

# Information for Sentencers



SOUTH YORKSHIRE

## Drink Impaired Drivers Programme [DID]

### Introduction

The Drink Impaired Drivers Programme (DID) is a nationally accredited programme. It aims to confront participants with issues relating to drinking and driving and help group members develop their skills for thinking and problem solving and to apply these skills to real situations to reduce the risk of future offences of drink driving.

### The Programme

The programme works with participants to:

- Increase their factual knowledge about the effects of alcohol.
- Encourage a constructive change in attitude towards the use of alcohol.
- Encourage positive change in patterns of drinking and related behaviour.
- Develop an increased awareness of the variety of ways in which participants can resist undue pressure to drink more than they wish.
- Enable them to recognise the implications of their drinking on themselves and others, particularly the potential victims of road accidents.
- Increase understanding of the drink-driving offence and recognition of the effect of alcohol on essential driving skills.

### Programme Length

The programme runs for fourteen weekly sessions of 2 hours. In addition there are pre and post psychometrics tests.

### When is DID Appropriate?

All offenders should be assessed for suitability by the Probation Service. This programme is best suited to men and women aged 18 years or over whose current offence involves drink driving where there are aggravating features.

Offences include driving whilst unfit or over the proscribed limit, being drunk in charge of a vehicle or failing to provide a specimen; and aiding, abetting or attempting any of these.

Aggravating features include offences involving a road traffic accident, a high blood alcohol level (eg 100mg or above) or previous drink driving offences.

### The Legal Framework

Attendance on the programme is a requirement of a Community Order or Suspended Sentence as set out in Section 202 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003.

The following words should be used:

**“For the duration of the requirement, participate in the Drink Impaired Drivers programme, in premises approved by the South Yorkshire Probation Board, in accordance with the instructions of the responsible officer for not more than 30 days and whilst participating, comply with the instructions given by, or under the authority of, the person in charge of the programme (Section 202 Criminal Justice Act 2003).”**

This requirement will be enforced and the Order returned to court if the programme is not completed.