

MANCHESTER JOINT STRATEGIC NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2015/16

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (STARTING WELL AND DEVELOPING WELL)

CHAPTER: Key Groups

TOPIC: Children of Prisoners

Why is this important?

Background

An estimated 200,000 children in England and Wales experience the imprisonment of a parent each year¹.

Impact of parental imprisonment on a child

The impact of having a parent in prison is wide-ranging with potential implications for a child's residential and care arrangements, their mental, emotional and physical health, financial circumstances and educational achievement. For the most part these children remain unnoticed and unsupported despite research which increasingly shows the negative outcomes associated with having a parent in prison.

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. There is a duty of care and a duty to provide these children with the same opportunities for success as everyone else. Laying a foundation of awareness amongst professionals as to the issues facing prisoners families is the first step in building an 'offer' for families in this position and in creating a safe space in which families and children feel able to disclose their circumstances and seek support.

Research conducted by Barnardo's (2009)², the COPING project (2013)³ and a number of other studies have identified a number of themes relevant to children and young people:

- **An Invisible Group** There is no standard collection of information about who these children are, who is looking after them, what their needs are and what support they require. It is estimated that 7% of children experience the imprisonment of their father during their school years⁴.
- **Experience Stigma** Parental imprisonment can lead to a child experiencing stigma or bullying. Stigma can be perceived or actual and can lead to a child becoming isolated and vulnerable.
- **Experience Disadvantage** A family member in prison increases the likelihood of the child experiencing poverty⁵ as their family may become vulnerable to financial instability, debt and housing disruption. A child is likely to experience more stress at home and may experience unstable care arrangements.
- **Have Adverse Outcomes** Parental imprisonment might cause a range of

¹ Ministry of Justice (2012) Prisoners' childhood and family backgrounds, London: Ministry of Justice

² Jane Glover, Every night you cry, Barnardos, 2009

³ The COPING Project; Interventions and Mitigations to Strengthen Mental Health 2012

⁴ Department for Education and Skills, Every Child Matters, London: The Stationery Office, 2003

⁵ Rowntree Smith R, Grimshaw R, Romeo R, Knapp M, Poverty and disadvantage among prisoner's families, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2007

adverse outcomes, including aggressive behaviour, depression, anxiety, sleeping problems, eating problems, running away and delinquency. Children may on some occasions be exposed to substance misuse, violence or other illegal activities by family members and associates.

- **Higher Risk of Mental Health Issues** Children of prisoners are twice as likely to suffer from mental health issues⁶. The sudden removal of a parent from the family can create feelings of separation and loss similar to bereavement that may affect the emotional health of the child. Children may be anxious that their other parent might also be taken away or about the welfare of their imprisoned family member. Anxiety may result from loss of contact with the imprisoned parent or, where contact remains, from missing school to comply with prison visiting hours.
- **Fail to achieve** Children with a parent in prison have been demonstrated to be at risk of poorer academic achievement and poorer attendance at school (including exclusion)⁷. The average distance travelled by families to visit a male prison is 50 miles⁸ so a visit can often require a whole day and may lead to unauthorised absences in their school record. Children may experience stigma, bullying and teasing as well as unwelcome attention from the media.
- **Are more likely to offend themselves** Children of prisoners have 3 times the risk of anti-social behaviour compared to their peers⁹. 65% of boys with a convicted parent go on to offend¹⁰.

The NSPCC and Barnardo's document An Unfair System – All Babies Count: Spotlight on the criminal justice system (2014) highlighted the impact on babies affected by the criminal justice system. <http://www.barnardos.org.uk/an-unfair-sentence.pdf>

The report stated that babies who are affected by parental offending and the criminal justice system often encounter risks that could affect their care and development. This occurs for a number of reasons.

- Those involved in the criminal justice system often have additional needs, such as poor mental health, that can impact on the care a baby receives
- The criminal justice system can disrupt relationships, including the attachment relationship
- The physical incarceration of pregnant women and babies in Mother and Baby Units, may impact on the health and wellbeing of infants.

