

HOW HIMMAT ENHANCES THE WORK OF THE PROBATION SERVICE

Providing advice about cultural and religious issues which might be factors in understanding motivation for offending or the denial of an offence.

Whilst not acting as an interpreter, Himmat staff are able to explain some concepts of language/culture which a case manager might not understand. This allows a clearer picture of events/offences to be developed and put in context.

The Himmat staff have an overview of events in the Asian community, e.g. network of different group/family links.

Often the offender will react differently to queries/challenges directed by the Himmat staff and this can produce a much clearer picture of the offence.

In interview, the Himmat staff sometimes pick up problems/issues related to cultural issues which may have been overlooked by the Offender Manager.

Himmat provide an on-going educational process for staff and help to build skills and confidence in working with Asian offenders.

Himmat staff attending sentence planning meetings in a prison are able to advise prison staff about relevant cultural issues and communication problems.

Himmat provides a point of reference without being directly involved in a case, to assist in case management.

HOW TO REFER TO HIMMAT

A referral can be made by contacting our project staff on the numbers below for an informal discussion.

HIMMAT

OUR MISSION

"To offer young people the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills, attitudes and confidence, thus enabling and empowering them to decide their own futures."

The Himmat Project was established in 1991 supported by a grant from the Home Office. By 1996 it had become a charity and a company limited by guarantee, with funding from multiple local and national sources.

It has formed successful partnerships with many local agencies, who are represented on the Management Committee.

It is a unique project with no known parallel in the UK. If you would like any further information about The Himmat Project, please contact us. Alternatively, why not come down and see us in action at one of our centres?

We believe our actions speak louder than words. You may even want to join us as a volunteer!

The Himmat Project - 34-36 Hanson Lane
Halifax - HX1 5NX
Telephone: 01422 348045

Ummid - The Old Sunday School
Bakes Street - Bradford - BD7 3EX
Telephone: 01274 577866

rahat@himmat.org

Himmat - Charity No. 10596000

Himmat is a company limited by guarantee - No. 3277918



Working together with the National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Companies and the Youth Offending Team to protect the public

NOMS National Offender Management Service

Working together to reduce re-offending



Calderdale
Youth Offending
Team



Calderdale
Community Safety
Partnership



UMMID

HIMMAT

Working together with the Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) and Youth Offending Teams (YOTs)

The Himmat Project provides a comprehensive and unique range of consultancy and cultural interpretation services to the Criminal Justice agencies operating in West Yorkshire. With our experience in this field it means we can effectively engage with offenders from the Asian communities and address the mindset of offending.

This is achieved by:

- Co-working and consultancy with probation staff on complex, high-risk cases, providing a cultural and religious perspective to offending throughout all stages of probation intervention.
- Ensuring that South Asian service users have equal access to justice and are not constrained by others' lack of understanding of their culture, faith or language, or by their own lack of understanding of the criminal justice system.
- Working in line with National Probation Service guidelines in protecting the public and managing risk through appropriate case management.
- Working with Terrorism Act (TACT) offenders.

OUR FOCUS

The Himmat Project is focused on complementing the work of Offender Managers to ensure that clients from South Asian cultural backgrounds have better and relevant access to service provision.

The project also offers a wide range of services. Two key aspects of the work carried out by the project are providing cultural input to assist Offender Managers when writing Standard Delivery Reports and supervising offenders once they have been released from prison, or when they receive a community-based sentence.

SPECIFIC SERVICES DELIVERED BY HIMMAT

Standard Delivery Report (SDR)

Areas of work include looking at the impact of cultural issues, especially the mindset and motivation for offending.

Supervision of Offender and Throughcare/Licence

Co-working with Offender Managers, to ensure that issues are addressed in a culturally specific and religiously sensitive way, and that this forms an integral part of the supervision plan.

This is particularly important in working with sex offenders, child protection, domestic violence, anger management and making continued effective assessments.

CO-WORKING WITH PROBATION OFFICERS

- Writing culturally appropriate Standard Delivery Reports
- Jointly supervising offenders on licences or court orders
- Joint parole assessments
- Risks and Needs led assessment

WORK IN PRISONS

- Input into sentence planning
- Programme reviews
- One-to-one behaviour work
- Befriending

IN THE COMMUNITY

- Benefits advice
- Employment advice - sign-posting to training and employment opportunities
- Supporting families of offenders
- Acting as mentors for families of offenders
- Help with Jobsearch
- Supervise offenders on behalf of Probation Board
- Carry out Home Detention Curfew (HDC) and Release on Temporary Licence (ROTL)
- Specialist pre-discharge assessments on Discretionary Conditional Release (DCR) prior to release on licence
- Input into Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)
- Build bridges between offenders, their families and the Criminal Justice Agencies
- Promote the services of Probation/YOT

SUPPORTING THE YOT

- Education placements at Ummid to help achieve YOT targets
- Reducing crime by providing different mentoring programmes
- Targetted work with high-risk offenders with multiple levels of need