

Having launched in July 2020 The No Going Back initiative has gone from strength to strength

No Going Back is a bespoke Livery Companies initiative inspired by the Pan Livery movement with a core ambition of working collaboratively to reduce re-offending through training, support, employment and housing, and impacting on the £18bn it costs the taxpayer every year.

The project has grown in stature and reputation and has gone from the year 1 support of 13 Livery Companies, to 30 in Year 2. As well as funding, which is just a part of the need, the Companies are working together to provide volunteering, jobs through their networks and also sharing their expertise through the Steering Group. Each participating Livery company has been committed throughout and this project is seen as part of the strong tradition of philanthropic giving by the Livery to the prison sector.

The project is facilitated by Bounce Back, an established charity with an impressive reputation in supporting offenders into employment.

In addition to NGB, the NGB Cleaning Services social enterprise is getting underway with a chance to offer a genuine end-to-end solution to people needing a job on release from prison. Individuals can be trained in and out of prison for roles in what is now a career path with excellent progression opportunities. Supported by the Worshipful Company of Environmental Cleaners the expectation is that it will be in operation from August 2022.

With an excellent track record having engaged with over 800 people in prison, and with 100 people into employment, plus having independent evaluations for each year, the programme provides a clear overview of the impact of Covid and the effect on people leaving prison.

Plans are now beginning for NGB3 and work is being done with the Steering Group and independent advisors to adapt to the learnings of the previous iterations and continue the innovative approach for the future.

If you or your company is interested in getting involved and would like to be a part of the initiative or alternatively volunteer or offer jobs within your network of contacts please do visit the website www.nogoingback.uk to find out more or contact Johnny Robertson at jmr@wellersfarm.com or Francesca Findlater at fran@ffindlater.com