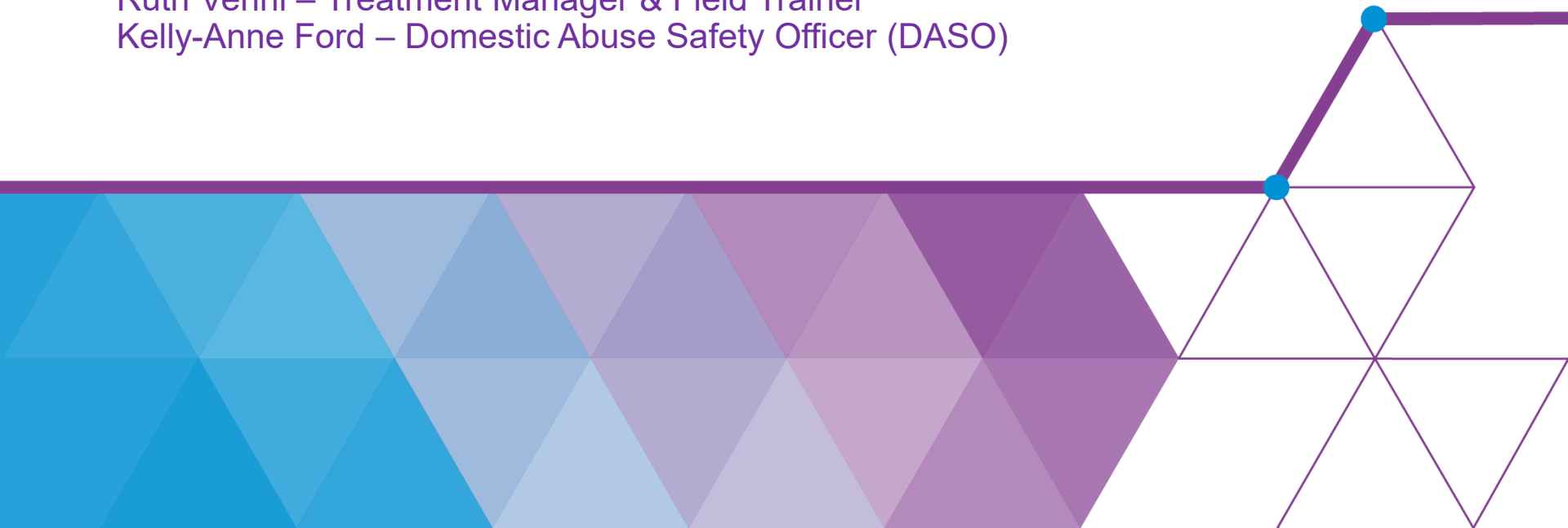
HM Prison & Probation Service

Building Choices

Rebecca Flewitt– Programme Manager
Lucy Darmon – Treatment Manager & Field Trainer
Ruth Venni – Treatment Manager & Field Trainer
Kelly-Anne Ford – Domestic Abuse Safety Officer (DASO)



About us……

HMPPS – His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service:- Is an executive agency of the UK Ministry of Justice responsible for managing prisons, Probation services and Youth custody in England and Wales. It focuses on rehabilitation, reducing reoffending, and public protection through education, employment and supervision.

Probation Service – We carry out sentences given by the courts, in custody and the community, and rehabilitate people in our care. We operate across 12 regions (11 in England and 1 in Wales).

Cambridgeshire Probation Service:- We operate from offices in Cambridge, Huntingdon, Peterborough and Wisbech.

