families outside

supporting families affected by imprisonment

Health Inequalities in Scottish Prisons

@FamiliesOutside

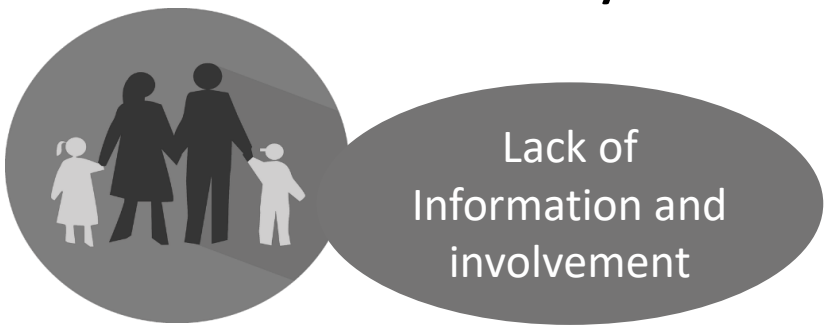
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Families

Families feel significant distress with healthcare in prisons

- Family Experiences – ‘Outside Voices’
- Deaths in Custody
- Poverty – Families are ‘Paying the Price’

Almost 500 concerns over the past year were raised to Families Outside about the health of the person they support in prison



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Deaths in Custody



Death rates in Scottish prisons are on the rise:

- 121 people died between January 2020 September 2022
- 98 in 2017-19
- 76 in 2014-16

Implement the recommendations from the Review into Deaths in Custody:

- Major call was for an independent investigation to be carried out into every death in prison custody

Other key areas:

- Fatal Accident Inquiries (FAIs) - In 9 out 10 cases, there was no finding of a reasonable precaution that could have prevented the death, and no recommendations to improve practice or prevent death. Take too long/Don't involve families

- SPS – Talk to Me Strategy – since it's introduction on 2016 prison suicides have risen 42%

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Financial Impact

Some people spend **half** their income or more in costs relating to their family member's imprisonment.

#povertyinjustice



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Responsive Accessible Independent Knowledgeable

61%

of people in prison have a child

1 in 6

UK households are in serious financial difficulties

71%

of families reported reducing the quality of food they ate

60%

of families have avoided turning on their heating

*Stats from Paying the Price: The Cost to Families Imprisonment and Release

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Things that can help reduce health inequalities for families and people in prison

- Right to Health (consistency and access)
- Involvement of families in the health care of people in prison
- Implementation of the Deaths in Custody Review recommendations
- Effective and meaningful contact (relationships)
- Reducing financial impacts (poverty)

