meet me at the gate and take me on the train. Not only that, he is also going to accompany me to my first drug and alcohol support session, another thing which he has sorted out for me. If it wasn't for Rob, I would be stressed to bits and really anxious about leaving prison. He has offered me support any areas where I believe the system has failed. I really can't thank him enough. The need for this type of support in women's prisons is massive."