



An tSeirbhís Phromhaidh
The Probation Service

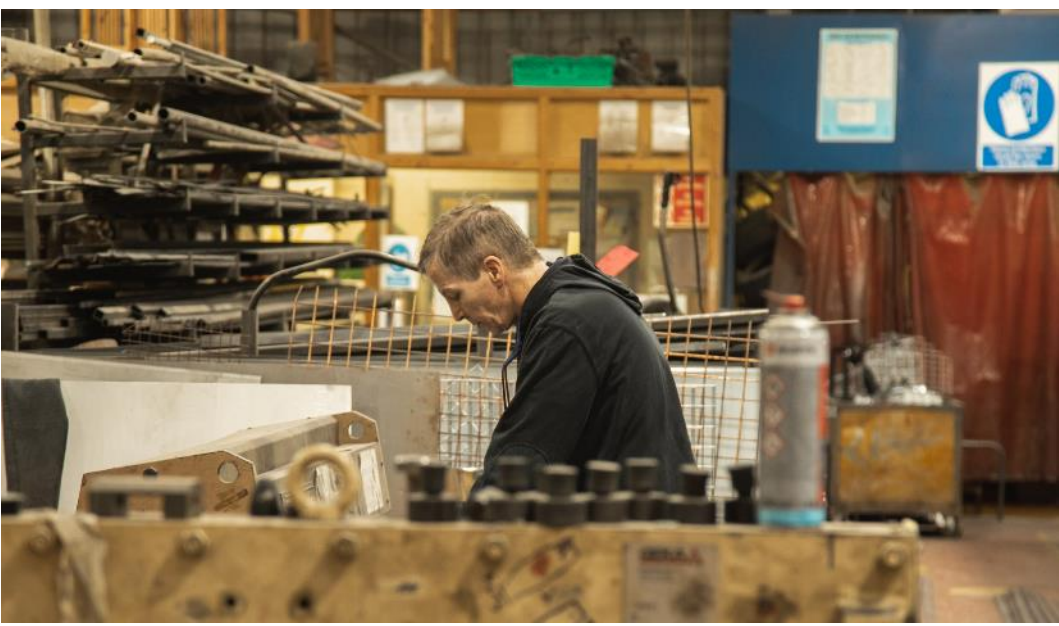
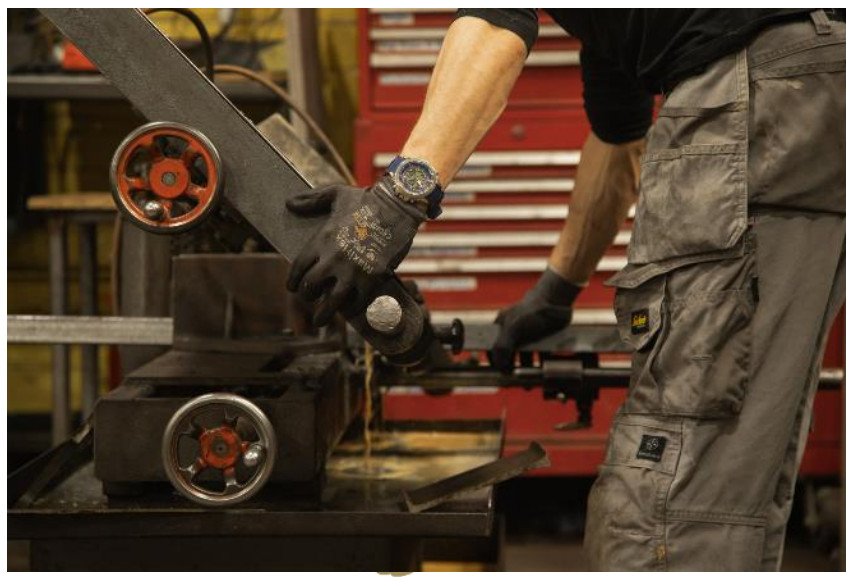
