

# Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) with Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP)

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## What is an Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP)?

An ISSP is the most rigorous, non-custodial intervention available for young offenders. As its name suggests, it combines unprecedented levels of community-based surveillance with comprehensive and sustained focus on tackling the factors that contribute to the young person's offending behaviour. Responsibility for delivering an ISSP rests with a dedicated team within South Gloucestershire Youth Offending Team (YOT).

Most people spend six months on an ISSP. The most intensive supervision (25 hrs per week) lasts for the first three months of the programme. Following this, the supervision continues at a reduced intensity (a minimum of five hours per week, and weekend support) for a further three months. On completion of an ISSP the young person will continue to be supervised for the remaining period of their order.

- **Tracking:** Staff whose job it is to track the whereabouts of young offenders, reinforce participation in their supervision programme by accompanying them to appointments, providing support and advice.
- **Tagging:** Electronic monitoring of the young offender (for example to reinforce a night time curfew if that is when they are most at risk of offending).
- **Voice verification:** This works by checking the voice print of the young offender over the telephone at times specified in a contact schedule, in order to confirm that they are where they are supposed to be.
- **Intelligence-led policing:** The police can provide overt monitoring of movements of these young offenders at key times to reinforce the programme as well as share information with ISSP staff and the YOT.

## What are the aims of ISSP?

The aim of ISSP is to:

**Provide a robust, realistic alternative to custody and reduce offending behaviour whilst meeting both the needs of the community and young offenders.**

## How will we achieve this?

By providing a structured programme of relevant activities including the 5 core elements:

- Offending Behaviour
- Interpersonal Skills
- Education/Training/Employment
- Family Support
- Restorative Justice

## **Who is an ISSP designed for?**

An ISSP is targeted at two main groups of offenders:

- The small group of prolific young offenders (aged 10-17) who commit approximately a quarter of all offences committed by young people.
- Those young people who are not prolific offenders but who commit crimes of a very serious nature and who would benefit from an early and intensive intervention.

## **Who qualifies for an ISSP?**

Young offenders are eligible for an ISSP if they are appearing in court charged with or convicted of an offence, and have previously:

- Been charged, warned or convicted of offences committed on four or more separate dates within the last 12 months and received at least one a community or custodial penalty.

In addition, young offenders can also qualify for an ISSP if they are at risk of custody because:

- The current charge or sentence relates to an offence which is sufficiently serious that an adult could be sentenced to 14 years or more, or
- They have a history of repeat offending on bail and are at risk of a secure remand under section 130 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001.

## **Important Information**

The Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme (ISSP) for prolific and serious young offenders is available in your area. Further information is available from the Youth Offending Team.

As its name suggests, an ISSP provides a strict and closely monitored regime, which can be used where a custodial or secure remand might otherwise be an option. It can also provide a useful framework for the community supervision element of a Detention and Training Order.