

**ReOffending:**

**Results from the 2011 Cohort  
Stockton on Tees**

October 2012

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## ***Introduction:***

This Report considers reoffending data from the 2011 cohort in Stockton on Tees. It focuses primarily on the local measurement of reoffending (previously adopted by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) until 2011). This measurement provides the most up to date performance information for the service.

There is some brief analysis of local performance against the new performance measurement introduced by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) which allows for regional, family and national comparisons. This can be found in the summary of findings.

The cohort is comprised of youths receiving an pre court disposal, a community sentence or released from custody element of custodial sentence, in the first quarter of 2011 (Jan – Mar, inclusive).

## **Sources:**

Data from the following sources has been used to compile this Report:

- YJB and MoJ Published performance reports
- YJMIS data
- MIS Reports on 2011 cohort drawn from Careworks

## **Definitions:**

**Reoffence** - any crime committed in a 12 month follow up period, which has resulted in / been proven by a pre court or court disposal.

**Reoffender rate** – the actual numbers / proportion of youths within the cohort who reoffended within 12 months following the original disposal

**Reoffending rate** – the number of reoffences committed by the number of all young people in the cohort within 12 months

## **Summary of Findings:**

- Analysis of the 2011 cohort (127 young people) shows that more than half became crime free (58%).
- The cohort size of 127 is low compared to several years ago, when the cohort size was larger: 252 in 2008 and 208 in 2009. The decrease in cohort size reflects net decreases in the first time entrant population which has steadily decreased over the last 3 years.
- Out of 127 in the original cohort, 53 reoffended committing 163 new offences (compared to 51 from a cohort of 126 in 2010, committing 155 new offences)
- **Stockton on Tees' reoffending rate for 2011 is 1.28**; slightly higher than the 2010 rate of 1.23. but below the 12 year average reoffending rate of 1.30
- **The reoffender rate for 2011 is 42%**; higher than 2010 and above the 12 year average of 38% for Stockton on Tees. This is attributed to the reduction in first time entrants as they are the least likely group within the cohort to reoffend. This is reflected across other YOTs in England and Wales.
- The most common reoffences in 2011 were: theft & handling; violence; criminal damage; public order; and motoring offences.
- Those least likely to reoffend were those receiving pre-court disposals - reprimands and final warnings. Three out of four (76%) have not committed any further offences in 12 months, suggesting effective targeting and practice, by Police and YOS. These figures also reflect the fact that these disposals are reserved for low serious offences and non-persistent offenders, many of which are First Time Entrants.
- 62 young people received an outcome placing them under the supervision of the YOS. 27 became crime free (44%). The remaining 35 reoffended, committing 109 reoffences. This represents two thirds of the reoffences committed by the entire 2011 cohort (67%).
- There are a small number of young people who are disproportionately responsible for youth crime in Stockton on Tees. 7 young people were included in both the 2010 and 2011 cohorts and supervised by YOS. During 2010, these 7 young people were responsible for 17% of the overall reoffending and for nearly a quarter (23%) of the total reoffending of the whole cohort in 2011.
- There is a strong relationship between offending and special educational needs. A significant proportion of those reoffending have identified needs: 84% of school age; and 75% of post 16s. For school age reoffenders, 58% had a full Education Statement; 50% of post 16s had previously had a full statement. In the overwhelming majority of cases, this was for BESD.
- There is a strong relationship between offending and engagement in education, training and employment. For those supervised by YOS, 73% of school age reoffending was committed when the young person was not in school for example: due to school holidays, weekends or unauthorised absence; and 72% of those reoffending at post 16 were NEET.
- There is a strong relationship between non-compliance and reoffending. 83% of young people not complying reoffended within 12 months. However, compliance rates are much improved for 2011 and there has been a significant reduction in the proportion of reoffending non-compliant young people have been responsible for in 2011 (34% in 2011 compared to 51% in 2010).
- Two thirds of young people with identified substance misuse issues reoffended. Where substance misuse is reduced, the risk of reoffending is also reduced.

- There are a range of criminogenic factors in the lives of those who have reoffended. Those young people with significant protective factors, including:
  - positive parental attitudes
  - stability at home
  - positive peer groups
  - engagement in employment/training or education

are less likely to reoffend.

- The YOS will progress key points of learning from this analysis exercise to further enhance case management capacity, including:
  - Strengthening of restorative justice approaches within the YOS
  - Further development of processes to support resettlement of young people leaving custody
  - Exploration with the court of the use of non-YOS supervised court disposals for persistent young offenders
  - Further development of YOS programmes that are structured and purposeful to fully engage young people, whilst restricting liberty
  - Refresh of YOS approaches to secure young peoples' compliance
  - Refresh of approaches to the identification of family issues and how the service responds in accessing / delivering appropriate support
  - Consolidate linkages with specialist providers of BESD provision within Stockton on Tees

**New performance measurement:**

As an additional exercise, some analysis of Stockton on Tees' reoffending rates using the new performance measurement has been undertaken. This information is published on the Ministry of Justice website. The latest figures (published October 12) are reproduced below:

	Stockton on Tees	North East average	Family average	England
<b>Frequency Rate Oct 09 - Sept 10 cohort*</b>	<b>1.00</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>1.17</b>	<b>0.99</b>
Frequency Rate Oct 08 - Sept 09 cohort**	1.02	0.97	1.05	0.89
<b>Binary Rate Oct 09 - Sept 10 cohort</b>	<b>38.4%</b>	<b>39.7%</b>	<b>36.7%</b>	<b>34.8%</b>
Binary Rate Oct 08 - Sept 09 cohort	34.5%	33.8%	33.6%	32.6%

\* 09/10 cohort consists of 485 young people. 186 reoffended committing 487 reoffences.

\*\* 08/09 cohort consists of 555 young people. 198 reoffended committing 597 reoffences.

The table above evidences that local performance has improved on the previous year.

At 1.00, Stockton on Tees' reoffending frequency rate is better than the regional and family average and just above the national average.

The binary rate of 38.4% is higher than in the previous year but analysis highlights that the actual numbers of young people from the cohort who reoffended in 09/10 is less, as is the number of reoffences committed.

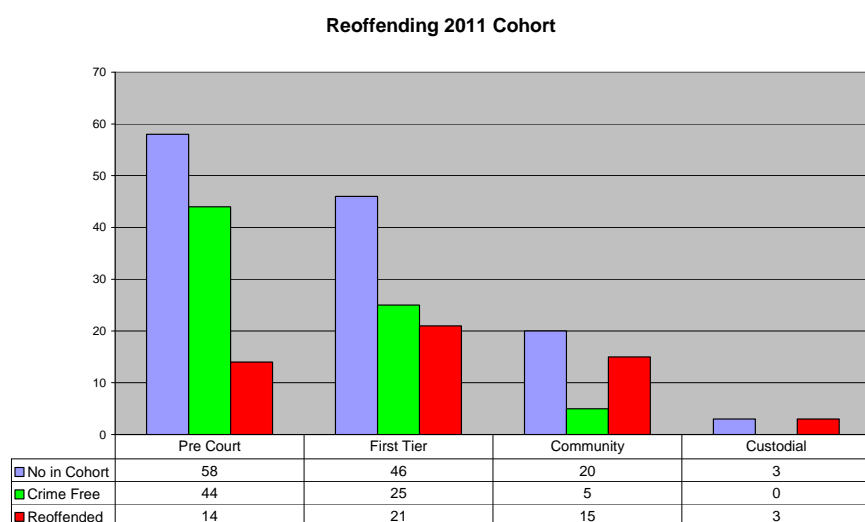
## SECTION 1: 2011 Cohort

127 young people received a substantive pre court or court outcome between January to March 2011 and were thus included in the cohort.

The cohort size of 127 is low compared to several years ago, when the cohort size was larger: 252 in 2008 and 208 in 2009. The decrease in cohort size reflects net decreases in the first time entrant population which has steadily decreased over the last 3 years.

### Reoffending:

Table 1 below shows the numbers of youths in the 2011 cohort (127) and their original police / court outcome, the numbers of youths who became crime free (highlighted in green) and the numbers who reoffended over a 12 month period (highlighted in red).



### Reoffender & Reoffending Rates:

The table shows that the majority of young people from the 2011 cohort in Stockton on Tees did not commit any further offences (58%) in the 12 months following their original disposal.

Of the 127, 53 young people reoffended and committed 163 offences. Thus the reoffending rate for 2011 is 1.28; which is a slight increase on the 2010 rate of 1.23 but is below the 12 year average reoffending rate of 1.30.

The reoffender rate of 42% for 2011 is higher than the 2010 rate (40%) and above the 12 year average of 38%.

Those least likely to reoffend were those receiving pre-court disposals - reprimands and final warnings. Three out of four (76%) have not committed any further offences in 12 months, suggesting effective targeting and practice, by Police and YOS. These figures also reflect the fact that these disposals are reserved for low serious offences and non-persistent offenders, many of which are First Time Entrants.

75% of those subject to community interventions reoffended. This is unsurprising given that those subject to community orders are also the most likely to have already accrued a history of repeat and persistent offending. However, this cohort of 15 young people committed 34 new offences in a 12 month period, making it the lowest reoffending rates for young people subject to community orders since the YOS began (1.70 in 2011, compared to 2.70 in 2010 and 4.15 in 2009).

Custodial sentences are reserved for the most serious and/or persistent young offenders. In 2011, all 3 young people leaving custody reoffended and committed 23 offences between them. This is the highest reoffending rate ever recorded for the YOS and highlights this as an ongoing area for attention and scrutiny. This is explored further in section 7 of this Report.

Table 2 below gives an historical overview of reoffending and reoffender performance since 2000.

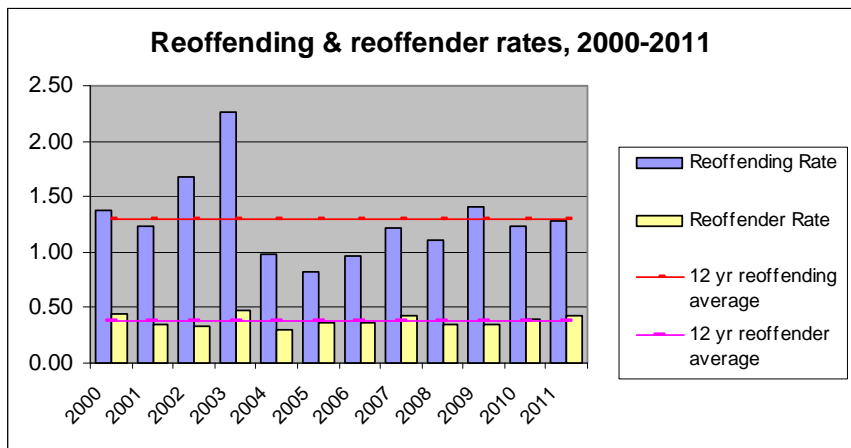
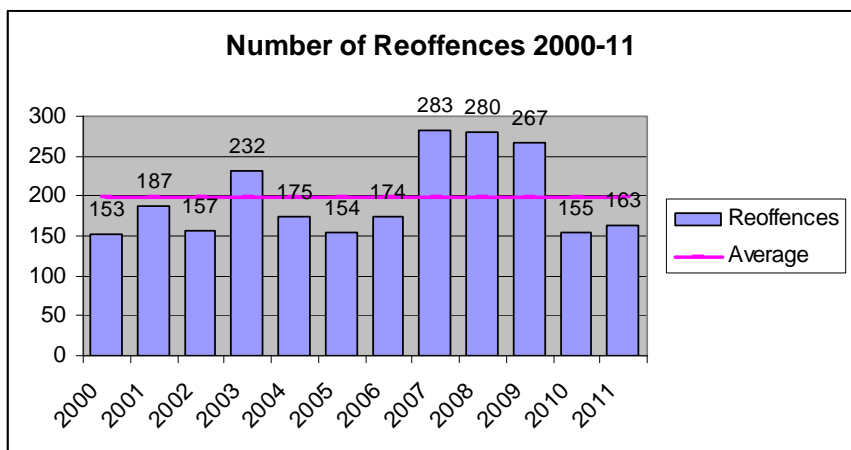
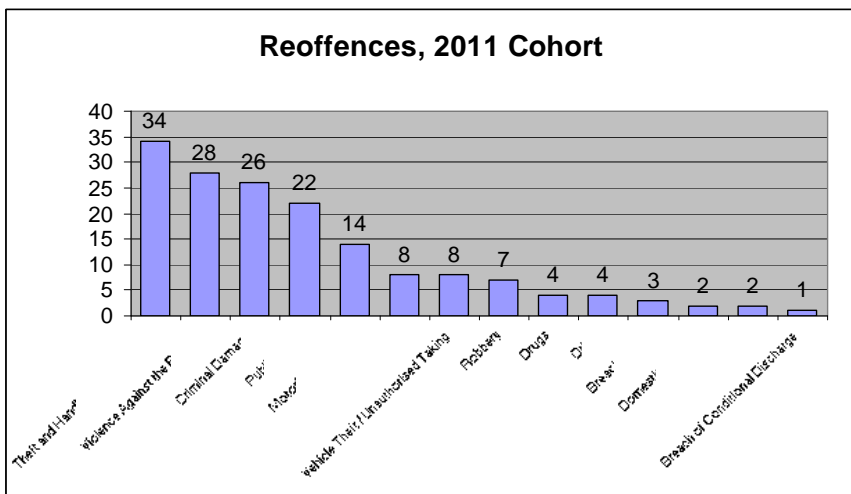


Table 3 below, shows the number of reoffences committed by the Jan-Mar cohort every year from 2000, when the YOS was established.



