

NATIONAL OFFENDER MANAGEMENT SERVICE

The National Offender Management Service (NOMS) brings into a single system work done with offenders in prison and those under probation supervision in the community, either on community sentences or following release from custody. At its core is the aim of reducing re-offending and protecting the public.

Central to the operation of NOMS is the role of the offender manager. NOMS introduces new practices that puts a single offender manager (usually a probation officer) at the centre of co-ordinating all aspects of the sentence from conviction to the end of the sentence, ensuring continuity and consistency. This new approach and new IT systems supporting it, also ensures that there is no breakdown in communication and that advances made by an individual are built upon and not allowed to be lost as an offender progresses through their sentence. Offender managers are also responsible for enforcing conditions and requirements imposed on offenders and taking action to return people to court or prison if they do not comply or if they appear to be becoming an unacceptable risk to the public.

The new system puts probation and offender management at the heart of services for offenders. Offender managers now manage each case and supervise offenders through the whole of their sentence.

Probation provides many of the specific elements of the sentence, such as a period of unpaid work in the community, or those aspects of a sentence designed to change behaviour, for example, delivery of an offending behaviour programme or work to reduce dependency on drugs or alcohol.

During the course of their training Trainee Probation Officers will learn how best to manage medium risk offenders and those presenting a risk of serious harm, so that as newly qualified officers they are competent to work with offenders who are assessed as presenting a high risk of harm.

Further information can be found on the National Probation Service website:

www.probation.homeoffice.gov.uk

As part of NOMS, the **aims of the National Probation Service** are:

- Protecting the public
- Reducing re-offending
- The proper punishment of offenders in the community
- Ensuring offenders' awareness of the effects of crime on the victims of crime and the public
- Rehabilitation of offenders