

## **Tackling Graffiti in South County Dublin: The Community Service Response to a Community Problem**

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**Summary:** Community Service is a sentencing alternative to custody under the Criminal Justice (Community Service) Act 1983. It provides unpaid work by the offender of benefit to the community. The Probation Service, in seeking innovative ways for Community Service to add value to communities, has developed the Graffiti Removal Project. This article traces the evolution and development of this Project and evaluates the experience and learning to inform similar Community Service initiatives.

**Keywords:** Community Service, Courts, criminal justice, imprisonment, sanctions, offenders, alternatives to custody, graffiti, partnership, community, Probation Service.