



Ministry of  
**JUSTICE**

National Offender  
Management Service



**N • E • P • A • C • S**

**Building bridges for prisoners,  
their families & the community**

# Working with children and families of offenders

**A guide for local authorities and partnerships**

*reducing reoffending and improving outcomes for children*

May 2011

# Key facts about the children and families of offenders

- An estimated 160,000 children in the UK have a parent in prison.
- More children are affected by the imprisonment of a parent than by divorce.
- Reoffending rates fall if prisoners stay in contact with their families - if an offender has regular visits through their prison sentence, they are 40 percent less likely to offend again on their release.
- An estimated 45 percent of prisoners lose touch with their families during their sentence.
- There is a strong association between parental imprisonment and adverse outcomes for children: the children of prisoners are about three times more at-risk than their peers of committing anti-social or delinquent behaviour and more than twice as likely to have mental health problems during their life.
- A total of 65 percent of boys with a convicted parent go on to offend.
- Prisoners' families often experience poverty, debt and housing problems – it is estimated that the average personal cost (through loss of earnings and the costs of visits) to the family of a prisoner is £175 per month.
- NEPACS play facilities at prisons in the North East receive 20,000 visits from children each year.

Source: Barnardo's 2009, Every night I cry: the reality of having a parent in prison and NEPACS.

## About this guide

This guide was produced in the North East of England by a partnership of Barefoot Research and Evaluation and NEPACS (see back page for details). The guide was funded by the Policy and Representation Partnership Fund (part of the Big Lottery) which was administered by Voluntary Organisations' Network North East. The guide received sponsorship from the Ministry of Justice through the Director of Offender Management North East and is supported by the Department for Education.

## Thanks to ...

... all those people we interviewed across all the local authorities in the North East, who were extremely cooperative and supportive of the work. Also those from the voluntary sector in the region, who contributed their expertise to this guide. We would like to also thank Northern Rock Foundation who have supported both policy and project work in this area since 2004 and whose continued commitment has positive impacts on many children and families' lives.



**Policy & Representation  
Partnership**

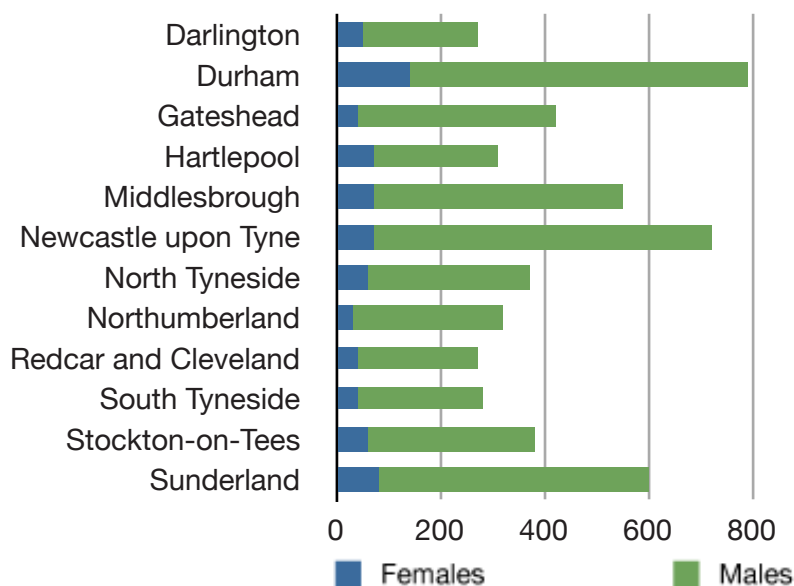


# Introduction

This document aims to guide the work that you do with the children and families of offenders. It is based on research carried out across the 12 North East local authority areas, the region's prisons and with specialist voluntary sector organisations in 2010/2011. It is made up of nine recommendations.

The children and families of offenders are a group that have been identified by successive Governments as requiring specific support. This requirement is related to both improving outcomes for children and reducing crime. It is recognised by research and practice that the imprisonment of a parent can have significant and costly consequences on children. These include the increased likelihood of poor school performance, ill health (particularly mental) and developing an offending career. The Ministry of Justice<sup>1</sup> estimate that maintaining contact between a prisoner and their family reduces reoffending by 40 percent. The imperative for developing services is clear.

## Adult prisoners released into the North East, 2009 to 2010



<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Justice. 2008. Research Summary 5, Factors linked to re-offending.

