

2023-06-21

Juveniles and Young Adult Offenders in Probation

- Experiences from implementing a new sentence

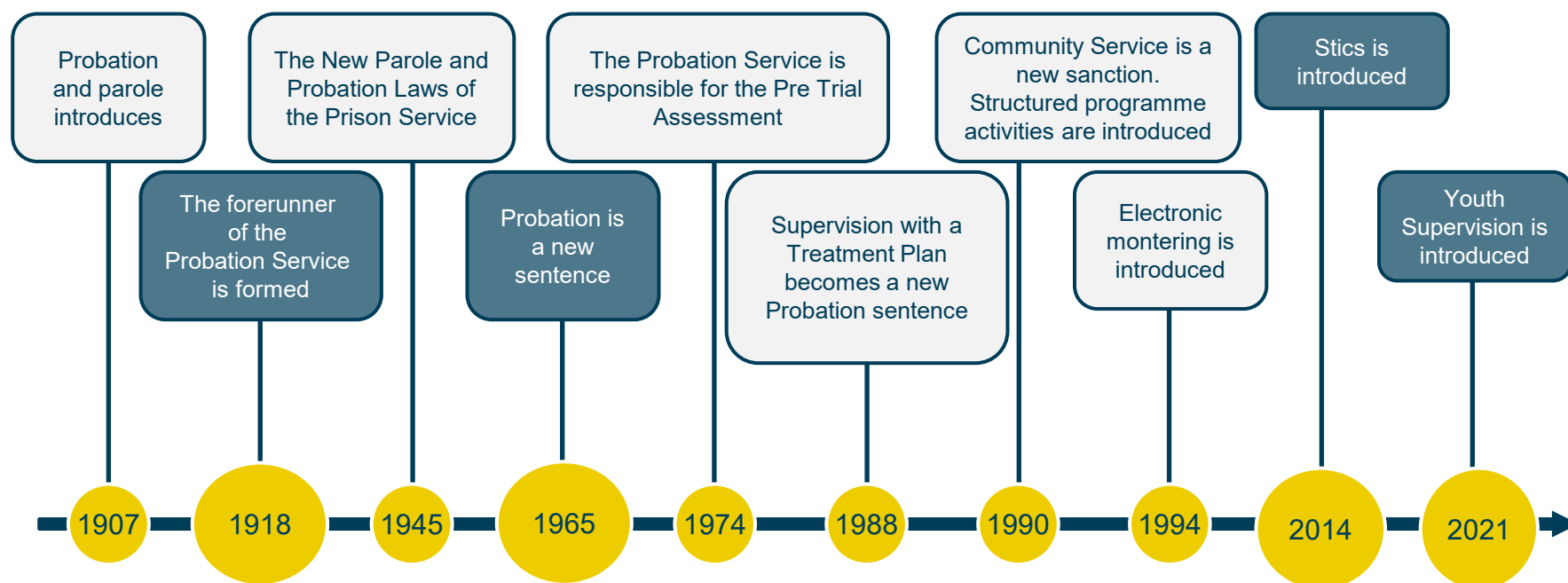
Swedish Prison and Probation Service
Göran Hellström
Maria Svantesson



Content

- The organization of the Swedish Prison and Probation Service
- The sanction system for young offenders in Sweden
- A new sanction: Youth Supervision
- Implementation of the new sentence