Those who are involved in the system often come from disadvantaged backgrounds. The physical and mental health and wellbeing of women and men in custody is extremely poor, with high rates of alcohol and substance misuse, domestic abuse, mental health problems and self-harming, particularly amongst women. Often linked to this, significant numbers of adults serving custodial sentences have experienced childhood trauma, abuse and maltreatment, and as a result have been in the care system, or 'looked after'. Underlying all of this are high levels of poverty

⁶ SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence). Guide 22 Children of Prisoners; Maintaining Family Ties, 2008 www.scie.org.uk

⁷ Naomi Clewett and Jane Glover, Supporting Prisoners' Families, Barnardo's, 2009

⁸ Prison Reform Trust, 2013

⁹ SCIE. Children's and families resource guide 11: Children of prisoners – maintaining family ties. 2008

¹⁰ Joseph Murray, David P. Farrington, Ivana Sekol, Rikke F. Olsen, Effects of parental imprisonment on child antisocial behaviour and mental health: a systematic review, Campbell Systematic Reviews 2009:4, 2009

and deprivation. None of these issues prevent someone from having a strong loving and nurturing relationship with their baby. But they can make being a parent a more difficult job, and we know that difficulties such as mental health problems and substance misuse, both especially prevalent amongst women in prison, can affect the quality of infant-parent attachment. We need to know if we are doing all we can to support these very vulnerable parents at this crucial time in their children's lives. Universal services must focus attention on interventions to support this in the most vulnerable parents and infants. In addition, the criminal justice system itself has an adverse impact on family relationships. Parent-child relationships are undermined, disrupted and damaged by the court and prison systems. The effect of this is easier to detect and understand in older children but can be overlooked in babies. Yet pregnancy and infancy is the time when support is needed most.

Prison Mother and Baby Units (MBUs) - There are currently 12 women's prisons in England, of which 6 have MBUs. Combined MBU capacity is 64 places for mothers and babies, and in addition, each unit has the capacity to take twins. There is a MBU at Styal Prison. The fact that not all women's prisons have MBUs has consequences for pregnant prisoners deciding care arrangements for their babies. A woman choosing to apply for an MBU place may have to move to a prison even more distant from her existing children and family. Alternatively, women in England choose not to apply for an MBU place because it means being far from home.

The Manchester Picture

Using the national estimate and population figures for 0 – 19 year olds across Greater Manchester from Public Health England's 2014 Child Health Profile¹¹ it is possible to estimate that around 10,700 children across Greater Manchester are affected.¹² We would expect that at least 20% of this figure to relate to the city of Manchester. However in reality nobody really knows how many children are actually affected as this data is not routinely collected therefore there is no way of ensuring their needs are met.

What would we like to achieve?

Recognition of the impact of parental imprisonment on children and young people is key to their needs being addressed. The needs of such young people need to become a priority for professionals working in Children and Families teams, schools and health departments. In fact, other aspects of the Criminal Justice System, including police and sentencers should also recognise this hidden group of children and young people. For many years agencies such as Manchester-based Partners of Prisoners (POPS) and Families Support Group have worked alongside the Prison Estate to ensure the needs of children and young people are met whilst they visit their parent/carer. This has resulted in better visiting conditions, improved search procedures for children, qualified staff in play areas whilst the visit takes place, homework clubs on family days, improved physical contact where possible etc.

¹¹ Public Health England's 2014 Child Health Profile <http://www.chimat.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=101746®ION=101629>

¹² It must be noted that this estimate is potentially problematic. This figure does not consider any particular characteristics of the Greater Manchester area which may have implications for the number of people involved in the criminal justice system. If using this figure it is advisable to do so cautiously, and to present it with a statement about how it has been calculated and its limitations.

However, the responsibility for such children does not lie with the prison alone. Better joined up working is required between dedicated children and family teams (including troubled families), improved communication between all agencies, shared information protocols and a recognition that third sector specialist agencies like POPS are sometimes better fitted to engage these children and young people and support them into mainstream service provision.

The views of families of children experiencing a loved one in custody are an important asset. Many families are aware of the impact of the sentence on their children and young people and require only good quality advice, information and access to somebody to talk through any issues that may arise. Other families however, have other issues to deal with and present more complex problems additional to the custodial sentence. These families require a cohesive and structured support package from a variety of agencies but they have a fear of statutory services, and also view the interventions on offer as not relating to their situation.

