



NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE

for England and Wales

Cheshire

Sex Offender Registration

What you need to know and what you MUST do

Information from the National Probation Service, Cheshire Area

The Sex Offenders Act came into force on September 1st 1997, and has been amended with effect from June 1st 2001.

It brings with it the requirement on certain sex offenders to register with the police.

In some cases, you will have been notified at the time of conviction of the need to register. Even if you were asked to sign a document in court or in prison, you will still have to get in touch with the police after your conviction or release from prison.

What you MUST do

As a convicted or cautioned sex offender, you are required by law to notify police of:-

- Your name, date of birth and home address at the time of conviction
- Your current name(s), including any aliases
- Your main or sole residence in the UK; if you do not have a fixed address, you must give the address of any premises in the UK which you regularly visit (if either of those are different from your address at the time of conviction)

You must do this within 3 days of:-

- Conviction
- Caution
- Release from prison (for offenders who have served a prison sentence), or
- Being discharged from hospital.

This is known as Initial Registration.

The Sex Offender Register

You are required to stay on the register as follows:-

SENTENCE	NOTIFICATION PERIOD
Life imprisonment	Indefinite
Admitted to hospital subject to a restriction order	Indefinite
30 months or more imprisonment	Indefinite
Imprisonment for less than 30 months but more than 6 months	10 Years
6 months or less imprisonment	7 Years
Admitted to a hospital not subject to a restriction order	7 Years
Non-custodial sentence (including guardianship under the Mental Health Act 1983) or caution	5 Years

What offences are covered?

CONVICTION	ALL	ONLY WHERE OFFENDER IS 20 OR OVER AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE	ONLY WHERE VICTIM IS UNDER 18 AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE
Rape	✓		
Intercourse with a girl under 13	✓		
Intercourse with a girl between 13 and 16		✓	
Incest by a man			✓
Buggery		✓	✓
Indecency between men		✓	✓
Indecent assault on a woman	✓ except where sentences less than 30 months AND victim 18 or over		
Indecent assault on a man	✓ except where sentences less than 30 months AND victim 18 or over		
Assault with intent to commit buggery			✓

CONVICTION	ALL	ONLY WHERE OFFENDER IS 20 OR OVER AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE	ONLY WHERE VICTIM IS UNDER 18 AT THE TIME OF THE OFFENCE
Causing or encouraging prostitution of, intercourse with, or indecent assault on a girl under 16	✓		
Indecent conduct towards a young child	✓		
Inciting a girl under 16 to have incestuous sexual intercourse	✓		
Indecent photographs of young children (taking, showing or possessing with a view of distributing)	✓		
Possession of indecent photographs of children	✓		

The above offences include any attempt, incitement and conspiracy, aiding and abetting, or counselling and procuring the commission of the offence.

How to register

You must notify police by attending in person at a designated police station in your home area.

When you register, the police may require you to provide fingerprints and have a photograph taken, as a means of verifying your identity.

Notifying police of changes

You are also required to notify police of any change of name or home address within 14 days of the date of any change.

You can do this either by attending in person or by sending a notice in writing to a designated police station in your area.

If you are away from your usual address for a period of 14 days (or more) in total (e.g. two periods of 7 days, or 10 days plus 4 days) in any 12 month period, you must notify the police of the new address. This applies to any address in the UK.

Penalties for not complying

There are severe penalties for failure to comply with the requirements of Sex Offender registration. Failure to comply with ANY of the requirements is now an arrestable offence, carrying a sentence of up to five years' imprisonment, or a fine, or both.

The legal obligation to register is on YOU (the offender), although probation staff do make offenders aware of this obligation and encourage their registration.

Information on sex offenders will be contained within the police national computer. The register itself is NOT a public document, and cannot be accessed by members of the public.

Travelling Abroad

Offenders on statutory licences are NOT given permission to travel abroad except in very exceptional circumstances.

However, if you are on a Sex Offender Register but not on licence, you may travel abroad subject to certain restrictions.

If you intend to leave the UK for 8 days or more, you MUST tell the police. The police now have a right to know where you are going, how you are travelling and when you intend to return.

At least 24 hours before you plan to travel, you must tell the police:-

- The date you intend to leave the UK
- The country (or if more than one country, the first country) which you will be visiting
- The first point of arrival in that country, i.e. your first destination

At least 48 hours before you leave, you must also tell police – if you have the details – the following:-

- The first point of arrival in each additional country you will visit
- The name of the company/airline you will be travelling with
- Details of where you will be staying on your first night outside the UK
- The date you will return to the UK
- Your point of arrival back in the UK, i.e. where you will be coming back to

You must provide this information at a designated police station in your area. If your travel details change, or you find out further information, you must report these to the police. You must still do this within 48 (or 24) hours of travel as described above.

If you do not know the date when you will return or where you will be returning to in the UK, or you do not arrive back in the UK on the date you notified to the police, you must – within 8 days of your return to the UK – attend at a designated police station and tell the police the date and place of your return.



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