

## **COMMUNITY WORK ORDERS (CWO) Frequently Asked Questions N T COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**

### **Can the worker come on days not assigned to them?**

Workers' who report to the CWO project on a day not directed by the Coordinator, are not allowed to work and should be directed to the Community Corrections Office to obtain a new direction for attendance. All parties are to be informed.

### **Can the Community Work Coordinator excuse the worker from attending the project?**

Yes. The Community Corrections Coordinator may exempt an offender from attending a project for all or part of the day if they are satisfied that reasonable grounds exist for excusing the offender. The offender may be required to provide such information or evidence of the absence.

### **What happens if a worker attends a project under the influence of drugs or alcohol?**

A worker under the influence of drugs or alcohol should be sent home. The project Supervisor should inform the Coordinator of the situation.

### **What happens if the worker attends the project and cannot do work because of the weather?**

If the weather makes it impossible to work, the Supervisor should ensure workers sign the attendance sheet and are sent home. They will be credited with the hours they would have worked that day.

### **What happens if the worker attends the project and the project Supervisor is absent?**

Unless alternative arrangements are made earlier and the offender attends the project he or she is directed to attend, and the project Supervisor is not present within one hour of after the time directed for the worker to attend, the offender shall be deemed to have performed work under the CWO for the hours they would have worked that day.

### **Is the Community Work Supervisor paid?**

CWO project Supervisors are not paid by Northern Territory Correctional Services, but are provided for by the organisation which is the recipient of the work.

### **Can a CWO be reviewed?**

If circumstances have changed, the offender either themselves or through their lawyer may apply to the Court to have their Order reviewed. Community Corrections may also apply to the Court for a variation or review of a Court ordered CWO. Reasons for this may include:

- The offender has been charged with further offences and is in custody;
- The offender needs to leave the Territory because of family or employment circumstances; or
- The offender's health has deteriorated to the extent that they cannot perform community work.

The Court may decide on one of the following courses of action:

- Discharge the order;
- Revoke the Order and re-sentence the offender on the original offence;
- Reduce the number of hours; or
- Vary the time period in which the work is completed.