



PROBATION BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

Dr Twylla Cunningham
Principal Psychologist

PROBATION BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

- **Aim:** Our aim is to help reduce crime and the harm it causes
- **Mission:** Our mission is to integrate offenders successfully into the community by reducing re-offending
- **Vision:** Our vision is to have the confidence and support of the courts and the community, so that we can successfully supervise high risk offenders in the community

WHO WE ARE...

- PBNI is a Non-Departmental Public body that was created in 1982 by the Probation Board (NI) Order.
- 12 Board members and ~350 staff (FTE)
- Approximately half of these are Probation Officers based across the region
- Remainder include Managers, Probation Service Officers, Psychologists and Admin
- PBNI plays a key part of the criminal justice system working with police, prisons, courts, communities as well as victims of crime.

WHAT WE DO...

- Assess risk, manage offenders, address offending behaviour
- Supervise approximately 4,300 offenders at any one time
- Provide around 730 reports every month to the courts &/ parole commissioners
- Pre Sentence Reports: background, suitability and additional requirements
- 175,000 hours a year of Community Service
- Deliver various offending behaviour programmes
- Liaison with community services i.e. health, housing, employment

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Principal
Dr Twylla
Cunningham

Senior
Aileen
Houston

Senior
Nichola
Crawford

Trainee
Rebecca
Reid

Trainee
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McGoldrick

Trainee
Cheryl
Murphy

Trainee
Gillian
Goldthorp

Trainee
Kirsten
McFarland

Trainee
Rebekah
Bell

Trainee
Rachel
Whann

Trainee
Claire
Roberts

Trainee
Gareth
McGinley

Trainee
Collen
McCausland

Assistant
Stephen
Caldwell

Assistant
Nicole
McLaughlin

Assistant
Stephen
Goan

Assistant
Michael
Roache

Assistant
Megan
Turner



TYPES OF PROBATION ORDERS

Probation Order

Community Service
Order

Combination Order

Enhanced
Combination Order

TYPES OF LICENCES

Life Licence

Indeterminate
Custodial Sentence
(ICS)

Extended Custodial
Sentence (ECS)

Determinate Custodial
Sentence (DCS)

