



CARE NOT CUSTODY

2018

The Care not Custody Coalition

Providing the right interventions at the right time is vital to improving outcomes for vulnerable individuals within the criminal justice system, and to breaking the cycle of reoffending. I am pleased to see that NHS England's roll out of Liaison and Diversion services is now operating across over 80% of the country. We continue to support this important work, which places clinical staff in police stations and courts to provide assessments and referrals to treatment and support for a range of vulnerable offenders.

Further building on this approach, we are working with the Department of Health and Social Care, Public Health England and NHS England in setting out a clear plan for delivering community sentences with treatment requirements. This sets out how health and justice staff should work to ensure appropriate treatment is in place for community sentences, and in doing so reducing the number of vulnerable people in prison.

Finally, I am also pleased to see that the National Police Chiefs Council strategy promotes simplification of the Out Of Court Disposal framework and an increased use of conditions attached to disposals. This provides an opportunity for early intervention and to see positive outcomes for vulnerable offenders.

Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, the Rt Hon David Gauke MP

Background

The National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) has called consistently for the diversion of people with mental health needs from custody into treatment and care. The WI's *Care not Custody* campaign was inspired by the tragic death by suicide of a young man with schizophrenia in Manchester prison, the son of a WI member. Since then the Prison Reform Trust (PRT) has worked in partnership with the NFWI to effect change.

In March 2011, at a reception hosted by the NFWI and PRT, the Secretaries of State for Health and Justice jointly announced their commitment to developing liaison and diversion services in police custody suites and criminal courts across England. The *Care not Custody* Coalition was convened following this reception and comprises a wide range of allied professional groups and charities. The Coalition represents 38 organisations and professional bodies, and over two million people across the health, social care and justice sectors and wider civic society. Together, we show the breadth of support that there is for the development of effective liaison and diversion arrangements and improved health and justice outcomes for people with mental health conditions, learning disabilities, autism and other needs caught up in the criminal justice system.

The organisations and professional bodies in membership have agreed to work together to support the government in keeping its 'care not custody' promise and to hold ministers to account for effective delivery. The Coalition is well placed to monitor the implementation of liaison and diversion arrangements, offering support for positive steps and raising concerns where they arise.

It's encouraging to note the continued progress of liaison and diversion services. Population coverage is now at around 83%, with 90% expected by March 2019 and full roll out by 2020/21. As services mature, they are better able to provide tailored support for particular groups. For example, work is underway to enhance responses to women and to address their specific needs, with a women's lead appointed in each service.

We are further pleased to note work being undertaken by the Ministry of Justice and Department of Health to encourage greater use of the Community Sentence Treatment Requirement, including the Mental Health Treatment Requirement (MHTR). Despite high numbers of offenders with mental health conditions, the MHTR is rarely used – fewer than 0.1% of all Community Orders made.

This briefing paper draws together some of the many varied activities that members of the *Care not Custody* Coalition are engaged in, and progress made.

Membership of the *Care not Custody* Coalition

Membership of the Coalition continues to grow. As at June 2018, the following organisations have committed to ensuring the government keeps its promise of ‘care not custody’:

Addaction	Mental Health Network of the NHS Confederation
Agenda: alliance for women & girls at risk	Mind
Association of Directors of Adult Social Services	National Appropriate Adult Network
Association of Mental Health Providers	The National Autistic Society
Association of Members of Independent Monitoring Boards	National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi)
The Bar Council	National Federation of Women’s Institutes
British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy	Police Federation of England and Wales
Centre for Mental Health	Police Foundation
Office of the Children’s Commissioner	POPS (Partners of Prisoners and Families Support Group)
Clinks	Prison Governors’ Association
Criminal Bar Association	Prison Officers’ Association
Criminal Justice Alliance	Prison Reform Trust
Howard League for Penal Reform	Rethink Mental Illness
The Inns of Court College of Advocacy	Revolving Doors Agency
Intermediaries for Justice	Royal College of Nursing
KeyRing Living Support Networks	Royal College of Psychiatrists
The Law Society	Together for Mental Wellbeing
Magistrates’ Association	Victim Support
Mencap	Women in Prison

Note: there are hyperlinks to reports and briefing papers embedded throughout this document. For an electronic version, please contact: jenny.talbot@prisonreformtrust.org.uk

Addaction

Addaction delivers services all over the UK – helping adults, young people, and families to make positive changes in their lives. We work with people who misuse drugs and alcohol, and support people with poor mental health. We work in different settings including in schools and prisons, providing support to around 70,000 people each year. Addaction is one of the UK's leading specialist drug, alcohol and mental health treatment charities.

We know that many people find it hard to access the right treatment and support at the time when they need it most. Services can be fragmented and difficult to negotiate, and this is especially so for people leaving prison. Things need to change.

We advocate on these issues at parliamentary committees, conferences and events. We are a founding partner of the Cross-Party Parliamentary Group, 'Drugs, Alcohol and Justice', which is co- chaired by Lord Ramsbotham and Mary Glendon MP.

In the past year, we were pleased that Dame Carol Black's visit to our frontline services influenced her review of benefits for people with substance misuse problems. The proposal of 'a network of peer mentors' to support individuals who misuse drugs and alcohol into employment was particularly encouraging.

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Agenda

Agenda, the alliance for women and girls at risk, campaigns to ensure that women and girls facing abuse, poverty, poor mental health, addiction and homelessness get the support and protection they need.

