

COVID-19: Challenges & lessons for the future

Johan Bac, General director Dutch Probation Service



The biggest challenge? Seizing opportunities.

Situation in The Netherlands

- This is about every inch of our being, living together and working together, and it is going to stay
- Pressure makes things fluid: never waste a 'good' crisis
- Organizations want to help and learn
- Try to arrest the opportunities, 'caught in the act'



Three examples of opportunities we try to grasp

- 1. Restart Community service
- 2. Towards forms of a digital, online criminal justice process
- 3. Care for our frontline workers



1. Restart Community service

- 1. Less external individual community services, more large groups
- 2. Designing an offender oriented process













Digital sign-up at the court

Everybody starts working at hub-location

Matching starts at the hub

Digital check-in/ check-out

Offender can monitor progress in portal

2. Towards forms of a digital, online criminal justice processes

examples

- 1. Assessment framework for deciding which procedures can be online and which not
- 2. Not only 'translating' offline procedures in online procedures but need to redesign court processes for online chain cooperation

3. Care for our frontline workers

- Supporting working from home (physically & mentally)
- 2. Starting research on remote working as probation
- 3. Leadership in the new environment (managing & motivating)

