

Other information we want to tell you . . .

Report contents: The report is written for the Court and will contain the Probation Officer's assessments. Before the report is sent to the Court it will be discussed with you. If you disagree with any part of it this may not be changed but you may tell the Court or your Advocate (if you have one).

Limits to confidentiality: Though Probation Officers try to respect your privacy there are many things we do not treat as "confidential" – your Probation Officer will explain this.

Our expectations of you: We expect our callers to treat all our staff and property with respect. We will not hesitate to report unruly behaviour to the police and press charges.

If you have a complaint: If you have good cause for complaint this can be made to the Assistant Chief Probation Officer. Any complaint must be made in writing. A member of staff will assist you with this if you have difficulty in writing.

Jersey Probation Service

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We can be found around the corner from the
Magistrate's Court.

SOCIAL ENQUIRY REPORTS

What You Need To Know



Jersey Probation and After-Care Service



ABOUT THE PROBATION SERVICE

The Probation Service helps Courts to make their decisions by preparing reports on people.

The Service also provides constructive ways of dealing with people who have broken the law. These are Probation Orders and Community Service Orders. We have leaflets about these Court Orders.

WHAT IS A SOCIAL ENQUIRY REPORT?

A report which gives information about you to the Court. A report can only be ordered if you admit or are found guilty of an offence and can only be ordered by the Court.

The purpose of the report is to assess your risk of re-offending and if appropriate to suggest ways in which this risk can be reduced.

Information for you about Social Enquiry Reports

WHY HAS A REPORT BEEN ORDERED?

The information about you in the report will help the Magistrate or Judge to understand you and your situation more clearly and help them to decide how to sentence you.

WHO PREPARES THE REPORT?

A Probation Officer or sometimes a Child Care Officer.

ARE THERE OTHER KINDS OF REPORTS?

Yes. Courts can order other reports too, such as medical reports.

WHO GETS TO READ THE REPORT?

- You – the report will be discussed with you.
- Your Advocate.
- The Magistrate.

- The Royal Court Judge and Jurats.
- The Royal Court Prosecutor.
- The Prison if you are sent there.
- Neither the Police nor the Press are handed a copy and the Probation Officer does not read the report aloud in Court.

WHAT WILL THE PROBATION OFFICER ASK?

About your life up to now, your job, your family, your financial situation (because the Court may wish to fine you), your hobbies and interests, any previous Court appearances and all the circumstances about the offence/s.

He/she may also want to talk to other people who know you such as your doctor, family, or employer – usually with your consent.

Your reading, writing and number skills will be assessed.

You will also be assessed regarding your suitability to do Community Service.

Reports generally suggest a sentence.

It should be noted, however, that the Probation Officers' recommendations are not always accepted because it is the Court that decides sentence.

WHAT ABOUT APPOINTMENT TIMES?

The Probation Officer will want to see you at least once at the Probation Office and may wish to visit you at home. The Probation Officer will contact you either by letter or telephone. Interviews for reports vary, but it is best to allow an hour for each interview.

If you are unable to keep your appointments please let us know beforehand. If you do not attend for your interview, it may not be possible to provide a report for the Court, who may then sentence you without one.