

## Community work

<b>What is community work?</b>	<p>The sentence of community work requires offenders to do unpaid work in the community for non-profit organisations as a way of making up for their offending.</p>
<b>How the sentence works</b>	<p>Offenders are issued an instruction to report, which tells them where and when they must turn up to perform their community work hours.</p> <p>While serving community work sentences, offenders work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– up to 10 hours a day</li><li>– preferably at least eight hours a week</li><li>– in teams supervised by a community work supervisor, or</li><li>– individually in an agency placement monitored by the agency, or a combination of both.</li></ul>
<b>Where does community work happen?</b>	<p>Community work can be done anywhere in the community from parks and reserves to schools, marae, and churches. It can involve painting, gardening, building, graffiti cleaning, restoration, recycling, and more.</p>
<b>Who manages the sentence?</b>	<p>To work out how an offender will complete their sentence, CPPS staff consider the offence, the offender's personal circumstances, and their needs and skills.</p> <p>Once placed in an agency or work centre, CPPS staff manage the sentence to ensure the offender is attending and working in accordance with their sentence requirements.</p> <p>Sentences range from 40 hours to 400 hours and must be completed within a set time. A maximum sentence of 400 hours must be completed within two years. Shorter sentences have shorter timeframes.</p>
<b>Enforcing the sentence</b>	<p>If an offender does not fulfil their sentence, by not attending or by breaking the rules, they may be subject to formal warnings or charged with breaching community work and have to go back to court. If convicted, the offender may be fined up to \$1000, sentenced to more community work or another community sentence or home detention or imprisoned for up to three months.</p> <p>If an offender does not work to a satisfactory standard some of their hours (up to 10%) may not be counted against their sentence, and they will have to complete those hours again.</p>
<b>Community work with other sentences</b>	<p>Some offenders may also be serving other sentences including home detention, community detention, supervision or intensive supervision.</p> <p>So as well as doing community work they may have to regularly report to a probation officer and attend programmes to address their offending.</p>

## CPPS – General Information

### Our business

Community Probation & Psychological Services (CPPS) manages offenders serving sentences or orders in the community and provides information to the judiciary and NZ Parole Board.

CPPS has close to 1,500 staff in 140 sites. At any one time staff may be managing up to 29,000 sentences and orders, or around 72,000 sentences and orders per year.

CPPS works closely with prisons, community providers and groups, and other government agencies and organisations. Our staff include probation officers, community work supervisors, service centre managers, psychologists and programme facilitators.

### Our strategies

- Ensuring effective offender management using an integrated approach.
- Improving responsiveness to Māori by effectively addressing the needs of Māori offenders and the expectations of the Māori community.
- Contributing to reducing re-offending by ensuring access to rehabilitation programmes and reintegrative services for offenders.
- Growing CPPS capability and capacity through developing skilled staff and enhanced technology and infrastructure.

### Range of sentences

CPPS manages offenders on a range of sentences with particular aims including reparation to the community, punishment (restriction of liberty) and rehabilitation. Offenders may be subject to one or more sentences at any one time.

### Reducing re-offending

Evidence-based research from here and overseas shows that treating an individual's specific crime-causing needs is an effective way to reduce re-offending. CPPS delivers a variety of interventions such as targeted rehabilitation programmes and reintegrative services to suitable offenders in the community.

There is no 'one size fits all' solution – the best results are achieved when the right person receives the right intervention at the right time, and gets support from the community, friends and family to maintain their new behaviours once their sentence has ended.

### Like to know more?

For more information about CPPS and the work we do visit [www.corrections.govt.nz](http://www.corrections.govt.nz) or read our other information sheets on:

- community work
- community detention
- supervision
- intensive supervision
- extended supervision
- home detention
- parole/ residential restrictions
- release on conditions