



Department of
Justice

An Roinn Dlí agus Cirt

Máinnystrie O tha Laa

www.justice-ni.gov.uk



**Easy
Read**

Reducing crime in Northern Ireland - call for views

Tell us what you think about our ideas



Easy Read

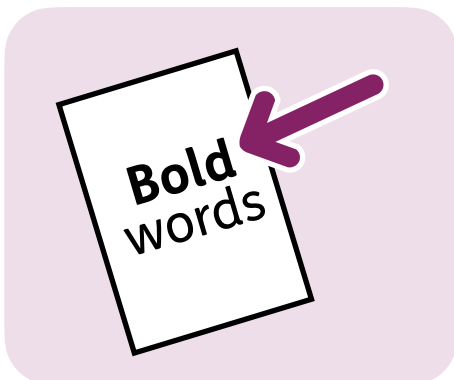


This is an Easy Read version of some information.

It uses easier words and pictures.



Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are **bold** to show they are important.



We explain bold words if they are hard to understand.

What is in this booklet

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About this booklet



Northern Ireland
Executive

We are the Department of Justice.
We are a part of the government
in Northern Ireland.



We are in charge of protecting
people from crime.



We want there to be less crime in
Northern Ireland.

We are writing a new plan on how
to reduce crime in Northern
Ireland.



We want to know what you think
of our plan.
Please answer the questions in
this booklet to tell us what you
think.

What we want to achieve



It is important to punish people who commit crimes.



But it is better to stop crime from happening in the first place.



Our **aims** are what we want to achieve. We are thinking about having 2 aims:

1. Stop crime from happening in the first place.



2. Help people who have committed crimes to change.

How we will work

We are thinking about 4 ways we could work:



1. Help people who might commit crimes, so they do not break the law.



2. Make sure all of our services and projects work together.



3. Try new ways to stop crime.



4. Be open and honest about what we are doing.

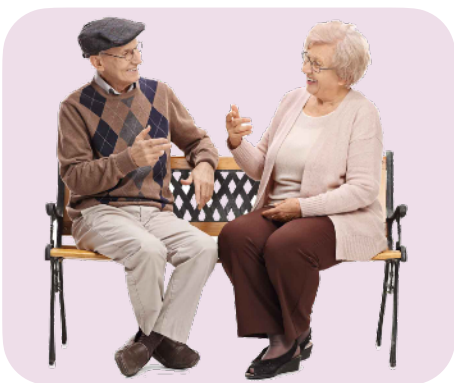


We think this is important, but we want to know if you agree.

Feeling healthy and well



We want people to be healthy and well.



When people are healthy and well, they are more likely to live a good life.



People can feel unwell for many different reasons.



If we support them to feel healthy and well, we could help them to stay safe and live good lives.



Do you think helping people be healthy and well can reduce crime?

Feeling safe and included



People should feel safe and included in their local community.



To feel safe and included, people need:

- A safe place to live.
- Enough money to afford the things they need to live.



If everyone feels safe and included, this can help to stop crimes from happening.



Do you think these things help stop crime?

Learning and jobs



We want to help people go to school, learn skills and get a job.



This can help people to stay out of trouble and have a good life.



Some people do not do well at school.



They can find it hard to get a good job and earn money.

So we should try to support them.



Do you agree that education and jobs can help stop crime?

After crime has happened



We are thinking about how we should respond after crime happens.



We want to:

- Help the people who are hurt by crime.



- Help people who commit crimes to change how they behave.



- Keep the public safe.



But we do not just want to put lots of people in prison.



Do you think these things help stop crime?



Some things can make it more likely that people get involved in crime.



If we give people the right support, they might be less likely to commit crime again.



The next questions ask what you think about these reasons.

Your information



We will use your answers and the information you give us to make our plan better.



We will follow the law when we use your answers.



You can find out more about how we use your information by emailing:
statistics.research@justice-ni.gov.uk

About you



Question 1: Are you answering these questions because you are...

- A member of the public
- Someone who has been involved in crime in the past
- Someone who has been hurt by crime in the past
- Someone who has worked with people who are involved in crime

There are more choices on the next page.

Someone who has worked with people who were hurt by crime

A community group

An organisation that is paid for by the government, like the police

Someone who works in a university

A different reason. Please write the reason in this box:



Question 2: If you are answering these questions for an organisation, please give us its name and email address:



Do not write your own name or email address if you are answering for yourself.

Your views on why people commit crimes



Question 3a: Which of the following things do you think make people more likely to become involved in crime?

Tick all the boxes that you think are true.

Health issues and mental health issues

Not having a safe place to live

Not doing well at school

There are more choices on the next page.

- Not having a job or a chance to learn skills
- Bad things that happened when they were children
- Using drugs or drinking too much alcohol
- Not having enough money to pay for the things they need to live
- Being lonely and not having enough support
- People in their family or local community being involved in crime

There are more choices on the next page.

Friends being involved in crime

Seeing people in their family hurt each other and treat each other badly

Not getting support from government and council services

Other reasons. Please write the reasons in this box:



Question 3b: Please tell us any other things that you think make people more likely to become involved in crime?

A large, empty, rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to provide their answer to Question 3b.



Question 3c: What do you think is the **main reason** why people become involved in crime?

A large, empty, rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to provide their answer to Question 3c.



Question 3d: Please give us examples that you know about, or are aware of, that show what leads people into crime.

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for the user to provide examples of factors leading to crime.

