

23rd July 2013

27 August 2013

Present:

Mike Batty	Head of Community Protection (Chair)
Shaun McLurg	Head of Children and Young People's Services
Miriam Sigsworth	Manager, Youth Offending Service
Joe Howard	Local Delivery Unit Manager, Durham Tees Valley Probation
Emma Champley	Strategic Commissioner, Public Health
Jenna Ditchburn	Admin Officer, Youth Offending Service (Minutes)
Tony Hodgson	Local Partnerships Advisor, YJB (Item 10)

Apologies:

Jason Dickson	Inspector, Cleveland Police
Terry Frank	Integrated Youth Support Service Manager
Dave Willingham	Interim Integrated Youth Support Service Manager

1. Minutes & Matters Arising

Health Representation on the Board:

EC has spoken with Karen Hawkins re: representation and it is under debate about whether they have a statutory role/responsibility. MB highlighted his disappointment in the delay and advised that it needs sorting asap. This item was revisited later in the meeting after TH had joined the meeting. Agreed TH will advise Howard Jasper from the YJB of the issues, and that if the issue is not resolved by the time of the next Board meeting, MB will write to the YJB Chief Executive.

ACTION: TH to advise YJB of issues

HMIP Thematic Inspection Report: Looked After Children:

Unknown if AF has explored the police protocol issue in DT's absence.

ACTION: MS to liaise with AF to see if he has checked Police protocols

YOS Managers Report:

MS advised that the remand strategy has been drafted, which will be taken to the Children and Young People's Management Team for endorsement and approval.

ACTION: MS to circulate report with the minutes

YOS Management Board Self-Assessment

HMIP guidance has now been received. MS will provide a written draft for the next meeting.

ACTION: MS to provide a draft self-assessment for the next meeting

Youth Justice Plan 2013/14:

MS advised that the YJB have requested a costed plan so the Youth Justice Plan has been slightly amended to incorporate this and has now been submitted to the YJB, along with the costed plan. MB enquired about the progress of the Early Help Strategy. SM advised that the first draft is going to the Children and Young People's Board so hasn't been approved yet.

ACTION: MS to circulate the Youth Justice Plan 13/14 with the minutes

Transitions & Y2A Information Sharing:

JH advised that the case transfer protocols between YOTs and Probation have been agreed and signed off. The protocol was circulated to the board during the meeting.

All other actions completed.

2. YOS Performance

MS advised that as part of the YOS data summary we continue to measure performance on old measurements, but also monitoring performance on the new guidelines, which is published but historical. There has been a considerable decrease in First Time Entrants (60 to 25 in Q1) – historically FTE's are high in Cleveland, but this level of reduction should bring the figures in line with

national and regional rates. Proven re-offending is the lowest rate in a long time with a 15% reduction from the previous year. ETE is just below target at 83.3%, but is still an improvement from last year.

Custody rates for 12/13 were high and MS advised of work underway to analyse and understand what was happening. MB asked MS to bring the analysis to the next YOS management board meeting.

MB received a letter from Police HQ yesterday to advise that following ACPO guidance, a panel is being established to scrutinise Out of Court Disposals and they will be asking for YOS representation. They will look at a selection of cases to determine if the level of action was appropriate.

**ACTION: MS to present the custody analysis report at the October meeting
MB to circulate information on the Out of Court Disposals panel to MS**

3. Young People in Custody

MS presented information on the current custodial cohort, including criminogenic factors. MS advised that there was currently the lowest ever number of young people subject to custodial sentences, including those on licence. The board noted that all the young people in the cohort were male, have a history of exclusion of school and many were identified as having SEN. They had committed a range of offences, including for serious violence and robbery. No cases are LAC (one was LAC when the offence was committed (section 20) but LAC status ended upon sentence.

4. Multi-agency responses to children & young people who sexually offend

MS presented a draft LSCB action plan to the board for endorsement, which summarised the position of the YOS following the discussion at the last board meeting which looked at key findings and the recommendations for the YOS Management Board and YOS.

The LSCB are mapping responses from the different agencies to the key findings and the YOS management board have been asked to be part of the process.

Other elements of the LSCB action plan will be completed by other agencies / partnerships and the Safeguarding Board will consider the action plan as a whole.