In the last 12 years, there has been an average of 198 reoffences committed each year by the cohort. In 2011, there were 163.

Table 4 below shows the nature of the reoffences committed by the 2011 cohort over 12 months.



Most common reoffences types for the cohort were: theft & handling, violence, criminal damage, public order and motoring offences.

## SECTION 2: Young People Supervised by the YOS

Not all young people within the cohort receive a service from the YOS. To help support continuous improvement, analysis of all those young people active to the YOS (62 young people) has taken place and the findings are summarised in sections 2 & 4-12 of this Report.

27 of the 62 young people supervised by YOS became crime free (44%). The remaining 35 reoffended, committing 109 reoffences. This represents 67% of the reoffences committed by the 2011 cohort.

The YJB has developed a Reducing Reoffending toolkit to enable the YOS to analyse case level reoffending data. This generated a number of graphs to show:

- the demographic characteristics of the cohort
- the characteristics of the offending amongst the cohort
- the “spread” of reoffending amongst the cohort
- the accuracy of initial assessments in identifying those who are most likely to reoffend, to re-offend prolifically and not to re-offend at all.

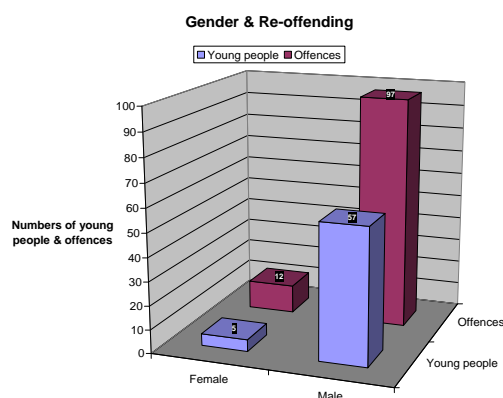
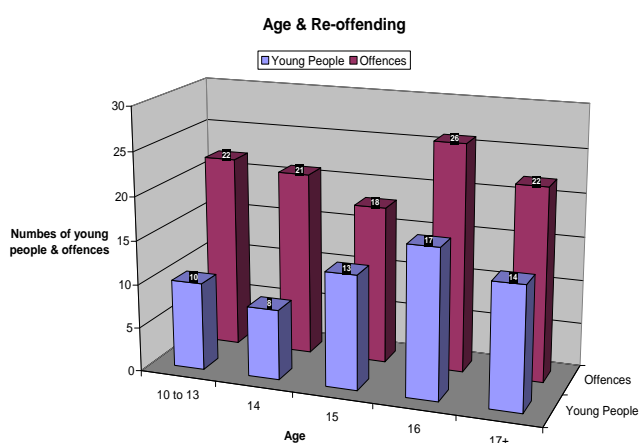
Those young people reoffending outside of this supervised group will be given consideration in Section 3 of analysis.

Notably, 7 young people have been included in both the 2010 and 2011 cohorts as actively supervised by YOS. Again, specific additional consideration to these cases will be provided later in Section 4.

And finally, but worthy of note, is that whilst the toolkit includes young people subject to a Final Warning, it is only those that Score 12+ or 4 in any section of the FW Asset that are offered bespoke intervention from the Youth Offending Service. However, all young people are expected to attend the Custody and Consequences Surgery. 16 young people received a Final Warning in this cohort but only 2 met the threshold for bespoke intervention.

### Findings - Demographics of Active Cases

#### Age & Reoffending:



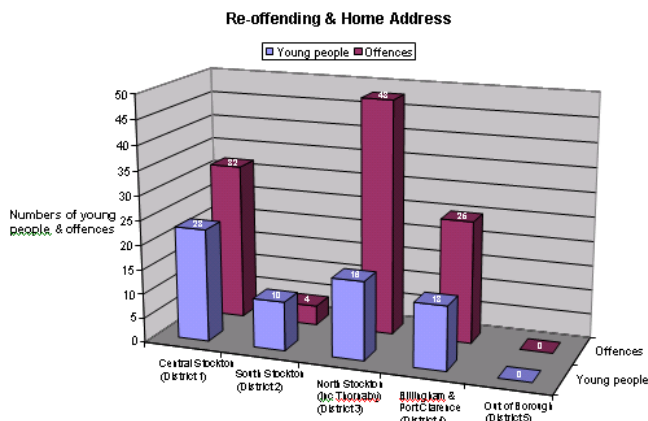
This is a significantly different picture from 2010 cohort where we found a clear common denominator of 15–16 year old males being those most responsible for reoffending. Whilst there is no change to the predominance of male reoffending, ages are far more widely spread with no age bracket standing out as the most significant.

Comparing change from 2010 to the 2011 cohort, reoffending rates of 10-13 year olds is marginally lower, yet there are significant increases in reoffending rates for 14 and 17 year olds. 15 year olds reoffending rates would appear to have reduced with 16 year olds evidencing minimal change to rates identified in 2010.



The male reoffending rate has remained virtually the same as within the 2010 cohort whilst the female reoffending rate appears to have significantly increased. However, one female responsible for 10 of the further offences has significantly impacted upon these figures, and without this individual case, the rates would again reflect those identified last year.

**Reoffending & Home Address:**



- District 1 – Central Stockton
- District 2 – South Stockton
- District 3 – North Stockton including Thornaby
- District 4 – Billingham and Port Clarence
- District 5 – Out of Borough

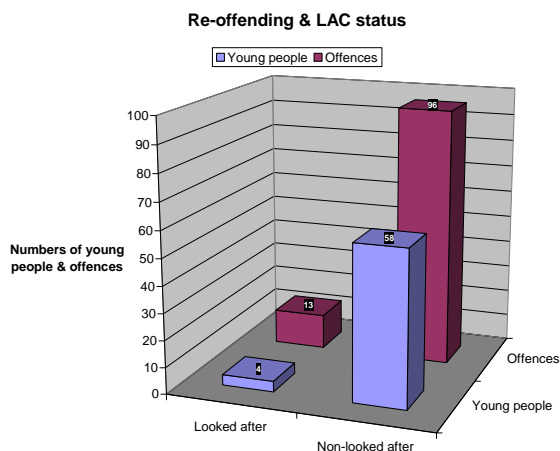
The spread of young people across the districts is very similar to the cohort of 2010 with the exception of South Stockton, which has seen an increase from 0 to 10 young people in 2011.

There is however a district shift in the highest level of reoffending. This has moved from Central Stockton in 2010 to North Stockton in 2011 whilst the numbers of young people do not reflect such a significant departure from those identified in each district last year.

Those young people residing in North Stockton that are responsible for the highest level of reoffending have been considered further. Significantly, 50% of the young people within this district form part of the same peer group & linked associations, 4 of which being directly family-related.

Notably 4 of these young people in North Stockton had an active Anti Social Behaviour Order for periods of time during the 2011 reoffending measurement period. Whilst the reoffending of these 4 does not include Breaches of ASBOs to any significant degree, they were all police district targets for various periods throughout 2011.

**Reoffending & LAC Status:**

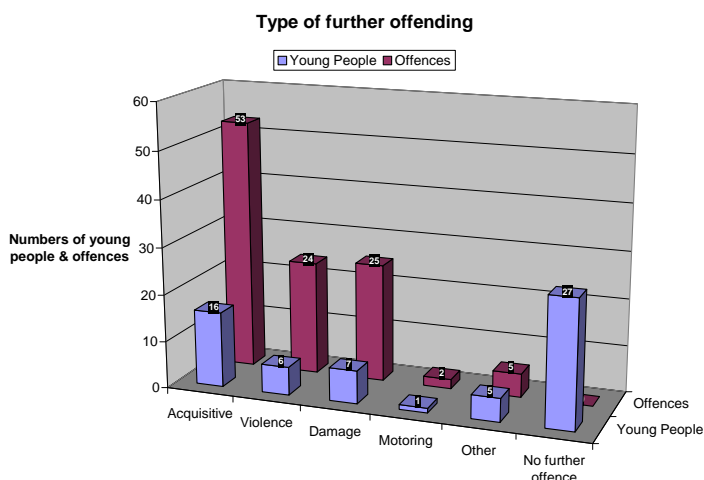


Only 4 young people were LAC from the 62 active YOS client group; 3 of whom have reoffended. The reoffending rate by LAC again initially appears significantly higher in comparison to those young people non-looked after. The LAC reoffending rate has in fact marginally decreased whilst the rate for non-looked after has increased by a similar margin than in 2010.

1 LAC was responsible for 10 of the further offences; therefore, this reduces the approximate reoffending rate for other LAC young people to 50% less than those young people not looked after. 5 of these offences were committed within the children's home by one young person – which consisted of violent offences against staff. The remaining were not directly related to offending within the care environment.

## Offending Characteristics

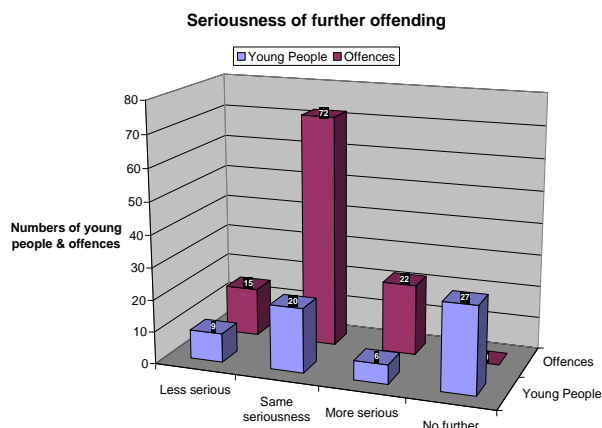
### Type of further offending:



Of those who have reoffended and who were supervised by the YOS, the most common types of further offending are Acquisitive, Violence and Criminal Damage. The most significant differences are that of a 6% increase in Violent reoffending and a 10% reduction in Acquisitive reoffending.

The 2011 cohort are showing different trends for reoffending from previous cohorts. Motoring offences have decreased, as have burglary and public order, all of which are showing a decrease against the 2010 and 2009 cohorts.

### Seriousness of further offending:

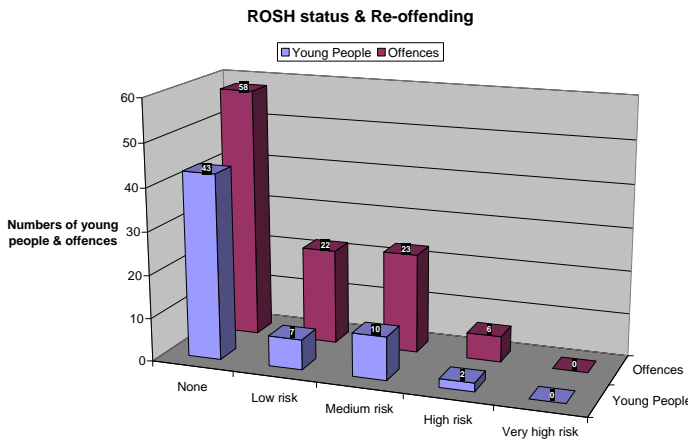


Analysis of the 2011 cohort evidences a reduction in the more serious reoffending behaviour amongst those supervised.

The comparison is made between the gravity score of the original offence triggering inclusion within the cohort and the gravity score of further offending. In comparison to the original offence, this confirms that the young people who have reoffended most frequently have committed similarly serious offences (offences of a similar gravity score) throughout 2011.

This is a departure from findings in 2010 where it was found those young people who offended *more* seriously also offended more frequently.

**ROSH Status & Reoffending:**

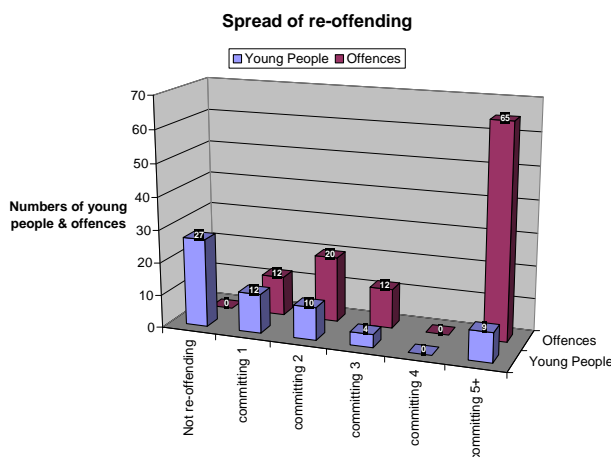


In the 2010 cohort those young people assessed as posing a Medium ROSh had the highest reoffending rate. Comparatively, given the similar size of group, there has been almost a 50% reduction in the reoffending rate of Medium ROSh assessed group in 2011 cohort.

