

YOS MANAGEMENT BOARD

28th April 2009

Present:

Mike Batty	Head of Community Protection (Chair)
Miriam Robertson	YOS Manager
Terry Frank	Integrated Youth Support Services Manager
Peter Seller	Head of Children & Young People's Strategy
Jean Bell	HMCS Magistrates Court
Tina Beckett	Assistant Director, National Probation Service - Teesside
Stephen Young	Cleveland Police (on behalf of Ted Allen)
Jenna Ditchburn	Admin Officer, Youth Offending Team (Minutes)

Apologies:

Lyn Burns	Interim Head of Service / Assistant Director, Children and Young People's Operational Services
Jane Edmonds	Housing Strategy & Development Manager
Ted Allen	Chief Inspector, Cleveland Police
Darren Coulton	LSC, Partnership Manager, Stockton
Julia Morrison	Assistant Director/Head of Service – Children, Schools and Complex Needs

1. Minutes & Matters Arising

Minutes of meeting held on 20.01.09 were agreed as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising

YOS Performance: MR advised that the annual figures on first time entrants is currently being collated for submission to the Youth Justice Board, so detailed ETE information cannot be presented at today's meeting, but will be available for the next one. **ACTION: MR**

Substance Misuse and Mental Health issues are no longer reported to the YJB, they are measured locally (there is a meeting next week to discuss how this is to be done).

Young People in Custody: MR presented the information to Tony Beckwith and it was agreed that it does not breach Data Protection given that no personal/sensitive identifiable information is included.

2. Youth Justice Planning Framework Validation Feedback

It has been highlighted that the Stockton Management Board have a "very good" Youth Justice Plan, which shows excellent understanding of the current performance against key objectives to both prevent and reduce youth crime. The YJB Regional team wish to focus on the following three key areas:

- 1) The capacity of the case management section and any performance issues arising.
- 2) The YOS re-offending performance and related areas.
- 3) The impact of the move to area based teams on prevention activity and its links into the work of the YOS.

The YJB would like the Management Board to read, discuss and validate the report and give feedback. The Board agreed that an updated Youth Justice Plan for 09/10 be prepared.

ACTION: MR

A Validation Visit took place on 1st February and another meeting is scheduled for May, where the 08/09 plan will be discussed. Validation information will be presented as an update for HMI Probation.

The National Indicator 111 (Reduce First Time Entrants) dates should be 08, not 09. MR to advise the YJB of a couple of 'typo' errors.

The Board ratified the Youth Justice Planning Validation Feedback.

3. Improvement Action Plan

MR advised that this was signed off in May 2008 – two areas of slippage; however, this is due to developments external to YOS. MR advised the Board of the progress with regards to this, as detailed on the Action Plan. This should be completed by May 2009.

MR advised that Jane Humphreys will be looking at case files for half a day in YOS and other areas and feedback will be given, maybe via a report.

TF wanted it noted that YOS have been seen as priority for additional money from the CWDC for workforce development.

4. HMI Probation Programme

MR provided the Board with a copy of a letter, addressed to the Chief Executive from Alan MacDonald, HM Assistant Chief Inspector with regards to the Inspection of Youth Offending (IYO) – Core Case Inspection (CCI).

The Core Case Inspection will start in the North West this year – we are not sure when the North East inspection will be, but we will receive three months notice. They will be looking at the outcomes for children and young people and case work. They are preparing to train members of YOS to support the inspection, which does have a cost element and the benefits are considerable. TB advised that five members of her team attended the two days training and the time was significant – it was a big issue and they were harsh on criticism.

5. Youth Crime Action Plan

TF went through the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) proposal document for 2009-11 – a copy was made available to the Board.

Operation Stay Safe: The YCAP Group are currently working on this and several meetings are taking place over the next few weeks. Information on progress will be instant once the operation is complete.

Street Based Work: Commission is complete and two contracts have been awarded, which are being finalised with legal.