The numbers affected are also high. The figure on the left shows how many prisoners each local authority receives each year. The implication is that the numbers of children in our region with either a mother or father in prison runs into thousands.

There is significant potential across North East local authority areas and its prisons to develop this supportive work stream. The Government has recognised this and the Department for Education has just invested in a regional resource based at NEPACS that will support all areas in their efforts. This resource will assist you in implementing these recommendations.

We hope you will use this guide to develop the work you do with the children and families of offenders, so they don't have to turn to a life of crime and can grow and be happy.



# Recommendation one

## **The focus on the children and families of offenders should come from Integrated Offender Management (IOM) projects**

Each local authority area has an IOM project which brings together a range of mostly Criminal Justice agencies such as Police and Probation. The IOM projects are all initiatives of each area's respective Community Safety Partnerships, which have overall responsibility for reducing reoffending.

We think that the IOM projects are the best place to locate the children and families of offenders work. It is recognised that IOM projects will not pick up all of the people affected by imprisonment as each specific IOM project has their own focus, e.g. some will focus purely on prolific offenders, others will focus on these and on other groups. And there are some groups which suffer disproportionately who currently receive little or no support, for example female offenders who are sentenced to less than 12 months. The impact on children of even short term periods of separation from their mothers can be significant.

However, IOMs are an operational arm of Community Safety Partnerships which focus on offenders and those affected by imprisonment. This is the flag or signal: when a parent is imprisoned, it has negative impacts on the children and family and there may be support requirements. IOMs can bring in partners from both children's and adult services across the voluntary and public sectors, who can focus on the children and families of offenders and who, using shared expertise, can identify the important groups to focus upon, e.g. the female offenders above. In other words, IOMs are the best place to start and develop the workstream (and several areas are already doing this successfully).

Furthermore, using and building upon the IOM partnership approach will produce solutions to local problems. Again, using the female offender example, the NEPACS Family Support Worker in HMP Low Newton has just started interviewing each new prisoner about children and support requirements for carers or grandparents in the community.

# Recommendation two

## **Each IOM project should have a specific Children and Families of Offenders Strategy and Action Plan which outlines specific actions and responsible agencies**

Each Community Safety Partnership has a Reducing Reoffending Strategy, but only a few areas (n=3) have a specific Children and Families of Offenders Strategy. Five areas had no mention of children and families of offenders and four mentioned it in their general Reducing Reoffending Strategy. Of those with no strategy, some had specific reasons, i.e. that children and families of offenders fall into the group of children and families who will receive targeted intervention and others had simply omitted the group. However, as this group experience specific difficulties unique to their situation, it is necessary to have a strategy that recognises this and lays out the support available and identified referral routes between agencies.

It may be the case that IOM projects have a specifically convened sub-group to focus on the children and families of offenders. It is also recommended that each IOM project should nominate a Children and Families Champion who can be the first point of contact for enquiries and who can lead on policy and operational development. It is noted that five of the 12 local authority areas have Prison Officers seconded to their IOM projects, some of these have supporting children and families of offenders in their job specification. These Prison Officers have significant potential in both developing services between the prison and community and in identifying families in the area affected by imprisonment. Examples of possible actions in an Action Plan include providing more information for families at court, to ensure they get the help they need at the point of sentencing and the creation of a standard referral form between agencies.

# Recommendation three

**There is a need to increase partnership working within IOM projects. In some areas, this will mean increasing the numbers of partners on IOM projects to include children's and family services**

IOM projects must have representation from children's and family support services (e.g. children's centres, parenting commissioners, targeted support services). These will come from the statutory and voluntary sector.

In addition to expanding membership, staff within the IOM projects must get to know each other, understand the work of each organisation and have good communication channels. This will facilitate the development of referral routes and/or joint visits. A Reducing Reoffending Manager in one area illustrated this need by saying "*There are different pockets of people working with those people ... we need to bring those people together to develop the work stream*".

# Recommendation four

## All Probation Officers and IOM staff should receive training in the Think Family approach

There are a number of IOM projects across the North East that are made up purely of Criminal Justice agencies. Many of the constituent staff (such as Probation or Police Officers) are unfamiliar with a Think Family approach and they need to be aware of the entire family and their circumstance or needs when visiting an adult offender. One IOM Manager in the region commented that currently Probation Officers are not equipped to look at family needs although they are competent in safeguarding issues.

