

Briefing of recommendations arising from the conference  
**Securing Safety: Supporting Women in Prison  
who have Experienced Violence and Abuse**



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## Foreword

I am delighted to publish this briefing, which highlights recommendations from the conference *Securing Safety: Supporting Women in Prison who have Experienced Violence and Abuse*.

This is the first time a conference has been held in London covering this issue.

The conference was held in November 2006 to highlight the particular needs of women offenders who are also victims of domestic violence. The conference heard that for most women who offend, prison is an expensive intervention that does not work: it is ineffective, inappropriate, harmful and expensive.

Women prisoners are among the most vulnerable in our society. The links between experiences of victimisation and women's offending must be recognised. Domestic violence affects over 50 per cent of the female prison population. Domestic violence impacts on women's mental health, and can lead to problematic drug or alcohol use, issues that are particularly acute for women prisoners.

Responses to women's offending should address their needs for safety and support, not just punishment.

The top priority for change is the further development, and wider use, of alternatives to prison for women who are not a risk to the community. Women's centres that provide support to address contributing factors, coupled with supervising community punishments, are both more humane and more effective.

This conference takes forward the Mayor's strategy to address domestic violence. This briefing focuses on some of the most disadvantaged – and forgotten – domestic violence survivors and work is continuing to ensure the recommendations are implemented.



**Anni Marjoram**

Mayor's Policy Advisor on Women's Issues

## Women in prison: the facts

### Domestic Violence

- Twenty five per cent of women experience domestic violence in their lifetime<sup>1</sup>, compared to over 50 per cent of the female prison population<sup>2</sup> – although due to inconsistent screening and under reporting the true figure is likely to be a lot higher<sup>3</sup>
- Victims of domestic violence experience higher rates of mental illness – a Department of Health meta-analysis found an average rate of post-traumatic stress disorder of 64 per cent, a rate of depression of 48 per cent and a suicide rate of 18 per cent<sup>4</sup>.

### Women Offenders

- There are currently around 4,400 women in prison<sup>5</sup>
- 12,275 women were received into prison in 2005<sup>6</sup>
- The women's prison population increased by 173 per cent in the decade to 2004 – compared to a 50 per cent increase in the male prison population – despite their levels of crime remaining fairly level<sup>7</sup>
- Approximately one third of women in prison have no previous convictions
- The number of women remanded to prison more than doubled in the decade 1995-2005<sup>8</sup>. In 2002, almost two-thirds of the women who entered prison were held on remand; under half of them received a prison sentence, while one in five was acquitted altogether<sup>9</sup>
- Over 70 per cent of women in prison have never experienced custody before<sup>10</sup>
- In 2004 63 per cent were sentenced to custody for six months or less<sup>11</sup>
- Only 16 per cent have committed violent offences – most are sentenced to custody for theft or handling of stolen goods<sup>12</sup>
- Sixty three per cent of women released from prison in 2003 were reconvicted within two years of release<sup>13</sup>
- Around 18 per cent of women prisoners are from black and ethnic minorities<sup>14</sup>
- Foreign national women represent 20 per cent of the women in prison; half of this group have been convicted of drug offences and the majority of these women are single parents and first-time offenders<sup>15</sup>.

### Families and Homes

- More than 60 per cent of women prisoners are mothers and 45 per cent had children living with them at the time of imprisonment<sup>16</sup>
- From April 2005 to March 2007, 204 women gave birth while serving prison sentences<sup>17</sup>
- Each year it is estimated that more than 17,700 children are separated from their mother by her imprisonment<sup>18</sup>
- At the end of September 2006 the average distance female prisoners were held from their home was 58 miles<sup>19</sup>
- Women are more likely than men to have nowhere to go on release<sup>20</sup>
- Nearly one third of women in prison who have owned or rented housing before they go into custody lose their homes as a result of being imprisoned<sup>21</sup>.

### Mental Health

- Seventy per cent of women in prison suffer from two or more mental health problems<sup>22</sup>
- Around 60 per cent have experienced depression<sup>23</sup>
- Thirty seven per cent of women in prison have attempted suicide<sup>24</sup>; nearly a quarter have experienced self harm<sup>25</sup>
- Of those who have experienced suicidal thoughts, 57 per cent said that these thoughts were 'more intense' in prison<sup>26</sup>.