Whilst the amount of young people assessed as posing no Risk of Serious Harm has remained similar to last year, the rate of reoffending has increased by nearly 50% of this group. There is also a slight increase in the reoffending rate of those assessed as posing a Low Risk of Serious Harm. This does however reflect the overall picture of the cohort reoffending to the same seriousness as their original offence, rather than increasing the gravity of their offending. As such, assessments of RoSh accurately reflect this shift in offending gravity overall.

Interestingly in the 2011 cohort, of those 10 young people identified as Medium ROSh, 2 committed 17 of the 23 further offences, demonstrating again that a very small number of young people that significantly impact on these reoffending figures.

**Spread of Reoffending:**



27 of the 62 young people supervised by YOS became crime free. For those 9 young people who committed 5 or more offences, 7 were assessed using the ASSET tool. One young person was initially assessed through the Final Warning ASSET tool and the final young person was assessed using the Reparation Order ASSET, as such, these assessments do not equate to a Scaled Approach Intervention Level. Of the remaining 7, 3 were assessed as **High Risk of Reoffending** (Intensive Intervention Level)

and 4 were assessed as **Medium Risk of Reoffending** (Enhanced Intervention Level) as demonstrated against reoffending levels in the table below.

	<b>ASSET Level</b>	<b>Reoffences</b>
<b>1</b>	Enhanced	10
<b>2</b>	Enhanced	9
<b>3</b>	*	8
<b>4</b>	Intensive	8
<b>5</b>	Enhanced	7
<b>6</b>	Intensive	6
<b>7</b>	Enhanced	6
<b>8</b>	**	6
<b>9</b>	Intensive	5

\*       Reparation Order ASSET

\*\*       Final Warning ASSET

Only 3 of these young people were assessed as requiring Intensive Level supervision, though these do not correlate with being the “top 3”. 5 were assessed as requiring Enhanced Level and in fact 2 of these young people were our “top 2”. Those ASSETs have been reviewed to determine accuracy, and the following observations are made where they are noteworthy. Those assessments not commented upon were considered to be of sound rationale based on the information available at the time.

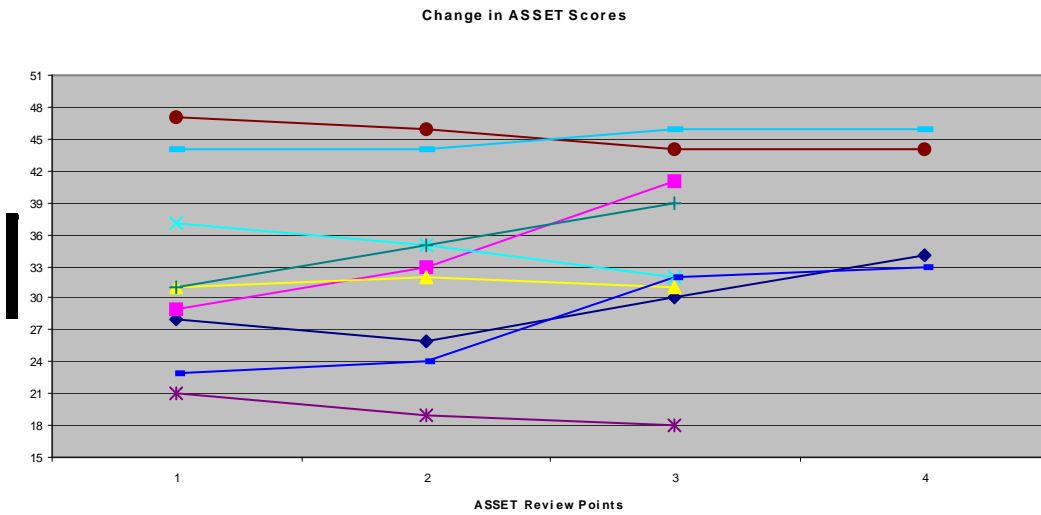
Young Person number 2 highlights some areas of low scoring within the original assessment in consideration of the evidence included. This case was only scored marginally outside of the Intensive Level and our view is that the evidence included would have warranted higher scores, most significantly within the sections of Thinking & Behaviour, Attitudes to Offending and Motivation to Change where scoring did not reflect these being a direct link to risk of reoffending. Increasing these scores would have placed this young person within the Intensive Level supervision bracket.

Notably, the Reparation Order ASSET, as introduced last year, is the reduced assessment tool given the more limited nature of that Order’s intervention. This was not completed by the pre-allocated YOS Officer, and does not correlate with existing assessment information. Whilst the scoring does not equate to any Scaled Approach intervention level, it clearly did not highlight areas of need.

Assessment of Young Person 5 highlights an issue of substantial offending at the early stage of contact with court which, in our view, was underestimated in the assessment. This young person had committed 17 offences prior to and throughout the duration of a Referral Order and further order extension, some of which had been sanctioned by Absolute Discharges. This also raises questions of the lack of impact of these disposals which will be explored in more detail later. Fundamentally, within the ASSET, this high level of offending was perhaps taken for granted given the lower level of court sanctions imposed.

Young Person 7 was assessed without direct engagement from the young person, however this is acknowledged in the document. A review of the assessment was not undertaken until some two months later which did evidence an increase in scoring but this did not increase the assessed level of intervention, although it was marginally outside of the Intensive Level.

To take account of movement in assessment scoring over the 12 month cohort period, a review of those ASSET scores were compared in acknowledgement that further information comes to light which can negatively or positively impact of assessed risks of reoffending. The cases initially assessed through the Reparation Order and Final Warning processes were subsequently assessed by Core ASSET. To measure equitably, the Core ASSET scores have been taken into account below for all cases. The fluctuation in scores between Jan – Dec 2012 is highlighted below.



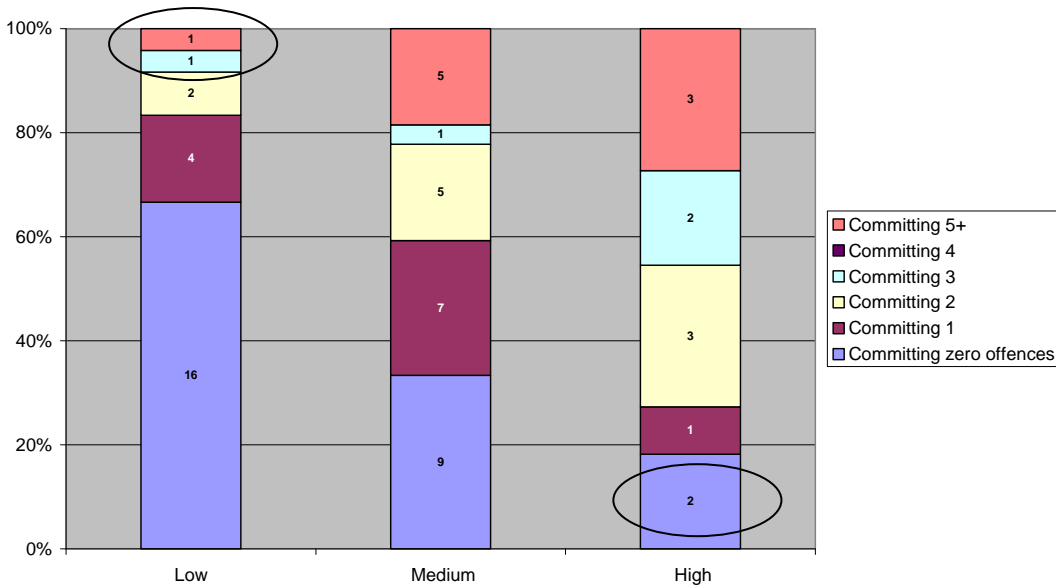
(nb Those cases not showing a fourth review in the 12month period are as a result of The Scaled Approach not having been applied in those cases, not necessarily as a result of the review not being undertaken.)

Over the period of assessment and review, 5 of the cases overall evidence increase in ASSET Scoring which would appear to reflect the overall offending increase of these young people. 1 case remained at the same level of assessment scoring, and the three remaining cases evidenced reduced scoring though marginally by one or two points.

7 of the 9 cases were increased to Intensive Level supervision. Of the two cases which remained within Enhanced Supervision Levels, one of those is the aforementioned Young Person 5 and the remaining case was scored only one point away from Intensive Supervision Level.

Of the inconsistencies highlighted above, it is clear that it has been a marginal decision between imposing Enhanced and Intensive Supervision Level in all but one case. There is only Young Person 5 who was attributed with a consistent albeit marginally reducing score, despite increased ongoing offending.

Re-offending frequency by Asset band (Proportions)



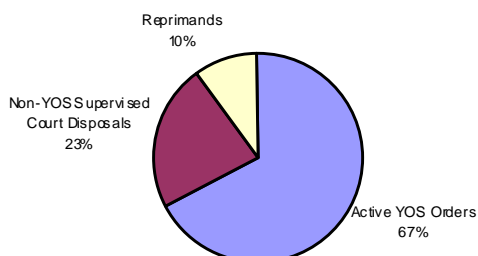
As shown, 1 initial assessment of Low Risk of Reoffending was followed by the commission of 5 or more reoffences; however, as explained above, this relates to the Reparation Order ASSET and as such the

scoring total does not correlate with the Core ASSET scoring profile. Accuracy of this assessment outside of this measure has previously been discussed. The other assessment of Low Risk of Reoffending prior the commission of 3 further offences is also not as a result of the ASSET Scoring Profile. This was a Final Warning Assessment, and the young person was assessed at a level which recommended further intervention. Based on the information within that assessment, it is deemed satisfactory.

2 assessments of High Risk of Reoffending were followed by no further reoffending in the 12 month period. Review of these assessed levels found them to be accurate based on information available at the time and previous patterns of offending behaviour. One of these young people was released from custody and subsequently transferred to the Probation Service, and we are not aware of any further offending; however, given his high levels of offending pre-custody, his assessment of posing a further high risk was entirely justified. Though the other young person did not reoffend within the 2011 cohort measurement period, subsequent to this, he has become a significantly active offender and all the key risk indicators highlighted were again entirely accurate.

### **SECTION 3: Non-YOS Supervised Court Disposals**

Section 2 focused on analysis of the 62 young people active to YOS supervision. In total, 53 of them were responsible for 109 of the total 163 reoffences (67%) recorded for 2011. The remaining 33% of offending is broken down in the chart below.



These young people are worthy of note given they are responsible for nearly a quarter of the reoffences during 2011. In total, 23 young people were imposed with a non-YOS supervised disposal, 10 of them were already subject to an active court order and were thus receiving statutory YOS intervention.

38 reoffences (23%) were committed by 10 young people who had been made subject to non-YOS supervised court disposals. 5 of these young people were subject to previously imposed statutory YOS intervention at the same time. The remaining 5 were not subject to any intervention.

Proportionally, 10% of the overall reoffending can be attributed to those young people who were not in any direct contact with YOS during the measurement period. For those 10 young people who were actively supervised by YOS outside of the imposed alternative sanction in Jan-Mar 2011, they were responsible for a 13% of the overall offending.

Whether actively supervised by the YOS or not, this is worthy of further analysis to assess the effectiveness of non-supervised court disposals as the reoffending rate for these young people is significantly higher.

Comparatively, the reoffending rate for the group of active YOS 62 young people is **1.76**, whilst those already active to YOS who received a non-supervised disposal have a reoffending rate of **4.4** and finally those who only received a non-supervised disposal being **3.2**.

In addition, 6 of these young people have reoffended to a level equitable to the 13 young people in the cohort who have committed 3 or more offences. Only half of these were also subject to YOS supervision.

To draw an initial comparison to the 2010 cohort, young people made subject to non-YOS supervised disposals were responsible for 20% of the overall reoffending. This group was of 19 individuals, only 6 of which were already subject to active YOS supervision. An insignificant total amount of offending can be attributed to those young people who did not have any contact with YOS during the 2010 measurement period whilst the remaining 19% were committed by those under existing YOS supervision, 2 of which were in amongst our highest reoffenders of last year.

Whilst this initial analysis cannot draw any firm conclusions, it raises questions as to the appropriateness of the use of these disposals for these individuals. In fact, these may arguably have contributed to having the opposite effect of increasing rates of reoffending, particularly when used as a sanction for those young people who have more entrenched offending and increased court hearings. Simply, for those young people who are more prolific, does this type of sanction have a negative effect of them interpreting this as they have “got away with it” and potentially devalue the work being undertaken?

## ***SECTION 4: Repeat Cohort Reoffenders***

Notably, 7 young people have been included in both the 2010 and 2011 cohorts as actively supervised by YOS.

