



Action for Prisoners' Families Aims and Values

Aims:

We want:

- Criminal justice structures, procedures and conditions that take into account what offenders' and prisoners' families would like and need.
- Criminal justice structures, procedures and conditions that support the maintenance of strong ties between offenders, prisoners and their families.
- Prejudice about offenders' and prisoners' families eliminated.
- Provision of accessible services in the community and at prisons that each offender's or prisoner's family needs or would like.

Values:

We believe that:

- Families should not be judged or discriminated against because someone has offended or they have someone in prison.
- All families, parents and children affected by offending and imprisonment should have access to information, resources and services as soon as someone is sent to prison or becomes involved with the criminal justice system.
- Contact between prisoners and their families should be positively encouraged and duly recognised as a significant factor in reducing re-offending.
- Families should be actively involved in the prisoner's progression through their sentence from induction through to release, and in policy development.
- Children have the right to good quality contact with a parent in prison; to be protected from discrimination and harm; to have their views taken into account and to have advocates to speak on their behalf.
- Offenders' families and children, and the families and children of people in prison, should be seen as families first and have their needs met accordingly.