

Making changes for the long term



**The
Hardman
Trust**

Impact Report 2022-2023



www.hardmantrust.org.uk

The Hardman Trust supports people on long prison sentences to take their next steps in life.

This could be through training, education, and employment opportunities, or by helping someone identify and reach other personal goals.

Over the past year we've supported more people than ever before, working with each person's individual skills, interests and abilities. As you'll see in the following pages, this support has had a positive impact on wellbeing, relationships, independence and hope for the future.

➤ We know that when we invest in people leaving prison, everyone benefits. The individual starts a new chapter, families reconnect, and the wider community feels the benefit too - with less crime, fewer victims, and safer neighbourhoods.

We're proud of the difference we've made, but we're keen to do more. As sentences get longer, and prison populations increase, the need for our work is growing. Because of this, we've invested time and attention 'behind the scenes', to make sure we continue to do all we can to meet the needs of the people we are here to support. We developed a new organisational strategy, welcomed new people to our growing team, refreshed our brand, and improved our systems and processes - all with a view to helping us provide the best support we can.

Living our values, we've spent time listening and learning from people in prison to better understand their needs. We've stayed up to date with research and data on long-term sentences, and we've adapted our ways of working to reflect this. We've challenged ourselves to try new things, we've improved the way we do the things that matter, and we've stopped the tasks that don't create the change we want to see. We've focused on the individuals we work with, and how we can use our limited time and resources to have the most impact. Our impact report is a reflection of this, and we look forward to building on this work over the next year as we continue to support people on long-term sentences, for the long-term.

Kerryn Wotton, CEO



➤ Mission

Specialising in the unique needs of people on long sentences, we provide tailored practical and financial support to help people find belonging, move into work or training, and reach their personal goals.

➤ Purpose

We support people on long sentences to take their next steps in life so they benefit, their families benefit and the wider community benefits too.

➤ Vision

A future where everyone can achieve their potential within and beyond prison.

Our values and behaviours

Knowledge & evidence: We use data, research and evidence to inform and improve our work. We stay up to date and are open to changing our minds and our practices.

Listening & learning: We ask, listen and learn from people in prison. We seek feedback and insight, adapting and improving our products and services as we learn.

Performance & impact: We care about making a difference and we want to understand the difference we make. We are here to have a positive impact, and we do this with professionalism and integrity. We are results driven.

Partnership & connection: We are part of a varied and vibrant sector. We believe in partnership working to achieve more together, and we connect people to the services that can make a difference.

Challenge & innovation: We challenge ourselves and others to try new things and learn. We build on what goes well, and learn from what doesn't.

Person centred & fair: People are at the heart of what we do, and we understand no two people are the same. We tailor our approach to recognise each person's goals, strengths and agency. We know everyone's needs and experiences of prison will vary, so we strive for fairness, equitable access and inclusion.

The challenge

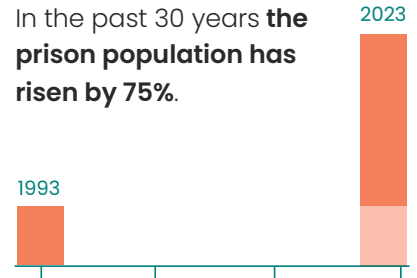
Over the past 30 years prison populations have risen by 75%, and sentences are getting much longer.

England and Wales now have more people serving life sentences than Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia, and Sweden combined (PRT, 2023).

Over 10,000 people are currently in prison serving a long sentence, and **2,000 people** are released each year after serving 10 years or more. There is very little tailored support for this group, yet we know there is a difference between being released from prison after 10 years in comparison with 10 months.

Society has changed, workplace skills have evolved, relationships may have fallen away, and employment can be hard to secure. The person **may be facing stigma, low confidence, mental or physical health problems, homelessness, poverty**, or have other needs that make resettlement a challenge.

In the past 30 years **the prison population has risen by 75%**.