During 2010, these young people were responsible for 17% of the overall reoffending. During 2011, these same 7 young people were responsible for nearly a quarter (23%) of the total reoffending of the whole cohort.

4 of these 7 young people have shown an increase in reoffending from 2010 to 2011 and are notably within the group of the highest reoffenders actively open to our service. These 4 young people are responsible for the vast majority of this reoffending – 20% of the 23%. One young person is alone responsible for 6% of the reoffending – largely attributed to her hostile response to her care arrangements at the time. Further analysis of these 4 young people will be carried out in the next section as they fall into the group of the highest reoffenders.

Given they are responsible for such a significant amount of the total reoffending, analysis to take learning from YOS intervention in the full context of the last two years is worthy of consideration.



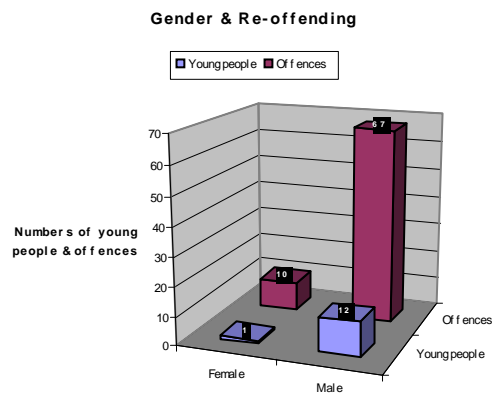
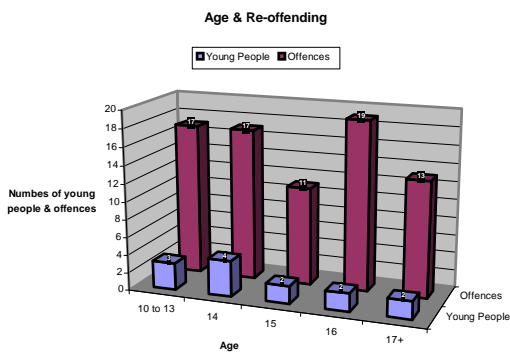
## SECTION 5: Key Characteristics Of Highest Reoffenders

13 young people were identified for further analysis as they were each responsible for committing 3 or more offences during the 2011 recidivism measuring period.

These **13 young people** equate to **10% of the reoffenders** of full recidivism cohort for 2011 and are **collectively responsible for 47% of the total reoffending**.

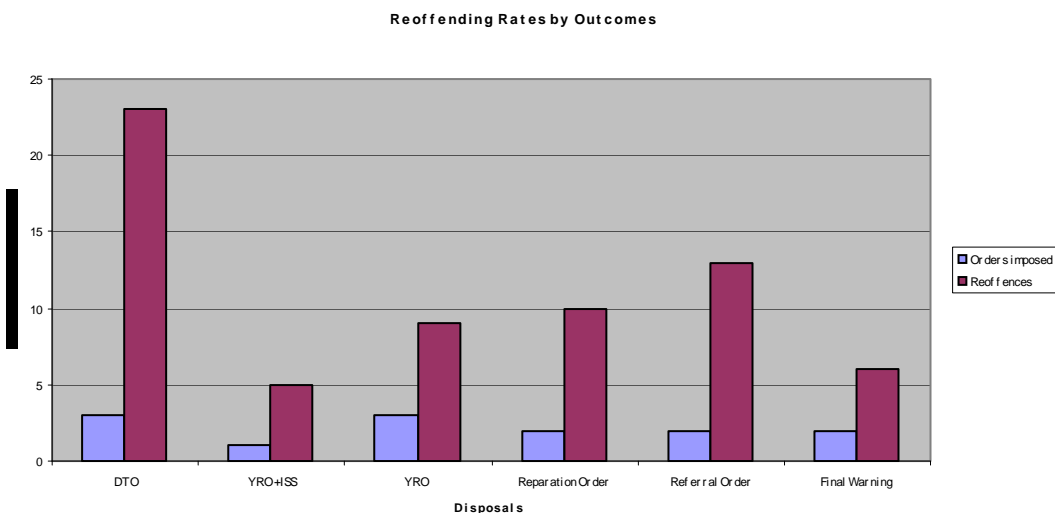
We applied the reoffending toolkit to this group alone, in an attempt to identify any common features; however, given the identified high levels of reoffending of this group, they attribute enormously to the overall findings for the full cohort. It may potentially be of greater interest to carry out a comparison in the same way with these young people removed.

Nonetheless, the following notable observations were made.



Each age bracket is represented relatively equally, but it is significant that males are so significantly active at such a young age. Those young people aged 10-13 carry an equal reoffending rate as those aged 17+, these only superseded by the 16 year olds.

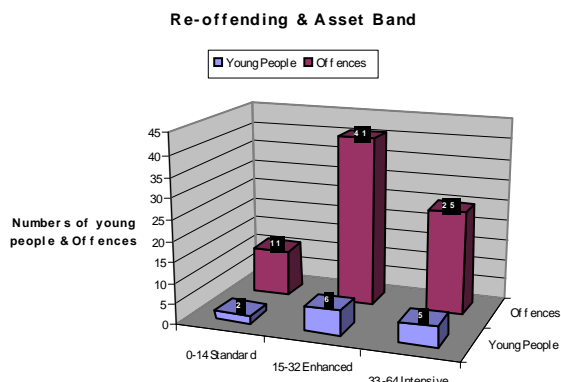
As highlighted previously, the female offender in this group is an exceptional case.



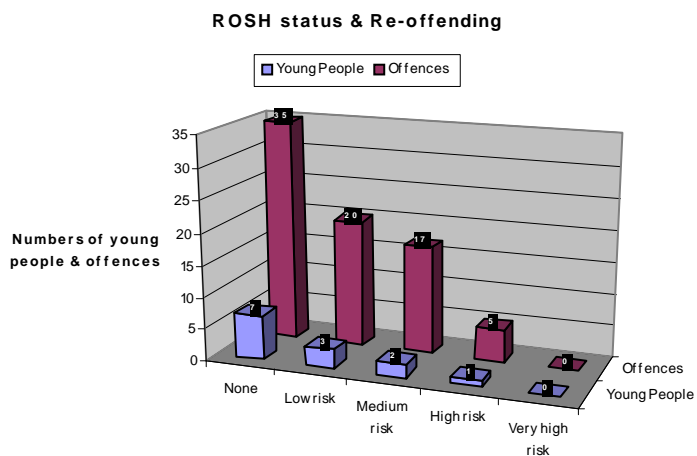
Unsurprisingly, the highest reoffending rate of this group is of those who were made subject to a DTO in Jan – Mar 2011. Notably however, those young people early to YOS intervention having been imposed a Referral Order particularly have been reoffending at a similarly high rate.

There is no marked difference in respect of seriousness of offending, nor in types of further offending.

Unsurprisingly, the majority herald from North Stockton reflecting the findings of the analysis of the full cohort.



The table above highlights the significant higher proportion of offending of those initially assessed as Enhanced Level. Those identified in this graph as Standard are the aforementioned Reparation Order and Final Warning assessments, so should be disregarded in this context. The reoffending toolkit is not able to differentiate these ASSETs from Core ASSETs. Comments on the quality of these assessments and subsequent Core ASSETs have already been made.



Interestingly of this group in isolation, a higher rate of reoffending is identified of those assessed as posing a Medium Risk of Serious Harm. The other levels do not show a significant difference in relation to reoffending rates between them.

Core ASSETs were considered further to identify those areas assessed as a direct link to further offending within this group. Areas initially assessed as posing a **direct link** to risk of reoffending with the percentage of young people this has been identified as a significant direct factor for in future risk of reoffending are as follows.

These are then compared against those identified as a direct risk on completion of a further reviewed ASSET given the highlighted issues of some underscoring highlighted in previous assessment analysis.

<b>INITIAL ASSET</b>	
<b>ASSET Areas</b>	<b>% of YP affected</b>
Lifestyle	46%
Thinking & Behaviour	38%
ETE	31%
Neighbourhood	31%
Substance Misuse	31%
Family & Personal Relationships	23%
Motivation to Change	23%
Living Arrangements	15%
Attitudes to Offending	15%
Mental Health	15%
Perception of Self & Others	8%
Physical Health	0%

<b>REVIEW ASSET</b>	
<b>ASSET Areas</b>	<b>% of YP affected</b>
Lifestyle	54%
Thinking & Behaviour	54%
ETE	38%
Neighbourhood	38%
Substance Misuse	31%
Family & Personal Relationships	38%
Motivation to Change	38%
Living Arrangements	23%
Attitudes to Offending	46%
Mental Health	15%
Perception of Self & Others	23%
Physical Health	0%

On initial assessment, there are 5 key areas identified as being considered a direct link to risk of further offending in a third or more of the cases, the most predominant areas being Lifestyle and Thinking & Behaviour.

Following further assessment, these areas then include Family Relationships, Motivation to Change and Attitudes to Offending which increased prevalence of all initially identified areas directly linked to risk of reoffending.

Interestingly, only areas of Mental Health and Physical Health remain unchanged across this group.

Overall, key areas linked to those having reoffended most significantly are (in order of significance): Lifestyle, Thinking & Behaviour, Attitudes to Offending, ETE, Neighbourhood, Family & Personal Relationships, Motivation to Change and Substance Misuse.

## **SECTION 6: Compliance Analysis**

Of the 127 young people in the cohort, 53 young people reoffended – collectively committing a total of 163 further offences.

Of those 53 young people, 35 of them were actively supervised by the Youth Offending Service. These 35 young people were responsible for 109 of 163 (67%) of the reoffences.

In terms of response to statutory YOS supervision, 12 of the 35 young people failed to comply with their Court Orders and Breach proceedings were instigated and concluded. 10 of these young people reoffended, committing 37 of the 109 offences. Further analysis has focussed on this group.

### Findings

	2009	2010	2011
YPs who failed to comply with their orders	14%	18%	9%
YPs who failed to comply and reoffended	72%	70%	83%
Percentage of Offences non-compliant YPs are responsible for	48%	51%	34%

In 2011 cohort, we found that 12 young people of the 127 total cohort (9%) failed to comply with their court orders. This is a significant reduction from 2009 and 2010 cohorts.

We have seen an increase in the proportion of young people in breach who have also reoffended. However, there has been a significant reduction in the proportion of reoffending non-compliant young people have been responsible for in 2011.

8 young people in 2009 remained offence free in conjunction with not complying with their court orders. In 2010, 7 young people remained offence free in conjunction with non-compliance. In 2011, only 2 young people remained offence free in conjunction with failure to comply.

The relationship between non-compliance and reoffending again remains consistently strong, given 83% of those breached went on to reoffend.

### **Breach Analysis Toolkit**

To assess any further profile that could be identified for this group, the YJB Breach Analysis Toolkit was utilised for the 2011 cohort. To draw some comparison, the equivalent data from the 2010 cohort was also analysed with the following findings.

In 2010 and 2011, White British males make up the vast majority of these groups of non-compliant young people. Predominantly in 2011, they were aged between 16 and 17 years old. In 2010, this range included a higher amount of 15 year olds than in 2011.

Central Stockton is noted as the area with the highest level of non-compliance followed by North Stockton in both 2010 and 2011. Notably, this does not correlate with the shift in district-related reoffending noted earlier. As such, there is not evidence of higher levels of breach action taken around those young people most responsible for the significant increase in offending levels of North Stockton.

The young people recorded as in breach of their orders were all sentenced for similar types of offending – those being Acquisitive, Violence and Public Order offending. This is similar to 2010 with the only notable reduction in the matters of Damage relating to these groups.

In comparison to a wider range of orders that were breached in 2010, those 12 young people of the 2011 cohort were predominantly subject to either a YRO, YRO-ISS or a DTO, with only one case being a Referral Order. 7 of these were subject to the Intensive Level of Supervision and the remaining 5 cases Enhanced. Within 2010, there was a very similar amount of Intensive cases, but a higher proportion of Enhanced and Standard Level cases subject to breach proceedings.

It could easily be suggested from the 2011 findings that those young people that breach their orders are subject to a higher level of YOS intervention given their age and the type of Order. This then indicating that they are more familiar with the Court process and more bold as to fail to comply without as much concern for the consequences.

Conversely, the significant reduction (nearly 50%) in those young people who have been breached perhaps indicates more about practice around carrying out enforcement. Relating this to the notable reduction in Referral Orders and the reduction in Enhanced Level cases with Standard Level cases not presenting at all, this raises the query that perhaps increased flexibility has been exercised in those cases assessed as requiring a lower level of supervision.

In addition, only 4 of the highest reoffenders as analysed earlier are present within this group of young people formally breached. This and the notable reduction in the proportion of reoffending of this non-compliant group perhaps indicates that enforcement could have been more robust around those offending most prolifically.

