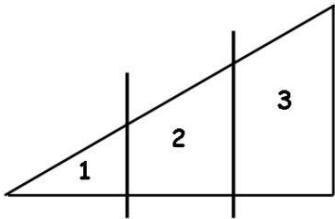
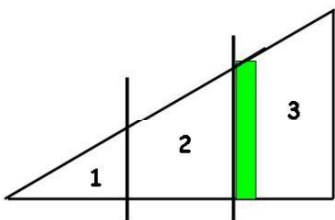




Council of Europe Project: "Support for the Introduction of Probation in Ukraine"

RATIONALE FOR THE CHOICE OF THREE PILOT PROJECTS

Martin Seddon, Adviser on Probation Methods

This presentation shows the range of methods used by probation officers in western Europe to rehabilitate offenders who are currently receiving custodial sentences. It then describes three methods that have been selected for piloting in Ukraine.

 <p>The diagram shows a right-angled triangle with a horizontal base and a vertical right side. Two vertical lines divide the triangle into three sections labeled 1, 2, and 3 from left to right. Section 1 is the narrowest, section 2 is wider, and section 3 is the widest and tallest.</p>	<p>THE FULL RANGE OF CRIMES</p> <p>This diagram represents the range of crimes considered by courts. Light crimes are on the left and serious crimes are on the right. Cases in area 1 attract little or no punishment. Cases in area 3 receive custodial sanctions. Cases in area 2 receive community sanctions.</p>
 <p>The diagram is identical to the one above, but the section labeled '2' is shaded in green.</p>	<p>MAIN TARGET GROUP</p> <p>The green area represents the least serious offenders who currently receive custodial sanctions. Probation services across the world are under pressure to develop services that will allow courts to give these people community sanctions.</p>
<p>The following are the main methods used by probation staff in their work with offenders in the 'green band'.</p>	
 <p>A photograph showing a probation officer in a dark blue uniform sitting at a small round table with an offender. They are looking at some papers together.</p>	<p>BASIC SUPERVISION</p> <p>Frequent, regular meetings between the offender and the officer are at the heart of probation work. The officer will monitor the behaviour of the offender and give guidance about how to avoid problems.</p>
 <p>A photograph showing a probation officer in an orange high-visibility vest supervising an offender who is working on a metal fence. The offender is wearing a blue cap and a grey hoodie.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY SERVICE</p> <p>Unpaid work is very popular sentence with the courts. Most of this will be directly supervised by probation staff.</p>



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Juvenile offenders can find it difficult to respond to verbal advice. They may learn to behave more sensibly if they are given practical training. Methods used by the military can improve self-esteem and teach practical skills.



PRACTICAL SKILLS

Learning how to make or repair simple domestic equipment can help with finding a job. It can also help the offender to become a more useful member of their family.



SOCIAL AND LIFE SKILLS

Offenders often make simple mistakes when confronted by regular problems of everyday life. Skills to handle problems at home, work or leisure can be taught using groupwork methods.



OFFENDING BEHAVIOUR

More serious personal problems – such as a tendency to violence – can also be tackled by group learning methods. Courses can last for up to 30 sessions of two hours each. The content is designed by experienced forensic psychologists.



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Restorative Justice involves a mediator negotiating with the victim and the offender. The aim is to get the offender to offer a genuine apology and to agree to take some practical action to repair the damage that was done by the crime.



TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION

It may be sensible for the offender to move away from the area where they lived at the time of the crime. Probation services run hostels where offenders stay for several months while they plan a new start in life. The hostels are continuously supervised by staff.



ELECTRONIC MONITORING

New technology makes it possible to enforce curfews. The court will decide when the offender can leave home and an electronic bracelet checks that there are no violations.



DRUG TREATMENT

Many offenders in European countries have problems with drugs. Some can respond to practical advice but other will need intensive rehabilitation.



DANGEROUS OFFENDERS

Police and probation staff cooperate in supervising the most serious offenders in any region. Weekly or daily meetings review progress.



SUPPORT FOR ISOLATED OFFENDERS

Older offenders who have been rejected by their families frequently commit minor crimes to survive. Informal clubs operated by NGOs in cheap premises can provide advice and cheap meals.

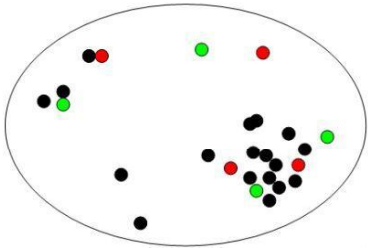


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USING SCARCE RESOURCES EFFECTIVELY

Probation teams frequently review their cases to ensure that most attention is given to the most serious cases. They use scientific assessment methods to match their approaches to the risks and needs of individual offenders.

THE THREE PILOT PROJECTS



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PILOT PROJECT 1: SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF RISK AND NEEDS

A questionnaire is being developed to help Inspectors identify the high risk cases in their area. It also analyses the main problems that likely to lead to more offending. This will help staff to focus their attention where it is most needed.



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PILOT PROJECT 2: PRE-SENTENCE REPORTS

Judges in western Europe welcome advice from probation officers about the type of sentence that is most likely to rehabilitate the offenders. This becomes more important as the range of rehabilitation methods increases. Inspectors in Bila Tserkva are improving the reports they have been providing informally at the request of local judges.



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PILOT PROJECT 3: SOCIAL LEARNING COURSES

Inspectors in Poltava are working with a local NGO (Light of Hope) to develop courses that will teach offenders basic life and social skills. So far the courses for drug abusers and unemployed offenders have been successful. The approach used with juvenile offenders is being re-designed.