

High Crime Causers

1. Introduction

1.1 This report is intended to promote discussion as to how the Partnership can further reduce re-offending by a small minority of offenders who commit a disproportionate amount of offences

1.2 In particular the report has identified a cohort nominated as “High Crime Causers”. This is a particular group of offenders who are trapped in a cycle of crime and substance mis-use and are responsible for high levels of acquisitive crime within the Borough.

1.3 Reference is also made to the PPO scheme and its current performance and introduces the concept of Integrated Offender Management as introduced by the Home Office in five pilot areas in July 2008.

1.4 Reference is also made to National Indicator 38 which is the main link between the cohort identified above and the target introduced by the Home Office.

1.5 Finally the report outlines the known offending by females within the Borough and a case study of a criminal family network

2. National Indicator 38

2.1 Each DAT area has a cohort of individuals identified during the 3 month period prior to the start of the financial year. The initial cohort of people was identified during the period 1st January to 31st March 2008 and had their level of offending and convictions monitored across the following 12 months.

2.2 Cohort

This indicator covers the volume of proven offending in a follow-up 12 month period by (Class A) drug misusers identified in the course of their contact with the criminal justice system. This NI is to be effective from April 2009 and the drug related offending covers only proven offences (e.g. convictions).

This cohort was identified via 2 routes:

- Identification through a drug test. This covers any individual who tests positive for heroin or cocaine/crack in police detention

following arrest/charge (as part of the Drug Intervention Programme) during the identification window.

- Identification through OASys assessment. This covers offenders receiving an OASys assessment during the identification window via probation if they are in the community (on licence or on a community sentence) and they are either:
 - Recorded as being subject to a current Drug Treatment and Testing Order or Drug Rehabilitation Requirement (DTTO or DRR)
 - Assessed as having a criminogenic drug need. This equates to scoring at least 4 on an OASys assessment.

2.3 In terms of the female offenders some 29 were identified in this cohort of 150. This equates to almost 20% of the cohort being tracked during this current financial year. Of this 29 some 16 are current to the Probation Service and five have recently terminated Community orders.

3. Analysis of High Crime Causers

3.1 Within Stockton there appears to be a cohort of individuals that are trapped in a cycle of crime and substance misuse, and are responsible for high levels of acquisitive crime within the Borough. Recent evidence of this includes the quarter 2 update on the 08/09 NI38 cohort, which showed that almost half of all offences were committed by the 10% most prolific individuals, and a previous piece of analysis identifying 110 individuals drug tested on arrest 5 or more times during a two year period.

3.2 This piece of analysis is aimed at identifying who the high crime causers within the Borough are, and which organisations they have been involved with over the past year.

3.3 This should help facilitate a co-ordinated and targeted approach to addressing both their criminal behaviour and their problematic drug use, involving a range of appropriate agencies.

3.4 Key Findings

The following are key findings from this analysis:

- 73 adults were identified who had either 10 or more arrests for acquisitive crime during 08/09, or had 5 or more arrests and a positive drugs test;
- This cohort of “High Crime Causers” were responsible for over a fifth of all acquisitive crime in Stockton during the year, and the top 30 individuals were responsible for over 400 arrests;
- There were also 6 young people identified during the analysis with 10 or more arrests, who together accounted for 95 arrests linked to acquisitive crime during the year;
- The majority of the adult High Crime Causer cohort are male, and around two thirds of the cohort are between the ages of 25 and 34;

- 19% of the cohort had been on the PPO list during 08/09, and 20% had been on a DRR. Overall 37% of the cohort were either a PPO or had been on a DRR;
- 86% of the cohort were in Drug Treatment during 08/09, with 53% in treatment with the Criminal Justice Intervention Team;
- Overall 90% of the sample were in contact with one or more of PPO, Probation or Treatment during 2008/09;
- A third of the cohort are also on the 09/10 NI38 potential cohort identified via DIP, therefore any improved working with this group has the potential to improve performance on NI38.

