

18th October 2011

Present:

Mike Batty	Head of Community Protection (Chair)
Shaun McLurg	Head of Children and Young People's Operational Services
Michael Williams	Chief Inspector - Neighbourhood Manager, Cleveland Police
Terry Frank	Integrated Youth Support Service Manager
Paul Whittingham	Commissioning Manager (North), NHS Hartlepool & NHS Stockton-on-Tees
John Graham	Senior Probation Officer, Durham & Tees Valley Probation Service (on behalf of Lucia Saiger)
Miriam Robertson	Manager, Youth Offending Service
Caroline Wood	Housing Options Manager
Tanya Evans	Team Manager, Youth Offending Service
Jenna Ditchburn	Admin Officer, Youth Offending Service (Minutes)

Apologies:

Jean Bell	HMCS Magistrates Court
Lucia Saiger	Durham & Tees Valley Probation Service

1. Reoffending Analysis

TE delivered a presentation on reoffending analysis, which will be distributed with the minutes.

TE is to obtain information on the number of young people who have full statements and what types of Special Educational Needs they have. MR/TE are to explore the service's capacity to capture any links to areas/tenures, as requested by CW.

**ACTION: TE/MR to explore service capacity re data highlighted by CW
JD to send presentation with the minutes**

MR outlined that, as took place last year, key points of learning will feed into the YOS management team Action Plans and inform the annual Youth Justice Plan and the quarterly YJB review process. MB and SM highlighted that a sustainability plan may also be useful given lack of clarity over future funding.

ACTION: MR to provide a development/sustainability plan at the next meeting

2. Minutes & Matters Arising

Health Worker Update

PW advised that the money has been agreed and the contract variation has gone through; however, there are a couple of operational issues with regards to subcontracting. They are meeting with Tees and Esk Wear Valley and North Tees and Hartlepool Community Services on Thursday 20th October to discuss this. There is one child protection and safeguarding training issue - TEVV say they cannot meet the specification of the post. SM does not accept that this is a provider issue; it is more of a commissioning issue.

ACTION: PW is to provide a brief to the Board

PW is to enquire about where the money has gone since December 2010, which had been allocated to this post. The YOS Management Board requires clarification on a possible refund to the YOS.

ACTION: PW to enquire about where the money has gone since December 2010

It was agreed that, given this post has been vacant since December 10, if recruitment to the post is not taking place by the end of November, MB will write to the Chief Executive of the PCT explaining the issues and highlighting the obligation they have to the Service.

Health Benchmarking Update

PW will be presenting this at the next meeting and will be joined by TEVV, Community Services and North Tees.

Action: Agenda for next meeting

Court Benchmarking

MR advised that the action plan is being delivered and will be available for January's meeting.

Youth Justice Plan

MR thanked everyone for their comments. The plan has now been submitted to the YJB.

All other actions completed.

3. PCT Responsibilities after 2013

PW advised that there is a possibility that the National Commissioning Board will be responsible for specific operational functions. The management budget has not been set. The Commissioning Support Unit will be devolved within the Local Regional Support Unit. MB will write a letter to the YJB to ask what will happen with the PCT responsibilities post 2013. This will also be discussed in the Health and Wellbeing Management Team meeting.

ACTION: MB to write to the YJB seeking clarification

4. YOS Review

TF presented the new structure, which was implemented on 1st October 2011 following formal consultation with staff and the trade unions. TF thanked MR for her work to support the review.

5. Preventions Update

TF advised that Preventions have no dedicated funding in the YOS grant; they were part of the IYSS review, being linked into the EIG. The team were recruited through the review with one coordinator and four case workers delivering targeted youth support to 8-17 year olds at risk of offending, exclusion etc. They are trained on the Strengthening Families Programme.

The CAF model is being used and they will continue to use Careworks for case recording. The Panels have been discontinued and an allocation meeting is now in place, which partner agencies are invited to attend.

6. YOS Management Board Terms of Reference

MR presented a paper for YOS Management Board consideration and agreement. A task group was set up which included MB/SM/TF/MR, which proposed revised terms of reference and management board membership. Proposals agreed.

Jean Bell has advised that she will only attend when there is an agenda item relating to the Courts. CW advised that they will support specific pieces of work and attend meetings if needed. MB has written to Mike Robinson to thank him for his support at the meetings over recent years.

ACTION: MR/JD to update all associated documentation, including the management board display

7. YJB Funding

MR presented information on the current national consultation by the YJB on YJB grant funding to YOTs, and the local response to this process, including a letter to the YJB by the management board chair. The board noted that there is the potential for some significant funding reductions from the YJB to the partnership and that this would also increase YOS partnership dependency on local partners.

**ACTIONS: MB to write to partners to enquire about funding for 2012
MR to present a paper on possible budget scenarios in January**

8. Quality Assurance Audit Findings

MR presented a report on QA audit findings and activity to secure improvements. QA continues to highlight good standards in case management but one of the ongoing challenges to the service arises from some inconsistencies in the cloning of documents where information is not updated. This is the focus of ongoing management activity, at both a team and individual level.

ACTION: MR to present further information on QA process in 6 months time.

9. YOS Performance

MR presented the YJB Quarterly Review document and local performance tables. The interim YJB rating for Stockton on Tees youth offending partnership is green, based upon the following rationale: .
"The Stockton Youth Offending partnership continues to perform well against the national impact indicators and performance issues are well understood, notably in terms of how re-offending performance is improving."(sic)

There have been a disproportionate number of young people receiving custodial outcomes in the first quarter so this will be closely monitored over the year.

The board noted that the Pre Reprimand Disposal process is now on hold from Cleveland Police.

ACTION: MW and MR to meet to see if any further progress can be made

10. Feedback from LSCB

SM did not attend the meeting, but after checking the minutes there does not seem to be anything significant to report. The Serious Case Review publication discussion is ongoing with the DFE and Council advice has been sought.

11. Serious Incident Progress Update

MR provided an update on the serious incident that was discussed at the last meeting – case "B". It was agreed that the action plan was now complete and could be signed off, as the outstanding action point (recruitment of the YOS health post) is being progressed and monitored via the YOS Management board.

12. Young People in Custody Report

MR provided an updated report into young people currently subject to a custodial sentence, in the secure estate and in the community; number 11. All male, WB and one is LAC. The majority were placed in local establishments; 2 placed in Hindley. Out of the 11, 7 have substance misuse/alcohol issues. Over half have emotional issues. Of significance is the fact that they all have a history of exclusions, with 5 of the 11 having full SEN.

The YOS is due to pilot a speech and language screening tool for all young people over a 6 month period, in partnership with the Speech and Language Therapy service.

13. Partner Updates/AOB

CW advised that last week there was a sub regional rough sleeper count and Stockton had a nil return. This was undertaken after an extensive intelligence gathering exercise and it will inform the homeless strategy. Other area counts resulted in 0-1, but it could depend on where and when you are doing the counts. Hidden homelessness is hard to tackle.

MR is formulating future meetings dates and will send them out with the minutes.

ACTION: MR to provide future meetings dates

MR advised the Board that HMI Probation are consulting with key stakeholders to look at the future inspections of YOS. A more 'risk proportionate' approach is likely with a longer cycle of inspection for those services seen to be underperforming. Also under consideration is whether inspections should be unannounced and whether there is a role for HMIP in the Ofsted safeguard inspections.

ACTION: MR to liaise with MB/TF and submit their thoughts to the process

Next Meeting:

24 January 2012, 10am-12noon, YOS Conference Room, 3rd Floor Bayheath House

21.10.11/JD/MR