As in the previous meeting, the board noted the introduction of the Sexually Harmful Behaviour (SHB) procedure and it was agreed that MS will bring an update report on its operation and effectiveness to the January 2014 meeting.

**ACTION: MS to amend the report and send to SM, who will forward it to the Safeguarding Board
MS to present an update report on the SHB procedure to the January 14 meeting**

5. LSCB Feedback

SM advised that a LSCB development day has taken place where they looked at the priorities for the coming year. The key points of the day were focussed around the Ofsted inspection from January and the effectiveness of the LSCB. Partners are required to update on any operational issues and all discussions are to be on record. They are continuing with a range of thematic reports. The YOS Assurance Report has been deferred to September's meeting.

ACTION: MS to present the YOS Assurance Report to the LSCB in September

6. YOS Budget 13/14

MS provided an update on the YOS income for 13/14 (12% reduction over 3 years) and the projected YOS expenditure.

The majority of income will be spent on staffing costs. MS advised that it is anticipated that there will be an under spend of approximately £178,000 due to staff vacancies and savings from some staff not being in the LA pension scheme.

The Board endorsed the YOS budget for 2013/14. The Board also agreed that under spend from the YOS budget is to be rolled over and retained in the YOS pooled budget to support YOS activity from 14/15 onwards.

MB requested a report on 'budget prospects' for 14/15 for the next meeting given further budget pressures are likely, including an exploration of the PCC & health contributions.

ACTION: MS to provide a report on budget prospects for 14/15 for the next meeting

7. YOS Budget Proposals

SM updated the Board that the £230k indicative savings to the LA from a reduction in YOS funding from 14/15 was confirmed in June. Since then, work has been undertaken to look at how that level of reductions can be managed.

SM presented a paper to the Board with proposals for a new smaller and flatter structure for the YOS which will be presented to staff during a formal consultation process, with some reductions in management, practitioner and admin capacity. The board noted that there were several vacancies which could be managed to help achieve the required savings and that there been an approximate one-third reduction in the workload of the YOS.

It was also proposed to rename the YOS as a YOT, which will bring the YOS in line with other corporate structures.

Following discussion at the Board, the Board agreed to the proposed renaming of the YOS and to the restructuring of the YOS and agreed that any changes in the proposed structure, as a result of staff consultation, will come back to the Board. The Board also requested that information be brought back to the meeting should there be an impact of reductions in pay and grades as a result of redesigning job descriptions, and that data outlining the reduction in workload should be circulated with the minutes.

ACTION: SM to lead the YOS restructuring exercise and to bring any updates / further information back to the board and data outlining the reduction in workload should be circulated with the minutes.

8. ETE Analysis Report

The Board endorsed the target. Consideration of the rest of the report to be deferred to the next meeting.

9. Inspection Findings

Deferred until the next meeting.

10. Consultation on YOT governance refresh

TH gave a PowerPoint presentation on the consultation of YOT governance refresh. The Board referred to the briefing paper and FJI report. The following lines of enquiry were discussed:

Arrangements for inducting board members:

MS provides new members with induction packs and meets with them to discuss the Board's roles and responsibilities etc.

Commissioning services based on effective practice:

There are no commissioned arrangements with Stockton. The YOS Management Board and IYSS are represented on the substance misuse / alcohol commissioning group by MS.

Engagement of the voluntary sector, courts and other key players:

MB advised that membership was reviewed two years ago to reduce the size of the Board and we do not feel we have lost anything by these agencies not attending. The agreement is that the courts will attend any Board meetings as and when there are relevant agenda items for consideration.

Partnerships whose work is well informed by service user and victims:

MS provides reports at meetings. The YOS Management Team obtain service user feedback and an extensive report is devised to highlight findings.

Examples of arrangements where rural, urban or other demographic factors impact upon partnership configuration and any learning from this:

N/A

Considering existing guidance, what requires clarification?

MB requested clarity from the YJB about where the statutory Probation responsibility for Youth Offending will reside in the new Probation structures.

11. Partner Updates

YOS will be internally audited by SBC in two weeks time. MS will provide an update on the outcome at the next meeting.

ACTION: MS to provide outcome of internal audit at the next meeting

JH advised that they are strengthening connections with other agencies. Restorative Justice is being looked at in Probation to see if practice can be improved.

12. AOB

Nothing further to discuss.

24.07.13/JD/MS/MB