To gain a more detailed picture of YOS Officer practice around enforcement, a review of the 35 young people was carried out to test the aforementioned theories. A limitation was noted in the data relating to breach proceedings being actioned as this is only relevant to the orders originally imposed which identified each young person as part of the cohort. Therefore subsequent breach action taken on orders imposed as a result of resentencing during the year is not accounted for.

Analysis undertaken manually on each of the 35 cases found that the vast majority were dealt with appropriately in terms of enforcement. There is strong evidence of YOS Officers taking into account the young person's individual circumstances and responding to their needs with a tailored approach. For those young people that have been identified as difficult to engage, increased home visits and multi agency support are commonplace in these cases.

Whilst this is conceived as encouraging compliance through flexibility, it could be argued that in increasing flexibility, this has compromised ownership of the Order by the young person and their parents/carers. Equally, this is a potential indication that in fact where compliance is encouraged and non-compliance is responded to appropriately, the impact of the delivered interventions is worthy of further consideration as where the young people are compliant, this is not having the improved effect of reduced reoffending.

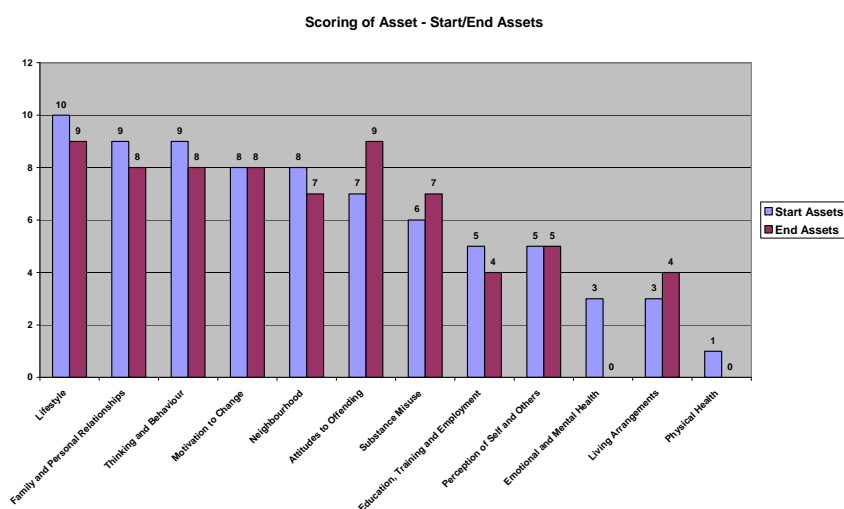
## Section 7: Reoffending Following Release from Custody

All 3 young people in the 2011 cohort coming out of custody reoffended, committing 23 reoffences between them.

Characteristics of the 3 young people within the Cohort were as follows:

- All 3 were White British males.
- All were well known to the YOS and considered to be persistent offenders.
- Non were LAC
- Asset scores ranged from 21 to 30 at Start of Order with a reduction for 2 young people and increase in score 1 young person at the End of Order. Interestingly, the young person with the reduced score committed the least further offences but the most serious. This young person is also an established high profile offender, resulting in speedy recall and imposition of further DTOs.

The table below shows asset scores at the start and end of interventions.



It is clearly noticeable that the areas of Asset with increased scoring and therefore directly linked to likelihood of reoffending are substance misuse, living arrangements and attitudes to offending. These are therefore key areas requiring robust intervention on release.

In all of the above cases, parental guidance and appropriate support was lacking.

Concerns within each of the home environments had at some point attracted the attention of Social Care. Lack of parental cooperation with Services including the YOS was also a clear feature in all 3 cases. The need for robust parenting interventions in these cases is also essential. In one case FIP was involved with the family on a voluntary basis, the other 2 had levels of contact with YOS Officers but no other targeted support or statutory intervention particularly around parenting.

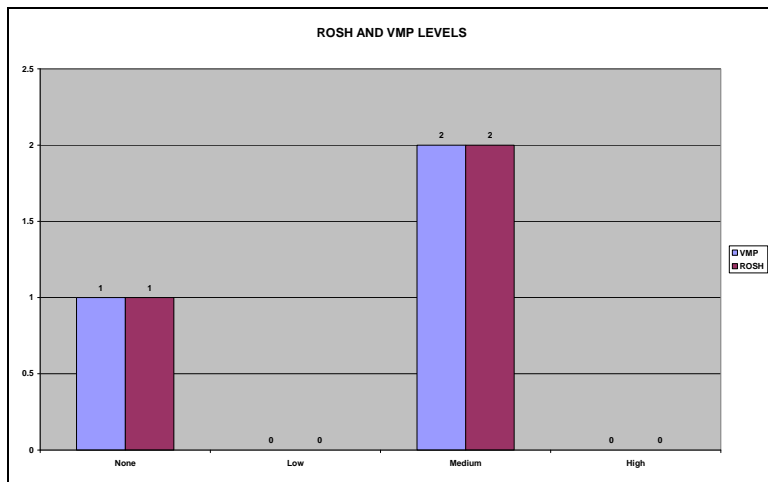
Educational issues were present in all 3 cases, 2 were assessed as SEN and all 3 had poor attendance records. This no doubt impacted on motivation and confidence to proceed with education and training whilst in the community. Hence issues with engaging in training and education on release from custody.

All of the young people resided in areas that could be described as crime hot spots. This clearly impacted on 2 of the young people who associated with other young offenders in the area engaging in crime and anti social behaviour. It was assessed that the third young person would likely offend no matter where they resided, the link between neighbourhoods and offending in this case was therefore more tenuous.

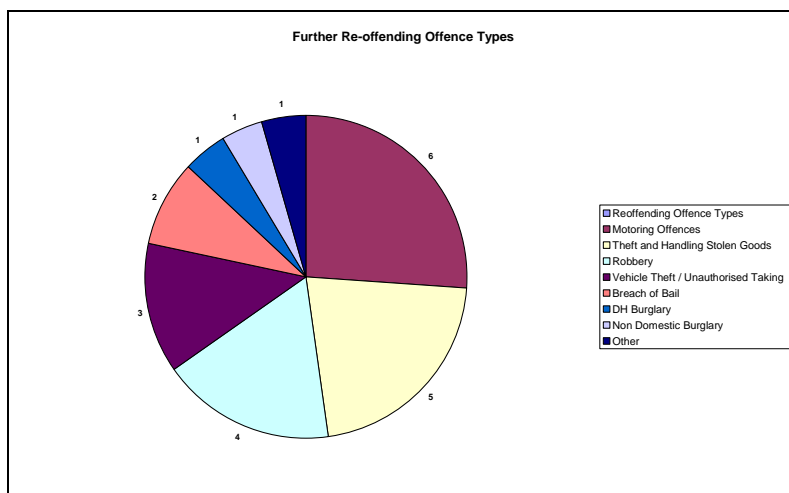
Substance misuse was a major factor linked with offending in 2 of the cases. This included both alcohol and drugs. Despite substance misuse intervention in custody, efforts to desist in the community are minimal. Non compliance with community intervention in this group is also likely to hinder any progress in this area.

Although some issues were identified around emotional well being in 2 of the cases, they were not assessed as a significant factor linked to reoffending.

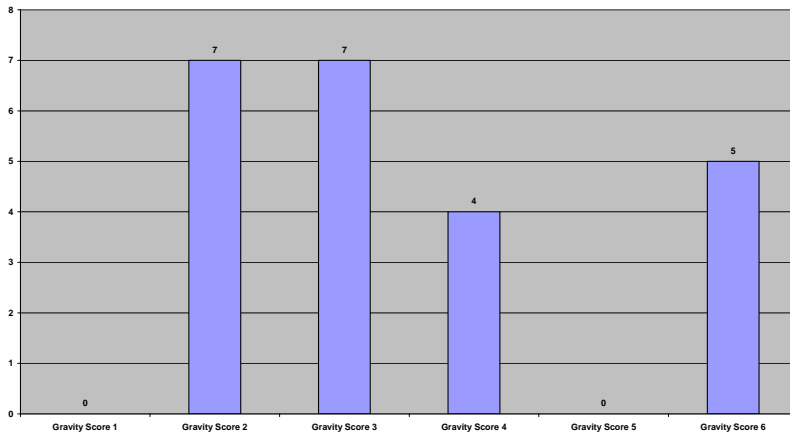
In regards to perceptions of self and others, thinking and behaviour and attitude to offending, general themes emerging are a lack of personal responsibility for offending behaviour which is reinforced by parents, a high level of impulsivity. They are easily influenced and show a lack of remorse for their offending behaviour. These attitudes are clearly entrenched presenting a challenge for both YOS and custodial establishments to engage these particular young people in interventions which have an impact and increase motivation to change.



Reoffending within the group shows that within the first 3 months following release, 2 young people had committed 8 offences, this resulted in 1 young person being recalled to custody and receiving a further DTO which halted his offending. The second individual who committed 3 offences within 3 months received an YRO and proceeded to commit a further 4 offences over 6-9 months before receiving a further DTO. Although the number in this sample group is low, the information would suggest that reoffending immediately on release from custody is symptomatic of a young person who is not ready to halt their criminal activity and they are likely to continue to offence until then are stopped via incarceration. The third individual within this group committed 4 offences at the 6-9 month stage where he received a further 2 outcomes of YROs. Within the 9-12 month stage, he committed a further 5 offences which resulted in the imposition of an YRO with ISS. The explanation for the lack of offending within the first 3 months is due to Licence Recall for non compliance approximately 4 weeks following his release.



Further Re-offending Seriousness - Gravity Scores



The most common reoffending offence types are motoring offences, theft and handling stolen goods and non domestic burglary. Although this particular sample group is small, it could provide useful information when considering development of further group work sessions etc.

The level of offending within this group is prolific and they appear to have been unresponsive to restrictive licence conditions or support. Gaps in offending for all 3 young people occurred when they were returned to custody. All 3 were released with a condition of ISS which therefore ensured they had maximum restriction and support placed upon them.



## Section 8: Impact of Restorative Justice upon Reoffending

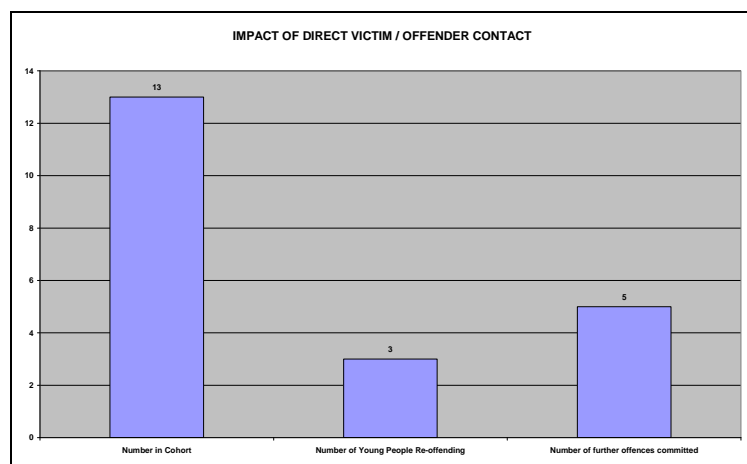
In 2011/12, 356 victims were contacted by the YOS. 64% were adults; 27% corporate victims; and 9% young people/children. 70% of victims did not know the perpetrator, whilst 9% were known to each other through school; 9% were intra-family, with the remaining 12% known to each other through the neighbourhood. The most common offences were criminal damage and violence. Of those who responded that they wished to take part in RJ (actual number 33), the majority (20 victims) opted for indirect restorative justice (20), whilst 13 opted for direct. 100% victim satisfaction rates were recorded.

Using the broad definition of direct contact between victim and offender, it was established that there was 13 young people involved in this process across 2011. These included contact with victims in Panel, mediation or direct reparation where the victim and offender came into contact. Insufficient information was available within the 2011 cohort. All of the young people involved in this process were subject to Referral Orders.

Reoffending rates amongst this group were as follows:

3 of the 13 reoffended, committing 5 reoffences, equating to a reoffender rate of 23%. This is lower rate compared to the overall YOS cohort for 2011 which stands at 56% reoffender rate.

1 young person committed 3 further offences, 2 committed only 1 offence, making a total of 5. None of the reoffending was of a higher gravity than the main offence. 2 of the young peoples offending was less serious.



