

Conner's story

18 years old

Conner was murdered in 2015 by a known offender serving two probation supervision orders.

Conner's murderer had a long history of violence, drug misuse and offending behaviour. During the months prior to murdering Conner, the offender had missed eight appointments with probation officers. He was not breached or recalled despite blatantly disregarding his licence conditions.

Conner was attacked with a metal pole from behind. He was beaten, kicked and left to die. Meanwhile, the offender left the area with his young family. With the help of his family, he fled to Scotland, where he was found at a relative's house, hiding behind a settee.

Conner didn't have the chance to defend himself, sustaining multiple serious and life ending injuries.

The sentence given was 25 years without parole, which was reduced to 20 years for an early guilty plea!

For the past decade, Conner's family have fought for his death to be a reason for change.

Conner was a bright, happy young man. He had a tattoo of 'Life Goes On'.

His wish to be an organ donor has saved three people.

He had a life full of ambition and hope. He was popular, bright and full of fun.

He didn't deserve to die. He shouldn't have died. But he did - and probation services allowed his death.



“As a family, we were not made aware of the probation contact with the offender as no trial was heard. The information came to light more than four months after Conner's death. Probation Services prevented us having sight of a Serious Further Offence Report for more than two years. Fighting for a second inquest more than four years after Conner's death, the coroner was critical of the probation service, describing them as woefully inadequate and officers being overwhelmed with work.