

2023

Impact on children of parental custody



Introduction

We do not know exactly how many children are affected by parental imprisonment in England and Wales each year, as no one collects any data either at court or when a parent arrives in custody. However, it is estimated that approximately 300,000 children are impacted each year, including upwards of 17,000 who lose their mother – most likely their primary carer – to imprisonment.

The imprisonment of a household member is known to have a significant negative impact on children's long-term health and wellbeing, their school attainment, and later life experiences. Recent research suggests a link between parental imprisonment and premature death. As most primary care givers are women, the imprisonment of a mother is particularly devastating for children, affecting every aspect of life and generating a wide range of emotions, including grief, trauma, and shame. For many families the stigma of having a family member in prison leads them to become isolated, afraid of the repercussions and reactions that may result from disclosure.

95% of children whose mother is imprisoned will have to move out of their home, and only 9% will be cared for by their fathers. As the children are emotionally and physically distressed due to the separation from their parents the children often need additional support, and this may impact on the relationship with the carer should such need to be fully understood and the appropriate support not be made available.

There is currently no requirement for people who are in prison in England and Wales to declare if they have children when they are placed in custody. While parents are encouraged to declare if they have children, there is no systematic or central system that records this information.

Aims of this toolkit

- To raise awareness of the needs of children and young people who have a parent or significant family member in prison amongst all professionals working with children – especially amongst staff in schools and children’s centres who will unknowingly already be in contact with many of these families.
- To improve the knowledge and skills of professionals working with children of prisoners to help them address the needs of these children and to know what support is available for them.
- To encourage ‘open channels of communication’ between professionals and children with a parent in prison, giving young people a voice in their situation.
- To encourage ‘open channels of communication’ between professionals and children with a parent in prison, giving young people a voice in their situation.
- To ensure children and their families can access support in a timely manner by increasing multi-agency working in this area and recognition within policies and procedures.
- To promote social inclusion and secure positive outcomes for children and young people impacted by parental imprisonment.
- To support a consistent approach and good practice across Lancashire.

This toolkit will focus on the parental custody of Mothers and Fathers alongside any significant persons within the child's life and support holistic assessments that ensure the needs of children, and their families are supported alongside managing risk and safeguarding concerns.

This toolkit will support the voice of the child and look to support the continuation of relationships between children and their parents wherever possible.

Mother and Pregnancy and Custody

The impact for children can be wide ranging: for example, 95% of children with a mother in prison have to leave their family home when their mother goes to prison. In addition, maternal imprisonment is associated with poor educational attainment, emotional trauma, and increased risk of offending for children. The most recent annual figures for March 2021 to March 2022, show that on average there were 29 pregnant women in prison. For this same period there were a total of 50 births to women spending time in custody.

There are six Mother and Baby Units in England and Wales (Styal, Bronzefield, New Hall, Askham Grange, Peterborough and Eastwood Park) with a total capacity of 64 babies, and babies can stay on MBUs until they are 18 months old.

Pre-Birth considerations for children are paramount. Not all pregnant women who receive a custodial sentence will be able to access Mother and Baby Units within prisons and safeguarding concerns may lead to the intervention of the family courts on delivery of the child. Many women are released before birth, but the period in detention can have a significant impact on the mother and her unborn baby. There has been considerable research undertaken within the last few years that highlights the toxic stress that the unborn child may be exposed to during pregnancy, and it is paramount that Pre-Birth assessment and processes are undertaken with care and transparency and any plans are shared with the Mother within an appropriate timescale. The Mother should be supported to access legal services where appropriate and the Local Authority should work closely with the Prison service to ensure the safety and welfare of both the Mother and the unborn child.

Furthermore, where a Mother is granted a place within a Mother and Baby unit consideration should be given to release and the needs of the Mother and the child returning to the community. This should include any safeguarding/risk factors alongside health, housing and accessing to financial support.

Approximately three in five women in prison have a child under 18 years old, and it is estimated that around 17,000 children are affected by maternal imprisonment each year.