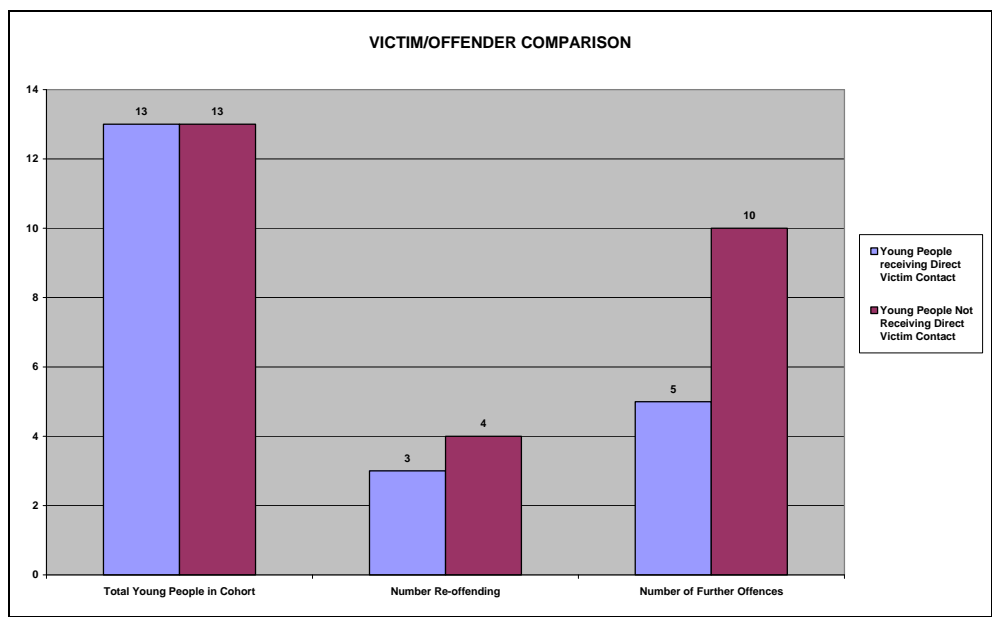
Analysis of Asset scores amongst this group show that all the young persons Asset scores reduced. Only one of those that reoffended had an Asset score significantly higher than the rest of the group. This could suggest that the assessment in this particular case was inaccurate or that changes occurred increasing the likelihood of offending during the course of supervision. Interventions delivered in this case may also have been hindered by this young persons considerable communication difficulties and SEN status. Recent analysis of Stockton YOS Communications Pilot, support the correlation between the likelihood of further offending, particularly of an anti social nature, and communication difficulties. There appears to have been an acknowledgement by the Court of these issues through previous impositions of absolute discharges. Of the other 2 who offended, one had displayed behavioural problems at school and the other was diagnosed with ADHD, ODD and mild Autism which was assessed as directly impacting on the likelihood of further offending.

The 3 young people who committed further offences 2 were assessed as requiring a Standard level of Intervention, the other an Enhanced level of Intervention. Within the group as a whole, 10 were assessed as requiring a Standard Level of Intervention, 3 an Enhanced Level, 0 Intensive Level. It is notable that

all identified direct victim interventions have involved Referral Orders and cases of an Enhanced or lower intervention level. This could indicate that we have engaged the less problematic young people who are likely to be more obliging to the process and may not have reoffended with or without direct victim intervention. However, the range of Asset scores within this group could suggest otherwise. I would however suggest that the current Referral Order Panel process accommodates victim participation most successfully. This learning could be incorporated into the new Intervention Planning Pilot to see if this aids/supports further victim participation across other Orders.

As a comparison group, 13 other young people subject to Referral Orders who have not received direct victim contact have been used. Of the 13 other young people subject to Referral Orders, 4 reoffended, which is a 31%, which is slightly higher than those that did have Direct Victim Contact.

Those that reoffended committed a total of 10 offences between them which was 5 more offences than those that had Direct Victim Contact. However 1 young person was responsible for the majority of these offences. The debate is therefore whether victim involvement at the early stages would have impacted on this particular young person's outcomes.



The Asset scores of those that reoffended in the comparison group indicated that Asset scores either stayed the same between Start and End or increased. The scores correlated in that those who committed the least offences saw no change to the Asset score, those with an increased score committed the 2 or more offences. This shows accurate assessment within this group.

Overall, the analysis appears to show that Restorative Justice is beneficial in reducing the likelihood of reoffending. The investment in this process could therefore be argued as beneficial.

Within the service at present, direct victim offender mediation or contact is taking place primarily within existing Referral Order processes. Although this could be interpreted as a narrow remit, it suggests that the structure is supportive of intervention of this nature. Future structured intervention planning will incorporate this learning. Given that those subject to Tier 1 Court Disposals are less likely to reoffend, attention needs to be given to those subject to other court orders, including custody, as these are the groups most at risk of reoffending.

Within the Referral Order process, significant emphasis is placed upon victim issues and utilising information within the victim impact statement. It is therefore a strong possibility that even without direct victim contact this victim led restorative approach will have a significant impact on the likelihood of a young person reoffending. The impact of direct victim intervention compared to non direct interventions carried out outside of this structured arena is a significant contrast.

Further analysis will be carried out on future cohorts, as the service seeks to strengthen its offer of restorative justice.

Information gathering for this exercise was difficult due to discrepancies between information contained on the 2011 Database, Victim Outcome Forms and information recorded on Careworks. Validity of information from any one of these sources in isolation is therefore unlikely to be accurate.

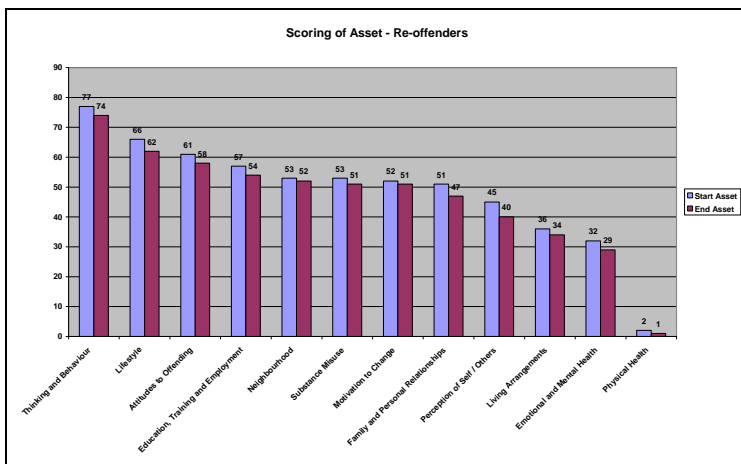
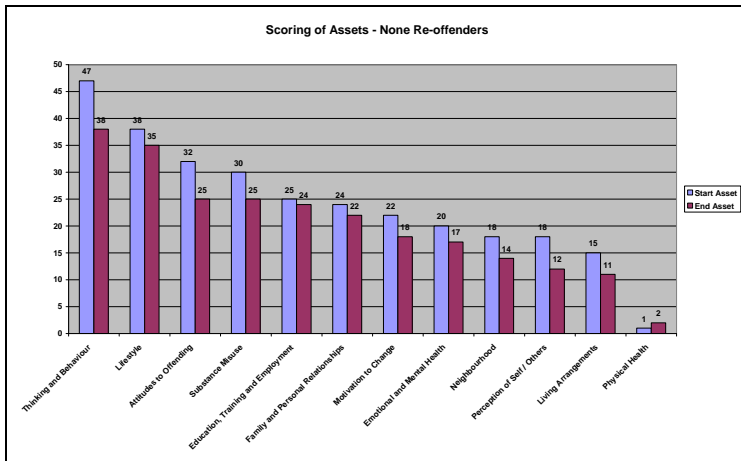
The above highlighted issues are already being addressed to aid future information gathering and analysis as follows:

- Weekly victim monitoring meetings with RJ Coordinator and RJ Officer with emphasis on accurate recording and suitable intervention for victims.
- Introduction of database identifying specific RJ interventions (this should aid future information gathering).
- Victim intervention audit tool to be created to enable a more comprehensive management check of cases and reliability of information.
- RJ Officer and dedicated Admin Officer to meet weekly to cross reference information on Outcome Sheets, Data Base and Careworks.
- Team/Deputy Team Manager to address quality of Careworks case recording with all staff that input RJ/Victim information.

A manual check has therefore taken place to identify those cases that involved direct contact between the offender and victim. These contacts primarily took place via mediation in Panel Meetings and/ or direct Reparation where the victim was present.

## Section 9: Young People Who Became Crime Free

27 young people, from the 62 supervised by the YOS in the 2011 Cohort became crime free. The graph below shows a marked improvement in scoring within particular areas of Asset within the offence free cohort. The most significant ones being Thinking & Behaviour, Attitude to Offending, Substance Misuse, and Perception of Self and Others. This possibly suggests a responsiveness within this group to offence focussed intervention.



As with the non re-offenders, those that went on to offend also had reduced Asset scores at the end of YOS involvement. Again, this suggests responsiveness to intervention. The areas of progress are generally consistent with those becoming crime free, however, prevalent issues amongst re-offenders are clearly ETE, Neighbourhood, Substance Misuse, Motivation to Change and Family and Personal Relationships.

The above led to analysis of Positive/Protective factors present in those within the offence free cohort. For the purpose of a sample group, 12 young people subject to Referral Orders were explored. In all cases, the striking positive/protective factors were involvement in education or training, and a positive attitude from parents and carers to support this, friends who don't offend, involvement in positive activities within their local community, and positive family influence.

There was nothing striking in terms of interventions undertaken within this group, other than involvement in community reparation. However, the Referral Order process created a specific structure to all interventions which may have added benefit and may be a relevant factor given that the reoffending rate is lower for those subject to a Referral Order than those subject to a YRO.

## Section 10: Parenting Analysis

In order to gain a picture of the parenting needs and service response to this in relation to assessment and intervention delivery, 20 cases were selected. To enable comparison, 10 of those were of our highest reoffenders, and 10 with no recorded offending during the cohort measurement period. LAC children were not selected given the impact of being parented corporately.

To enable a consistent approach, these cases were analysed against a range of risk and protective factors as outlined by the YJB in relation to Parenting specifically. 28 Parenting Risk Factors included Parental Supervision, Family Conflict, Criminal/Antisocial Family, Disadvantage in relation to income and housing, School Factors in relation to levels of parental support, Community factors in relation to familial disadvantage and lack of community attachment and finally Individual Factors capturing behavioural challenges requiring additional parental support or guidance. Also, a measurement of 5 Protective Factors related to Parenting were considered including positive discipline, supervision, support, engagement with services and advocacy provided by parents.

This information was gained through review of assessments, recorded interaction with parents and liaison with other agencies within contacts. More specifically RAISE records were reviewed to ensure full reflection of information available in our assessments.

The following chart attempts to map out the overall findings of this analysis and prevalence of assessed issues in the group of reoffenders against those who did not go on to reoffend. Unsurprisingly, there was an overwhelming higher amount of Parenting related risks identified in those young people who did go onto reoffend.

% of cases Risk Factor identified	Reoffenders	Non-reoffenders
10%		YP Hyperactivity Pro-Criminal Attitudes at Home Parents involved in Crime
20%	Large Family Size	YP AntiSocial Attitudes High Population Turnover Family Financial Stress Poor Housing Large Family Size Parents Overly Harsh
30%	Parents Overly Harsh Elder siblings involved in Crime Poor Housing YP Hyperactivity	Lack of Attachment to Education Offending Peer Groups Lack of Social Commitment
40%	Parents/Elder siblings involved in ASB High Level of Neglect in N'bourhood High Population Turnover	High Levels of Neglect YP Aggressive Behaviour/Bullying Family Low Income Elder Siblings involved in Crime
50%	Parents Inconsistent Pro-Criminal Attitudes at Home Family Financial Stress	Parents/Elder siblings involved in ASB YP Low Academic Achievement Education Truancy/Nonattendance YP Substance Misuse
60%	Parents involved in Crime YP Aggressive Behaviour/Bullying Poor Physical Environment	Parents Inconsistent Low Level Supervision Stress within Family Family Separation Poor Physical Environment Early involvement in Crime
70%	Disadvantaged Neighbourhood Availability of Drugs	Disadvantaged Neighbourhood

	YP Substance Misuse Lack of Social Commitment	
80%	Low Level Supervision Family Separation Family Low Income	Availability of Drugs
90%	Stress within Family Education Truancy/Nonattendance YP Anti Social Attitudes Offending Peer Group	
100%	YP Low Academic Achievement Lack of Attachment to Education Early Involvement in Crime	

There were notable limitations in this analysis, as in some of the assessments we were unable to clearly identify the presence or lack of some of these risk areas. In as many as approximately 25% of cases, information or analysis was lacking in relation to key risk factors of Parental Supervision, Criminal/ Anti-Social Family, Family Disadvantage and relevant Community Factors. This was consistent across both groups of assessments, but to a greater degree the non-offenders. Areas around consideration of Individual and School Factors were particularly strong which provides some assessment context for the outcomes of this analysis. However, there is an overall area of improvement identified in these areas being inter-related with parenting difficulties to ensure appropriate gravity is attributed to any need for increased parental support.

School related issues, individual behavioural factors and poor parental supervision have been highlighted as the most significantly prevalent combination of parenting related risk factors in relation to further offending. It would be a direct correlation that the aforementioned school and behavioural concerns are compounded by the lack of parental supervision.

All cases reviewed indicate that the 3 key features of low level academic achievement, lack of attachment to ETE and Early Involvement in Crime were present in those who went onto reoffend. In comparison to those who did not reoffend, these were a feature in 60% or less of the cases.