### Drugs and Alcohol

- Sixty six per cent of women offenders report drug and alcohol abuse<sup>27</sup>
- Over a third of women in prison are hazardous or harmful drinkers. Of these 16 per cent drink at harmful levels and are dependent on at least one other illicit drug<sup>28</sup>
- Many women offenders use drugs and/or alcohol to try to cope with experiences of abuse. A study of 60 women using crack cocaine in London found that 40 per cent reported being regularly physically assaulted by a current partner and 75 per cent being physically assaulted by a current or past partner<sup>29</sup>.

## Conference themes

The *Securing Safety* conference was held to highlight the particular needs of women offenders who experienced violence and abuse. The conference heard that for most women who offend, prison is an expensive intervention that does not work: it is ineffective, inappropriate, harmful and expensive.

### Ineffective

Prison has been shown to be an often ineffective response to offending<sup>30</sup>. To reduce crime and improve women's lives it is crucial to address women's complex needs, including domestic violence, poverty, debt, mental health, addictions and housing. Unless women's needs are met, they are likely to continue to offend, resulting in a 'revolving door' syndrome. This was emphasised in the recent Corston Report<sup>31</sup>.

Alternative interventions, such as community sentences, are more effective at reducing re-offending<sup>32</sup>.

### Inappropriate

Imprisonment is a human rights issue. The conference organisers argued that no offender should be imprisoned for minor offences - most women prisoners are not violent offenders, and pose limited risk to the community<sup>33</sup>. It is wrong that so many women are remanded in custody while awaiting sentence, separating them unnecessarily from their children, families and homes when half of these offenders do not go on to receive a custodial sentence<sup>34</sup>.

Prison is often an unnecessary and overused response for women who are non-violent offenders, are first time offenders, and for whom prison is highly inappropriate, for example because they are pregnant, the only carers for their children or have mental health needs.

### Harmful

Prison harms women offenders' mental health. Many already experience at least one mental health issue, and these, in particular self harm and suicidal thoughts, can increase on imprisonment.

Vulnerable women must be supported and protected to prevent further suicides, self-harm and mental health problems. In the Holloway Needs Analysis<sup>35</sup>, when asked why their suicidal thoughts had become more intense since entering prison, respondents' comments included the following:

*'Never been in jail or away from family before'*

*'Because I'm confined to one space and when things get on top of me I can't go for a walk'.*

Imprisoning women offenders affects their families and children, as many are primary carers. Many women lose their homes on imprisonment, and often have nowhere to go on release. They are often imprisoned far from home, which makes family visiting difficult; this can harm their chances of successful resettlement.

### **Expensive**

It costs £77,000 per year to keep a woman in prison<sup>36</sup>. This compares to £750 per year for the Asha centre in Worcester to support a woman<sup>37</sup>. Given how ineffective prison has been shown to be in reducing re-offending<sup>38</sup>, there is a clear economic case for diverting women from prison to community sentences, particularly if they take a woman-centred approach.

### **Domestic Violence**

Prison can be particularly harmful for women victims of domestic violence, as the punitive environment can compound experiences of victimisation, and exacerbate low self-esteem. Prison regimes are high-criticism, low support settings, which replicate the abusive relationships many women offenders have experienced outside of prison<sup>39</sup>. Experiences of violence and abuse can be a key factor in women's pathways to crime; if this link is not addressed, prison can do little to support women to stop offending. This issue also highlights the difficulty in labelling offenders in opposition to victims, when so many women in prison are both.

### **Mental Health and Drug/Alcohol Misuse**

There are significant intersections between experiences of abuse, mental health, and drug and alcohol misuse. Many women suffer from mental ill health as a direct result of the abuse<sup>40</sup>, and for others the abuse pushes them to use drugs and alcohol as coping tools<sup>41</sup>.

### **Limited Knowledge of Women's Issues**

Delegates at the *Securing Safety* conference identified that many in the judiciary, and among prison and probation staff, lack knowledge and training of female offenders' experiences and needs. This is partly due to the system being organised around male offenders, whose patterns of offending and needs are very different. As a result, the system is not well equipped to provide an effective response to particular needs and women's offending.

### **An Alternative Approach**

Community punishments with a 'holistic' approach that place the woman and her offending in the context of her life experiences are needed and should be used for the majority of women offenders. Such interventions would consider her intersecting experiences of domestic violence and abuse, mental health problems, and drug and alcohol use. Appropriate interventions and support would therefore be multi-disciplinary, addressing her involvement in crime more realistically by addressing the context in which it took place.

