

Having a drink can be fun. However, drinking can result in a variety of problems, such as money problems, health problems, family problems and offending. You do not have to be dependent on alcohol to experience these difficulties. Sacro believes that most people can still enjoy a drink while learning to watch out for the times when their drinking causes harm to themselves, to others, or results in an offence.

As a result of this we run a programme for people who have linked their use of alcohol with their offending behaviour, and are either on or being considered for probation.

You will only be accepted onto the programme if you agree that you want to do something about your offending and alcohol use.

> Why have I been asked to see someone from Sacro and what will happen at the meeting?

If you have committed an offence, a Sheriff or a social worker may have asked you to come because they would like you to look at your alcohol use and consider whether there are any changes you could make that might reduce your offending.

At the interview you will be asked:

- how do you see your drinking?
- do you feel it causes you any problems?
- do you feel it has any links with why you get into trouble?
- are there any changes you would like to make?
- what do you think might help you to stay out of trouble?

You can ask us questions about the programme too. Together we can decide if the programme can help or if another agency might have more to offer you.

Sacro will contact your social worker and let him/her know the decision. If you are going to court, a report will be provided. If you are given a condition of probation to attend our programme, you could go back to court if you fail to complete it.

> What happens if I am accepted?

1. We will write and tell you we have a place for you on the next programme.
2. We will tell you and your social worker the start date for the next programme. The length of time between you being accepted and being given a starting date varies, so do not worry if you do not hear from us for a while.
3. Before you start the programme, you and your social worker will meet with Sacro staff to talk about the programme and to sign the contract (see rules below).

> Are there any rules?

Yes. If you have agreed to attend the programme you will be asked to sign a contract. This means that you agree to:

- attend all our meetings (each week for eight weeks)
- come to meetings without having taken any drink or drugs on that day.

You could be asked to leave if you break the agreement.

> What happens during the programme?

Each programme runs for eight weeks and you will be required to attend once a week on the same day at the same time each week. Throughout the programme you will be:

- given information about alcohol
- asked to look at your own pattern of alcohol use
- asked to consider the impact your alcohol use has upon you and your life
- asked to consider the impact your alcohol use has upon your offending.

You will be encouraged to form your own decisions about the level and pattern of alcohol use that is right for you. You will be asked to consider making changes, which enable you to enjoy drinking without the difficulties, such as offending.

> What happens after the programme?

At the end of the programme, you, a worker from Sacro and your social worker, will meet to look at what happens next. At this meeting we will talk about progress you have made and discuss what else may be of help in the future.

> Contacting the Service

For further information on Sacro's Alcohol Education Probation Service, or to make a referral, please contact:

Heather McVeigh

Sacro Alcohol Education Probation Service

Epworth Halls, 25 Nicolson Square

Edinburgh EH8 9BX

Telephone: 0131 622 7500

Fax: 0131 622 7525

For information about Sacro's services in the East of Scotland, please contact:

Jenny Bew

Senior Operation Manager (East)

Telephone: 0131 624 9211

Leaflets for Edinburgh Sheriff Court (EPW/305) and social workers (EPW/306) are available on request.

Sacro's Alcohol Education Probation Service is jointly funded by The City of Edinburgh and Midlothian Social Work/Service Departments.

> About Sacro

Sacro's aims to promote community safety through:

- Providing high quality services to reduce conflict and offending
- Developing new initiatives and developing new ways of working
- Influencing, through consultation, the development of Government policies and legislation
- Engaging in, promoting and disseminating research
- Providing consultancy and training services.

Sacro is recognised as a charity by the Inland Revenue.

Sacro's mission is to reduce conflict and offending and make communities safer.

If you would like a translated version of this leaflet, please phone 0131 624 7270 or e-mail info@national.sacro.org.uk quoting reference EPW/304.

This leaflet is also available in large print or Braille.

In order to make Sacro's services as widely available as possible, we have made every reasonable effort to facilitate easy access to all of our premises for disabled service users. Where this is not possible, we will arrange a suitable, alternative venue.

Bu broşürün çevirisini istiyorsanız, lütfen 0131 624 7270'i telefonla arayın veya info@national.sacro.org.uk eposta gönderip EPW/304 dosya numarasını söyleyin.

اگر آپ کو اس کتابچے کا ترجمہ درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی 0131 624 7270 پر ٹیلیفون کریں یا info@national.sacro.org.uk پر ای میل بھیجیں اور ریفرنس نمبر EPW/304 کا حوالہ دیں۔

欲索取這單張的翻譯版本，請電 0131 624 7270，或電郵 info@national.sacro.org.uk，並說明檔案編號 EPW/304。

إذا كنت تريد نسخة مترجمة من هذه المنشورة الرجاء الاتصال برقم الهاتف 0131 624 7270 أو أرسل بريداً إلكترونياً إلى العنوان info@national.sacro.org.uk واذكر الإشارة رقم EPW/304

এই পুস্তিকার অনুবাদ যদি আপনি পেতে চান তাহলে 0131 624 7270 নম্বরে ফোন করে অথবা ই-মেইল করে রেফারেন্স নম্বর EPW/304 উল্লেখ করবেন

Jeśli potrzebne jest tłumaczenie w polskiej wersji językowej, bardzo prosimy o kontakt pod numerem 0131 624 7270 lub droga e-mailową info@national.sacro.org.uk podając numer referencyjny EPW/304.

If you are uncertain about anything you have read in this leaflet or require further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Service at:

Sacro Alcohol Education Probation Service

Epworth Halls, 25 Nicolson Square, Edinburgh EH8 9BX

Tel: 0131 622 7500

Fax: 0131 622 7525

Email: info@lothiancjs.sacro.org.uk

Web: www.sacro.org.uk

Leaflet EPW/304



Sacro is a company limited by guarantee. Company registration No. SC86651. Registered charity No. SC016293

Alcohol Education Probation Service



Information for applicants