Important milestones





Swedish Prison and Probation Service

**Remand
prisons**

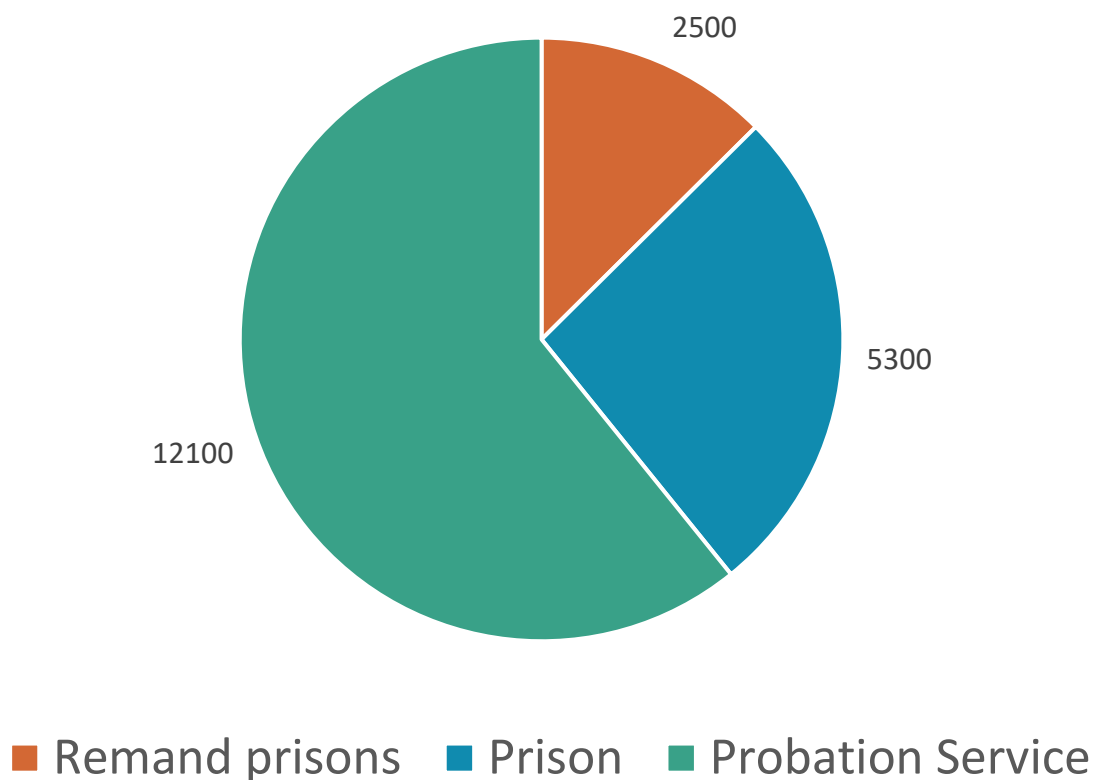
**Probation
Service**

Prison

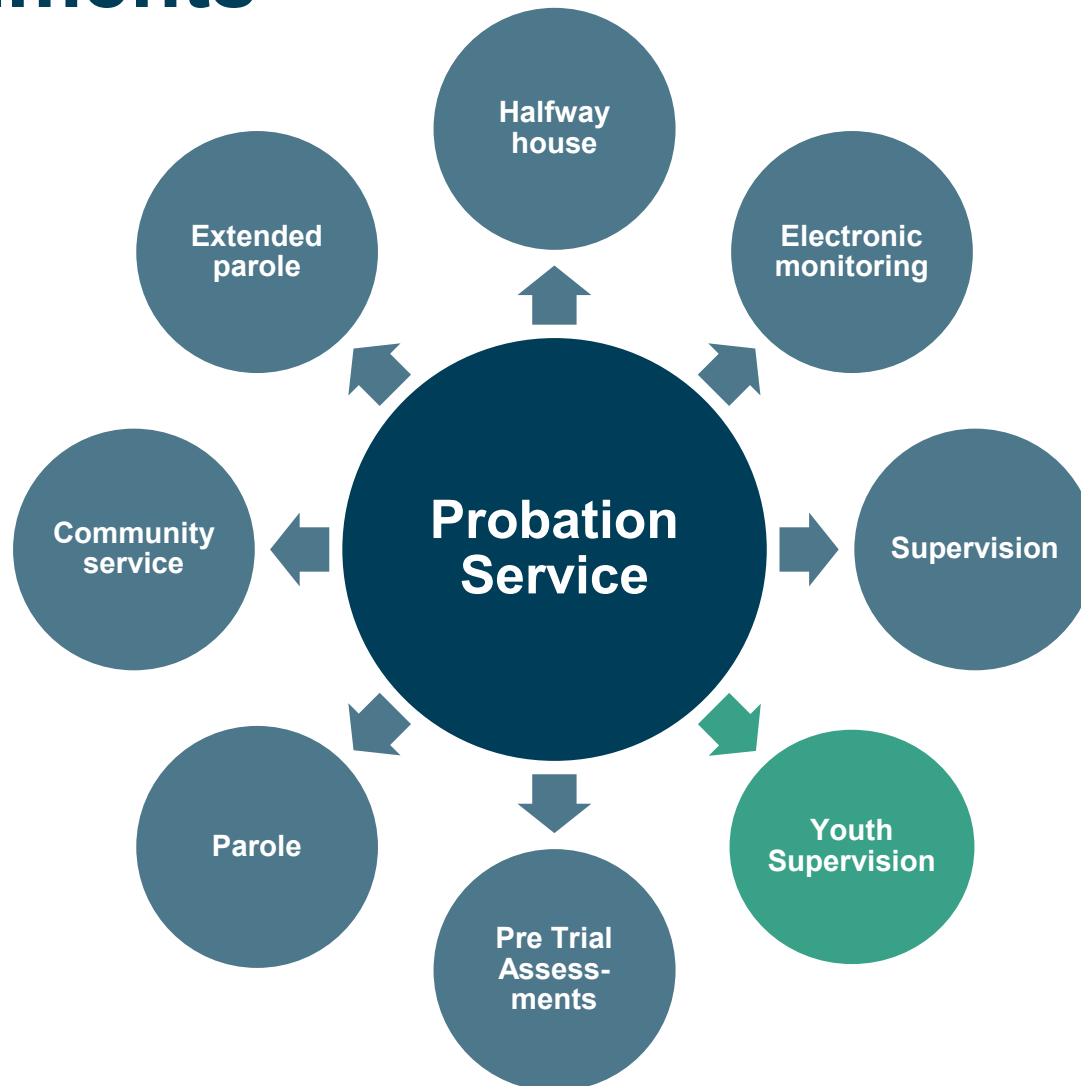
**National
Transport
Service**

**Our mission:
Enforce punishments and reduce recidivism**

Number of clients on a regular day



Probation enforcements and assignments



The sanction system for young offenders in Sweden

- Young offenders refers to persons aged 15 to 17 years.
- A special law
- Abstention from prosecution
- Primarily fines and surrender into the care of the social services



Youth sanctions in Sweden

Youth Care
(Social Services)

**Community
Service för Youths**
(Social Services)

**Youth
Supervision**
(The Swedish
Prison and
Probation Service)

**Secure Youth
Care**
(The Swedish
National Board of
Institutional Care)

Youth Supervision

- New Legislation and new Probation sanction from January 2021
- Young offenders, mainly between 15-17 years old
- Supervision for a period of between 6 months and 1 year.
- Curfew



Who are the youngsters?

- Men
- 17 years old
- 8, 5 months
- Robbery, assault and rape
- Gang criminals
- Institutional care
- Breaches



Youth Supervision involves:

- ✓ **Contact with the youth coordinator 1-3 times a week**
- ✓ **Curfew on weekends, using electronic monitoring**
- ✓ **Prohibition of drugs/alcohol**
- ✓ **Other instructions such as schooling and other occupations, leisure, substance abuse treatment, other care or treatment**