When imprisonment does occur, a more therapeutic environment would assist and support real and lasting change for women offenders. Engaging in therapy, behaviour change or drug treatment programmes to deal with the causes of their offending is not a 'soft' option and can be more challenging than interventions which do not require such personal exploration and development. For some women, prison can be a place of safety away from abusive partners. More therapeutic interventions coupled with practical support can help reduce re-offending, and support women to make their own choices about their lives, which may include alternatives to their current dangerous lifestyles/relationships.

### **Black and Minority Ethnic Offenders, and Foreign National Offenders**

Black, minority ethnic and refugee women have additional needs that are unlikely to be addressed by blanket policies covering all women. BME women experience particular stigma within their communities in relation to domestic violence, mental ill health, and drug and alcohol use, where there is a pressure to keep 'problems' within the community and not seek outside support. The conference delegates also identified foreign national woman as particularly vulnerable, due to lack of understanding and appropriate services.

### **What the Voluntary Sector Can Offer**

Specialist women's organisations in the voluntary and community sector, when properly resourced, are often better positioned to provide specialist or holistic services to women offenders – working in partnership with statutory agencies to support women and reduce re-offending; some can carry out community punishments.

Voluntary and community organisations are good at engaging hard to reach women and communities and they have skills in specialist service provision. Because they are not statutory they are often better trusted by vulnerable women and can often provide a wider and more flexible range of support, as they are less restricted by statutory duties.

### Gender Equality Duty

Women make up only 5.7 per cent of the total prison population in England and Wales<sup>42</sup>; however their needs can not be dismissed as a result.

The Gender Equality Duty requires all public bodies to take action to eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment and promote equality of opportunity between women and men. This requirement covers all their functions, including policy making and providing services. Specific required duties include to: develop a gender equality scheme and implement it within three years; gather information on the effect of its policies and practices on men and women, in employment, services and performance of its functions; and assess the impact of current and proposed policies and practices on gender equality.

The duty requires organisations to pay 'due regard' to men's and women's particular needs and the issues that affect them. In practice, this means addressing the most significant gender inequalities within prisons. For women prisoners this could include the impact of separation from their children, the need for different types of health care and their experiences of domestic violence and mental health problems. One way to address these issues could be the provision of tailored services for women.

Example: The National Offender Management Service collects data on all prisoners serving 12 months or more, through the Offender Assessment System, OASys. As half of all female offenders are sentenced to less than 12 months, there is a significant gap in data about women offenders. Such data is essential to record and analyse women's different needs, and to establish appropriate gender specific targets and priorities. Improved data collection should be implemented to capture this information.

## Recommendations

### 1 Develop an national policy on domestic violence for all prisons

A national policy on domestic violence for all prisons is desperately needed to address women's specific needs. While good practice does exist (for example the Holloway Resettlement Pilot which includes domestic violence issues), a policy would ensure national consistency, and spur individual prisons into action on required targets.

The policy must:

- Use the government definition of domestic violence<sup>43</sup>
- Recognise domestic violence as a pattern of abusive and controlling behaviour through which the abuser seeks power over their victim<sup>44</sup>, include diversity issues and recognise the gendered nature of domestic violence<sup>45</sup>
- Include compulsory training to increase awareness and understanding of the nature and impacts of domestic violence on women
- Include screening, risk assessment and safety planning so that it is standardised and embedded in any contact between staff and prisoners (provided staff have been trained and referral points are available) from induction to assessment onwards, including any programmes, such as CARAT
- Include referral guidance, and require each prison to develop local referral information
- Set out minimum standards for all prisons
- Be in keeping with Women's Aid National Service Standards for Domestic and Sexual Violence Services<sup>46</sup>
- Include a national policy on foreign national women in custody.

### 2 Training and education for all staff in the criminal justice system

The conference recommended:

- a Specialist training on domestic violence and gender awareness for magistrates and judges, with reference to the different experiences and needs of women and the need for alternatives to custody
- b Specialist training, with required attendance, for all prisons and probation staff on domestic violence and gender awareness
- c Review of Sentencing Guidelines.

All staff working in the criminal justice system need to receive training to understand that a history of victimisation can be a key reason why many women commit crimes.

Existing domestic violence training for magistrates needs to be adapted to incorporate a women offender focus, and other existing training for

magistrates should incorporate women's specific issues. Training available for magistrates should include patterns of women's offending, women's particular experiences and needs, and the disproportional impact of imprisonment on women and their children. Sentencing training should be reviewed in light of the Gender Equality Duty to ensure compliance, and include sentencing alternatives, their effectiveness and the reality that many alternatives to prison are not 'soft options'. The Sentencing Council should review guidelines' compliance with the Gender Equality Duty.