3.5 Police Arrest Data Set

3.6 Data on arrests for acquisitive crime between 1st April 2008 and 31st March 2009 shows that 123 individuals had 5 or more arrests during that period. All arrests for acquisitive crime were included, irrelevant of the outcome.

The crime categories included were:

- Burglaries;
- Theft from motor vehicle;
- Theft of motor vehicle;
- Robberies;
- 'Other theft' categories.

3.7 For the purpose of identifying high crime causers where the offending is linked to substance misuse it was decided that the cohort should include only individuals with either 5 or more arrests for acquisitive crime and a positive drug test during 08/09, or 10 or more arrests for acquisitive crime.

3.8 This gives a list of 79 individuals; however 6 of these were under 18 on the 31st March 2009 and will therefore be excluded from the rest of this analysis. However, it is worth noting that between them these 6 were responsible for 95 arrests for acquisitive crime during 08/09. It would therefore be beneficial to liaise with the appropriate Young People's Services regarding these individuals, and also to prepare to work with the two individuals who will be turning 18 later this year.

3.9 Out of the remaining list 3 individuals had been drug tested but tested negative, and a further 3 didn't appear to have been drug tested. On closer inspection however there appeared to be individuals with similar names / dates of birth to these 3 individuals that had had positive tests, and therefore potentially an alias is being used, or data incorrectly captured. All of these 6 individuals will remain in the cohort as all had 10 or more arrests for acquisitive crime during 08/09.

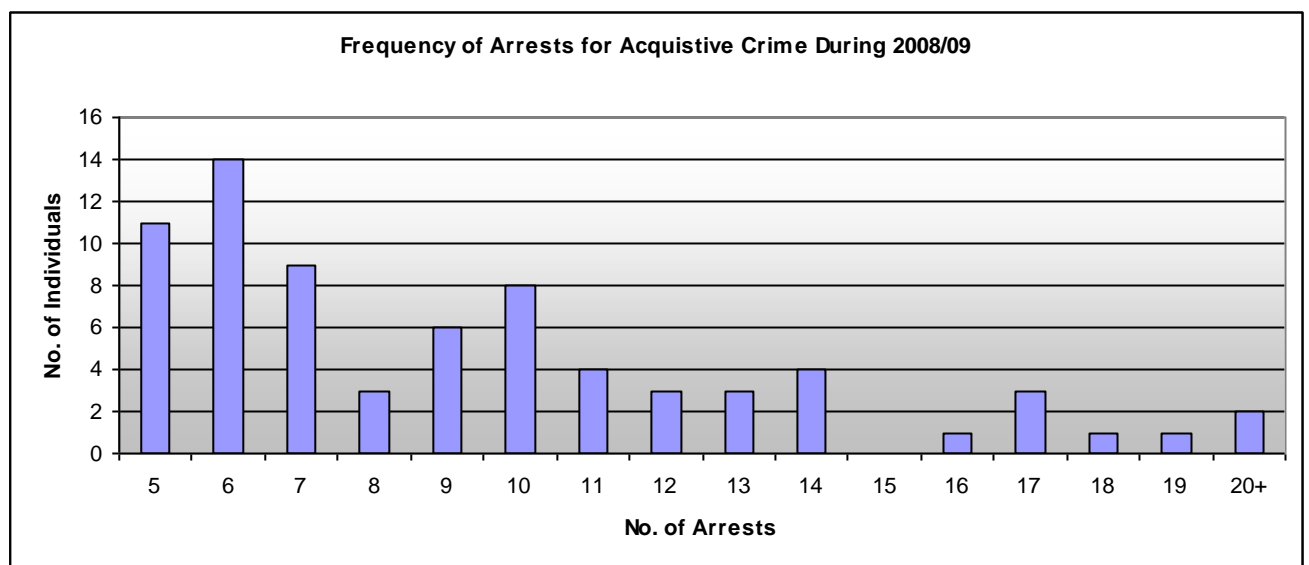
3.10 This gives a total of 73 adult "High Crime Causers" who will be the focus of this piece of analysis.

3.11 It is worth noting that the cohort only includes those that were in the community at some point during 2008/09 and therefore in a position to commit crime. There may in addition be individuals who were in custody during 08/09 but could in future be part of the “High Crime Causer” cohort.

