

STOCKTON YOS MANAGEMENT BOARD

24th April 2012

Present:

Mike Batty	Head of Community Protection (Chair)
Shaun McLurg	Head of Children and Young People's Operational Services
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
Tracy Mitchell	Team Manager, CAMHS
Mick McDonagh	PCT
Sheila Whitehead	Team Manager, Youth Offending Service
Jenna Ditchburn	Admin Officer, Youth Offending Service (Minutes)

Apologies:

Miriam Robertson Manager, Youth Offending Service

Future papers for this meeting are to be sent to Dave Toor, Cleveland Police.

ACTION: MR to send papers to Dave Toor for future meetings

1. Minutes & Matters Arising

Data on Tenancies:

TF advised that this would require a lot of work and queried the value of it. MB advised that addresses can be passed to Caroline Wood for her to research the tenures.

ACTION: MR to send relevant information to CW to assist with her query

PCT Responsibilities after 2013:

PW advised that it has not yet been formally confirmed, but it looks like they are heading towards the Clinical Commissioning Groups being responsible.

YOS Management Board Display:

JD advised that most people have responded, we are just waiting on a couple of photos then it will be ok to send off to print.

Pre Reprimand Disposal:

Darren Best, Police District Commander has advised that this is moving in the right direction and they are likely to get back on track with implementation.

MOJ Audit of the YOS:

MR has had a meeting with the auditors, but we have not received any feedback yet.

ACTION: MR to provide feedback to the Board by email or bring it to the next meeting

2. Health Provision

PW produced a report to provide a health update based on the current position where a temporary YOS/CAMHS Health Worker is in post working 15 hours per week and that the permanent position has been appointed to. TM confirmed that the post holder has been cleared for pre-employment checks and is due to start on 14th May. The report includes information on services that are available to young people in Stockton, but this list is not exhaustive. MM advised that we need to look at how we manage the transition and ensure there is regular access to services without barriers.

The Board discussed the following recommendations which have been taken from the YOS Health Performance Quality Indicators Benchmarking report for 10/11:

Health Representation on the Board:

PW is to discuss this with Ali Wilson, Interim CCG Rep and feedback at the next meeting.

ACTION: PW to discuss with AW and feedback at next meeting

Staff Training:

SW advised that historically training is delivered by CAMHS on a quarterly basis. Mental health training is in hand; however, we do need to look at up-skilling officers who are completing assessment on physical health, with the new worker forging any links. MR is to present a report at October's meeting which details the number of screenings and full assessments completed and how it is working. A report may be written to assist with this.

ACTION: MR to present a report at October's meeting

Safeguarding:

This is already in hand. Board members can request any item be added to the agenda prior to the meeting, should they have something they would like to discuss.

Transition:

A protocol is in place between YOS and Probation; however, it does not include health – there is a need for better links between services.

ACTION: SW/JG to meet and discuss gaps in transition

Multi Agency Training:

The YOS Police Officer is to link in with all health training.

SW enquired about the storage of health files, as the PCT would not accept files when the previous health worker was in post. PW/MM to provide SW with the contact details of who to contact as they do have available storage.

ACTION: PW/MM to provide SW with contact details for storage facility

3. PCC

In March the Youth Justice Board advised that the Police allocations for 12/13 was £30,000. MR/MB met with Stuart Pudney, Chief Executive of Cleveland Police and secured an agreement that funding will be passported back in 12/13. They agreed explicitly that for 13/14 there needs to be work between the three YOT's in the Cleveland force area to look at how funding will be allocated by September. MR is currently in discussions with Hartlepool.

4. Probation Consultation

JG advised that the following consultations should be completed by June 2012:

Effective community sentences:

Community Punishment is delivered one day per week (3 if enhanced) and will be changed up to 5 days per week. Under 21's are difficult to engage. There will be a punitive element to community sentences such as curfew and unpaid work, which may also go into YRO's. Curfew can be increased to 16 hours per day and for a length of 12 months (currently 6 months). This could cause a potential impact on how sentences are administered to youths. The service is being fragmented and there are no clear lines of accountability with a decreasing number of Trusts. Probation will retain responsibility for cases.

Effective Probation Services:

Public, private and voluntary split. Probation will retain responsibility and need to decide if they are going to commission or deliver as they cannot do both. The commissioning of the private/voluntary sector is vague on lines of accountability – they will retain statutory obligations to YOS. NOMS will be prison based and the management structure will be the responsibility of the Police Crime Commissioner or the Local Authority. The whole budget will be devolved to the Probation Trust, but they are unsure if it covers YOS as well.

MB advised that Steven Hume, Community Safety Manager is looking at documents to present to the Safer Stockton Partnership.

