

### What is Community Service?

Community Service is a new sentencing option for the Bailiwick run by the Probation Service. It is tried and tested and has been running successfully in the UK and Jersey for many years.

Community Service is effectively a fine on an offender's free time. It allows a person convicted of an offence, which could be punished by prison, to undertake work for local charities, clubs and organisations instead of going to prison.

The length of the Order will depend on the seriousness of the offence, this ranges from 40 hours as a minimum up to 180 hours if imposed by the Juvenile or Magistrate's Court and up to 240 hours if imposed by the Royal Court. If an offender fails to comply with the conditions of their Order the case will be returned to Court and that may result in the offender being sent to prison instead.



### Who can be sentenced to Community Service?

A Community Service Order can be imposed on any adult or juvenile offender (over 14) who otherwise might have received a prison sentence. The majority of Orders are made on men aged between 18 – 30.

### What type of work is undertaken?

Offenders sentenced to Community Service come from all walks of life and have a wide range of skills and abilities. Offenders are carefully assessed before being assigned to work either as part of a work party team, or on an individual basis.

The work parties carry out a wide variety of manual tasks, much of it undertaken outdoors, such as gardening, litter picking and environmental work.

Offenders working as part of a group are supervised at all times by the Community Service Team.

### Who benefits from the Community Service scheme?

*The community.* All clubs, societies and non-profit making organisations are eligible and can ask us for assistance.

We do not work for private companies or perform work which would otherwise be undertaken by States or Parish workers.

### What does the job of Community Service supervisor involve?

Supervisors play a vital role in managing offenders undertaking manual work in small teams. Supervisors are responsible for taking their group of offenders to the work placement, closely supervising the team and managing the job, returning the group safely at the end of the work session.

The supervisor's role is to guide and encourage offenders to give their best efforts and put in good work at their placement.

The most important part of the job is the positive influence supervisors can have on offender's attitudes and actions just by the way you behave towards people. "Leading by example" is the very foundation of our work.



### What is the best part of the job?

*Making a difference to people's lives and the community we live in.* For the offender, Community Service is a punishment this avoids the negative impact imprisonment can have on family life. Community Service provides an offender with the opportunity to retain their job and accommodation, whilst making amends for their offending by undertaking unpaid work to improve our environment in their free time.

For the community, it provides the opportunity to have worthwhile work undertaken for charities, clubs and associations; free of charge.

#### **What is the most challenging part of the job?**

Community Service is an Order of the Court which is normally made in place of a prison sentence. Whilst most people do co-operate, our job is to encourage and motivate more reluctant offenders in order to give them the best opportunity to successfully complete the Order.

#### **What skills and qualifications do I need?**

There are no formal qualifications required for this job. The Probation Service is looking for self motivated, organised and enthusiastic men or women who have experience in motivating and supervising people (not necessarily offenders), do not judge others and like leading a team.

This is a "hands on" job and as most of the tasks undertaken by the work parties are environmentally based outdoor work, you must be practically minded and like working alongside the people you are supervising.



Due to the range of offender's skills and abilities varying, the work we undertake is generally to a competent DIY standard. You do not have to be a skilled tradesman to be a good supervisor.

You will be expected to transport your team to and from work placements and so a clean driving license is required.

#### **What are the working hours?**

The work parties operate every Saturday and Sunday morning and supervisors work between 8.15am – 2.15pm.

Supervisors work at least two six hour sessions each month, in addition to agreed training commitments and are paid on an hourly basis.

#### **What about training and support?**

In addition to induction training when you will learn about the work of the Probation Service, you will be able to work alongside experienced supervisors and receive training in a variety of related subjects, such as first aid; health and safety and child protection.

Supervisors work as part of a small team, led by the Community Service Team, a member of the Team is on duty at weekends to provide support and assistance.

#### **What if I have previous convictions?**

The job requires you to work with some people who are vulnerable; all supervisors have to undergo a full vetting procedure. Having previous convictions does not automatically exclude you from the job. It will depend on what offences you committed and how long ago they were.

#### **I'm interested! How do I find out more?**

If you think that this is the job for you please contact The Community Service Team for a copy of our information pack.



GUERNSEY PROBATION SERVICE

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**A job which really makes a difference!**

**Are you interested in working part-time as a Community Service Supervisor?**

**Contact:**

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