

# Scrutiny Review of Youth Services

## June 2016



# Youth Direction Overview

## Youth Direction provides support to young people across the Borough

We deliver:

- ▶ Targeted Youth Support which provides a range of group programmes, projects, initiatives, positive activities and one-to one support to targeted young people through direct delivery and partnership working across the Borough.
- ▶ Universal Youth Support provides open access youth work and activities in centres and schools throughout the Borough. The team also runs programmes and outreach street based work to make contact with young people and tackle anti social behaviour. The team also delivers the Duke of Edinburgh Award throughout the Borough.
- ▶ Universal Careers Guidance which provides impartial careers information advice and guidance to young people in schools.
- ▶ Targeted Participation support for those who are at risk of disengaging from learning, those who are not in education, employment or training and specific groups including young people with Learning Difficulties & Disabilities.
- ▶ Client management, including tracking the movement of young people within Stockton-on-Tees and Teesside and keeping accurate and up to date information on young people regarding their education, employment and training status.
- ▶ Employer/Employment Agency support including advice and a pre-selection service.
- ▶ The Preventions Team provides an early intervention service for young people who are at risk of offending, anti-social behaviour or school exclusion. The team offers a range of support to help young people achieve improved outcomes.
- ▶ Youth Offending Service which is a multi agency partnership delivering a range of services to prevent and reduce offending by young people. It addresses factors that can lead to offending, supports young people and families to take a responsibility for their behaviour and offers the opportunity to repair harm to others. Services to support victims of youth crime are also available.



# Key Issues for this review:

- Balance between universal, preventative and targeted
- Value of universal work around public health outcomes
- Role of the council – commissioner / provider
- Capacity of the voluntary and community sector
- Opportunities for locality working
- Building capacity around preventative working
- Developing the capacity for more targeted working



# To recap on previous information

## The services we provide include:

- Targeted Youth Support
- Universal Youth Provision (open access)
- Universal Careers guidance
- Targeted support (NEET), special needs, young people at risk
- Tracking where young people are and what they are doing
- Preventions – early intervention
- Youth offending Team – multi-agency partnership



# Significant reductions in funding for Youth provision:

## Nationally this has led to:

- Targeting of youth services – contribution to social care agenda
- Outsourcing or reshaping universal provision
- Closer working with voluntary sector
- More multi-disciplinary working
- Development of lead professional role (consistency, single point of contact young person, broker support and expertise where needed)



# Some key considerations

- Youth services an essential part of overall approach to children's services
- Challenge of reducing resources
- Taylor Report on Youth Justice – likely change of direction
- Success of targeted and prevention approaches
- Drawing on best practice – national and local



# What should the new approach look like?

- Early help interventions
- Resources focused on targeted & vulnerable young people
- Reduced Local Authority access provision - some resource for step down support in partnership with the voluntary sector (bid process based on priorities identified by young people) - *see handout on alternative provision*
- Smarter use of profiling/data (young people) - identify emerging issues & target services
- Referrals into targeted services via Early Help Hub & Youth Justice System (appropriate consideration of cases / identification of lead professional)
- Achieving Public Health outcomes



# What should the new approach look like?

- New pathways for young people step up/step down interventions & removal of barriers
- Multi-disciplinary teams - greater staff flexibility - improved staff skills & customer journeys (removing barriers)
- Young people supported in context of family / family intervention/support
- YOT - greater integration with overall youth provision
- Strengthening preventative & targeted work - reduce entrants into YOT/reoffending and custody





# What should the new approach look like?

- Continuation of restorative approach
- Strengthen response to ASB & low level crime focusing on 'hot spot' areas
- Continue work within schools targeting & working with those likely to be NEET
- Continue work with schools dealing with vulnerable young people (Abbey Hill, Westlands and Bishopton Centre), developing a wider whole family approach.



# What should the new approach look like?

- Work intensively with young people 16-19 & up to 25 with SEN who are NEET or in danger of becoming NEET
- Further develop a targeted model to focus on vulnerable young people who are LAC, Leaving Care, SEN, Teen Pregnancy/Parents, Young Carers etc.



