**ACCREDITATION OF DIVERSION PROGRAMMES AND DIVERSION SERVICE PROVIDERS**

In terms of Section 56 of the Child Justice Act 75 of 2008, the Department of Social Development is responsible for the provision and accreditation of diversion programmes and diversion service providers. Diversion programmes consists of counselling, treatment, skills development and behaviour modification programmes for suitable candidates of children in conflict with the law to face the consequences of their crime without the stigma of a criminal conviction.

Interested persons and organisations, inclusive of Government Departments, are invited to apply for accreditation of Diversion Programmes and Diversion Service Providers in order to render accredited diversion programmes to children in conflict with the law.

Please refer to attached Government Gazette, No 40130, Vol 613, of 8 July 2016 for more information. **The closing date for applications is 31 October 2016.**

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