Inconsistent Parenting and Low Levels of Supervision were notable in the majority of cases across both groups.

Family conflict was notably higher in the group of reoffenders with either an acrimonious split and/or family stress being apparent in all cases compared to 60% of non-reoffenders.

Criminal/Anti-Social Family Influence was a feature in 70% of the reoffenders. Not dissimilarly, this was present within 60% of non-reoffenders. More noticeably was the combination of factors that were prevalent together in cases of those who went onto reoffend - those including pro-criminal attitudes at home, parental/sibling displaying ASB or aggressive behaviours and/or elder siblings committing crime. Significantly, more widely identified in reoffenders are direct parental involvement in crime and anti-social attitudes within the home.

Family disadvantage was more prevalent in reoffenders with low income and stress associated with financial issues most significant features. A combination of at least two of these features was apparent in 70% of the cases.

School related factors were more noticeably prevalent as a combination of difficulties in reoffenders. That combination predominantly being of truancy/non-attendance, lack of attachment, and low achievement with the additional feature of aggressive behaviour/bullying in most cases.

In relation to Community Factors and disadvantage within neighbourhoods, there was no discernable difference between the two groups.

Assessments evidenced strengths in considering information relating to levels of supervision, family stress and separation, family size and housing, school related factors. Significantly, these were often not then related back to concerns around parenting and so did not impact on related scoring. Lack of relation to scoring also noted around information relating to living environments and community as they were not attributed to any need for additional parenting support.

Individual Factors were overall well identified largely given consideration of behaviour, attitudes, peers, substance misuse in ASSET, though again not related to either positive parenting support or lack of it.

Protective Factors related to Parenting were much less evident with either active consideration in assessments that these were not evident, but also assessments which did not consider them, so there were significant gaps in enabling thorough assessment of impact of this. The gaps highlighted draw doubt into the full integrity of these findings, but of those cases well evidenced, it would indicate that protective factors were more evident for non-offenders.

There was no discernable difference in the levels of recorded domestic violence within the families or significantly increased physical/mental abuse for those who have gone onto reoffend. Those additional areas which are notable for being more common in amongst reoffending cases are parental unemployment, lack of parental confidence/resilience and parental drug/alcohol misuse.

There was no identifiable pattern of increased risk factors around parenting in relation to age or gender, which was surprising given the range of ages spanned from 11 – 13. The youngest reoffenders were noted as 13 years old.

Assessments indicated that there was a need for parenting support in 50% of the cases, 4 of which did not go onto reoffend, 6 of which did. Of the 4 who did not go onto reoffend, 2 of which do not evidence any further referral to parenting support from the identified need. 2 cases include references to involvement with Social Care, but there is no ongoing evidence of the work being linked to identified need within YOS. Of the 5 who did go onto reoffend, all but one case was linked with family support in some capacity, 1 case was open to Social Care, 3 cases were open to FIP, 1 case was open to OHANA and the remaining case was not referred to any additional support for Parenting. There is one case where there is clear & positive evidence of YOS Officer and OHANA partnership working to address parenting needs.

Due to time limitations, we have been unable to review any of the content of this parenting delivery identified and cannot comment further given lack of reference to the work undertaken or consideration against assessments in YOS.

Overall, it would appear that ASSET is completed and scoring is undertaken compartmentally i.e. ETE, Neighbourhood and areas related to Individual Factors (as previously defined), but this is not then considered in relation to inter-related concern around parenting need. As such, it would appear that assessments could be considered as underscored in relation to Family and Personal Relationships influence on future risks of reoffending. Our findings in the context of this analysis was that scores would have been increased if parenting had been fully analysed in its widest and far-reaching context. Arguably, thresholds for assessing parenting related risks appear too high and driven by ASSET questions other than a more holistic view of wider impact of family make-up.

However, the approach to scoring across all the assessments reviewed was relatively consistent. Only one case amongst the non-reoffenders was identified as Family & Personal Relationships being a direct link to risk of further reoffending. Whilst this young person did not reoffend during the recidivism measurement period, he did go onto to reoffend significantly in 2012. Conversely in only 3 cases of the reoffenders was Family & Personal Relationships scored as a direct link to further reoffending. That said, given the breadth at which parenting can affect so many areas of the assessment, this may be explained that scores are less related to indication of need for parenting intervention with the Family section, but it is the cross-referencing of assessment information that is critical to establishing need.

More specifically, assessments lacked a picture of the overall family make-up. Absent or estranged fathers were a common feature and does not appear to be fully explored in terms of impact. Often, this

absence is overlooked entirely and there appears to be a lack of acknowledgement of significant adults in a child's life. This would appear to link to a need for greater understanding of child development for YOS Officers.

Greater analysis and use of information received from Social Care highlighting both family risk and safeguarding factors would have been of great benefit in a small number of cases, and lack of consideration of this left open a risk of unidentified safeguarding issues.

In relation to YOS parenting support delivery, in less than half of the cases were home visits undertaken on a monthly basis, and these do not evidence clearly intervention targeting parenting needs or support. Of the 20 cases reviewed, there was little positive contact evidenced between YOS Officers and parents. Referrals to Parenting Services where identified as required, were not prioritised and there were significant delays in accessing services.



## **SECTION 11: Substance Misuse**

62 young people in the 2011 cohort were supervised by the YOS. Of these, 35 young people (57%) had identified substance misuse issues. 22 of 35 young people with identified substance misuse issues reoffended (63%) whilst 13 young people (37%) did not.

Of the remaining 27 young people supervised by the YOS with no identified substance misuse, 13 reoffended.

Analysis of asset scores and reoffending reinforces that the factors leading to young people reoffending are complex and varied and reinforces the need for individually tailored interventions.

Of the 22 young people in the cohort who re-offended and had substance use issues:

- o 5 had a Substance Use Asset score of 1
- o 7 had a Substance Use Asset score of 2
- o 7 had a Substance Use Asset score of 3
- o 3 had a Substance Use Asset score of 4

### Of the 5 young people scoring 1:

4 received a Tier 2 intervention, and 1 received a Tier 3 intervention (this young person was a LAC and had already been referred into specialist provision by Social Care.)

3 of the above young people went on to commit 1 reoffence each.

The remaining two went on to commit 5+ offences.

With one young person at the time of the cohort related penalty, substance use was not assessed as a major issue. The overall asset score gradually increased and included substance use as well as family/relationships, and ETE issues. His poor attitude and motivation to avoid further offending reflected the rise in scores of other sections of Asset. He ultimately received a Tier 3 level of intervention for his substance use which was raised to a score of 3. His intervention level was increased to intensive later in the year (Sept) showing a response by the YOS Officer to changing risks.

Similarly with the other young person his increasing problematic behaviour increased both his substance misuse score and score in other areas significantly, all which attributed to his offending. He has been uncooperative in terms of his interventions particularly around substance misuse.

### Of the 7 scoring 2:

4 received a Tier 2 intervention  
3 received a Tier 3 intervention .

In total they carried out 13 reoffences with one young person being responsible for 3 of them. He received a Tier 2 substance use intervention following assessment and agreement with a specialist provider and his Asset substance use score did reduce. However he scored high on Asset in several other areas including family, ETE, Neighbourhood, Lifestyle and Thinking and Behaviour therefore there were many other factors in his reoffending. He was appropriately supervised at an intensive level due to the number of other highly scored areas in Asset.

### Of the 7 scoring 3:

5 of the 7 received a Tier 3 intervention. 1 received a Tier 2 intervention (refusing Tier 3 provision) and 1 received a Tier 1 intervention. This young person had been referred to a specialist provider who assessed him not to be in need of a Tier 3 service.

3 committed 1 further offence each; 1 committed 2 further offences; 1 committed 3 further offence and 2 committed 5+ further offences.

The one committing 3 further offences was the young person assessed as not being in need of a Tier 3 service therefore it is questionable whether the level of substance use intervention was in fact appropriate as this score did not reduce. He did however have high scores in other areas particularly Living Arrangements, Family, ETE and Neighbourhood which impacted heavily on his offending.

The young person receiving only a Tier 2 intervention refused a Tier 3 service. Substance use was only one significant problematic area with emotional and welfare issues being major causative factors of offending behaviour. She went on to commit 10 further offences and Asset scores rose rather than reduce with her initially being supervised at an enhanced level increasing to intensive before again reducing as her offending began to reduce as the major underlying factor was removed (looked after accommodation) and there has been no further convictions for approximately one year. It is of note that the cohort relevant order was a reparation order and full YOS supervision ie YRO did not commence until later in the year.

The other young person committing 5+ further offences appropriately received a Tier 3 intervention. The substance use score actually increased. Again, there were significant others issues linked to offending. This young person was supervised at an intensive level.

### Of the 3 scoring 4:

2 received a Tier 3 intervention

1 received a Tier 2 intervention (refused to engage with Tier 3 provision)

The young person refusing Tier 3 provision went on to commit 9 further offences of a similar level of seriousness. Other criminogenic factors, including, family and neighbourhood remained significant throughout the duration of this order.

One of the above young people committed 2 further offences, both of these being in the first part of the year. These were of an acquisitive nature but less serious. There were a range of significant concerns at the beginning of the Order and he was supervised at an intensive level. For this young person the overall Asset score reduced significantly with the only scored areas not showing a reduction being neighbourhood and perception of self. This suggests that behaviour changed positively as interventions progressed. However improved family support appears to have been the major factor in improved behaviour.

One young person committed 5 further offences. There was no reduction in any Asset section in relation to this young person. At this time he was making a conscious choice not to change his lifestyle and he was appropriately supervised at an intensive level.

All 3 of these young people committed acquisitive crime of either similar or less serious nature. There was no correlation in the level of risk of serious harm with one identified as no risk; one medium and one high. District however was a common factor with them all being from District 3.

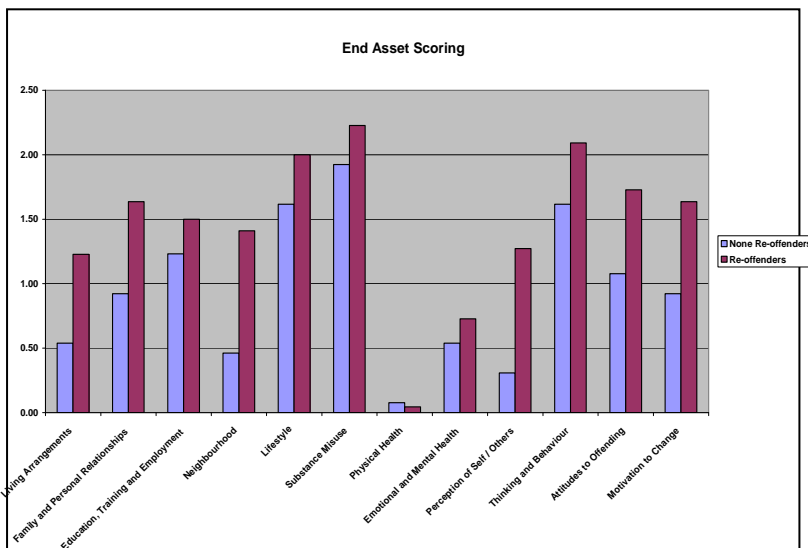
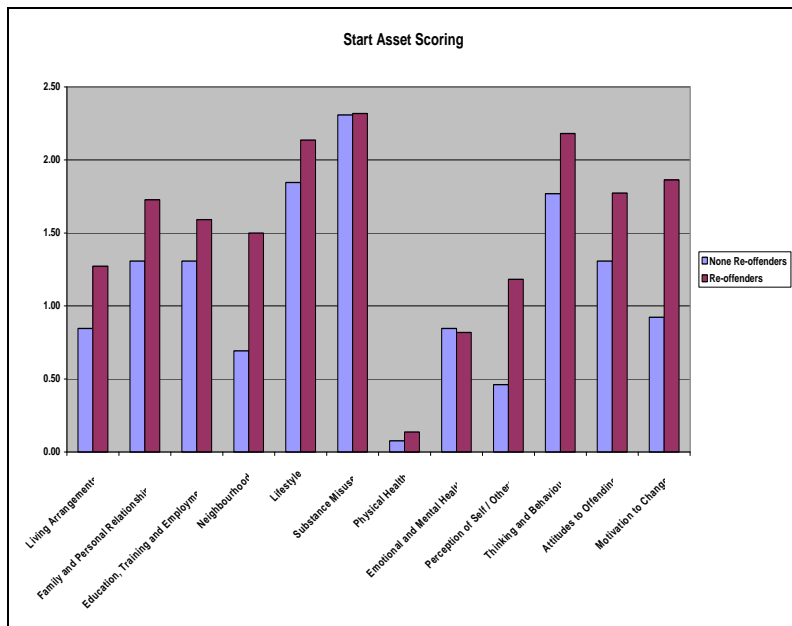
Interestingly 3 other young people committing 5 further offences and 2 committing 3 further offences were also from District 3. Offending appears to involve violent or acquisitive crime.

