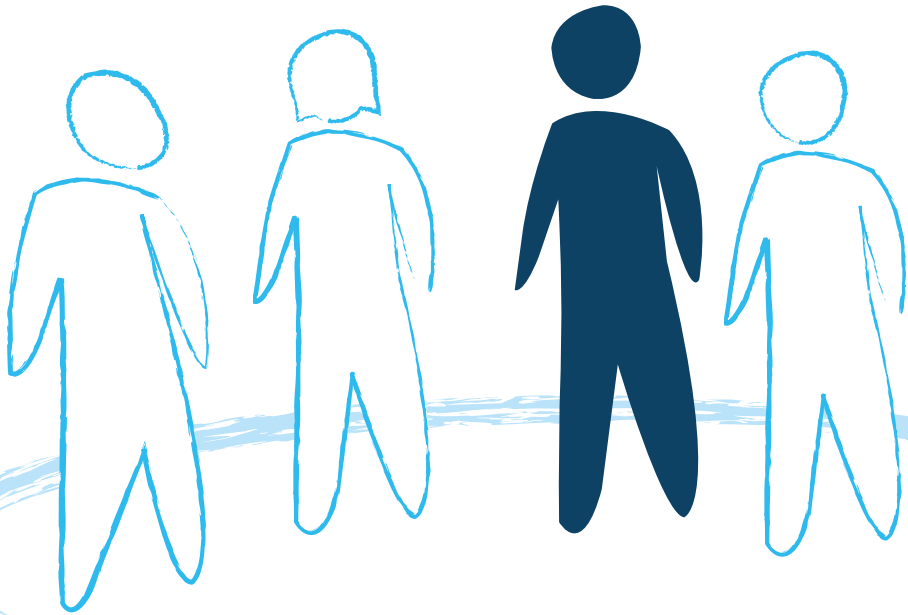
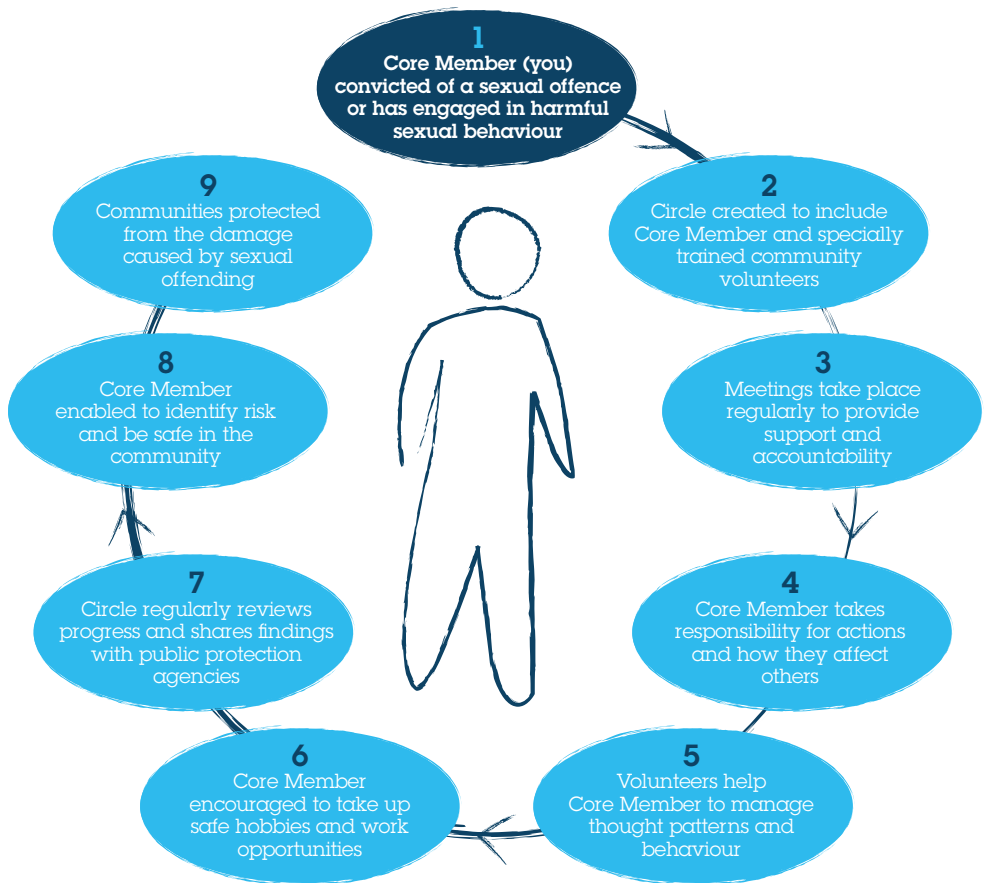