3.12 Number of Arrests

This cohort of 73 adult “High Crime Causers” were responsible for 720 arrests during 08/09, which is over 20% of the 3,109 arrests for acquisitive crime during 08/09. The 30 individuals who were arrested 10 or more times account for 440 arrests which is 14% of all acquisitive crime arrests.

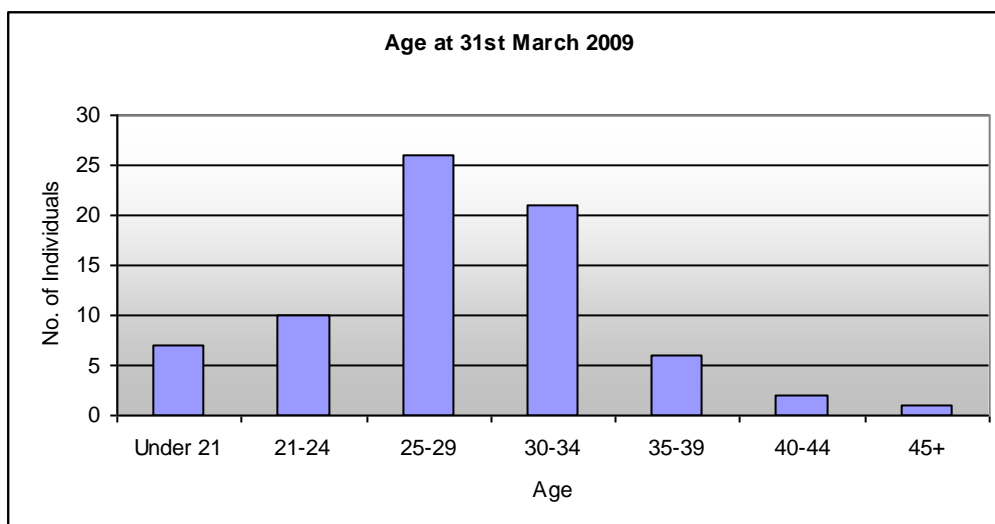
The chart below shows the frequency of arrests across this group:



The graph shows that although 5, 6, or 7 arrests were most common amongst the cohort, there were many individuals with 10 or more arrests, and there was even one individual who had 58 arrests.

3.13 Demographics

The chart below shows the age range of the cohort. The age is calculated at the 31st March 2009, in order to identify individuals who are now over 18, therefore at the date of arrest the individuals could have been up to 1 year younger than the age reported below.



This shows that the most common age groups were between 25 and 34, with almost two thirds of the cohort falling into these age groups, however there were still 17 individuals under 25 in the cohort.

The majority (88%) of the cohort are male, with only 9 females amongst the group.

3.14 Overlap With Crime and Treatment Data Sets

The following table shows the level of overlap with a range of datasets over the same time period. It indicates the proportions of the cohort that were live to each service / organisation at some point during 2008/09:

	Entire Cohort	10+ Arrests
PPO	19%	20%
DRR	21%	20%
Probation	66%	70%
Treatment	86%	87%
CJIT	53%	50%

3.15 This shows that 19% of the cohort was on the PPO caseload at some point during this period, and 21% were on a DRR. Altogether 37% of individuals were either on the PPO caseload or on a DRR at some point during 2008/09. A much greater proportion were on the general probation caseload, with two thirds of the cohort on the Probation Caseload during 2008/09.

3.16 With regards drug treatment services, 86% had been in drug treatment at some point during the 2008/09, with over half of the cohort on the Criminal Justice Intervention Team caseload at some point during the year.

3.17 When looking at the 30 individuals with 10 or more arrests, the proportions are similar, with slightly more featuring on the PPO and Probation lists, and slightly fewer in treatment with CJIT.

3.18 Overall, 90% of the cohort was in contact with one or more of PPO, Probation, or Treatment Services during 2008/09.

3.19 In addition to the above information, a third of the cohort are also amongst the potential NI38 09/10 cohort identified via DIP. Therefore any success in working with this cohort to reduce their offending is also likely to have a positive impact on performance on National Indicator 38.