MENTAL HEALTH DISPOSALS

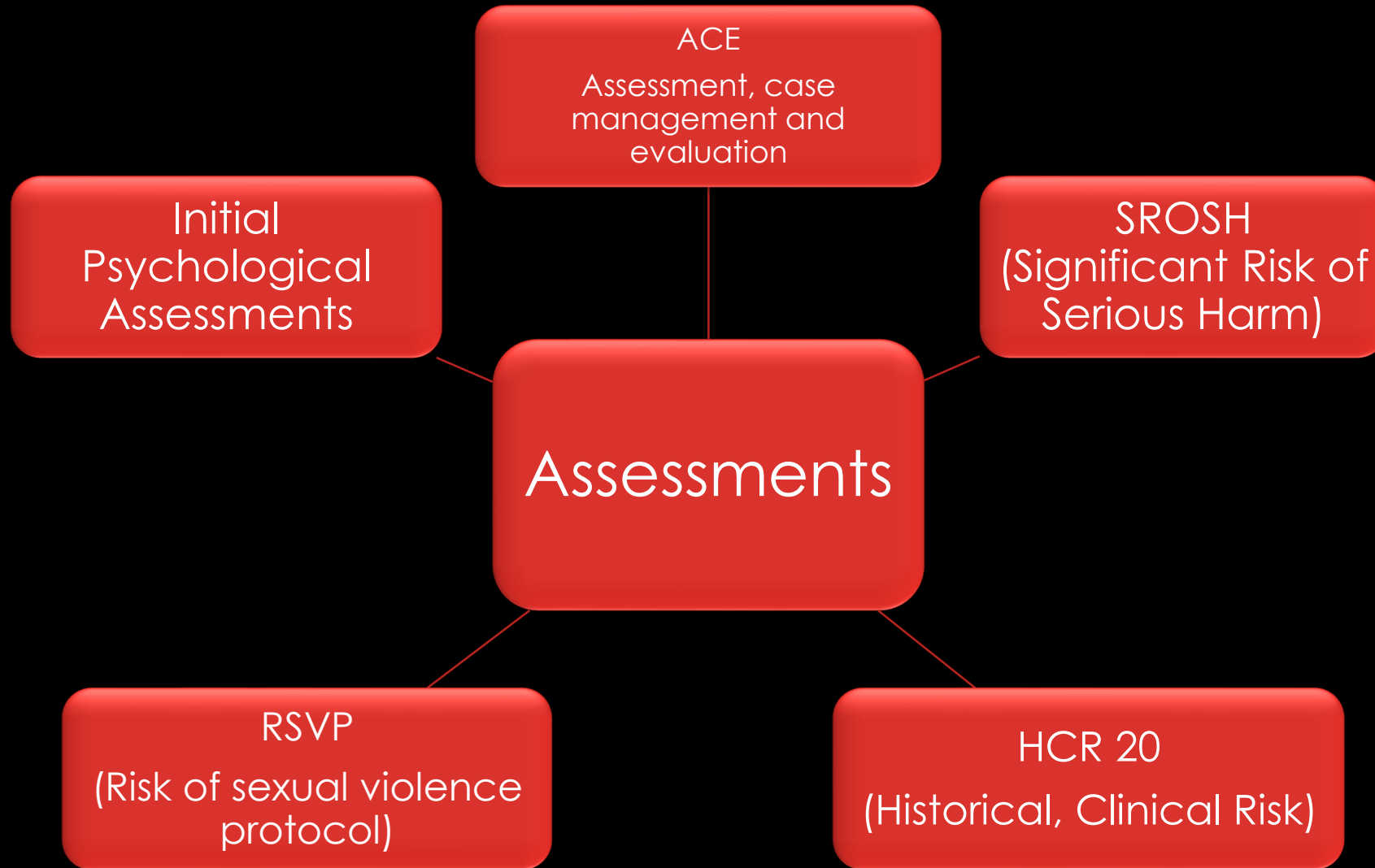
- Under the Mental Health [Northern Ireland] Order 1986), there are four potential sentencing options if deemed 'not fit to stand trial' or found 'not guilty by reason of insanity':
 - **Supervision and Treatment Order (STO)**
 - **Hospital Order**
 - **Guardianship Order**
 - **Absolute Discharge**

PPANI PROCESS

- Public Protection Arrangements for Northern Ireland
- Specified offences
- Multi-agency (PBNI, PSNI, Social Work/Trust)
- Category 1, 2, 3 (3 highest risk)
- Inescapable voluntary

PREVENTION ORDERS

- SOPO/SHPO – sexual offences or sexual harm prevention order
 - Court order requested by the police or Courts
 - Conditions which are necessary to protect the public
 - Prohibitions e.g. internet access, contact with children, certain types of jobs
 - Can last indefinitely
 - Unannounced visits by police
 - It's an offence to breach (max 5 years)
- VOPO – violent offences prevention order
 - Convicted of a specified offence e.g. manslaughter, wounding, threats to kill
 - Prohibitions e.g. in relation to seeing other people
 - Lasts between 2-5 years
- ASBO – anti-social behaviour order
 - PSNI, Councils and NIHE
 - From the age of 10



PROGRAMME SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS

- B Safer (domestic violence)
- RM200 (sexual)
- SA07 (sexual)