# What does this mean in practice for Universal/Open Access Provision?

- Change model of service delivery
- Work with voluntary sector and young people to identify priorities
- Compliment existing voluntary sector provision – mapping exercise shows significant alternative activities (*see handout*)



# Preventions

- Increase preventions work – partnership work with young people on the cusp of; risky behaviour, exclusion from school, entering the criminal justice system). Increase in referrals, so restructure to meet growing need (improve step up / step down approach)
- More street based flexible provision – increase in joint patrols with dedicated staff who can work out of hours

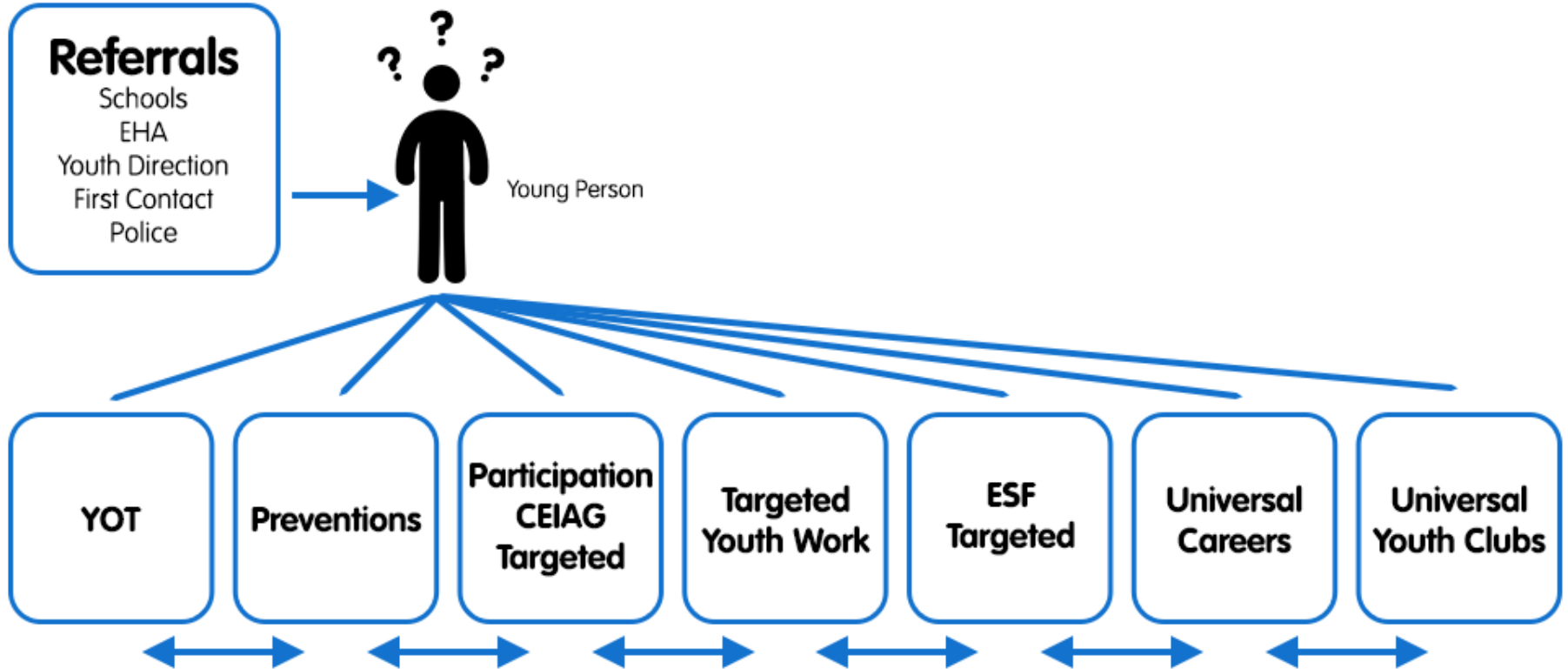


# Targeting Provision

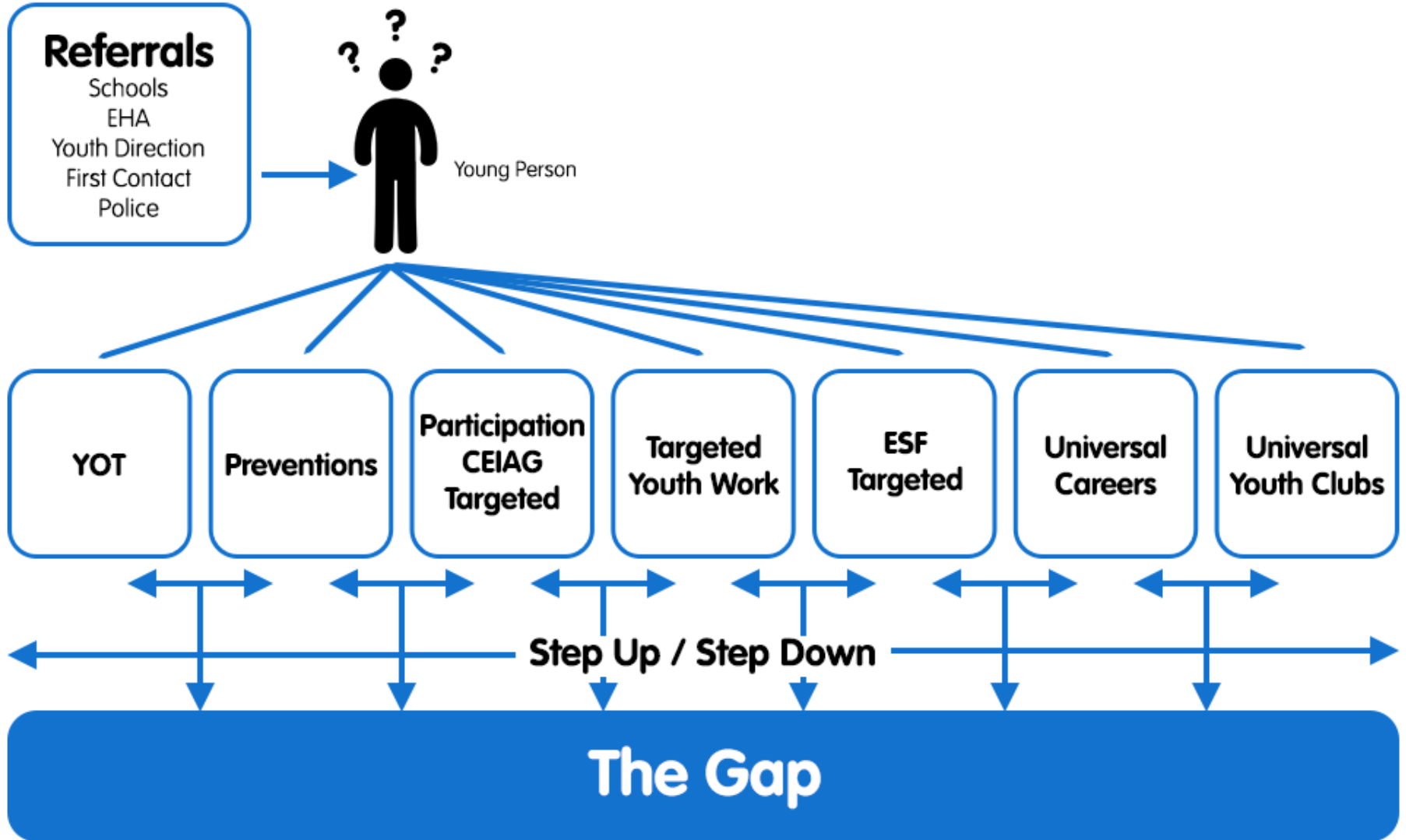
- Using information and profiling to target resources to those who most need it
- Quickly tackling emerging issues



