

Ensuring the timely 'recall' of offenders to prison in London

The London Criminal Justice Board today launches the 'Recall' initiative intended to ensure the timely recall of offenders who have breached the conditions of their licence. This is supported by a new practice guide for frontline police and probation officers.

The core components of 'Recall' – expectations, required practice, escalation and accountabilities – are summarised in a desk note which is available on the London CJB website via [this link](#).

The supporting practice guidance was produced with input from practitioners across London and follows the licence recall process in detail from the point where the probation service submits a recall application to the Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS) to the point where the offender is returned to prison. This is also available on the London CJB website via [this link](#).

It lays out the target timeframes for each stage of the recall process and the associated responsibilities for relevant staff from the police and probation services.

All decisions to recall people from licence or parole are taken by the Public Protection Casework Section (PPCS) of the National Offender Management Service. Offenders can be recalled if they break the terms of their licence, commit another crime or are charged with another crime, or are behaving in a way that leads an Offender Manager to think they might be about to commit another crime.

The London CJB Board, which is made up of chief officers from London's criminal justice agencies, considers the timely recall of such prisoners a priority for the criminal justice service (CJS) and an important contribution

to a safer London. This new guide forms part of our wider work to ensure offenders comply with the terms of licenses and with court orders and that agencies take timely enforcement action when they are breached.

Tim Godwin, Acting Deputy Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service and Chair of the London CJB, said: "Ensuring public safety is a priority for the Board and the criminal justice service in general. An important way in which we can do this is to ensure the timely recall of those offenders who break the terms of their licence to prison. 'Recall' is our contribution to this and an important priority for the Board."

Geraldine Gavin, London Probation Chief Operations Officer, said: "London Probation has a central role to play in ensuring timely licence recalls and the practice guide clearly lays out the role of our Offender Managers. Ensuring better practice in our enforcement activities is crucial in securing compliance, reducing risk and contributing to a safer London."

Andrew Morley, Chief Executive of the London CJB, said: "'Recall' brings with it robust performance management arrangements. This will see agencies' contributions to the process reviewed regularly by the London CJB executive group, which brings together the deputy chief officers of the criminal justice agencies in London. We will want to satisfy ourselves that in all cases agencies are meeting their responsibilities to ensure a timely recall. The protection of the public is the primary objective for the CJS and licence recalls is one of the ways in which we contribute to that."

Further information:

- [Recall poster](#)
- [Licence Recall Guide](#)
- [London CJB website – guidance for practitioners](#)

For further information on the issues discussed in this briefing please contact London CJB Communications Manager Christian Taylor by phoning: 020 7796 8532 or by email: christian.taylor@cps.gsi.gov.uk.