

## Conference Speakers



Annette Hennessy OBE  
Chief Executive  
Merseyside Community Rehabilitation Company  
[www.merseysidecrc.co.uk](http://www.merseysidecrc.co.uk)

### **Annette Hennessy**

Annette Hennessy joined the probation service in 1981. They say if you find a job you love doing you will never do a day's work in your life! She has had a varied career in the service, having worked throughout the north west in Lancashire, Cumbria and Merseyside, in roles ranging from a volunteer to probation assistant, probation officer, middle manager, senior manager and CEO.

Annette has been involved in leading major organisational and transformational change, both in practice and in response to major policy changes led by central government. Key to this leadership is an ability to create vision, energy and a desire for excellence amongst colleagues, partners and decision makers. She has a reputation for demanding and setting high standards. As a result, wherever she works there is a culture of high achievement, continuous improvement and a willingness to deliver high quality service to our service users and communities.

Annette is widely respected by partners as someone who will deliver and who is prepared to lead beyond her authority and the boundary of her organisation. As a result she had led and achieved real change in the field of reducing reoffending, domestic violence, prolific offenders and public protection. She has led on public protection nationally for the Probation Chiefs Association and in June 2014 she was awarded an OBE for services to public protection and reducing reoffending.

In 2012 Annette joined Merseyside Probation Trust as CEO. The Trust led on innovation in working with reducing reoffending, personality disorder, gun and gangs, domestic violence, mentoring, and women and continues to do so in the CRC. As the Trust it achieved a first for any public sector, receiving a national award for UK excellence from the British Quality Foundation.

Since June Annette has been the CEO of the Community Rehabilitation Company. She is currently leading the CRC and the delivery of probation services through the most significant change in the history of the probation service where the CRC has moved from public to private ownership, requiring leadership which combines courage and depth of experience, both in practice and in organisational change.

Latterly Annette has been involved in the development of a senior women's network in Liverpool which brings together the assets commitment and expertise of women interested in creating a better proposition for the next generation of women. She is also interested in how to make rehabilitation more inclusive of service users, families and communities.

The CRC is now part of the Interserve led partnership Purple Futures which is hugely challenging and exciting! The key I believe is however very simple - I have an enduring belief in the work that we do, that its always about people and relationships and how to create the best environment for them to change and grow to their potential, whether they are staff, service users, victims or communities.