Specialist family support agencies can fill that gap and be a conduit for families to engage with defined statutory interventions, especially where safeguarding may be highlighted. There is no current assessment of a family's capacity to cope with the imprisonment of a loved one other than an assessment made by the prison when an offender enters the prison. This tool is inadequate to elicit quality family information and as with many other data gathering processes, is only as good as the person gathering the data and the environment in which it is gathered. Better understanding of such processes would assist the gathering of earlier quality family information that can then be acted upon to either prevent or reduce the impact on children.

Whilst it is important that we have robust processes for identifying children and young people affected by parental imprisonment, the wider issue of stigma and discrimination mean that the starting point for supporting these children must always be to build a **foundation of awareness** amongst professionals; both of the wide-range of issues facing families and of the support that exists to address their needs. Developing a **strategic multi-agency approach** should then follow ensuring all agencies in contact with children and families of prisoners have a shared approach which places the user voice at the heart of any policies or procedures. From there a commitment to **ongoing training and workforce development** across a locality ensures that any **identification procedures** result in effective and timely support for each individual child and their family.

What do we need to do to achieve this?

First and foremost Greater Manchester should look to appoint a designated lead for children of offenders to deliver on an agreed locality action plan.

A coordinated response is required which utilises families experience, reduces stigma, ensures regular training of staff, recognises and engages existing resources/specialist interventions, seeks recognition of these children in strategic plans, encourages joint commissioning, and encourages better partnership arrangements/data sharing protocols (see COPING 2013).

Commissioners of children and family services need to embrace the Criminal Justice System, and the people who move through it as part of their day to day delivery of services. Such families are going to be the same families that they are responsible for and although they are deemed “hidden”, they present themselves and their children every day in their thousands to visitor centres attached to prisons.

A pooled resource would have the potential to ensure that when such families do present, their needs are assessed and appropriate support is provided or a referral made into mainstream services.

Training for staff who are unfamiliar with the needs of children and families of offenders would assist greatly in relation to them realising what the issues are, what they can do and who they can contact to assist e.g. Hidden Sentence training.

More information concerning some of the key areas identified above (**Raising Awareness, Strategic Development (integration of user voice), Workforce Development and Training and Identification and Support**) can be found in *Guidance for Working with Children who have a Parent (or Significant Family Member) in Prison* on Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership’s website http://greatermanchesterscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_child_parent_prison.html

What are we currently doing?

Nationally

i-HOP (funded by the Department for Education until March 2016) is a national one stop information and advice service for all professionals working with children and families of offenders. The service, delivered by Barnardo’s in partnership with POPS (Partners of Prisoners and Families Support Group), provides a web-based knowledge hub (www.i-hop.org.uk) which brings together all the up-to-date resources, research, service details, practice examples, policy frameworks, events and training programmes concerning children of prisoners. Click on the links below to learn how i-HOP can specifically support professionals from each sector:

- **Schools** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/359
- **LSCBs** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/357
- **Local Authorities** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/468
- **Police** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/595
- **Health** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/454
- **Early Years** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/476
- **Prisons** https://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/358

The **Prisoner’s Families Support Alliance (PFSA)** is a joint venture between Partners of Prisoners and Family Support Group (POPS), Prison Advice & Care Trust Pact (Pact), Nepacs and Jigsaw. The Alliance aims to develop and deliver family services in prisons in England and Wales, to share good practice and learning, and to encourage the government, public, private and voluntary sectors to focus on

families as part of the strategy to reduce re-offending. The Alliance has introduced the roles of Family Engagement Workers (FEWs) in order to provide support services to offenders and their families during the period of a custodial sentence. Family Engagement Workers are focused on achieving the very best outcomes for offenders and their families; to reduce re-offending and to safeguard and improve the life chances of offenders' children and their families. **Delivered at HMYOI Hindley by POPS.**

Greater Manchester: Strategic Guidance for working with children who have a parent (or significant family member) in prison is a protocol developed by the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership in partnership with **i-HOP** (www.i-hop.org.uk). It has been written to assist all professionals who work with children who have a parent or significant family member in prison and to encourage a strategic approach to meeting the needs of this potentially vulnerable group. The current guidance builds on work already undertaken by Bolton Safeguarding Children Board in 2013 to develop guidelines for use by professionals in their locality¹³.

