

Youth Justice Plan

2006 - 2007

Second Draft 08.03.06

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A. SUMMARY

2006/7 has been an eventful and taxing year, but one that has laid important building blocks for the future. It has been a year in which all of the partnerships that the YOT relates to have been going through change, with the development of the Children's Service partnership, the restructuring of the Crime and Drugs and One Nottingham partnerships, and the creation of the Community Neighbourhood Protection Service. The City Council, the Police and the Probation Area have also been undergoing significant change to improve how we all work together to tackle the problems of crime and disorder. The YOT has played its part in this, but has also faced its own challenges.

The conviction of Peter Williams for the murder of Marion Bates at a time when he was under the supervision of the YOT resulted in an inquiry by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. Although the Inquiry concluded that the YOT could not have prevented this tragedy, it identified failings in his supervision. Most of these had already been recognised and addressed even before it was known that Peter Williams was involved, and other recommendations from the Inquiry are reflected in this Plan. It was a painful experience for the YOT's staff, but has left a strong commitment among its staff and members of the YOT Board to ensure that its practice in relation to risk assessment and management, supervision planning and enforcement reduces as far as possible the chances of similar tragedies occurring in future.

In this context of change and challenge, the YOT has made strides forward in performance during the past year. On our key performance indicators, we improved from 67% in 2004 to 80% in 2005, going from 130th to 67th position nationally (out of 156 YOTs). In one of our weakest areas, ensuring that young people supervised by the YOT are in full-time education, training or employment, performance improved from 51% in 2004 to 58% in 2005. Great effort has gone into developing a sustainable long-term strategy with our partners that we anticipate will take us closer to the 90% target over the next two years. Most importantly in the context of the Peter Williams case, the YOT's performance on National Standards (the Government's requirements for contact and work with young offenders) improved from 62% in 2004 to 86% in 2005, and it ranks 33rd out of 156 YOTs in the country, with only Sheffield out of the core cities achieving a stronger performance.

Key developments during 2005 include:

- Introducing *Putting it Right*, an innovative scheme to link reparation work by young people on court orders with projects identified by local communities to make criminal justice visible, meet the needs of those communities most affected by youth crime, and create work opportunities within the City Council for local young people.
- Changes in the work of the YOT's police officers to perform an intelligence role to enhance the risk assessment and management work of the YOT, and create more effective links to developments such as "hot-spot" tasking and neighbourhood policing. This is a unique development by Nottingham, and may act as a future model for all YOTs.
- Development of the range of resources available to staff to work with young people, to ensure that we meet their diverse needs and maintain their engagement in activities to change behaviour.

• Formation of internal steering groups themed around the *Every Child Matters* outcomes, comprising YOT staff from all levels and disciplines, to initiate and drive improvements in service delivery across all of the YOT's activities.

These improvements were achieved despite an increase in workload of 17% between 2004 and 2005. Although this creates problems for the YOT in managing its workload and ensuring that quality is maintained, the fact that more young offenders are being brought to justice is good news for local communities, and reflects the efforts by all criminal justice agencies in Nottinghamshire to tackle crime more effectively. Nevertheless, the fact that caseloads for the YOT are between 20 and 30 per cent higher than most other YOTs in the region will pose a challenge in the coming year, and partner agencies will be asked to review their support in the light of developing evidence of the YOT's effectiveness in reducing re-offending among young people.

A major focus for the next year is to ensure that improvements in the performance indicators are matched by the quality of the work we do with young people. This is measured through Effective Practice Quality Assurance reviews, a self- assessment process validated by the Youth Justice Board's Regional Manager, which examines the quality of individual areas of work. Several of these are also measured through the Annual Performance Assessment of Children's Services, and the baselines established clearly show where improvement is needed. The YOT Board will support this by identifying "champions" for each key area of practice to act as "critical friends" to the YOT's management and staff.

Major developments planned for 2006/7 include:

- Improving consistency in our risk management of young people by "clustering" functional teams into high-risk and early interventions groups
- A new Targeted Youth Crime Prevention Strategy to strengthen youth crime prevention across the City, provide clearer strategic direction and performance management, link services much more effectively with other crime and disorder and children's developments, and improve value for money.
- Review of the YOT's role, governance and partnership arrangements, to build on the experience of its first 6 years in the context of evolving partnerships.
- Identifying opportunities for providing services at a more local level within Nottingham's communities.

