



MEETING THE UNMET NEED FOR WOMEN

A networked model for shifting power
and changing systems in the North East

September 2025

Foreword

by Nadine Smith, Network Chair

“ The sombre findings of the Dismantling Disadvantage report laid bare the stark reality facing too many women in the North East. Women living here are sadly facing significantly higher chances of experiencing unmet need than is average in England and Wales, dying younger and falling between the cracks. We cannot accept that as an ongoing fact about our beloved region.

The Transforming Together Network was the opportunity to change that narrative and I was honoured and humbled to help make that happen, feeling the responsibility of ensuring women do not just remain statistics that do not even make headlines. Of course change does not happen overnight but it does happen with genuine partnership and with lived and learned experience at the heart of all decision making.

The scale of the challenge that is unmet need for women in this beautiful region of our country is a sad story, with engrained narratives flowing through our system and daily decisions that stigmatise women for a life they did not choose and do not deserve.

The North East's assets are many, but not least the wonderful people trying every day to make things better. The Transforming Together network is a nurturing partnership with a shared purpose to address unmet needs for women in the North East but it was the women with lived and learned experience who led the way. I do not speak for them but I want to give them my heartfelt thanks.

Many people gave up their time, met in person and online with unwavering dedication to the cause. The opportunity now is a newly elected mayor with a commitment to women, and we were delighted to hear the Mayor, Kim McGuinness, had endorsed our pledges to close the opportunity and health inequality gap.

Even with this commitment and evolving devolution, women and girls at the edge of support are not seen, not understood and not well served. They are not a loud clamoring group and, until now, had no collective advocacy support. We heard about hardships no one should endure, I am so grateful for the dignity and bravery by the women in sharing their experiences for the greater good.

If we designed systems and services around women who experience multiple unmet need, it would serve everyone's needs. When we began our journey, it was difficult to know where to start. So we used the Routes to Scale framework (more on that in this paper) to help us get to our starting place. The foundations for sustainable impact we discovered required a shared story, a strong partnership and consistent funding. We knew we had it in our power to at least make the first two possible in order to secure the third and we set about articulating what better outcomes would look like.

We were looking for systems change, not systems flex. Through our deliberations, we saw data, commissioning and a collective voice led by people with lived experience as key enablers of sustainable change were missing. People volunteered their time to subgroups on each of those priorities and we left competitiveness outside the door.

We have evidence, we have shared commitment, we have a clear story about why we still have challenges despite so much effort, and we now have a strong partnership. So what about sustainable funding? We cannot fall back into short termism, grant cliff-edges and competitive and siloed tendering.

We are encouraged by national government's commitment to devolution, and to civil society. The new Covenant from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport says that social impact investing is now seen as a key enabler for outcomes partnerships, and we want to help the North East to leverage the opportunity now for outcomes based partnerships and build a prevention fund so that we are not just operating at crisis point.

We have begun the journey of change together and its future is now not just in our hands but yours too. 🍌🍌

Prelude: in their words

Women in the Transforming Together Network have shaped and led the network as a whole, and their views and perspectives are embedded in everything we do together. These reflections, drawn from a collective statement as well as individual contributions, capture the heart of the network: trust, collaboration, accountability, and the power of being seen.

"When we first joined the network as experts by experience, we made a list of the things we wanted to achieve. Trust, women with our experiences being seen as human, accountability, and a safe space for all of the barriers and failures within services to be openly discussed."

"Before this, our experience of services and professionals had been no collaboration, no empathy, no understanding. However, after hearing professionals speaking with compassion and empathy... we can see there is honesty here... and a desire to not only hold each other accountable for failings and learn from mistakes, but also to collaborate and build solutions."

"Throughout the whole of the Transforming Together I have seen the network grow, people listening and people caring, it has restored my faith in services and the future of TT has me excited for change, empathy and compassion to women in services."

For some, this has been personally transformative.

"Being part of the Transforming Together network as a lived experience woman has changed my life. Coordinating, emails, having a voice, and presenting at events pushed me out of my comfort zone – it helped elevate my voice, grow my confidence, and gave me skills that have helped me to get a job in a role that is very dear to me..."

"Transforming Together... believed in me and that made me believe in myself."

These voices offer a powerful reminder of why this work matters – and the individual transformations that become possible when we work differently.

"The women who need services to be strong and resilient are some of the least able to advocate for themselves – that means together we need to be even stronger to stop them from falling through the cracks."

"Our message to you this time is: keep going."

We didn't get here by accident

The context behind the Transforming Together Network

The Transforming Together Network emerged with a clear message: our systems are failing – but we know how to change them: through shared power, collaboration, and radical inclusion.

