

Feedback from women supported by the Women's Support Centre:

(I was) able to focus on action required to make changes. I actually dread to think how my life path would have gone if I'd not met my counsellor ... I'm not the person who walked in those doors many months ago!

It gives people a second chance in life because everyone makes mistakes. The programme has helped me deal with problems head on and has stopped me from getting into trouble again.

(I) learned how to deal with situations in a different way.



Taking the most hurt people out of society and punishing them in order to teach them how to live within society is, at best, futile.

Whatever else a prisoner knows, she knows everything there is to know about punishment because that is exactly what she has grown up with.

Whether it is childhood sexual abuse, indifference, neglect; punishment is most familiar to her.

Chris Tchaikovsky
Founder of Women in Prison.

Women's Support Centre Surrey

19 High Street

Woking

GU21 6BW

Phone: 01483 726621

Email: wscadmin@wipuk.org

www.womenssupportcentresurrey.org.uk



The Women's Support Centre (WSC) provides practical and emotional support to women.



What we do ...

The Women's Support Centre (WSC) works with women whose lives are affected by the Criminal Justice system—both those who have served a sentence and those that are in contact with, or at risk of being in contact with, the Criminal Justice system. The WSC is based in Woking.

The project workers at the Centre support their clients to recognise and address their needs with the aim of reintegrating back into the community and leading a more stable life.

The WSC works closely with a number of organisations including all of the Surrey local authorities, the police, NHS Surrey, the National Probation Service and Kent, Surrey and Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company.

Please contact the Centre for referral forms. Women may also self-refer. You can refer via our website at www.womenssupportcentresurrey.org.uk

The Centre currently delivers the following projects:

Generic Project Work

Support workers provide 1-1 support and run a weekly drop in at the Centre.

Substance Misuse

As well as 1-1 support, specialist substance misuse workers run a weekly SMART recovery group.

Sliding Doors Healthy Relationships Programme

This programme focuses on healthy relationships for young women aged 13 to 17. The is jointly facilitated with Surrey County Council youth services.

Counselling Services

A team of volunteer counsellors provides up to 26, 1-1 sessions for women. Please contact the Centre for more information.

New Beginnings Arts Awards

The Centre runs an annual art competition called "New Beginnings". The competition is open to women in the community and in the three female prisons in Surrey. The work is exhibited at The Lightbox Gallery in Surrey and also tours around various venues in Surrey.

Domestic Abuse support group

Please contact the Centre for more information about this.

Checkpoint Plus

Checkpoint Plus is an out of court disposal (diversion) in Surrey. Staff from the WSC work with police partners to deliver the diversion scheme to women who have been arrested (there are certain offences that are excluded) across Surrey. Women complete a holistic needs assessment, and then complete a series of sessions relating directly to the offence and any underlying issues that contribute to offending behaviour and wellbeing.

TIMETABLE

TUESDAYS

11am—12.30pm

Drop In

A friendly, relaxed and supportive environment with tea, coffee and snacks where women can come and chat to project workers and get information about services and support available

WEDNESDAYS

11.30am to 1pm

SMART group

The SMART programme empowers women to manage choices around their addictive behavior.

FREEDOM PROGRAMME &

DOMESTIC ABUSE RECOVERY TOOLKIT

The Freedom Programme and the DA Recovery Toolkit provide a supportive, safe and friendly environment involving active participation in structured discussions on the subject of domestic abuse. Please contact the Centre for dates and times.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ANY OF OUR SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRE on 01483 726621 or VISIT www.womenssupportcentresurrey.org.uk