Manjeet Gill
Chair of Youth Offending Team Board
Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services

B. LOCAL PLANNING ENVIRONMENT

The YOT is part of the Community Safety division of the City Council's Neighbourhood Services Directorate, and the Head of Service is line-managed by the Service Director for Community Safety. The Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services chairs the YOT Board and is the City Council's strategic lead for crime and disorder issues, ensuring a close fit between the priorities of the YOT and those of the Crime and Drugs Partnership. The YOT contributes to many CDP work-streams, including Hot-Spot Tasking, Respect for Nottingham, and Nottingham Stands Together (the City's anti-violence strategy), and is developing an effective working relationship with the new Community and Neighbourhood Protection Service, including the development of acceptable behaviour contracts incorporating parenting interventions as a response to anti-social behaviour.

The Head of Service is a member of the Strategic Partnership for Children, Young People and Families, and with other staff, participated in the theme sub-partnership groups that contributed to the development of the Children and Young People's Plan. Within the YOT, a number of theme steering groups have been established around the *Every Child Matters* outcomes to lead on the development of services, and ensure the alignment of YOT activities. Two members of the Executive Group for Integrated Children's Services are also YOT board members. At present, the YOT remains a stand-alone partnership separate from Integrated Children's Services and the CDP, and this will be reviewed in 2007 in the light of partnership developments.

The Head of Service is a member of the Local Criminal Justice Board, and leads on its public confidence work-stream. Opportunities exist for linking its work to develop public confidence in the criminal justice system more effectively with the City Council's efforts to build confidence in Nottingham's communities more generally. The YOT participates in a number of the LCJB's delivery groups including Victims and Witnesses, Race and Diversity, Tackling Delay, and Prolific and Other Priority Offenders. The YOT leads on the *Prevent and Deter* strand of the PPO strategy, which has been overseen by the LCJB but for which the CDP will be taking responsibility this year.

The YOT is active in and contributes effectively to a range of other partnerships, including the Area Child Protection Committee, DAAT Commissioning Group, Corporate Parenting Group, Connexions Local Management Committee, Supporting People Commissioning Group, Supporting Communities Steering Group, and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements.

Although there are tensions between some of the YOT's performance indicators (for example, the use of custody and reducing first-time entrants to the youth justice system) and some local priorities for crime and disorder, these are effectively managed by the YOT's clear focus on risk management as its key priority and a growing local consensus that long-term solutions to youth crime and anti-social behaviour are to be found in prevention rather than enforcement activities. At both strategic and operational levels, there is increasing evidence of joint problem-solving between all agencies, reflecting an understanding of each other's priorities and performance indicators, although this still needs to be evidenced by outcomes.

C. DRIVERS OF PERFORMANCE

C.1 GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP

The YOT Board meets quarterly, and has introduced an additional two planning and development days in the past year to enable it to improve its partnership working and identify future strategic direction for the YOT. It is chaired by the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services who is the City Council's strategic lead on crime and disorder, and includes senior representatives of funding partners and key stakeholders. It has extended its membership in the past year to include the Community and neighbourhood Protection Service, Supporting People, and Learning and Skills Council.

At a time of rapid change and development in Nottingham's partnerships, the Board sees its role as supporting and promoting the YOT's strategic location at the cusp of the criminal justice system, children's services, and community safety to ensure that it maintains the confidence and support of criminal justice agencies and the public in managing risk while delivering services to ensure that children and young people who offend are supported in staying safe, healthy, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well-being.

The Board agreed an Improvement Plan at its first away-day in May 2005, with the aim of developing:

- better links between planning cycles to ensure the YOT contributes effectively to and is supported by the plans of partner agencies
- stronger focus on performance, and in particular those areas lying outwith the YOT's direct control that require partnership action
- members' joint and individual ownership of the YOT's agenda and needs
- communication between the YOT and Board members, and between Board members individually
- members understanding of the work of the YOT to enhance their role as "champions" within their agencies
- its role as a "critical friend" to the YOT's management

During 2005, the Board concentrated particular attention on education, training and employment (reflected in the development of the strategy outlined in the relevant delivery plan to improve what has historically been the weakest area of performance) and the action plan to implement the recommendations of the HMIP inquiry into the YOT's supervision of Peter Williams in 2003.

