

**Appendix B: Survey questionnaire**

**PUBLIC ATTITUDES TO SENTENCING (JOB 6871)**

<u>OFFICE USE ONLY</u>	
(1 - 4)	6871
(5 - 7)	___ _ _
(8)	1

Name.....

Address.....

.....

Postcode 

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 (25-31)

Telephone Number:.....

**Occupation of Chief Income Earner:**  
(Person with the largest total income from any source)

**Sex:** Male (9) 1  
Female 2

.....

**Social Class:** (32)  
AB 1  
C1 2  
C2 3  
DE 4

**Age:** 16-24 (10) 1  
25-34 2  
WRITE IN 35-44 3  
EXACT AGE 45-54 4  
55-64 5  
65+ 6

**Working status:** (33)  
Working full-time 1  
Working part-time 2  
Not working 3

\_\_\_\_\_ (11-13)

**Sample point number** (from sample sheet) 

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 (14-16)

**Mosaic code** (from sample sheet) 

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 (17-19)

**DECLARATION:** Interview conducted by me with respondent named above in accordance with instructions and MRS Code of Conduct

(20) (21) (22) (23) (24)

Interviewer..... ID No. 

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Date.....

<u>OFFICE USE ONLY</u>
(34-80) BLANK

Good morning/afternoon/evening. My name is ..... and I am an interviewer from NFO System Three, an independent research agency. We are conducting a survey about attitudes to crime and criminal justice issues on behalf of the Scottish Parliament and would like to include your views.

### SECTION ONE - ATTITUDES TO AND EXPERIENCE OF CRIME

To begin with, I'd like to ask you some general questions about crime and criminal justice in **Scotland**.

#### SHOW CARD

**Q. 1** In general, how interested would you say you are in crime and law and order issues? (9)

Very interested 1  
Fairly interested 2  
Not very interested 3  
Not at all interested 4  
Don't know Y

#### SHOW CARD

**Q. 2** And how much would you say you know about each of the following things?

	A lot	Quite a lot	Not very much	Nothing at all	DK	
a) How much crime there is in Scotland	1	2	3	4	Y	(10)
b) What happens to people when they appear before the courts in Scotland	1	2	3	4	Y	(11)
c) The range of sentences that are available to Scottish courts	1	2	3	4	Y	(12)
d) Scotland's prison system	1	2	3	4	Y	(13)

#### SHOW CARD

**Q. 3** **Thinking about Scotland as a whole**, what do you think has happened to the crime rate over **the past five years**? Would you say there is...**READ OUT**

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess. (14)

...a lot more crime 1  
...a little more crime 2  
...about the same amount of crime 3  
...a little less crime 4  
...a lot less crime 5  
Don't know Y

**Q. 4** And thinking now about the types of crimes and offences recorded by the police **in Scotland**. Of every hundred crimes recorded by the police, roughly how many do you think involve violence or the threat of violence?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING LEADING ZEROS**

(15)	(16)	(17)

**Q. 5** Have you **ever** been the victim of a crime that was reported to the police, no matter how trivial you might have thought it was?

**Q. 6** And has this happened at all in **the last twelve months**?

	<b>Q. 5 Ever (18)</b>	<b>Q. 6 Last twelve months (19)</b>
Yes	1	1
No	2	2
Don't know/Can't remember	Y	Y

**SECTION TWO - GENERAL ATTITUDES TO SENTENCING**

I'd now like to ask you some general questions about how the courts deal with offenders **in Scotland**.

**Q. 7** In general, would you say that the sentences handed down by the courts **in Scotland** are too tough, too lenient or about right?

**PROBE:** Is that a little too tough/lenient or much too tough/lenient?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

(20)

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Much too tough       | 1 |
| A little too tough   | 2 |
| About right          | 3 |
| A little too lenient | 4 |
| Much too lenient     | 5 |
| Don't know           | Y |

**Q. 8** And would you say that judges and sheriffs **in Scotland** are generally in touch or out of touch with what ordinary people think?

