

22 January 2013

Safer Stockton Partnership

5 February 2013

Present:

Mike Batty	Head of Community Protection (Chair)
Miriam Robertson	Manager, Youth Offending Service
Dave Toor	Chief Inspector - Neighbourhood Manager
Joe Howard	Local Delivery Unit Manager, Durham Tees Valley Probation
Jenna Ditchburn	Admin Officer, Youth Offending Service (Minutes)

Apologies:

Shaun McLurg	Head of Children and Young People's Services
Terry Frank	Integrated Youth Support Service Manager
Paul Whittingham	Commissioning Manager (North), NHS Hartlepool & NHS Stockton-on-Tees
Khalid Azam	Assistant Director, Commissioning & Systems Development (North)

MB welcomed JH to the meeting.

1. Minutes & Matters Arising

Health Representation on the Board:

PW/KA did not attend the meeting so this was not discussed.

ACTION: MB to write to KA re: representation from the Clinical Commissioning Group

Transition – YOS and Probation:

YOS and Probation are currently reviewing transitions from YOS to Probation across the Tees Valley, with final recommendations for early March.

ACTION: JH to present report / documents at April's meeting

Transfer of remand costs to LAs:

MB located the response from the YJB and the plans to transfer financial responsibilities for remands to local authorities is going ahead. We are still awaiting confirmation of budget allocation from the YJB – MB to consider emailing Malcolm Potter.

YOS Inspection Framework:

HMIP have confirmed they will be issuing guidance on the governance element of inspection of YOTs around April time, so the work on amending the YJB self assessment template will be put on holding pending that guidance. Deferred to a future meeting.

ACTION: MR to monitor and keep the YOS Management Board updated

Reoffending Analysis findings:

Two of the four repeat cohort offenders were known to Troubled Families. TE also looked at the top 13 (which included these four) and 10 were with Troubled Families.

LASPO Act: the New Remand Framework:

MB advised that a CMT report was not needed.

YOS Performance & ETE Target:

This is to be deferred to July's meeting. This delay is due to management capacity and the need to focus on key priorities and be inspection ready.

ACTION: MR to bring forward for July meeting.

YJB receiving papers from the Board:

No objections from the Board. MR to action.

2. HMIP Thematic Inspection Report: Looked After Children

MR presented a report summarising the findings and recommendations of the Criminal Justice Joint Inspection: *YOT Work with Looked After Children Placed Away from Home* to identify any learning for Stockton on Tees YOS and the YOS Partnership. Generated lots of discussion around key points of learning from the Report and how Stockton YOS compares. Issues around timeliness of notifications of placement moves has been identified as an issue and it was agreed that the protocol with social care should be updated so that YOS are notified within one working day – MR to liaise with JP to

action. JH advised that Probation have a form they complete for sharing information with Police, which he will forward to MR.

ACTION: MR to discuss with JP the timescales of information being sent to YOTs by Social Care with a view to updating the protocol (App 1, para 6.17) to state one working day as target for notifications
JH to send MR form for sharing information with Police
DT to check Police protocols

3. Correspondence: HMIP Inspection of Youth Offending

MR presented a letter from HMIP with regards to arrangements for Full Joint Inspections and Short Quality Screenings. MR/JD will be the two liaison members of staff. The YOS will have the use of 3rd floor and possibly 1st floor Bayheath House and Municipal Buildings, as a base for inspectors. An organisational chart is needed to illustrate how youth justice fits into the various partnership structures – MR to draft and circulate for comments.

ACTION: MR to draft a strategic linkages chart and distribute for comments
JH to provide MR with a template Probation use
DT to enquire about organisational charts within the Police

4. Correspondence: MACP Letter Update

MR presented the letter, received from HMIP, updating the Board on the role of HMIP during the new Multi-Agency Child Protection inspection arrangements.

5. Reoffending Analysis Recap

MR advised that the 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 which allows for regional, family and national comparisons. The cohort is comprised of youths receiving a pre court disposal, a community sentence or released from custody element of custodial sentence. We also looked at those that did not reoffend to see what work had been done with them and we identified areas of learning and delivery, which are now being achieved.

MB asked MR to consider young people who do not fit the current criteria for Troubled Families but may need the support, to see if we can change the scoring system in order for them to be referred.

ACTION: MR to seek feedback from staff re: their experiences of working with Troubled Families staff.
MR to consider Troubled Families scoring system

6. YOS Managers Report

MR presented a report to update the Board on a number of national developments in youth justice and local developments/issues.

The YOS budget is still unconfirmed. Cuts are anticipated from the YJB and the YOS is still awaiting financial information from some partners. The Local Authority are good for their contribution for 13/14; however, there will be a budget review during the year. MB advised the meeting that there is a clause on the YJB funding grant to say that if partners make reductions, then they may claw back their funding also. It is anticipated that if PCC funding is passported back for 13/14, the YOS will need to use it in line with the declared priorities as outlined in the Police and Crime Plan. Remand prevention discussed and MR asked to update the Board at the July meeting on local developments. MR advised that remands young people are now being incorporated into the Placement Strategy

ACTION: Partners to confirm funding asap
MR to report on a Preventing Remand Strategy at the July meeting

7. Safeguarding

Report on YOS work presented to the last meeting of the Local Safeguarding Children Board on 17 January.

8. YOS Performance

MR presented performance information using both the old and new measurements (old are up to date and new are YJB historical). In 2012 there were less court disposals but more custodial sentences which resulted in a significant increase in the percentage. There was a positive reduction in

reoffending and further offences compared to 2011. An increase in participation of school but a decrease in above school age impacted on the participation rate. There is a 15% discrepancy level against PNC data. South Tees figures are declining so this is being looked into.

9. Young People in Custody

MR presented information on the current custodial cohort. Generated discussion about some key features of the group, including substance misuse and home area of the young people.

10. Partner Updates

JH advised that they are formulating a response to the Government transforming Probation recommendations re: work with partner agencies which is due the beginning of February.

11. A.O.B.

MR advised that the YOS had just been notified of a possible attempted suicide in custody yesterday. The yp has been moved to a different part of the establishment and is being very closely monitored. The YOS is liaising with the YJB re: incident reporting and to gain more information. MR to update the Board at the next meeting.

A local young person has recently been charged with a serious offence which has resulted in a fatality i.e. causing death by dangerous driving. The YOS has clear procedures in place to support pre-court / sentence processes.

MR advised that the MOJ are doing a triennial review of the YJB on effectiveness and future governance.

23.01.13/JD/MR/MB