

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2007-08 FOURTH QUARTER

Introduction:

This purpose of this Report is to update members on the performance of the YOS against the key Youth Justice Board (YJB) performance indicators and, as requested by a previous meeting, comments are focused upon those areas under performing. Attached to this Report is the performance data for the last quarter, January to March 2008. We are currently validating our annual performance data and I will be able to update the Partnership at the next meeting.

Information:

In 2007/08, the YJB monitors performance against 12 national performance measures and associated targets. These 12 Performance Measures are reported annually for Ethnicity and Recidivism and quarterly for Prevention, Final Warnings, Use of Secure Estate, Use of Restorative Processes and Victim Satisfaction, Parenting, Detention and Training Orders, Education, Training and Employment, Accommodation, Mental Health and Substance Use. For a detailed breakdown of each Performance Measure and its targets, please see the attached document, on which each section is explained in full.

As can be seen, the YOS is performing well in a number of areas, which reflects a continuing commitment by staff and partner agencies. However, we know that there are some areas for improvement: Education, Training and Employment, is an area highlighted in the attached report. In this last quarter, the proportion of young people remanded into the secure estate has increased to above target, for the first time.

Whilst not reflected in the quarterly data, we know from previous discussions at the Partnership Board, that outcomes relating to FTE and Recidivism, both currently monitored annually, need to improve.

First Time Entrants (FTE) – Planning is currently hampered by a lack of understanding of what's happening 'on the ground'. To that end, we are beginning some detailed analysis of FTE in Stockton and are making links with other YOS and Police Forces with lower rates of FTE to establish how they have responded to these challenges.

Recidivism: YOS performance in re-offending rates of children and young people is an area which needs improving and we are currently exploring how we tackle this issue. We will soon be required to monitor re-offending rates on a quarterly basis.

Education, Training and Employment: Against a target of 90%, we are currently at 79.2%, which represents a mixed picture of 82.8% for pre 16 and 73.0% for post 16. YOS capacity to respond to these challenges is enhanced by several recent developments: the new ETE worker starting in post; Connexions to continue their level of input into the YOS; newly established ETE

monthly performance clinics; and attendance by Behaviour for Learning and Support Services at those clinics.

FTE, Recidivism and ETE are likely to be ongoing areas for improvement. We will monitor the proportion of young people being remanded into the secure estate.

Current Caseload:

The information provided by MIS shows that, as of 21st April 2008, there are 226 young people open to the YOS, excluding those currently in the court system. This includes 66 on Preventions Programmes, and 160 young people are on Statutory Orders. Of these, 20 are on Final Warnings, 47 on Referral Orders, 73 on Community Supervision, 11 on Attendance Centre Orders and 9 are serving Custodial Sentences (5 on licence in the community). In addition to this, 8 statutory and 35 voluntary Parenting Programmes, 17 RAP Aftercare Programmes and 7 Curfew Orders are running alongside main orders.

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YOS Manager
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