

GPS REQUIREMENT – PERSISTENT OFFENDERS

WHAT

The Mayor's Office for Police and Crime (MOPAC) is currently running a GPS tagging pilot in the North and East Local Justice Areas. One of the aims of the programme is to gain a greater understanding of whether **GPS tagging can provide a viable alternative to custody.**

Persistent offenders that live within the pilot area may be eligible for a GPS requirement if the new offence passes the custody threshold whilst still being eligible for a Community or Suspended Sentence Order.

HOW

A GPS requirement can take two forms. It can either be used simply to enforce an **exclusion zone** or to provide **24-hour whereabouts** information. On the latter, an Offender Manager (OM) can use location data to support the management of the case. The OM is able to set up a number of "interest zones", receiving alerts when the offender enters certain locations such as drug treatment centres or jobcentre plus. This is to aid a reflective discussion on the offender's pattern of behaviour, routine and engagement with other services. In some circumstances the Police have the ability to match wearer's locations with crime locations where this is justified and proportionate.

NEXT STEPS

Please consult the eligibility criteria (right) to see whether your client may be eligible for a GPS requirement. If you are still unsure whether they are eligible or not please contact someone in the NPS Court Team. A recommendation via pre-sentence report will be required.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Aged 18 or over
2. Resident in one of the eight pilot boroughs
 - Camden
 - Enfield
 - Hackney
 - Haringey
 - Islington
 - Newham
 - Tower Hamlets
 - Waltham Forest
3. Have an Offender Group Reconviction Scale (OGRS) score of 75%+ or 50-74% with a robbery or burglary offence committed in the preceding 12 months – Probation can confirm this score.
4. Has stable/viable accommodation
5. New offence is eligible for CO or SSO
6. Lifestyle not so chaotic that tag would be unworkable
7. Some willingness to have GPS tag
8. Appearing at Thames, Highbury Corner or Stratford Magistrate's Court or Snaresbrook, Wood Green or Blackfriars Crown Courts.