After launching *Dismantling Disadvantage*¹ it was clear that more was needed. The report revealed the scale and depth of systemic failures – and showed us that transformation would only come through consistent collaboration, radical inclusion, and shared power. The network was born out of determination, the harrowing statistics we had uncovered, and the urgent need to act with the right energy in place.

Across the North East, too many women are being let down – not by one system, but by many. Services are fragmented. Decisions are made without them.

Those most in need are too often forced to navigate a maze of disjointed, inaccessible, or even harmful support. Their traumas are not only ignored but often weaponised against them, leaving women retraumatised and pushed further from safety. A dedicated network for this group of women is essential.

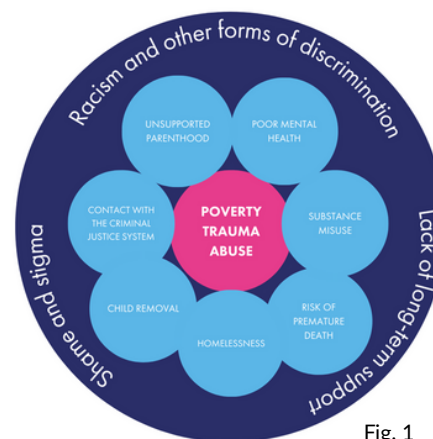


Fig. 1

Too often, even when women's or Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) partnerships are formed, they still fail to meet the needs of those facing multiple disadvantage.

1. Agenda Alliance & Changing Lives, *Dismantling Disadvantage: Levelling up public services for women with multiple unmet needs* (July 2023). This report, co-produced with women with lived experience in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear, examines how public services systematically fail women with multiple unmet needs, particularly in the context of austerity, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the cost-of-living crisis.

Fig.1. Agenda Alliance & Changing Lives, *Dismantling Disadvantage*, p.8

Transforming Together was created to change this: to advocate for women whose voices are least often heard, and to support the workforce who are often their first point of contact – not only women’s organisations, but others including supported housing, drug and alcohol treatment, needle exchanges, safeguarding, and homelessness day centres. We are here to stay focused on what systems women need and use, and to ensure they receive the best support possible.

Women with layered and compounded unmet needs – ranging from poor mental health, addiction, homelessness, domestic and sexual abuse, poverty, trauma, immigration control, contact with the justice system, to child removal – are frequently passed between siloed services, retraumatised, and left to survive within systems that were never built with them in mind.

The *Dismantling Disadvantage* report made it crystal clear: systems are failing women in deeply intersecting and systemic ways, and gender-neutral approaches simply won’t fix it. The report laid bare the scale of the crisis:

- **81% of women who needed mental health support in Northumberland and Tyne and Wear didn’t receive it.**²
- **76% of women affected by domestic abuse didn’t access support services.**³
- **Over 60% of women in need of drug and alcohol recovery services received no help.**⁴
- **Women in the North East live shorter lives – and spend more time in poor health – than women elsewhere in the country.**⁵

Behind these numbers are women telling us they feel judged, unsafe, ignored, or blamed. They are asked to repeat traumatic stories to multiple professionals, only to be met with stigma, exclusion, or silence. For racially minoritised, disabled, and migratised women, these harms are compounded – shaped by systemic racism, inaccessible systems, and the hostile immigration environment.

2. Agenda Alliance & Changing Lives, *Dismantling Disadvantage: Levelling up public services for women with multiple unmet needs* (July 2023), pg.47

3. Ibid, pg.38

4. Ibid, pg.38

5. Ibid, pg.38

Research, such as the Project Resist and Angelou Centre report documenting the impact of the 2024 far-right riots has shown how these overlapping barriers deny women safety, dignity, and access to justice.⁶ Services are still designed around a generic or male service-user model that fails to reflect the complexity and reality of women's lives.

Yet the research also offered a vision for transformation. Within the cracks of these failing systems, something powerful was already happening. Across the North East, community-led services, women's organisations, and local leaders were finding new ways forward – building trust, sharing power, and showing what's possible.

The launch of the Transforming Together Network in February 2024 built on this momentum. From the outset, members of the Dismantling Disadvantage community reaffirmed their involvement alongside new members, using the report's findings as a springboard for regional policy recommendations. Over the year, this energy translated into concrete steps: appointing Nadine Smith as Independent Chair, co-developing a shared story as a key foundational enabler (inspired by Social Finance's *Routes to Scale*), and setting five priorities for systems change that is sustainable. By June, the network had framed problem statements to capture barriers women face.

In a region with deep inequalities but strong civic roots and devolved decision-making on the horizon, the potential to lead, to transform, and to act holistically is not just necessary – it's within reach.

So, the **Transforming Together Network** (TTN) was born.