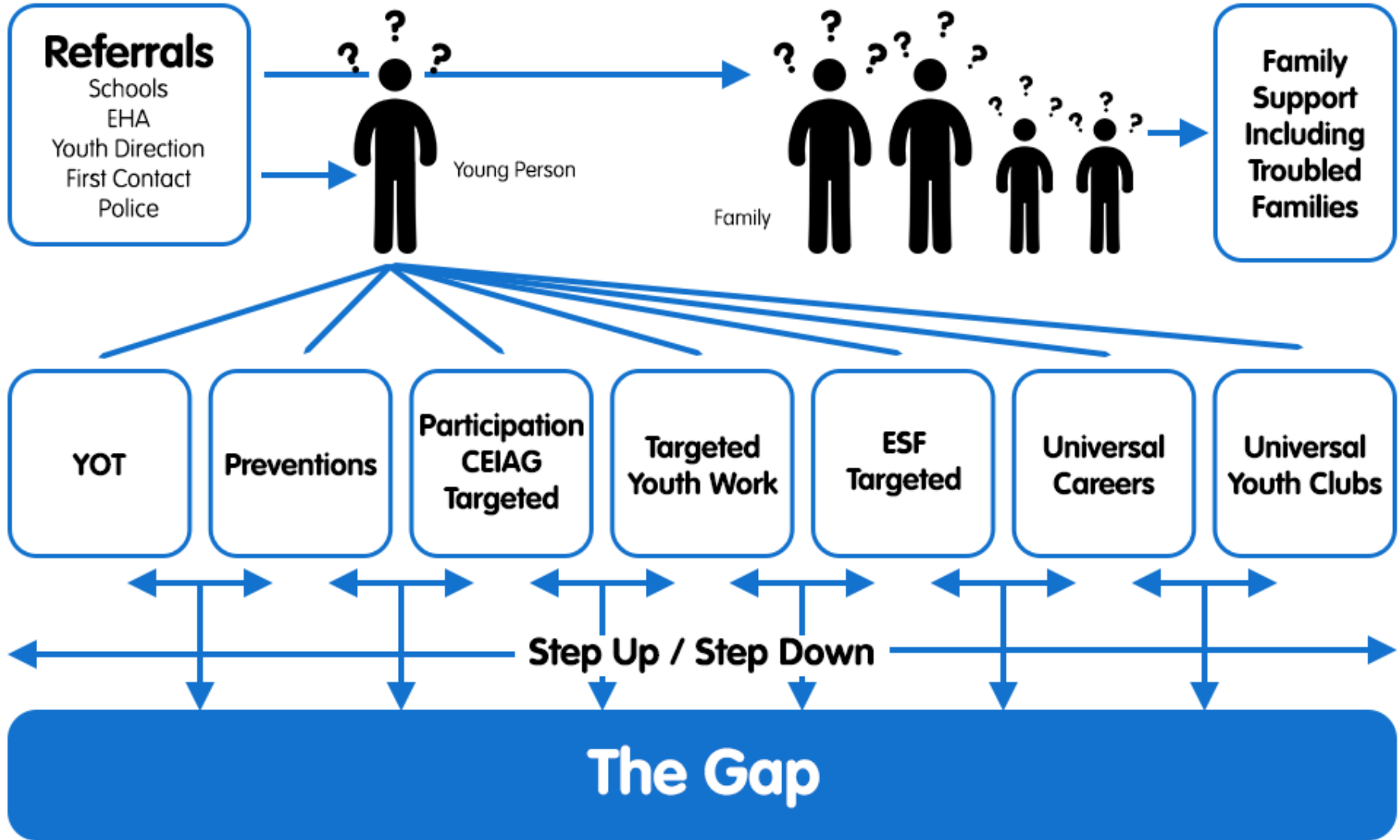
# Case studies how it works now?