4. PPO Update

4.1 The PPO Programme remains a key Government Priority for tackling crime and reducing re-offending. The Home Office Crime strategy *Cutting Crime - a new partnership 2008* published in July 2007 makes clear the need to have a continued focus on tackling the most prolific offenders through the PPO programme

4.2 The PPO programme is also strongly positioned within the Government's new suite of Public Service Agreements (PSAs). The programme will make a major contribution to PSA 23 *Make Communities safer*. PPO has the potential to contribute to all four priorities set out in the PSA delivery agreement-

- Reduce the most serious violence, including tackling serious sexual offences and domestic violence
- Continue to make progress on serious acquisitive crime through a focus on the issues of greatest priority in each locality and the most harmful offenders-particularly drug-misusing offenders
- Tackle the crime, disorder and antisocial behaviour issues of greatest importance in each locality, increasing public confidence in local agencies involved in dealing with these issues
- Reduce re-offending through the improved management of offenders

4.3 PPO performance Targets

On 29 May 2008 the Home Office provided a provisional performance ceiling for Stockton based on the unconfirmed APACS cohort recorded on JTrack. Confirmation was then received from Stockton that the JTrack cohort was correct, that is:

- The JTrack APACS cohort included all individuals who were PPOs on 1 April 2008 with correct Police National Computer ID numbers;
- No individuals who were not PPOs on 1 April 2008 were included in the JTrack APACS cohort;
- Scheme start dates for all the individuals included in the APACS cohorts were correctly recorded on JTrack.

4.4 Performance Ceiling Summary

Using the data from the APACS cohort recorded on JTrack, the Home Office calculated that the average number of months PPOs had been on the

Stockton-on-Tees scheme was 21.5. By using the APACS performance methodology they calculated the performance ceilings for Stockton as:

- Number of PPOs-40
- Average number of months on scheme-21.5
- Performance Ceiling-16%
- Suggested stretch for Local Area Agreements-19%
- Actual Local Area Agreement –not agreed

4.5 The Performance Ceiling threshold means that the total number of convictions acquired by the APACS cohort in 2008-2009 should be at least 16% fewer than those obtained in 2007-2008.

4.6 Conviction Data

An extract from the PNC database conducted at the end of July 2008 has shown that the individuals included in the cohort had been convicted of **247 offences** committed between April 2007 and March 2008.

The Performance Ceiling threshold is, therefore, that the total number of convictions acquired by the APACS cohort in 2008-2009 should not exceed **207 convictions** (i.e. a 16% reduction on 247 convictions).

The Home Office stated they would provide quarterly conviction data to enable Stockton to monitor their performance against this threshold.

4.7 Quarter 1

The first quarter's data for NI 30 from the Home Office was received on the 21st November 2008

The cohort was convicted of 56 offences in the first quarter which is 4.25 offences more than would be predicted in a quarter.

Should this trend continue over the next three reporting periods then the number of convictions would be 224, some 17 convictions above the target.

4.8 Quarter 2

The second quarter's performance was received on the 6th February 2009.

The cohort was convicted 49 offences in the second quarter which is 2.75 offences fewer than predicted to hit the target.

The expected performance target is to have less than 207 in the 12 month period and at the half yearly period there have been 105.

Should this trend continue over the remaining two quarters then the number of convictions would amount to 210, some 3 over target.

4.9 Quarter 3

The third quarter's performance was received on the 5th May 2009.

The cohort was convicted 23 offences in the second quarter which is 48 offences less than predicted to hit the target.

The expected performance target is to have less than 207 in the 12 month period and after the third quarter there have been 128

Should this trend continue over the remaining two quarters then the number of convictions would amount to 171 some 36 under target.

4.10 Interestingly only 55% of the cohort have been convicted in the three quarters of this tracking period

4.11 It is pleasing to report that in the last financial year we have de-registered 8 PPOs for making good progress. CG is currently drug free; attending numerous courses and has had occasional employment. SH is drug free and DH is stable in treatment with no illicit substance misuse. IB is drug free and seeking employment, JC is drug free, JH is drug free, SC stable in treatment, RM stable in treatment All eight have no recorded convictions in the last twelve months.