Not as a service, a strategy, or a campaign – but as a shared space. A space made up of diverse members – where new ways of working can be imagined, tested, and owned collectively. It's an invitation: to come together across sectors, to listen and act differently, and to design a future that works with women with multiple unmet needs – not to them.

6. Lewis, R. M. & Patel, P. (2025). *Why Do I Have to Hide Away? Documenting the impact of the 2024 far-right riots on Black, minoritised and migrant women and children.*

Transforming Together isn't about adding women to broken systems. It's about reimagining those systems from the ground up. It's a commitment to shift from delivery for to design with – from hierarchy and siloes, to shared power and lived experience leadership. From temporary fixes to lasting, systemic change.

Ultimately, our vision is to deliver lasting reductions in inequality for women with multiple unmet needs – ensuring their voices, insights, and leadership reshape the systems that affect their lives.

Why the network works

A table with room for everyone

Power-sharing, trust, and the ingredients of change

From the beginning, we designed the Transforming Together Network as a flat, co-created ecosystem – not a hierarchy, but a learning community built on power-sharing. We know that power shapes who speaks, who is heard, and who gets to decide – and that traditional systems have consistently left women, particularly those with lived experience, out of the conversation.

We frequently return to this idea of power-sharing: what it means in practice, and how we can dismantle the power dynamics that risk overwhelming individual voices, insights, and knowledge. These dynamics don't just shape meetings – they can impact the direction and effectiveness of our work.

In our network, power-sharing is not an abstract principle. It means ensuring that every member is treated and valued equally, and that each person's contribution is recognised as a driving force we cannot progress without. From the start, we have centred women with lived experience, recognising that personal insight is just as critical as professional expertise in shaping change.

Everyone – women with lived experience, grassroots organisations, service leaders, funders, commissioners, and policy-makers – has an equal seat at the table. Titles are left at the door. We come together as a community united by a common purpose: to create trauma-informed, women-centred services that work for women with multiple unmet needs in the North East.

Power-Sharing in Practice

Power-sharing is a deliberate, reflective process. It takes time, trust, and a willingness to listen without assumption – and in our network, it isn't a slogan, it's how we operate. Crucially, it is not about giving power away, but about ensuring that everyone's power is respected and valued.

We have learnt that for a network of this kind to be a success:

- **Every voice, every type of expertise:** We bring together all parts of the system – rather than separating policymakers and practitioners, grassroots organisations, and women with direct experience of unmet needs – to build trust, flatten hierarchies, and create the conditions for genuine change. What makes Transforming Together distinctive is that everyone brings experience: some share this through their personal journeys, others through professional expertise, but all are equally valued in shaping solutions. Inclusion is continuous, not tokenistic, and it is the blend of these insights that drives progress. As the network matured, priorities evolved: commissioning and data became active subgroups; collaboration and lived experience were embedded as cross-cutting themes; and stigma was taken forward as a shared priority.
- **Relationships create resilience:** the network creates space for people who have never worked together before to connect, share, and build common ground. This reduces the risk of one voice dominating and ensures that change is co-created rather than imposed.
- **Participation must be resourced:** We recognise that power-sharing requires investment. Women with lived experience and small organisations are supported through tailored remuneration, ensuring they can participate fully and fairly in a way that works for them.

"We all bring unique knowledge and contribute in our own individual ways – but in many respects, our titles are left at the door. We're a community with the same motivation: making progress for women in our region." - Laura McIntyre, Transforming Together Network Coordinator

Relationships as architecture

The way we work together mirrors the way many of us have supported women in services for years. Our values as a network are the same values needed in frontline support: empathy, consistency, and trust.

Just as safe relationships help women heal from trauma, strong relational foundations are what enable our network to sustain meaningful systems change.

These foundations are not just values – they are structural preconditions for dismantling systemic barriers that hold women back. Without them, change risks being shallow, short-term, or exclusionary.

Change doesn't happen through quick fixes; it grows from relationships built on trust, empathy, and respect. This mutual trust prevents the network from becoming transactional and creates the conditions for lasting transformation – making it possible to dismantle overlapping barriers and drive systems change at both local and national levels.

But relationships alone are not enough.

To work in this way requires structural support to keep the network standing:



Administrative and communications support to keep members engaged and informed.



Regional expertise and connections to ensure relevancy and credibility.