Our research shows that one in 20 women – around 1.2 million in England – have experienced extensive physical and sexual violence as both a child and an adult. For some, abuse, violence and disadvantage combine meaning they have very complex, overlapping needs.

Too many struggle to get the support they need, and are left to spiral from crisis to crisis, including contact with the criminal justice system, with huge costs to them, their families and society as a whole.

Agenda campaigns for systems and services to be transformed, raises awareness across sectors and promotes public and political understanding of the lives of women and girls facing multiple disadvantage.

We believe that commissioning specialist services for this group of women should be a priority. In particular, our mental health campaign, Women in Mind, calls for women and girls' needs and experiences to be taken into account by mental health services and support given to tackle the underlying issues they face.

Katherine Sacks-Jones, director: katharine@weareagenda.org
www.weareagenda.org

Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) Care & Justice Network

Since the Care Act clarified responsibilities of councils for prisoners who may have social care needs, the ADASS Care & Justice Network has brought together colleagues from councils, alongside colleagues from HM Prison and Probation Service, NHS England and the voluntary sector. Most importantly we have helped councils make rapid progress in their work with custody and healthcare colleagues, and to embed good social care practice that responds to prisoners with eligible social care needs and helps prevent, reduce or delay such needs arising.

In summer 2016 we undertook a stocktake of activity across all councils with prisons or approved premises that demonstrated encouraging progress in implementing the Care Act. Over 1,600 individuals have benefitted from a social care assessment and the provision of either care and support services or advice and information. We are hoping to repeat this exercise for 2016-17. Good social care practice has also meant supporting prison governors to better understand and deliver their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding. We hosted a national seminar to promote the value of peer support, and are working with NHS England to consider the digital content for in cell IT provision.

We are engaged with prison reconfiguration work and have contributed to thinking on both the operational policies of the new model prisons and the design principles for new build prisons. We are also supporting NHS England on developing a “Sexual Abuse Services Strategy” based on the NHS Five Year Forward Plan, and will be working with them as they look to take forward their reviews of prison inpatient healthcare services over the coming months.

We have assisted the Prison Reform Trust in their work on reducing women’s imprisonment and are working with NHS England to support the roll out of national Liaison & Diversion services. As we enter the third year of the Care Act there is still much to do, particularly around engaging with Parole Boards and ensuring timely and effective planning for release.

We are pleased that social care is now recognised as a key element of delivering an effective and humane prison service and look forward to our continued engagement.

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Association of Mental Health Providers

The Association of Mental Health Providers is the leading representative body for voluntary and community sector mental health organisations in England and Wales, representing the full spectrum and diversity of third sector service providers, with a significant reach of over 5 million people affected by a mental health condition. The work our members do; locally, regionally and nationally, is invaluable and being part of The Association provides them with an opportunity to be seen and heard on an equal platform, and to contribute to a collective voice. We recognise that everyone can be affected by mental ill-health and we believe it is essential that the mental health voluntary and community sector works together for a whole-system approach to improve health and care in England and Wales.

The Association supports the development of effective liaison and diversion arrangements across the country for people with mental health conditions caught up in the criminal justice system and believes in the role of the voluntary and community sector as leaders in diverting people into the support services they need. Through our work with our membership and our wider partners, we have demonstrated the value of the voluntary sector through the collation of evidence and case studies on effective person-centred services, which support people with mental health needs within the criminal justice system

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The Bar Council

The Bar Council represents over 16,000 barristers in England and Wales. It promotes the Bar's high quality specialist advocacy and advisory services; fair access to justice for all; the highest standards of ethics, equality and diversity across the profession; and the development of business opportunities for barristers at home and abroad.

A strong and independent Bar exists to serve the public and is crucial to the administration of justice. As specialist, independent advocates, barristers enable people to uphold their legal rights and duties, often acting on behalf of the most vulnerable members of society.

The Bar Council provides advice to members of the Bar matters relating to professional practice and ethics, including on what steps to take in the best interests of a client who lacks capacity, owing to mental health or substance misuse issues.

The Bar Council is currently working with the Law Society, The Crown Prosecution Service, the Circuits and the Inns of Court to roll out specialist training for advocates on working with vulnerable witnesses, including adults with learning disabilities. It has given an undertaking to the Ministry of Justice that all criminal barristers wishing to undertake publicly-funded defence work in serious sexual offences cases will be trained by the end of 2018.

In 2017, the Bar Council published an independent research report by Dr Anna Lindley of SOAS, University of London on access to justice for people in immigration detention.

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British Association for Counselling and Psychotherapy

The British Association for Counselling & Psychotherapy (BACP) and Criminal Justice: in 2013 BACP published a briefing paper on women in the criminal justice system, which presented several recommendations for action in this area, including engaging with Government, undertaking work to assess the reasons why women enter the criminal justice system, analysing community-based alternatives to custody and identifying examples of best practice, and educating healthcare professional about women's mental health issues and how to work with them, amongst others.

BACP has responded to several consultations based around prisons and mental health, including two House of Commons Justice Select Committee inquiries on prison reform, and an Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody information gathering exercise on ensuring the safer care and custody of women. Within these consultations we made several recommendations for government and policy influencers, including calling for mental health awareness training to be made compulsory for all prison staff and for such training to be reviewed regularly, for greater emphasis to be placed on understanding mental health issues during the application process for prison staff, that the level of provision for psychological therapies is increased, and that prison staff should have access to counselling or other talking therapies to maintain good emotional wellbeing in the workplace.