PROGRAMMES

Accredited

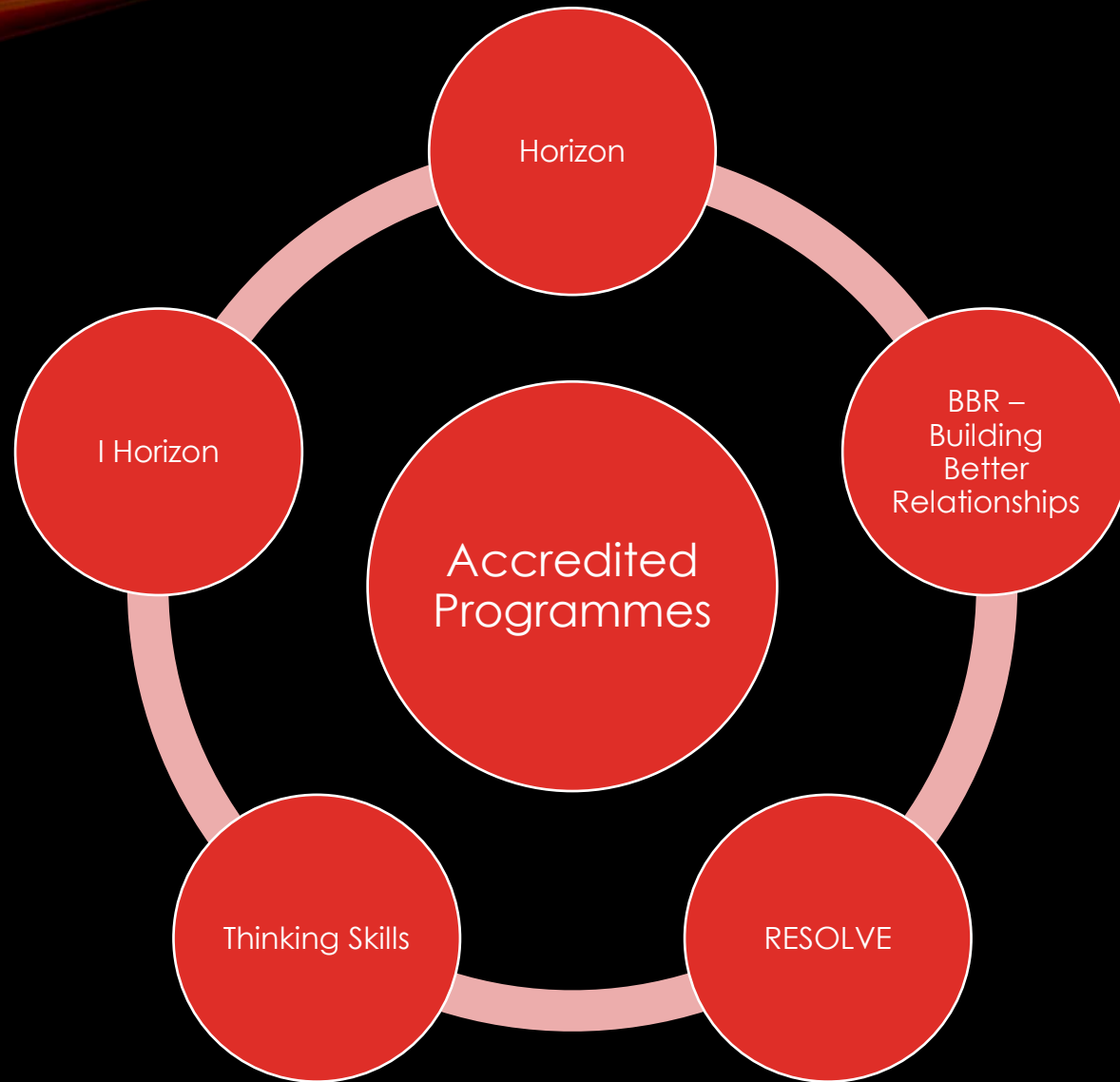
Group work programmes, developed and audited by
NOMS/HMPPS

Brief
Interventions

Lower level, lower risk, 1-1 e.g. coping skills, goal setting

PPRP Trust

Promoting Positive Relationships Programme, for
unadjudicated males, concerns regarding domestic abuse