Cambridgeshire Accredited Programmes team:- We are a team within the Probation service that delivery accredited programmes and structured interventions to persons on probation

About us……

A response to: A thematic inspection of work undertaken, and progress made by the Probation Service to reduce the incidence of domestic abuse and protect victims Report Published: 4th July 2023

Ensure that all people on probation who require an intervention receive one; monitor the delivery of all interventions and analyse attrition rates and shortfalls against potential need:-

Targeting of interventions is based on an agreed evidence informed methodology. The HMPPS strategic approach to rehabilitation will be focused on improving the approach, targeting appropriate services for the right people at the right time, based on latest available evidence of effectiveness. As part of this strategic approach, HMPPS is also working to improve overall data quality and partnering to prioritise appropriate interventions more consistently, including Accredited Programmes and Structured Interventions for relevant individuals based on their eligibility and the risks they pose.

Ensure that all actual and potential victims of domestic abuse are identified accurately and that timely and effective actions are taken to protect them at each stage of the sentence management process

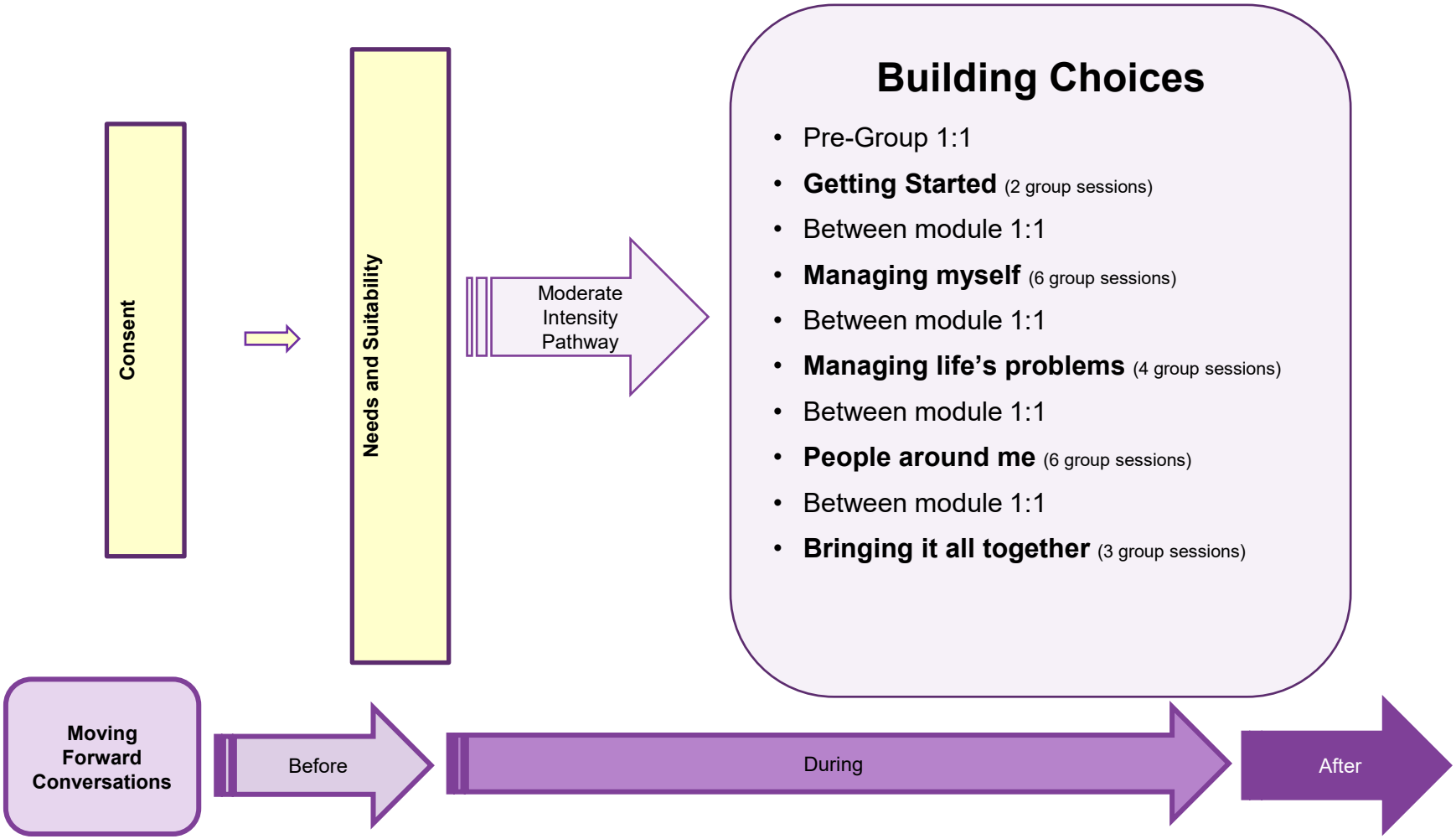
Why was change needed?