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Centre for Mental Health

Centre for Mental Health is an independent charity that drives change in policy and practice. The Centre identifies the biggest inequalities and gaps in services, it seeks solutions, and it makes the case for change nationwide.

The Centre has focused much of its work on mental health in and around the criminal justice system. We conducted an inquiry with the Howard League for Penal Reform on how to prevent prison suicides. The inquiry sought evidence from prisoners, staff and a range of experts on how to prevent loss of life through suicide among prisoners. It identified significant changes to prison culture and practice that are necessary to reduce risk and support wellbeing for both prisoners and staff.

The Centre has supported the creation and development of liaison and diversion services since 2008. We created and piloted the Youth Justice Liaison and Diversion model for children and young people and subsequently supported NHS England's programme to expand these services nationwide. We currently coordinate a London-wide network of liaison and diversion services.

The Centre is working with community organisations to identify ways of supporting the wellbeing of young people involved in gangs and violence. We have been evaluating local projects working in partnership with young people and published a summary of the findings.

The Centre has also reviewed mental health needs in Immigration Removal Centres in England.

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Clinks: supporting the voluntary sector working in the criminal justice system

Clinks is the national infrastructure organisation for the voluntary sector working with people in the criminal justice system and their families, in England and Wales. We support, represent and advocate for the sector, enabling them to provide the best possible opportunities for individuals and their families.

Clinks is a member of the VCSE Health and Wellbeing Alliance, a partnership between the voluntary sector and the Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England. The Health and Wellbeing Alliance aims to bring the voice of the sector and people with lived experience into national

policy making, to promote equality and reduce health inequalities. Clinks works to raise awareness of the health needs of people in the criminal justice system, and the vital role the voluntary sector can play in addressing them.

Voluntary sector organisations are key to developing and delivering effective liaison and diversion services. As well as delivering frontline services, they can support people to access and engage with health providers, provide holistic support to address the full range of their needs, accompany people to appointments, or assist them to understand and manage their health needs. The sector also plays a leading role in involving people with lived experience in the design and delivery of services.

Clinks manages a number of specialist networks including the National Criminal Justice Arts Alliance and a network of specialist women's services, following our merger with Women's Breakout in 2017.

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Criminal Justice Alliance

The Criminal Justice Alliance is a coalition of 120 organisations committed to improving the criminal justice system. In 2016 we produced a report, Structured Mayhem, looking at the experiences of victims and defendants in the Crown Court. We recommended that courts do more to identify any communication or learning issue defendants may have so that they are taken into consideration when ensuring they understand the process and are able to actively participate in it.

In our responses to government consultations and legislative briefings for parliamentarians we consistently advocate for a reduction the number of individuals entering the criminal justice system who could otherwise be appropriately diverted outside of it. In particular, we promote continuing to devolve powers locally in order to encourage those responsible to divert as many people as possible away from the criminal justice system.

We highlight the need to ensure that any policy changes do not negatively impact upon defendants with mental health issues or learning difficulties. A recent example is our recommendation to improve and strengthen the safeguards for those with learning difficulties around the proposed online guilty plea process.

<http://criminaljusticealliance.org/>

The Howard League for Penal Reform

For 150 years the Howard League for Penal Reform has developed ideas and campaigned to keep people out of the criminal justice system and to improve their treatment once inside. Our focus is often on people with particular needs who are made more vulnerable by their experience and by the response of authorities. The charity runs the only confidential legal advice line for children and young adults in custody and a great many of the calls for help come directly from young people with mental health needs who are being badly treated in penal custody. The Howard League challenges the use of solitary confinement, physical restraint and punishments on individuals in

custody for whom it is inappropriate. The Howard League has worked in partnership with police forces across the country to reduce child arrests by over two thirds in seven years, thus helping to divert young people with mental health needs away from police custody and the penal system. We develop policy and promote initiatives across the country that improve lives, reduce crime and strengthen communities. The charity firmly supports the aims of the *Care not Custody* Coalition.

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Intermediaries for Justice

Intermediaries for Justice (IFJ) is a charity, which aims to promote public awareness about the work of intermediaries, who are communication specialists working in the Justice Systems of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It also functions as the professional body for intermediaries and runs conferences and trainings to support CPD. IFJ is committed to fair access to justice viewing this as a basic human right.

The primary role of intermediaries is to assist communication between children or vulnerable adults and those professionals involved at the investigation and trial stages of a case. They advise police officers, lawyers, judges and magistrates, Witness Service personnel and others. Some intermediaries also assist in Family Courts.

The primary purpose of IFJ is to increase awareness and understanding of intermediary work; to promote its use with vulnerable victims, witnesses, suspects and defendants in giving complete, coherent and accurate evidence to police and at court; to foster a shared intermediary identity and to provide a link between intermediaries across England, Wales, Northern Ireland and further afield.

Intermediaries are all experienced professionals such as Speech and Language Therapists, Psychologists, Teachers, Social Workers and Mental Health Specialists. They are selected for their specific expertise in human communication and their skill in assessing and supporting this.

Over the last four years IFJ has held conferences and seminars on a wide range of topics such as: working with defendants, and dealing with trauma and abuse. We are pleased to work with the *Care not Custody* Coalition and feel strongly about the need for equality of arms for both witnesses and defendants. We look forward to our continued involvement.

