

What you should not do

You should not:

- avoid or stop going to your treatment;
- miss any appointments with the Probation Service or the people providing your treatment; or
- behave in an aggressive, racist or other unacceptable way.

What happens if you break the rules?

If you break the rules without good reason you will receive a warning or be taken back to court. You are only allowed one warning in any 12-month period.

If you are taken back to court the court could:

- make you do **more** Requirements;
- make you do **different** Requirements;
- make this Requirement or other Requirements you are already doing **harder**; or
- send you to prison.

The court cannot just give you a warning or a fine.

The leaflet about your Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order will tell you more about what will happen if you do not stick to the rules.

It is very important that you attend your appointments and work hard to complete your sentence.

Other information

If you need help or advice about anything to do with your sentence, you can always talk to your responsible officer.

We keep information about you in our records. It is kept safely and securely. If you want to find out about seeing this information please ask your responsible officer.

Local information:

If you have a complaint about the Probation Service please talk to your responsible officer who will try to help. If you are not satisfied you can ask to talk to the unit manager. If you are still not satisfied, ask for the leaflet called 'Making a Complaint'.

Further information

For more information about anything in this leaflet, please talk to your responsible officer.

Produced by the National Probation Directorate
April 2005 CJA03/AT 1

NOMS National Offender
Management Service

Working together to reduce re-offending

Alcohol Treatment



New sentences for offences committed on or after 4 April 2005



Alcohol Treatment Requirement

About your sentence

The court has sentenced you to a Community Order or a Suspended Sentence Order. There is a separate leaflet on each of these sentences.

This leaflet tells you about the Alcohol Treatment Requirement that the court has decided you must do as part of your sentence. You might also be given other leaflets to help explain any other Requirement or Requirements the court has decided you must do.

About the Alcohol Treatment Requirement

The court has decided that you have a problem with the way you use alcohol and that you need help to deal with it. You have agreed to have treatment.

You will receive treatment, such as counselling. This will last for up to 3 years if you are on a Community Order or for up to 2 years if you are on a Suspended Sentence Order.

The person responsible for your sentence in the Probation Service (your 'responsible officer') will aim to find the treatment that will help you best. They will discuss the details of your Alcohol Treatment Requirement with you.

Alcohol treatment under an Alcohol Treatment Requirement is an Order of the court and you must co-operate with it.

What your responsible officer will do

They will:

- explain your sentence to you;
- talk to you about the plan for your sentence;
- make clear the kind of treatment you will be having;
- make clear **where** you need to be and what time you must be there;
- make clear **what will happen** if you avoid or stop going to your treatment;
- make arrangements for you to be taken back to court if you do not co-operate or comply with your Order;
- review your progress and work with you to help you complete your sentence successfully; and
- treat you fairly.

What you should do

You should:

- listen carefully to what your responsible officer says and do what they ask you to do;
- turn up for appointments on time;
- make sure you turn up in a fit state to take part;
- show respect to probation staff and other people you meet during your sentence;
- tell your responsible officer straight away if you plan to change your address or phone number;
- tell your responsible officer straight away if you are unable to keep an appointment;
- tell your responsible officer if you are having any other problems with completing your sentence;
- carry out any instructions you may be given when you attend for treatment; and
- stay out of trouble.

If you miss an appointment you should get in touch with your responsible officer as soon as possible and tell them why.

If there is a good reason for not being able to keep an appointment you should provide your responsible officer with evidence. This might be a doctor's note or a letter from your employer, for example.