There is also a need to develop the capacity of Probation Officers so they will know who to contact and refer to should they identify a family need. After awareness raising, Offender Managers then “*need an easier route in*” to family support services and this means developing links between Probation staff and the available services. This will be made possible through the implementation of Recommendation three. The provision of Think Family training from children’s services to IOM agency staff is also a good demonstration of a commitment to partnership working.

Note: many professionals within IOM projects will be skilled to work with adults and not children. One comment illustrates this, “*I’m used to working with adults, now if the emphasis is on the family then I now have to work with children, and I’ve never worked with them before, it’s scary*”. It needs to be made clear that the priority is to identify need, then to bring in specialists (e.g. through joint visits or referral), and not to change adult workers into children’s workers.

# Recommendation five

## All IOM staff and other relevant local authority and partnership agencies should receive training on the Hidden Sentence

This training highlights the specific issues faced by the children and families of offenders and is aimed at professionals who may come into contact with this group. To illustrate the need, one authority area said that most of their staff have not worked in prison so have no idea of the issues when working with a prisoner and their family. This training is available from Action for Prisoners Families who have a Training and Development Officer that covers the North East or from the NEPACS Integrated Family Support Advocates (the latter is the recent Department for Education funded resource). It is particularly important to include staff from schools in this training.

### Hidden Sentence training

The Hidden Sentence programme has been designed by Action for Prisoners' Families (APF) to provide practitioners with an understanding of the impact of imprisonment on children and families. The training will increase participants' knowledge of the prison system, increase their understanding of the specific issues experienced by children and families of prisoners and understand the implications to their own working practice. The programme has also been developed to explore how services can be better coordinated in order to support children and families affected by the imprisonment of a family member, through the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and existing support agencies and resources. The training is aimed at all professionals who support prisoners' families, including children's centre workers, school staff, play workers, health visitors and family intervention teams. The course gives a clear overview of the issues facing prisoners' families and provides a range of strategies and resources to help you support them.

#### Learning outcomes

- Be aware of the context of the current Criminal Justice System and the offender's journey
- Explore the impact of imprisonment on children and families
- Recognise specific issues for children with a family member in prison which may present barriers to them achieving the Every Child Matters outcomes
- Identify the support needs of the family and how these can be met by statutory/voluntary provision and resources
- Reflect on how the insight gained will affect your practice.

Membership of APF is free – register at APF's website [www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk](http://www.prisonersfamilies.org.uk)



# Recommendation six

## A recording system needs to be developed to record the number of children and families of offenders that are worked with in a local authority area

A problem faced by many local authority areas is a lack of knowledge about how many children and families are affected by imprisonment. To illustrate, the Scottish Commissioner for Children and Young People, commented recently: '*The truth is we don't really know [how many]. The reason we don't know is we simply don't count them, and the reason we don't count them is because they are invisible*'<sup>1</sup>. This creates a number of problems, from simply not knowing how many families are affected and where these families are, to being unable to effectively deliver services because the scale of the issue is not known. There were reports from many local authority areas that it was suspected that affected families were already being worked with, but the exact figures were unknown.

Therefore it is recommended that recording systems are developed, for example creating an additional heading on existing recording and referral forms to record how many families have been affected by imprisonment. This applies to agencies ranging from Social Care Direct to children's centres. This will address agencies not knowing how many families access their services that are affected by imprisonment and how many families they already work with who have been affected.

---

1 Quoted in Barnardo's 2009, Every night you cry (page 3).

# Recommendation seven

## **There needs to be clear information sharing and consent arrangements between agencies**

There was much discussion during the research amongst those interviewed about information sharing and consent. This concerns whether one agency can share information with another about the imprisonment of a parent and whether that agency can then make a visit to that family to determine if there are any support needs. There are clearly issues surrounding permissions being granted by those in prison to other community support agencies (e.g. prisoners may fear social service involvement or other punitive action, there may be domestic abuse in the family and prisoners may want to control what happens in that family despite being in prison, or there may be other offences which affect family contact). Indeed, even if permissions were granted by the prisoner, consent would still have to be gained from the family.

It is felt that these discussions about information sharing and consent are best held within the local authority area, as each area may have its own solutions. For example, in one area a Police Officer visits every family on the release of the prisoner (granted this is post sentence, but the point is that this could equally be done, possibly as a joint visit, at the point of sentence to determine any family needs). In another area, prisoners from the local authority area are visited in the establishment where available community services are presented to them in an effort to win hearts and minds (i.e. to convince prisoners that family support is good for them and their children).