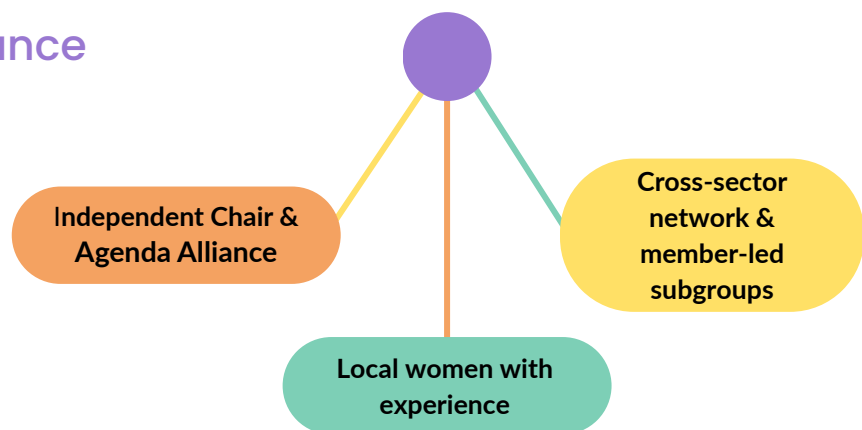


Practical resourcing (including remuneration for women with lived experience and small organisations) to make participation equitable.



A structure for balance

Our structure is deliberately balanced and holistic, reflecting our commitment to shared power. It works like a tripod – each leg providing balance and strength.



Independent Chair & Agenda Alliance's national expertise

Together, this brings central coordination, convening power, and national policy insight; connects our vision to broader systems; provides strategic weight and research capability; and open platforms for influence beyond the North East. This also helps us understand the power of storytelling to influence long-term change for women with multiple unmet needs. Crucially, Agenda Alliance has provided the communications, administrative, and infrastructure support that enables the network's relational work to thrive.

Local women with experience

Women rooted in the region bring both lived and professional expertise, from navigating multiple unmet needs to designing and delivering services. Together they shape the agenda, define what good looks like, and ensure we remain accountable to our purpose. Women are resourced and supported in tailored ways, recognising that equitable participation requires remuneration and flexibility.

Cross-sector network and member-led subgroups

Action-oriented teams focused on our collective priorities:

- Commissioning, Funding & Power-Sharing
- Data, Information-Sharing & Evidence
- Collaborating and Convening (cross-cutting)

Subgroups rely on dedicated facilitation and coordination support to keep momentum, manage time commitments, and ensure that members' contributions translate into collective insight.

Each leg strengthens the others – creating the stability and reach we need to drive systemic change.

Our theory of change

How Transforming Together drives systems change

The Transforming Together Network shows how trust, collaboration, and survivor leadership can move from connection to influence systems change.

1. Building trust and foundations

- Built trust-based relationships across sectors; convened a safe, inclusive space; established a shared story and evolved clear priorities and subgroups.

2. Producing shared evidence and tools

- Created a shared evidence base on a priority issue; produced advocacy tools; opened new routes to embed gendered multiple unmet needs into regional decision-making.

3. Shaping agendas and securing buy-in

- Influenced regional health and commissioning structures; positioned Transforming Together as a trusted bridge and “go-to” network for solutions on inequalities; expanded strategic relationships; shifted from identifying problems to co-developing solutions with decision-makers.

4. Creating pathways for the future

- Co-designed a proposal vision for the network’s potential future; developed recommended commissioning standards to embed collaboration and lived experience; showcase Transforming Together as a trusted regional convenor for radical inclusion and shared power; working towards sustained survivor leadership as a driver of cultural and systemic change.

Moments that moved us

A year of growth, learning, and influence

Our timeline is divided into three distinct phases, each marked by a focus on collaboration, innovation, and impact.

Foundation and formation: building a relational approach



February to October 2024

Relationships drive change. Transforming Together was founded on trust, collaboration, and shared purpose – recognising that strong networks are as vital as evidence and advocacy in tackling systems change and inequalities for women with multiple unmet needs.

Growth & Influence: using data and collaboration to drive change



October 2024 to July 2025

With subgroups as anchors, the network grew into a trusted space to convene diverse voices, share evidence, and turn lived experience into action – breaking down silos and influencing policy and commissioning.

