

How do I access Life on Track?

A *Life on Track* case manager may contact you before or at your first court date to check if you are eligible, suitable and interested in being a participant.

You may contact a *Life on Track* case manager at any time between being charged by police and being sentenced. Local *Life on Track* service provider contact details are on this brochure.

You can also be referred to the service by:

- Police
- Family or friends
- Your solicitor
- Court staff
- A support worker
- Staff from other programs
- A Magistrate

if he/she thinks it may help you.



Where can I get more information?

Speak to the Life on Track team for more information:

Mission Australia

Life on Track service provider for Bankstown, Kogarah and Sutherland:
Level 2, 40 Raymond Street
Bankstown NSW 2200
Phone: 02 8700 3900 Fax: 02 8700 3950
Email: lifetrack@missionaustralia.com.au

Or go to:

www.lifetrack.lawlink.nsw.gov.au

If you are unsure about what to do speak to your legal representative or a support worker. You can also contact LawAccess on 1300 888 529 for legal information, referrals or advice.

Life on Track

Helping adult defendants make positive change



What is Life on Track?

Life on Track is a new NSW Government initiative to reduce reoffending and create safer communities through assisting you make positive changes in your life. It is currently available at Lismore, Kyogle, Ballina and Casino Local Courts and Bankstown, Sutherland and Kogarah Local Courts.

Life on Track is a case management service for adults and aims to support you to identify and access a wide range of treatment, services or programs that may help you.

Life on Track is a voluntary service. You can access it at any time after you are charged by police. In some cases, you may continue receiving *Life on Track* case management even after you are finished at court.

How does Life on Track work?

A *Life on Track* case manager will contact you to identify areas in your life that you might want assistance with. This is likely to be a short conversation on the phone or in person to work out the help you need and who might best provide it. The *Life on Track* case manager will then support you to access the best service or program to help you.

If the best suited service is *Life on Track*, you will be booked in to have a longer, more detailed, face-to-face discussion with a *Life on Track* case manager. This discussion will be used to develop a case management plan with you.

Life on Track will help you to access assistance in areas such as:

- accommodation
- financial counselling
- mental health support
- suicide counselling
- domestic violence or sexual assault support
- drug/alcohol assessment or treatment
- education, training or employment
- disability services

When you go to court, the *Life on Track* case manager will prepare a report for the Magistrate saying what you're doing to improve your circumstances.

The *Life on Track* case manager will also provide a final court report before you are sentenced that tells the court exactly what you are doing and what you've achieved through the case management.

How long will it take?

The length of time will be different for different people, but is usually 3–9 months. For some people it could be a shorter period and for others it could be longer.

The length of service will depend on the type and number of issues you want to address and how long it takes to access the services you need or address other things going on in your life.

The Magistrate will decide if you need to come back to court to provide an update on your progress or if they are happy to receive reports from *Life on Track* without you appearing at court.

Am I eligible?

You could be eligible for *Life on Track* if:

- You are over 18 and have been charged with a Local Court offence.
- You have issues that you want to address.

BUT not if you:

- have been refused bail for current charge(s) and are in custody, or
- are charged with a sexual offence or have been convicted of a sexual offence in the last 5 years, or
- are currently being supervised by Corrective Services NSW.