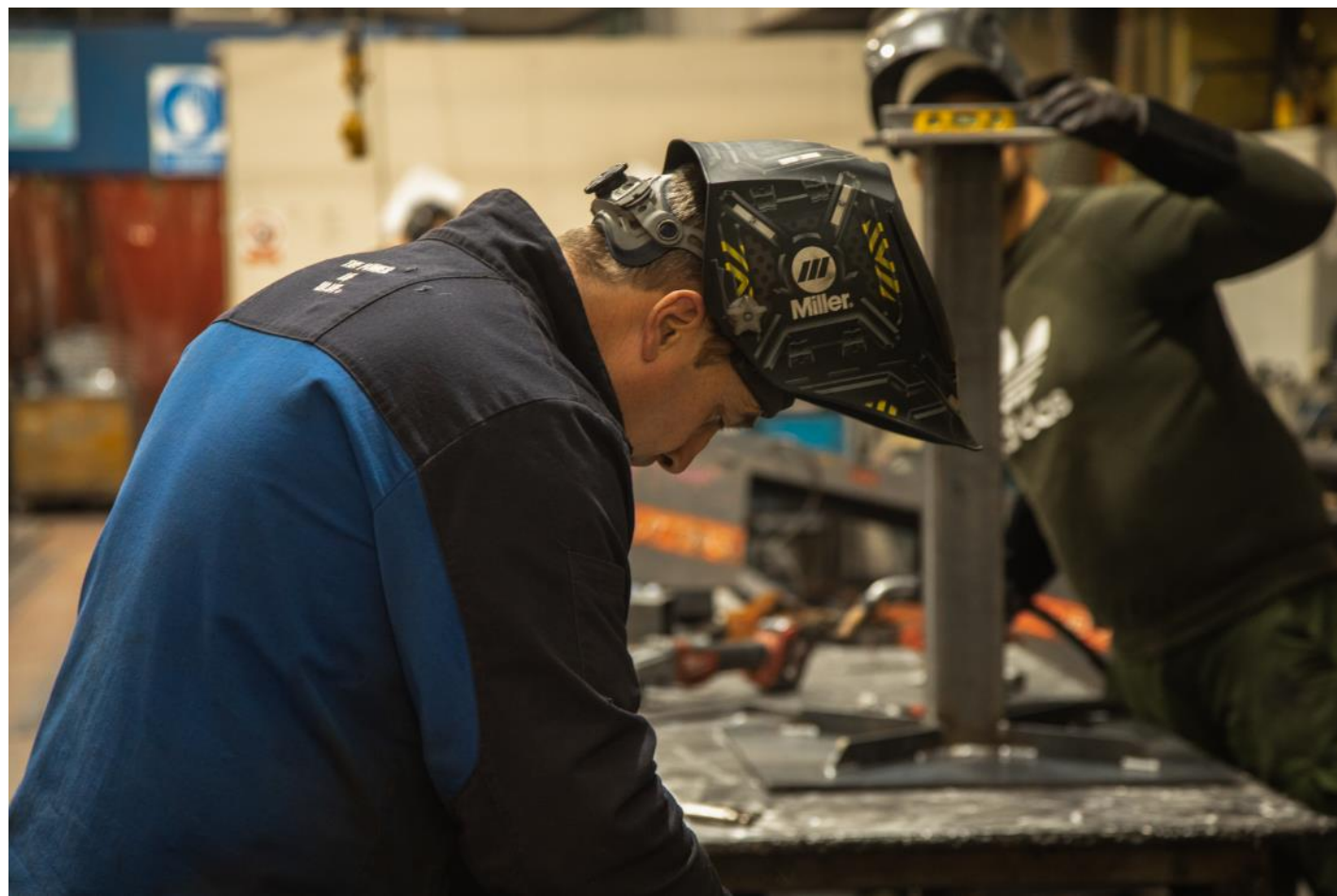
Holding to account: the role of the Probation Service in addressing harm and reoffending in the community