Research tells us that the individuals targeted by programmes often have complex, overlapping needs and diverse offending patterns. For example:

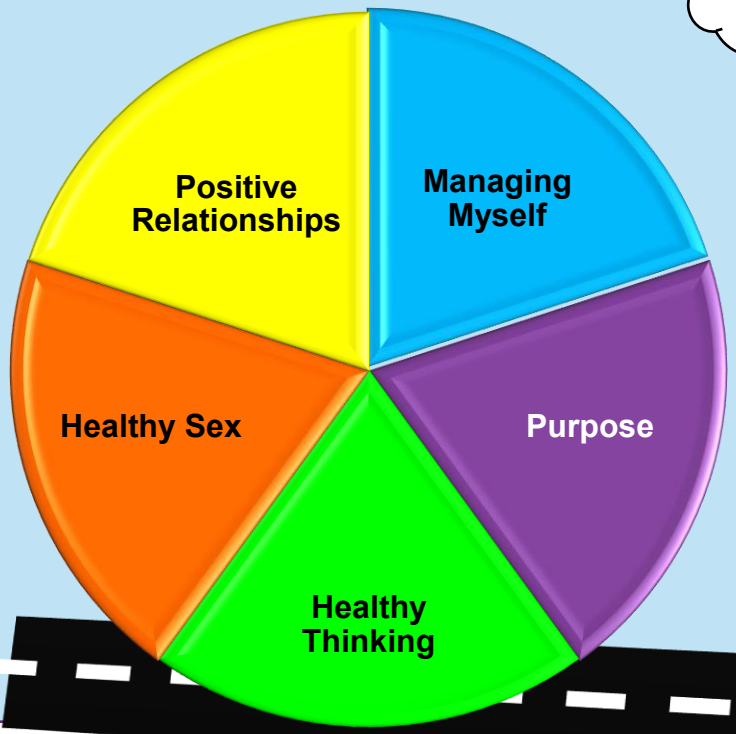
- **Nearly half of those convicted of sexual offences have histories of violence.**
- **A quarter also have a background of domestic abuse.**
- **Many reoffend in new, unrelated ways rather than repeating the same type of offence.**