**IF OUT OF TOUCH, PROBE:** Is that a bit out of touch or very out of touch?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

(21)

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| In touch           | 1 |
| A bit out of touch | 2 |
| Very out of touch  | 3 |
| Don't know         | Y |

**DO NOT SHOW CARD**

**Q. 9** When a judge or a sheriff sentences an offender in **Scotland** they have a range of options open to them - for example, they can give someone a fine or they can send them to prison. Apart from these two options, can you think of any other ways that the courts are able to deal with offenders?

**CODE FIRST MENTION IN FIRST COLUMN THEN ALL OTHER SPONTANEOUS MENTIONS IN SECOND COLUMN**

**PROBE:** What others?

**SHOW CARD**

Which of these other ways of dealing with offenders have you heard of before now?

**Q. 10**

**PROBE:** What others?

	<b>Q. 9 First mention (22)</b>	<b>Q. 9 Spontaneous (24)</b>	<b>Q. 10 Prompted (26)</b>
Absolute discharge	1	1	1
Community service order	2	2	2
Compensation order	3	3	3
Deferred sentence	4	4	4
Disqualification from driving	5	5	5
Electronic tagging	6	6	6
Endorsement/points on driving licence	7	7	7
Probation	8	8	8
Drug treatment and testing order (DTTO)	9	9	9
	(23)	(25)	(27)
Other (specify)	_____	_____	_____
Other (specify)	_____	_____	_____
Other (specify)	_____	_____	_____
None	0	0	0
Don't know	Y	Y	Y

**Q. 11**

Do you think that someone appearing before the **Scottish** courts is more or less likely to be sent to prison **now** than they were **five years ago** or do you think there is no difference?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

	(28)
More likely	1
No difference	2
Less likely	3
Don't know	Y

**Q. 12** If someone is sentenced to twelve months in prison **in Scotland**, how long, on average, do you think they **will actually** spend in prison?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

(29)	(30)

 months

**Q. 13** And how long, on average, do you think they **actually should** spend in prison?

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

(31)	(32)

 months

**Q. 14** And, on average, roughly how much do you think it costs to keep a prisoner in prison for a year **in Scotland**?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

£

(33)	(34)	(35)	(36)	(37)	(38)

**Q. 15** And roughly how much do you think an equivalent community sentence (for example a community service order) would cost?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

£

(39)	(40)	(41)	(42)	(43)	(44)

**Q. 16** Of every hundred people **given a prison sentence in Scotland**, how many do you think will appear before the courts again on a different charge **within two years**?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

(45)	(46)	(47)

**Q. 17** And of every hundred people **given a community service order in Scotland**, how many do you think will appear before the courts on a different charge **within two years**?

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**WRITE IN USING  
LEADING ZEROS**

(48)	(49)	(50)

I now want to describe a couple of cases to you and find out what you think should happen to the people involved.

**SHOW CARD**

An 18 year old, John, plead guilty to theft by housebreaking. Walking past a flat at 2.00 am, he noticed an open window, entered the property and took a video recorder worth £200. The householder had heard a noise and called the police who apprehended John shortly afterwards. He had no previous convictions.

**SHOW CARD**

**Q. 18**

This is a list of options that are currently available to the courts in Scotland. From this, what sentence or combination of sentences **would you** give John?

**IF NECESSARY:** In a moment I am going to tell you a little more about John's case but I'd like to know what you think should happen to him based just on what I've told you so far.

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF 'SEND HIM TO PRISON' MENTIONED, RECORD LENGTH.**

	(51)	
Absolute discharge	1	
Community service order	2	
Deferred sentence	3	
Electronic tagging	4	
Fine	5	
Have to pay compensation	6	How long do you think John should spend in prison?
Send him to prison	7	_____ (52-53)
Probation	8	
Drug treatment & testing order	9	
Other (specify)	0	_____ (54)
It depends	X	
Don't know	Y	

**SHOW CARD**

I now want to tell you a little more about John's case.

**Q. 19**

The video was recovered. A background report requested by the court indicated that John had a drug habit which he wanted to seek help with. He got £67 in benefits per fortnight.

Would this affect the sentence you would give John?