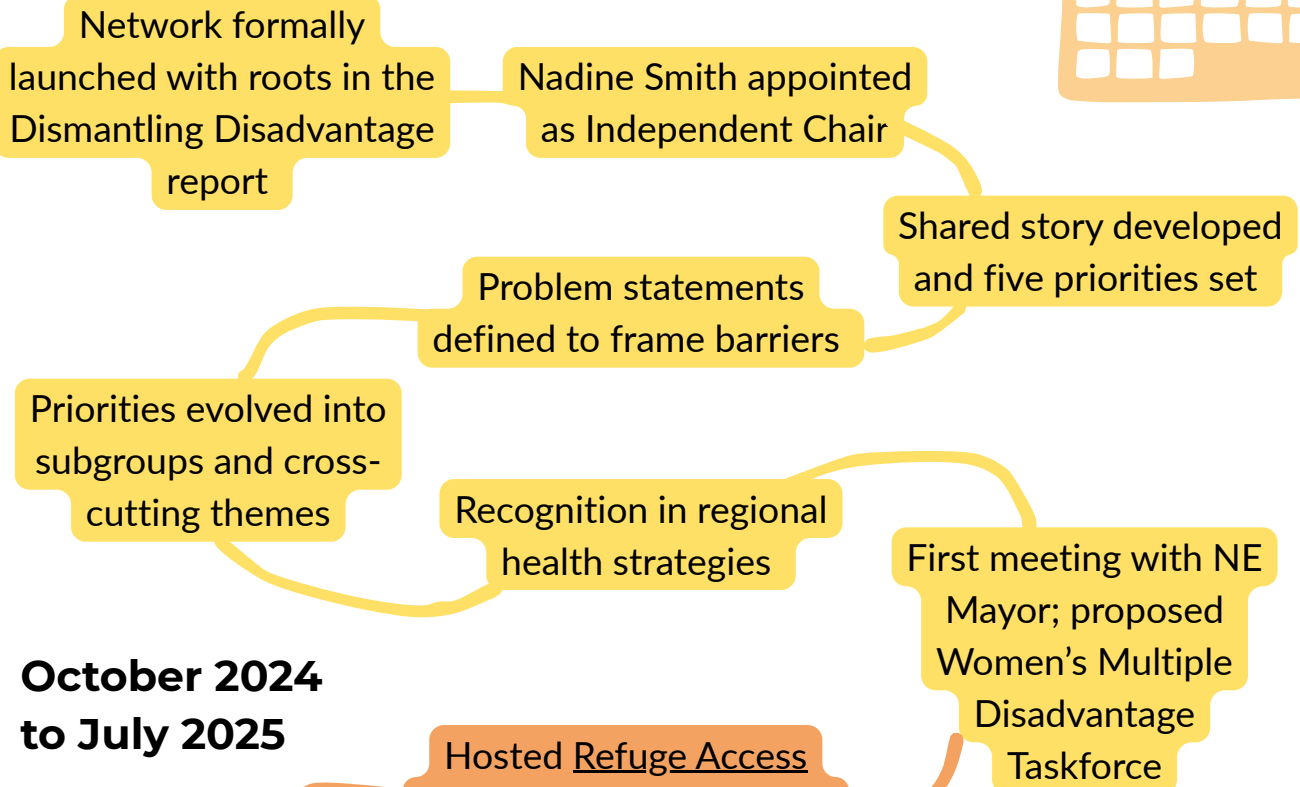
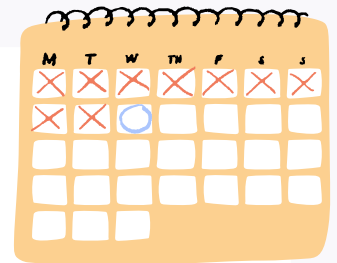
What's next?: co-designing our future, securing our legacy



