

TIME HELD GENTLY



Hannah Shead
CONSULTING



**PHOENIX
FUTURES**



THE NELSON TRUST

WHY?



How well is our sector responding to women?

Are we 'gender blind'?

Women's experiences – trauma and male violence

"Fearlessness is like a muscle. I know from my own life that the more I exercise it the more natural it becomes to not let my fears run me." - Arianna Huffington

WHO WE SPOKE TO

Data review

Women in treatment

Women who have completed treatment

Professionals

*"Each time a woman stands up for herself, she stands up for all women."
— Maya Angelou*



DATA REVIEW

- 76% of women disclosed DA
- 22% history of selling sex
- 70% – mental health need



WHAT WE HEARD



Women only environment

Landing takes time

"Understand the weight of your recovery"

12 weeks is not long enough

Funding process – inconsistent & disruptive

"Takes six weeks to start to trust"

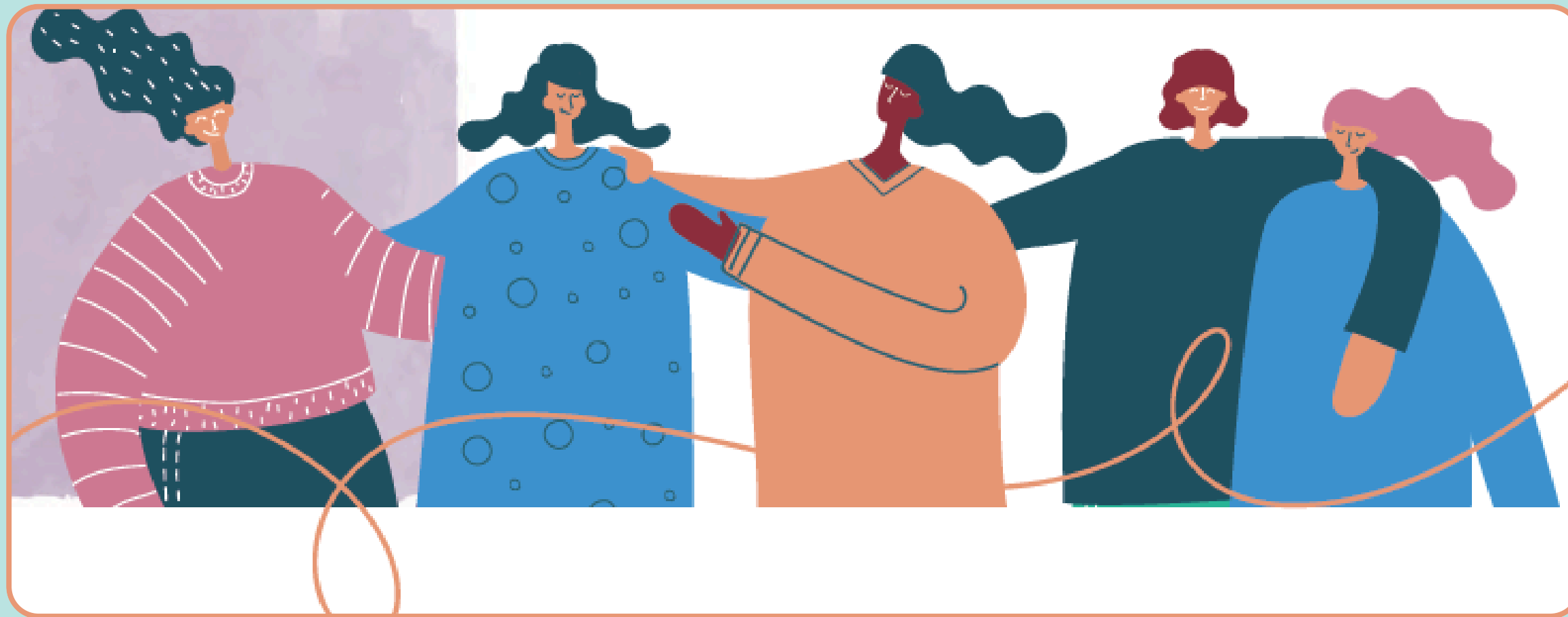
"I feel like I can be authentic and vulnerable around women"

"It's so much more than putting down the substance"

WHAT WE HEARD

Women's needs – “open and close the box”

Inconsistent processes...setting women up to fail?



We cannot change what we are not aware of, and once we are aware, we cannot help but change.
— Sheryl Sandberg

MOTHERHOOD & MATERNITY



76% of women in treatment were mums

women are 'mothering' long arm

Data not captured

"Sometimes the strength of motherhood is greater than natural laws."
—Barbara Kingsolver

VALUE FOR MONEY?



100% of women who left early had 12 weeks funding

75% of those funded for 12 weeks completed / still retained

"I cut the bushes last time, but the seed was still there"

"Why spend money in the first place, it is a waste in the long run"

FIVE RECOMMENDATIONS



Abolish requirement to write to panel

Women centred funding

Evidence base

Data Collection

Value for money

KEEP THE CONVERSATION ALIVE...

How are a woman's needs different to her male counterparts?

Are we, as a treatment system, doing all that we can to offer women equitable access to recovery?

What improvements can we make to enable the best possible treatment outcomes for women?