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KeyRing Living Support Networks

KeyRing was established over 25 years ago and works across England and Wales. We support people with a range of needs to live independently in their own homes and be part of their local community. In our traditional networks a group of people live close to each other in their own homes and receive flexible support from a volunteer who also lives locally. We now have several different models, including community hubs and networks with additional support hours, but we remain true to our values of community, mutual support and volunteering.

KeyRing has delivered learning disability and autism awareness training to people who work across the criminal justice system for several years. Our training is always delivered by an experienced trainer and co-trainer with a learning disability and/or autism, and experience of the criminal justice system. We also run the well-established Working for Justice group in collaboration with the Prison Reform Trust. Members of the Working for Justice group have learning disabilities and/or autism and experience of the criminal justice system as suspects, defendants and offenders, including being in prison. Since the inception of the group, in 2006, it has worked to improve outcomes for people with learning disabilities and/or autism in the criminal justice system by influencing both policy and practice.

KeyRing is a member of the advisory group for *Transforming Lives*, PRT's programme to reduce women's imprisonment, and has undertaken work to explore the experiences of women with learning disabilities in, and on the edges of, the criminal justice system.

KeyRing is commissioned to carry out work on learning disabilities for NHS England, Health and Justice.

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<http://www.keyring.org/> (KeyRing and the criminal justice system: <http://www.keyring.org/cjs>)

The Law Society

The Law Society of England and Wales is the representative body for over 170,000 solicitors in England and Wales. It negotiates on behalf of the profession, and lobbies regulators, government and others.

The Law Society's Criminal Law Committee has arranged several continuing professional development (CPD) events for solicitors focusing on people with learning disabilities and mental ill health in the criminal justice system, one of which was made available as a webinar. These events have been organised with Rethink Mental Illness and the Prison Reform Trust, with a contribution on liaison and diversion services by NHS England.

In 2015, the then President of the Law Society hosted a dinner to discuss vulnerable adults in the criminal justice system. The discussion generated a number of ideas including further joint training events, support for vulnerable adults and liaison and diversion services in the 2015 Law Society election manifesto, and ensuring individuals on the autistic spectrum are routinely considered in discussions about vulnerable adults.

We have worked with other members of the *Care not Custody* Coalition including, for example, the National Appropriate Adult Network on the provision of legal advice for children and vulnerable adults when such advice is considered by the Appropriate Adult to be in their best interest. We are currently making available nationwide training for criminal law solicitor advocates on the appropriate questioning and cross-examination of vulnerable witnesses.

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Magistrates' Association

The Magistrates' Association (MA) has established a network of mental health and learning disabilities champions, who act as a point of contact between relevant agencies in their local area and local magistrates.

With the support of Concern for Mental Health, the Prison Reform Trust provided hard copies of the updated resource 'Mental Health, Autism & Learning Disabilities in the Criminal Courts: Information for magistrates, district judges and court staff' for all MA champions and branches. We have received very positive feedback on the usefulness of the resource.

The MA continues to support the rolling out of liaison and diversion services across England. We conducted research in 2015 which indicated its positive impact via magistrates receiving necessary information to ensure a fair process and appropriate sentencing.

The MA is working with the Ministry of Justice, Department of Health and other stakeholders to support the increased availability of Treatment Requirements; it is vitally important that these sentencing options are available to sentencers throughout England and Wales for appropriate offenders.

The MA has raised concerns about proposals within the Transforming Justice agenda. Firstly we object to the principle of an automated conviction process: removing any independent and impartial judicial decision maker could result in disproportionate outcomes, especially for people with vulnerabilities which may affect their capacity to understand the online process. Secondly, we are concerned about the impact on vulnerable people of extending the use of video or audio link; again this could cause disproportionate problems for those with communication difficulties.

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Mental Health Network of the NHS Confederation

The Mental Health Network is the voice for NHS funded mental health and learning disability service providers in England. It represents NHS providers from across the statutory, independent and third sectors. The Network works with government, regulators, opinion formers, media and the wider NHS to promote excellence in mental health services, and the importance of good mental health. It helps to shape and challenge national policy and legislation and spread good practice and innovation in the mental health sector.

The Network's Chief Executive, Sean Duggan, maintains an interest in, and continues to lobby on, the issue of offender mental health. He speaks at, and chairs, events on this subject regularly.

Sean, a trained mental health nurse, has expertise in forensic psychology and criminal justice. He joined the Network following ten years at the Centre for Mental Health where he was Director of Criminal Justice before becoming their Chief Executive. Prior to this he was Director of Health and Social Care for Criminal Justice at the London Development Centre, and offender health consultant for the Department of Health.

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Mind

Mind's involvement in criminal justice work includes:

The Crisis Care Concordat has been bringing together different agencies – including health, social care, ambulance and police - both locally and nationally to ensure that people in a mental health crisis can get the support they need, when they need it. In many areas the police have been the driving force behind the Concordat as they are often the organisation picking up the pieces when people do not get a timely and appropriate response from the healthcare system.

One of the key outcomes from the Concordat was a reduction in the use of police cells as a place of safety. Data from September 2016 suggests that the number of times police cells in England and Wales were used as a place of safety under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act 1983 fell from 4,537 in 2014/15 to 2,100 in 2015/16; a 54% reduction.

Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM): Mind is part of the MEAM coalition with Homeless Link and Clinks, which looks at how to join up support around people with multiple needs and multiple exclusions. People facing multiple needs and exclusions are in every community in Britain. We estimate that there are approximately 60,000 adults in this situation at any one time in England, with more people constantly moving in and out of the group. While relatively small in number, this group imposes disproportionate costs on government and society.

The MEAM Approach is a non-prescriptive framework for local areas, which helps them to design a co-ordinated, flexible approach to working with people experiencing multiple needs.

Blue Light Programme: Mind is delivering the Blue Light Programme to provide mental health support for emergency services staff and volunteers from police, search and rescue, fire and ambulance services across England. Through their involvement in this programme, thousands of staff and volunteers across these services have actively challenged mental health stigma, learnt more about mental health and made positive changes in their approach to wellbeing.

The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health sets out the key recommendations for health and justice in relation to mental health:

- The Ministry of Justice, Home Office, Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England should work together to support those in the criminal justice system experiencing mental health problems by expanding liaison and diversion schemes, and increasing support for Blue Light services and prisoners with mental health, drug and/or alcohol problems.
- By 2020/21, NHS commissioning will be underpinned by a robust understanding of the mental health needs of the local population, bringing together local partners across health, social care, housing, education, criminal justice and other agencies, with a clear recognition of the mental health needs of people treated for physical ailments and vice versa, and with greater integration across agencies to build stronger, more resilient communities.
- The Ministry of Justice, Home Office, Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England should develop a complete health and justice pathway to deliver integrated health and justice interventions in the least restrictive setting, appropriate to the crime which has

been committed. This should build on the national roll out of Liaison and Diversion schemes across England by 2020/21 and the increased uptake of Mental Health Treatment Requirements.

The right workforce with the right skills is the single most important component of good care. All frontline staff, including those in the criminal justice system, should have basic skills to provide mental health care.

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National Appropriate Adult Network

The National Appropriate Adult Network (NAAN) is the national body providing support for local 'appropriate adult' (AA) commissioning and provision. It is a charity and membership organisation consisting of over 100 organisations.

Under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 and Codes of Practice, an AA is mandatory in relation to the detention or voluntarily interview of a vulnerable suspect. This includes anyone aged below 18 or whom police suspect may be mentally vulnerable (e.g. mental illness, learning disability, brain injury or autistic spectrum condition).

Local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure provision for children but not for vulnerable adults. As Home Secretary, the Rt Hon Theresa May commissioned NAAN to research the issue of AA provision for adults. The subsequent report, There to Help (2015) found that:

- Academic research indicates 11%-22% of adult suspects in police custody meet the vulnerability criteria but only 3% are recorded as needing an AA
- Only 50% of local authority areas have an identifiable scheme for vulnerable adults
- Police spend significant amounts of time searching for someone to fulfil the role and are often forced to bail the suspect, secure an inappropriate person or breach PACE.
- Police are five times more likely to record the need for an AA if they have access to organised schemes
- Demand for AAs is likely to increase due to investments in liaison and diversion; supply is likely to decrease due to financial pressures on adult social care

In response, Theresa May said, "The status quo is not acceptable...We are currently examining the recommendations and implementation options to ensure that vulnerable people are provided with the support they are entitled to." NAAN is a key contributor to the resultant Home Office working group and remains keen to see practical progress as soon as possible.

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The National Autistic Society

The National Autistic Society (NAS) is the UK's leading autism charity. We provide information, support and pioneering services. We campaign for a better world for autistic people.

The NAS champions the rights and interests of all autistic people and aims to provide them and their families with help, support and services they can trust, rely upon and which make a positive difference to their lives. We provide a variety of services including:

- information, advice, advocacy, training and support for individuals and their families
- specialist residential, supported living, outreach and day services for adults
- specialist schools and education outreach services for children out-of-school services for children and young people
- employment training and support and social programmes for adults with autism.

To be as effective and as credible as possible in the work we do, we believe that participation is absolutely crucial. We are an organisation which is shaped directly by the needs, wishes and aspirations of autistic people and their families.

In relation to those who encounter the justice system, we strive to improve their experience and outcomes by raising awareness of autism and the reasonable adjustments that may be required. We also provide training, advice and resources for those working within the system and have developed specific Autism Accreditation standards. We successfully delivered a Ministry of Justice funded project raising awareness of autism within prisons, and we hold an annual conference: Care and Treatment of Offenders with Intellectual and Developmental Disability.

We distribute a free monthly newsletter on autism and intellectual disability in the justice system to over 800 members and have a criminal justice group on our professional forum, Network Autism.

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National Development Team for Inclusion

The National Development Team for Inclusion (NDTi) is a not for profit UK-wide organisation concerned with promoting inclusion and equality for people who are at risk of exclusion and who need support to lead a full life. We have a particular interest in issues around age and disability and have expertise across all the main population or 'client' groups. In undertaking this work, we particularly aim to:

- Shape and influence policy and public debate
- Enable a stronger voice of people to be heard
- Support services to work differently so that they promote inclusive lives
- Support communities to be welcoming and inclusive.