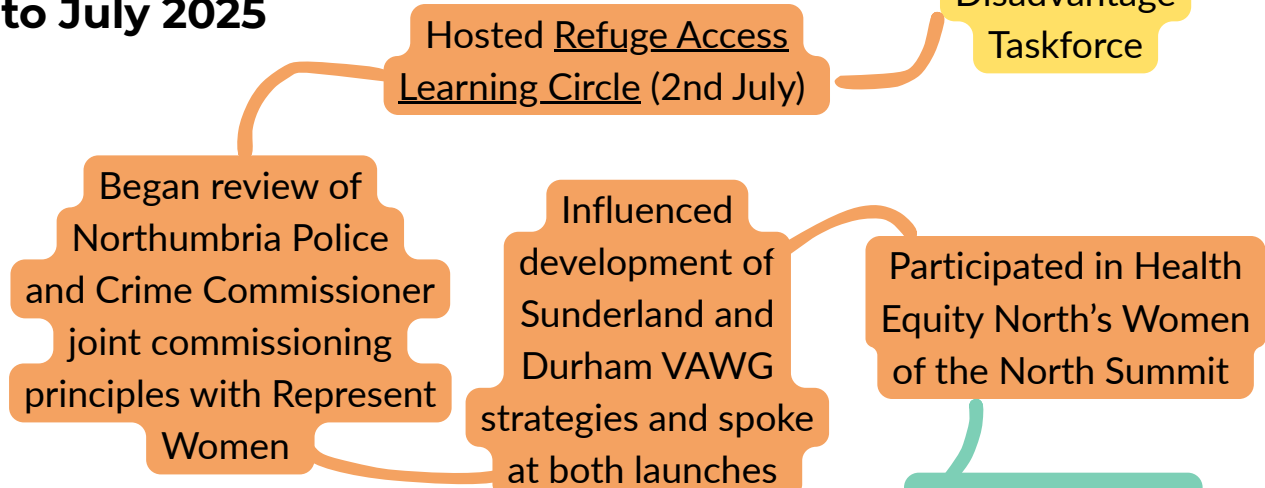
July to September 2025

With a strong foundation and growing influence, Transforming Together turns to the future – co-designing its vision, securing its legacy, and positioning itself as a catalyst for radical inclusion and long-term change.

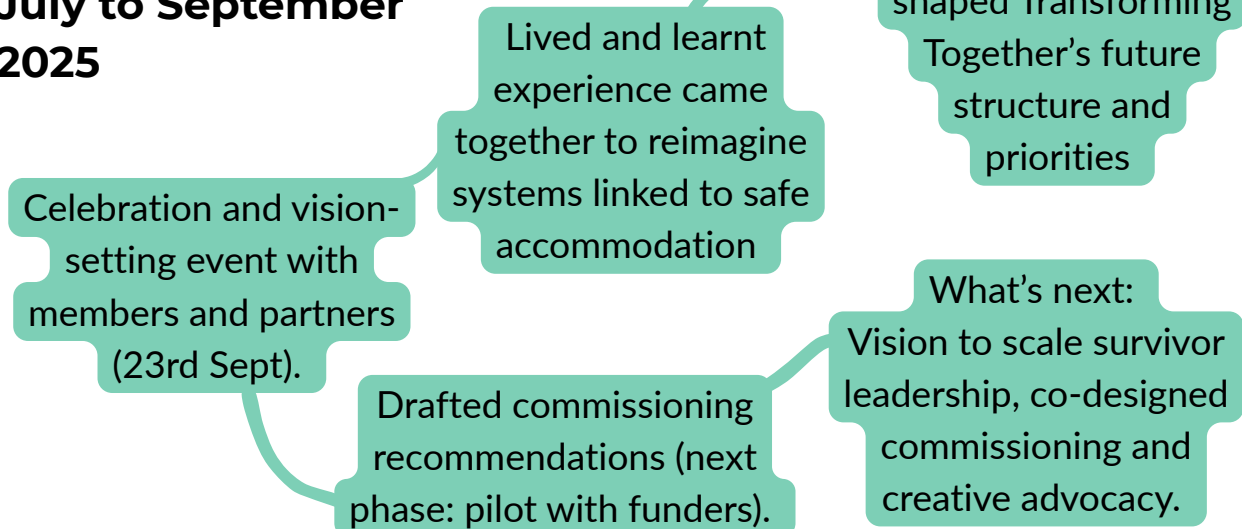
February to October 2024



October 2024 to July 2025



July to September 2025



7. Represent Women is a representative and advocacy organisation for the women and girls' sector in the North East and Tees Valley.

Showing up differently

What's changed, what's shifting, and what we're noticing

The Transforming Together Network has become a trusted, place-based hub for collaboration, insight, and systemic change on behalf of women with multiple unmet needs. Over the last year, the network has strengthened relationships, shifted power, and working toward tangible changes in commissioning, policy, and service design.

Shifting power and representation

We have embedded the voices of local women and professionals across the system as equal partners in shaping solutions – not as token participants. This is transforming individual lives as well as systems:

- **Influencing systems:** Through learning circles, zines, and collaborative governance, members have influenced policy agendas, commissioning models, and regional strategic priorities.
- **Transforming lives:** One of the women with lived experience reflected that she would not have had the confidence to apply for – and secure – her current job without the experience gained in the network. Her story demonstrates the direct personal and economic impact of Transforming Together's approach, and the wider potential if more women are supported in this way.
- **Tackling stigma:** Made stigma a network priority, with members like Haley shaping more gender-informed local stigma training – a clear example of survivor leadership driving systemic change.
- **Collective voice:** Established a brand identity for Transforming Together, as well as a stand alone LinkedIn page. This allowed the network to speak with its own voice and created a space for women with lived experience to share their messages and activities directly.

"It is a very unusual group in that such a cross-section of organisations attends ... My understanding of how the sector runs has increased massively." – network member

"People coming together with a clear, agreed agenda and actions, linking to policy. The network has brought together key people in this space, which is incredibly valuable." – network member

Strengthening local systems

Transforming Together is becoming one of the go-to places for commissioners, funders, and policymakers seeking solutions to inequalities affecting women with multiple unmet needs.