The Children Act 2004, Section 10, provides a duty on Local Authorities to plan to promote co-operation between authorities and with other relevant professionals, including prisons to improve the well-being of children.

When a woman enters custody either 6 months pregnant or later, they need to apply to the MBU to register for an assessment. The Mother and Baby Liaison Officer then contacts the relevant Children's Services in the area that the mother is normally resident.

It is a Children's Services decision whether the mother will need to undergo an assessment to be approved for a place on Mother and Baby Unit or if there are no concerns, whether approval should be given without an assessment being completed.



Assessments

Child Impact assessments are crucial in understanding not only the lived experience of the child but also the future impact of incarceration of their parents (or significant person) and the care they may receive within this time. Alongside this toolkit there is a procedural process from the multi-agency foot print, early help and statutory Childrens social care.

It is important to state at this juncture that the professional undertaking the child impact assessment should, where ever possible, be undertaken by a professional that has an established relationship with the child and fully explore the needs, wellbeing and safeguarding of the child.

Tackling Stigma – The Importance of Confidentiality

A child may confide in any trusted adult, such as classroom teachers rather than social workers or counsellors. However, children and their parents often express reluctance to share their circumstances with professionals, fearing who the information will be shared with and the stigma which could result should the wider community become aware.

Maintaining appropriate confidentiality in these circumstances is therefore paramount. Only those who need to know should be told and all information received and passed on should be treated as confidential. There are issues surrounding confidentiality for a prisoner's child that may need to be considered.

Be aware:

- The communication and relationship between home and school is vital to effectively discuss what has been shared with the children and what the parent/carer is comfortable sharing with the school.
- Within the Criminal Justice Systems, some people's names and addresses are saleable commodities and prisoner's families are vulnerable to intimidation, threats, and pressures from inside as well as outside prison.
- Some prisoner's children will be the subject of Child Protection or Family Court proceedings which may stipulate that the child should not be named.

Support and Safeguarding referrals

Referrals to Early Help and Childrens Social Care should follow the current process and procedures i.e., there is a safeguarding concern, or the child is being care for under Private Fostering (See below for guidance).

Any referrals should always include information both about the child, the parent – including known information in relation to the custody of the parent, name of prison, sentencing etc, and detailed information in respect of the person/s caring for the child whilst the parent is absent.

Private Fostering

Where a child is cared for by another adult person other than their parent, whom is not a relative of the child, for more that 28 days this is called private fostering and the law requires parents, carers, or anyone else making a private fostering arrangement to contact the local authority about it. It is usual that the parent will make these arrangements however the carer will not hold parental responsibility.

Referrals to Early Help and Childrens Social Care

[Requesting support from Children's Services - Lancashire County Council](#)

[Blackpool Council | Worried about a child | Child abuse reporting](#)

[Child protection | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#)

Contact between the Child and the Parent/Significant Person in Custody

Often children experience great difficulty in accessing prison visits to their parents due to the distances at which they may be held from their locality, and the cost of making the journeys. The impact and loss of contact and the relationship with their parent/significant person is likely to result in a lasting trauma event for the child. Furthermore, contact and visits with parents should also consider the child's view, their knowledge and understanding of prison and custody alongside the impact of visiting their parent within a formal setting.

Any child impact assessment should also explore with the carer plans for visits and contact and how these will be managed to ensure the emotional safety of the child in the short and long term.

Where there is a known safeguarding risk to the child from the parent/significant person the appropriate referrals to Children's service should be made.

There are also separate procedures for prisoners who have been convicted of, or charged with, an offence against a child or who have a previous conviction for an offence against a child including offences of violence, sexual offences, neglect and abuse or who present an identified risk of harm (Risk to Children), will only be allowed on-going contact or visits following completion of a comprehensive multi-agency risk assessment of the prisoner and a "best interests" assessment for the child in order to decide what, if any, form of contact is appropriate. Contact includes correspondence, telephone calls and social visits.