Our work consists of 5 main activities:

- Supporting organisations/partnerships at national, regional and local level to develop and implement policy
- Supporting organisations/systems to understand complex situations and implement change
- Designing and undertaking research and evaluation activities with a focus on programmes that inform, evidence or support change
- Delivering training and personal development programmes that enhance knowledge and practice, and develop effective leaders for change
- Disseminating findings and best practice through articles and events, and through the development of practical resources and tools.

We have a particularly strong track record of work to improve the lives of people with learning disabilities and their families, including people who have come into contact with the criminal justice system.

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National Federation of Women's Institutes

The National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) is the UK's largest voluntary organisation for women with almost 220,000 members across 6,300 Women's Institutes (WIs) in England, Wales and the islands.

2018 marks the ten year anniversary of the NFWI's work on the *Care not Custody* campaign. At our annual general meeting in 2008, members passed a resolution calling for an end to the inappropriate detention of people who are mentally ill in the criminal justice system.

In the ten years since the resolution was passed, WI members have been committed to raising awareness of the scale of the problem and making the case for change at local and national level. WIs have been involved in a range of activities from lobbying their MPs for better and more consistent provision of diversion and funding for women's centres as an alternative to prison, to calling for the resources for the recommendations set out in the Bradley Report (2009) to be delivered, and visiting prisons and women's centres. Members have documented their experiences and seen at first-hand what life is like in the criminal justice system for people with mental health problems.

A number of WI members became more directly involved by training as volunteer mentors at a Women's Centre with vulnerable women who are at risk of falling into the criminal justice system. Five WIs have opened in prisons.

On a national level, we have met with health and justice ministers and, working with our campaign partner, the Prison Reform Trust, we have hosted a series of platform events to make the case for adequate funding and provision of liaison and diversion schemes, and a higher level of co-operation between the health and justice sectors.

Building on the commitment shown to improving the lives of people who are mentally ill in the criminal justice system, delegates at the NFWI Annual Meeting in Cardiff on 6th June 2018 voted to pass a resolution aimed at breaking down the stigma associated with mental health. The resolution calls on WI members “to recognise the importance of parity between mental health and physical health, and take action to make it as acceptable to talk about mental health issues as much as physical health issues, and to lobby for government for better support for mental illness.”

With research suggesting that nearly two-thirds of people in Britain have had a mental health problem and that most (9 out of 10) will have faced stigma and discrimination, this campaign has the potential to see WI members make a real difference to attitudes and behaviour across the country.

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Police Foundation

The Police Foundation is an independent think tank working to improve policing for the benefit of the public. Our work is wide-ranging; we pose challenging questions and promote debate through events such as our annual lecture and conference, which attract high profile speakers, and more focused discussion forums such as our Oxford Policing Policy Forum. Through our inquiries and research, such as our Police Effectiveness in a Changing World project, we also aim to improve practice in policing and crime reduction and we disseminate our findings and insight through a range of publications.

Policing has never changed as fast and as much as it is today. As the government pushes through a major police reform programme, the police find themselves striving to deal with both local issues - including mental health and homelessness - and the new threats posed by terrorism and transnational organised crime. All of this makes the existence of an independent body that uses high-quality evidence to deliver an impartial perspective on contemporary policing issues more important than ever.

The Police Foundation strongly supports the work of the *Care not Custody* Coalition and in particular advocates the need for the police as gatekeepers to the wider criminal justice system to take a new approach to dealing with vulnerable individuals.

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POPS

POPS (Partners of Prisoners & Families Support Group) is a needs led organisation, founded by family members experiencing the stigma and distress of supporting a relative through a custodial sentence. Since that time, POPS' remit has broadened to provide support services for offenders' families, offenders and their children at all stages of the Criminal Justice System. We work in different settings including prisons, courts, women's centres and in the community providing support to around 200,000 people each year.

The impact of family member imprisonment can be wide-ranging affecting housing arrangements, personal finances, inter-family relationships, access to education and employment, community cohesion, emotional wellbeing, physical and mental health. The impact of parental imprisonment in particular on children's mental wellbeing and resilience was the subject of the 2016 COPING study to which POPS was a key contributor.

As well as providing support services directly to families we seek to reach into communities, through our training offer, to address negative stereotyping of prisoners' families and create awareness about the impact of imprisonment on families and the wider community.

In 2018 POPS began to build a model of working with prisons to ensure families become an integrated part of the safeguarding process with the aim of reducing incidents of self-harm in prisons. POPS advocates for prisoner written consent to be requested at the earliest possible gateway into the criminal justice system in order that any ongoing or future healthcare issue can be appropriately shared and discussed with families.

2018 will see POPS host the 'Keeping Children connected' conference at which we will address the role of the media in perpetuating stereotypes and look at ways in which the public dialogue concerning prisoners' families might change for the better.

Diane Curry OBE, chief executive: dianec@partnersofprisoners.co.uk
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Prison Officers Association

The Prison Officers Association (POA) recognise the immense pressure that is placed upon prison officers in both the public and private sector, as well as tax payers, offenders and their families due to current sentencing guidelines.

The overcrowding situation and the reluctance to guide offenders with mental health issues, addiction issues, and repeat minor offenders into the correct setting leads to reoffending, violence and a lack of rehabilitation.

The POA wish to see these offenders afforded the correct level of care, resettlement and educational opportunities to realise their potential.

We would like our members to be given extensive and professional training to cope with the ever-increasing numbers of offenders with mental health conditions so we may cater for their needs. We recognise that a prison environment is not conducive to their reintegration into society and wish to see this change.