Greater Manchester Services

POPS (<http://www.partnersofprisoners.co.uk/>)

POPS provide support services for offenders and their families at all stages of the criminal justice system, from arrest through to the first steps towards resettlement.

POPS supports families across Greater Manchester through a variety of projects:

- **Prison Visitor Services:** providing emotional and practical support, tea bar facilities, family days and family forums. **Delivered at HMYOI Hindley, HMP Buckley Hall.**
- **Prison-based Family Support:** Family Engagement Workers (FEWs) as above, see PFSA. **Delivered at HMYOI Hindley.**
- **Community-based Family Support:** providing information, support (generic) and advocacy to help strengthen families. POPS Community-based Family Support Workers are currently integrated into the following statutory services:
 - Greater Manchester Probation Service, Intensive Community Order (ICO)
 - Greater Manchester Probation Service, Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS)
 - Integrated Gang Management Unit (IGMU)

Prison Advice and Care Trust - PACT (<http://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>)

Pact visitors' centres offer a child-friendly, welcoming space for people visiting loved ones in prison. Usually situated outside the prison gates, they are staffed by family support workers and volunteers who offer information and support to family members. Pact visitors' centres can include supervised play areas, family days, Time to Connect programming, computer use and assistance, as well as Pact Lunch services. **Delivered at HMP/YOI Forest Bank.**

Riverside ECHG (<https://www.riverside.org.uk/>)

Provides support to families and friends of prisoners at the HMP Manchester prison visitors' centre, offering advice, information, refreshments and supervised play

¹³ GUIDANCE FOR WORKING WITH CHILDREN WITH A FAMILY MEMBER IN PRISON 2013
<http://boltonsafeguardingchildren.org.uk/documents/2014/01/working-with-children-with-a-parent-in-custody.pdf>

facilities for children. ***Delivered at HMP Manchester.***

Out There (<http://outtheresfop.co.uk/>)

Offers a free and confidential service for those affected by a family members' imprisonment in the Greater Manchester area. Out There provides friendship and information in order to alleviate, in some measure, the isolation and difficulties facing families in finding sources of information and support at a very stressful time.

Restorative Thinking Parenting Programme

(<http://www.restorativethinking.co.uk/schools/parenting-programme/>)

Delivered in prison settings the programme assists parents in understanding their child's behaviour, thinking about what that behaviour is communicating and how to meet children's unmet needs. The range of reflective activities encourage parents to consider the impact of their parenting styles and allows them to develop new skills needed to restore and rebuild positive relationships and reduce future conflict.

Delivered at HMP/YOI Forest Bank.

Barnardo's Advocacy Service

(http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/our_projects/advocacy.htm)

Provides an independent advocacy service to young people held in juvenile Young Offenders' Institutions and Secure Training Centres to assist them in resolving issues relating to their welfare, care and treatment whilst detained.

Delivered at HMYOI Hindley.

Community and Stakeholder Views

COPING

A unique child-centred study COPING aims to understand how the imprisonment of a parent really affects children, resiliency processes and the potential improvement the wellbeing of a child following appropriate support:

<http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/18019/1/ChildrenOfPrisonersReport-final.pdf>

Fixers – My Own Prison

This short film, produced by Fixers, depicts the life of a teenager whose parent is in and out of prison. Within the film seventeen-year-old 'Emily' is supporting her friend 'Amy', whose father has served custodial sentences since she was young. Emotions, feelings and experiences are highlighted throughout the film.

http://www.fixers.org.uk/index.php?module_instance_id=11208&core_alternate_io_handler=view_news_video&data_ref_id=10865&video_no=1

References and Links

1) Research: Impact of imprisonment

Sytske Besemer, Victor van der Geest, Joseph Murray, Catrien C. J. H. Bijleveld and David P. Farrington, *The Relationship Between Parental Imprisonment and Offspring Offending in England and The Netherlands*, Oxford University Press, January 2011 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/58

Kris Christmann, *Arresting Development?*, Police Professional, November 2013 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/482

Owen Gill, *Every Night You Cry: Case studies of 15 Bristol families with a father in prison*, Barnardo's, 2009 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/103

