

Addressing the literacy needs of offenders under probation supervision

By

Gwynn Davis, Department of Law; Brian Caddick, Kate Lyon, Liz Doling and Julia Hasler, School for Policy Studies; and Alec Webster, Malcolm Reed and Karen Ford from the School of Education

University of Bristol

A Research and Statistics Directorate Report

Home Office
Research and
Statistics
Directorate

Contents

	Page
Foreword	iii
Acknowledgements	iv
Summary	vii
1 Introduction	1
2 The survey	7
Methodology	7
Literacy as an issue for the probation service	8
Identifying offenders with literacy needs and charting the scope of the problem	10
Referral and take-up of help with literacy	12
The organisation of literacy help for offenders	14
Evaluation and monitoring	16
Funding literacy work	18
Summary and conclusion	20
3 The site visits	21
Methodology	21
Defining literacy	23
Priority given to literacy work	25
The organisation of literacy work	29
Funding	35
Identifying individual needs	37
The nature of literacy intervention	43
Monitoring and evaluation	45
4 The future	51
Appendix one: Area summaries	63
Appendix two: Research Instruments	89
References	99