

Compliance with Electronic Monitoring

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Aims of the Workshop

- to explore some of the findings of a research study of compliance with electronic monitoring
- to introduce a project currently operating in one area of England and Wales to increase levels of compliance

Compliance

- Short-term compliance
 - Compliance with the conditions of an order
- Importance
 - Demonstrates respect for the criminal justice system
 - Costs
 - Defendants/offenders
 - System
 - Linked with desistance

Research Study

Aim

- To identify and explore the factors which are related to compliance of electronic monitoring.

Research design

- Observation
- Administrative data
- Offender interviews
- Interviews with monitoring officers

Compliance Rates

- High violation rate
 - All but two offenders had violations recorded
 - 53% of offenders had over 50 violations
 - 28% of offenders had 30 or less violations
- Most violations were relatively minor
 - Equipment tampers
 - Time violations
- 38% were either absent for the whole curfew or cut off the PID at least once

Violations

- Most violations were unplanned and resulted from chaotic lifestyles
- 31% of offenders had received at least one verbal warning
- 39% of offenders were sent warning letters

Formal Breaches

- Violations were more serious
 - Away from address for longer
 - More likely to have been absent for a whole curfew period
 - More likely to have strap cuts recorded
- Most breaches occurred early in the curfew order
 - Average time to breach was 49 days
 - Ranged from two days to nearly five months
 - 70% of offenders breached their order within two months

Reasons for Formal Breach

- 52% accumulated time violations
- 17% out for whole curfew period
- 10% damaged equipment
- 5% unauthorised address change
- 3% strap cut
- 13% other

Offenders' Characteristics & Compliance

Offenders were more likely to comply if they were:

- older
- men
- had no children
- under curfew at their permanent address
- convicted of theft-related offences

Curfew Order Characteristics and Compliance

Offenders were more likely to comply if:

- it was their first curfew order
- curfew orders were shorter
- curfew periods were less than the maximum
- curfew periods finished earlier in the morning
- offenders did not apply to change their curfew address or vary curfew hours

Explaining Compliance I

- History of breaches of curfew orders or other sentences
- Expected sentence
- Fair/lenient sentence
- Procedural justice
- Deterrence
- Fear of being caught
 - surveillance
 - equipment

Explaining Compliance II

- Support from family and friends
- Substance use
- Victims
- Motivation

Implementation

Pre Installation - texting

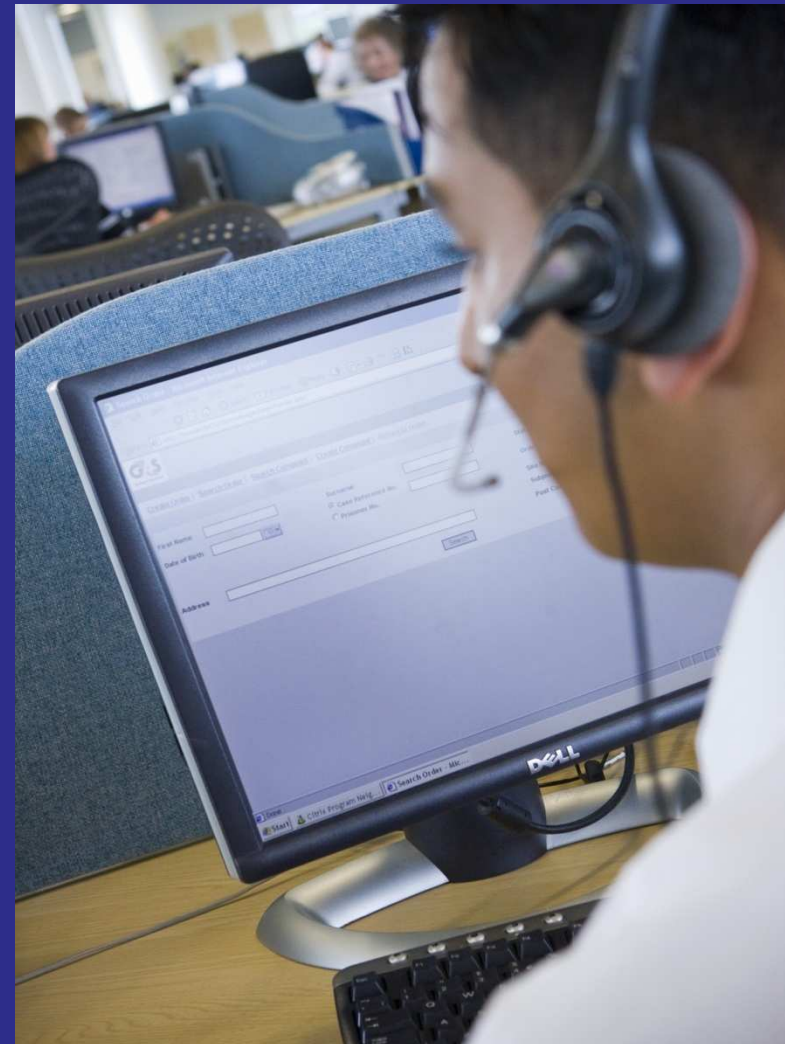


Installation – motivational interviewing



Monitoring – motivational calls

- Pro-active
- Re-active
- Breach thresholds explained
- Texting



Enforcement -

reasonableness & reminders



Partnerships



Questions and Debate

References

- Hucklesby, A. (2008) 'Vehicles of Desistance? The impact of electronically monitored curfew orders', *Criminology and Criminal Justice*, 8(1): 51-72
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- Hucklesby, A. (2011) 'The Nightlife of Electronic Monitoring Officers', *Criminal Justice*, 11(1): 1-18