

SENTENCERS

The Scottish Executive commissioned the 218 service in 2003 in response to the 'Safer Way' (1998) and 'Better Way' (2002) reports. Both reports highlighted the need to look at alternatives to custody for women to start to address the root causes of their offending.

218 service is a joint service between Turning Point Scotland and Glasgow Addiction Service.

It offers a unique approach to addressing women's offending by offering a wide range of individual and group work interventions that begin to address the root causes of offending behaviour.

218 service offers both a residential and day support programme which can be combined or used separately depending on what the women's needs are.



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218 Service
Sentencers

Making **Criminal Justice**
Services Fit People



218 is one of the many services provided by Turning Point Scotland (TPS). We provide person centred support to adults with a range of complex need throughout Scotland.

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The service combines intensive one to one support with a structured group work programme that addresses the women's offending behaviour and attitudes to offending along with a varied group and activity programme. There is the provision of specific in-house physical and mental health interventions offered by the integrated health professionals within the service.

We can offer the courts a range of criminal justice interventions, such as:

An Alternative to Remand

Courts can use the 218 service as an alternative to remand where women are bailed directly into the residential unit instead of being remanded. This will enable us to carry out a full assessment and assess her levels of engagement and participation. A report containing the assessment findings along with our recommendations will be made available to the court to assist them in their future sentencing options.

Community Assessment

This assessment can be requested by the 218 service court workers or by the courts itself. This is an option when bail is not opposed. The women will be assessed in line with the 218 service assessment process and an assessment report will be made available to the court.

This option can be requested in parallel with a Social Enquiry Report.



Remand Assessment

We can assess women whilst they have been remanded, this will require the assessment being carried out with the woman in custody. A report defining the outcome of the assessment will be made available to the court.

Progress Updates

The regularity of progress reports is directed by the courts and will take the format of a written court report outlining all relevant information, such as engagement and participation, along with progress in relation to offending, substance use, physical and mental health.

Condition of Probation Order

The courts can also use the service to enhance a standard Probation Order by making it a condition of the order that the woman attends the service for part of the order. This would also include progress updates provided by the 218 service as directed by the supervising officer.

Referral and Assessment

Once the 218 service has received a referral from the courts, we will send out an initial assessment appointment to the women using the information provided by the courts.

The assessment process will take place over two separate sessions and will include a physical health assessment. The outcome will be dependant on what the women's needs are and what area of the service will be most appropriate to address her needs.

An assessment report will be provided to the courts outlining the identified needs and issues along with any recommendations which will assist the sentencer to make a more informed decision in terms of disposal.

Referral Criteria

- Women must be 18 years or over
- Must have a live criminal justice involvement
- The women will also have a range of complex needs such as addiction, poor mental or physical health, trauma issues etc.