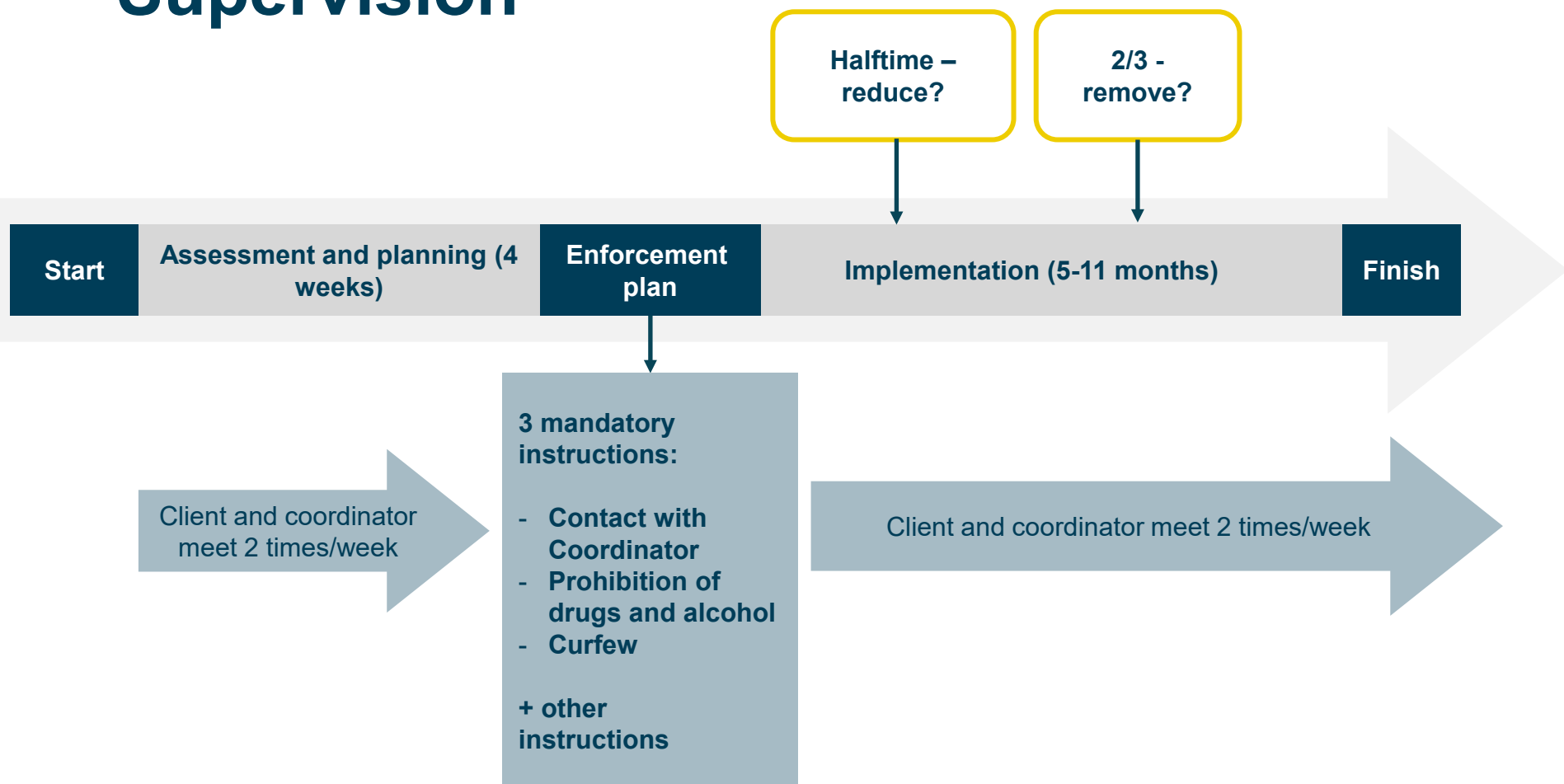


Assessment

- Assessment – Risk, Need, Responsivity
- Protective factors
- Net work map
- Drug test
- Home visit
- Involvement of parents
- Collaboration meetings



The process of Youth Supervision



The strength of the sanction

- Mandatory regulations and activities such as electronic monitoring
- Always a collaboration with the Social services
- No drugs or alcohol
- High dosage of CBT-treatment