Prisons must identify prisoners who pose a risk of harm to children and then complete a multi-agency risk assessment to determine what, if any, contact the prisoner will be allowed with a child(ren). Identified prisoners will be asked if they intend to request child contact; if they do this the multi-agency risk assessment should be commenced. (See Appendix 2)

1 in 5 women are held more than 100 miles away from her home and there is not proper provision made to uphold children's rights to contact with their parents.

Child Impact Assessments - Identification and Support

Key points to consider if a child discloses their parent (or significant family member) is in prison:

If a child raises issues concerning imprisonment of a 'family' member, the following responses are paramount:

- Allow the child to express him or herself, listen carefully, acknowledge what is said and provide reassurance.
- Establish with the child any support needs they may have and explain what is available.
- Be clear with them about who needs to be told to support them. If there are no safeguarding concerns which would trigger an information-sharing protocol or referral then the child may wish this circle to be small. Prisoners' children and their carers consistently stress that confidentiality is a key issue for them to avoid stigma and discrimination.
- A response that can combine practical assistance (around prison visiting, financial advice etc.) with work around feelings and relationships is particularly valued.
- A prompt response (that is, at the point of imprisonment) to the family affected.
- Talking directly to children about prison, what's happened and its impact on them is crucial.
- Help and support for parents/carers to talk to their children about imprisonment.
- Parents at home may struggle with separating their own needs from their children's in terms of the relationships with the imprisoned parent.
- Not all crimes are the same in terms of the impact of parental imprisonment. Sex and serious violent crimes add layers of complexity and additional stigma.
- Workers may need to engage with wider family networks, particularly grandparents.
- It will often be necessary to liaise closely with a range of agencies to support the child affected by parental imprisonment.
- Arrangements and suitability of the child attending prison visits.
- Sharing Information. It is important to remember that this is a sensitive area for children and their family. Any information shared about the family's circumstances in relation to a family member in prison should be done in most cases with the child and family's consent and in a proportionate way.

When to complete a Child Impact assessments

Professionals should consider the key stages of the criminal justice system and provides pertinent information concerning processes and how they may impact upon a child:

- Arrest
- Custodial Sentencing
- Release.

Appendix 1 sets out the key factors of Arrest, Custodial Sentencing and Release and the impact that each may have on a child and should be considered when completing any impact assessment.

Completing the Child Impact Assessment- This is Me

The child Impact assessment is a child focused assessment that considers a child/children's needs, their feelings and is not proposed as a statutory procedure but utilised with the aim of providing support. Undertaking a Child Impact assessment will lead to a better understanding of a child/children's needs and increase the support.

Child Impact Assessments can be used by a wide range of practitioners from both statutory and non-statutory services. Keeping children safe, listening without judgement, considering the impact of trauma, and sharing information are vital aspects of the assessment.

The assessment can be split onto several parts depending on the needs and circumstances i.e. Part 2 covers different stages of custody from arrest to release from prison – the most appropriate section of the assessment should be used dependant on circumstance.

The full assessment is located within Appendix 3.

Appendix 1

Information and Guidance around arrest, prison and release

This appendix considers the key stages of the criminal justice system and provides pertinent information concerning processes and how they may impact upon a child.

Arrest

- Children may be present at the point of arrest, specifically if the arrest has taken place in the family home, in the community, a public place etc. This may lead to the child feeling further stigmatised.
- Home-based arrests often take place early in the morning and can involve forced entry, resistance to arrest, the presence of dogs and/or fire arms. With or without these additional elements a home-based arrest can be particularly distressing for a child witnessing events.
- The school (and other agencies) are unlikely to be informed if a parent has been arrested or imprisoned.
- If the child is away from the family home at point of arrest, they may be unaware of what has taken place and potentially receive no explanation of the parent's absence.
- The family home may be searched including belongings of the child.