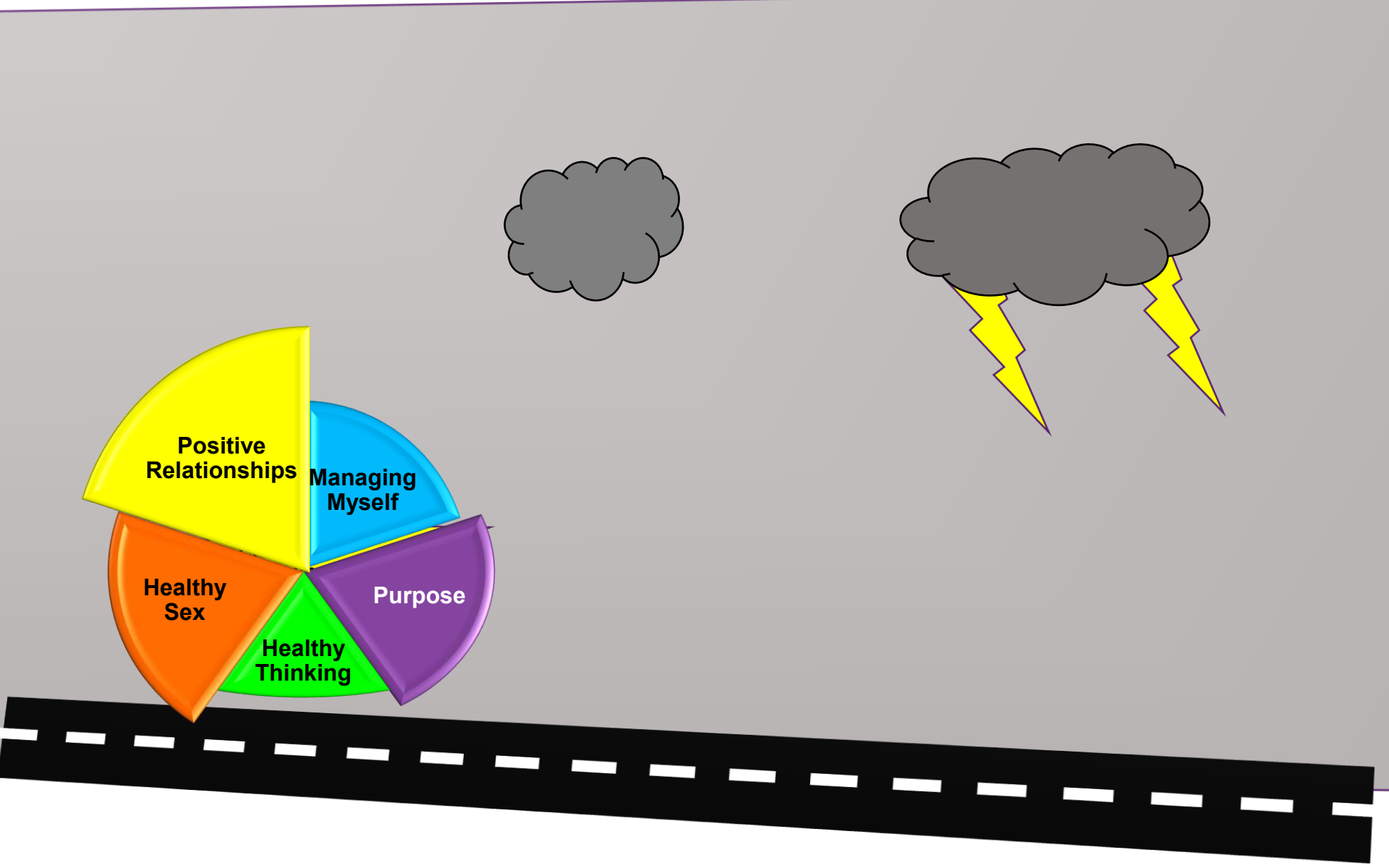
Framework for Building Choices / Building Choices+

