

Probation & Welfare Service

VICTIMS CHARTER



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www.pws.gov.ie

The Service concerns itself with your plight as a victim and attempts to consider your sensitivities and trauma in the way that it undertakes its work.

Offenders are strongly encouraged to take responsibility for the hurt, damage and suffering they may have inflicted on you.

The Service is committed to furthering proper recognition and respect for you in all areas of its work.

It seeks to prevent re-offending and, in so doing, aims to prevent the creation of further victims, contributing to a safer community.

The role of the Probation and Welfare Service

The Service operates as part of the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform and involves:

- the provision of a service to all courts;
- the preparation of reports on individual offenders;
- the implementation of offender programmes arising from court penalties which do not involve custody.

What you can expect from the Probation and Welfare Service

The Service will:

- when working with offenders, seek to challenge the offending behaviour and its consequences for you;
- ensure that offenders continue to address any issue of lifestyle or attitude that have contributed to their offences against you;
- have due regard to your concerns when preparing reports on offenders for the courts;
- when requested by the courts, assist in the preparation of victim impact statements;
- ensure that any proposed community-based programmes are sensitive to your concerns and are designed to prevent re-offending;
- direct restitution to you when compensation is made a condition of the supervision of offenders.