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Prison Reform Trust

Since 2009, PRT has been pleased to work with the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) on *Care not Custody*. We were instrumental in establishing the *Care not Custody* Coalition in 2011 and, together with the NFWI, continue in our efforts to support the government in keeping its 'care not custody' promise and in holding ministers to account for effective delivery of liaison and diversion services.

Our *Care not Custody* work is chaired by Lord Bradley, PRT trustee, and we routinely work with Coalition members on areas of shared interest. Over the last 12 months, for example, we have worked with the Magistrates' Association to update and disseminate our information resource, 'Mental health, autism, and learning disabilities in the criminal courts'; with KeyRing Living Support Networks in our support of the Working for Justice Group and, as part of PRT's programme to reduce women's imprisonment (Transforming Lives), a new project to better understand and report on the experiences of women with learning disabilities in contact with, or on the edges of, the criminal justice system; with the Inns of Court College of Advocacy on The Advocates Gateway, and an international conference on access to justice for vulnerable persons; with Together for Mental Wellbeing to develop and pilot awareness training for front line justice practitioners and members of the judiciary on the particular needs of women in the justice system; and with the Centre for Mental Health and Together for Mental Wellbeing on two responses to the independent review of the Mental Health Act, chaired by Sir Simon Wessely.

In May 2017 we worked with Leeds University, The National Autistic Society and NHS Improvement to convene a seminar that explored improved outcomes for people with learning disabilities and/or autism who sexually offend. The subsequent report, *Behaviour that Challenges*, was published in April 2018.

The launch of PRT's prisoner engagement project, the Prisoner Policy Network, in July 2018 will enable prisoners from across the prison estate to contribute to the development of policy decisions of direct relevance to them. The Network will be flexible in the way it collects evidence to ensure prisoners with mental health conditions, learning disability and/or autism, or other needs can contribute to the work, and that their voices are heard.

PRT is routinely in contact with parliamentarians, ministers, senior officials and third sector stakeholders in our efforts to drive forward the *Care not Custody* agenda. We regularly produce written briefings for parliamentarians and respond to government and other consultations. We are pleased to have helped secure cross-party support for liaison and diversion services.

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Revolving Doors Agency

Established in 1993, Revolving Doors Agency works to break the cycle of personal crisis and crime we call the Revolving Door. We do this by influencing policy, creating and sharing research and proposing new solutions. We are leaders in involvement and our experts by experience are part of our team at every level.

People in repeat contact with the criminal justice system often experience multiple problems such as mental ill health, drug and alcohol misuse, domestic violence and abuse and homelessness. These issues can reinforce each other, and people easily end up in a downward spiral. Our vision is that by 2025 there is an end to the revolving door of crisis and crime, when anyone facing multiple problems and poor mental health is supported to reach their potential, with fewer victims and safer communities as a result.

Revolving Doors Agency's work in three areas: policy; research and evaluations; and lived experience – the vital thread that connects each area of work. We work with strategic partners at national and local level to ensure that service design, commissioning and delivery is informed by the experiences of those who have used, or may need to use, the services in question. We co-chair the Bradley Report Group, a cross-sector group aiming to embed the principles set out in the 2009 Bradley Report across systems and services. Our Lived Experience Team advise the national Liaison and Diversion Programme and are also members of its governance group. The team are currently working to embed peer support into Liaison and Diversion across the country.

Our report, Rebalancing Act, published with the Home Office and Public Health England, explores the health inequalities faced by people in contact with the criminal justice and is a call to action for local leaders.

Our current campaign, Shortsighted, aims to reduce the use of ineffective short prison sentences. We are calling on the Government to introduce a presumption against the use of short custodial sentences of less than six months in favour of a smarter approach, backed by the public and politicians across the political spectrum.

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Royal College of Nursing

The Royal College of Nursing (RCN) pledges its ongoing commitment to the PRT/ NFWI *Care not Custody* Coalition.

During 2016 the RCN Nursing in Criminal Justice Services Forum merged with the RCN Forensic Nursing Forum and now, as 'Justice & Forensic Nursing', represents over 3,900 of our members who work in police custody care, prison and other places of detention. The forum has produced guidance to support staff in the delivery of safe and effective care and contributed to NHS England guidance on resuscitation in prison settings.

In 2016, RCN Scotland produced a report on the five years since transition of prisoner healthcare from the Scottish Prison Service to the wider NHS. The report highlights some important future challenges and planned work during 2017 and beyond.

Ann Norman, RCN professional lead, retains membership of the NHS England Health & Justice Clinical Reference Group and provides nursing leadership on a range of professional and clinical issues including: end of life care, deaths in custody, and workforce issues.

The RCN are represented at the European Public Services Union Prison Network Group (EPSU) who meet regularly.

Ann Norman, RCN professional lead: Justice & Forensic nursing and Learning Disability nursing:
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Royal College of Psychiatrists

Many people in contact with the criminal justice system – from arrestees to sentenced prisoners - have an untreated/insufficiently treated mental disorder. Specialist forensic mental health services deliver good services to more serious offenders, although a large group with personality disorder are squeezed out by competition for these scarce, expensive resources. In principle, treatment in prison is acceptable whenever the individual has been given a prison sentence and would otherwise have received treatment in the community, but currently such treatment is almost impossible because of low prison officer to prisoner ratios, denying prisoners' access to mental health professionals.

