

The logo for the HM Inspectorate of Probation is a large, stylized teal letter 'P'. Inside the upper curve of the 'P', the text 'HM Inspectorate of Probation' is written in teal, with 'Probation' in bold. Below this, the Welsh text 'Arolygiaeth Prawf EM' is written in a smaller teal font.

HM
Inspectorate of
Probation
Arolygiaeth Prawf
EM

‘It’s Complicated’ Implications for the Gold Standard

Liz Calderbank

HM Chief Inspector

Mark Boother HM Inspector

Content

- HMI Probation's involvement in EM
- Main findings
- A strategy for EM
- Towards a Gold Standard
- The future of EM in the England and Wales

HM Inspectorates Involvement

- The Williams Enquiry 2005
- A Complicated Business 2008
- It's Complicated 2012
- All Inspections where EM is a requirement

A Complicated Business 2008

- Case based Inspection of Probation, YOT and EM files
- The central role of contracting and the complexity
- The lack of transparency
- Insufficient integration of EM to supervision
- Growing use of community Orders
- Declining use of post sentence supervision
- Poor quality info exchange all round
- Poor understanding of thresholds
- Limited imaginative use of curfews

Recommendations Towards a Gold Standard

MoJ

- Review and revise strategy
- Transparency in enforcement

Probation

- Integrate EM into Offender Management

Courts

- Improve communications and get the details right

EM Companies

- Improve communications and protect staff

It's Complicated – 2012

Findings and Progress (or has the Gold Standard been achieved?)

EM Suppliers

- Had improved communications
- Continued to largely meet the contract

Probation

- Room for improvement in communications
- Curfews still not integrated or imaginative

Findings and progress – cont.

Courts

- Now using e mail, less basic mistakes
- Orders confused and badly filled out
- Most orders do not have probation reports, insufficient checking of addresses

MoJ

- Contract largely unchanged
- No strategic direction for practice

A strategy for EM?

- Hard to find in the UK
- ‘*Good value*’ - NAO report (2006) but focussed on HDC)
- NOMs has focused on contract compliance rather than practice
- Virtually no input on how curfews should be used
- Ideologically driven

Towards a Gold Standard

Need to articulate a strategy which:

- makes effective use of EM in reducing reoffending
- is clear about the objectives of EM
- integrates EM in Offender Management approach
- requires all stakeholders to communicate well
- simplifies administrative process
- maximises the potential for change/engagement
- has transparent and flexible rules
- allows for Innovation

The Future of EM in England and Wales

Opportunities and Threats

- New contract due to start in just over 4 months
- Review of Community Sentences
- Other ways of using EM – e.g Hertfordshire Project.