

**Pregnant women and mothers in the  
justice system: developing a  
collaborative, cross-sectoral  
response to a complex policy system  
problems in NSW**

**ANZSOC Conference 2019**

**Kelly-Anne Stewart**

**Principal Advisor Women Offenders**

**&**

**Dr. Jane Walker**

**Research Fellow, UTS**



**Communities  
& Justice**

# Research

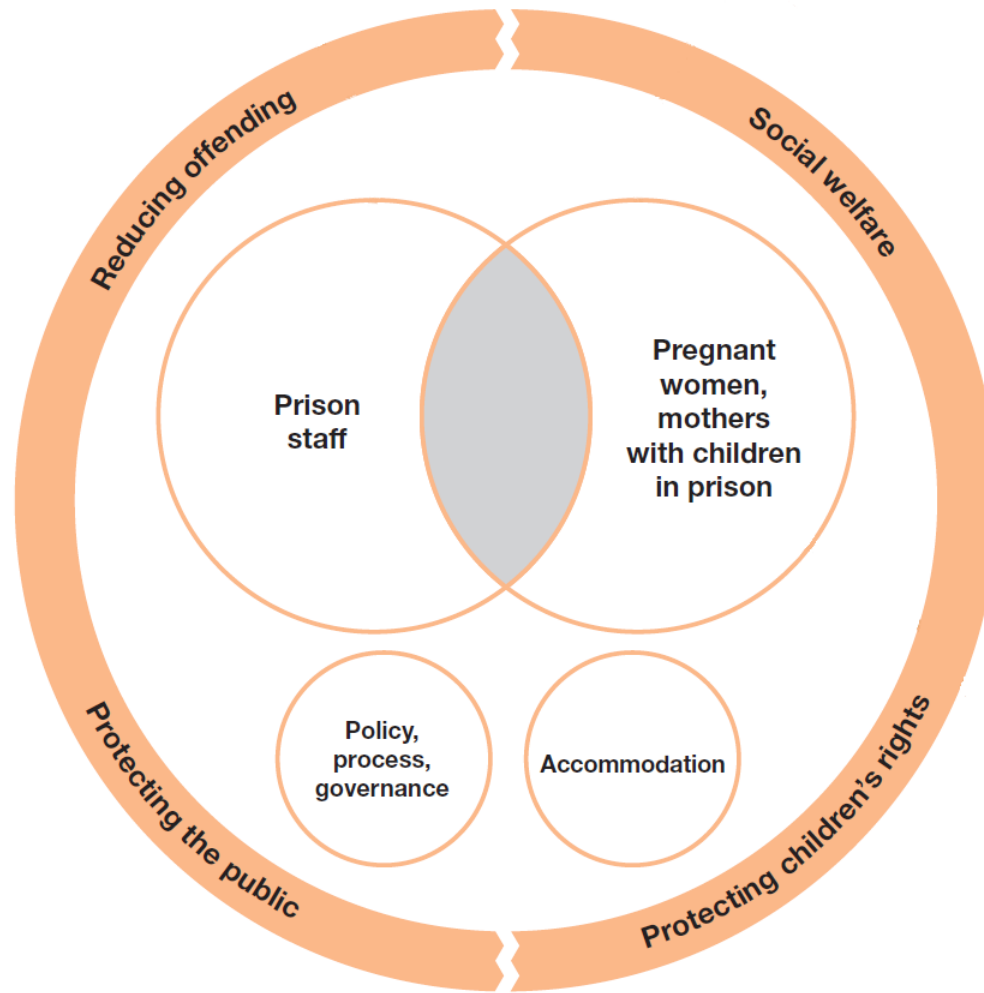
Walker, J.R., Baldry, E. and Sullivan, E.A., 2019. Residential programmes for mothers and children in prison: Key themes and concepts. *Criminology & Criminal Justice*.