Prison and probation staff need a greater awareness of domestic violence (including safety and risk) and gender issues in order to: understand the links between the women's experiences of victimisation and their offending, respond appropriately to disclosures, create a safe environment, avoid compounding women's experiences of victimisation and low self-esteem and make appropriate referrals for support. Staff also require training to avoid putting women at risk, through, for example, encouraging family contact in abusive situations. Sensitivity is required to make women feel safe and to avoid 'behaviour problems' by for example requiring abused women to be alone with male staff with whom they may not feel safe.

Staff must be trained to be aware that for some women, prison can be a safe place to escape violent and abusive partners, and important work can be done with and by the women to plan for their safety on release. Awareness of domestic violence should be fed into resettlement processes, so that when a woman is identified as at risk, factors such as locating safe housing can be identified and prioritised.

### **3 Develop community-based sentencing alternatives and improve diversion**

The conference recommended the development of more creative alternative methods of sentencing, including community punishments. This should include working with the Sentencing Guidelines Council to establish alternatives.

The need for alternatives to custody was highlighted in the Corston Report, where it was recommended that 'community sentences for non-violent offenders should be the norm', and that they should be 'designed to take account of women's particular vulnerabilities'.<sup>47</sup>

Community punishments must be more widely used. They should be interventions that hold women accountable for their offending while recognising and addressing their specific needs, such as experiences of

victimisation. These interventions are both less harmful for women and more effective at reducing re-offending<sup>48</sup>.

Community sentences are cheaper, more effective, and more likely to address lifestyles and behaviours associated with offending. Women offenders, and those at risk of offending, need local community-based provision, based on woman-centred models such as the Asha Centre and Calderdale Women's Centre.

Improvements must be made to bail information so that women are diverted from prison by not being remanded unnecessarily. Nearly two-thirds of the women received into prison each year are on remand. Over half of these do not go on to receive a custodial sentence, and one in five is acquitted<sup>49</sup>.

There is a desperate need for women who are at risk of offending, or who have offended, to receive effective diversions. It is of great concern that diversions do not exist in some areas of the country. The conference agreed that this is imperative for women with mental health needs, for whom prison is often – mistakenly – seen by the courts as the safest place.

**Good practice highlight:** The Asha Centre in Worcester is an independent charity providing a safe, 'women-only' environment. Asha addresses women's intersecting issues such as low self-esteem, mental health problems, experiences of abuse and poverty, as well as challenging any offending behaviour in a constructive and effective way. The Asha Centre reports high rates of success with women who engage with it. A self assessment survey is carried out with each woman after three months at the centre. Eighty per cent of women report improved coping and problem solving ability, 78 per cent increased self confidence, 65 per cent increased motivation and 67 per cent improved mental health. The centre does not distinguish between the offenders and non offenders who attend. That way a woman offender can leave her identity as a woman offender at the door and just become an Asha Centre user.

#### **4 Develop and implement comprehensive and consistent assessment of women's needs at prison entry**

Women's needs must be identified on reception, so that priority issues can be addressed immediately, and so that they are not put at risk by their environment or the actions of prison staff. Good practice guidelines should be developed where only trained staff are tasked with screening for domestic violence and other abuse.

Screening is only the first step: it must be followed up with dedicated support services for women who disclose an experience of domestic violence or childhood abuse. Where women have multiple needs, such as drug and alcohol and domestic violence, they should be referred to specialist services (where available) which can address these complex needs.

It would further assist this work to include key questions on abuse in OASys (the Offender Assessment System), and other data collection so that the data is fed back into resettlement pathways. This would also mean that domestic violence and sexual abuse needs can be assessed, to make the case for ongoing work.

The conference recommended that a standardised induction programme for each women's prison, involving offenders as peer workers, be developed and implemented. Over 70 per cent of women in prison have never experienced custody before<sup>50</sup>, and need special support in adjusting to the environment. Support from fellow inmates, properly trained and supervised, could make a big difference.

Any programme must include:

- Training prisoners to deliver peer support as part of an induction programme
- Resources developed by and for women in accessible formats.

## **5 Providing specialist domestic violence services in prisons and the community**

Given the disproportionately high rates of domestic violence and abuse for women in prison and on probation, specialist domestic violence services are desperately needed.