Jane Glover, *Every Night You Cry: The realities of having a parent in prison*, Barnardo's, October 2009 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/128

Jones, A., Gallagher, B., Manby, M., Robertson, O., Schützwohl, M., Berman, A.H., Hirschfield, A., Ayre, L., Urban, M. and Sharratt, K., *COPING: Children of Prisoners, Interventions & Mitigations to Strengthen Mental Health*, University of Huddersfield, 2013 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/297

Sara Lewis, Salina Bates and Joseph Murray, *Children of prisoners - maintaining family ties*, Social Care Institute for Excellence, April 2008 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/25

Erika London Bocknek, Jessica Sanderson, Preston A. Britner IV, *Ambiguous Loss and Posttraumatic Stress in School-Age Children of Prisoners*, Journal of Child and Family Studies, June 2009 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/511

Ministry of Justice and Department for Children, Schools and Families, *Children of Offenders Review*, June 2007 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/12

Ernst L. Moerk, *Like father like son: Imprisonment of fathers and the psychological adjustment of sons*, Journal of Youth and Adolescence, December 1987 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/517

Joseph Murray, *The cycle of punishment- Social exclusion of prisoners and their children*, Sage Publications; Journal of Criminology and Criminal Justice, February 2007 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/61

Joseph Murray, David P. Farrington, Ivana Sekol, Rikke F. Olsen, *Effects of parental imprisonment on child antisocial behaviour and mental health: a systematic review*, Campbell Systematic Reviews 2009:4 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/65

Murray, J., Farrington, D. P. and Sekol, I., *Children's antisocial behaviour, mental health, drug use and educational performance after parental incarceration: A systematic review and meta-analysis*, University of Cambridge, Psychological Bulletin, March 2012 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/67

Julie Poehlmann, *Representations of Attachment Relationships in Children of Incarcerated Mothers*, Child Development, May 2005

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/513

Rowntree Smith R, Grimshaw R, Romeo R, Knapp M, *Poverty and disadvantage among prisoner's families*, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, 2007

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/62

2) Research: practice and responding to needs

Karen Argent, "Children of Prisoners" in *Working with Vulnerable Children, Young People and Families*, Routledge, 2013

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/291

Michelle Bomber, *Inside I'm Hurting: Practical Strategies for supporting children with attachment difficulties in school*, Worth Publishing, 2007

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/516

Ben Estep and Natalie Nicholles, *Economic study of Integrated Family Support Programme (IFS)*, nef for Pact, 2012

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/87

Dr. Finola Farrant, *Improving outcomes for prisoners and their families, Key lessons from the Integrated Family Support Service*, Pact, NEPACS, Barefoot Research, Roehampton University, August 2013

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/234

Owen Gill, *Developing pathways into children and family services for mothers involved in the criminal justice system*, Barnardo's, January 2013

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/99

Owen Gill and May Jacobson Deegan, *Working with children with a parent in prison: Messages for practice from two Barnardo's pilot services*, Barnardo's, May 2013

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/93

Dr Nancy Loucks, 'Prison Without Bars': *Needs, Support and good practice for work with Prisoners' Families*, Tayside Criminal Justice Partnership and Families Outside, February 2004 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/512

Helen O'Keefe, *The Invisible Child: Perspectives of headteachers about the role of primary schools in working with the children of male prisoners*, Prison Service Journal, September 2013 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/352

Julia Morgan, Caroline Leeson, Rebecca Carter Dillon, Anne Louise Wirgman, Mary Needham, 'A Hidden Group of Children': *Support in Schools for Children who Experience Parental Imprisonment*, Children and Society; Wiley Online Library, April 2011 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/332

Sarah Roberts, *The Role of Schools in Supporting Families Affected by Imprisonment* Winston Churchill Memorial Trust and Families Outside, September 2012

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/71

Ann M. Shillingford, Oliver W. Edwards, *Professional School Counselors Using Choice Theory to Meet the Needs of Children of Prisoners*, Professional School Counseling, August 2010 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/514

3) Policy: national

Children's Rights Alliance for England, *State of Children's Rights in England*, Children's Rights Alliance for England, November 2013
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/411

