



**families  
outside**

**supporting  
families affected  
by imprisonment**

**Kerry Knox, Head of Family Support, Families  
Outside**

    @FamiliesOutside



# Families Outside

## Our Vision

Is for families affected by imprisonment to be treated with justice and fairness so that they can live healthy, active lives free from stigma and disadvantage

## Our Mission

Families Outside works to improve outcomes for children and families affected by imprisonment

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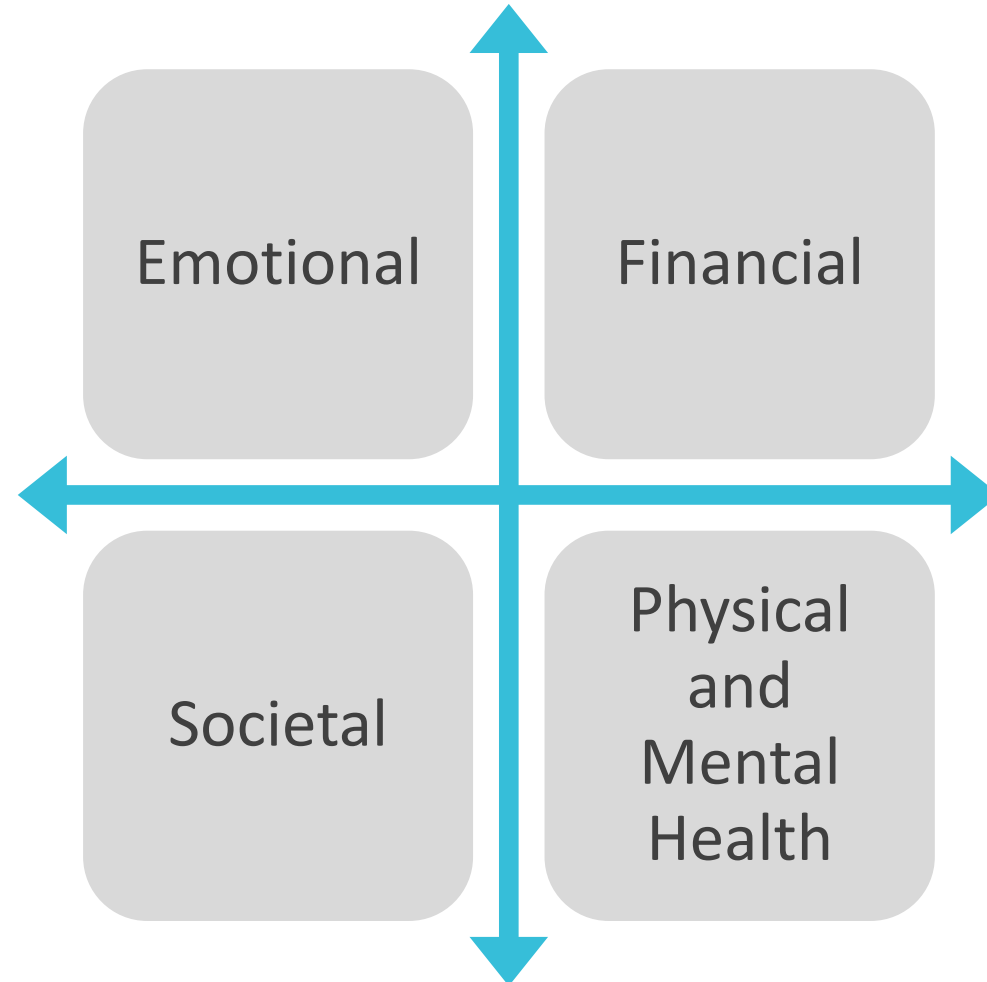
# Families Outside

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[familiesoutside.org.uk](http://familiesoutside.org.uk)





## Cost of Remand

Travel: £70 per month  
Refreshments at visits: £60  
per month  
Paying into personal account:  
£100 per month  
'Other' costs, such as clothes,  
letters: £55 per month  
Total median cost: £300 per  
month, more than half of income

**1/2** were  
supporting someone  
who was not in their  
local prison

## Cost of Imprisonment

Travel: £77 per month  
Refreshments at visits: £36 per  
month  
Paying into personal account: £86  
per month  
'Other' costs, such as clothes,  
letters: £75 per month  
Total median cost:  
£180 per month, a third of income



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# Family impact

## CONCERNS FOR FAMILY MEMBERS IN PRISON

Families experience significant worry and concern for their family member in prison.