	(55)	
Yes	1	<b>Q. 20</b>
-----	-----	-----
No	2	<b>Q. 21</b>
Don't know	Y	

**Q. 20**

What sentence or combination of sentences would you give John now?

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF SAME ANSWER(S) AS Q.18, RECORD ANY CHANGE IN LENGTH OF SENTENCE, AMOUNT OF FINE ETC**

	(56)		
Absolute discharge	1	_____	(57)
Community service order	2	_____	(58)
Deferred sentence	3	_____	(59)
Electronic tagging	4	_____	(60)
Fine	5	_____	(61)
Have to pay compensation	6	_____	(62)
Send him to prison	7	_____	(63)
Probation	8	_____	(64)
Drug treatment & testing order	9	_____	(65)
Other	0	_____	(66-67)
It depends	X		
Don't know	Y		

**ASK ALL**

**Q. 21**

**SHOW CARD**

How important do you think each of the following things should be in deciding how to sentence John? **READ OUT, ROTATE ORDER, TICK START**

<b>TICK START</b>	<b>Extremely important</b>	<b>Very important</b>	<b>Fairly important</b>	<b>Not very important</b>	<b>Not at all important</b>	<b>DK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Punishing John simply because he deserves it	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(68)
<input type="checkbox"/> Making it difficult for John to commit more crimes (for example by imprisoning him)	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(69)
<input type="checkbox"/> Changing John's attitudes and behaviour so he is less likely to commit more crime	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(70)
<input type="checkbox"/> Scaring other people so that they won't commit the same crime as John	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(71)
<input type="checkbox"/> Making amends to the victim for the harm John caused them	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(72)
<input type="checkbox"/> Showing that the public disapproves of John's crime	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(73)
<input type="checkbox"/> Scaring John so he won't do it again	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(74)

(75-80) BLANK

Q. 22

And if this was a real case, what sentence or combination of sentences do you think John **would actually** get?

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF 'SEND HIM TO PRISON' MENTIONED, RECORD LENGTH.**

OFFICE USE ONLY

Card 3  
(1-7) Repeat  
(8) 3

	(9)	
Absolute discharge	1	
Community service order	2	
Deferred sentence	3	
Electronic tagging	4	
Fine	5	
Have to pay compensation	6	How long do you think John would spend in prison?
Send him to prison	7	_____ (10-11)
Probation	8	
Drug treatment & testing order	9	
Other (specify)	0	_____ (12)
It depends	X	
Don't know	Y	

I now want to describe another case to you.

**SHOW CARD**

A 19 year old, Ronnie, plead guilty to assault and robbery. Ronnie had grabbed a 21 year-old man who was walking home at midnight, forced him against a wall, punched him on the head and demanded his wallet. The victim handed over his wallet and Ronnie ran away. The wallet contained £50 cash, which was not recovered. Ronnie has several previous convictions for breach of the peace and assault.

**SHOW CARD**

Q. 23

What sentence or combination of sentences **would you** give Ronnie?

**IF NECESSARY:** In a moment I am going to tell you a little more about Ronnie's case but I'd like to know what you think should happen to him based just on what I've told you so far.

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF 'SEND HIM TO PRISON' MENTIONED, RECORD LENGTH.**

	(13)	
Absolute discharge	1	
Community service order	2	
Deferred sentence	3	
Electronic tagging	4	
Fine	5	
Have to pay compensation	6	How long do you think Ronnie should spend in prison?
Send him to prison	7	_____ (14-15)
Probation	8	
Drug treatment & testing order	9	
Other (specify)	0	_____ (16)
It depends	X	
Don't know	Y	

I now want to tell you a little more about Ronnie's case.

**SHOWCARD**

**Q. 24**

He had served one sentence of probation, which he breached, and one six month sentence of detention. He had not had work since leaving school at 16, lived with his parents and got £42 in benefits per fortnight. A background report indicated that Ronnie led an irregular lifestyle involving abuse of alcohol and drugs.

Would this affect the sentence you would give Ronnie?