Custodial Sentence

- Un-convicted prisoners (on remand) are entitled to at least three visits a week. Once convicted prisoners are entitled to a minimum of one visit every two weeks including at least one weekend visit every four weeks, additional visits can be earned through the Incentive and Earned Privilege Scheme (IEP). There is always great pressure on visiting facilities at weekends. This means that some visits will be booked for weekdays resulting in absence from school.
- Making bookings for visits is often very difficult, particularly if there are language problems. A child may have to stay at home to support this process for example making phone calls or assisting with the online based booking system.
- Prisons do not allow visitors to take personal possessions in with them. Children's drawings and school reports can be sent in by post, but collages and models are not allowed, even if posted.

- Children are searched entering prisons and this may include a rub down search, and they may have to pass a dog trained to detect drugs. This may be frightening for some children.
- Visits usually last between one and two hours. Sitting across a table in the prison visiting room for the duration of a visit can be difficult for all involved.
- Teachers often report that the performance and behaviour of children of prisoners frequently become more erratic around the time of a prison visit.
- Time off or children to visit a prison can be a difficult request for parents to make. Staff need to be sensitive and take care not to allow pressure of school attendance issues to compromise a relationship of trust.
- Prison visits should be recorded as authorised absence.
- If a pupil who has previously shown few attendance problems suddenly begins to miss school or a pattern of regular absences begin, it is possible that the child is at court, supporting a parent or sibling or has found school too difficult for emotional reasons or bullying.
- The school may wish to involve the Education Welfare Service who has a statutory responsibility to ensure regular attendance, to organise support for pupils who are having difficulties with school attendance. It is important that parents are aware of the law relating to regular school attendance.
- A sympathetic approach is appropriate, but care should be taken to ensure that pupils do not become disadvantaged twice, at home through the loss of the family member and at school through the loss of education. Every effort should be made to enable the child to achieve at school and if school is missed action taken to prevent any loss of opportunity.
- Many prisons have extensive websites providing detailed information about visiting a prison, including virtual tours, contact details for the Family Liaison Service and information regarding Special Family Visits and expenses in relation to visits.

Release

- All adult prisoners released from custodial sentences are subject to either supervision or licence periods (dependent on the length of sentence) for a period after release. During this period the offender is likely to have to report to a probation officer and adhere to a range of conditions relevant to their offence. Any major concerns about the re-adjustment process after release may be referred to the local probation office by the school. However, if the school has any doubts about the safety of the child, the child protection procedure should be implemented.

- Offenders may not be able to return to the family home upon release (under licence conditions) which may further impact on the relationship with their child.
- The release of an offender may be a daunting prospect for the wider family and may add wider instability to the household (unemployment, domestic violence, estrangement).

Appendix 2

The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment

Please ensure that you refer to and seek guidance from the appropriate Local Authority prior to undertaking any decisions.

For the prison establishment to undertake the risk assessment to determine what contact, if any, is appropriate, it must contact and gather information from a range of agencies:

- The police in the child's home authority must be contacted and asked for any information on the child and the prisoner.
- The prison-based probation officer should be provided with the details of the prisoner's application and, where a prisoner will be subject to licence supervision on release or has been recalled for breach of licence for the current offence, the home National Probation Service provider must be contacted and asked for information and comments. In addition, if the prisoner is a young offender and is supervised, Children's Social Care Services in the child's home authority must be contacted.
- Where appropriate, the NSPCC may be contacted for additional information as some prison establishments have developed a partnership with the NSPCC who will search their database for information relating to the risk of harm to a child.
- A letter to the Head of Children's Social Care Services containing all known details of the prisoner and the child with a photograph. This must be followed up with a prompt phone contact to the Safeguarding Manager in the Children's Social Care Services.

Children's Social Care will carry out an assessment and provide a written report with recommendations within 3 weeks. This report should include a statement that the identity of the child in the photograph has been confirmed. The views of the child or young person will be an important element of the assessment.

Subject to their age and level of understanding, the views of the child must be considered as part of the assessment. The Children's Services will ascertain the views of the child during the home visit. They should also identify an Appropriate Adult(s) as good practice who will accompany the child when visiting the prisoner. (This might be a parent or family member).