Horizon

I Horizon

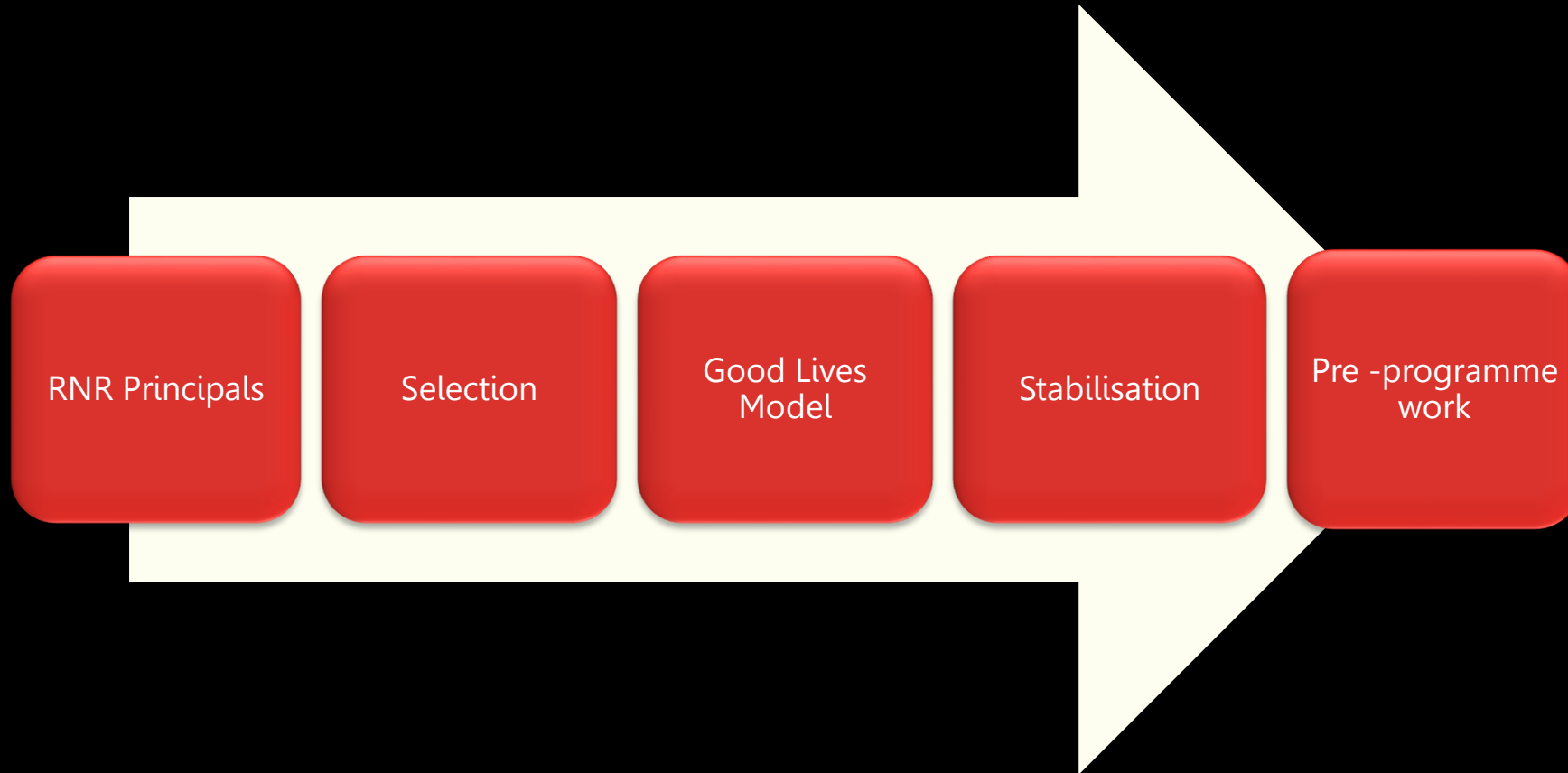
Accredited
Programmes

Thinking Skills

RESOLVE

BBR -
Building
Better
Relationships

CONSIDERATIONS...

