



Powers of Criminal Courts (Sentencing) Act 2000

2000 CHAPTER 6

PART VIII

MISCELLANEOUS AND SUPPLEMENTARY

Disclosure of pre-sentence reports etc.

156 Disclosure of pre-sentence reports

- (1) This section applies where a court obtains a pre-sentence report.
- (2) Subject to subsections (3) and (4) below, the court shall give a copy of the report—
 - (a) to the offender or his counsel or solicitor; and
 - (b) to the prosecutor, that is to say, the person having the conduct of the proceedings in respect of the offence.
- (3) If the offender is aged under 17 and is not represented by counsel or a solicitor, a copy of the report need not be given to him but shall be given to his parent or guardian if present in court.
- (4) If the prosecutor is not of a description prescribed by order made by the Secretary of State, a copy of the report need not be given to the prosecutor if the court considers that it would be inappropriate for him to be given it.
- (5) No information obtained by virtue of subsection (2)(b) above shall be used or disclosed otherwise than for the purpose of—
 - (a) determining whether representations as to matters contained in the report need to be made to the court; or
 - (b) making such representations to the court.

157 Other reports of probation officers and members of youth offending teams

- (1) This section applies where—
 - (a) a report by a probation officer or a member of a youth offending team is made to any court (other than a youth court) with a view to assisting the court in determining the most suitable method of dealing with any person in respect of an offence; and
 - (b) the report is not a pre-sentence report (as defined by section 162 below).
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, the court shall give a copy of the report to the offender or his counsel or solicitor.
- (3) If the offender is aged under 17 and is not represented by counsel or a solicitor, a copy of the report need not be given to him but shall be given to his parent or guardian if present in court.