

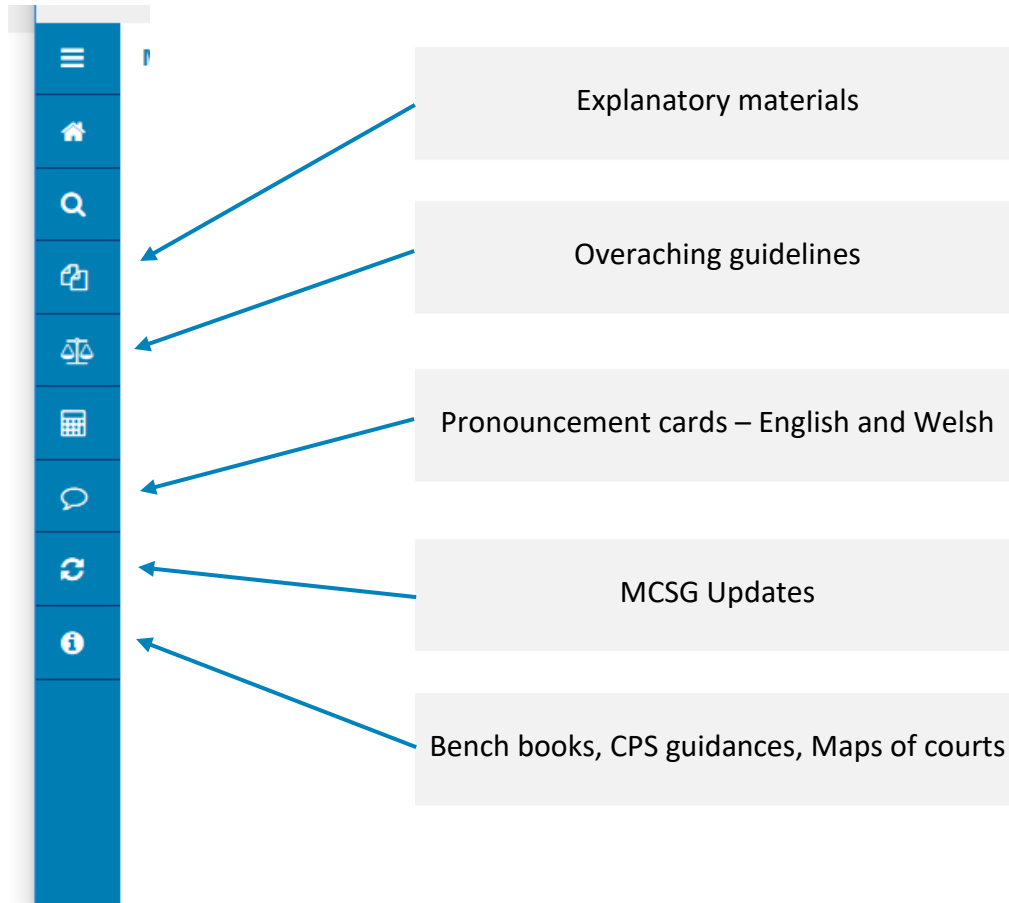
Sentencing Guidelines – changes to the website and app

In October 2018, the Sentencing Council will be making some changes to the way the sentencing guidelines are presented on the Council's website and on the app, and giving magistrates easier access to the overarching guidelines.

On the website

New-look search page – where to find things

To allow more space on the page for the guidelines, the left-hand menu on the website will be replaced with a narrow bar. We will also be changing some of the icons to match the ones we are already using on the app.



On the website and the app

Offence pages

Culpability and harm factors, and aggravating and mitigating factors, will be set out in tables rather than plain text. Users have told us that this layout is clearer and makes it easier to scroll between sets of factors.

Harm
<p>Factors indicating greater harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft of/damage to property causing a significant degree of loss to the victim (whether economic, commercial, sentimental or personal value) • Soiling, ransacking or vandalism of property • Victim at home or on the premises (or returns) while offender present • Significant physical or psychological injury or other significant trauma to the victim • Violence used or threatened against victim, particularly involving a weapon • Context of general public disorder
<p>Factors indicating lesser harm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No physical or psychological injury or other significant trauma to the victim • No violence used or threatened and a weapon is not produced

We will also be making some changes to the look of the Starting Point and Category Range tables so they will be easier to read and take up less space.

Overarching guidelines

Overarching guidelines will be on web pages rather than in pdfs so you will be able to open them much more quickly. They will have an index on each page so you can click straight through to the section you want to see. You will find the overarching guidelines in a dedicated section in the left-hand menu.

The screenshot shows the Sentencing Council website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links: Publications, Consultations, About sentencing, Analysis and research, News, and About us. Below this is a breadcrumb trail: Home > Domestic abuse. The main heading is 'Domestic abuse' with a print icon. A dropdown menu for 'Applicability' is visible. On the right, a table of contents lists sections: Scope of the guideline, Assessing seriousness, Aggravating and mitigating factors, Other factors influencing sentence, Restraining order, and Victim personal statements. The main content area displays the 'Scope of the guideline' section with two numbered paragraphs. A light blue box at the bottom contains a definition of domestic abuse.

We hope you will like these changes. Please let us know what you think:

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