



Not  
Beyond  
Redemption

**IMPACT  
REPORT  
2025**

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# WELCOME

2025 marked a significant year for Not Beyond Redemption. Not only have we seen some exceptional hard work and commitment to our mission, but we also achieved our ambitious goal of holding Family Law clinics in every women's prison across England and Wales in the five years since our inception. Thanks to the volunteer partner law firms, our dedicated team, pro bono barristers and generous funders, we can now ensure all imprisoned mothers who need it have access to free Family Law advice. This achievement would not have been possible without all their support and mutual belief in the fundamental vision of NBR.

Our thanks go to the trusts, foundations, corporate and private donors who have supported us over the past five years. Their donations ensure that no woman is left behind within the Family Justice System. We must also acknowledge the time, effort, and commitment of our pro bono partners. Our goals could not have been achieved without these legal professionals who not only provide our clients with the advice they need, but also with respect and dignity, something all too often missing in their lives.

As we move into the sixth year of Not Beyond Redemption, we are expanding our service to include pioneering work in a residential scheme for justice-involved women. Hope Street pilots a new approach, giving women access to a range of specialist support to create a blueprint for change. NBR is thrilled to be a part of this, providing the critical piece of the jigsaw of women's rehabilitation by ensuring they build relationships with their children. We also work to broaden our impact through developing Practice Guidance for legal practitioners and raising awareness across the sector and amongst the judiciary of the challenges faced by imprisoned mothers.

**CAMILLA BALDWIN - FOUNDER**  
**BRUCE MAULEVERER - CHAIR**

# WHO WE ARE

Not Beyond Redemption (NBR) offers mothers in prison free Family Law advice and representation to help them re-establish and maintain contact with their children during their sentence and upon release. The charity was set up in 2020 by leading Family Lawyer, Camilla Baldwin, with the fundamental belief that legal assistance should be accessible to those who need it most, regardless of their financial circumstances.



Our work aims to improve the lives of mothers in prison by:

## Access to Family Law Advice

Ensuring mothers have access to free Family Law advice and representation to improve contact with their children whilst in prison.

## Inspiring Hope and Motivation

Empowering mothers with hope and motivation to turn their lives around by fostering meaningful connections with their children.

## Understanding Parental Rights

Raising awareness amongst mothers and staff in prison to ensure a better understanding of parental rights.

## Working across the Criminal Justice Sector

Working across the Criminal Justice Sector to improve the processes of Family Law for mothers in prison.

# OUR SERVICES



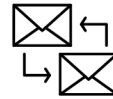
Helping mothers understand their parental rights and navigate the legal system.



Signposting women who are eligible for Legal Aid and referring clients to other agencies for holistic support.



Facilitating out-of-court agreements for contact.



Corresponding with family members and relevant professionals.



Drafting legal correspondence, such as letters and court applications.



Representing women in the Family Court with our network of pro bono barristers.



Providing support throughout the legal journey.



Providing post-release assistance.



Personal, professional advice.



Working beyond our remit to improve legal processes for imprisoned mothers.

Not Beyond Redemption (NBR) provides free Private Family Law advice to incarcerated mothers through legal clinics in women's prisons across England.

Our work is only possible because of the dedicated support of our partner law firms and barristers. Volunteer lawyers take on client cases under the guidance of NBR's legal team, while specialist family law barristers provide expert representation in courts nationwide on a pro bono basis, giving our clients access to the highest level of legal support, regardless of their circumstances.

We work with mothers in prison and on release to ensure they can rebuild and maintain relationships with their children. We walk side by side with our clients, guiding them through the legal process and signposting them to other services, striving to ensure that no mother loses contact with her child because of imprisonment.

*"NBR have enabled me to look and see the best steps forward, first for my children, but also for me! It has made a massive difference to my hope for a positive future."*



# HOW WE DO IT

# WHY WE DO IT

## **Tackling the Legal Aid Gap**

Women are rarely eligible for Legal Aid in private children's law proceedings, and mothers in prison face many hurdles to represent themselves in the family court. Equally, many mothers in prison are unaware of their parental rights. Our main goal is to ensure that all mothers in prison who are not eligible for Legal Aid can access free Family Law advice and representation and better understand their rights as a parent.