The Decision

The operational manager with delegated authority in the prison establishment, who has responsibility for Public Protection, will make the decision regarding contact using the available multi agency information. The decision must consider the following factors:

- The child's needs, wishes and feelings.
- The capacity of the parent to protect the child from significant harm.
- The prisoner's risk to the public.
- Pre-sentence reports.
- Previous convictions.
- Custodial behaviour and any other documentation highlighting risk.

Level of Contact Decided

The operational manager should decide the level of contact that will be permitted. It should be proportionate to any risks identified; the best interests of the child should always be the overriding principle in making these decisions. Contact restrictions should be incremental and one of the following levels will be applied:

01

Level One

Full restrictions apply. No contact with any child is permitted and all correspondence and telephone calls will be monitored.

02

Level Two

Contact with a named child only via written correspondence. All correspondence and telephone calls may be monitored.

03

Level Three

Contact with a named child only is permitted via written correspondence and telephone. All correspondence and telephone calls may be monitored.

04

Level Four

No restrictions necessary. May have contact with a named child only via correspondence, telephone, visits, and family visits. Routine sampling applies – reading of correspondence, listening to telephone calls, general observation in visiting area. This level of contact applies only to those children that the prisoner has permission to have contact with. All other children will be subject to Level One restrictions.

The decision should be communicated and explained to the child and their carer.

Monitoring

The level and frequency of monitoring will be proportionate to the risk identified. Monitoring should focus on whether the prisoner is attempting to contact children inappropriately and what references about children are made in general correspondence i.e., grooming or manipulation of a child or a parent.

Monitoring of prisoners who present a risk to children in the visits area is required to establish if appropriate contact is taking place between an offender and a child where child visits have been permitted. Other prisoners who present a risk to children and have not been permitted contact with a child must be supervised in such a way that contact is not possible.

Recorded e.g., audio cassettes, CDs and Video CDs, and electronic information, needs to be monitored because it affords an easy disguise for inappropriate information.

Correct Identification of Children

It is necessary to take steps to prevent a child being substituted with another possibly more vulnerable child where visits take place. Prison staff monitoring calls, correspondence and visiting areas need to be vigilant and prevent any inappropriate contact where identified.

Four passport style photographs will be required of each child, and these should be updated annually or earlier if there is a significant change in a child's appearance.

Reviewing Contact Decisions

Where a decision has been made to restrict contact, the decision will be reviewed when there is reason to believe that circumstances have changed. Reviews can be made at any time on the initiative of prison staff or at the request of the prisoner. It is good practice to review decisions every 6 months.

Any decision to change the level of contact permitted must be based on what is best for the child. The child's welfare is paramount. The decision must consider the views of the Police, Probation, and local Children's Social Care Services, via the LA Safeguarding Unit.

Appendix 3

Child Impact Assessment

Introduction

If the person looking after you is arrested, or goes to court, or goes to prison, it can be hard. It is helpful to remember that what has happened is not your fault and that you are not alone – this happens to lots of children and young people each year. Here are some of the things children in this situation feel:

- “Everything has changed, and I miss the way it was.” (sadness)
- “I really miss my mum/dad.” (grief)
- “I don’t want to be apart from my mum.” (anxiety)
- “I just don’t understand what’s happening.” (panic)
- “I can’t get the images of mum/dad being arrested out of my head.” (trauma)
- “Where will I live? How will Gran cope be looking after me?” (worry)
- “I can’t speak to anyone about what’s happened because they might judge me.” (shame)
- “Why did my mum/dad do that? Why was she taken away like that?”; “I don’t want anything to do with her.” (anger)
- “What if my friends find out? What will they think?” (embarrassment)
- “I’m too scared to talk about mum or ask any questions about what happened.” (fear)
- “Why am I not being told the truth about what’s happening?” (confusion)
- “Everyone at school has seen what happened online so I can’t go out any more.” (social isolation)
- “It’s actually a bit easier at home now that mum’s away. There are fewer arguments.”; “At least I know where she is now.” (relief)
- “Is this my fault?” (guilt)
- “I feel I’ve got to keep this a secret, but I don’t want to.” (burdened)
- “It’s just all too much, especially because I’m helping out more at home.” (overwhelmed).