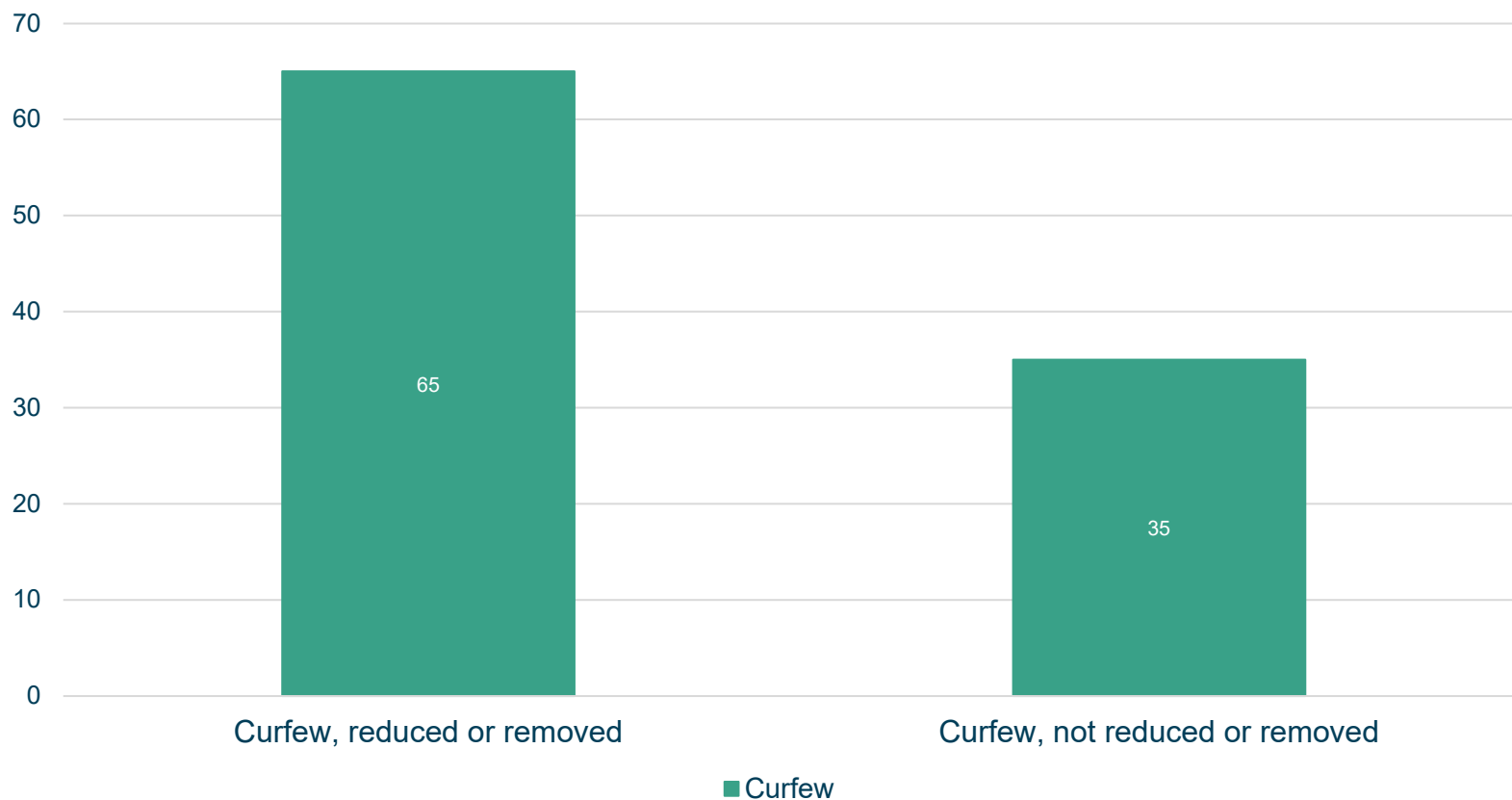


Challenges

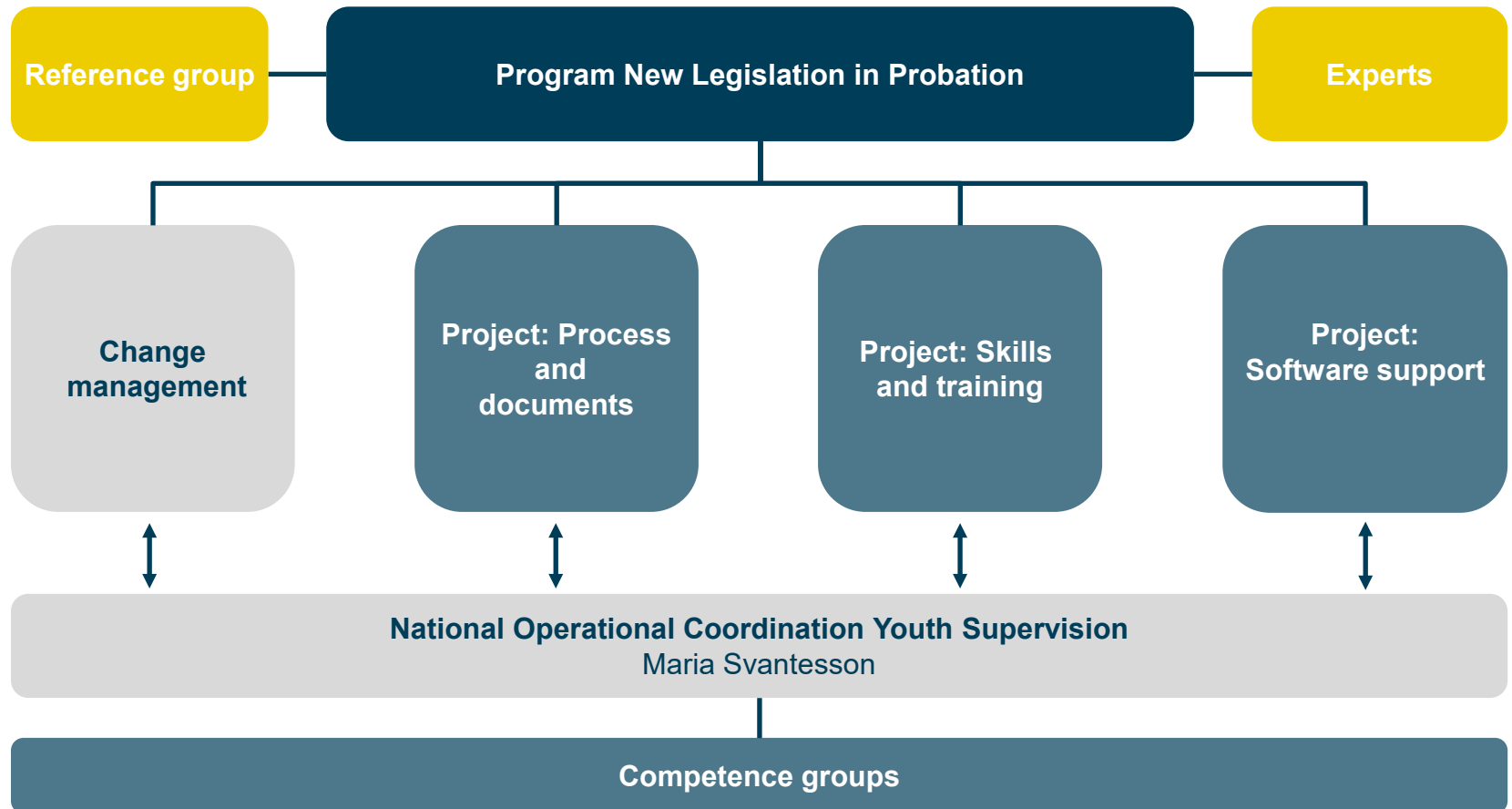
- Cases where the Probation Service and Social Services make different assessments regarding, for example, suitable housing or need for substance abuse care
- Alternate living with the parents or institution/home
- Gang criminals



