

Drink Impaired Drivers (DIDs)

What is DIDs?

DIDs is a group programme for people who have committed a drink-driving offence.

The court may have ordered you to follow this programme as part of your sentence, or it may be a condition of your prison licence.

How will it help me?

The programme will help you to:

- avoid drink-driving in the future
- understand how alcohol affects the body and your driving skills
- plan effectively so that you don't need to drive after drinking
- monitor your drinking patterns and understand why you drink
- look at why you committed the offence
- talk about the effects your behaviour has on other people
- drive safely

What will I do in the group?

You must

- attend all sessions, arrive on time and stay to the end
- face up to what you have done and make changes in your life to gain self-control and avoid committing another offence
- actively take part

- arrive with a clear head, not under the influence of drugs, alcohol or solvents
- treat tutors and other group members with respect
- respect confidentiality
- turn off your mobile phone

How long does the group last?

The group has three stages:

- individual sessions with your Probation Officer to prepare you for the group
- fourteen group sessions. These take place once a week and last for 2.5 hours
- individual follow-up sessions with your Probation Officer

What happens if I miss a session?

You have to come to every session. If you miss a session, you will need to do a catch-up session before you can carry on with the group. If you miss two sessions without good reason you will be in breach of your Order and you will have to go back to court.

How will I know if I am making progress?

We will ask you some questions at the start and end of the programme. This will show how much your skills and views have changed. We will report back regularly to your Probation Officer who will discuss your progress with you. You will also learn how to monitor your own behaviour throughout the programme.

Who do you share information with?

Our staff keep information about you in paper records and on computer. We keep all records safe and secure. If you wish to know more, please ask your Probation Officer for details.

Do you record sessions?

We record all programme sessions. We watch the recordings to check how programme facilitators have delivered the programme. Probation Officers may use the recordings, for example if someone's behaviour in the group leads to enforcement action.

Diversity

The Probation Service is committed to valuing and respecting differences between individuals. If you have concerns or questions about race, religion, culture, gender, sexual orientation, childcare or other issues, please discuss this as soon as possible with your Probation Officer.

Remember...

We must take you back to court or you may be recalled to prison if you fail to attend two group sessions or other probation appointments without good reason.

If you would like this information in a different format or language, please contact:

0121 634 1356