



# Speaking Up Stepping Out

## Manchester Women's Sector Conference 2016

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Tuesday 1 March  
Kings House Conference Centre

# Welcome

Today, we're going to explore how we can transform the lives of women in Manchester who face multiple disadvantages.

With our health, justice and social care systems changing rapidly, it's time for women who've relied on these systems to speak up and step out. Their stories need to be heard to inspire the change we need to see.

This will be a collaborative conference bringing together service providers, commissioners, policy influencers and women with personal experiences. Together, we can make real change happen.

## Agenda

Time	Event	Who
09:30	Registration and refreshments	
10:00	Welcomes	Alison Mohammed – Director of Services (Shelter) / Chelsey Gibbon (Inspiring Change Manchester – Women's Voices)
10:15	Film presentation: Setting the context	
10:25	Panel: Women's Voices	Women with lived experience sharing their stories
10:50	Keynote – Part 1 – Hidden Hurt: Violence, abuse and disadvantage in the lives of women	Katharine Sacks-Jones – Director of Agenda (Alliance for Women & Girls at Risk)
11:20	Refreshment break	
11:35	Keynote – Part 2 – Hidden Hurt Discussion groups	All
12:00	Breakout sessions x3	
12:50	Lunch	Explore stalls from a range of different women's organisations and groups
13:30	Performance from the award winning Women Asylum Seekers Together (WAST) Nightingales Choir	Women from eight countries who have sought asylum in the UK after facing forced marriage, FGM, sexual violence, political repression, trafficking and persecution
13:40	Breakout sessions x3	
14:30	Refreshment break	
14:45	Panel – Part 1 – Inspiring Change for Women in Manchester: Solutions focused discussion	Hazel Summers – Strategic Director, Adult Social Services Children and Families (Manchester City Council) Representatives from Manchester Women's Sector Organisations Women with lived experience Clare Jones – National Lead for Women Centred Working
15:15	Panel – Part 2 – Discussion groups – Where next for Manchester? Building a movement for change.	All
15:45	Closing remarks	
16:00	Conference closes	

## Breakout sessions

### Out of sight, out of mind: women and hidden homelessness

12pm to 12.50pm

**Led by:**

**Cate Allison** – CEO, Manchester Action on Street Health

**Sarah Walters** – Development Manager, Inspiring Change Manchester, Shelter Nacro service user

#### **Session overview**

Reports show that most homeless women are ‘hidden’. Women are more likely to avoid being on the streets, resorting to options like sofa surfing or staying with friends. Or they may remain in volatile relationships or even sex work to access accommodation.

In this session, we’ll consider current research around hidden homelessness, especially reports from St Mungo’s Broadway and Crisis. We will then look at the picture in Manchester and the operation of services for vulnerable women. We’ll also hear from someone with direct experience of homelessness services.

There will be an opportunity to discuss good practice, ideas and solutions through group work. And we will conclude by agreeing some short, medium and long terms solutions that we would like to see implemented in Manchester.

# **From Corston to Transforming Rehabilitation: where are things now for female offenders in Manchester and beyond?**

12pm to 12.50pm

## **Led by:**

**Kate Fraser** – Northern Services Manager, Women in Prison

**Hannah Morowa** – Manager, WomenMATTER

**Sally Etchells** – Volunteer, WomenMATTER

## **Session overview**

This session will be led by Women in Prison, an organisation born out of the anger of the founder – Chris Tchaikovsky – felt about what she experienced when imprisoned in HMP Holloway in the 1980s.

The session will use the organisation's experience of working with women involved with the criminal justice system to focus on the challenges and opportunities presented by recent changes (including Transforming Rehabilitation and joint commissioning).

There will be a focus on Greater Manchester's whole system approach to women in the criminal justice system. And we'll discuss how to build on good practice and lessons learned from the experience so far.

## **What is the Corston report?**

Following the tragic death of six women at Styal prison, Baroness Jean Corston conducted a review of vulnerable women in the criminal justice system. The report, published in 2007, outlined the need for a radically different approach.

