



NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE
for England and Wales

Cheshire

What are my rights?

You will be treated fairly and without discrimination and you are expected to behave in the same way. The Probation Service will not accept racist, sexist or other discriminatory behaviour towards you from either staff or fellow group members.

If you have concerns about discrimination during the group sessions, talk to your Case Manager.

If, at any other time, you feel unfairly treated, you have the right to complain to the Senior Probation Officer in your area. Telephone the number on this leaflet for information. If you are not satisfied with the response, you can write to the Chief Officer at the address on this leaflet.



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Enforcement, rehabilitation and public protection

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Accredited Sex Offender Group Programme (N-SOGP)

Information for Offenders

Accredited Sex Offender Programme

You are required to attend the Sex Offender Group Programme as part of your supervision (Community Rehabilitation Order or Licence). This leaflet explains what is expected of you.

How will the Programme help me?

You will learn:

- new skills and ways of coping with situations and feelings
- what you have to do to stop further offending
- how to avoid difficult places, situations and patterns of behaviour
- how to identify and deal with risks

How long is the Programme?

The Programme is made up of a Core Programme and a Relapse Prevention Programme. The Core Programme requires you to attend between 32 and 36 full day sessions. The Relapse Prevention Programme requires you to attend 12 sessions lasting 3 hours each.

What will I do on the Programme?

You will be in a group with other men who have committed similar offences. You will take part in a range of role plays and activities looking at problem situations and how to respond. You will be encouraged to practise new ways of thinking and learn how to make decisions without reoffending.

You must agree to the following conditions:

- arrive on time and stay to the end
- arrive clear headed, not under the influence of drugs, alcohol or solvents
- turn off your mobile telephone
- take part in the exercises
- treat staff and other group members with respect, avoiding offensive language
- respect confidentiality
- speak about your offending within the group

What happens if I miss a session?

To complete each part of the programme successfully you must attend every session

In the Core Programme, after one miss, you will need to do a catch up session before you can carry on. If you miss two sessions you will have to start the Programme again.

If you miss two sessions without a good enough reason which has been agreed by your Case Manager, you will have broken the conditions of your order. You will face a return to Court and/or prison.

If you can't attend for any reason, you must contact your Case Manager straight away to explain.

If you are ill, you must give a Self Certification note to your Case Manager within five working days.

How do I find out how I am doing?

Before the Programme starts you will be asked to fill in some questionnaires. You will be asked to do this again when you have finished all the sessions. The questionnaires will show how much your attitudes have changed by working through the Programme. Your Case Manager will talk to you about this in more detail.