

Stockton Youth Offending Service

YOS Management Board
1st July 2008

Agenda Item No:5
Safer Stockton Partnership
19 August 2008

Present:

Mike Batty –	Head of Community Protection, SBC (MB) (Chair)
Miriam Robertson –	YOS Manager (MR)
Jane Bradley –	Preventions Manager, YOS (JB)
Val Goodrum –	Partnership Director – Stockton, LSC (VG)
Jane Edmonds –	Housing Strategy and Development Manager, SBC (JE)
Peter Seller –	Head of C&YP Commissioning, SBC (PS)
Kim Elliott –	Admin Officer, YOS (Minutes) (KE)

Also in attendance:

Paul Surtees (Youth Support Projects Manager) (PSU)

Apologies:

Tina Beckett –	Assistant Director, Teesside Probation Service (TB)
Wallace Wilson –	Regional Head YJB North East, YJB (WW)
Jean Bell –	Court Legal Manager, Teesside Youth Court (JBE)
Julia Morrison –	Head of School Effectiveness, SBC (JM)
Gary Gamesby –	Chief Inspectors of Operations, Cleveland Police (GG)
Jane Humphreys –	Head of Operations Children & Young People Services, SBC (JH)
Terry Frank –	Integrated Youth Support Manager, SBC (TF)

1. “Weapons / Gang Culture – What’s happening in Stockton?” Presentation by Paul Surtees

PSU presented on weapons and gang culture to the board. PSU shared results of a weapons culture questionnaire which had been completed by 312 young people from across the Borough. PSU invited the Board to a ‘Be Safe’ event on 11th July at Grangefield Youth Community Centre. The event would discuss with a variety of partner agencies what is currently being done in Stockton to tackle weapons culture. PS asked where Stockton was in terms of knife crime and gang culture. Currently there is no detailed data available in terms of what percentage of people caught with or using offensive weapons is committed by young people and how much is committed by adults. However use of knives in offences of serious incidents is low in Stockton.

2. Minutes of meeting held 13th May 2008

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th May 2008 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

- Modernisation Manager – Closing date is this week and hope to have someone in post in September.
- Raising Expectations – YOS has submitted comments

3. Children's Fund

PS spoke to the board about Children's Fund. Funding stream is there for 3 years as an area based grant. The ring fenced money for Preventions no longer exists. This year plans are for funding to continue as normal. MB asked for this item to be added to the next meetings agenda to discuss the assessment of risk to the YOS from fall out of Neighbourhood fund, NRF and local funding. **Action: To be put on the next meeting's agenda for discussion to look at financial risks and what programmes of work would be affected. Including the Young People's Custody project.**

4. Improvement Action Plan: Feedback from Lead Inspector

MR presented a paper on the feedback from the Lead Inspector regarding the Improvement Action Plan. MR summarised the Lead Inspector's main points. The Improvement Action Plan has now been signed off and has been passed to the Regional YJB who will monitor and oversee the Improvement Plan. Social Care functions – by March 2009 there needs to be a written protocol around this. **Action: Jane to go through processes with Team Managers and check their understanding.**

5. Improvement Action Plan: Actions for Management Board

MR and MB discussed the performance management functions and YOS staffing paper. The Board agreed with the role and purpose of the management board as set out in the Management Board Induction Pack – 2007. The Board agreed to agree an annual budget and monitor the progress of this throughout the Board meetings. Action: MR to bring figures to the next Management Board. The Board are encouraged to flag up any funding opportunities that they are aware of.

A discussion took place around representation on the Management Board, it was agreed that the Management board would have the following members;

- Stockton Borough Council – 1 member
- Joint Council / PCT – 3 members
- Stockton Police – 1 member
- National Probation Service, Teesside – 1 member

These members are able to vote on any matter of funding or resources affecting one or more partners.

The Management Board also have the power to co-opt additional members to improve strategic involvement. Co-opted members are drawn from;

- Stockton Borough Council Housing Department
- YPSM Commissioning Group
- Teesside Magistrates Court

- Voluntary Sector
- LSC

These members may vote if required on policy and practice issues, where there are no implications for the funding of the main partners requiring determination. Further representation may be co-opted from time to time to address matters arising from the practice or performance of the YOS.

YOS Operations Managers – attend by invitation only

Regional YJB Management – Standing invitation

A discussion around a member from the community sector having a representation on the board was discussed. It was decided that as this was a Management Board that this was not needed and there are other mechanisms in place for consultation with this sector.

A discussion took place regarding YOS posts and the contingency arrangements in event of staff absence. No formal arrangement with the Police – MR is going to take this up with Ted Allen and formalise. Social Workers – MR to speak to JH and ask about a formal written partnership agreement. **Action: To put on the Board's next meetings agenda for an update on this.**

JB presented a paper on FTE and presented to the group the FTE action plan. JB gave an update on the FTE analysis – this is a lengthy process as involves lots of manual trawls. FTE's are continuing to increase and the FTE action plan and analysis hopes to explore what the reasoning behind this is and what the YOS are doing to combat this. Members were asked to take the action plan away to read in their own time.

6. Improvement Action Plan: Operational Update

MR presented a progress report on the Improvement plan. Members were asked to note the contents of the report and support a proposal to negotiate an extension on the final warning timescales with the Youth Justice Board.

7. YOS Performance Report

MR discussed the latest YOS performance figures. ETE figures have improved significantly.

8. Youth Justice Plan Update

The deadline for submitting the plan has been extended and this has enabled a large amount of consultation to take place with partners and staff. MR hopes to submit the plan on 08/08/08.

9. ISA / IYSS Update

JH and TF had submitted apologies for the meeting

10. Feedback from other meetings

The Youth Crime Action Plan is due to be published in the Summer 2008.

Scaled Approach – the launch date for this may be delayed

AOB: None

Next Meeting: 21st October at 10:00am Bayheath House