

# Immediate Justice Team

The Immediate Justice scheme provides swift and visible consequences for people who commit anti-social behaviour, asking them to carry out work in public areas to repair the harm they have caused to communities.



We take a unique approach: The Immediate Justice Team engages with local stakeholders to work in areas marred by damage and disrepair. By connecting with communities, listening to their concerns, and visibly taking action, the Team increases public confidence and builds trust.

And the mentoring approach to the offenders who take part in the programme has had a significant impact on their likelihood of reoffending.

#### How the project works

Northamptonshire Police Officers and PCSOs can refer people who have committed minor offences to carry out a work penalty through the Immediate Justice Team.

Offenders receive a minimum penalty of four hours of work in a community space that could see them picking litter, cutting back bushes, repairing play equipment, painting, mowing, or clearing.

This restores unloved or unsafe public areas and helps to deter future anti-social behaviour. Communities can also see justice in action.

#### Our unique approach

We want communities to know that they are being listened to - they are at the heart of the Immediate Justice scheme.

The Immediate Justice Team works with local authorities, asking councillors to suggest sites of community value that need work. The Team reaches out to community groups of all kinds, to identify locations that are damaged or overgrown, or where neglect is a magnet for anti-social behaviour.

The Team also involves people serving community penalties in neighbourhood policing operations and local authority clear up days.

When work has been completed, the Team feeds back to stakeholders and the wider community, explaining the action taken on issues that matter to them.

## The impact on offenders

The Immediate Justice Team engages with each offender individually, building trust and making it far more likely that they will complete their required hours.

Immediate Justice Team members work with the offender on a one-to-one basis. Team members aim to make sure that offenders understand the harm caused by anti-social behaviour and how much value is placed on safe and welcoming community spaces.

### The impact on communities

The potential to connect with communities and the impact on confidence is enormous.

There is great engagement with partner organisations and individuals across the county. We understand that from the constant flow of suggested locations and requests for the Team to get involved.

The Team has enhanced the environment in a number of areas of community value – allotments, parks and play areas, underpasses, footpaths, riversides, community walkways, graveyards, and residential streets - right across Northamptonshire, giving a sense of local pride and reducing the

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The impact on
offenders is clear –
88% of the 287 people
who have carried out
an immediate justice
penalty have not
reoffended



people have been referred to the Immediate Justice Project and carried out a penalty



of those 287 people have not reoffended



hours of reparative work have been carried out



locations so far have been repaired or improved



people who had been referred to the project refused to engage.

33% of those people have reoffended