Table A: Composition of Management Board

| Name | Agency representing | Post in agency | Ethnicity | Gender |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|---------------|--------|
| Manjeet Gill (Chair) | City Council, Neighbourhood Services | Corporate Director | Asian British | Female |
| Sue Gregory | City Council, Children's Services | Service Director | White | Female |
| David Gilbert | Nottinghamshire Police | Chief Inspector, Community, Youth and Race | White | Male |
| Tony Graham | Nottinghamshire Connexions | Operations Manager (City) | Black British | Male |
| Alan Goode | Nottinghamshire Probation | Deputy Director (Offender Management) | White | Male |
| Roger Williams | Nottingham City PCT | Locality Director | White | Male |
| Helen Jones | City Council, Neighbourhood Services | Service Director for Community Safety | White | Female |
| Graham Hooper | Courts Service | Clerk to the Justices | White | Male |
| Chris Wade | Nottinghamshire Victims Support | Chief Executive | White | Male |
| Andrew Errington | City Council, Neighbourhood Services | Head of Community Protection | White | Male |
| Lynda Kelly | Nottingham Race Equality Council | | Black British | Female |
| Catherine Flint | City Council Supporting People | Commissioning Manager | White | Female |
| Steve Spear | Crime and Drugs Partnership | Executive Director (DAAT) | White | Male |

C.2 PERFORMANCE AND QUALITY SYSTEMS

Unlike many other YOTs, we have emphasised the responsibility of front-line workers for their own data inputs to eliminate double entry to paper and electronic systems. While this increases efficiency, it creates challenges in terms of maintaining data integrity. Rather than relying on validation and correction of data, we have developed understanding of the importance of data quality at team and individual level by:

- involving the performance manager in team managers' supervision once a quarter
- engaging staff commitment by involving staff at all levels in steering and short term planning groups to develop and implement action plans
- making it clear that data quality is an individual performance issue and may ultimately become a capability issue

This is supported by regular validation of data by the YOT's information officer to identify both inputting and system errors, which are then fed back into staff supervision and appraisal. The result has been a general increase in the accuracy of data, although there remain some areas where poor recording continues to be identified and these are being dealt as individual staff performance issues.

Since early 2004, a Performance Review Group has met monthly, comprising the head and deputy heads of service and the performance manager. It reviews all aspects of performance and acts as a tasking group for the performance manager, who oversees all aspects of the performance framework, including National Standards compliance, performance against KPIs, and the Effective Practice Quality Assurance process. As described in C1 (Governance and Leadership) quarterly performance reports are made to the YOT Board focusing on exceptions to performance and the reasons for them. The YOT has other regular reporting requirements as part of the Children's Service Improvement Plan (relating to measures included in the Annual Performance Assessment), Respect for Nottingham Steering Group, and LCJB.

A key driver for performance and quality has been regular management team development days which focus on "health-checking" YOT performance against inspection standards, supported by themed internal steering groups based around the *Every Child Matters* outcomes with responsibility for implementing improvement plans. The deputy heads of service have established a monthly routine of "dip-testing" of cases, looking at the quality of data, compliance with National Standards, and quality of risk assessment and supervision planning.

We have established a process for personal development reviews which meet the needs of all the seconding agencies, and is linked to the specific performance needs of individual teams within the YOT, as well as the identified needs of individual workers. This process continues to be refined in each year, and is designed to build on and inform monthly supervision.

C.3 RESOURCES

C3 a Financial resources

Subject to change following confirmation of all funding for 2006-7

The contributions of the statutory funding partners have been maintained for 2006-7 with an inflationary uplift, and the continuation of ring-fenced YJB funding for Resettlement and Aftercare, Community Support and Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programmes for 2006-8 have been confirmed. In addition, the YOT will receive YJB funding for prevention for the first time, although this is conditional on the YOT being able to demonstrate that it has been used for additional services rather than to replace other funding streams.

There are, however, a number of reductions or uncertainties about other funding streams that need to be managed. These include:

- A reduction of £64,000 in ISSP funding as a result of the termination of the 12 month programme pilot, although this is offset by a reduction in workload, and the loss of one post and associated commissioning costs
- NRF funding for Youth Inclusion and Support Programmes of £125,000 terminates, although 50 per cent of this is being mainstreamed as part of core City Council funding
- NRF funding for the Putting it Right project (see Restorative Justice section of the Delivery Plan) is uncertain beyond September 2005
- Anti-Social Behaviour Fund funding of £25,000 for an ASB Parenting Project is adequate only to maintain it until September
- Home Office funding of £262,000 for the Substance Misuse Arrest Referral Team pilot scheme is uncertain beyond September

One aspect of the YOT's resources that has been commented on in previous Youth Justice Plans is that the new ring-fenced funding it has received in recent years has not benefited its core statutory service, which continues to be funded in the main from local partnership contributions. Consequently, this has been placed under considerable strain with average caseloads up to 30 per cent higher than in other YOTs in the region and we are currently bench-marking caseloads against YOTs in other core cities.