The conference recommended the provision of specialist, independent, centrally funded domestic violence services across the women's estate and in the community. Domestic violence services should include education, support, advice, advocacy and counselling. They should address the links between the women's experiences of victimisation, their offending, and other intersecting issues such as mental health and drug and alcohol use.

To support domestic violence provision the following services should also be available: counselling, drug and alcohol services, life skills training and creative (arts) programmes<sup>50</sup>.

Awareness gained on therapeutic and support programmes, through exploring the links between offending behaviour and experiences of

domestic violence and drug and alcohol use, may provide a woman with the skills needed to manage and take responsibility for her safety and livelihood upon release, thus reducing re-offending.

Integrated drug and alcohol treatment programmes within prison should include the provision of group work and counselling that focuses on how the use of substances may be a coping mechanism for the experiences of abuse. It needs to be recognised that women may not become drug-free (and hence stop re-offending) if these links are not addressed in interventions.

Women must have continuity of access to services whilst in prison, through the gate and if transferred to another prison (see also recommendation 7). Women on probation should have access to the same support as those in prison. These services must have central, sustained funding, so that all female offenders have equitable access, and so that programmes and interventions are not stopped due to lack of funding.

## **6 Locate women close to their home community**

At the end of September 2006 the average distance female prisoners were held from their home was 58 miles<sup>52</sup>. Women who are imprisoned near to their families and communities have a better chance at successful resettlement<sup>53</sup>. Maintaining links with family and in particular children reduces the risk that the children will be taken into care, a factor associated with offending<sup>54</sup>.

If all women who are imprisoned are located near their home communities, this will make the commissioning and provision of services simpler and more effective.

## **7 Reduce transfers of women in custody**

Women are far more likely than men to be in custody far from home and/or transferred. This has the effect of isolating women from their families and children; reducing their access to support through peers; and reducing or preventing access to ongoing therapeutic programmes.

This is particularly an issue for women who are involved in therapeutic programmes. Forcefully interrupting a therapeutic programme through transfer could exacerbate experiences of victimisation by re-enforcing dynamics of disempowerment and experiences of being controlled. This may prevent them from addressing their offending behaviour and the contributory factors of domestic violence and substance misuse, and jeopardise her safety on release from prison.

## 8 Pro-actively promote racial equality

BME women have particular needs that must be met. There must be recognition of different specific cultural backgrounds that have an impact on the way the women address their offending and related needs. They must have equitable access to services, for example ensuring that prison and probation staff are aware of the different services available, in order to inform women fully of their options.

For example, with regard to drug and alcohol abuse, BME women are more likely to attend a service within a health setting where the nature of their problem can be disguised. The Ethnic Alcohol Service Hounslow has found that operating a satellite service in local GP services has been particularly effective in engaging BME women in treatment.

## 9 Recognise and respond appropriately to the additional needs of foreign national women

The conference recommended:

- a Specialist training on issues for women foreign nationals:
  - for court, prisons and probation staff with required attendance
  - for magistrates and judges with incentives to attend
- b A national policy on foreign national women in custody be developed
- c Specialist services for foreign national women be provided.

Specialist training for all criminal justice staff around the needs of foreign national women is an urgent priority. Staff need to understand how the intersecting issues of poverty and abuse in their countries of origin can drive or coerce women into drug trafficking, and their resultant needs for learning survival skills for their return. The conference recommended the Morton Hall prison drug importers course be extended across the prison estate.

Training must raise awareness of the language issues faced by many foreign national women prisoners, train staff to use Language Line and other interpreter services, and to inform women of their right to an interpreter in court.

**Good practice highlight:** Hibiscus, the Female Prisoners Welfare Project, works both in the UK and women's countries of origin to reduce drug trafficking by making women considering becoming drug couriers aware of the risks of trafficking for both themselves and their families. Their campaigns have been successful in Jamaica, where there has been a significant drop in the numbers of women detained for drug trafficking offences<sup>55</sup>.

## 10 Make budget allocations to address women's needs and meet gender equality duty requirements

To facilitate compliance with the Gender Equality Duty the conference recommended that a Gender Equality Action and Monitoring Group be set up, similar to the Prison Service Race and Equalities Action Group, to provide advice on meeting requirements and monitor achievements.

The group could feed into the work of Regional Offender Managers (ROMs), in commissioning prison services. ROMs could develop gender specific targets in Service Level Agreements, monitor the achievement of these and provide advice on measures needed to meet targets, such as ensuring that there are sufficient numbers of properly trained staff to address women offenders' needs.