## **The Crucial Role of Family Support in Imprisoned Mothers' Rehabilitation**

Maintaining contact between a mother and her child while she is in prison is crucial for the wellbeing of both. This connection provides emotional stability and instils hope and motivation, empowering incarcerated mothers to make positive changes in their lives. This can include engaging in educational, vocational, and therapeutic programs to prepare for successful reintegration into society upon their release. By doing so, it aids rehabilitation and reduces the likelihood of reoffending.

Numerous studies have shown that family support plays a significant role in prisoner rehabilitation. Research shows that for a prisoner who receives visits from a family member, the likelihood of reoffending upon release is 39% lower than for those who do not. At NBR, we are committed to enhancing contact between imprisoned mothers and their children. This commitment is not only a moral conviction but also a practical strategy aimed at reducing recidivism rates and creating a safer community for everyone.

## The Wider Impact

The consequences of maternal imprisonment for children are significant. Children with mothers in prison often face difficulties like relocation, foster care, or uncertain living conditions. This instability, combined with the emotional pain of separation and the stigma attached to having a mother in prison, can lead to negative outcomes. These may include exclusion from school, increased vulnerability, mental health problems, and a greater likelihood of engaging in criminal behaviour, which can ultimately lead to a cycle of imprisonment. It is crucial to maintain the bond between parent and child, especially with mothers, as it can play a key role in a child's ability to overcome these challenges.

**55%**

of women in prison are mothers.

**17,000**

children are affected by maternal imprisonment each year.

**Only 5%**

of children are able to stay in their original homes during their mother's imprisonment.

**53%**

of women in prison have experienced abuse as children.

**63%**

of women entering prison to serve a sentence have committed a non-violent offence.

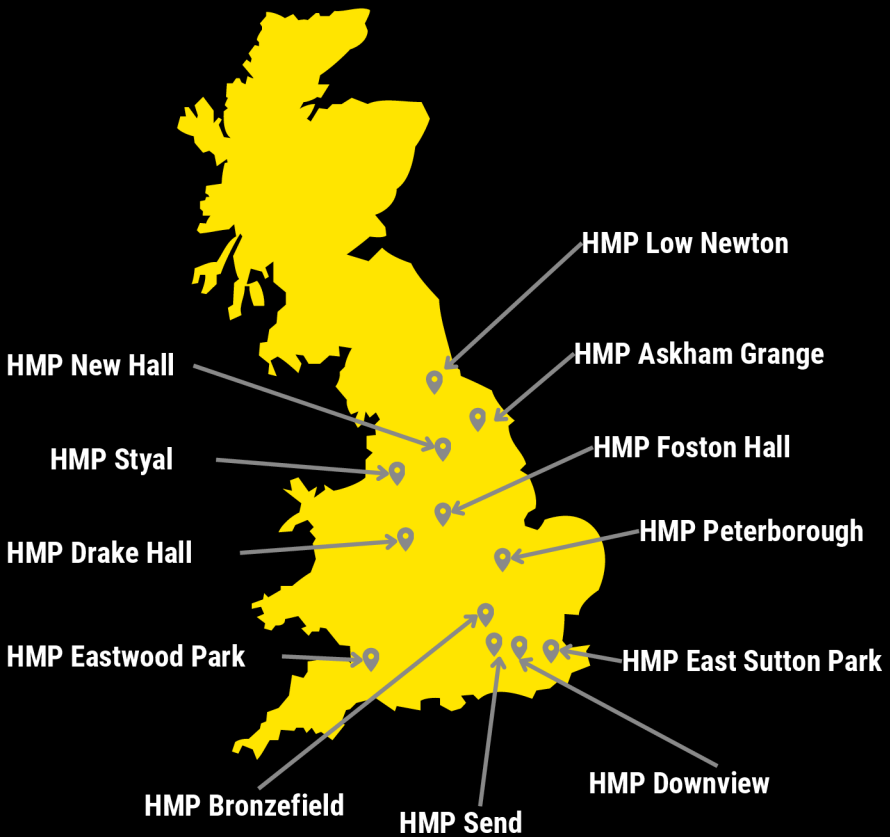
The risk of poor mental health is

**DOUBLED**

for children with a parent in prison.

In the year ending March 2024, the number of individuals who self-harmed per 1,000 prisoners was 341 for females and 146 for males. The number of instances of self-harm per self-harming individual was over three times as high for females at 16.4.

