

### **How will I find out if I am making progress?**

Programme staff will write a report at the end of each block (core programme) and at the end of the programme (core and relapse prevention). These reports will be discussed at a review meeting that your supervising officer will attend.

### **Who will be on the programme?**

- ◆ other men who have committed sexual offences
- ◆ there will be two members of staff who have been trained to run the treatment programme.

### **What happens if I don't attend?**

It is essential that you attend all appointments with your supervising officer and all work appointments. If you fail to attend a group work session you will be offered a catch-up. However, if you miss more than two sessions you will be suspended and will need to complete the block or programme again. If the reasons for not attending are unacceptable, your supervising officer will initiate enforcement procedures, which means you will be given warnings and could be returned to court.

### **Can I be removed for other reasons?**

You are expected to co-operate with the treatment programme. De-selection from the programme can occur if you:

- ◆ fail to comply with any child protection plan
- ◆ breach confidentiality or other rules.

### **Will my partner or family be involved?**

If the Social Services department is involved with your partner or family, probation staff will have discussions with them.

### **What are my rights?**

You have various rights whilst you attend the programme.

You have the right to be treated fairly and without discrimination. The Probation Service will not accept any racist, sexist or other discriminatory behaviour towards you from either staff or fellow group members.

If at any time you feel you have been unfairly treated, you have the right to make a complaint. You should complain first to the Programme Manager.

If you are not satisfied with the way your complaint has been dealt with, you have the right to complain to the Chief Officer at the address below.

**6th Floor, Oakland House, Talbot Road, Old Trafford, Manchester, M16 0PQ**

**Tel: 0161 872 4802 Fax 0161 872 3483**

# **Sex Offender Group Work Programme (N-SOGP)**

## **Information for GROUP PARTICIPANTS**



## What is the programme?

This is a programme approved as suitable for men convicted of contact and non-contact sexual offences against child or adult victims. The aim of the programme is to prevent further sexual offending by looking at how thoughts, attitudes and emotional responses are linked to abusive behaviour.

## Who will go on the programme?

The programme is suitable for offenders being supervised by way of a community sentence or on a licence. For offenders given a community sentence, participation is normally a condition of a community order or a suspended sentence order. For someone given a custodial sentence it can be a requirement of a licence after release.

Part of the treatment programme will involve individual or co-working with your supervising officer. You will also be expected to participate in a group work programme.

## Assessment process

Everyone subject to a condition to attend a treatment programme is required to attend a daytime assessment programme of 60 hours, delivered over 10 consecutive week days from 9.30am to 4pm. There is time for refreshments or lunch (lunch isn't provided). The process will assist staff in determining which is the most appropriate programme for you.

## There are two types of group work programmes

**CORE programmes** - this is a daytime programme that runs from 9.45am to 3.30pm with time for refreshments or lunch (lunch isn't provided). You will need to complete 32 sessions (minimum).

This is organised into four blocks with a three-week gap in between when you will be expected to attend a review with your supervising officer. Unsociable hours programmes will be provided. Everyone who attends this programme will go on to do the Relapse Prevention Programme.

**RELAPSE PREVENTION Programme** - this is made up of 12 three-hour sessions held once a week. Unsociable hours programmes will be provided, but there is likely to be a waiting list for them.

## How do we do it?

During the group work programme some of the following methods are used:

- ◆ group discussion
- ◆ group exercises
- ◆ self instruction
- ◆ modelling
- ◆ skills development
- ◆ inter-session work.

These methods will be explained to you on the group.

All sessions are recorded on videotape. The reason for this is to monitor how the programme staff work with you. The tapes are securely stored.

## What you must do before the group work programme:

- ◆ attend all appointments with your supervising officer
- ◆ attend a specific group work session to complete a series of questionnaires.

## What you must do during the group work programme:

- ◆ attend every session
- ◆ complete all work required between sessions
- ◆ complete any additional work with your case manager
- ◆ attend and contribute to a review meeting.

## What you must do after the group work programme:

- ◆ attend a specific group work session to complete a series of questionnaires
- ◆ attend and contribute to a final review meeting
- ◆ attend all appointments with your case manager.

## You must agree to:

- ◆ arrive on time and stay to the end
- ◆ take part in the exercises
- ◆ talk about your offending
- ◆ arrive clear headed - not under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- ◆ treat facilitators and group members respectfully
- ◆ turn off your mobile telephone
- ◆ sessions being recorded.