Dowell C.M., Mejia G.C., Preen D.B., Segal L., 2018. Maternal incarceration, child protection, and infant mortality: a descriptive study of infant children of women prisoners in Western Australia. *Health Justice* 15;6(1):2.

Ooi, E.J., 2018. Recent trends in the NSW Female Prisoner Population. BOCSAR: Sydney.

Judicial Commission of NSW, 2019. Sentencing Bench Book: Subjective matters taken into account (cf s 21A(1)). 10-490 Hardship to family/dependants.

# Institutional context

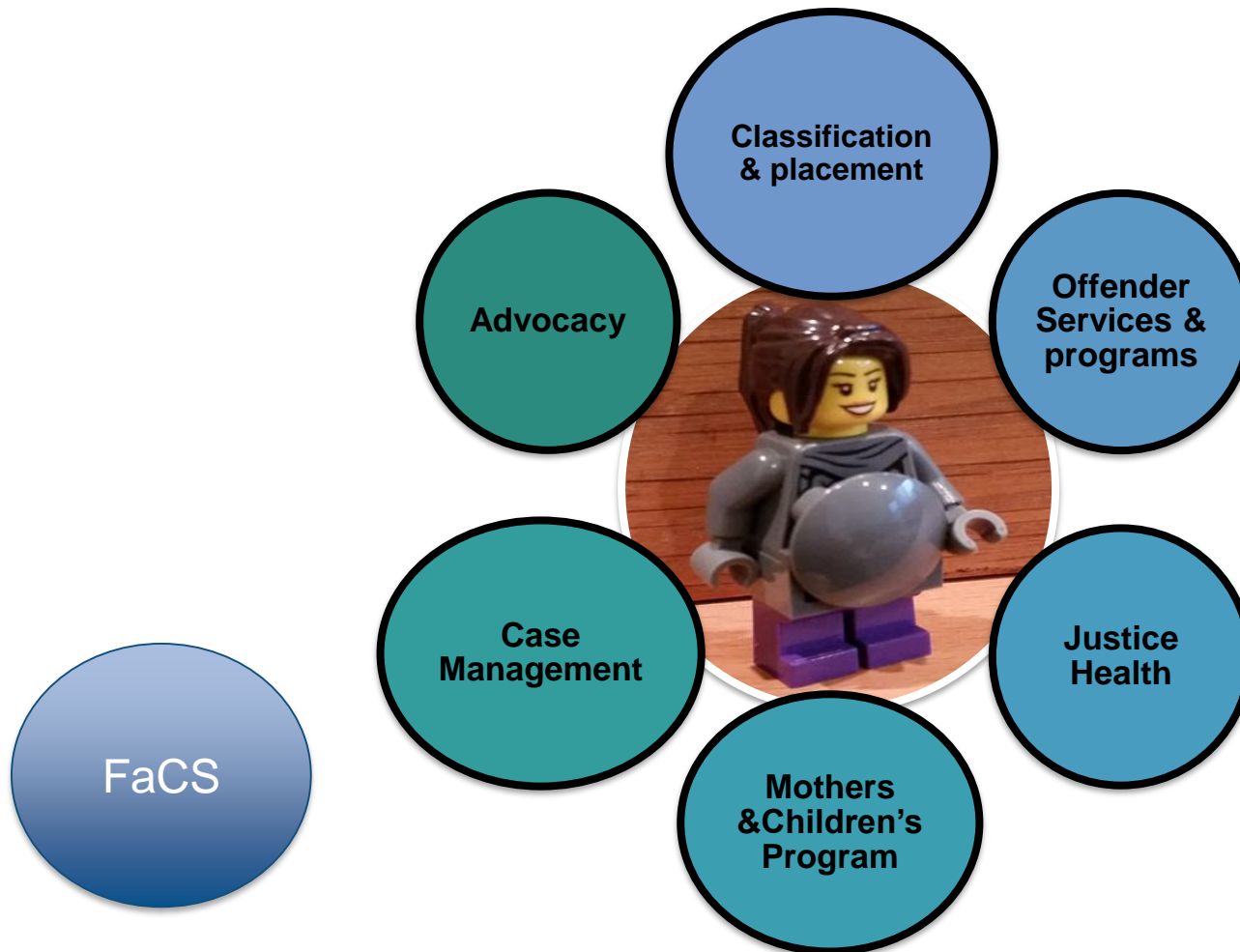


# Profile in NSW



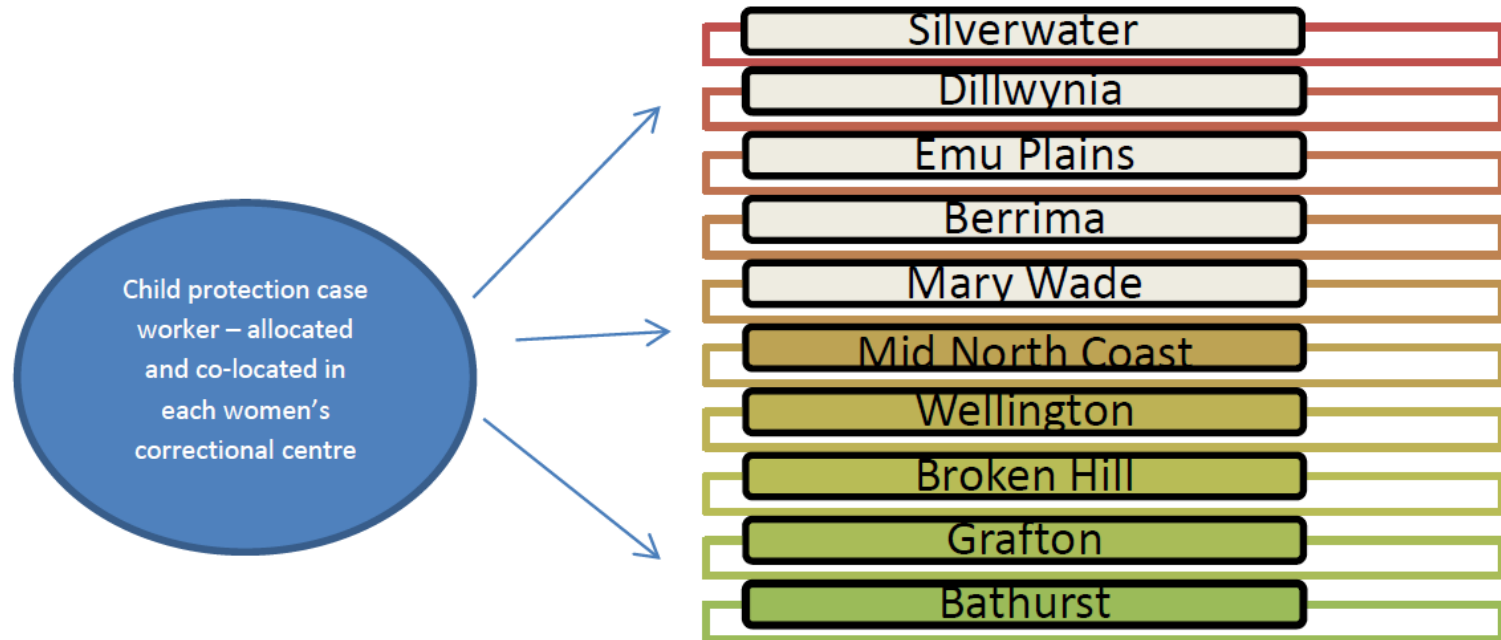
- Total NSW population in custody is 13650
- 1007 of those are women (7%)
- 341 (34%) of those women are Aboriginal
- 40% of all women in custody are on remand
- 25 pregnant women on any given day in NSW