# Recommendation eight

## **Integrated Offender Management projects and local authority agencies need to understand voluntary sector agencies working in the area, so they can develop a relationship and work together**

There is much voluntary sector activity in the region relating to the children and families of offenders, both in prisons and in the community. There is therefore much expertise and resources that can be harnessed by IOM projects and other agencies in their efforts to support the children and families of offenders. To achieve this aim, a directory of services has been included in the appendix to this guide. Local authority areas are encouraged to invite relevant voluntary sector providers to their IOM projects or at least begin/increase communication. Similarly voluntary sector organisations are encouraged to make links with IOM projects. Again a directory of IOM contacts in those local authority areas is included in the appendix.

# Recommendation nine

## At the point of imprisonment an offer of support should be made to the family

All of the recommendations contained in this guide lead to this: that when a parent within a context of a coherent family group (i.e. not absent fathers) goes into prison, then that family should be visited in the community and an offer of support made. This is imperative when a mother goes into prison (as we know that when mothers go into custody, the majority of children are not cared for by fathers) but also important when a father goes to prison.

It may be the case that a pre-CAF is carried out with the family or a full CAF if required and a Team Around the Family would then be constituted. The ultimate objective of this offer is to improve outcomes for the children, support the remaining parent and reduce the reoffending of the imprisoned parent.

## and finally ...

It is important to provide **regular opportunities to review and reflect on practice**, to determine if all relevant stakeholders are involved and to evaluate how better to identify children and families of offenders in need of support. Thus, we also recommend six monthly reviews.

## Appendix one Statutory contacts in the North East

Area	Name	Organisation	Contact email
Darlington	Anna Capstick	Probation	anna.capstick@dtv.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	Steve Ball	Police, IOM Manager	stephen.ball@durham.pnn.police.uk
	David Mason	Local Authority, FIP Manager	david.mason@darlington.gov.uk
Durham	Eric Suddes	Police , IOM Manager	thomas.suddes@durham.pnn.police.uk
	Maria Coad	Local Authority, Strategic Manager for Children's Centres	maria.coad@durham.gov.uk
	Karin Davison	Local Authority, Parenting Commissioner	k.davison@durham.gov.uk
Gateshead	Ruth Gaul	Safer Gateshead Manager	ruthgaul@gateshead.gov.uk
	Gillian Dodds	Local Authority, Children's Centre Strategic Manager	gilliandodds2@gateshead.gov.uk
Hartlepool	Gemma Sparrow	Probation, IOM Manager	gemma.sparrow@dtv.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	John Robinson	Local Authority, Parenting Commissioner	john.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk
Middlesbrough	Suzy Kitching	Local Authority, Families First Manager	suzy_kitching@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Newcastle upon Tyne	Jan Kelly	Safe Newcastle, Reducing Reoffending Coordinator	jan.kelly@newcastle.gov.uk
	Sue Miller	Local Authority, Parenting Commissioner	sue.miller@newcastle.gov.uk
North Tyneside	Richard Booth	Probation, IOM Manager	richard.booth@northumbria.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	Cath McEvoy	Local Authority, Head of Safeguarding	cath.mcevoy@northtyneside.gov.uk
Northumberland	Gary Connor	Probation, IOM Manager	gary.connor@northumbria.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	Lynne Maughan	Local Authority, Parenting Commissioner	lynne.maughan@northumberland.gov.uk
Redcar and Cleveland	Richard Parker	Probation, IOM Manager	richard.parker@dtv.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	Chris Daniel	Local Authority, Service Manager, East Locality, Safeguarding, Children and Families	chris_daniel@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
South Tyneside	Gail Coulthard	Probation, IOM Manager	gail.coulthard@northumbria.probation.gsi.gov.uk
	Denise Tate	Local Authority, FIP Manager	denise.tate@southtyneside.gov.uk
Stockton	Emma Champley	DAAT Manager	emma.champley@stockton.gov.uk
	Jill Anderson	Local Authority, Children's Centre Lead	jill.anderson@stockton.gov.uk
	Kaye Pickering	Local Authority, Parenting Strategy Coordinator	kaye.pickering@stockton.gov.uk
Sunderland	Louise Hill	PCT, Reducing Reoffending Strategy Coordinator	louise.hill@sunderland.gov.uk