## **Definitions and disadvantage: what do multiple and complex needs look like for women?**

12pm to 12.50pm

### **Chaired by:**

**Katharine Sacks-Jones** – Director, Agenda

### **Panellists:**

**Beth Plant** – Policy and Funding Manager, BIG Lottery

**Heather Williams** – Assistant Director of Insight, LGBT Foundation

**Oliver French** – Programme Manager for Equalities and Rights,

**Lankelly Chase**

**Women's Voices representative**

### **Session overview**

The multiple needs field has often taken it for granted that fewer women than men face multiple disadvantage. In 2015, the Hard Edges report provided a picture of those living on the 'extreme margins' as predominantly male.

If needs have been defined from data collected from within a 'male-dominated system', where does that leave women? And how does that impact on funding and commissioning?

This session will ask how we move forward with an inclusive approach to multiple and complex needs that responds effectively to women's experiences. It will also explore the range of terminology used, sometimes interchangeably, in dealing with the same issues.

## **Women's Voices – empowerment: creating confidence through co-production**

1.40pm to 2.30pm

### **Led by:**

**Women's Voices Group, Inspiring Change Manchester  
Rachel, Chelsey, Andrea, Fiona, Collette, Sascha, Alicia, Catherine  
and Lainnie**

### **Session overview**

Through interactive activities and a video, this session will explore women's experiences of accessing services and the barriers they faced.

By listening to women who have faced barriers, and hearing their experiences, we start to understand the value of women with lived experience being involved in the design and delivery of services from the beginning.

The Women's Voices group will provide insight into ways women with lived experience can feel empowered to 'speak up' and 'step out', get involved in services, and create change in Manchester.

# Women centred working: cross sector principles to get it right for women

1.40pm to 2.30pm

## **Led by:**

**Clare Jones** – Chief Executive of WomenCentre

**Elaine de Fries** – Operational Manager, Manchester Women's Aid

## **Session overview**

This session will introduce the background and principles of women centred working. It will explore the key themes and questions below.

### Key themes

- Lives and needs of women – complexity, life course, abuse and trauma, fear of services
- How women experience services – inaccessibility, invisibility and complexity of services
- What matters to women – safety, trust, belief in her, someone to talk to
- Valuing women centred services – presentation by Manchester Women's Aid
- Women centred working and a place based approach – shared understandings, learning from women themselves

### Key questions

- What do we know of the lives and needs of women?
- What do we know about what matters to them/us?
- What works/what doesn't work or gets in the way?
- How can we work together to put women at the centre of our planning and delivery?

# It's our devolution too: what 'Devo Manc' could bring for women's health and social care

1.40pm to 2.30pm

## **Led by:**

**Bev Craig** – Chair of Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny committee, Manchester City Council

**Fiona** – Women's Voices, Inspiring Change Manchester

**Joanne Harding** – Service Manager, Self-Help Services

**Saheli Asian Women's Project**

## **Session overview**

As part of Greater Manchester's historic devolution deal, local leaders and clinicians will be gradually given more power and control over the £6 billion budget currently spent on hospitals, GPs, mental health and social care.

But what good does devolution do? Where do citizens' voices fit in? What are the health needs of women? And how can we ensure that the voices of women who have experienced multiple needs are heard?

This session will be led by Cllr Bev Craig, Chair of Manchester City Council's Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee, with participation from Health Commissioners. We will also hear from self-help services and women with lived experience.

Saheli Asian women's project will also be discussing the findings from their research on the mental health needs of south Asian women in Manchester who are survivors of domestic violence.

**Are you on Twitter? If so, please tweet about today using the hashtag #SpeakingUpMCR**

 **Inspiring Change Manchester**



**Shelter**  
at 50

In partnership with



manchester  
women's aid



WomenMATTAs  
Manchester and Trafford Taking Action



LGBT  
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MANCHESTER  
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