# Case studies how it works now?

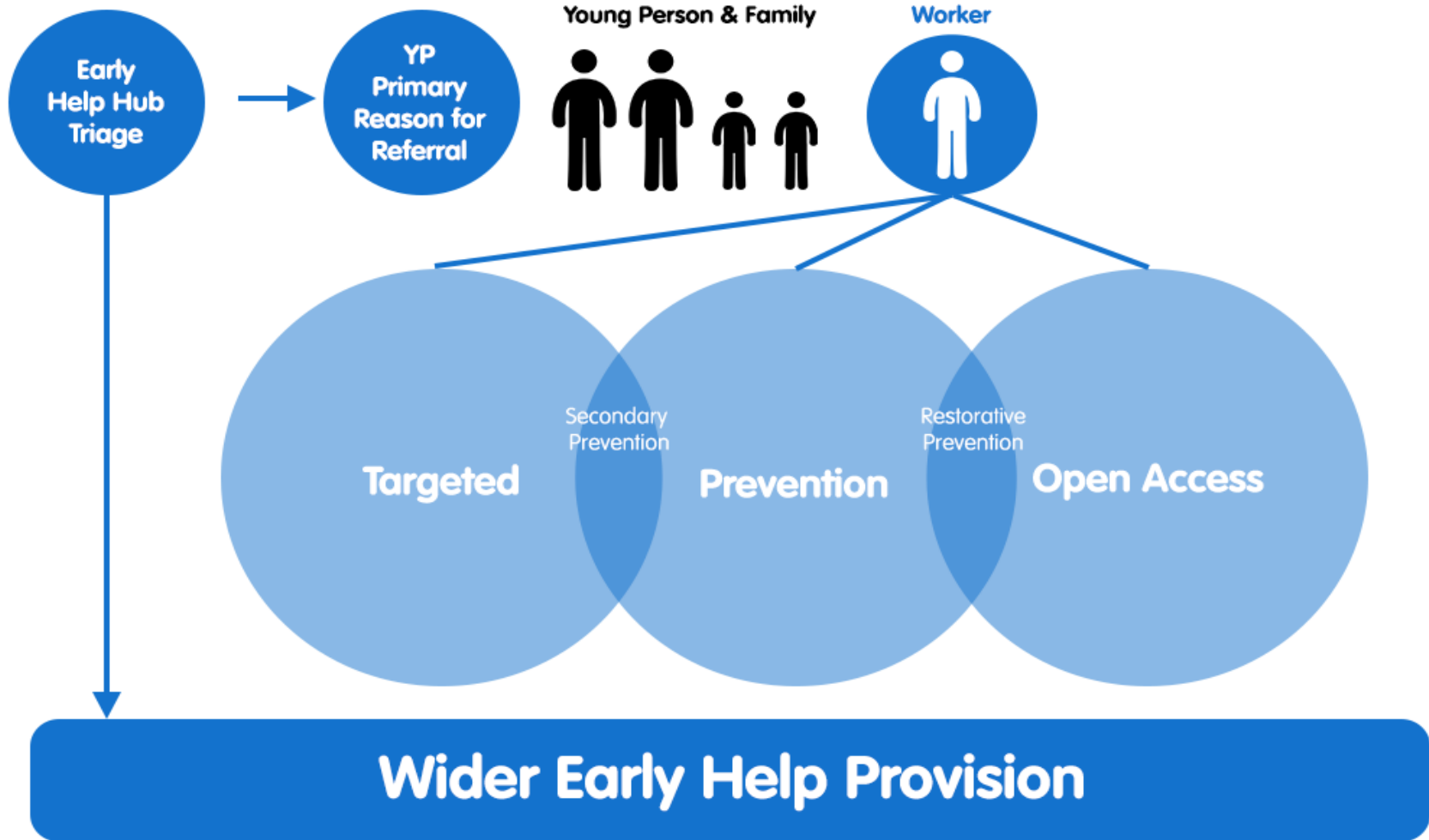


# Case studies how it works now?





# The new restorative approach in action:



# Youth Offending and the Taylor Review:

It is essential to preserve the best, most successful elements - namely strong local leadership coupled with holistic and multi-agency partnership working - and use them as the foundations for a reformed model that has the following key principles:

- A fully devolved model of youth justice delivery, offering local autonomy to meet nationally set standards;
- Devolved youth justice budgets giving local areas responsibility and accountability;
- A central, expert body which sets and upholds practice and workforce standards, drives efficient and targeted delivery, and has powers to intervene where there is poor performance.

# What Next?:

- Consultation with local voluntary providers to seek views and opinions
- Consult with young people through the Youth Assembly in July.
- Develop a questionnaire and group sessions to consult and involve young people over the summer.