After School Police Patrols: Using street based approach – anti-social behaviour and crime intelligence between police and schools.

YOT Workers in police custody: Stockton young people are taken to Middlesbrough Youth Custody Suite. South Tees are delivering their service in house and the police are keen on having a single point of referral and access. MR and TF met with South Tees YOS last week to discuss costings and collaborative arrangements. Cost to Stockton will be £20k.

JB highlighted that at a recent Court User meeting; a defence solicitor had raised concern about delays in Appropriate Adult response in the Middlesbrough Custody Suite. MR advised the Board that the YOS has already checked its own position; the audit revealing speedy response. Nonetheless, we are still awaiting further information. MR stressed that YOTs in police custody are separate from provision of Appropriate Adult role.

Reparation schemes: The YOS has been raising its profile and consulting with Community Groups to raise the awareness of YOT and reparation activities, targeting young people who have, or are at risk of offending. This will be monitored by the Youth Task Force. The Fire Brigade are running a programme called “Whatever it Takes” where they will be homing in on target areas in Thornaby and other areas as part of the Youth Crime Action Plan - there is no money attached.

Family Intervention Project (FIP): Tees Valley Housing is the provider of FIP and will start as soon as the contracts go through legal. They will be based with IYSS and will be looking at working through the Preventions Panel. YCAP are commissioning this process and Dave Willingham has done a lot of work to ensure it is completed as soon as possible.

6. YOS Performance

MR went through the report provided to the Board with regards to YOS Performance and outlined how the calculations for the data were produced for the various outcomes.

NI43 – Convicted Young People sentenced to custody – below target.

NI44 – Ethnic composition of young people on youth justice system disposals – another report will be submitted at the next YOS Management Board.

NI45 – Engagement in ETE – 90% target which is split between pre and post 16 – we are one of the best in the region.

NI46 – Access to suitable accommodation – 99.8% due to one individual who had unsuitable accommodation but declined the suitable accommodation that was offered.

NI111 – First Time Entrants – Local performance has improved with almost 20% reduction in the number of young people coming into the Youth Justice System. The DCSF are changing the way this is monitored – they will have first time entrants per 1000 of the population and measured through the PNC. JB advised that the result from the Court hearing will automatically update the PNC.

7. Recidivism Target

The Management Board expressed their disappointment with the YJB for not taking on board the recidivism baseline, as this will be a hard target to meet. MR was advised that the YJB appreciate our position, but will not change the year for recidivism performance. MR stated that the new Deter Young Offender Strategy, being coordinated through LCJB's, requires that the YOS identify young offenders and track their progress through the Criminal Justice

System, monitoring any re-offending through YOS systems – the YJB will monitor progress throughout the year.

8. Young People in Custody

MR presented the Panel with a spreadsheet of information with regards to Young People in Custody and on Licence for April 2009. PS suggested the Substance Misuse column be broken down into alcohol and drugs. **ACTION: MR**

9. Budget 09/10

TF and MR are meeting with finance next week to clarify the YOS budget.

Stockton Council has increased their contribution to the YOS partnership by £55k per annum.

MR received information with regards to the YJB Grants initially stating that the grant for RAP would be maintained; however, we have now been advised that there has been a 10% cut (approx £14,500), so we are looking at how to make savings.

10. Children and Young People's Plan

PS advised that this has now been finalised. It will be printed and circulated some time in the next couple of weeks.

11. Review of Youth Services/Youth Provision - Update

PS advised that this is ongoing and meetings are planned for the end of May, beginning of June with Stakeholders to establish what agencies are out there – this could also link in with the My Space developments.

12. Feedback from other meetings

Nothing to feedback.

13. Any other business

The following are to be added as agenda items for the next meeting:

- Issues arising from the Safeguarding Board (PS/LB).
- Youth Justice Plan.
- “Actions speak louder than words” document (general health provision report).

Next meeting: Tuesday 14th July 2009, 10am-12 noon at Bayheath House.