

Title:	Youth Offending Team Management Board, Stockton on Tees	
Date & Venue:	7 th November 2017	1 st Floor Town Hall, Stockton
Attendees:	Neil Schneider (NS) Miriam Sigsworth (MS) Dave Willingham (DW) Sharon Barnett (SB) Diane McConnell (DM) Steve Rose (SR) Jo Heaney(JH) Kevin Parry (KP) Claire Sills (CS) Paul Diggins (PD) Dr Tanja Braun (TB) Jenna Walton (JW)	Chief Executive, SBC (Chair) YOT & Targeted Support Manager Service Manager, SBC Senior Probation Officer, HMPPS Head of Schools and SEN, SBC Chief Executive, Catalyst, Stockton Commissioning and Delivery Manager, CCG Operations Manager, CRC (on behalf of JG) Ass. Community Safety Manager (on behalf of SH) Business Partner (Planning and Performance) Consultant in Public Health Senior Business Support Officer – YOT (Minutes)
Apologies:	Steven Hume (SH) Martin Gray (MG) Neil Dawson (ND) John Graham (JG) Linda Bush (LB)	Community Safety and Strategy Service Manager Director of Childrens Services , SBC Acting Legal Team Manager (Crime), HMCTS Director of Operations, DTV CRC Partnership Adviser, YJB
1. Minutes & matters arising from previous meeting		Action
<p>Previous minutes agreed as a true and accurate record and all actions complete. Updates will be provided as part of the agenda items.</p> <p><u>Analysis of School Exclusions:</u> MS presented the findings of recent YOT analysis that suggested that there had been no detectable increase in offending behaviours of those children and young people who had been permanently excluded, although it was acknowledged that only a short period of time had passed for some.</p> <p>A new Pupil Inclusion Panel has been running since September as a key strategy to challenge the use of exclusion in Stockton secondary schools and offer support and intervention for those vulnerable to exclusion. This has had some early success with intelligence sharing on students, local authority support and intervention and schools collaborating on managed moves. A full report can be brought to the Board in 6 months so the impact of this strategy, and the others implemented, can be tested through an analysis of the numbers of both fixed term and permanent exclusions.</p> <p><u>Youth Justice Plan:</u> The plan has been signed off by the YJB and we have received positive feedback. Awaiting formal letter.</p>		DM
2. Performance Framework		Action
<p>PD gave a presentation on the Children’s Continuous Improvement Framework (CCIF). We have secured agreements from other YOTs to share information so we can identify Cleveland wide trends, rather than just local.</p> <p>MS to ask LB to bring further information on the YJ Reform programme and any impacts on the YJB Performance Framework to the next meeting in February</p>		MS

3. Analysis of First Time Entrants	Action
<p><i>Purpose of item: to provide an overview and analysis of FTE in Stockton.</i></p> <p>MS presented the local YOT analysis of FTEs to explore what factors are contributing to the reductions in FTE and to analyse the effectiveness of local programmes. National research by the Ministry of Justice also referenced. Analysis suggested that the introduction of Out of Court Disposals combined with reduced levels of youth crime have been significant factors. Outcome evidence from FTE delivery is that early diversionary and other programmes are effective for many children and young people. Debate and discussion on this and the changing nature of the FTE cohort.</p> <p>It was noted by the Board that the Police were not represented at today's meeting and their input would have supported the discussion.</p> <p>NS to contact the Police to reinforce the importance of their representation on the Board</p>	NS
4. YOT Managers Report	Action
<p><i>Purpose of item: to inform the Board of significant emerging issues and developments at both a national and local level.</i></p> <p>MS advised the Board that notification has been received today of a forthcoming Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) of services to safeguard children, commencing 20th November 2017. HMI Probation element will comprise of three inspectors.</p> <p>An overview of the proposed YOT inspection framework was presented, which will be focused upon 3 domains: Case Management; Organisation, Workforce and Resources; and Out of Court Disposals. Inspections will either be single agency or joint, with other inspectorates. New guidance is due to be published 8.11.17.</p> <p>The newly published Concordat on Children in Custody is available on the Gov.uk website. Stockton Council are a named signatory. It was highlighted that the Police didn't appear to be signed up although the Police have been leading a lot of work in this area.</p> <p>Information was presented on internal reviews, along with an update on how the YOT has responded to the staffing pressures. There have been a number of new staff appointed and some staff are beginning in post.</p>	
5. YOT Partnership Performance	Action
<p><i>Purpose of item to the Board: to present and enable board oversight of performance taking into account national performance measures, to enable scrutiny and challenge</i></p> <p>Report provided for information. No concerns highlighted</p>	
6. Early Help: Problem Solving Panel	Action
<p><i>Purpose of item to the Board: to update the Board on the work of the Problem Solving Panel.</i></p> <p>The Panels have developed, with a very good level of multi-agency representation. DW presented a case study to highlight the positive outcomes.</p> <p>DW to circulate case study with the minutes.</p>	DW