4.12 Performance target 2009/2010

Government Office has provided the information in respect of the targets for years 2 and 3 for National Indicator 30.

Cohort in year 2	42
Average number of months on scheme	28.5
Potential performance ceiling	14%
Potential improvement target year 2	16%
Proposed ratio for 2 years	1.10
Offences baseline	221

To meet the performance reduction of a 14% reduction will mean keeping offences under 189 in the next year

5. Integrated Offender Management

5.1 The Home Office and Ministry of Justice announced the launch of five Integrated Offender Management (IOM) pioneer areas on the 16th July 2008. The pioneer areas are based in Nottinghamshire, Lancashire, London, West Yorkshire and the West Midlands.

5.2 Inspired by the success of the Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) programme, Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Multi-Agency Assessment Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and other partnership work, Integrated Offender Management approaches target offenders in the community (both those on statutory supervision and those who are not, both youth and adult) who present the highest risks to their communities, especially those short sentence offenders released from prison under no statutory supervision. It seeks to build on the work already done to 'prevent and deter' and 'catch and convict' offenders by enhancing work done to 'rehabilitate and resettle' them. Integrated Offender Management is about doing our core tasks differently.

5.3 PPO, MAPPA and DIP schemes have proven their success and continue to be an important priority as part of the Integrated Offender Management approach. But Integrated Offender Management has the potential to deepen and extend those joint identification and assessment, offender management and enforcement and information sharing frameworks. It can strengthen joint working across a range of partnerships, opening up opportunities to change and rationalise the way we do core business. At present, it is of course unproven and the pioneer areas will help us test the concept out, taking forward the commitment outlined in the Government Drug Strategy and supporting the Government's partnership programme to reduce re-offending, cut crime and deliver relevant Public Service Agreements.

5.4 Strategic Framework

Crime has fallen and sustained reductions in re-offending have been achieved – but more can be done both to reinforce the link between the two and to maximise the opportunities for partnership working. Successfully reducing re-offending will impact on crime levels – both in volume and seriousness – making communities safer. Integrated Offender Management approaches aim to make a real difference in cutting crime by enhancing and extending the reach of current offender management frameworks.

5.5 Operational Model

Integrated Offender Management started in the field. Inspired by the success of Prolific and other Priority Offender (PPO) schemes, the Drug Interventions Programme (DIP), Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) and Neighbourhood Policing teams, a number of police forces and probation areas developed innovative approaches to the joint supervision of offenders. These approaches have become known as Integrated Offender Management.

5.6 Integrated Offender Management approaches aim to deepen and extend joint identification and assessment, offender management and information sharing frameworks for those offenders in the community who present the highest risk of re-offending, particularly for those short sentenced offenders released from prison under no statutory supervision. Integrated Offender Management re-enforces the compact between offender and the community-positive assistance in rehabilitation at the same time as swift deterrence and enforcement measures for those offenders who do not comply.

5.7 The approach highlights that police, probation service and Youth Offending Teams can achieve better outcomes by working in partnership with other agencies, integrating core business to make the best use of shared skills and resources. By using new and existing partners to supervise and rehabilitate offenders, Integrated Offender Management approaches draw on the resources and support of *all* relevant partners to supervise, resettle and rehabilitate young and adult offenders. It is about all of us, across the partnerships, doing the core work differently.