This has been a long-standing issue, but a recent audit has revealed an increase in workload of 17 per cent from October-December 2004 to the same period in 2005. This is likely to be the result of a combination of increasing effectiveness in police performance, and the impact of increased "Offences Brought to Justice" as part of the LCJB performance targets. Although the YOT has improved its National Standards performance in terms of the number of contacts required, it is inevitable that the time staff can spend with young people and the quality of their interventions is likely to be reduced. This may not be evident until re-offending rates are calculated in 2007 and 2008, but there is a risk that both the YOT's effectiveness and its ability to meet partnership expectations will be compromised by any further increases in workload.

<u>Table A1: Services planned for the financial year 2006 – 2007</u>

All amounts in red to be confirmed

| Core activity | Budget expenditure (£) |
|---|---|
| Preventive services | Table to be completed on finalisation of budget |
| PACE Services | |
| Pre-court services | |
| Court-based services | |
| Remand services | |
| Community-based services | |
| Through care / after care (including RAP) | |
| Other orders | |
| Total: | |

Table A2: Youth Offending Team Budget Financial Year 2006 - 2007 - Sources

| Agency | Staffing costs (£) | Payments in kind – revenue (£) | Other delegated funds (£) | Total (£) |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Police | 100,280 | 0 | 57,870 | 158,150 |
| Probation | 122,640 | 0 | 62,880 | 185,520 |
| Health (from Table A2b) | 33,490 | 0 | 58,940 | 92,430 |
| Local Authority | 876,705 | 0 | 359,497 | 1,236,202 |
| Additional Funding (from Table A2a) | 0 | 0 | 1,599,199 | 1,599,199 |
| Total | 1,133,115 | 0 | 2,138,386 | 3,271,501 |

Table A2a: Additional sources of income

| Additional source | Amount (£) |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Single Regeneration Budget | 15,000 |
| European Funding | 0 |
| Youth Justice Board | 1,403,429 |
| Other | 180,770 |
| Total (for inclusion in Table A2) | 1,599,199 |

Table A2b: Health service contributions to the Youth Offending Teams

| Health contribution: Funding source | Amount (£) |
|-------------------------------------|------------|
| Source 1: Nottingham City PCT | 92,430 |
| Total (for inclusion in Table A2) | 92,430 |

C3 b PROGRAMME RESOURCES

A range of specialist services is provided through seconded specialist staff, including an arrest referral team, dedicated drug workers, a health promotions specialist, an accommodation advice and support worker, Connexions personal advisers (including dedicated resources for Positive Activities for Young People and high-risk young people), and access to child and adolescent mental health services. The YOT directly employs victim workers, two parenting workers and a teacher. Each of these specialist roles contributes to a holistic approach to intervention planning and programme delivery. The health promotions worker also provides a range of services relating to sexual health, including pregnancy and chlamydia testing, and dispensing contraception. Links have been developed with learning disability services to improve our ability to assess and plan interventions for young people with specific support needs, and a dyslexia screening process is used within assessments.

The YOT has established a number of projects to engage young people in positive activities through which their offending behaviour can be challenged, including a music production project, sporting activities, an art and design project, life skills work, situational drama work, tenancy maintenance and work with young fathers. The YOT has begun to develop relationships with cultural and religious groups in Nottingham to ensure that the specific needs of young people from BME groups are addressed in the development of programmes.

Over the past year, we have dedicated resources to improving access to, and variety of, intervention materials for practitioners to use in meeting the diverse needs of young people who offend or are at risk of offending. Each interview room is now equipped with a wide range of resources, using different mediums to allow practitioners to deliver face to face work in accordance with individual intervention plans including PCs with access to a range of interactive materials. We have developed a "resources map" to help practitioners and young people to identify appropriate resources, structured around ASSET (the YJB risk assessment tool) and *Every Child Matters* outcomes. It is displayed in each interview room, updated monthly and includes internal, community-based and specialist resources to meet specific needs. The YOT has evaluated each resource and adapted it to ensure that it meets the needs of the diverse range of young people that we work with.

Links with the Multi-Agency Protection Panel (MAPPA) and the Sherwood Project, together with our internal risk management processes, ensure that young people who present a high risk to the community or themselves are the focus of a multi agency planning process and have tailored intervention plans that meet their specific needs and addresses risk issues.

Each of the *Every Child Matters* themed steering groups is chaired by a deputy head of service, and comprises the performance manager, relevant specialist staff, and representatives from each of the operational teams. Terms of reference have been developed that allow each group to have decision making powers in relation to the development of policy and practice and a monitoring role in relation to performance against KPIs relevant to their theme. This has been shown to engage staff at all levels with the broader partnership agenda, the YOT's performance needs, and the direct delivery of quality services to young people.

