

- Act in a way that frustrates the objectives of your own or another persons supervision, including disruptive behaviour in group sessions
- Fail to complete assigned work between sessions;
- Fail to co-operate with a relevant risk management plan;
- Fail to comply with any child protection plan;

Will My Partner/Family Be Involved?

If the Social Services are involved with your partner/family it is likely that NSPCC or Probation Staff will want to have discussions with them.

Minority Ethnic Offenders

If you wish, adapted programme arrangements can be considered where you would be the sole black or Asian participant in a group.

What Do I Do Next?

To discuss taking part in the C-SOGP contact your home area Probation Officer, or as a first step speak with prison probation department staff: they may raise this with you anyway.

Equal Opportunities

Derbyshire Probation Trust is committed to ensuring that it operates fairly and consistently and avoids discrimination on the grounds of race, nationality, ethnic origin, gender, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation or any other improper ground.

If you feel you have been discriminated against, please discuss this with a member of staff and this will be dealt with accordingly.

Your Views are Important

We are committed to continuous improvement in all areas of our work. Your views on how we might provide a better service are most welcome.

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Derbyshire
Probation Trust



Community Sex Offender Groupwork Programme (C-SOGP)

Information for Prisoners

Introduction

In Derbyshire the Community Sex Offender Groupwork Programme (C-SOGP) is provided by the National Probation Service, Derbyshire and the NSPCC DOVE Project in partnership. The NSPCC is a national charity working towards ending child cruelty; this includes sexual offending against children.

What Is The C-SOGP?

The C-SOGP is a programme approved as suitable for persons convicted of contact or non-contact sex offences against child or adult victims of either, or both sexes. The aim is to prevent further sexual re-offending, by looking at how thoughts, attitudes and emotional responses are linked to abusive behaviour. For defendants given a community sentence participation is normally a condition of a Community Order, but for someone given a custodial sentence it can be a requirement of a Licence after release. In some cases the court will have imposed an Extended Sentence under S85 of the Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000 to make sure this happens.

Attendance as a Licence condition will be discussed with you by the home area Probation Officer, and may be proposed in Sentence Planning, pre-discharge or Parole Reports.

Who Can Take Part In The C-SOGP?

You may be eligible for the C-SOGP if

- you are serving a sentence for a relevant sexual offence, and:

- You are male, aged 21 years or over;
- (will be) living in Derbyshire;
- Your personality and thinking abilities mean you could benefit from taking part;
- Your mental health is stable;
- Any problems with drink or drugs are being successfully managed;
- you can speak and write English satisfactorily;
- You are in good enough health to allow you to attend regularly and complete the work involved

Even if you deny or minimize your responsibility for what happened you can still be considered for this programme.

What Does It Involve?

For anyone who has not already completed a Sex Offender Treatment Programme (SOTP) in prison there are two main ways through the C-SOGP. For most it involves attendance at 240 hours of groupwork taking more than 2 years to complete; for some the groupwork lasts for 100 hours and can be completed in about a year. It is important to recognize this will make major demands. These include:

- Regular reporting to a Probation Officer to complete work that forms part of the Programme;
- Daytime attendance to complete progress questionnaires;
- Daytime attendance at meetings with the Probation Officer and NSPCC staff before, and at key stages through the programme;
- Consistently attending and contributing

usefully to the groupwork sessions run by the NSPCC DOVE Project in Derby.

At the start of the programme you will have to attend during the daytime for one full week, and then for further individual days each week, if possible. The rest of the Programme usually runs for 2½ hours on a weekday evening, although sessions during the daytime may also be arranged. If you have taken part in a SOTP during sentence you will probably attend either 190 hours of groupwork, or a 50 hour Relapse Prevention group.

What Happens If I Don't Attend?

It is essential to attend all appointments given by the Probation Officer, as well as the group work sessions provided by the NSPCC. If you fail to attend a session you will be offered an opportunity to catch-up before the next one. But even so, if you miss more than one day of the first week, or more than two of the main sessions during other parts of the programme you will be suspended and asked to repeat that part again. If the reasons for not attending are unacceptable the Probation Service will request a recall to prison.

Can I Be Removed For Other Reasons?

You are expected to co-operate with the arrangements made, and demonstrate respect for other participants and programme staff. De-selection from the programme can occur if you:-

- Act in an unacceptable, threatening or offensive manner;
- Breach confidentiality or other rules