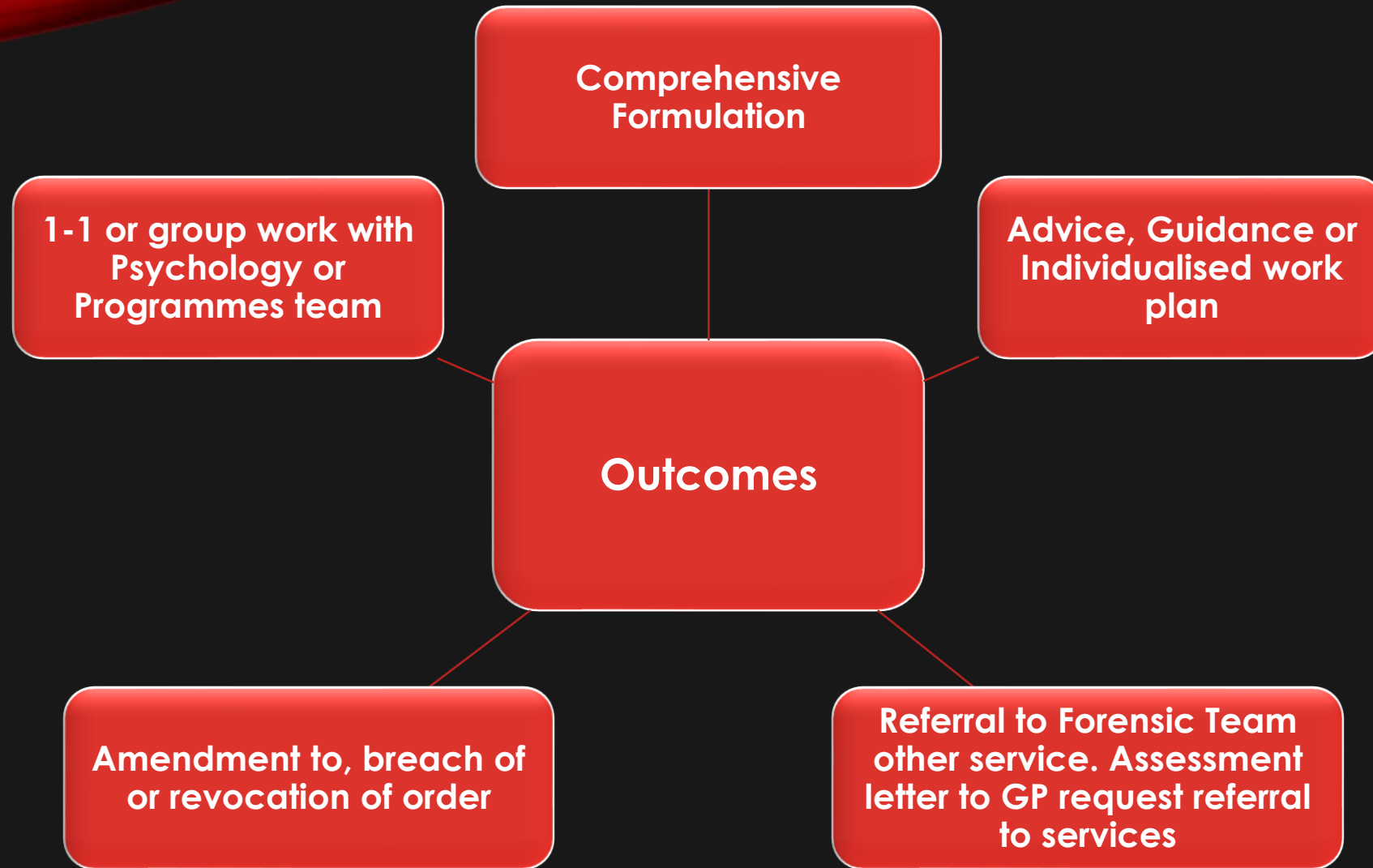


LINKS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

- PBNI Psychologists are allocated to all Forensic MH & LD Teams
- Regular attendance at team meetings
- Share relevant information as appropriate
- Co working complex cases open to both services
- Joint assessments
- GPs gatekeepers to primary care services

STAGES OF INPUT:

- Pre Sentence Stage
 - Assessment of suitability for community disposal
 - Offending history
 - Compliance and engagement
 - Previous periods of supervision or custody
 - Liaison with other professionals involved i.e. psychiatrist/GP
 - Additional requirements i.e. addiction/mental health services/programmes
 - Risk management meetings
- Case Management Consultation/Assessment
 - Consultation at request of Probation Officer
 - Range from one off to ongoing/longer term
 - Assessment if deemed appropriate:
 - Collateral information often available
 - Highest risk and need prioritised



PROBLEM SOLVING JUSTICE INITIATIVES

- Enhanced Combination Orders
- Substance Misuse Court
- Mental Health Court
- Promoting Positive Relationships Programme



Thank-you

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