C3 c INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

This has been a year of rapid development in our use of IT in all aspects of the YOT's work, and we have employed an IT Project Manager for 6 months to oversee and embed these developments and ensure that our staff are equipped to make the fullest use of them. Developments include:

- Implementing secure email facilities between the YOT and the secure estate, with further workflows to follow
- Installing PCs in all interview rooms and developing access to a range of interactive resources for the engagement of young people
- Purchasing and developing video-conferencing facilities for use with the secure estate, to reduce staff travel and involve families more directly
- Accessing the Crown Court's information system via the Xhibit portal

A major development in the early part of 2006 was to have been the introduction of a web-based version of Careworks, our case management and information system. Apart from improved functionality and reporting systems, this would have created the potential for remote access to the system, including access for partner agencies to enhance the sharing of information.

Nottingham was to have been a pilot site for this development, but it became apparent during testing that the system was not ready for installation. It remains a major frustration that much of the development time of Careworks (and its only competitor system) is paid for by YOTs, but taken up with enhancements required by changes to YJB specifications, so that the improvements requested by YOTs to meet local needs are relegated as a priority.

C.4 PEOPLE AND ORGANISATION

C4 a WORKFORCE PLANNING

One of the key activities planned for 2005/6 was a comprehensive Human Resources strategy covering workforce planning and development. This has been delayed pending the publication of the YJB / DfES workforce strategy (expected in the spring of 2006) and the outcome of the Job Evaluation Scheme currently under way across all City Council posts. The YOT has almost 20 different job descriptions and the HR Strategy is intended to focus on creating a flatter structure with a limited number of common job descriptions that allows staff to move more freely between the YOT's diverse service areas. This will ensure that staff develop wide-ranging expertise; have access to a satisfying and varied career structure that allows them to remain in front-line roles whilst being stimulated and challenged by new opportunities and experience; and provides a wide perspective on the work of the YOT that enables those who wish to do so to move into managerial or development roles. In a highly-competitive market for experienced YOT staff, we believe that this is the best way of attracting and retaining high quality staff.

As a result of this approach, we have been able to ensure that our retention rates are high, and that we continue to attract high quality recruits in spite of a very competitive market. We have also been fortunate in having a full complement of seconded staff and do not generally experience problems in replacing them at the end of their tenure.

We have nearly 180 volunteers working as referral order panel members, appropriate adults, mentors, and sessional workers. We maintain an active recruitment, training and supervision programme, and particularly seek to provide people from local communities with a basis of experience that will eventually enable them to apply for jobs within the YOT. A significant number of those who have joined us as volunteers have gone on to gain employment and qualification in the YOT or with other areas of children's services.

Add any additional comments re diversity emerging from the workforce census in March

Table A3: Staff in the Youth Offending Team (by headcount)

To be completed following census in March

Please ensure the two Totals are the same, and that all data entered here is consistent with that entered into Themis

| | Managers Strategic | Managers Operational | Senior practitioners (FT) | Senior practitioners (PT) | Practitioners (FT) | Practitioners (PT) | Administrative | Sessional | Students/ trainees | Volunteer | Total |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|
| Permanent | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Fixed Term | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Social Services | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Probation | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Police | | | | | 4 | | | | | | <u> </u> |
| Secondee Health | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Education | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Connexions | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Secondee Other | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outsourced | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Temporary | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Vacant | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gender/Ethnicity | | | | | | | | | | | |
| White Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asian Male | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mixed Race Male | | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Chinese/Other Male | | 4 | | | | | | | | | |
| White Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Black Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Asian Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Mixed Race Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chinese/Other Female | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | | | 7 | | | | | | | | |

C4 b Workforce development

Nottingham YOT has been at the forefront of embracing a range of qualifications for case managers. When many YOTs continue to require social work qualifications for case management posts, we accept that there are now three core qualification pathways – social work, probation, and the dedicated youth justice qualification, the Professional Certificate in Effective Practice – and that each brings distinctive qualities and enriches the diversity of the YOT's workforce. The HMIP Inquiry into Peter Williams' supervision placed a focus on the lack of qualification of the case manager involved, even though at that time, the PCEP route was not available and qualified social workers and probation officers were in such short supply that all YOTs relied to some extent on workers without formal qualifications. With the introduction of PCEP, we are now in a position in which all of our case managers in the YOT are qualified or in the process of qualifying. The uptake of PCEP in Nottingham YOT has been one of the highest in the region, and we have two staff undertaking the advanced degree-level youth justice qualification. Our intention is that all workers joining the YOT will have access to PCEP within their first year of employment, and that staff with basic occupational or professional qualifications will be encouraged to enhance them.

