Title:	[redacted]
Given Name:	[redacted]
Surname:	[redacted]
Email:	[redacted]
Organsation:	[redacted]
Type:	Web
Title of Submission:	garda Diversion Programme
Comments:	[redacted] I believe the programme is not suitable for offences of a sexual nature. I found the liaison officers to lack training in dealing with cases of a sexual nature both in interview technique and follow up. They also lacked the expertise to carryout a restorative meeting in sexual offences. There are no courses within the programme for juvenile sexual offenders to be placed on. With delays in the judicial system , juvenile offenders can be over 18 before their case comes up and though they still have the right to enter the programme, the GDP has no right of follow up supervision.In these situations the victim can feel she did not have a voice and that justice was not served . There is also a lack of communication between the GDP and voluntary organisations that provide counselling services to both victims and offenders of cases of sexual assault , rape etc - The GDP could link in more with these these organisations and avail of their expertise. Do juvenile sexual offenders go on the sexual offenders register? Is it included in Garda vetting information ? If not, how is the public protected if these offenders apply for employment working with young and vulnerable people? Thank you to the members of the committee and I look forward to change for the better in our policing of the nation.