By filling in this form, you will be helping the people whose job it is to help children in your situation do it better. Most importantly, you will have an opportunity to talk about your feelings, ask any questions, raise any worries you have, and get the help and support you feel you need at the time that you need it. It is something that you can come back to again and again, as your thoughts and feelings may change over time. You may prefer to draw a picture to describe how you feel, rather than use words – the important thing is that this is about you and what’s right for you!

Child Impact Assessment

Part One: All About Me

Name		Address	
Name I like to be known as		Gender	
Date of birth		Brothers/Sisters	
Name of school/nursery		Other children I live with or who are important to me	
Name of adults I live with		Contact details of adults I live with	
Name of person helping me fill out this form		Names of adults that are important to me	

Child Impact Assessment

Part One (continued): More About Me

I am happiest when...		I really like...	
Someone who knows me really well...		When I am older I would like to...	

Child Impact Assessment

Part Two: About What Has Happened Arrest

How do you feel about your mum/dad being arrested?	
What questions do you have about your mum/dad being arrested?	
How are you doing? You may find it easier to answer this on a scale of 1 to 10. (10 means you are coping really well and 1 means you are finding things really difficult.)	
If anyone could help you right now, what could they do?	
Is there anything you'd like mum/dad to know right now?	
If you're not living with mum/dad, is there anything you would like the person looking after you to know?	
Is there anything else you would like to talk about? (This can be anything that is on your mind and might not be about you mum/dad)	

Child Impact Assessment

Part Two: About What Has Happened Court

How do you feel about your mum/dad going to court?	
What questions do you have about your mum/dad going to court?	
How are you doing? You may find it easier to answer this on a scale of 1 to 10. (10 means you are coping really well and 1 means you are finding things really difficult.)	
Is there anything you would like the people at court to know about you and your family?	
If anyone could help you right now, what could they do?	
Is there anything you'd like mum/dad to know right now?	
If you're not living with mum/dad, is there anything you would like the person looking after you to know?	
Is there anything else you would like to talk about? (This can be anything that is on your mind and might not be about you mum/dad)	

Child Impact Assessment

Part Two: About What Has Happened Community Sentence

How do you feel about your mum/dad doing a community sentence?	
What questions do you have about your mum/dad doing a community sentence? (You might hear words like 'tag' or 'curfew')	
How are you doing? You may find it easier to answer this on a scale of 1 to 10. (10 means you are coping really well and 1 means you are finding things really difficult.)	
If anyone could help you right now, what could they do?	
Is there anything you'd like mum/dad to know right now?	
If you're not living with mum/dad, is there anything you would like the person looking after you to know?	
Is there anything else you would like to talk about? (This can be anything that is on your mind and might not be about you mum/dad)	

Child Impact Assessment

Part Two: About What Has Happened Prison

How do you feel about your mum/dad being in prison?	
What questions do you have about your mum/dad's time in prison and their life there?	
How are you doing? You may find it easier to answer this on a scale of 1 to 10. (10 means you are coping really well and 1 means you are finding things really difficult.)	
If anyone could help you right now, what could they do?	
Is there anything you'd like mum/dad to know right now?	
If you're not living with mum/dad, is there anything you would like the person looking after you to know?	
Is there anything else you would like to talk about? (This can be anything that is on your mind and might not be about you mum/dad)	

Child Impact Assessment

Part Two: About What Has Happened Release from prison

How do you feel about your mum/dad being released?	
What questions do you have about your mum/dad being released from prison?	
How are you doing? You may find it easier to answer this on a scale of 1 to 10. (10 means you are coping really well and 1 means you are finding things really difficult.)	
If anyone could help you right now, what could they do?	
Is there anything you'd like mum/dad to know right now?	
If you're not living with mum/dad, is there anything you would like the person looking after you to know?	
Is there anything else you would like to talk about? (This can be anything that is on your mind and might not be about you mum/dad)	

