Think First: The Probation Board for Northern Ireland’s Implementation Strategy of a New General Offending Behaviour Programme

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Summary: This paper outlines the planning, identification and subsequent implementation of Think First, a general offender behaviour programme, into the repertoire of programmes developed by the Probation Board for Northern Ireland in 2009. It considers the implications and challenges in delivering this programme and how it is part of a broader vision within PBNI to deliver accredited, well-designed programmes in preparation for the needs of the new sentencing framework.

Keywords: Offending behaviour programmes, cognitive behavioural therapy, motivational interviewing, effective practice principles.