Solutions to the current unmet need crisis include reducing prisoner numbers and increasing prison officer numbers and skills. The Royal College of Psychiatrists recommends both. There are under-used community criminal justice provisions for offenders with mental disorders – attaching a Mental Health Treatment Requirement (MHTR) to community or suspended prison sentences; use is falling. General adult psychiatry services would undertake most such work, but are overstretched. Without adequate resourcing, there is a risk of setting offender-patients up to fail and, as a result, more, not less, people in prison. It is important for the government's health and justice departments to work together on solutions.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has several systems for improving provision in this area, including College Centre for Quality Improvement networks – e.g. the growing prison mental health service network, and the Enabling Environment Award, which identifies and rewards multiagency approaches which foster health and wellbeing across the criminal justice system.

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Together for Mental Wellbeing

Together for Mental Wellbeing is a national charity working alongside people to improve mental health and wellbeing. In everything we do we are inspired and guided by the hopes and wishes of the people we support.

Through offering a wide variety of support, we help people deal with the personal practical impacts of mental distress. Our services range from one-to-one support in the community to supported accommodation. We work with nearly 5,000 adults every month.

The work of our Criminal Justice Directorate recognises the need to provide help and support to vulnerable people who find themselves caught up in the justice system. For over 25 years, we have been working within courts, police and probation to identify, assess and divert people into appropriate care and treatment. Working as part of NHS England's national liaison and diversion programme, we led two of the largest trial sites in the country in partnership with five NHS Trusts. In addition, our work in probation focuses on intervening with people deemed as high risk who experience mental distress and multiple disadvantage. More recently we have been developing our Pathways models to include services that provide targeted, prevention support to young adults in the criminal justice system and people at risk of using emergency services at times of mental health crisis. All of our services have developed practices that address the needs of specific service user groups, including women and people from BAME communities, as well as support to frontline criminal justice staff as they come into contact with vulnerable people through training and the publication of our common-sense guides.

In 2017, in collaboration with PRT's programme to reduce women's imprisonment, *Transforming Lives*, we developed and ran women specific awareness training for front line criminal justice professionals and practitioners, and members of the judiciary. Feedback from delegates was positive, and we plan to further develop and build on this work during 2018/19.

Together for Mental Wellbeing is a founding member of the Bradley Group, which brings together organisations to support and encourage implementation of the Bradley Report (2009).

Linda Bryant, chief executive: linda-bryant@together-uk.org
www.together-uk.org

Victim Support

Victim Support provides specialist practical help and emotional support to victims as they rebuild their lives after crime.

Our specially-trained staff and volunteers offer tailored support across all crime types, working in partnership with central and local government, Police and Crime Commissioners, the police and other third sector organisations.

We are an independent charity, and will provide support whether or not the incident has been reported to the police, and regardless of when it took place.

We advocate on behalf of victims to ensure their rights are met – two of our recent reports raised the voices of victims of terrorism and survivors of domestic abuse to address issues and put forward recommendations for improvements in the criminal justice system.

Victims tell us they want to ensure others are spared the experiences they have had, so we believe it is important to do all we can to prevent crimes occurring. To this end, we work with schools, deliver victim awareness courses to offenders, and run restorative justice services to change minds and lives.

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Women in Prison

Women in Prison (WIP) is a women-only organisation that provides holistic gender-specialist support to women affected by the criminal justice system. We work in prisons, in the community and 'through the gate', supporting women leaving prison. We run three women's centres (Manchester, Woking and Lambeth), which incorporate diversion schemes for women involved in the criminal justice system as well as support for those serving community sentences or leaving prison. Our combined national services provide women with support around advocacy, complex needs, domestic and sexual violence, education, training and employment, mental health, parenting and substance misuse. We run a number of specialist health projects: a complex needs project providing in-depth support in the community to women with personality disorders; a mental health 'through the gate' project providing holistic support to women in prison, while working alongside the prison mental health in-reach team; and a health project with a focus on physical health, delivered in the community and two in southern prisons ('Health Matters' funded by the Big Lottery).

We advocate for a significant reduction in custodial sentencing in favour of strengthened community support services for women to prevent them entering the criminal justice system in the first place, and to support them in serving sentences in the community when this is necessary. Our aim is to see community support through the women's centre model working alongside national mainstream support services in the community (to bring an end to the current 'postcode lottery' of women's services). We would like to see community support help prevent women from entering the criminal justice system in the first place, in the way that mainstream 'liaison and diversion' schemes aim to do.

For women who are already in contact with the criminal justice system, we advocate for diversion away from custody and into community support, where necessary supporting community sentences as an alternative to custody. Our current focus is on the ambition to see the current women's prison population reduced from almost 4,000 to 2,020 by 2020.

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<http://www.womeninprison.org.uk/>

My son did not cope well in prison. Care for the mentally ill should be therapeutic and in surroundings conducive to peace and recovery – not the barred, noisy, stressful and gardenless prison. Those of you who have visited prisons will be aware of how unpleasant and entirely unsuitable a place they are for the mentally ill. My son was not a criminal; he was in prison because there was no alternative place of safety.

Norfolk Federation WI member talking about the death of her son in prison, which inspired the *Care not Custody* campaign.

For further information about the *Care not Custody* Coalition contact:

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- Jenny Talbot, director, *Care not Custody* programme: jenny.talbot@prisonreformtrust.org.uk

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