## Appendix two Specialist voluntary sector organisations and projects in the North East

Organisation	Contact name	Address and email	Geographical area of work	Projects specific to the children and families of offenders
Action for Prisoners' Families	Lesley Dixon	London Head office: Unit 21, Carlson Court, 116 Putney Bridge Road, London, SW15 2NQ Tel: 07812 440362 E-mail: lesley@actionpf.org.uk	National and North East region	Provider of Hidden Sentence training.
Barnardo's Orchard Mosaic Service	Tracy Bell Carol Butler	Barnardo's Orchard Mosaic ,75 Osborne Rd, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE2 2AN Tel: 0191 2120237 Email: carol.butler@barnardos.org.uk	North East region	BVenture: Therapeutic and capacity building activity weekends for children and their parents/carers and a monthly peer support group.
Barnardo's SECOS	Wendy Shepherd	East West Centre, Ayresome Green Lane, Middlesbrough, TS5 5BA Tel: 01642 819743 Email: wendy.shepherd@barnardos.org.uk	Middlesbrough, Stockton, Darlington	Support to children and families who have been affected by sexual exploitation or sex work.
Children North East Families Plus	Sylvia Copley	Rye Hill Centre, Colby Court, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 6HL Tel: 0191 256 2444 Email: sylvia.copley@children-ne.org	North East	Home based individual packages of family support and targeted one-to-one support for children and young people, delivered by staff and volunteers, ranging from low level early intervention up to intensive crisis intervention.
DISC, Safe Voices Family Alcohol Service	Julie Dempsey	Unit 5, Crown Buildings, Avenue Road, Hartlepool. TS24 8RZ Tel: 01429 860111 Email: julie.dempsey@disc-vol.org.uk	Hartlepool	Supporting parents, grandparents, kinship carers and children where parental alcohol misuse has been identified.
DISC, Stockton Family Support Service	Rachel McCormack	Suite 2, Marlborough House, 30-32 Yarm Road, Stockton on Tees, TS18 3NG Tel: 01642 615846 Email: Rachel.mccormack@disc-vol.org	Stockton	As above
ESCAPE Family Support	Sharon Spurling	Emily Davison House, 93 Bondicar Terrace, Blyth, NE24 2JR Tel: 01670 544055 Email: sharon.spurling@escapefamilysupport.co.uk	Northumberland	Family Link Workers; Specialist female offender support (SWAN); Strengthening Families Programme; Triple P; Kinship Carers Support.
Helix Arts	Toby Lowe	The Old Casino, 1-4 Forth Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 5HX Email: toby.lowe@helixarts.com Tel: 0191 241 4931	North East region	Supporting young offenders and their families through participatory arts workshops and one-to-one creative support sessions.
Inside/Outside (After Adoption)	Gareth Twose	Unit 5, Citygate, 5 Blantyre, Street, Manchester, M15 4JJ Tel: 0161 830 2025 Email:garethtwose@afteradoption.org.uk	North East (HMP Low Newton)	Supporting women who have lost or at-risk of losing their children to adoption.