	Yes	(17) 1	
	<b>Q. 25</b>		
	No		
	Don't know	2	<b>Q. 26</b>
		Y	

**SHOWCARD**

**Q. 25**

What sentence or combination of sentences would you give Ronnie now?

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF SAME ANSWER(S) AS Q.18, RECORD ANY CHANGE IN LENGTH OF SENTENCE, AMOUNT OF FINE ETC**

	(18)		
Absolute discharge	1		(19)
Community service order	2		(20)
Deferred sentence	3		(21)
Electronic tagging	4		(22)
Fine	5		(23)
Have to pay compensation	6		(24)
Send him to prison	7		(25)
Probation	8		(26)
Drug treatment & testing order	9		(27)
Other	0		(28-29)
It depends	X		
Don't know	Y		

**Q. 26**

**ASK ALL**

And if this was a real case, what sentence or combination of sentences do you think Ronnie **would actually** get?

**CODE ALL MENTIONED. IF 'SEND HIM TO PRISON' MENTIONED, RECORD LENGTH.**

	(30)	
Absolute discharge	1	
Community service order	2	
Deferred sentence	3	
Electronic tagging	4	
Fine	5	
Have to pay compensation	6	How long do you think Ronnie would spend in Prison?
Send him to prison	7	_____ (31-32)
Probation	8	
Drug treatment & testing order	9	
Other	0	_____ (33)
It depends	X	
Don't know	Y	

I'd now like to ask you about another option that might be available to the court.

**SHOWCARD**

**Q. 27**

Mediation schemes offer the chance for victims and offenders to meet in the presence of a third party in order to give victims a chance to ask offenders why they committed the offence and say how it made them feel. Do you think that this would be a good idea in Ronnie's case?

	(34)	
Yes	1	
No	2	<b>Q.28</b>
-----		
It depends	3	
Don't know	Y	<b>Q.29</b>

**Q. 28**

Why do you think it would/would not be a good idea?

**PROBE FULLY**

\_\_\_\_\_ (35)

\_\_\_\_\_ (36)

\_\_\_\_\_ (37)

\_\_\_\_\_ (38)

**ASK ALL**

I now want to tell you about another option that is available to the courts when dealing with offenders.

**SHOWCARD**

**Q. 29**

Reparation schemes involve offenders compensating the victim for what has happened, for example by cleaning graffiti or repairing criminal damage. Do you think that this would be a good idea for particular types of crimes or offences?

	(39)	
Yes	1	<b>Q.30</b>
-----		
No	2	<b>Q.31</b>
-----		
It depends	3	<b>Q.32</b>
Don't know	Y	

**Q. 30**

For which types of crimes or offences do you think it would be a good idea to use the type of reparation scheme described above?

**PROBE FULLY**

- \_\_\_\_\_ (40)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (41)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (42)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (43)

**NOW GO TO Q.32**

**Q. 31**

Why do you think it would not be a good idea?

**PROBE FULLY**

- \_\_\_\_\_ (44)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (45)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (46)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (47)

**ASK ALL**

**Q. 32** Now I'd like you to think about the kinds of sentence that are given in **Scotland** for different crimes.

**Q. 33** Out of every 100 men aged 21 or over who are found guilty of rape in **Scotland**, how many do you think are sent to prison? **CODE BELOW**

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

And how many do you think **should** go to prison? **CODE BELOW**

<b>Q. 32</b>			<b>Q. 33</b>		
<b>Actually sent to prison</b>			<b>Should go to prison</b>		
(48)	(49)	(50)	(51)	(52)	(53)

**WRITE IN USING LEADING ZEROS**

**Q. 34** Now turning to housebreaking. Out of every hundred adults aged 21 and over found guilty of housebreaking in **Scotland**, how many do you think are sent to prison? **CODE BELOW**

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

**Q. 35** And how many do you think **should** go to prison? **CODE BELOW**

<b>Q. 34</b>			<b>Q. 35</b>		
<b>Actually sent to prison</b>			<b>Should go to prison</b>		
(54)	(55)	(56)	(57)	(58)	(59)

