

UNCLASSIFIED

National Probation Service Bulletin



Issue 102

18 April 2008

The Bulletin has been improved for easier on-screen reading. It now summarises new content placed on Epic (<http://npsintranet.probation.gsi.gov.uk/index.htm>) in the previous week and significant messages that have been circulated on the Chief Officer gateway. Articles can now be read by either scrolling down the page or by clicking the titles below:

- 092/08 [Community Penalty Enforcement – backlog indicator](#)
- 093/08 [Probation Change; Achieving Excellence – Training and Development](#)
- 094/08 [Issued Recently](#)

092/08 COMMUNITY PENALTY ENFORCEMENT BACKLOG INDICATOR

The Minister has decided to suspend the introduction of backlog indicator, which was mentioned in the CJS Business Plan. The number of unresolved cases over 35 working days will be closely monitored and the decision will be reviewed at the end of the first quarter of 2008/09.

The Minister continues to take an active interest in performance and will in the near future meet with areas that are significantly under-performing in relation to the percentage of cases resolved within 25 working days, the headline target for 2008/09.

Issued to Chief Officers via the Chief Officer Gateway – 15 April

[Back to the top](#)

093/08 PROBATION CHANGE: ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE – TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The Achieving Local Commissioning Excellence timetable has been launched offering a comprehensive and structured approach to support staff in developing the necessary skills to operate effectively in the new environment of local commissioning.

These workshops are also offered to all providers in public, private and the voluntary sectors and to Regional Commissioners and their teams.

The training timetable and booking form can be downloaded from Epic. If you would like a copy of the training brochure please email PTPtraining@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk with your postal address. Please note delegates will be charged the full day delegate rate of £180 if a cancellation is received with less than four weeks notice.

Epic: Navigate from *Home>Support Service>Probation Trusts Programme>Probation Change: Achieving Excellence – Training and Development*

[Back to the top](#)

094/08 ISSUED RECENTLY

Probation Circulars 2008:

PC06 Accredited Offending Behaviour Programmes: Data Entry Amendments and Definition of 'Real Time' Issued 17 April

The circular proposes some changes to the ways in which data about programmes is collected.

The reasons for the changes are:

- To ensure a streamlined and consistent approach to data entry across all accredited offending behaviour programmes
- The continuing need to use IAPS now that C-NOMIS is not going to be rolled out to probation areas
- To ensure that only those measures which are valid, reliable and useful are used to assist with the evaluation of programmes and
- To improve the availability of programme data at all levels.

The circular announces a reduction in the number of evaluation measures to be used for Substance Misuse Programmes. It states that it is no longer a national requirement for areas to use paper or excel spreadsheets versions to record Treatment Manager Reviews and they must now be entered onto IAPS. It provides information and guidance on entering IDAP and CDVP psychometric assessments data onto IAPS and how to manage assessments where the pre booklet has been completed by an offender but not the post booklet. It informs areas that CALM and ART evaluation measures should no longer be sent into NOMS ATB team and must be entered onto excel spreadsheets which provide scoring and interpretation.

This circular describes the steps areas should take to implement this change. Finally, a definition of 'real time' data entry into IAPS (or any alternative local database) is provided. We estimate that these changes will be broadly cost-neutral over all.

PC04 Determining Unacceptable Absences Issued 27 March

OASys Messages to Areas – Via Epic:

Message 17 08 Rollback – ARA in Force Issued 10 April

NPS Briefings:

Briefing 41 Email Communication – with NOMS Post Release Section Issued 11 April

[Back to the top](#)

To submit items for the NPS Bulletin, or to be added to the distribution list contact:
npsbulletin@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Bulletins are posted on the Epic Intranet <http://npsintranet.probation.gsi.gov.uk/index.htm> (navigate from Home>News & Comms>Newsletters>Bulletins) and the NPS Website www.probation.justice.gov.uk, (navigate from Home>News & Updates>Bulletins)

Issued by the NOMS Communications Unit