

77.1a Procedure

Criminal Practice Directions 2015 EWCA Crim 1567 para R1

paras 3P.1-3 [Not listed at it only sets out general matters.]

3P.4 Where the court requires the assistance of such a report then it is essential that there should be (i) absolute clarity about who is expected to do what, by when, and at whose expense; and (ii) judicial directions for progress with that report to be monitored and reviewed at prescribed intervals, following a timetable set by the court which culminates in the consideration of the report at a hearing. This is especially important where the report in question is a psychiatric assessment of the defendant for the preparation of which specific expertise may be required which is not readily available and because in some circumstances a second such assessment, by another medical practitioner, may be required.

paras 3P5-9 [Not listed. They deal with timetabling and associated matters.]

3P.10 Guidance entitled ‘Good practice guidance: commissioning, administering and producing psychiatric reports for sentencing’ prepared for and published by the Ministry of Justice and HM Courts and Tribunals Service in September 2010 contains material that will assist court staff and those who are asked to prepare such reports:

<http://www.ohrn.nhs.uk/resource/policy/GoodPracticeGuidePsychReports.pdf>

para 3P.10-16 [Not listed. They deal with funding and those in custody etc.]