Those young people with identified substance misuse issues who became crime free:

10 of the 13 young people received substance use interventions. (The 3 young people who did not receive interventions were Final Warning cases.) In 6 of the cases there was a reduction in the substance use Asset score. Other problematic areas subsequently improved and in all these cases the overall Asset score reduced. In a further 3 cases, whilst the Asset score was not reduced there was clear evidence that substance use had significantly reduced and in one case that the low level use was not linked to the risk of re-offending, therefore the scores should perhaps have been reduced to reflect this. This suggests that YOS Officers are exercising caution in relation to reducing Asset scores.

It appears therefore that where substance use has reduced, the risk of re-offending has also reduced. Additionally it appears that when appropriate interventions have been identified and delivered this has impacted positively on outcomes.

**Combined Start and End Asset Scoring Based on % of Young People in Cohort**



The graph shows a similar score for substance use between re-offenders and those becoming crime free and the start of order stage, similarly emotional and mental health shows similar scoring. At the end of intervention there is a distinct improvement for those becoming crime free in relation to substance use and also emotional and mental health. Most other areas also show a clear improvement, notably family, personal relationships and perception of self, all which can impact significantly on the risk of re-offending.

## SECTION 12: Reoffending, Education and Special Needs

This report now considers the relationship between reoffending, education and special educational needs, by exploring the 62 young people from the 2011 cohort who received a YOS outcome.

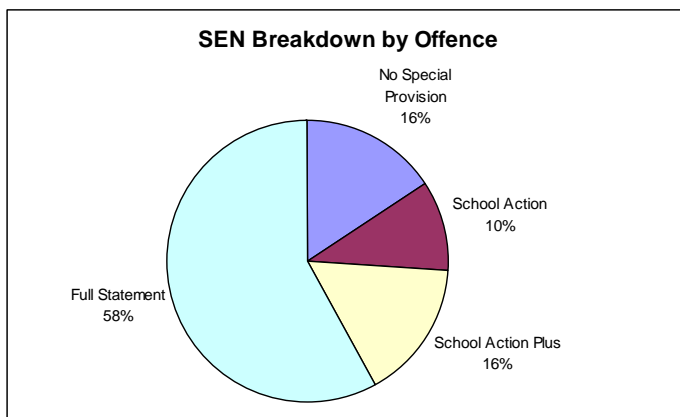
27 young people supervised became crime free. Of the 35 young people who reoffended, 21 were school age (committing 69 reoffences) and 14 were post 16 (committing 40 reoffences).

### School Age:

Of those of school age, 73% of these offences were committed when the young person was not in school for example: due to school holidays, weekends or unauthorised absence. 20% of the offences were committed on a day when a young person had attended school. One offence resulted in a fixed term exclusion also and therefore was committed on school premises. For the remaining offences committed on a school day it is not known whether the offences were committed in school.

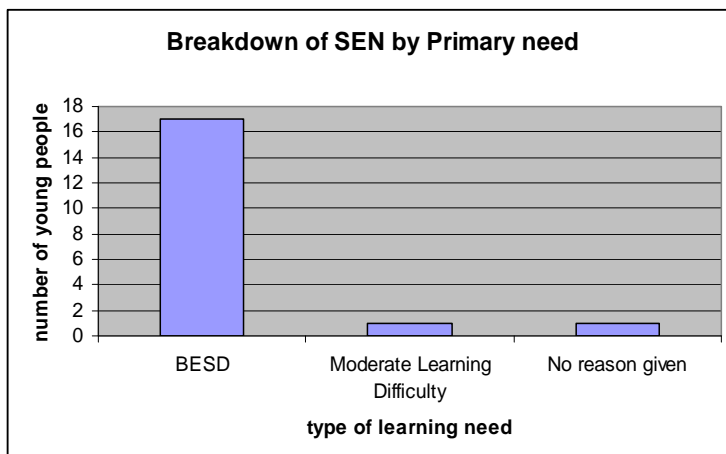
### School Age: SEN information

84% of reoffences were committed by a school aged young person with special educational needs. Just 16% were committed by a young person with no special educational needs.



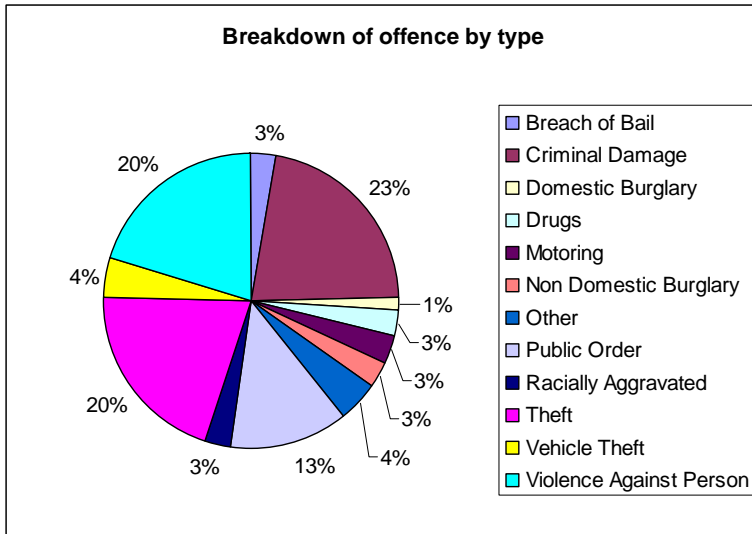
### SEN Information – Primary Learning Need

A total of 19 young people had identified special educational needs, with the primary learning need for the majority of these young people being BESD (Behaviour, Emotional and Social Difficulty). 47 reoffences were committed by a young person with BESD as their primary need. Of those young people with a full SEN statement, all have BESD as their primary need.



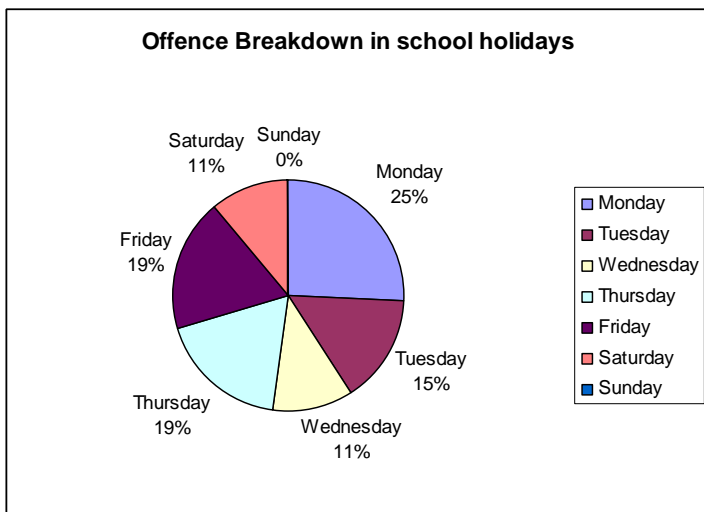
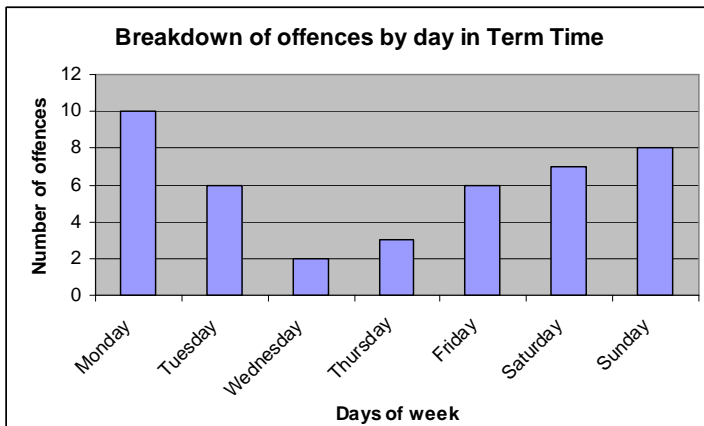
Breakdown of offences by type

For school aged young people the most common type of offence is Criminal Damage with Theft and Violence against the person in the high numbers also.



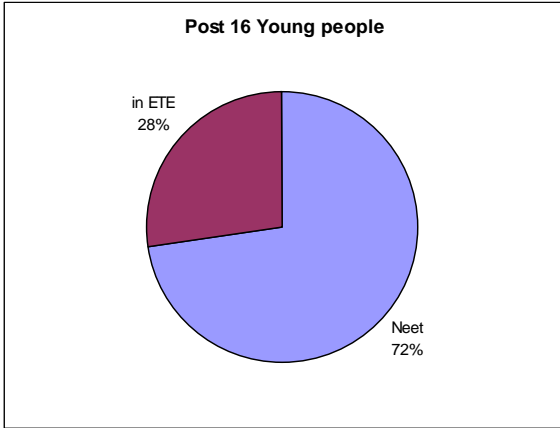
Breakdown of offences by days of the week

For school aged young people offending peaks on a Monday in term time and also is high during the weekend. During school holidays Monday remains the day when most offences are committed, followed by Thursday and Friday. It is interesting that during school holidays weekends see a drop in offending with no offences being committed on a Sunday.



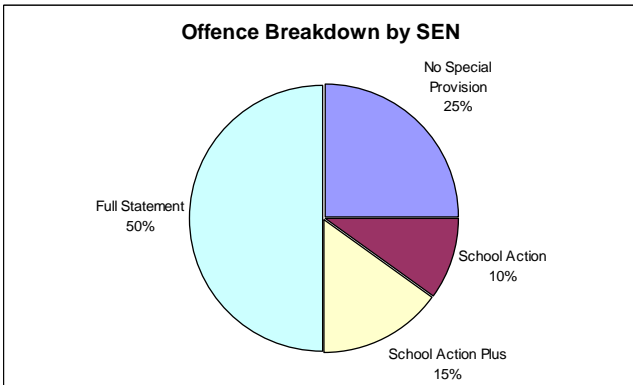
Post 16 Young People

During the period from April 2011 to March 2012 a total of 40 offences received a court outcome. These offences were committed by 14 Post 16 young people. Almost three quarters of these offences were committed by a young person that was NEET at the time of the offence. It is not known whether those who were engaged in ETE at the time of their offence attended their provision on the day the offence was committed. For those young people who were engaged in ETE at the time of offence, they were engaged in two types of learning: College Placement or Foundation Learning.

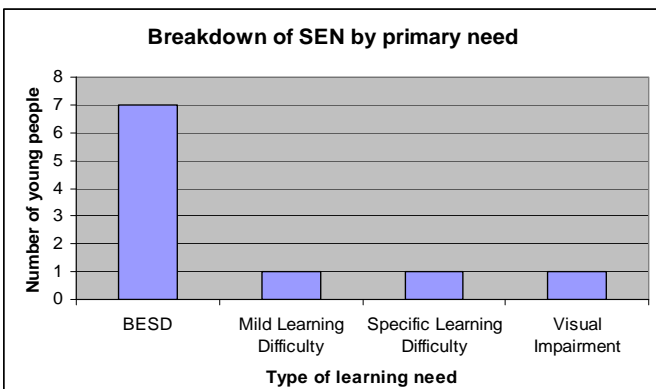


Post 16: SEN Information

75% of reoffences were committed by a young person who had previously had identified special educational needs when at school. 50% had had a full educational statement.

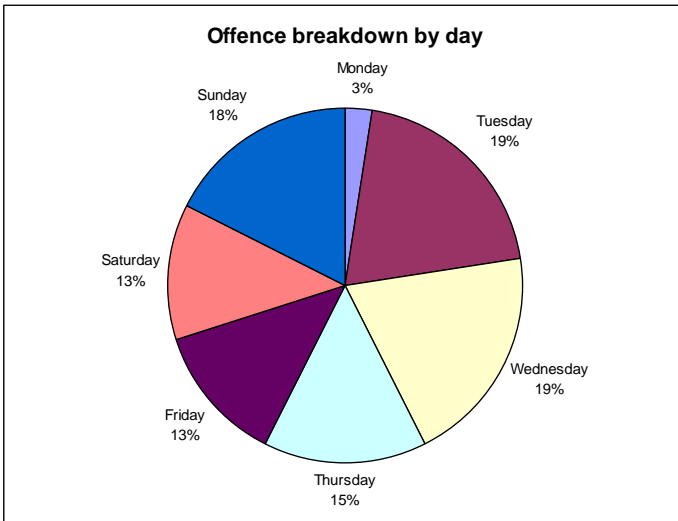


Of the 7 young people with full statements the primary need of the majority of these young people is BESD with just one young person having their primary need as a visual impairment.



Post 16: Breakdown of offences by day of week

For post 16 young people the majority of offences were committed on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Sunday. What is interesting is Monday is the day in which the least offences are committed (just 1) this is the direct opposite of school aged young people.



Post 16: Breakdown of offence by type

For post 16 young people motoring offences are the most common offence followed by theft and public order offences.