- **Influence on strategies:** Shaped Sunderland's VAWG strategy and contributed to Durham Police and Crime Commissioner's victims' strategy; Durham committed to commissioning a trauma- and gender- informed 'full service', while Sunderland's VAWG strategy embedded lived experience in safe refuge standards - directly linked to our Learning Circle on Refuge access.
- **Embedding commissioning change:** Partnered with Represent Women and the Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner to review joint commissioning principles, guiding more collaborative and equitable funding. The commissioning subgroup has developed recommendations for funders, with ambitions to pilot them in the next phase.
- **Women's Health Leadership:** Recognised by the Integrated Care Board as a vital voluntary sector partner. Transforming Together's Dismantling Disadvantage report was cited in the regional Women's Health Needs Assessment, and we continue to work closely with and influence the Integrated Care Board's VAWG and Health Impacts workstream.
- **Building practical evidence:** Mapped refuge provision, spotlighted local innovative models such as Harbour Hartlepool's complex-needs refuge, and drew learning from the addiction sector to shape more flexible approaches. Combined local datasets with lived stories to humanise and strengthen the evidence.

Building resilient relationships

At the heart of Transforming Together is relational infrastructure: the trust, reciprocity, and shared purpose that make sustained collaboration possible.

- **Equal relationships across the network:** Professionals, commissioners, policy makers, service providers, and women with lived experience work together as equals. Though these groups often struggle to engage with each other, the network has created spaces where both can meet, learn, and collaborate. This equal footing dismantles old hierarchies and allows us to design models capable of driving radical systems change.
- **Cross-sector collaboration:** Members report stronger links, better information-sharing, and a collective commitment to tackling barriers.

Catalysing innovation

The network uses creative, participatory methods to unlock solutions that traditional processes overlook.

- **Creative methodologies:** Learning circles, storytelling forums, and self-directed meeting introductions have enabled local women to shape priorities and solutions in innovative ways.
- **Powerful advocacy tools:** The zine and other outputs amplify women's voices, reframing narratives across housing, commissioning, and health, helping to influence policy discussion in a more holistic way by connecting issues often treated in isolation.
- **Implementation partner:** Our network is increasingly recognised as a potential delivery partner, for example in anti-stigma campaigns, piloting new service models, practitioner training, and reflective support.

"Excellent, inclusive, encouraging. Members' discussions coming from a variety of different places... really add value..." – network member

"[S]omething very impactful has started, but it feels like we're early on in the journey." – network member

"Systems changes takes time." – network member

Where next?

Securing the network's legacy

The Transforming Together Network has laid strong foundations – but to deliver long-term systems change, sustained investment and a secure home for the network are essential.

In under two years, Transforming Together has achieved significant influence and outcomes. Yet systems change is inherently a long-term process, and short-term funding cycles restrict its potential. With continued support, the network could grow into a permanent, survivor-led movement for systemic change.

"There have been so many valuable achievements already, and I feel that if the network ceased to exist, this would be lost." – professional network member

Our roadmap, co-designed with members, sets out the next stage ambitions:

- Embedding co-designed commissioning and survivor-led leadership into local systems.
- Scaling and piloting new approaches – from anti-stigma campaigns and service model innovations to commissioning recommendations and storytelling forums – ensuring participatory models dismantle stigma, drive change, and keep lived experience central to policy and practice.
- Continuing to work with the North East Combined Authority to drive long-term local systems change - starting with women with multiple unmet needs, so that all women and girls benefit - while advocating for a Women's Multiple Disadvantage Taskforce, and shaping the Radical Prevention Fund.
- Expanding reach and leadership – growing subgroups, diversifying membership, and supporting more women with direct experience into advocacy and leadership roles.

As Smallwood and other funders recognise, place-based networks like Transforming Together are vital to dismantling entrenched inequalities – bringing together local expertise, lived experience, and systems knowledge to design responses rooted in the realities of those most affected.

Recommendations

These recommendations set out changes needed from funders, commissioners, and regional leaders to secure sustainable, systemic solutions for women with multiple unmet needs in the North East.

