

## sixtyone **Sixty-One: “Helping offenders live free from crime”:**

### **Context:**

SixtyOne is the founder of a Bristol city-wide partnership that supports prisoners before and after release. They enable individuals, churches, charities and businesses to provide the relational and community based support offenders need to live free from crime. This includes MentorMe (<https://www.sixty-one.org/mentorme>) which is SixtyOne’s biggest project.

The Trusted Executive Charitable Foundation (TTECF) has been supporting Sixty-One’s “MentorMe” programme in Bristol since March 2019 with a series of grants totalling £48,170 (@February 2023).

### **Autumn ‘23 Update:**

#### **Offering hope to prisoners this Christmas and all year round ...**

Christmas comes early here at Sixty-One! September saw the arrival of a Christmas tree in the Sixty-One office (more on that to come!) and presents are filling up our storage facility ready to be packed for delivery to the prisons at the end of December.

#### **Delivering hope to those in Christmas Gift Project**

Every year, with the support of local churches, Sixty-One co-ordinates a Christmas Gift Project. A bag of thoughtful gifts and a hand-written Christmas card are given to over 1,400 serving prisoners in three local prisons. We also offer people a copy of a Christian booklet. At a time when self-harming and suicide rates are high, this act of unconditional kindness has a huge impact.

*"I'm very grateful for the support of Sixty-one and the Christmas Gift Project, Christmas in prison can be a difficult time, your kind support can make a genuine difference to our prisoners normalising the festive season. Thank you, best wishes Vanessa." Governor at HMP Bristol*

The Gift Project also gives us the opportunity to make serving prisoners aware of the support that we can provide on their release through our mentoring programme, MentorMe.



*“It's nice that we are thought about at this time of year, being away from our loved ones. It's my first Christmas away from my family and and my first year in prison, so please can you pass on my thanks to everybody who was involved in the Christmas Gift Project.” - Letter received from a serving prisoner*

### **Exam Success**

Another of our mentees passed two courses first time round, which only have a 30% pass rate. This will enable him to progress his career and protect his health as he gets older.

## New Team member

We now have our new MentorMe Project Liaison Officer with us who will be the liaison with HMP Bristol, as well as holding a caseload of community referrals. He is settling well into the team and slowly finding his feet with all the acronyms which surround criminal justice. We know that he is a great asset to the team, and it's a pleasure to have him on board.

These are great examples of people giving their time, money and care to support and mentor people who often consider themselves outcasts from society. Coaching, kindness, and humility, and being open, are some of "The Nine Habits of Trust" (<https://trustedexecutive.com/nine-habits-of-trust>).