



THE SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION FOR
THE STUDY OF OFFENDING

Charity No: SC008124

Aberdeen Branch

Chair: Sheriff Morag McLaughlin

www.sastudyoffending.org.uk

Thursday 26 February 2026 @ 1730

**Aberdeen Sheriff Court, Castle Street, Aberdeen
(Please enter by the main entrance and you will be directed to the
appropriate courtroom)**

**Dr Stuart Doig, Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist
The State Hospital, Carstairs**

“Risk assessment and Sentencing: the role of structured professional judgment”

CHAIR: SHERIFF LESLEY JOHNSTON

Dr Stuart Doig is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist working in high secure services at The State Hospital, Carstairs and is Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Forensic Faculty in Scotland. He has over 15 years' experience in forensic mental health across high, medium and low secure services and community settings. He has been an accredited Risk Assessor with the Risk Management Authority for over 15 years and prepares assessments for individuals being considered for an Order for Lifelong Restriction. He also provides medico-legal reports to the courts in pre-trial and pre-sentence cases where mental disorder is an issue and has also worked as a visiting Consultant Psychiatrist to Scottish prisons, most recently HMP & YOI Polmont.

Dr Doig will provide an overview of the main approaches to risk assessment, with particular focus on the structured professional judgement (SPJ) model. Not every case coming before the court for sentence requires this type of detailed risk assessment. However, where risk of harm appears persistent, escalating in frequency, resistant to supervision, or potentially linked to serious harm, a more structured and specialist risk assessment may be appropriate. He will illustrate this using stalking behaviour as a model of offending where this type of approach can inform sentencing decisions.

Members and non-members welcome.

Solicitors & Advocates, Police and Social Workers and other professions may claim CPD time for attendance at SASO lectures - registration at the event will be available.

Please communicate any enquiries regarding the presentation or SASO in general to:
[sasoaabern@gnail.com](mailto:sasoabern@gnail.com)

The aim of SASO is to bring together people with a wide range of experience in the criminal justice system so that by listening, talking and sharing experience, a better understanding of our common problems will develop.