5.8 The operational principles

- **Extending the reach of community supervision:** Integrated Offender Management approaches are focused on targeting resources at offenders in the community who pose the highest risk of re-offending, both statutory and non statutory cases. While agencies will continue to supervise offenders in the community for whom they hold a statutory duty, Integrated Offender Management approaches test out new approaches to engage offenders subject to no statutory supervision. For these offenders, Integrated Offender Management approaches will particularly focus on offenders released from short-term prison sentences who continually revolve through the prison gate. Our aspiration is to break that cycle. Integrated Offender Management approaches seek to build on not only work to 'catch and convict' offenders, but also to 'rehabilitate and resettle' them, as the key to reducing re-offending. So PPO will be a crucial part of Integrated Offender Management along with work between prisons and the Drug Interventions Programme.
- **Multi-agency problem solving (identification and assessment, management and enforcement, and information sharing):** The Integrated Offender Management approach builds on the learning from schemes such as MAPPAs, PPO and DIP, and integrates core tasks performed by participating agencies and partners, including those outside the criminal justice system. The strength of these schemes has been to manage offenders in the community through multi-agency approaches, ensuring offenders are assisted in their rehabilitation through positive support, but also to ensure that deterrent, sanctions and enforcement measures are quickly activated for those offenders that do not comply.

Integrated Offender Management approaches must integrate the following core tasks:

- Identification and assessment: Complementing and strengthening existing arrangements like PPO, DIP and MAPPAs, Integrated Offender

Management approaches will focus on those offenders that pose the highest risk of re-offending to their communities. Common identification and assessment of these offenders is best achieved through integrating the police intelligence analysis, risk assessment and 'tasking' structures within the National Intelligence Model and Offender Management model (OASys and ASSET). There is also similar potential to draw upon the principles of the YOT ASSET approach of dealing with young offenders.

- Management and enforcement: Integrated Offender Management schemes should ensure that the responses to offender needs co-ordinated by the Offender Manager through interventions, positive assistance, supervision and enforcement should be brokered and shared with all relevant partners.
- Information sharing: Joint sharing of information from Neighbourhood Management schemes and Neighbourhood Policing Teams with the offender case management systems within NOMS/YOTs. This could, for example, provide better information at the pre-sentence stage to improve the quality of probation reports to court.
- **Offender rights and responsibilities:** All Integrated Offender Management schemes are part of the 'offender compact' pilots. This is a written commitment with the community that places demands on the offender to withdraw from criminality in exchange for assistance in meeting need - such as jobs, homes, or drug interventions. At the same time, the compact contains a clear expectation that failing to comply will lead to swift intervention, including removal of services, enforcement of orders and licences where relevant.
- **Offender management continuity and consistency:** In extending the reach of supervision, Integrated Offender Management approaches must further the concept of providing one 'offender manager' to each offender. This offender manager will be responsible for assessment, brokering and sequencing of services across agencies. This will particularly add value for those offenders not subject to statutory supervision. This should be done in line with the principles of the NOMS Offender Management Model as far as possible, not just directing offenders to services but motivating and engaging them as well. Integrated Offender Management schemes could include using probation, the police or third-sector partners such as mentors to take the lead offender-management role for this group of offenders. 'Offender managers' in this context are not necessarily probation staff.
- **Clear partnership governance:** The support of Government Offices and Home Office Regional Deputy Directors, Youth Offending Services, the local authority, health partnerships, Director of OM/ Regional Offender Manager LCJBs and CDRPs/CSPs, is critical – the partnerships in the regions and in Wales should facilitate these developments. It is essential to ensure that the schemes are both supported by LCJBs and CDRPs/CSPs, there is clarity about governance arrangements and

outcomes are reported to LCJBs and CDRP/CSPs for purposes of review and improvement. Integrated Offender Management approaches should be included within partnership efforts to inform, consult and involve local communities in the joint effort to make them safer.

5.9 The pioneer areas

The Integrated Offender Management approach started in the field. Recognising the good work already underway, and in order to encourage other areas around the country, the role of the Home Office/Ministry of Justice is pump priming four of the pioneer areas and evaluating all five (Nottinghamshire have received no additional funding from the centre). These projects share the same principle of integrating core tasks, even when some of their models for doing it look quite different.

5.10 In London, for example, there is a strong emphasis on the 'justice reinvestment' concept, targeting specific high crime neighbourhoods (diamond districts) where high numbers of offenders resettle and directing multi-agency resources at them.