1. North East funders and commissioners should continue to fund the Transforming Together Network, as a vital cross-sector voice of lived and learned expertise to address multiple regional unmet needs for women and girls.
2. The North East Combined Authority (NECA) should adopt a gendered approach to tackling regional inequalities and work with the Transforming Together network to radically reduce the number of women dying in the region as a result of their unmet needs.
3. Regional commissioners should adopt the commissioning and funding principles co-designed by the Transforming Together Network in all work intended to improve outcomes for women with multiple unmet needs.
4. NECA should build a comprehensive whole-system strategy at the regional level to assist women who require safe housing and have multiple unmet needs. This should feature a reflective case management system that encourages critical thinking about how to effectively meet needs while promoting cross-sector collaboration and peer-led support across the region.
5. Regional authorities, including NECA, should be supported and enabled to access national funding opportunities, including the Government's Dormant Assets Fund and Social Outcomes Fund, to ensure these can be targeted towards those most in need.
6. Other combined authorities should develop cross-sector networks to tackle gendered multiple unmet needs, building on the Transforming Together principles set out in this report.
7. Funders should invest both financial and non-financial support in networks that are iterative and relational, focused on capacity building, embed coproduction models and tackle the complex routes of gendered poverty and disadvantage for women.

Acknowledgments

We are grateful for the support from Smallwood Trust, to Agenda Alliance for convening us safely, and Changing Lives and Her Circle for connecting us with women like Anna, Haley, Kayleigh, and Kirsty, who made our conversations so real and unafraid.

Thank you to Laura McIntyre, who threw herself into every challenge and expertly facilitated our subgroups, seeking out partners along the way. We are also thankful to Social Finance for enabling Nadine Smith to dedicate her time and expertise to supporting us as Chair.

Thank you to all of our individual members from local, voluntary, statutory, and public sector organisations, who continue to inspire optimism and seek new ways to collaborate to tackle disadvantages women face. We would especially like to thank Represent Women – and Erin Parker Leonard in particular – for their commitment to ensuring that women with multiple unmet needs are represented within the wider women and girls' movement across the region.

We are grateful to Angelika Strohmayer and Paulina Malowaniec for all the time and energy they put into the artwork to help prepare for the Learning Circles event, and in the final Zine print of this day, which we hope will continue to influence the work in the next phase.

Together, we have shone a light on the evidence and built a network ready to guide future transformation. We have completed an important phase of this work, and now we ask only that you play your part in turning what was revealed through Dismantling Disadvantages and the development of Transforming Together into building advantages for all women in the North East.

A list of the Transforming Together Network members can be found in the Annex, reflecting the wide-ranging expertise and commitment that underpin this work.

Annex

The strength of the Transforming Together Network lies with its diversity. Our members bring together direct experience, frontline expertise, research insight, commissioning power, and policy influence. Together, they reflect the full range of systems women with multiple unmet needs come into contact with – from health and housing, to criminal justice, safeguarding, and specialist organisations.

Below is a list of individuals and organisations who have contributed their time, knowledge, and commitment to shaping the network. Not all members are listed here, as some preferred not to have their names or organisations published. We remain deeply grateful to every member of the Transforming Together Network for their time, insight, and commitment to systems change in the North East.

Transforming Together

Expert by Experience Members

Kirsty Lumsden (Lived Experience Co-ordinator)
Anna Billington
Kayleigh Cookson
Haley Paxton

Community & Voluntary Sector Organisations

Resmina Reed (Apna Ghar)
Val Kilner (Aspire Learning)
Philippa Rousell (Changing Lives)
Lisa Davis (Changing Relations)
Amy van Zyl (Her Circle)
Bex Roberts (Junction 42)
Linda Kirk (Just For Women – Stanley Women's Centre)
Gaynor Trueman (North East Sex Work Forum)
Ellie Turner (Open Clasp)
Natalie Collins (Own My Life)

Laura Seebohm (Wearside Women in Need)

Julia Lyford, Women's Workshop

Statutory and Public Sector Partners

Leanne Connor (Domestic Abuse Lead, Gateshead Council)

Suzi Jackson, Freeman Hospital

Anna Capstick (North East Women's Lead, HM Prison and Probation Service)

Julie White (Newcastle Local Authority)

Kirsty McNally (National Health Service North East and Cumbria Integrated Care Board)

Lesley Pyle (Domestic Abuse Lead, North Tyneside and Northumberland Council)

Kainat Javed (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria)

Julie Wearmouth (Sunderland City Council)

Annex

Academic and Research Partners

Angelika Strohmayer (Northumbria University)

Independent Experts and Consultants

Fozia Haider (Community Bridgebuilder)
Natalie Maidment (Clinks)

Represent Women (advocacy partner)

Erin Parker-Leonard (Represent Women)

Agenda Alliance and Coordinators

Laura McIntyre (Transforming Together Network Coordinator)
Nadine Smith (Independent Chair, Social Finance)
Jessica Southgate (Agenda Alliance)
Tara Harris (Agenda Alliance)
Nina de Paula Hanika (Agenda Alliance)
Saleha Nisar (Agenda Alliance)
Teddy Harvey (Agenda Alliance)
Jessica Trotter (Changing Lives)

Former Members

Lisa Boyack (Changing Lives)