ACTION: MB to ask Steven Hume to link in with JG

5. National developments in Youth Justice

MR prepared a report to update the Board on a number of national developments in youth justice which will impact upon both the YOS Partnership and the service. The Board agreed to receive further update reports on the following (point f is a priority):

- a. Devolution of custody costs to the LA
- b. YJB grant funding from 13/14 and financial models for the YOS
- c. Engagement with Cleveland Police Authority & PCC re diverted 'YOS funding' from 13/14
- d. Proposals for a local approach to the national standards pilot
- e. Emerging national performance indicators
- f. New HMIP Inspection framework

ACTION: MR to add the reports as actions on the next agenda

6. YOS Budget 12/13

MB advised that it looks better than we expected it would six months ago - there has been an increase in health funding. The cost of accommodation was discussed – this is already being looked. The report was noted and budget updates to be provided as usual.

7. YOS Performance & Targets

TF advised that ETE, Remands to Custody, Ethnicity and Access to Accommodation are key local performance measures. There are proposals for more meaningful ETE measures looking at level of engagement at start, end and at 3 months. A proposal is to be produced and brought to the next meeting.

ACTION: MR/TF to provide a proposal on ETE measure for the next meeting

FTE figures should be affected by the implementation of Pre Reprimand Disposals.

ACTION: MB to email Darren Best and ask him for an estimate of timescale for the implementation of Pre Reprimand Disposals and remind him that an inspection is approaching

8. Summary of QA Findings

The Board expressed their concerns about the continuing cloning of assessment documents.

ACTION: TF/MR to give consideration to the most effective action to be taken

9. Troubled Families

MB advised that we did not receive further details until 28th March, so it was not up and running by 1st April as originally requested by CLG. Initially the target was 455 families; however, it has been reduced by a sixth to 379 as they feel the needs of some families should be met by existing services. They will pay £4,000 per family – 80% year one, 60% year two, 40% year three, with the balance (20%/40%/60%) dependent on results. The eligibility criteria are as follows:

Offending and Anti Social Behaviour:

Any child in family (living in household) on receipt of reprimand or above or any member of the family turning up as significant perpetrator of ASB.

Engagement in School:

Any child with three or more exclusions in the last three terms. Any child with unauthorised absences greater than 15%. Pupils in Pupil Referral Unit or any provision due to exclusion.

Benefits:

Adults in family being in receipt of range of out of work benefits.

If families do not meet these criteria, there is local discretion to invent a fourth criterion for referral.

Data matching reprimands against ASB and school is taking place and we will then pursue Job Centre Plus re: adults on benefits. Financial modelling has been done by MB and we will be able to get between £400,000-£500,000 a year, which will be invested in doubling the size of FIP who currently work with 30-40 families a year and this will increase to 60-80. Some resource may be applied to increase the level of investment in early intervention (estimated £50-£60k per year for this) at reprimand/Final Warning stages. Coordinator funding can be used for delivery and management can oversee it. It is permissive and if there is disengagement we will be expected to support another family with no additional funding. MB will provide the Board with a copy of his report upon completion.

ACTION: MB to circulate draft report to the Council's Cabinet

10. Feedback from LSCB

SM advised that work on the Tees Wide safeguarding procedures is underway with a launch date of 1st May. The Safeguarding Board considered the draft procedures at the last meeting and the majority of the amendments requested have now been made. Multi agency briefing sessions are currently taking place in order to ensure staff are fully aware of the key changes and how to access the procedures.

The Safeguarding Board recently held a development day to identify priorities for 2012/13. The Board's commitment to prioritise the core issues of child protection was restated. One key area for further development identified was the involvement of children and young people in the safeguarding agenda, perhaps in the form of a shadow board. Further work will be undertaken in relation to this.

The Safeguarding Board have also been discussing the new Ofsted child protection inspection framework. This will be an unannounced two week inspection which goes live in May 2012. If a service was previously deemed to be either adequate or inadequate they will receive an inspection over the next 12 months, which includes Stockton. The inspection will focus heavily on front line practice, and may include observations of staff working with families. SM and Simon Willson are due to attend a launch session on 4 May 2012, so more information is likely to be available following this.

11. Young People in the Secure Estate

The Board noted the contents of the report.

12. Youth Justice Plan 12/13

The plan now includes agreed targets (highlighted on page 3). Plan agreed.

13. Partner Updates

MB advised that Hull City Council recently received an award for a project they have done on reducing reoffending rates of adult prisoners sentenced to less than 12 months custody. The rate has been reduced from 60% to 12%. MB, MR, Steven Hume and Jeff Evans are visiting Hull early July to see what they have done to achieve this.

14. AOB

No other business to discuss.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 10th July 2012, 10am-12noon at Bayheath House