During 2005, a standard 12 week induction process was introduced for all staff joining the YOT, supported by a rolling programme of themed training in basic aspects of service delivery. Staff who are inexperienced in youth justice work also undertake basic INSET training organised regionally by the YJB. All staff are required to undertake a range of mandatory training courses across the year, and a particular focus in 2005/6 was the delivery of a two-day course in risk assessment and management for all YOT staff. This followed the long-awaited delivery by the YJB of a training package which was adapted and delivered by YOT workers and managers. Much of the YOT's training is delivered in this way, and we are fortunate in having the skills and knowledge within our own staff group to allow it.

The YOT's total training budget for 2005/6 was in the region of £37,500 to meet the needs of almost 100 staff and 150 volunteers. In order to manage within such a limited budget, most training is developed, designed and delivered in-house, although this involves a significant hidden cost in terms of staff time. In 2005/6, we also recognised the specific training needs of managers for the first time and accessed training specific to managers in the criminal justice system through the Midlands Probation Training Consortium. Maintaining this level of commitment to training is a major strain on the YOT's resources, particularly as only a small proportion of its needs can be met through the local authority or partners training provision. This will be exacerbated from 2006 onwards by the reduction, and eventual elimination from 2007/8 of the YJB regional learning advisor posts, which have played a significant part in the delivery of basic programmes.

We have a well-established volunteer training and group supervision programme which reflects the fact that volunteers are an essential component of the delivery of effective services, and help to increase knowledge within communities of the work of the YOT and more broadly the youth justice system in dealing effectively with youth offending.

C.5 PARTNERSHIP WORKING

As indicated in earlier sections of this Plan, it has been a significant year for partnership developments in Nottingham in terms of Children's Services, Crime and Drugs Partnership, and the Local Criminal Justice Board. The YOT has been fully engaged and contributed effectively in the development of improvement plans for all three partnerships, and in the preparations for local area agreements. The introduction of hot-spot tasking as a way of responding to immediate local needs has provided important learning about how the YOT and other services involved in youth crime prevention need to develop in order to meet short-term as well as medium / long term challenges, but has also helped to engage other agencies in recognising what the YOT needs in order to deliver effectively. This has been most significant in terms of formulating our ETE strategy, in which LEA services, the Learning Skills Council, and voluntary sector providers have been fully engaged in focusing on the particular needs and circumstances of our client group.

The YOT Board's improvement process has focused on how its members can work more effectively as a partnership, and in particular, on how their agencies can most effectively support the YOT's work.

DELIVERY PLAN

(All data April-December 2005, to be updated to full year in April version)

PREVENT OFFENDING

Planning for the prevention of offending from 2006 is subject to approval by the YJB of a new Prevention Plan and to local decisions about replacement funding of £600,000 from NRF. Although Nottingham has a range of targeted prevention resources, their piecemeal development since 2000 has resulted in a patchwork lacking strategic direction, with performance that cannot be easily measured in terms of outcomes, and services that often operate in silos and do not consistently engage the involvement of universal services for young people.

Our Prevention Plan aims to give strategic direction of targeted prevention services to build effectiveness, capacity and value for money; and to ensure effective contributions to a number of developments over the last year, including the Children's Services APA and the *Prevent and Deter* strand of the *Prolific and Other Priority Offenders' Strategy.* It also seeks to develop referral processes that meet the needs of the youth disorder and hot-spot tasking agendas. A consultant has been commissioned to complete an audit of needs matched to capacity, and to negotiate future delivery and management structures by the end of March, and an action plan has been developed for the development phase of the plan.

2005-6 was the first year of a new performance indicator, to reduce year-on-year the number of new entrants to the youth justice system. There is no reliable data prior to April 2005 to provide a baseline for performance. (Data and comment on performance in 2005-6 to be added when available). Against the background of the Offences Brought to Justice initiative overseen by the LCJB and the improving detection rates of Nottinghamshire Police, this is a challenging target as all of the pressures in the system are towards the detection and conviction of more offenders. Consequently, we will need to develop reliable proxy measures to indicate the effectiveness and impact of targeted prevention.

It is clear, however, that performance in 2005-6 reflected the problems that the Prevention Plan aims to address. The capacity of the YISP team was reduced by a third as vacancies were not filled because of uncertainty about funding beyond April 2006, but even so it is apparent that the number of referrals and interventions has fallen well below target (data to be added when available). The referral process prescribed by YJB guidance means that young people often offend before an intervention starts, and the new YIPs set up in four City Areas may also have siphoned off referrals. Efforts have been made to streamline the process by creating an early filter to identify inappropriate referrals quickly so that they do not silt up the whole process, but these have had little impact.