When people first get involved in crime, we call it **first-time offending**.



When people commit crimes again, we call it **reoffending**.



Question 4a: Do you think first-time offending happens for different reasons from reoffending?

Yes

No

I do not know



Question 4b: Please tell us why you think this.

Please use examples that you know about, or are aware of, to explain your answer.

Stopping people from getting involved in crime



Question 5a: What are the best ways to stop people from first-time offending?

Please tick all the boxes you think are true.

Giving people safe homes

Giving people support for their mental health

Giving people support to stop using drugs

There are more choices on the next page.

- Giving people a chance to learn and get a job
- Knowing people who can help them to make good choices
- Stopping people from being treated badly by others
- Finding out if people need extra support at school
- Dealing with adults who break the law without sending them to court

There are more choices on the next page.

Working with people when they are still aged under 18

Giving help to children's families

Giving people support in school

Giving people chances to learn and work after they leave school

Taking part in local projects for young people

Other ways. Please write your answer in the box:



Question 5b: Please tell us any other things that help to stop people getting involved in crime:



Question 5c: Please give us examples that you know about, or are aware of, that show what stops people from getting involved in crime:

Stopping people from reoffending



Remember, **reoffending** means someone committing crimes again.



Question 6a: Which types of support do you think help to stop people from reoffending?

Please tick all the boxes you think are true.

Support with their health and mental health

Help to stop using drugs

There are more choices on the next page.

- A safe place to live
- Support to learn new skills and get a job
- Support for their families
- Dealing with young people without sending them to prison
- Dealing with adults without sending them to prison
- Checking on people to make sure they are following the law

There are more choices on the next page.

Projects that help people who have committed certain types of crimes

Risk assessments

This means looking at how to make it less likely for things to go wrong

Learning about the people who have been hurt by their crimes

Support when leaving police stations or prisons

Support that is right for them, if they have a disability

There are more choices on the next page.

Other types of support.
Please write the support in
this box:



Question 6b: Please tell us any other things that help to stop people from reoffending:



Question 6c: Please give us examples that you know about, or are aware of, that show what stops people from reoffending:



Question 7a: Are there any groups that you think need extra support to stop them from reoffending?

Yes

No

I do not know



Question 7b: If you said **yes**, please tell us which groups and why they need extra support.

Please give us examples that you know about, or are aware of, when you answer this.

People who might get hurt



Question 8a: How do you think we can make it less likely that people get hurt by crime?



Question 8b: Please give us examples that explain your answer to Question 8a:

Your views on what we should do



On page 5, we mentioned the aims we are thinking about.



Question 9a: Do you agree with our aim to stop people from committing crimes in the first place?

Yes

No

I do not know



Question 9b: Do you agree with our aim to stop reoffending by supporting people to change?

Yes

No

I do not know

Our vision



Our **vision** is what we want Northern Ireland to be like.



We want Northern Ireland to be:

- Safe and fair.



- A place where people work together to stop people from being hurt.



- A place where there is less crime and reoffending.

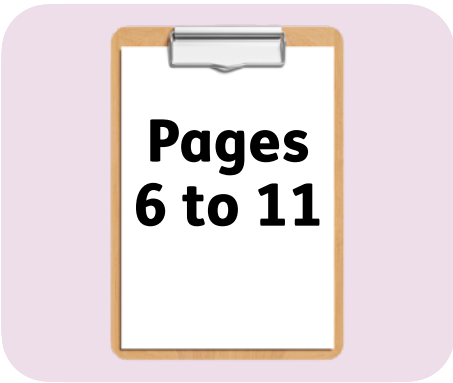


Question 9c: Do you agree with our vision?

Yes

No

I do not know



From page 6 to page 11, we talked about the main things we will work on.



Question 9d: Do you agree that we should work on these things?

Yes

No

I do not know



Question 9e: Please tell us any other thoughts you have about our plan:

A large, empty rectangular box with rounded corners and a black border, intended for the respondent to write their thoughts.



Question 10a: What should we try to achieve when we work on our plan?

Less first-time offending

Less reoffending

Fewer victims of crime

More support for families

More people who are healthy and well

There are more choices on the next page.

Better support for **neurodiverse** people

Neurodiverse means that you think and see the world in a different way from most people.

You might have a condition like ADHD or autism.

People who do better in school and at jobs

Local people who get on well together

More support for our work from the public

Something else. Please say what in this box:



Question 10b: Are there any other aims that we should include in our plan?



Question 10c: How should we check that we are achieving our aims?



Question 11: How can we work better with local groups to help there be less crime?

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for a response to the question above.

Being fair to everyone



We must be fair to **Section 75 groups** and people who live in the countryside.

Section 75 groups are:



- People who believe in different religions.



- People who believe in different politics.

There are more groups on the next page.



- People of different races.



- Men and women.



- People of different ages.



- People who are married or not married.

There are more groups on the next page.



- People of different **sexual orientations**.

Sexual orientation means who you are attracted to. For example, men, women or both.



- People with or without a disability.



- People who care for others.



Question 12: How can we make sure we are fair to Section 75 groups?

A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a black border, intended for a response to the question.

Further comments



Question 13: Is there anything else you would like to tell us to help us write our plan?

Find out more



You can look at our website here:
www.justice-ni.gov.uk/



What do you think about this Easy Read booklet?

Please fill in this survey to tell us what you think: www.easy-read-online.co.uk/easy-read-feedback-survey

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