

Supporting Women with Multiple and Complex Needs



together women

Supporting Women across the North of England

- ▶ Founded in 2006 as a demonstration project funded by the M o J (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 Re offending 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

