Matching Offenders and Programmes:
The Responsivity Principle at work in the Cornmarket Project for Offenders, 
Substance Misusers and their Families in Wexford

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Summary  In recent years, a perception among relevant agencies (statutory and community/voluntary) of 
an increase in the availability of drugs such as heroin and cocaine in Wexford has seen a correspondent 
increase in anti-social and criminal activity. It is also against this backdrop that the Cornmarket Project 
has developed. This article briefly describes the development of the project, and its programmes. It elab-
orates the theoretical basis of the work undertaken with offenders, drug misusers and their families in the 
project, emphasising in particular the importance of the responsivity principle, or matching service users 
to appropriate programmes and vice versa, in work with offenders.