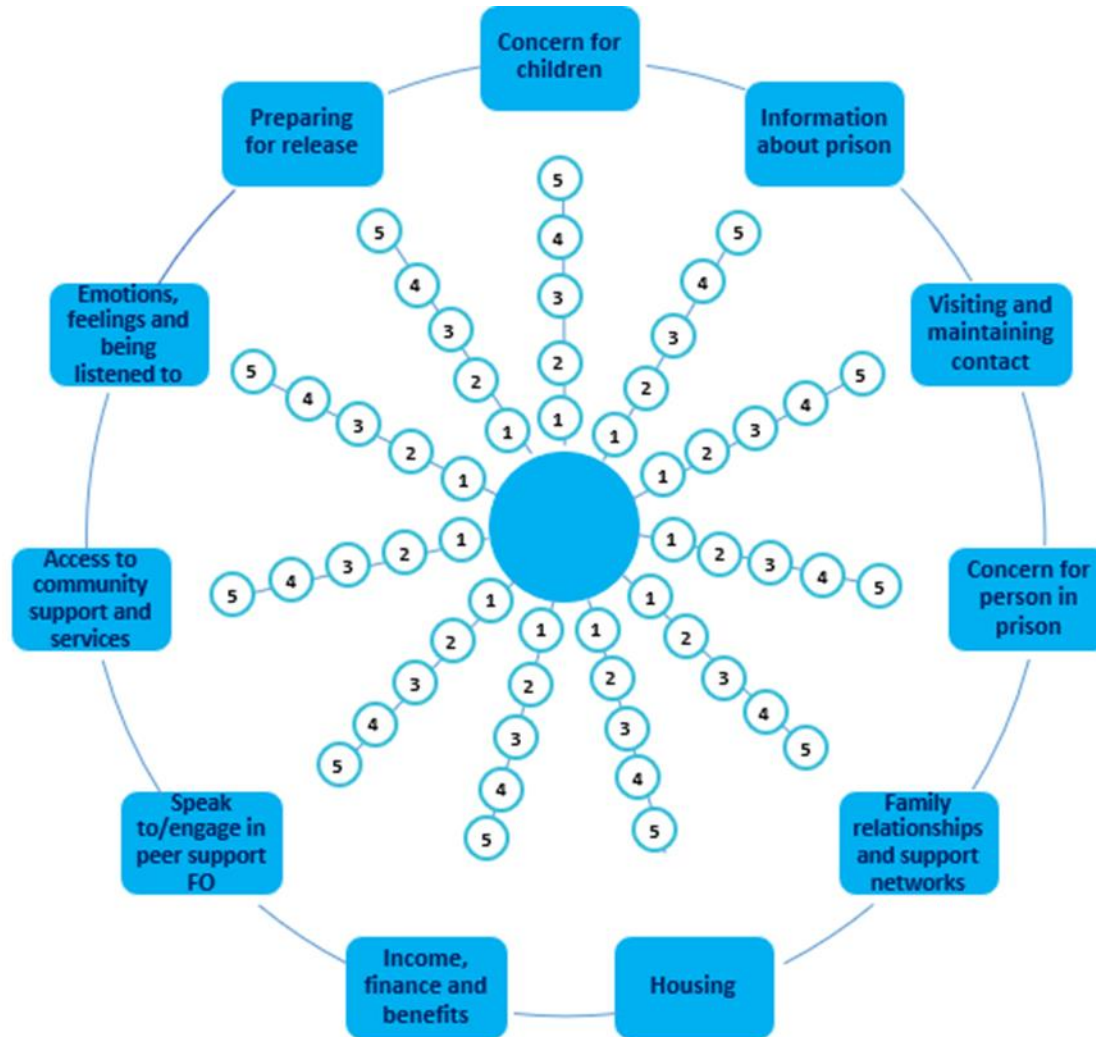
Over the last year, 481 concerns about the health and wellbeing of the person in prison were raised with Families Outside.





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# Supporting families



- Completed through a form of co-construction
- To identify concerns and discuss an action plan to move forward
- Support is reviewed regularly and at the least, every 3 months



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# Children affected by imprisonment

*Nearly 2/3 of the male and female prison population have children under the age of 18*

*Estimated 20,000 – 27,000 children affected by parental imprisonment*

*1/3 of children witness their parent's arrest*

*30% of children with a family member in prison develop serious mental ill health*

*Only 5% of children with a mother in prison remain in the family home, and only 17% will be looked after by their father*

*Higher risk of imprisonment for children who have a parent in prison*



Families Outside work towards 4 outcomes for the children and young people that are directly supported by our service –

- To improve the child's understanding of imprisonment
- To improve family links between the person in prison and their children (where appropriate)
- To offer space for children and young people to explore their feelings about imprisonment, through 1-1 support and/or peer support (where available)
- To improve emotional and mental health and wellbeing through enhanced involvement with universal and specialised services



# United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC)



No child affected by parental imprisonment should suffer discrimination and should be treated the same as their peers.



At every stage of the criminal justice process, the best interests of a child should be taken into account at all times.



Children should be able to stay with their parents unless this is absolutely impossible. The use of non-custodial sentences should be encouraged to facilitate this.



At every stage of the process, children's voices should be heard. All professionals should ask children their views, and children should be able to make their voice heard.



Where children are unable to stay with their parent or parents, support should be made available to them.

# Children impact assessments



“This is me” is a call to action for a range of stakeholders. The actions have been inspired by children themselves. Most are deliverable with immediate effect, requiring nothing more than attitudinal change, creativity, and a vision for improving outcomes for children. The toolkit provides all of the resources needed to implement these actions.



# Children affected by imprisonment



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# Training



## Families Outside: Families Affected by Imprisonment

- Module 1: Understanding the issues affected by imprisonment
- Module 2: Supporting children and young people affected by imprisonment
- Module 3: Prison and prison visiting

You can find out more about our accredited training and register your place at

<https://www.familiesoutside.org.uk/professionals/training/>

# Families Outside Services



- National Organisation
- National Helpline 0800 254 0088
- Regional Family Support
- Support and Participation
- Information and Resources
- Training and Awareness Raising
- Policy and Practice Influencing

## Our Values:



Responsive



Accessible



Independent



Knowledgeable



For further information and to download resources please visit our website

<https://www.familiesoutside.org.uk/professionals/training/>

For any other information please contact our helpline on **0800 254 0088**

Or email

[Support@familiesoutside.org.uk](mailto:Support@familiesoutside.org.uk)