
? Do I have any rights while I am on the programme?

You will be treated fairly and equally. You will be expected to behave just as fairly to other people. The service will not allow racist, sexist or other disrespectful behaviour from any person under probation supervision.

You can make a complaint if you feel you have been treated unfairly or unreasonably. You should talk about this with your supervising officer first, or their manager. If you are not satisfied with the response, then you can write to the Chief Officer at the address below:

National Probation Service
West Mercia Area
Stourbank House
90 Mill Street
Kidderminster
Worcs
DY11 6XA

For further details about our work please visit our website:

www.westmerciaprobation.org.uk



NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE
for England and Wales

West Mercia

You have to attend the

Offender Substance Abuse Prevention Programme (OSAPP)

This leaflet will help to answer any questions you have about the programme.

It will explain what will be expected of you on the programme.

? What is the Offender Substance Abuse Prevention Programme (OSAPP)?

- The programme is based on the idea that you have learned habits of using drugs/alcohol that you can change.
- Most of the programme takes place in a group. You will learn about alcohol and drugs and develop skills to give you real choices for the future.

? How will it help me?

You will:-

- learn different ways of solving problems and reducing risk to yourself and others
- learn skills to help you plan for the future, including employment
- improve your self-control and general social skills.

? How long is the programme?

- There are 24 sessions of two and a half hours each.

- There are sessions before the programme begins, to get you ready.
- There are also follow-up sessions as needed.

? What will I have to do?

On the Offender Substance Abuse Prevention Programme you must:-

- Turn up on time and take an active part in each session.
- Not be under the influence of alcohol or drugs so that you are unfit to take part.
- Not behave in any way which may cause a risk to yourself or others.

? What happens if I miss a session?

- If you miss one session, you will need to do a catch-up session before continuing the group.

- If you miss more than two sessions, but have reasons that are acceptable to the probation service, you may have to start the group again.
- If you miss two times without a good reason, you will have broken the conditions of your order and will be taken back to court.

■ Use of Video

- Sessions are recorded on videotape.
- The tapes are used to make sure the programme is being run in the right way.
- The tapes are confidential and stored securely.
- The tutors will explain more at the first session.

? How will I know if I have made any progress?

- You will be assessed at the beginning and the end of the programme. This will help you see the progress you have made.
- Your supervising officer will also review your progress during the order.

Offender Substance Abuse Prevention Programme



NATIONAL PROBATION SERVICE
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West Mercia



*Information for
Sentencers*



Evidence of Effectiveness

This is a programme using approved material from Canada. Research on the original programme produced evidence of a significant impact upon re-offending:

For Serious Abusers

A reduction of 46% in new convictions

A reduction of 54% in offences of violence

**Offender
Substance Abuse
Prevention
Programme**

National Probation Service
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? What is the Offender Substance Abuse Prevention Programme (OSAPP)?

OSAPP is a specialised programme designed to reduce the abuse of drugs and alcohol. The original programme has already been accredited in Canada and it is now accredited for use in England and Wales.

The scheme is **available in Worcestershire and Telford from 1 September 2004** with the first programme beginning on September 28.

This programme is available only to offenders subject to Drug Treatment and Testing Orders. It does not need to be made a condition of the order but will be an important part of the treatment plan which the offender will sign. This is the group who require the most intensive intervention and structured activity in order to reduce their substance misuse.

Accredited programmes are those programmes which have been developed under the 'What Works' initiative and to which the Correctional Services Accreditation Panel has given approval. Approval is only given to those programmes which are based on sound research evidence and employ approaches which are effective in changing the way offenders think and behave and contribute to reducing reconviction rates.

? Who is eligible?

The Pre-Sentence report will identify those for whom a drug treatment and testing order is appropriate. OSAPP will normally be an automatic requirement of such an order. However there may be those whose literacy levels would make participation difficult. The Pre-Sentence report will advise you of how literacy deficiencies will be remedied.

? What does the programme involve?

The core OSAPP programme runs for 24 sessions and provides:

- Pre and post assessments
- Alcohol and drug education
- Self management skills
- Social skills
- Individual counselling
- Job skills and lifestyle development
- Planning and application of skills
- Relapse prevention and management

? How does an offender access OSAPP?

All offenders subject to Drug Treatment and Testing Orders, on or after 1 September 2004, who are resident in Telford or Worcestershire, will be considered for OSAPP once sufficiently stabilised and a place is available.

? How is attendance enforced?

National Standards apply to attendance on the programme and in default, enforcement action will be taken. The offender is required to attend all 24 sessions, all the assessments and may be required to attend an additional ten sessions to reinforce and consolidate learning from the programme.

■ Diversity

The aim is for all candidates and participants to derive maximum benefit from the programme. Attention will be paid to particular issues of access to and participation in OSAPP for example by those with primary carer responsibilities, women, those from minority ethnic communities and those with disabilities.