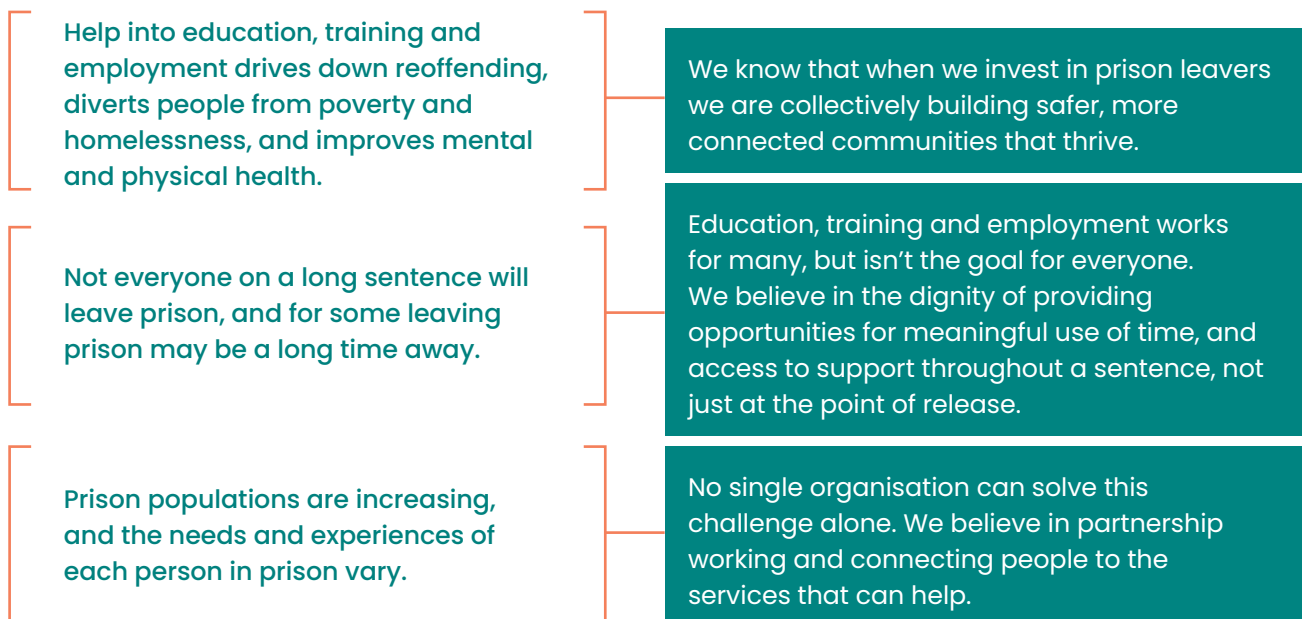
10,000


Over 10,000 people are currently serving a long sentence

➤ Our response

We are the only UK charity fully focused on the distinct needs of people on long-term prison sentences. We help people plan and prepare for their life after prison. We then provide the practical and financial support to turn that plan into reality. This is followed by support to stay on track, once back in the community.

Our work is guided by the following beliefs:

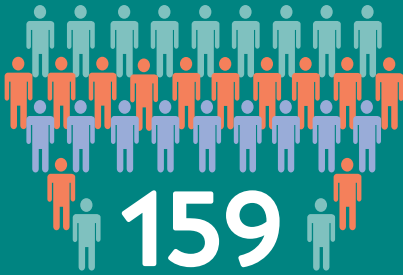




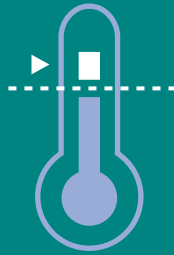
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

“I’m much more confident. It was nerve wracking being released and this really boosted my confidence. I’m so thankful. I’m going to be starting my Masters soon with the Open University”.

Our work



We supported 159 people on long-term sentences (up 7% from last year)



We granted £131,398 in financial support to individuals (up 15% from last year)



18

We bought 18 laptops for people studying or starting their own business

£46k

we spent £46k on tools and equipment for people entering work

“I got a job offer within weeks of leaving prison”

17

people trained to become HGV drivers

42

people trained to enter the construction industry

5

people trained to work in catering

4

people became personal trainers

7

people were supported into hair and beauty careers

80

different courses were completed including:



Info, advice and guidance



HGV licences



Railtrack safety



Painting & decorating



Business start-up



Gym training



Plumbing



Gardening



Masters in English



British Sign Language

Our outcomes



“While in prison you feel that life is over, but The Hardman Trust gave me a future”

Our impact

“The Hardman Trust gave me hope when there was no hope”



➤ “Let the time serve you”

John’s story



“Having support from The Hardman Trust gave me such a big opportunity. It gave me hope for the future”.

John spent 12 years in prison, and during that time he completed as many courses and self-development programmes as he could. He wanted to turn a negative into a positive, and use his time in prison to develop himself and change his life. His motto was:

“Don’t serve the time, let the time serve you”.

John completed a City and Guilds qualification in carpentry, along with courses in upholstery and stitching. He discovered a passion for designing, making and restoring furniture, and these courses gave him the skills he needed to turn this passion into a career.

