

## 1. Context setting – the audit

The multi-agency case file audit took place on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

Representatives from Probation, West Mercia Police, Department for Work and Pensions, Shropshire Housing, We are with you, Clinical Commissioning Group and Shropshire Council attended.

## 2. Context setting - the audit

3 individuals had been chosen for audit. All were prison leavers who were drug or alcohol users.

The focus of the audit was the continuity of care for these individuals after they left Prison.

## 3. Context setting - adult 1

Adult 1 was a male who was subject to [Integrated Offender Management](#)

Adult 1 had been assessed by probation as being medium risk of serious harm to the public and low risk in other areas. These risks were associated with his drug use.

## 8. Finding - be specific

If you have a prison leaver making a claim for Universal credit be specific in your questioning.

Who else is working with them? What are their health conditions?

This will help direct the support you offer.



## 4. Context setting - adult 2

Adult 2 was a male who was subject to [Integrated Offender Management](#).

Adult 2 had been assessed by Probation as presenting a medium risk to children (due to them witnessing his substance misuse and related behaviour) and public and low risk in other areas.

## 7. Finding - can they read and write

If you are working with someone check if they can read or write.

Ask them if they need information in a more accessible format or if they need additional help and support.

## 6. Finding - take the time

When you have a patient, who has just been released from prison in your GP surgery take some time to understand them.

You don't know when you will see them again.  
**Make every contact count.**

## 5. Context setting - adult 3

Adult 3 was a female who was managed through the Probation service.

Adult 3 had been assessed as presenting medium risk of serious harm to known adults and low in other areas. She remained on a Methadone programme on release from prison.

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*Preventing Offending and Drug and Alcohol Groups*  
**March 2022-2023**

## 9. Finding - seeing their Children

Being a prison leaver should not prevent someone from seeing their children, it does however need to be done safely with robust risk assessments in place.

Children's Social care should be consulted where there is evidence of risk posed to the children.

## 10. Finding - risk to emergency worker!

If you are working with a prison leaver who poses a risk to members of the community or emergency service workers, then find out who their GP is and inform them.

This might safeguard potential victims of crime.

## 11. Finding - not just the negatives

Ensure that assessments are reviewed regularly to reflect both negative and positive progress that prison leavers are making in the community.

Celebrate even the smallest of successes as these may be the biggest of achievements for this individual.

## 16. Finding - remember GP's

Agencies need to develop a process to ensure health workers/GP's are informed of the risk an individual may present. Risk assessments should be shared where appropriate.

Especially when an individual poses a risk to members of the public.



## 12. Finding - trust building

When working with an IOM nominal utilise other members of the Multi agency case conference group to support you in building trusting relationships with them.

Utilising your relationship-based practice skills will support you in building trusting relationships with prison leavers.

## 15. Finding - Management oversight

Ensure that staff are supported to finding the best ways to engage with prison leavers who need support with their drug or alcohol misuse.

Support staff to assess risk appropriately and discussions should be recorded.

## 14. Finding – diversity and inclusion

Staff should be supported in and given opportunities to expand their skills when working to individuals that are hard to reach.

Challenge language which relates to disengagement and explore what is being done to build a relationship and engage the individual

## 13. Finding - Duty to refer

When you have a prison leaver who does not have suitable housing on release or presents in an early appointment as homeless then make sure you aware of and apply the homelessness Duty to refer Guidance (up to 56 days before).

[Guide to duty to refer](#)