Child Impact Assessment

Sometimes it is easier to draw how we feel than to say it. This is a place for you to draw a picture about what has happened to you, how you are feeling or how you are doing (only if you would like to). You may want to draw more than one picture or return to the picture later and change it if that helps. You may prefer to write a story or a poem - anything that helps you express how you are feeling!

A large, empty white rectangular area intended for drawing or writing, occupying the lower two-thirds of the page. It is framed by a light grey border.

Child Impact Assessment

Part Three: Agreed Actions

This is a place for you and the person helping you fill in this form to write down things that you would like to happen each time you chat. For example, you might be talking about mum's arrest and decide that it would be helpful for someone at school to know what happened so that they can support you. You might write:

<p>What needs to be done?</p> <p><i>Tell Mrs Jones about mum being arrested.</i></p>	<p>Who will do this and by when?</p> <p><i>I want to tell her with Gran there too. I want Mrs Jones to know by next Friday.</i></p>	<p>Date action completed</p> <p><i>(Write the date here when it gets done)</i></p>
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

If you have any questions about any of the actions, or you change your mind, you can speak to the person filling in this form with you.

What needs to be done?	Who will do this and by when?	Date action completed	Next steps

Additional Resources

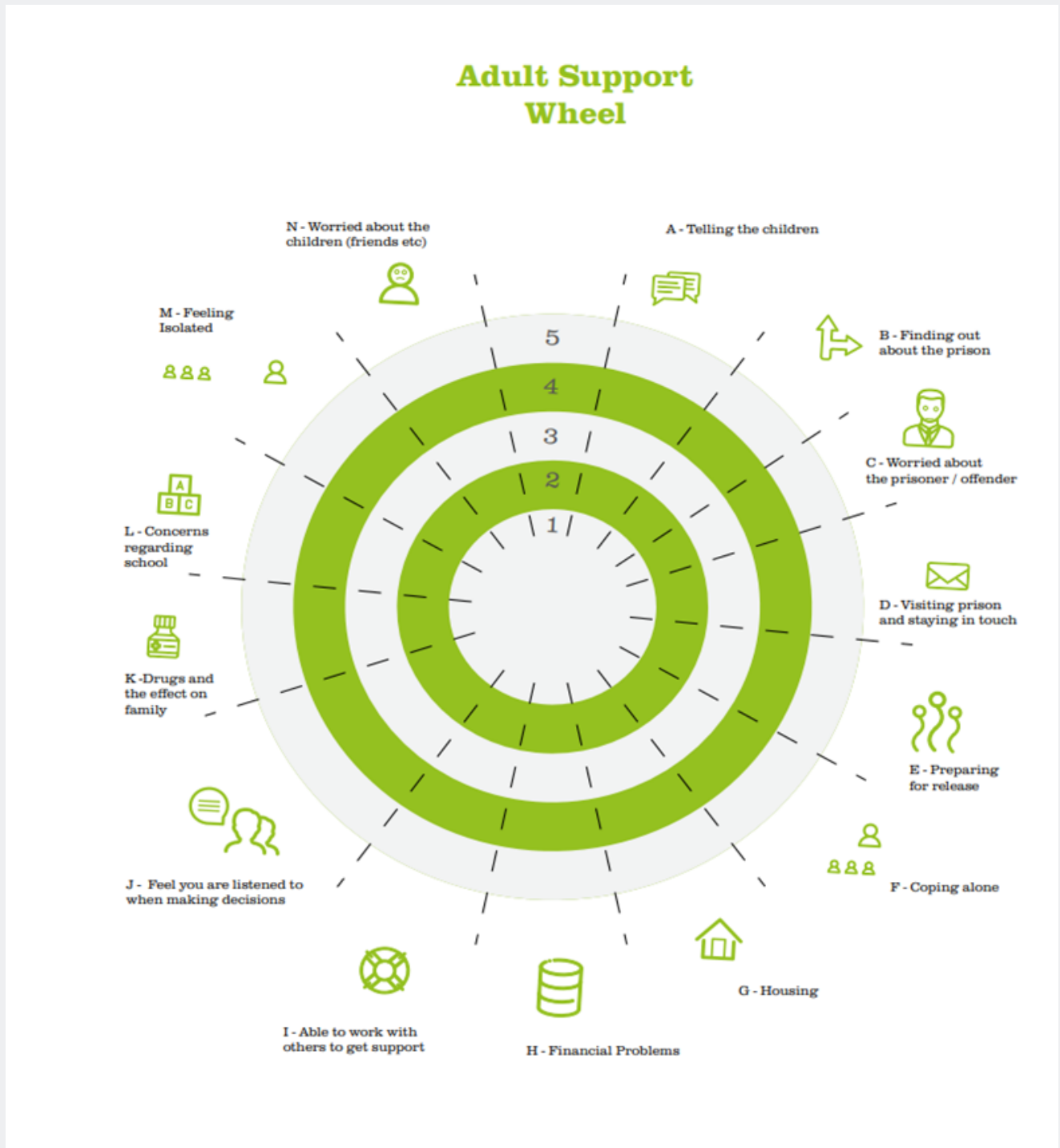
It is a vital part of an assessment that the support and key individuals that orbit the child/children are identified and included in any plan of action or support

