****

**MODEL LETTER FOR MPs**

Please cut and paste the letter on the following page into a word document, include your own details and personal experiences, and send to your MP as soon as possible.

You can find your MP’s details here: <http://www.theyworkforyou.com/mps/>

If you are going to the lobby of Parliament on 3 September, please add a final paragraph in the letter asking to meet your MP on the day.

...................................................MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A OAA

Date...............................2014

Dear.....................................

**Probation Reform: Stop the Sell Off**

I am a probation worker who previously worked for................................Probation Trust. On 1 June this year, I was transferred to ...........................................................as a result of the Government’s ‘Transforming Rehabilitation’ reforms.

The immediate impact of this change is that a previously high performing organisation has been split into two poorly performing ones! We now face additional bureaucracy, delays and cost, because two organisations now do the work of my old Probation Trust. I hasten to add that this is in no way the fault of probation staff who are working under very difficult circumstances to keep communities safe. The fault lies very squarely with the Ministry of Justice and its botched probation reforms.

Since the staff transfer, my working life has changed out of all recognition for the worst.

**(PLEASE INSERT YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE HERE, INCLUDING IMPACT OF TR ON CLIENTS, PUBLIC SAFETY AND SERVICE DELIVERY)**

Despite all these problems, the Government is still pressing ahead with its plans to sell off the Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) to the private sector later this year. This is being done despite major concerns over public safety, the departure of some key bidders from the procurement, concerns over the quality of some of the bids received and the likelihood that most of the contracts will eventually be let to four or five of the big public sector outsourcing companies. All this adds up to a very risky procurement which is clearly not in the public interest.

As my MP I would be grateful if you could contact the Justice Secretary Chris Grayling to ask him to lay before Parliament the Major Projects Authority project assessment review and assurance action plan in respect of the CRC sell off, before any contractual arrangements are entered into. This is in line with the government’s commitment to transparency and opening government major projects to public scrutiny for the first time.

I hope that I can rely on your support.

Yours sincerely

.......................................