**“Circles help in monitoring my patterns. I now feel better about my life. I now feel better about myself”**

Core Member



## How Circles work



## **Information for referrers – Intellectual Disabilities**

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### **Circles for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities**

Adults with an intellectual disability who have convictions for sexual offences or who have committed harmful sexual behaviour have similar needs to all adults convicted of sexual offences. They may suffer from social isolation, emotional loneliness and experience difficulties accessing services. A Circle of Support and Accountability provides a valuable, additional tool for statutory services to support and hold to account an individual to prevent further sexual harm.

While health needs may be met, social support is often difficult to access. Circles can help an adult build and sustain relationships, develop a positive identity, increase self-worth and learn socially acceptable behaviour so they can integrate safely into their community. In addition, the Circle can assist with practical issues such as appointments, skills development and constructive use of time.

Our community volunteers receive two days' mandatory training and assessment followed by further specific intellectual disabilities training to ensure they have skills and awareness of the requirements of volunteering with this group.

In addition, the Intellectual Disabilities Coordinator ensures person-specific training for volunteers in preparation for each Circle.

Where appropriate, and in agreement with all, we may involve parents/carers and/or other key people in the individual's life.

### **Referral process**

We invite an initial telephone discussion with our Intellectual Disabilities Coordinator. If suitable, a written referral will be completed and a meeting will be set for the coordinator to meet the individual, who we call the Core Member. The Core Member's involvement must be voluntary and cannot be part of a hospital and/or court order or statutory condition of supervision. You can find our referral criteria opposite.

All referrals meeting the stated criteria will be considered, with priority given to those assessed as high or very high risk of serious harm and/or reconviction, in consultation with the local MAPPA coordinator.

# Eligibility

<b>Offence type: sexual</b>	Current conviction and/or Mental Health Act treatment order for harmful sexual behaviour against adult or child (includes non-contact offences). Historic sexual offences/behaviour may also be considered if relevant risk and need criteria met
<b>Intellectual disability</b>	Those with a diagnosis of intellectual disability (IQ under 80)
<b>Risk classification OASys &amp; RM2000</b>	OASys (or ARMIDLO-S): Medium, high or very high risk of serious harm RM2000: All static risk classifications will be considered
<b>Gender</b>	Any
<b>Age</b>	18 years or over
<b>Attitudes and beliefs</b>	Acknowledges that s/he has committed harmful sexual behaviour
<b>Status</b>	Statutory supervision by NHS, probation and/or police (eg. registered sex offender).

Note: please discuss suitability with Circles South West before completing the referral form if there are significant issues relating to mental health, personality disorder, substance misuse, etc.

# Suitability

<b>Motivation</b>	Committed to creating no more victims and to reduce his/her harmful sexual behaviour
<b>Level of engagement</b>	Prepared to engage with a Circle on a voluntary basis
<b>Situation</b>	Living in or about to be released into the community
<b>Areas of need can include</b>	Sexual preoccupation Low self-esteem Lack of appropriate intimate relationships Lack of pro social network Emotional loneliness Social isolation Impulsivity Poor problem-solving Lack of employment/ hobbies

“If you want to stop the community from being hurt the best way is to try and help stop people from reoffending. It is good to help, so why not be a part of that?”

Volunteer

Email: [info@circlessw.org.uk](mailto:info@circlessw.org.uk)

Tel: 07717 442413

 @CirclesSW

Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset,  
Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire

**[www.circles-southwest.org.uk](http://www.circles-southwest.org.uk)**

Registered charity no: 1138726. Company no: 07369778

**NO  
MORE  
VICTIMS**