A more radical solution was needed, and at the same time the Hot-Spot Tasking process established in 2005 also highlighted the need for a rapid response from prevention services. As part of the Youth Disorder strategy as a work-stream of Respect for Nottingham, joint development was already underway with one of the neighbourhood policing pilots to expand weekly operational tasking to become effectively an anti-social behaviour forum in which multi-agency solutions were identified and implemented quickly in response to local problems. This process has to be evaluated but there is agreement on its potential to replace existing referral pathways to create a single referral point to a universal youth support system which delivers assessed and targeted work with young people who are at risk of offending. It is likely that this will be extended city-wide as part of the Prevention Plan development, subject to the YJB allowing some flexibility in referral processes.

<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec | 851 | KPI: 06/07 (target 2% reduction from 05-06) | 1112 |
|--------------------|-----|---|------|
|--------------------|-----|---|------|

Action plan: Prevention

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / Performance Measures |
|--------------|---|-------------------|-----------|---|--|
| Governance | Agree accountability and funding between | Helen Jones / Ian | April 06 | Funding | CYPP, CYP and SSC, |
| and | Children's Services and Community Safety | Curryer | · | | Area Plans |
| leadership | Establish strategic steering group for youth | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | |
| | crime prevention | | | | |
| | Establish ownership of Targeted Youth Crime | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | CYPP, PPO Prevent and |
| | Prevention and Prevent and Deter strategies | | | | Deter Plan, CDP Plan |
| Performance | Develop performance framework for targeted | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | YOT performance | YJB, Prevent and Deter |
| and quality | prevention services | 14 D | | capacity | Performance Framework |
| systems | Review and evaluate new targeted | Ken Beaumont | Feb 07 | YOT performance | |
| | prevention service | A:L \A/:L | 0 | capacity | CVDD DAN Cofe in |
| | Pilot immediate referral of younger siblings of those who are subject to YOT orders for | Aileen Wilson | Sept 05 | Refusal of young people or families to engage | CYPP, R4N, Safe in Nottingham, Stands |
| | assessment of preventative needs | | | voluntarily | Together |
| Resources | Configure and establish new targeted | Ken Beaumont / | Sept 06 | Funding uncertainty. | Detailed development plan |
| 1100001000 | prevention structure when funding issues | Aileen Wilson | Copt CC | Loss of YJB grant if | to be prepared once |
| | resolved | | | insufficient additionality | funding and accountability |
| | | | | shown. | resolved |
| | Ensure effective targeting of PAYP | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | Lack of congruence with | |
| | resources on high-risk young people | | | Connexions KPIs | |
| | Develop commissioning strategy to identify | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | Uncertainty of funding | |
| | delivery agents for targeted prevention | | | and accountability | |
| People and | Develop HR strategy for transition of | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | Delay in resolving | |
| organisation | currently employed staff | | | funding and | |
| | Establish to initial and staff days law and | A:L \A/2L | 0 1 0000 | commissioning | |
| | Establish training and staff development | Aileen Wilson | Sept 2006 | | |
| Partnership | strategy for targeted prevention staff Develop multi agency anti-social behaviour | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | Delayed roll-out of | Police Plan, Respect for |
| working | tasking model in Broxtowe neighbourhood | VIICELI AAII2011 | Sept 00 | neighbourhood policing | Nottingham Plan, Safe in |
| working | policing pilot | | | pilots | Nottingham, CYPP |
| | Ensure an effective rapid response process | Aileen Wilson | June 05 | Capacity and resources | Hot spot tasking process, |
| | is developed to meet urgent needs | | | | Safe Plan |

INTERVENE EARLY

In 2005, we comfortably achieved the performance indicator for final warnings, despite a 20% shortfall in our police establishment. This is due to a conscious decision with the Police not to replace a retiring officer pending a comprehensive review of the police role within the YOT, and was compensated for in part by the two remaining police officers working overtime on Saturdays, although there was some slippage on National Standard timescales. 30% of referrals were rejected as inappropriate by YOT police officers compared to 40% in 2004, and while this shows some improvement, it means that considerable resources are being used on unnecessary work. The closer working that will flow from the neighbourhood policing pilot may ensure better understanding of the criteria by front-line officers.