Result – curfew reduced or removed



Organisation for implementation of new legislation



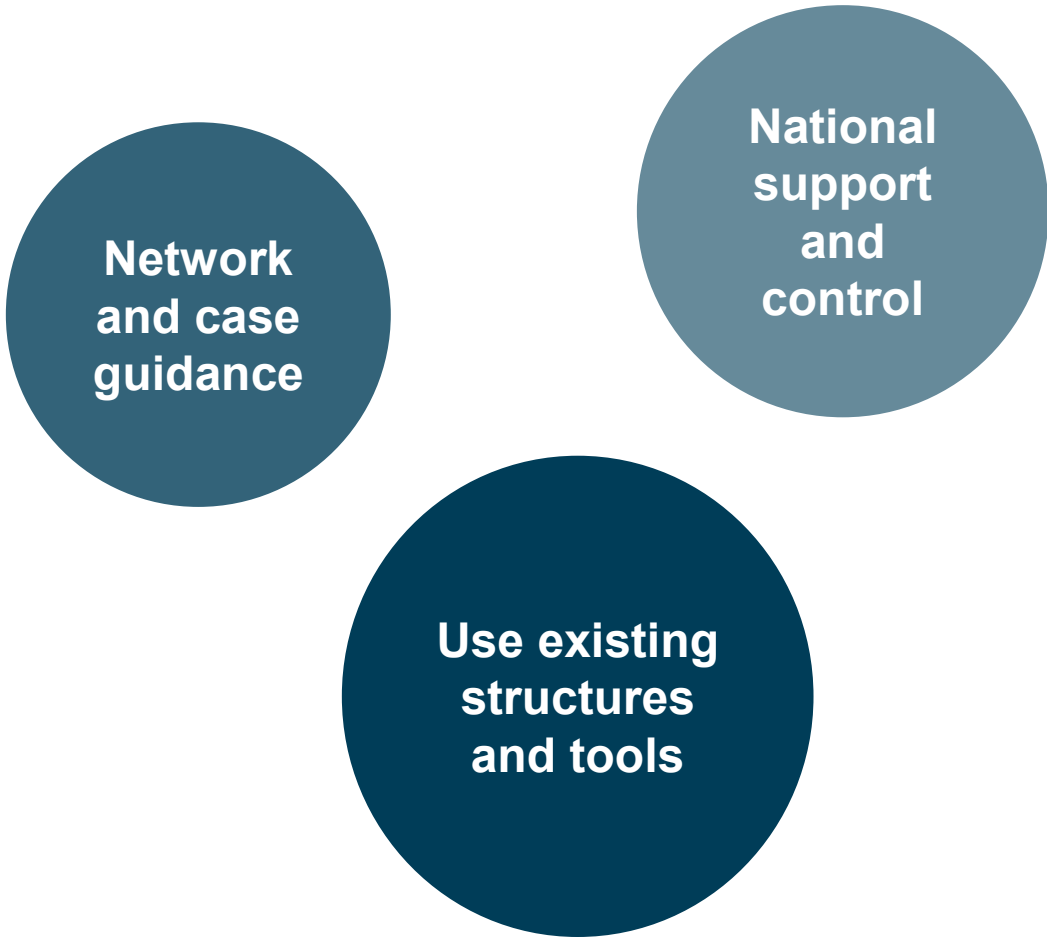
Preparations during 2020

- Trained 120 co-ordinators and managers from 32 Probation Service offices
- Support materials
- Handbook
- Collaboration meetings
- National operational support



Experiences

- What have we learnt?

A diagram consisting of three circles arranged in a triangle. The top-left circle is dark blue and contains the text "Network and case guidance". The top-right circle is a lighter blue and contains the text "National support and control". The bottom circle is the darkest blue and contains the text "Use existing structures and tools".

**Network
and case
guidance**

**National
support
and
control**

**Use existing
structures
and tools**

**WE BREAK
THE VICIOUS CIRCLE**

**KRIM:
VÅRD**



Kriminalvården