


# CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM




## HAMPSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Hampshire Constabulary is dedicated to making communities in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight safer places in which to live, to work, to grow up and grow old. The constabulary seeks to uphold the law fairly and firmly and to keep the Queen's peace. Officers investigate complaints of crime, gather evidence, arrest alleged offenders and charge them so they can be brought before the courts. To contact the police in an emergency dial 999; for all other calls dial 0845 045 45 45.

The typical number of incidents a day in Hampshire & Isle of Wight is 1590. The typical number of 999 emergency calls is 804 per day. The typical number of calls to the switchboard number 0845 045 45 45 is 4044.

[www.hampshire.police.uk](http://www.hampshire.police.uk)





## VICTIM SUPPORT AND WITNESS SERVICE

Victim Support is an independent charity that helps adults and children cope with the effects of crime. Its trained volunteers provide free, confidential support and information to victims of crime, their families, friends and witnesses.

You do not have to report a crime to contact us, but victims of crime are automatically offered our services by the police. Victim Support's Witness Service is available to prosecution and defence witnesses when they attend court, providing information and support. There is also specialist support available for vulnerable witnesses to help children and vulnerable adults when they are attending court to give evidence.

[www.victimsupport-hiow.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport-hiow.org.uk)



## PRISON SERVICE

There are five prisons in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight, Winchester, Kingston in Portsmouth and Albany, Parkhurst and Camphill on the Isle of Wight. There is also an immigration holding centre at Gosport. The Prison Service works to help prisoners tackle the reasons for their offending, and many prisoners engage in challenging programmes.

The Prison Service employs 1,500 staff in the counties of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.

The Prison Service and the National Probation Service joined forces as of 1st June 2004 to form the new National Offender Management Service (NOMS)

[www.hmprisonservice.gov.uk](http://www.hmprisonservice.gov.uk)

## Victims and Witnesses

Victims and Witnesses give evidence in Court

The Witness Service offers support in court and pre-court visits

Continuous Victim Support helping the victims deal with the trauma

The Probation Service offers support to victims of serious crime, regarding the offenders sentence and release periods

## Witness Care Units

WCU have been established to improve victim and witness care and work closely with other Criminal Justice System agencies and The Witness Service.

Each WCU provides a single point of contact, offers preferred means of contact, will keep victims and witnesses informed about their case and offer tailored interventions if needed.

**Victim Support**  
 Victim support offers a range of services, including emotional and practical support, information, help with compensation forms and support to attend meetings or medical examinations

## THE MAGISTRATES COURT

Magistrates decline jurisdiction or defendant elects Crown Court Trial

Defendant found Guilty

Defendant found Not Guilty... Case ends

Defendant found Guilty

**THE SENTENCE**


- Fine
- Custody
- Probation
- YOT

## THE PROBATION SERVICE

The aim of the Probation Service is to protect the public and reduce offending. The service does this by supervising community sentences imposed by the courts and by supervising those who are released from prison on licence. All supervision is based on proven best practice and complies with strict national guidelines.

Supervision involves intensive programmes designed to tackle the causes of offending. Offenders on community orders work unpaid for the benefit of the community.

[www.probation.hants.gov.uk](http://www.probation.hants.gov.uk)



## CPS CROWN PROSECUTION SERVICE

The Crown Prosecution Service is responsible for the fair and effective prosecution of criminal cases, investigated by the police in England & Wales.

The CPS is responsible for:

- advising the police on cases for possible prosecution;
- in all but minor cases, considering the case, to decide whether the evidence is sufficient to charge and determining the charge;
- reviewing cases where the police have charged;
- prepare cases for court;
- presentation of cases at court.

Each year the CPS Hampshire & Isle of Wight handles 50,000 cases.

[www.cps.gov.uk](http://www.cps.gov.uk)

## CRIME REPORTED

Crime Reported

Suspect Arrested

Police Station

Police Consult with CPS

CPS Proceeds with charge

Magistrates Court and The Crown Court unified on the 1st April 2005 to become Her Majesty's Courts Service.

## THE CROWN COURT

More serious criminal cases - about five per cent of all cases - are dealt with at Crown Court. Cases are heard by a judge and jury at four Crown Courts - Winchester, Portsmouth, Southampton and Newport on the Isle of Wight. Traditionally, the judge and senior legal representatives for the defence and prosecution wear robes and wigs. When Magistrates feel that a convicted defendant should be given a sentence which is beyond their power to impose, the defendant may be sent to Crown Court for sentence.

[www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk](http://www.hmcourts-service.gov.uk)

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## MAGISTRATES' COURT

The eleven Magistrates' Courts deal with more than 95% of criminal work in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. Most cases are heard by lay Magistrates, but many areas have District Judges as well. Lay Magistrates are members of the community and are rarely lawyers. They receive rigorous training to undertake their duties. Cases dealt with by the Magistrates' Courts range from minor traffic to serious crime. More than 300,000 cases are dealt with each year by over 850 Magistrates and four District Judges.



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## YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT)

YOTs bring together a single team of Police Officers, Social Workers, Probation Officers and professional staff from education and health services. This team works with young offenders (aged 10 - 17) and their families to tackle the complex issues linked to youth crime. The team also provides support and guidance for parents of young people who offend. Young offenders are placed under supervision and helped to receive full-time education or treatment for health problems. Victims of youth crime are contacted and are offered information, support and if appropriate, the chance to meet the young offender to try and repair the harm done. The YOT also works with children (aged 8 - 13) who have not yet entered the criminal justice system, but who are at risk of offending, through Youth Inclusion and Supervision Panels (YISPs).

[www.wessex-yot.gov.uk](http://www.wessex-yot.gov.uk)

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