

KENT MESSENGER

Probation service

31.1.08

I recently a young offenders institution I know how important it is to manage the ex-offenders in our community. It was therefore irritating to see that the Kent Probation service is asking its officers to take early retirement or voluntary redundancy, I guess to save cash.

Our prisons and young offender's institutions are at maximum capacity. In order to stop re-offending these people need help in the community. Our probation officers provide this help.

One of the key proposals for improving the re-offending rate is how ex-offenders are treated in the community. They need support, housing and a job. To reduce the probation officers numbers will hinder this process and will be a retrograde step.

We have got breakdown Britain whether the woolly liberals like it or not. Whilst we have to tackle what leads to a prison sentence we also have to tackle what happens afterwards.