# Custodial context for pregnant women in NSW



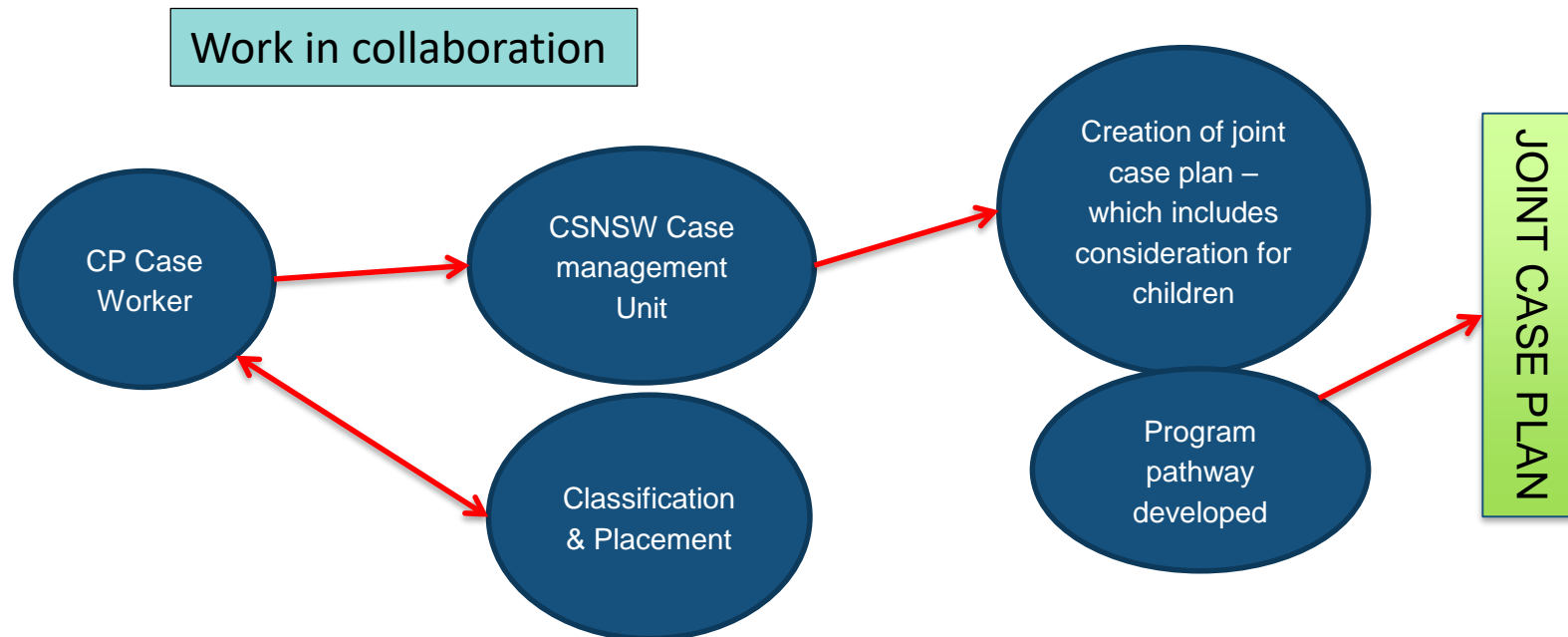
# Some solutions ....

## Co-location location model



# One solution ....

## Co-location location model



# Looking forward

- More diversion from custody



- Coordinated, holistic support



- Prioritise access to services and support



- Strategic and operational partnerships/alliances





# Questions and comments

**Kelly-Anne Stewart**

Principal Advisor Women Offenders

[Kelly-Anne.Stewart@justice.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Kelly-Anne.Stewart@justice.nsw.gov.au)

0431338404

**Dr. Jane Walker**

Research Fellow, UTS

[Jane.Walker@appliedresearch.com.au](mailto:Jane.Walker@appliedresearch.com.au)