**WRITE IN USING LEADING ZEROS**

**Q. 36** Currently, in **Scotland**, do you think prison is used ...? **READ OUT**

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

- (60)
- Too much 1
  - Too little 2
  - About the right amount 3
  - Don't know Y

**Q. 37** And currently, in Scotland, do you think community service orders are used ...? **READ OUT**

**IF NECESSARY:** If you don't know, please just give your best guess.

(61)

Too much	1
Too little	2
About the right amount	3
Don't know	Y

**SHOW CARD**

**Q. 38** I'm now going to read out several statements about crime and sentencing. For each one, I'd like you to tell me whether you agree or disagree. **READ OUT, ROTATE ORDER, TICK START**

<b>TICK START</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither/nor</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>DK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> The tougher the sentence, the less likely an offender is to commit more crime	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(62)
<input type="checkbox"/> If offenders knew more about the effects of crimes on their victims they would be less likely to commit crime	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(63)
<input type="checkbox"/> Victims should have a say in the type of sentence an offender receives	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(64)
<input type="checkbox"/> Most offenders can be helped to change their attitudes and behaviour	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(65)

**SHOW CARD**

**Q. 39** I'd now like to read out several statements about prisons. Again, for each one, I'd like you to tell me whether you agree or disagree. **READ OUT, ROTATE ORDER, TICK START**

<b>TICK START</b>	<b>Strongly agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither/nor</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>DK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prisons are schools for crime	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(66)
<input type="checkbox"/> Prisoners should be given time off their sentence for good behaviour	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(67)
<input type="checkbox"/> In prison, offenders should receive training to help them find jobs	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(68)
<input type="checkbox"/> Prison is the best way of preventing reoffending	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(69)
<input type="checkbox"/> Being put in prison punishes offenders	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(70)
<input type="checkbox"/> Life is too easy in Scottish prisons	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(71)

(72-80) BLANK

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Q. 40**

**SHOW CARD**

I'm going to read out a list of things that people can be sent to prison for. For each one, I'd like you to tell me, in general, whether you think offenders should always, usually, sometimes or never be sent to prison.

**READ OUT, ROTATE ORDER, TICK START**

Card 4  
(1-7) Repeat  
(8) 4

People convicted of.... **READ OUT**

<b>TICK START</b>	<b>Always</b>	<b>Usually</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never</b>	<b>It depends</b>	<b>DK</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ...rape	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(9)
<input type="checkbox"/> ...housebreaking	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(10)
<input type="checkbox"/> ...dealing cannabis	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(11)
<input type="checkbox"/> ...car theft	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(12)
<input type="checkbox"/> ...assault and robbery (i.e. mugging)	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(13)
<input type="checkbox"/> ...non-payment of fines	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(14)
<input type="checkbox"/> .possession of cannabis for personal use	1	2	3	4	5	Y	(15)

<b>SECTION FOUR - DEMOGRAPHICS</b>
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**Q. 41**

**SHOW CARD**

Now I'd like you to think about coverage of crime in the media - that is on television and radio and in newspapers and magazines. How good a job do you think the media does in providing you with accurate and balanced information about crime?

	(16)
Very good	1
Good	2
Fair	3
Poor	4
Very poor	5
Don't know	Y

**Q. 42**

**SHOW CARD**

Which of the following newspapers do you read most often?

**CODE UP TO THREE MENTIONS.**

	(17)
Daily Express	1
Daily Mail	2
Daily Mirror	3
Daily Star	4
Daily Telegraph	5
Financial Times	6
The Guardian	7
The Herald	8
The Independent	9
The Metro	0
	(18)
The Scotsman	1
The Sport	2
The Sun	3
The Times	4
Local daily newspaper	5
Other daily newspaper	6
None	0

Finally, a few questions about you to help us analyse the results.

**SHOW CARD**

**Q. 43**

Which of these best described your current situation?

	(19)
Single	1
Married/living with partner	2
Divorced/separated	3
Widowed	4

**Q. 44**

How many dependent children aged under 16 normally live with you?

	(20)	(21)
<b>WRITE IN USING LEADING ZEROS</b>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**COMPLETE CLASSIFICATION PAGE, THANK AND CLOSE**