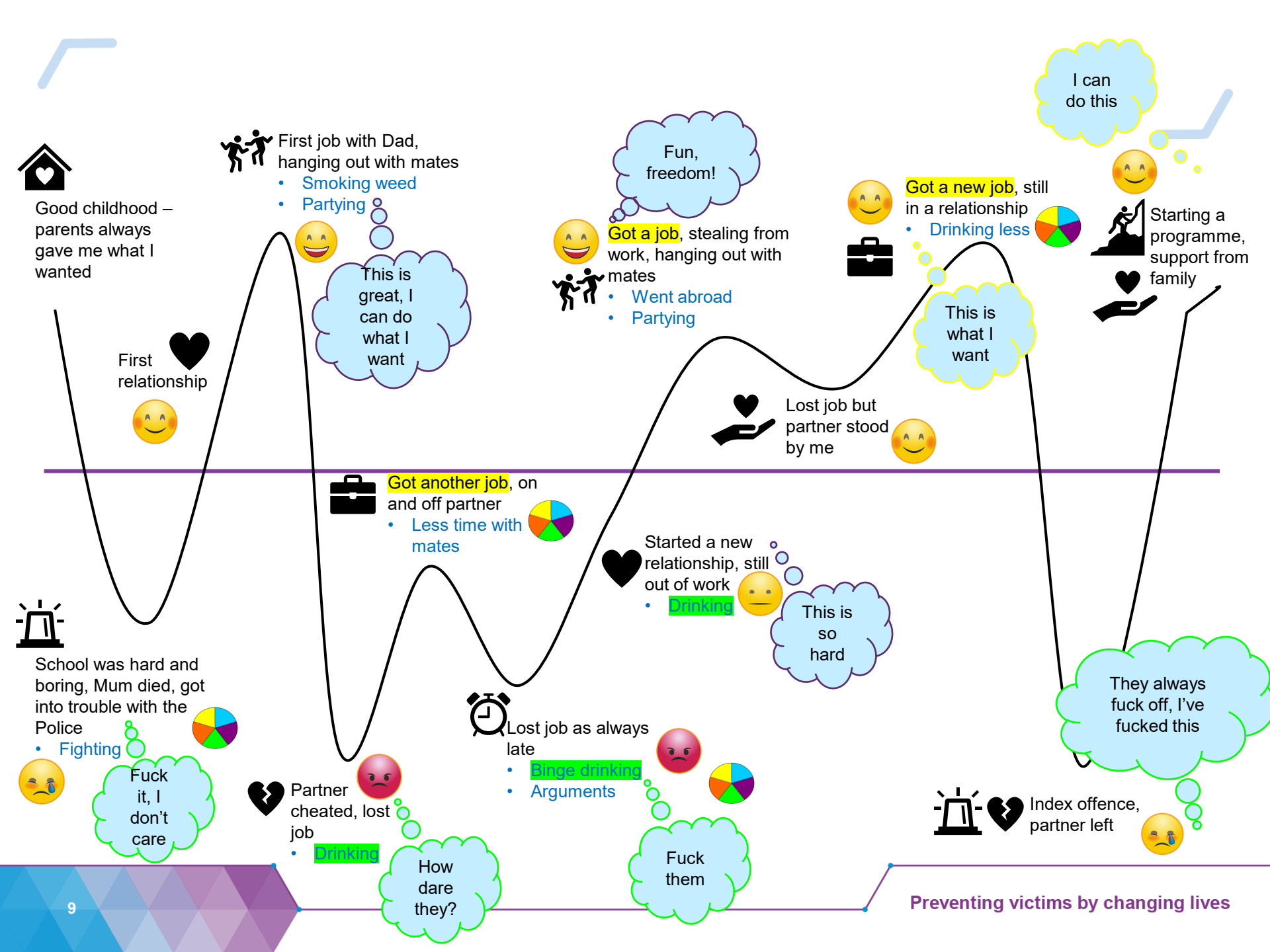


How do we personalise?

- Assessment process
- Success Wheel
- My Story Life Map
- Goal setting
- Skills practices
- Individual sessions
- Between session work


Positive Relationships
Managing Myself
Healthy Sex
Purpose
Healthy Thinking


Positive Relationships
Managing Myself
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Healthy Thinking


Good childhood – parents always gave me what I wanted
First relationship
First job with Dad, hanging out with mates
• Smoking weed
• Partying
This is great, I can do what I want
School was hard and boring, Mum died, got into trouble with the Police
• Fighting
Fuck it, I don't care
Got another job, on and off partner
• Less time with mates
Partner cheated, lost job
• Drinking
How dare they?
Got a job, stealing from work, hanging out with mates
• Went abroad
• Partying
Fun, freedom!
Started a new relationship, still out of work
• Drinking
This is so hard
Lost job as always late
• Binge drinking
• Arguments
Fuck them
Lost job but partner stood by me
Got a new job, still in a relationship
• Drinking less
This is what I want
Starting a programme, support from family
I can do this
Index offence, partner left
They always fuck off, I've fucked this

Tailored Conversations

- Sexual Offending
- Intimate Partner Violence
- Women
- Violence
- Young Adults
- Stalking
- Hate Crime
- Organised Crime and Urban Street Gangs
- Ethnic Minority Groups
- Honour Based Violence

Tailored Conversations…..examples

Sexual offence

- Healthy Sex, Messages about sex, What is sexual consent? And the use of Pornography.