Department for Children, Schools and Families and Ministry of Justice, *Reducing re-offending: supporting families, creating better futures*, 2009
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/17

Department for Communities and Local Government, *The Troubled Families Programme*, 2011 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/18

Department for Education, *Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to inter agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children*, Department for Education, March 2013 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/22

Baroness Jean Corston, *The Corston Report*, Home Office, March 2007
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/16

Ofsted, *Children's centre inspection handbook for inspections*, Ofsted, March 2013
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/290

National Offender Management Service, *Reducing Reoffending Children and Families Pathway*, 2004 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/24

United Nations, *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child*, United Nations November 1989 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/15

4) Policy: local

Barnardo's and Bristol City Council, *Bristol Charter for Children of Prisoners*, November 2013 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/354

Buckinghamshire County Council, *Guidelines for Working with Children who have a 'Family' Member in Prison*, Buckinghamshire County Council, April 2013
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/170

Sharon Evans, *Guidelines for Working with Children who have a 'Family' Member in Prison*, Oxfordshire County Council, January 2009
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/158

Gloucestershire County Council, *Education of Children with a Parent or Close relative in Prison or at Risk of a Custodial Sentence*, Gloucestershire County Council, 2002 http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/159

Kingston Local Safeguarding Children Board, *Families Apart Protocol: supporting the needs of prisoner families*, Kingston Local Safeguarding Children Board, 2009
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/160

5) Resources for children and / or family members

Danny's Mum

A colourful storybook telling the story of Danny whose mum is in prison, for children up to six years. The book explores in an age appropriate way, the impact of having a mum in prison. http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/30

Factsheets - Prisoners' Friends and Families Service

Factsheets for families covering a wide range of issues on how a family member's involvement in the criminal justice system might affect a prisoner's family, and explaining criminal justice procedures and systems.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/183

Honest - Emma's Story

A booklet for 4 - 11 year olds, telling the story of a young brother and sister whose father is in prison. In addition to the narrative contains notes for the reader to help answer any questions children may have.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/173

My Special Book

Worksheets for young children to document their visit to their parent in prison, and write down how they felt, what they talked about, what they saw and so on.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/258

The Outsiders - Living with Separation

A guide for families explaining the possible impacts and experiences a family may go through during a relative's imprisonment. It explains the different emotions that the separation might have on different family members, and offers advice about how this can be addressed.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/36

What shall I tell the children?

A leaflet to help parents with ways of telling a child that a parent is being sent to prison covering various questions and issues.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/245

What's the story? What happens when a relative is sent to prison

A booklet for young people aged 12-16 yrs, using a story of a girl whose Dad goes to prison to explore issues and challenges.
http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/400

Visiting Prison

A short leaflet aimed at enabling parents and carers to prepare themselves and the children and young people for a prison visit. Containing practical information, discussion topics and issues to consider such as preparing for a visit and how young person may feel afterwards. http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/423

6) Resources for professionals

Children affected by the imprisonment of a family member: A handbook for schools developing good practice

A handbook to help individual staff and whole schools to effectively support children affected by parental imprisonment.

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/26

eLearning: Children of prisoners

Social Care Institute of Excellence e-learning resources with interactive, multimedia information aimed at professionals.

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/28

It's No Holiday

A film using the voices of children and young people, exploring some of their experiences of having a close family member in prison.

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/473

Listening to Prisoners' Children: a Toolkit

A practical guide to assist play workers in developing creative ways to consult with children about the services they use.

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/179

Social Care TV: Children of prisoners

Videos for professionals considering the difficulties that children and families can face at various points of the offender journey – arrest, custody and release.

http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/29

Under fives and their families affected by imprisonment: A handbook for Sure Start Children's Centres

A handbook to help Sure Start Children's Centres support children and their families affected by imprisonment, containing practical guidance and suggestions on how Children's Centres can develop their reach to, and practice with, these children and families. http://www.i-hop.org.uk/app/answers/detail/a_id/27

Other JSNA Topics that this links to

Mental Health and Emotional Health and Wellbeing; Looked After Children and Young People; Families at Risk; Children and young people experiencing domestic violence/abuse; Safeguarding; Housing.

Date first version completed: 11th December 2015

Date of latest revision: