

WEST MERCIA PROBATION TRUST

Please note West Mercia will not be recruiting externally for Trainee Probation Officers this year. Therefore only existing employees of West Mercia are eligible to apply.

West Mercia Probation Area consists of Worcestershire and Shropshire, both County Council Areas, and Herefordshire and Telford and Wrekin Unitary Authorities. We have a wide variety of operating environments from the new towns of Telford and Redditch, with their historic ties to the metropolitan West Midlands, through historic county and market towns such as Worcester, Shrewsbury, Hereford and Ludlow to the rural west of the area that form the Welsh Marches.

In some ways we are "middle England", this is after all the home of the Archers, but in terms of probation practice we are anything but traditional. The recent BBC 2 series, "Growing out of Trouble" featured one of our innovative projects, and there are plenty of others designed to meet the needs of our diverse local communities.

Other probation areas may be concerned about the impact of meeting the target for spending in the voluntary sector, but we have embraced work with our colleagues from that setting precisely because of the importance that we attached to "community". This means that we have a range of good quality partnerships available and that we can get on providing the best services to offenders, not worrying about hitting someone else's target.

We are a service of just over 400 staff, and rank exactly halfway by budget in terms of probation area size. Performance has been consistently good, with us reaching targets over the course of each year, we are currently rated 'Green' on the Integrated Performance Framework and will become one of the first 6 pathfinder Probation Trusts on 1st April 2008.

If you have an appetite for thinking and working outside the box, want to work in an area that is big enough to matter, but not so big that you do not and are determined that "performance" can be combined with quality we want to hear from you.

