The impact on women in custody and their families can be significant. Almost 80% of women in prison and supervised in the community are rehabilitated through the Criminal Justice System (CJS) and experience a number of challenges that other women do not. Women’s support in community supervision is often seen as essential for their reinsertion into society. The number of female offenders given out of court disposals (OOCDs) has declined at a greater rate than the fall in arrests (also the case for men). Decline in PNDs, since 2013
Decline in cautions, since 2013
Decline in arrests, since 2012/13

Almost half of female prisoners said they committed their offence to support the drug use of themselves or their partner during their imprisonment, compared with around 5% of male prisoners. Only around 15% of women under community supervision are prosecuted (2016/17). The rate of self-harm in prison remains high for BAME women.

Almost 56% of women sentenced to prison were sentenced to six months or less, compared with 30% of men. (2017)

Among small/thieves offenders, those who are more likely to be prosecuted and imprisoned are women of colour than white women.

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