This Support Wheel can be utilised as part of the Child Impact assessment and can be revisited at any point.



It is a vital part of an assessment that the support and key individuals that orbit the adults that care for children are identified and included in any plan of action or support

This Adult Support Wheel can be utilised as part of the Child Impact assessment and can be revisited at any point.



Impact of Parental Custody References/Resources

This document is a collection of information found online from different organisations, government websites and scholarly articles.

The Child Impact Assessment was co-created by [Prison Reform Trust](#) Associate and [Churchill Fellow Sarah Beresford](#) together with women supported by the [Merseyside Women's Services Alliance](#), children supported by [Time-Matters UK](#), and staff from Wirral Safeguarding Children Partnership's [Family Matters](#).

It has been adapted for use of statutory and non-statutory services within Lancashire Partners of Prisoners | POPS provide information and support for offenders' families from the point of arrest through to release and beyond.- a charity that runs visitors' centres and supports prisoners' families in the North West of England.

[Prisoners' Families Helpline](#) It is a vital part of an assessment that the support and key individuals that orbit the child/children are identified and included in any plan of action or support E-mail: info@prisonersfamilies.org Telephone: 0808 808 2003

[Prisoner Location Service](#) - use the Prisoner Location Service to find people in prison when you don't know which prison they are in. [Find a prisoner - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Help with Prison Visits](#) - help with travel expenses for families with a loved one in prison. [Get help with the cost of prison visits - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

[Directory of Resources | NICCO](#)

[Resources | Nepacs](#)

[27,000 Voices on Vimeo](#)

[Applications to mother and baby units in prison - how decisions are made and the role of social work \(hubble-live-assets.s3.amazonaws.com\)](#)

[Children with a Parent in Prison - Prison Fellowship](#)

[F and F \(proceduresonline.com\)](#)

[Leaflets for prisoners' families - Lancashire Violence Reduction Network \(lancsvrn.co.uk\)](#)

['Mia's Story' book launched to support children with a parent in prison - Lancashire Violence Reduction Network \(lancsvrn.co.uk\)](#) Order online - Lancashirepolicebooks@pslprint.co.uk

[Kincaid, S., Roberts, M., & Kane, E. \(2019\). Children of prisoner: Fixing a broken system. In CREST \(Issue February\). Prison Fellowship. \(2020, July\).](#)

**Lancashire Violence Reduction Network | Impact on
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