Supporting Women with Multiple and Complex Needs
Supporting Women across the North of England

- Founded in 2006 as a demonstration project funded by the MoJ (response to Corston Report 2004), became a charity in 2009.
- Footprint in the North of England, women centres in Leeds, Bradford, Hull, Sheffield and services across the Northern Female estate.
- Aims
  - Promote Positive Change
  - Empower and Support Women
  - Reduce Family Breakdown
  - Reduce/Prevent Offending/ Diversion from Custody
- TWP meet the needs of our customers by providing a holistic, gender specific, one stop shop within a safe women only environment.
- Supporting women in the community and whilst in custody Reoffending rate while on TWP programme: 14%  
  - National re offending rate: 64%*

* According to: a recent Home Office cohort which found that 64% of women re-offended within 2 years
TWP approach

- **Early Intervention:** Preventing and intervening earlier. Developing and implementing strategies to reduce re-offending and the use of custody.

- **Listening:** Listening to our customers to focus our attention on the services which have the greatest impact.

- **Working together:** With key partners to promote changes which are known to reduce reoffending and addresses factors which can lead to criminal behaviour including mental health and substance misuse.

- **Holistic:** Wrap around support for women with multiple and Complex needs at every stage of their journey.
Challenges our customers face

- **Mental health issues**
  - 74% of customers have mental health issues

- **Victim of domestic violence/ violent attacks (currently or previously)**
  - 77% of customers

- **Facing family breakdown**
  - 48% of customers (with dependents) have children in care or on ‘at risk register’

- **Lack of Employment, Education & Training**
  - 87% of customers are unemployed
  - 80% would like to attend training/ education

- **Drugs and Alcohol**
  - 32% of customers have an alcohol problem
  - 28% of customers have a drug problem
Current statistics

- 22% increase in the use of immediate prison sentences for women between 2012 and 2017
- Last year 82% of women entering prison had committed non-violent offences
- Last year 72% were sentenced to less than a year (44% increase in the area)
- £36,000 per annum to send a person to prison in comparison to £3,500 for a community sentence
- WYCRC currently working with 1037 female offender - 27% are in custody (55% of these with a sentence less than 6 months)
The future

- Influence Sentencing
- Increased diversionary schemes
- Short Sentences (less than 6 months) abolished
- Community orders in a safe women centre environment - trauma informed and effective at reducing re-offending
- Greater Partnership work across VCS and Statutory bodies
- Alternative solutions that enable protective factors to remain in place (families, accommodation and employment)
Thank you