



Mother and Baby Institutions,
Magdalene Laundries
and Workhouses

Co-Design of Support and Services Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

- **What does co-design mean?**

Co-Design is about designing, delivering and developing support and services in partnership with survivors with lived experience, service providers across the community, voluntary and statutory sector, government agencies and departments.

It is a process that is adapted to the unique needs victims and survivors.

- **What's the difference between this and the Truth Recovery Strategy?**

We have commenced a co-design process which is focussed on understanding the support and services needed by victims and survivors and to ensure the development of support services that are beneficial to each individual's physical and mental health and wellbeing.

This process is separate to the existing co-design process focussed on exploring options for an independent investigation/inquiry being facilitated by Prof. Phil Scraton, Dr. Maeve O'Rourke and Ms. Deirdre Mahon.

- **How can I get involved?**

To get involved in the co-design process, please contact us in one of the following ways:

Email us codesign@vssni.org

Call us 02890 311 678

Webchat www.victimsservice.org

You can also contact us if you are unsure and just want to find out some further information.

If you don't want to be actively engaged at this point but would like us to keep you up to date on our progress, please provide us with your contact details.

- **If I live outside Northern Ireland can I still register?**

Yes, we want to hear from as many victims and survivors as possible.

- **What if my Birth Mother is deceased, can I still register?**

Yes, we want to hear from as many victims and survivors as possible.

- **Can I register interest on behalf of a relative?**

Yes, with their permission please share their views/ideas.

- **Can I talk to someone for more information before registering?**

Yes, please call 02890 311 678.

- **How do I express an interest in participating in the co-design process?**

You can call us on 02890 311 678 or email us codesign@vssni.org and one of our dedicated team members will register your interest and make arrangements to follow up with you.

- **What can I expect once I make contact?**

One of our team will make contact with you to discuss the process and how you can help play an important role in this. We can meet with you individually in a place that is convenient to you or via telephone or video call. We also plan to arrange some information and group sessions over the months of July and August 2021.

- **When will support and services be ready?**

Support and services will be available as soon as possible once the initial co-design process has concluded.

Based on what we have heard, we will present a service delivery model to the Department of Health and The Executive Office in September 2021.

- **What if I need support now?**

We are available to provide interim emotional support to victims and survivors impacted by Mother and Baby Institutions, Magdalene Laundries and Workhouses. This support is available in confidence, and in a safe and therapeutic way, with access to listening ear support and psychological therapies. This is a temporary arrangement until permanent support services are in place.

To access this interim support, please contact us in one of the following ways:

- **Email** support@vssni.org
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- **Call** **02890 311 678**
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- **Web Chat** www.victimsservice.org