

Individual placements

The remaining 20% of offenders complete their Community Orders through individual placements which often involves working for youth and community centres, and organisations caring for the elderly or individuals with special needs.

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.

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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Community Orders

Information for Sentencers

A **Community Order** reflects the seriousness of the offence and the crime's impact on the victims.

Offenders on Community Orders are managed by Derbyshire Probation Trust in accordance with directions from the court and the requirements of National Standards.

Probation staff work with men and women on Community Service to prevent further crimes by successfully re-integrating offenders into their communities.

The three key elements are:

Punishment: by means of positive and demanding unpaid work, keeping to the disciplined requirements.

The expectation is that each offender will report for Community Service one day per week and complete a minimum of

20 hours of work in a month.

Reparation to the community: by undertaking socially useful work.

Enforcement: provides boundaries for the offender and demands compliance. The expected timetable is that the man or woman on a Community Order is interviewed within five working days, although Probation Officers in Derbyshire normally see the offender on the day of sentence.

During the initial assessment interview the offender is given clear instructions when to start working on the order. This must be within 10 days of being sentenced.

Should an offender fail to attend on more than two occasions, or not comply with the work instructions, they are returned to

court to face breach proceedings.

Work programmes

Around 80% of offenders complete their Community Orders by working in supervised groups of between six and eight individuals. The work is varied and can include:

- Environmental programmes to develop and maintain community resources etc.
- Decorating the homes of elderly or disabled people as well as schools, community centres, churches and elderly people's homes.
- Gardening work for the elderly or disadvantaged groups. Sometimes requests for CS support are received from Social Services.

Supervised offenders also work in the Service's workshops producing garden furniture and specialist equipment for schools and community centres.