7. Early Help: Targeted Support Services	Action
Deferred until next meeting.	
8. Health Update	Action
JH gave an update on conduct disorder - two staff are in place and contact has been made with the YOT. Work should be complete by 11 th November. We need to look at where agencies are seeing an impact of this and the work they are doing. The Tees Valley Bid was successful. Three CCGs were able to bid separately, but they brought the funding together and are going to commission development for training to work across the YJ pathway and also into Early Help to identify and do low level intervention around SL&C. 2,000 staff can be trained as part of this. Train the Trainer to be part of it to provide training beyond those staff that can currently access it.	
9. Financial Report Q2	Action
<i>Purpose of item to the Board: to outline the financial profile of the YOT and Targeted Support Team for Qtr. 2 of 2017/18.</i> No significant variance at the end of the financial year anticipated	
10. Feedback from Stockton Local Safeguarding Children's Board	Action
<i>Purpose of item: Standing item to ensure linkages between the YOT Board and SLSCB.</i> SR updated on the work of SLSCB, including the current work being undertaken to explore having a shared Board with Hartlepool.	
11. Young People in Custody	Action
<i>Purpose of item: to support the Board's oversight of young people in custody.</i> Report provided for information.	
12. Partner Updates	
No updates given.	
13. Reflection on Meeting	
Everyone agreed that the agenda was relevant and there were plenty of opportunities for all to contribute.	
14. AOB	
NS advised that GL, previous Chair, is due to go into hospital next week for a heart operation, if anybody would like to send him well wishes.	
Date and Time of Next Meeting	
Tuesday 6 th February 2018, 2pm-4pm, 1 st Floor Town Hall, Stockton	

Problem Solving Panel Case Study

Member Seminar 23rd October 2017

This Panel has been developed to provide appropriate interventions by a range of agencies and providers to families in need. The aim of the panel is to work with those families that agencies are having most difficulty working with, those that are blocked and require help in moving forward, and those families who partners are finding it difficult to engage.

The family was brought to panel through the Police Top 10 problem families. The family consisted of 3 boys aged 13, 14, and 15. The children lived with mother who had a history of mental health problems, was frequently unwell and very difficult to engage. When mother did engage actions were never followed through leaving the boys to continue causing problems at home, in school and in the wider community. Dad was estranged and lived in Middlesbrough and had no regular contact with the boys.

The two older boys had been involved in crime and anti-social behaviour for some time and were prolific offenders. Offences included burglary, shop lifting, criminal damage and theft of bicycles; the younger sibling was also involved in anti-social behaviour. School attendance was poor for all 3 boys who were frequent non-attenders, the oldest sibling was at serious risk of exclusion.

Despite numerous agencies being involved little progress had been made overall and the 2 older siblings were on a Child Protection Plan.

Prior to panel information is shared and all agencies bring updates on the family and the work they are undertaking with them. As with many of the cases brought to panel the initial meetings were frustrating as it was deemed that everything had been tried with this family and nothing seemed to be working. It was also clear that information was not always accurate and up to date across all involved agencies.

Over several months panel members worked within their own teams and the wider panel membership to provide a coordinated response and package of support. At first there seemed to be no, or little impact with offences or school attendance. However over time things did slowly start to improve.

Support to the family included:

The 2 siblings were involved with the Youth Offending Team and mum had a good relationship with one of the workers. Over time both engaged well and undertook the work required to complete their orders.

Through the relationship with YOT, mother was engaged by a service commissioned by Public Health, Moving Parents and Children Together (M-PACT), which allows children to talk about their feelings and experiences with their parents, in a safe environment. Mother also engaged with the Troubled Families DWP worker and was signed up for the Amazing You project, which helps people who have been long term unemployed gain confidence to help them move closer to work. Although engagement and attendance was sporadic mother was now speaking with people who could help.

After further work with Educational Psychology and Education teams it was discovered that the 14 year old child had moderate learning difficulties with language skills of around the 6 year old level. Knowing this information, agencies, schools and workers started to approach things differently. He was also walking or cycling 3½ miles to and from school on a daily basis; to help with this a bus pass was arranged via the school's pupil premium. A further issue is that he was being put in detention when late without any recognition of the journey issues. Agencies worked together with school to come up with a solution and now, being aware of the learning difficulties, work improved.

It was also discovered through the housing team that there was an issue with Council Tax arrears and support was given to help resolve this through a payment plan.

The joint ASB and Youth Support Joint Patrol teams regularly patrolled the area and discovered some of the allegations against the family were unfounded including young people drinking in an around the property. Patrols also used intelligence to engage the boys when out on the streets during in evenings and weekends joining up the work being done by other agencies.

Youth support services engaged the boys in positive activities, this was slow at first and they did not always attend, however as relationships improved so did attendance and engagement.

The youngest sibling was involved with the Preventions team and engaged well with the worker, he also attended activities over holiday periods. Outcomes were positive and he started to attend a local youth club independently. Work took place with Middlesbrough Council and the absent father when 2 of the brothers started to visit their father again.

Outcomes:

The middle siblings attendance improved to 59% and no longer had involvement with Attendance Team as it was believed that this would continue to improve over the coming terms. The older siblings attendance had improved to 70%.

The older sibling engaged with his order through YOT and he achieved attendance of 90% of his 25 hours a week order. YOT also helped him access Tees Active provision. He continued to progress and engaged very well. At 16 he moved into ROCKSOLID supported accommodation.

Both siblings were no longer on CP plans.

ASB and crime ceased and there were no concerns from the Police and ASB teams around the brothers and the family home.

Mother continued to engage with DWP workers.

The family were removed from the Police top 10 list.

Note:

Although there has continued to be some work and support around the family, the demand on services has reduced significantly. Some families and individuals will always need support and the aim is to help families to develop resilience and coping mechanisms in order for them to help themselves and seek additional support only when needed.