

Action for Prisoners' Families

Working Together - Reducing the damage of imprisonment

consultation briefing

august 2010

The government is calling for evidence across a range of sectors. Here are the consultations to which APF will be responding; members might wish to submit evidence directly or through APF. The government is also interested in hearing directly from prisoners' families.

We will post news of future consultations on Twitter as they arise - if you would like to know how to receive them either visit our page on [Twitter](#) or contact [Jessica Berens](#) for a 'how to' guide.

special bulletin

1. Mental Health

The National Mental Health Unit is inviting submissions to two online surveys about the Criminal Justice Liaison and Diversion [programme](#) that seeks to identify people with mental health needs and divert them from the prison system. How could prisoners' and offenders' families contribute to this programme?

Contact. [Survey](#) (for existing providers)

[Survey](#) (for potential providers)

Deadline: September 10

2. Assisted Prisons Visits

The APVU has asked APF to submit ideas to make financial support for travel to prison more efficient. How do you think this could be achieved?

Contact [Lucy Keenan](#).

Deadline: September 14

3. Rehabilitation and re-offending

APF are feeding into the Ministry of Justice green paper due to be published in the autumn. All APF members are invited to send observations on the following subjects: decentralisation; improving joint working; information and transparency; social justice (intergenerational issues); commissioning and competition; sentencing; victims; youth justice; restorative justice; women offenders; new approaches to drugs and alcohol; mental health; housing.

Contact [Jessica Berens](#).

Deadline: as soon as possible but no later than 14 September.

4. Early Years

[The Tickell Review](#) of the Early Years Foundation Stage is looking at how best to protect young children's safety, welfare, development and learning. What issues should be raised about young children affected by imprisonment?

Contact: [DoH consultation website](#).

Deadline: 30 September

5. Drugs

The Home Office is receiving submissions to help develop the new [drugs strategy](#). How should this take into account issues for prisoners' and offenders' families.

Contact: [Online form](#)

Email [Drug Consultations](#)

Deadline: 30 September

6. Family Justice

The Ministry of Justice is carrying out a [review](#) of the family justice system with the aim of making it quicker, simpler, more cost-effective and fairer whilst continuing to protect children and vulnerable adults from risk of harm. What special issues are there for prisoners and their families, for instance adoption (formal and informal) and kinship care?

Contact: [Ministry of Justice](#)

Deadline: 30 September

7. Localisation

The Communities and Local Government Committee has launched an enquiry into localism and will consider government's [plans](#) for the decentralisation of public services. How will this affect community based services for prisoners' families and the relationship of these services with prison-based services? How might the effect of localism on sentencing affect prisoners' and offenders' families?

Contact: Submissions can be sent by email to clgev@parliament.uk and marked 'localism.'

Deadline: 1st October

8. Poverty

The Labour MP Frank Field is leading an independent review into poverty and how it influences childhood outcomes. Are there particular issues for prisoners' and offenders' families?

families?

Contact: Submissions to the [Poverty Review](#)

Deadline 1st October

9. Health and social care

Proposed changes to the NHS and social care are described in the white paper, '[Equity and Excellence: Liberating the NHS](#).' Consultations are being held on: Transparency in Outcomes; Increasing Democratic Legitimacy; Commissioning for Patients and Regulating Healthcare Providers. What special issues are there for prisoners' and offenders' families.

Contact: [submissions](#)

Deadline: 11 October

The National Council for Palliative Care is currently reviewing the white paper to explore the potential impact on people approaching the end of life. Amongst the significant points is a 'move towards a national choice offer to support people's preferences about how to have a good death.' and the pledge to develop a coherent 24/7 urgent care service. Are there special issues for prisoners and their families?

Contact: [Simon Chapman \(NCPC\)](#)

Deadline: 8 September

10. Business Innovation and Skills

Submissions are invited on skills policy as outlined in the paper [Skills for Sustainable Growth](#)

If you are a trainer what would help you to demonstrate the value of your training to employers? If you are an employer what would help you to choose appropriate training and be confident of its quality? Do you have any comments on the role of adult and continuing education in the lives of prisoners' families?

Contact. [The Skills Strategy Division](#)

Deadline: 14 October

11. Autism

Submissions are invited to help improve care services for adults with autism. This is open people with autism as well as their families and carers, How can families help to improve care for prisoners with autism are there special issues for prisoners' dependents with autism?

Contact [Department of Health](#)

Deadline: October 22

12. Data and Statistics.

The Cabinet Office is seeking submissions about which government datasets should be released. What data relating to prisoners and their families should the government collect? What existing data should be made more widely available?.

Contact: www.data.gov.uk/data

Deadline: Ongoing

The new Public Sector Transparency Board has produced Public Data Principles and has invited comments.

Contact: [Public Sector Transparency Board](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

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This bulletin goes to people who are interested in prisoners' families and penal reform issues.

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