Organisation	Contact name	Address and email	Geographical area of work	Projects specific to the children and families of offenders
Liberty From Addiction	Aileen Mullan	The Brockwell Centre, Craghead Road, Pelton Fell, Chester Le Street, DH2 2NH Tel: 0191 3871111 Email: liberty3@btconnect.com	Durham	Carer and family support for those affected by substance misuse.
NEPACS: Integrated Family Support Advocates	c/o Helen Attewell	c/o 22, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HW Tel: 0191 3323437 Email: hattewell@nepacs.co.uk	North East region	Two advocates, funded by the DfE, will support the development of local shared plans and joint working arrangements between local authority based and funded provision, prisons, probation and voluntary sector. They will also deliver 'Hidden Sentence' training.
NEPACS: Listening Support Service	Maggie Cherry	22, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HW Tel: 0191 332 3810 Email: mcherry@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Durham prison	Telephone helpline support for family members and one-to-one support for first time visitors experiencing distress.
NEPACS: Youth Project Outreach	Savita Sathe	22, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HW Tel: 07964 959959 Email: ssathe@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Durham, Frankland and Low Newton prisons	One-to-one support for young people visiting a parent in prison – during visits and in the community.
NEPACS: Frankland Visitors Centre	Catherine Chesterton	HMP Frankland, Brasside, Durham, DH1 5YD Tel: 0191 376 5200 Email: cchesterton@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Frankland prison	Play areas in centre and prison visits rooms; Youth project; Special father child visits and family days; Integrated Family Support Worker who facilitates family ties with prisoners and offers emotional and practical support to families.
NEPACS: HMP Holme House	Christine Slassor	HMP Holme House Tel: 07960 087618 Email: csllassor@nepacs.co.uk	HMP Holme House	Play areas in prison visits rooms; Special father child visits and family days.
NEPACS: Low Newton Visitors Centre	Ros Murray	33, Finchale Avenue, Brasside, Durham, DH1 5SD 0191 376 4138 Email: rmurray@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Low Newton prison	Play areas in centre and prison visits rooms; Youth project; Special mother child visits and family days.
NEPACS: HMP YOI Low Newton	Laura Dixon	33, Finchale Avenue, Brasside, Durham, DH1 5SD 0191 376 4232 Email: ldixon@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Low Newton prison	Integrated Family Support Worker who facilitates family ties with prisoners and offers emotional and practical support to families.
NEPACS: Acklington Castington Visitors Centre	Liz Thomson	HMP Acklington, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 9XF Tel: 01670 382066 Email: lthomson@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Acklington prison	Play areas in centre and prison visits rooms; Special father child visits and family days.
NEPACS: Caravan project	c/o Kath Simpson	Tel: 0191 375 7278 Email: ksimpson@nepacs.co.uk	North East region	Free caravan holiday project – referrals via Probation Service.
NEPACS: Deerbolt Visitors' Centre	Linda Fenwick	HMYOI Deerbolt, Bowes Road, Barnard Castle DL12 9BG Tel. 01833 633272 Email: lfenwick@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Deerbolt young offenders institution	Play areas in centre and prison visits rooms; Special father child visits and family days; Integrated Family Support Worker who facilitates family ties with prisoners and offers emotional and practical support to families.

Organisation	Contact name	Address and email	Geographical area of work	Projects specific to the children and families of offenders
NEPACS: Durham Visitors Centre	Christine Morris	22, Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HW Tel: 0191 3323676 Email: cmorris@nepacs.co.uk	North East region – based at Durham prison	Play areas in centre and prison visits room; Youth project; Special father child visits and family days.
PROPS	Gail Robson	26 Hawthorn Terrace, Cruddas Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6RJ Tel: 0191 226 3440 Email: gail@newcastleprops.org.uk	Newcastle and North Tyneside	Prison Family Intervention Workers x two posts; Strengthening Families Programme Facilitator; carer and family support to those affected by substance misuse.
Revive Enterprise	Paul Smart	Unit 16D Cowley Road, Blyth Industrial Estate, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 5TF Tel: 01670 368665 Email: paul.revive@eplusmail.com	South East Northumberland and North Tyneside	Helping low income families to properly furnish their homes. Supported Work Placement Opportunities for offenders and their families within Revive's projects.
Shelter's Children's Service Advice Line	Nina Cara-Collins	41 Tamworth Road, Arthurs Hill, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5AJ Tel: 0344 5152247 Email: Childrens_service@shelter.org.uk	North East	Dedicated advice line for professionals working with families who are experiencing housing problems.
Support for Women Around Northumberland (SWAN)	Katie Wheatley	Escape Family Support, Emily Davison House, 93 Bondicar Terrace, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 2JR Tel: 01670 362491 Email: Katie.Wheatley@escapefamilysupport.co.uk	Northumberland	Working alongside women who need help or additional support where there is a vulnerability of potential or persistent offending behaviour. SWAN is a partnership between Escape Family Support, Relate, Fourth Action and Women's Health Advice Centre.
Tees Valley Women's Centre	Kathy Lloyd	Tees Valley Women's Centre, Upper Albion Street, South Bank, Middlesbrough, TS6 6XG Tel: 01642 296166 Email: kathy.lloyd@btconnect.com	Tees Valley	Diverting women from custody project and family support.
WOW	Lisa Boyack	Cyrenians, Central Architectural House, Plummer Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7AB Tel: 0191 273 8891 Email: l.boyack@tcuk.org	Newcastle	Diverting women from custody project (Cyrenians also have the Girls Are Proud project, a sex worker support project).

## The authors

Barefoot Research and Evaluation is a social research organisation based in Newcastle upon Tyne which specialises in work to support vulnerable and at-risk groups.

More information: [www.barefootresearch.org.uk](http://www.barefootresearch.org.uk)



NEPACS is a voluntary sector organisation which has been working in the North East of England to 'Build bridges for prisoners, their families and the community' for 130 years.

More information: [www.nepacs.co.uk](http://www.nepacs.co.uk)

Charity number: 1088051