5.11 In West Yorkshire, Lancashire and Nottingham, the approach enhances and extends the remit of multi-agency teams with the emphasis is on moving on from collaboration to integrating the work in multi-agency teams and involving the third sector and a wide range of partners, where appropriate. In the West Midlands, whose approach is still under development, a key feature will be the transition from custody to the community.

5.12 Evaluation

The primary purpose of the Integrated Offender Management approach is to reduce re-offending and cut crime. The national outcome evaluation will concentrate on this, although the methodology is to be decided. Ways to evaluate the costs and benefits of the approach will be explored.

5.13 The evaluation will also explore means to assess the processes put in place to deliver Integrated Offender Management to identify whether and how the projects have successfully integrated the core tasks between criminal justice agencies and other partners, and to gather staff, offender and partner feedback. Some of the areas are also focusing on and evaluating against other outcomes such as changes in community confidence, the take up of services by offenders or improvements in offender compliance.

5.14 Next steps

The five pioneer areas identified will operate for a two-year period from July 2008. Roger Hill, the Director of Probation, will act as Senior Responsible Officer for the joint programme and will co-ordinate delivery through a national Home Office/ Ministry of Justice led programme board, involving partners from across Government.

5.15 This Route Map allows others to develop their approach, building on existing partnership arrangements and re-configuring them along the core principles. All areas should continue to meet their commitments on PPO and DIP. Indeed, as this route map makes clear, PPO and DIP are at the heart of the Integrated Offender Management approach.

5.16 While there is no further central funding available, we will, at a national level, assist those interested in developing approaches locally.

Comment

The current caseloads within Stockton at the moment are as follows:-

The current DIP case load is: - 100 (approx)

The current PPO caseload is: - 42

The current Probation caseload is: - 870

The current DRR caseload is: - 50

Examination of the current Probation caseload reveals the following links to the DIP caseload:-

717 (82%) of the Probation caseload are not accessing DIP

67(8%) have been on the DIP caseload but are now closed

40(5%) are currently suspended from DIP caseload

46(5%) are currently active on the caseload.

There are approximately 1243(389 females) people accessing drug treatment within Stockton

Following research outlined above 73 have been highlighted as High Crime Causers (HCCs)

It is the view of the author that Integrated Offender management is the way forward. The successes achieved locally by the PPO and CJIT interventions can be replicated working with a higher number of offenders. However, there is no additional funding for this proposal and all costs would have to be met out of existing allocations and resources by respective organisations.

The National Probation service, Teesside have re-aligned their working practice and in Stockton two designated Probation Officers have been allocated to the PPO team to manage the HCCs. This unit now manage offenders who are PPOs, those offenders subject to a Drug rehabilitation requirement and HCCs.

Before the introduction of the pilot IOM discussions had taken place locally and an agreement had been reached that a member of the CJIT team and a member of the Community Safety team would be seconded to support the PPO team. That is currently working very successfully. The Police also agreed, in principle, to the secondment of a further police officer.

It is apparent that the Home Office focus is clearly on the reduction of offending. This partnership needs to consider the existing arrangements and whether or not changes are required to ensure all partner agencies are able to support the IOM process, if agreed as the way forward, by providing the appropriate resources.

This argument is supported later in the document when looking at offending by females and criminal families.

The benefits of such an intervention would be:-

- ***Increased number of offenders subject to intensive supervision***
- ***One team responsible for the management of a group of high crime causers***
- ***Reduction in the duplication of effort***
- ***Improve working knowledge of various agencies and improve working relationships***
- ***Focus on reduction in re-offending***
- ***Effective and efficient use of time***

The obvious negative would be loss of resources from other duties

6. Female Offending

6.1 Between the 1st January 2004 and the 1st January 2009 some 3673 females have been arrested in Stockton covering some 7137 arrest instances. In terms of range the single highest offender has been arrested on 90 separate occasions and some 2805 women have been arrested on a single occasion. The number covers all age ranges from adults to juveniles.

The actual numbers are broken down as follows:

90,53,39,33,30,29,27,23(2),22(2),21(2),19(2),18,

17(3), 16(4), 15(2), 14(3), 13(7), 12(8)11(12), 10(10)

9(17), 8(31), 7(29), 6(45), 5(73), 4(110) 3(141)2(573)

2805(1)

(nos. in brackets equals the number of women achieving this number of arrests)

This gives a total of 260 women with 5 or more arrests during this 5 year period.