As he prepared for his release, he requested support from The Hardman Trust. He had a plan to become self employed as a carpenter and upholsterer, but needed help getting started. The Hardman Trust helped him with his plan, and followed up with the financial support to enable John to purchase the carpentry and needlework tools he needed.

John now runs a successful company, having contracts with local hotels and businesses. He enjoys planning how to restore worn out furniture, and loves to see the satisfaction of his customers when the work is complete. He takes pride in his work, enjoying the purpose it gives him. He likes the daily routine and connection with others that he gets from his job.

John said: “Having support from The Hardman Trust gave me such a big opportunity. It gave me hope for the future”.

The Hardman Directory

The Hardman Directory is the 'yellow pages' of the criminal justice system. It provides information on the **support services available, helping people to plan for their life in and after prison.** It includes funding, housing, benefits, employment and broader support services.

Copies are sent to libraries and wings in **141 prisons across England, Wales and Scotland.** Further copies are sent to family / friends of people in prison, and to partner agencies in the community.



In 2022/23 we:

➤ **Sent 1,350**
directories to prisons

➤ **Printed 850**
directories for community use

➤ **Featured 193**
specialist partner agencies

➤ **Added**
'cost of living'
content

Also this year....

We began working on a new **digital directory, for use in prison and the community by staff and service users.** With a focus on accessibility, and featuring more partners than ever before, it is to be launched later in 2023.

We also commenced work on redesigning the paper directory. With feedback from people in prison informing the new look, the paper directory will be **relaunched and sent to prisons in 2024.**

Behind the scenes

We refreshed our look and updated how we talk about our work. Taking inspiration and feedback from people serving long sentences, we updated our branding to reflect the organisation we are today. People in prison selected the new logo, liking its sense of movement and progression, its professionalism, clarity, and forward focus.

We reviewed our internal systems, making improvements to our databases, application forms, and other processes to be more efficient and provide a better experience for the people we support.

We won the respected Corbett Award, celebrating our work with people leaving prison.

We increased our reach from Cat D prisons to Cat C, working with more people across the prison estate.

We updated our purpose, vision, mission and values statements, and devised a new theory of change, clarifying our work and the difference we want to make.

We welcomed new staff and updated the team's roles and responsibilities, helping us gather the capacity and skills we need for the future.

We completed a digital transformation project, helping us use technology to work more effectively as a growing, remote team.

We increased support and engagement with assessor volunteers and prison staff partners, with new training and information packs.

We raised our profile and highlighted the issues surrounding long sentences, through cross-party roundtables and policy groups.

We devised a new organisational strategy, outlining our four areas of focus for the next three years:

- Update how we offer financial support to people on long sentences
- Build on our support offer, pre and post release
- Develop new products and services, based on need
- Become a respected voice on long term sentences



“The Hardman Trust had a great impact on my confidence, spirit, and belief that I can achieve my goals by getting one little step closer to where I need to be”

Financial position

This year we **increased our income by 32%**, continuing our stable growth at a time of economic uncertainty. Following a new income generation strategy, we have broadened our fundraising approach to include multi-year support from trusts and foundations, new corporate sponsorships, legacies, individual giving, and directory sales.

We aim to build on this further as we roll out our 2023 - 2026 strategy.

With the need for our work growing, we are already unable to support everyone that comes to us. Our ambition is to sustainably grow our income, enabling us to fulfil the ambitions of our strategic plan and **help more people on long-term sentences to take their next steps in life.**

Thank you.

Thank you to everyone that supported us over the past year. Every hour volunteered, every pound donated, and every mention of our work makes a difference. We are proud of what we've achieved this year, but we have ambitions to do more.

Are you inspired by what you've read? Join us!

Support us financially

We rely on the generosity of our donors to fund our work. We are the only charity focusing on the distinct needs of people on long-term sentences, and the need for our work is growing. We have 30 years experience, and we know the work we do makes a difference to people leaving prison, their families, and the wider community. If you are interested in donating, funding, or sponsoring our work, please get in touch.

Donate your time, expertise or skills

Do you have a set of skills that could help us in our mission to support people on long prison sentences? Do you have an interest in our work and time to spare? Contact us to discuss how you could volunteer your time, expertise and skills

Partner with us

Partnership is central to our approach, we know we can achieve more when we join together. Can you think of a way we might be able to work together?

Get in touch: info@hardmantrust.org.uk



**The
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For the long term

Freepost THE HARDMAN TRUST
Telephone: 01983 550355
Email: info@hardmantrust.org.uk

www.hardmantrust.org.uk