Intimate partner violence

- What is sexual consent? Parenting, or Healthy and Unhealthy Relationships?

Woman

- Parenting, Sources of Influence, Lifestyle Factors or Emotion Management

General violence

- Lifestyle Factors – such as gang association, peers/associates, Weapon Use, or Social Influences

Young adult men

- Lifestyle Factors – such as Substance Misuse & Binge Drinking, Social Influences

Domestic Abuse Safety Officer (DASO) Service



What is a DASO?

- Practitioners who work with victims/survivors (where they have been or are intimate partners) **and** any new partners of those Persons on Probation who have a requirement to attend an Intimate Partner Abuse (IPA) Programme (e.g. Building Choices)

- Your local DASO:



Kelly-Anne Ford
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough DASO
EoE-WestDASOReferrals@justice.gov.uk
07526 996 812

DASO – National Changes

- Embedded in the Intervention as part of Public Protection
- No consent needed from Person on Probation
- Receive referrals from Probation Practitioner for IPV offences
- Rely on Clare's Law Disclosures (DVDS) before making contact with new partners
- Referrals made 15 days after requirement and actioned before Programme starts
- Offer three introductory contacts
- Continue to collaborate to find safe ways of contacting victim/survivor of index offence and any current partner

Key Roles

- Provide a dedicated trauma-informed confidential service to the DASO Client:

  No information is shared with the Programme Participant

- Ensure the Client's voice is heard
- Offer DASO Clients information about the Programme
- Operates a voluntary, client-led service
- Identify risk and needs with DASO Clients e.g. using DASH RIC
- Share risk information about the Client with Probation Practitioners, Programmes Team, MARAC rep/MASH Nav, and multi-agencies
- Refer DASO clients to MARAC and IDVA service (where applicable)
- Provide safety planning, signposting and support e.g DA Outreach
- Service remains open throughout Probation requirement (before, during and after Programme)

Probation Practitioners and DASOs

- Escalating risks or safeguarding concerns
- Licence or sentence changes
- Breaches of civil order, new offences or convictions
- Parole and appeal outcomes
- Any developments impacting DASO client safety



DASO case closure

- When client withdraws consent or chooses not to engage with the DASO
- 3 months after Stepwise Structured Intervention completion
- 6 months after Building Choices Accredited Programme completion
- 6 months after custody recall
- When probation supervision ends. At Sentence End or Revocation – whichever comes first



DASO Limitations

- **DASOs** follow guidance in the DASO Practice Manual, HMPPS Safeguarding and Data Protection policies.

- **DASOs initiate contact with new partners**:
  - Only after the Probation Practitioner (PP) confirms a formal disclosure has taken place.

- **DASOs do not disclose**:
  - Specific parole or release information to clients.
  - Information about probation appointments, details of programme session attendance, times, venues, or session discussions.



DASO Summary

- DASOs work alongside Programme Intervention
- DASOs contact the victims/survivors and new partners of those referred to a programme for intimate partner violence
- DASOs provide a confidential service
- No information is shared with the Programme Participant
- DASO service provides information and client-led support to Clients
- DASOs provide risk information to Probation Practitioners
- DASOs share information with multi-agencies and utilises our MASH Navigator/MARAC representative
- DASOs offer safety planning, signposting and support to clients

Thank you for listening.

What questions do you have?