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Daily Snapshot Statistics



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Probation Service Clients (total)	12,040	
Women	1,682	(14%)
Men	10,358	(16%)
Under 18 Years	234	(2%)
Over 18 Years	11,806	(98%)
In Community	10,025	
In Custody	2,015	
Probation Supervision	4,344	
Community Service	1,882	
Post Release Supervision Order	1,688	
Life Sentenced Prisoners	122	

Source: Probation Service Client Statistics Daily Snapshot (January 2024)



Seirbhís Phríosúin na hÉireann
Irish Prison Service

People in Custody (total)	4,843
Bed Capacity	4,514

Source: Prisoner Population on Monday 26th February 2024

Community Sanctions & Measures supervised by the Probation Service in use in Ireland by Courts & other authorities:



- **Community Service Orders made by Courts** as provided by the Community Service Act 1983 (as amended 2011) & Fines Act 2014;
- **Probation Bonds and Orders made by Courts** as provided by the Probation of Offenders Act 1907;
- **Fully or partly suspended sentences orders made by Courts** with conditions to be supervised by the Probation Service for a specific period of time as provided by Section 99 of the Criminal Justice Act 2006 (as amended 2007) and section 51 of the Criminal Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009;
- **Community Sanctions made by Courts** as provided by Part 9 of the Children Act 2001;
- **Post Release Supervision Order** made by Courts as provided by under Section 29 of the Sex Offenders Act 2001;
- **Supervision Order made by Courts** as provided by Section 28(2) of the Misuse of Drugs Act 1977;
- **Deferment of Penalty with a Condition of Supervision** by the Probation Service, a Common Law Order made by Courts;
- **Supervision of life sentence prisoners in the community as a condition of a Temporary Release Order by the Minister of Justice** provided by the Criminal Justice Act 1960, as amended by the Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003;
- **Supervision of life sentence prisoners in the community as a condition of a Parole Order** as provided by the Parole Act 2019;
- **Supervision of prisoners in the community as a condition of a Temporary Release Order by the Minister of Justice** as provided by the Criminal Justice Act 1960, as amended by the Criminal Justice (Temporary Release of Prisoners) Act 2003.

Community Sanctions & Measures supervised by the Probation Service in use in Ireland by Courts & other authorities:



Alternatives to Custody:

- Fully suspended or part suspended sentences of imprisonment
- Early prison release, including parole and community return
- Community Service Orders

Community Sanctions:

- Probation orders or bonds
 - Community Service Orders as fines conversion
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- There are other community sanctions in operation in Ireland that fall outside the remit of the Probation Service - for example compensation orders, fines etc.
 - A range of conditions can be attached by the Courts or other authorities to the above.
 - The Probation Service also provides restorative justice interventions on request from the Court.

2022 Annual Statistics



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The Probation Service

Alternatives to Custody

Orders for Supervision During Deferment of Penalty	2,503
Fully Suspended Sentence with Supervision	1,355
Part Suspended Sentence Supervision Orders	828
Post Release Supervision Orders Made	61
Community Service Orders	1,288
Community Return (<i>people commenced</i>)	176

Community Sanctions

Probation Orders	1,451
Community Service Orders as fines conversion	206

Source: Probation Service Annual Report 2022



**Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann**
Irish Prison Service

Prison Committals under sentence (Total)

Prison Committals under sentence (Total)	4,162
< 12 Months	3,095
12 - 24 Months	393

Source: Irish Prison Service Annual Report 2022

Re-offending Statistics



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The Probation Service

Probation Reoffending Statistics 2019

One-year re-offending rate	25%
Three-year re-offending rate	47%



**Seirbhís Phríosúin
na hÉireann**
Irish Prison Service

Prisons Reoffending Statistics 2019

	5,801
One-year re-offending rate	41%
Three-year re-offending rate	61%

Community Service: New Directions Implementation Plan 2022-24



Our Goal

is to deliver Community Service as a robust sanction, which is used appropriately and consistently across all Courts nationally, both rural and urban, and which supports a demonstrable reduction in offending, while promoting community payback and community reintegration.

Our Vision

is one of partnership with communities across Ireland to foster ownership of the solution to offending behaviour and their role in the desistence journey after the sanction has been completed.

Our Objectives



1. **Increase** the use of the Community Service Order (CSO) linked with a reduction in short term imprisonment.
2. **Strengthen** compliance to ensure confidence in the CSO as a robust community-based sanction.
3. Contribute to an **improvement** in victim satisfaction levels.
4. **Promote** community ownership of the solution to facilitate reparation for harm caused and reintegration of persons who have caused harm.

Our Objectives



5. **Improve** secondary outcomes for people who have offended, including access to education, training & skills development and work.
6. **Build public and political confidence** in community based sanctions and the effectiveness of the criminal justice system.
7. **Evidence** value for money of increased investment by government in non-custodial sanctions through data and evaluation.
8. Build robust oversight and accountability into all aspects of the delivery of the community service scheme.

Tripartite strategy