Gender specific targets would lead to budget savings in the long-term, through the provision of cheaper services that meet needs and reduce re-offending. For example, the Asha centre in Worcester costs £750 per year to support a woman<sup>56</sup>, compared to the overall cost of £77,000 to keep a woman in prison<sup>57</sup>. This also has social implications, as women are able to stay in their communities, and keep their families together.

Some delegates recommended that a national, cross-departmental, properly resourced body be set up with power to develop and enforce policy, and commission services. This would recognise that women have distinct needs in the criminal justice system that are not presently being met. A similar body was recommended in the Corston Report<sup>58</sup>.

## 11 Improve commissioning policy and practice

- a Increase the voluntary sector's role in providing services
- b Standardise full cost recovery in contracts
- c Improve the transparency of the commissioning process
- d Working in partnership with voluntary organisations to be included in Service Level Agreements for prison service delivery.

Specialist women's organisations in the voluntary and community sector, when properly resourced, can perform an essential role in supporting statutory organisations in carrying out community punishments and delivering services to prisoners. This is due to their specialist expertise in meeting women's complex needs by integrating offending, experiences of domestic violence and drug/alcohol misuse. For example, some substance misuse programmes have specialist domestic violence workers to address intersecting issues<sup>59</sup>. They are also better placed to engage hard to reach women.

Prisons and Probation would benefit from working in partnership with these organisations, for example in providing training as well as support for women offenders. Involving voluntary organisations in interventions with women offenders would allow easier access to services ‘through the gate’, so that support can continue outside.

Commissioners should take account of the needs of voluntary sector organisations. Funding is often unstable, affecting staff security and salaries and service provision. Commissioned voluntary and community organisations often experience powerlessness in negotiating with funders. Contracts must stipulate partnership arrangements, for example regular formalised meetings. Commissioning should standardise full cost recovery – the voluntary sector should not be considered a cheap option and the commissioning process should take into account the timetable of the voluntary sector, as longer run-in and wind-down times are needed.

Partnership working would improve communication between statutory and voluntary organisations, so that prison and probation staff are aware of available services and can refer women to these. This would also ensure that more information is available from all commissioners of services in the criminal justice system.

Given the high proportion of women offenders who have experienced domestic violence, it is imperative that Service Level Agreements include a specific target or priority on working in partnership with domestic violence organisations.

## **12 Collect and analyse gender specific data**

Data should be collected alongside OASys, to assess the needs for women’s services. The data should also identify the particular needs of BME women, and of foreign national women. This would assist statutory organisations in meeting the requirements of the Gender Equality Duty and the Race Equality Duty. Improved data collection will assist the development of a system that recognises and responds to women’s distinct needs: this is essential to stop women’s re-offending.

## Background

The conference *Securing Safety: Supporting Women in Prison Who Have Experienced Violence and Abuse*, was held on 14 November 2006. The conference was organised through a partnership of organisations: Greater London Domestic Violence Project, Women in Prison, Prison Reform Trust, Counselling in Prison and Women in Secure Hospitals. The conference was sponsored by London Probation.

The conference aims were:

- To provide service commissioners with information on minimum standards and examples of safe practice
- To improve staff training and awareness of abuse and domestic violence
- To give criminal justice system staff the tools they need to respond to women with experience of violence and abuse
- To give the violence against women sector the tools they need to respond to the needs of women in prison and intersect effectively with prison service provision
- To increase awareness and improve referrals amongst violence against women and criminal justice system professionals of the other sectors' issues and responses
- To emphasise links between violence and abuse, drugs, alcohol and mental health and provide examples of safe practice and minimum standards.

Conference delegates represented a range of organisations and expertise including prisons, probation, domestic violence and drug and alcohol agencies, and voluntary sector agencies working on prisons issues. Approximately half of the 150 delegates were from the voluntary sector, and half from the statutory sector.

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यदि आप इस दस्तावेज की प्रति अपनी भाषा में चाहते हैं, तो कृपया निम्नलिखित नंबर पर फोन करें अथवा नीचे दिये गये पते पर संपर्क करें

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### Urdu

اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی نقل اپنی زبان میں چاہتے ہیں، تو براہ کرم نیچے دئے گئے نمبر پر فون کریں یا دیئے گئے پتے پر رابطہ کریں

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إذا أردت نسخة من هذه الوثيقة بلغتك، يرجى الاتصال برقم الهاتف أو مراسلة العنوان أدناه

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