




Theme summary – Community Safety	
Under this theme the following indicators are included in the Council Plan:	Progress
82 or less incidents of serious violent crime in 2011/12	
Less than 2,589 incidents of criminal damage in 2011/12	
A 10 year target has been set to achieve a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in the borough from the 2005/09 average (76) by 2020	
Rate of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System (per 100,000 young people aged 10-17 yrs)	Rate sustained
Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders aged 10-17	Is still a projection – year end final not known until July.
Percentage of young people receiving a conviction who are sentenced to custody	Within agreed tolerance range.
Overall progress	
Performance	
<p>The number of first time entrants (FTE), as recorded by the YOS database, continued to fall during the Q4 period, resulting in a total for the year of 232 FTEs (237 in 10~11) – this is a rate of 1189 per 100,000 population aged 10-17 yrs, the same rate as the previous year.</p> <p>PNC (Police National Computer) data, however, indicates that whilst the FTE number is falling, the local rate is 1271 per 1000,000 population; this is above the regional, family and English averages. It is likely that this reflects Stockton-on-Tees YOS is one of a handful of services in the country which does not deliver either pre-reprimand disposals and/or triage in the police custody suite. At this stage, it is unknown how this measurement will be impacted by the introduction of a new range of out of court disposals, once new legislation through LASPO is enacted.</p> <p>Re-offending rates: YOS data reported here is for the period April to December 2011, based on re-offences committed during the period by the cohort of 127 young people who first offended during Jan-March 2011 and who are tracked over a 12 month period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The data indicates that more young people have re-offended and they have committed more offences, than in the same period in the previous year, with 50 young people (39% of the cohort) committing 141 offences to date (a rate of 1.11 so far in 11~12). It is likely therefore that the 12 month performance rate for the current cohort (data will be available in July this year) will be poorer than in the previous year. More detailed analysis indicates that the increase is accounted for mainly by re-offending of young people at pre-court stage and following release from custody. Significantly, the numbers of offences committed by young people on community orders supervised by the YOS appears to be the lowest since 2005 - this is an area of ongoing monitoring through the monthly PI clinics. 	

Custodial sentences amounted to 6% of sentences imposed in 11~12 (actual number 21), the highest figure for several years, an increase on 4.1% (actual number 17) in the previous year, and above the long-standing performance target of 5%.

However, data from the national YJMIS (Youth Justice Management Information System) shows a different picture, with a custody rate of 0.87, which is a decrease from 0.98 for the same period in the previous year and compares favourably with the family average, although is above the England and regional averages.

Serious Violent Crime – 100 incidents of serious violent crime recorded during 2011/12, which is an increase of 22 crimes on the same period last year. The target of <82 has not been achieved.

Criminal Damage – 2,472 incidents of criminal damage recorded during 2011/12. Although this represents an increase of 149 crimes on the previous year, it is 117 fewer crimes than the 2011/12 target of <2,589 crimes, which was based on the average of the last two years.

Killed or seriously injured – In the period January – December 2011, 62 people were killed or seriously injured. Whilst this represents an increase of 18 compared to the same period in 2010, this is still a relatively low figure for Stockton and demonstrates that we remain on track to achieve the long term reduction target of 46 by 2020.

Actions taken

The YOS continues to review the impact policing practice has on FTE numbers and looks to alternative approaches to custody such as restorative programmes aimed at providing more permanent outcomes for young offenders.

All custodial sentences are reviewed within the service and analysis evidences that all were appropriate and proportionate outcomes from court given offence seriousness, persistence and / or refusal by the young person to engage in community options.

The service has been reviewing the way in which it delivers a range of services to young people with the express aim of improving engagement and compliance and it is hoped that this may have an impact upon the custodial rate.

Reductions in the use of custody is a key priority for the YJB nationally and mechanisms are being introduced to enable this to be measured, not only by the actual number of custodial sentences, but also the number of 'bed nights' in the secure estate. Investment / Payment by Results pilots have been launched by the YJB in 11~12 and their success in reducing the number of bed nights is being monitored.

Analysis around the missed target on serious violent crime suggest no specific trend requiring further action at this stage, beyond continuing monitoring and reporting.

Customer perception/ satisfaction

Measures of residents feelings of safety whilst outside during the day and at night are being included in the Residents Survey due to be undertaken later this year. The results of this survey will be used to inform future work on reducing the fear of crime in the borough.

Risk

There are no Community Safety high risks featured in the Corporate Risk Register.

Finance

From the Local Transport Plan the Council spent £108k on road safety schemes in 2011/12.

The authority has received Community Safety Grant of £204k from the Home Office for 2011/12. This is reducing down to £102k for 2012/13 which will also be the final year of the funding.