6.2 The offender with the highest number of arrests (90) is a designated PPO and the offender with the second highest total (53) has been nominated as a PPO.

6.3 Out of this cohort there are currently 148 live to the Probation service and of those 14 are subject to a Drug rehabilitation Requirement.

6.4 Within the Borough of Stockton on Tees there are currently 389 females (28%) of the total in drug treatment.

6.5 In May 2008 the Ministry of Justice published a document entitled “The Offender Management Guide to Working with Women Offenders”. This document replaced a similar version introduced in 2006.

6.6 The document is based on the findings of Baroness Corston’s review of Women with Particular vulnerabilities in the Criminal Justice system reported in March 2007. The Corston report concluded that women are disadvantaged in the criminal justice system because policies and practice were based primarily on meeting the needs of male offenders. Her report highlighted that it was necessary to adopt different approaches that were more appropriate to women’s needs and characteristics to achieve improved and equal outcomes for women

6.7 The Corston report recommendations focus on improving community based interventions and services to ensure that these are responsive and sensitive to women’s needs

6.8 National Service Framework for Women

The National Service Framework for Women (NSF) sets out how the Government intends to implement the recommendations of the Corston Report. It includes:

- The Government’s strategic aims and priorities for delivering services to women offenders;
- The needs of women offenders;
- Effective services and pathways to reduce re-offending; and
- Service requirements for each phase of the offender journey, including service ambition, what success would look like, and where primary and associated responsibilities lie.

6.9 The headline and measurable National Service Framework **strategic outcomes**, which support the MoJ Departmental Strategic Objectives, are to:

- 1) Reduce the number of women entering the criminal justice system;
- 2) Reduce custodial remands for women, and where such remands are required make them as short as possible;
- 3) Ensure sentencers are better informed about the difficulties currently experienced by women offenders in the criminal justice system;
- 4) Ensure that the needs of women who are sentenced are met in the community wherever possible, and reserve custody for only the most serious offenders, usually serving more than 12 months;
- 5) Ensure that for women who are sentenced to custody, the facilities and interventions are appropriate to their needs and that there is better continuity of provision of services on their release;
- 6) Reduce levels of self-harm by women offenders;
- 7) Reduce re-offending by women.

Comment

Obviously as offender managers this is an integral part of the work of the Probation Service. However there is scope to look at local strategies to develop initiatives in trying to reduce offending by the female population. The Partnership may wish to consider the following potential options

- ***Form a small sub-group from existing resources and conduct research to examine why they offend, the key drivers, and motivation to offend***
- ***Form an operational group to work with the female offenders in a joint multi –agency integrated offender management approach potentially working with the top twenty offenders***
- ***Consider the top five as PPOs.***

7. Criminal family history

7.1 One issue that has arisen during discussions is the relationship between criminality and families, in particular how further interventions may reduce offending within families. This brief case study identifies the potential intricacies of such a criminal family.

7.2 Grandparents A have 8 children (5 males, 3 females)

Son B has relationships with five women and produces 11 children – (5 males, 6 females) 4 males are current or ex PPOs, 2 have ASBOs, 3 females have convictions)

Daughter C has three male children all of whom have convictions

Daughter D has relationships with 3 males and produces three children, 2 of whom are male PPOs and the female has convictions

Daughter E has relationships with three males and produces four children one of whom is a male PPO and the other two have convictions

Son F has one male who has convictions

Son G has one male who is a PPO and has an ASBO

Son H has one son and has convictions

Son I has one son and has convictions

In total the family have 55 members, 37 of whom have convictions and 8 are/have been PPOs.

Comment

The Partnership may wish this to be a long term aim in identifying similar and other criminal families with a view to offering earlier intervention into such families in order to try and reduce potential offending.

In the short term identification of such families may promote individuals into the High Crime Causer category

**Jeff Evans
June 2009**
