

Contact us

If you or someone you know needs our support, please contact us. We don't have referral forms or waiting lists.

Prisoners' Support Team

Elmore Community Services

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(answerphone outside office hours)

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Elmore
Community
Services



Elmore Community Services (ECS) provides high quality services for marginalised and disenfranchised people in Oxford City.

ECS is a registered charity, no 1090616.

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Elmore Prisoners' Support Team



“ Really
supportive,
really
straight
and honest ”

Flexible support in complex situations

Who we work with

Our Prisoners' Support Team works with offenders and ex-offenders who have complex needs. We support our clients before, during and after their release from prison into Oxford City.

When we talk about a prisoner or ex-prisoner who has complex needs, we mean a person who has a history of offending combined with other issues such as addiction, homelessness or mental health needs.

Because of the complexity of their needs, our clients 'slip through the net' of mainstream service provision.

We focus on supporting young offenders, female offenders and 'revolving door' (recidivist) prisoners. Many of our clients have served sentences of less than 12 months or have been released following remand.

Our partners

The Prisoners' Support Team comprises a team leader and two support workers. We work alongside other teams and projects managed by Elmore Community Services (ECS), and in collaboration with prisons nationwide, Thames Valley Probation, Oxfordshire Youth Offending Team, Oxfordshire Crown and Magistrates courts, and diverse other statutory and voluntary agencies. We thank Lloyds TSB Charitable Trust for funding the Prisoners' Support Team. The Team's work will be independently evaluated.

How we work

We support clients to reintegrate into their community, helping them to navigate the systems and processes – each of which has its own rules and requirements – that affect ex-offenders who have complex needs.

Pre- and post-release support

We build trusting relationships with clients before their release from prison. On the day of release, we meet clients either at the prison gate or at an appropriate Oxford City venue. Initially, we provide an intensive service package, which is usually a combination of practical and emotional support.

Early interventions

Ex-offenders often lack self-confidence, have low motivation and feel isolated. We work intensively with clients to help them reduce their sense of isolation and improve their self-efficacy. We support them in addressing their behaviour and its impact on others, helping them understand the consequences of breaking law enforcement measures.

Longer-term interventions

Our aim is that clients will be able to live independently, and we assist them to build a network of people and activities that will sustain them in the long term.

We support clients into leisure activities and structured day programmes, and help them to access education, training and employment opportunities. We continue to work with clients for as long as they require our support.

“ They never give up on me...

**I respect them
for that ”**