

# Shift Plus – Care Farm Skills Training

## Briefing Document – Staff and Sentencers

### What is Shift Plus?

Shift Plus offers a specified activity sentencing proposal for offenders living in Herefordshire which delivers a range of activities and opportunities developed to achieve the following offender outcomes:

- Minimum of 80 hours of farm based skills training and work experience delivered over 16 sessions.
- OCN Award (nationally recognised qualification)
- 12 hours advanced thinking skills delivered in 6 sessions
- 6 sessions of one to one input from YSS pathways staff tailored to specific needs of offenders
- Introductory and Graduation Sessions

Transport is provided from Hereford Probation Office.

### Offender eligibility and suitability criteria

- Offenders requiring structure and willing to engage in purposeful activities.
- Pre-sentence offenders where a pre-sentence or fast delivery report is being prepared.
- A supervision requirement must be proposed in addition to a Shift Plus specified activity requirement.
- Provide offender with a copy of the Shift Plus information leaflet at report stage
- Please note Shift Plus cannot be offered as a licence condition.
- Shift Plus can be considered for offenders subject to breach – principles of proportionality apply ie, breach SSO risk of custody etc.
- Stable substance misuse and high risk of re-offending offenders are priorities – OGRS score of 75+ and / or IOM nominals to be prioritised
- Shift Plus can be actively proposed as an alternative to an unpaid work requirement or previous Thinking Skills Programme requirement.
- Shift Plus delivers positive outcomes with a significant commitment of time and restriction of liberty.

### Exclusion criteria

Current offence of domestic abuse, sexual offenders and serious violent offenders.

### Example of Specified Activity Requirement Wording

West Mercia Probation Trust offer a Specified Activity Requirement at Shift Plus Farm in St Weonards, Herefordshire. This requirement delivers cognitive development and skills training with further opportunities to achieve recognised qualifications and work experience. Thirty sessions are delivered over a fifteen week period, representing a significant restriction of liberty whilst seeking to achieve positive outcomes of:

- A nationally recognised qualification
- Focused cognitive development
- Changes in attitudes, thinking and perspective
- Reduction in risk of further offending

It is therefore my proposal that the court consider the imposition of the following requirements:  
A specified Activity Requirement (section 201(1)(b) of 30 sessions to undertake the Shift Plus Activity.