# OUR IMPACT



**As of 2025, Not Beyond Redemption now run clinics in every women's prison in England and Wales.**

# 2025 IN NUMBERS

In 2025 we held

**57** clinics  
and met with

**121** women.

Among the cases  
that were in court  
proceedings, NBR  
increased contact  
for

**73%** of  
clients.

In December 2025 we had 95  
cases, of which...

**28.5%** were in initial  
stages.

**42%** were in negotiations  
with the opposing  
parties.

**16%** were in court  
proceedings.

**4%** were receiving post-  
proceedings  
assistance.

**9.5%** were receiving advice  
only.

*"NBR are brilliant, super. I would be lost without them."*

**About six months after taking on a new client, we ask them to complete a questionnaire to gather feedback. Of the clients who completed a questionnaire in 2025...**

**100%** felt that the NBR team were supportive and dedicated to them.

**89%** felt that assistance from the NBR team was improving the outcome of their case.

**100%** felt that they were more hopeful about their case since NBR took it on.

**100%** felt that they were involved and had a voice in decisions made about their case.

**89%** felt that since NBR took on their case, their feelings of self-worth improved.

**100%** felt that since NBR took on their case, they had a better understanding of their legal rights as a parent.

**89%** felt that with NBR's assistance, they better understood the legal process.

# MARY'S STORY

Mary had been the primary caregiver for her young son before entering prison. After a few months, she was released back into the community and returned to the family home she had shared with him. During her time in custody, the son had moved to live with his father, who then stopped all contact.

Mary came to us for help. NBR tried to negotiate with the father's solicitors that it was in the son's best interests to have contact with his mother who had only been out of his life for a short period. The father did not agree and so NBR made an application to court for contact.

The court ordered contact through a Contact Centre as an interim measure until longer-term arrangements could be agreed. The Centre charged £100 per hour, and Mary (who had lost her job due to entering prison) was relying on benefits. She simply could not afford to see her son. Because of a court backlog and huge delays in getting the case heard, the situation went on for much longer than is usual. Mary could only pay for one hour of contact every two weeks, despite being permitted more. NBR funded additional and extended contact sessions, including special times such as Christmas and birthdays. This allowed her relationship with her son to flourish until the matter could be brought back for a substantive hearing by NBR, after which Mary was allowed to have contact in the community.

*"I am extremely grateful for all the sessions NBR has provided, which have truly helped me connect with my child. These included additional hours for my child's birthday and Christmas, and as a result, our relationship has grown much stronger. NBR has given me the opportunity to spend valuable time with my child which I would not have been able to afford on my own. This has made a huge difference for both of us. I will forever be grateful."*

# QUOTES FROM OUR SUPPORTERS

*"It is one of the few workstreams in a large corporate firm where I feel that I can genuinely make a **visible difference**. Of particular importance to me is the **insight** it has given to me into the criminal justice system and those affected by it."*

**Not Beyond Redemption Volunteer**

*"We are very grateful and appreciative of the links Pact has formed with NBR over the past year. We know that this has indeed given many of our prisoners the **legal support and understanding** that they both desire and are entitled to regardless of being in custody. Together we can **make a difference** to sustain change and help towards **reducing reoffending** if **family connections are rebuilt** and forged wherever possible. I am particularly grateful for the support, advice and guidance which is always so forthcoming whenever I seek help from NBR staff. Their legal expertise is **immeasurable**."*

**Pact**

*"Its been fantastic to work with the amazing NBR team which is so professional and dedicated and even have our own people be part of it on secondment. In my view it is **the best run** and **most effective** collaborative pro bono project in the market."*

**Matthew Shankland, Partner at Sidley (partner law firm of NBR)**



Noel Buxton Trust

# OUR FUNDERS IN 2025



The Peter Stebbings Memorial Charity



The Robertson Ness Trust



The Fieldrose Charitable Trust

The Ardhave Trust

The 29<sup>th</sup> May 1961 Charitable Trust



*"If it was not for the team, I would not have had the chance to see or have any contact with my son, nor would my family. I am always hopeful now and look forward to the future."*



# OUR PARTNER LAW FIRMS

**STEPHENSON  
HARWOOD**

**dac**  
**DAC BEACHCROFT**

**MORRISON  
FOERSTER**

**NORTON ROSE  
FULBRIGHT**

**CLYDE & CO**

Successful risk navigation

**LATHAM & WATKINS** LLP

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**GOODWIN**

**SIDLEY**

**A&O SHEARMAN**

**PALLAS**

**Akin**<sup>®</sup>



# Not Beyond Redemption



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