The performance indicator will change for 2006/7, when final warnings will only need to be supported by an intervention where a young person crosses a minimum risk threshold, reducing the interventions workload by (data to be inserted). We had anticipated an increase in the number of final warnings due to revised Home Office guidance which meant that some cases which have previously been recorded as 'detected no further police action' should now be assessed by the YOT for final warnings to ensure that risk factors were properly addressed to prevent the risk of further offending. It does not appear that this has materialised as the number of final warnings with interventions increased by only 4% in 2005. At the same time, reprimands increased by 45%, which is likely to be due to the fact that a reprimand is a "sanctioned detection" for the purposes of the *Offences Brought to Justice* initiative. This is similar to the challenge we face in relation to the prevention performance indicator, but further analysis is needed to establish whether part of the increase is due to young people who should have been assessed for a final warning, and who are therefore not having risk factors assessed. This is also a concern with the increasing use of fixed penalty notices which offer a speedy response but risk the loss of opportunities to assess whether the behaviour is the "tip of an iceberg" that requires intervention.

The Effective Practice Quality Assurance review showed solid progress since the initial assessment in 2003. There have been significant improvements in the variety of interventions provided, with most being delivered by volunteer mentors and specialist workers within the YOT, rather than through the Attendance Centre. Mentors are organised by a sessional worker, although we need to consider whether this would be better undertaken by a specialist co-ordinator if resources allow.

Following the review of the police role within the YOT, there will be major changes in the delivery of early interventions in 2006/7. It has been agreed that the current activities of seconded police officers does not make best use of their unique knowledge and skills, and can be carried out by other YOT staff and seconded civilian staff. There are resource issues to be resolved, but this will free seconded officers to focus on an intelligence role across the whole of the YOT's work, reflecting the effectiveness of the role carried out for several years by the ISSP police officer. Recruitment to the new roles will commence shortly, and an action plan will be drawn up by the end of April to ensure that the transition to the new police role is achieved with minimum disruption to performance.

Data: Final Warnings

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (target 80%- old KPI) | 95.7% | EPQA: 03 rating | 1 |
|--|-------|-----------------|---|
| KPI: 06/07 target (new KPI) | 100% | EPQA: 05 result | 2 |

Action plan: Early Intervention

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / Performance Measures |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|----------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Governance and leadership | | | | | |
| Performance and quality systems | | | | | |
| Resources | Review co-ordination of final warning mentoring interventions | Aileen Wilson | July 06 | | |
| | Expand the range of external resources used in interventions | Cleveland Thompson | July 06 | | Race and Diversity Action Plan |
| People and organisation | Identify existing YOT capacity to undertake final warning assessments | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | Increasing workloads in statutory service | |
| Partnership working | Review the development of Final Warning clinics in the City | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | Operational constraints in C Division | |

PROVIDE INTENSIVE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

The resources available to the YOT for working with its most demanding and challenging young people have developed significantly in the past 12 months as a result of YJB funding for Resettlement and Aftercare of young people with substance misuse needs released from custody, and Community Support for those on community sentences. These are most likely to face (and pose) huge challenges in accessing mainstream services, and we have been able to dedicate specific resources to them, including a Connexions personal adviser who provides intensive support in accessing education, training and employment opportunities, and an accommodation support and advice worker. In addition to the established YOT teaching post, we have employed an additional teacher. We are still heavily dependent on 1 to 1 teaching from this post to meet this group's basic needs. This post cannot be sustained in 2006/7 but it is likely that the developments outlined in the education, training and employment section of this plan will have a positive impact on the availability and suitability of provision in the future.

The most rigorous form of community-based supervision continues to be Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programmes. The pilot programme for 12 month programmes which commenced in 2004 is being terminated, as there has been insufficient take-up nationally to justify its continuation. Nottingham is one of the few areas that came close to meeting its targets, and this is disappointing as it will result in the loss of a post and some commissioned services. ISSP continues to meet its performance targets (data to be inserted when available) although our breach rates remain higher than the national average. We believe this reflects a particularly rigorous approach to enforcement although future funding will be influenced by successful completion rates. Consequently, we are developing plans to "cluster" ISSP, RAP and CSG provision, and pool funding to broaden the range of resources and interventions to enhance early engagement and maintain commitment throughout long and exacting programmes of work. To promote this, we have created a new practice manager post and a six-month specialist post to ensure the development of a diversity of programme and intervention resources relevant to young people.

This reflects, in part, learning from the Peter Williams' case. The internal Serious Incident Review in 2004 identified a number of factors that were reflected in the HMIP Inquiry report, including the need to ensure that young people released from custody have stable accommodation, reduce the movement of complex cases between teams to ensure consistency of approach, and provide staff with the resources to sustain young people's interest in programmes over lengthy interventions. We have continued to develop our approach to risk management, training all staff and managers in risk assessment and management to the recently introduced YJB standard. The YOT Risk Panel is an essential part of supporting staff in demanding decisions about risk and dangerousness and spreading learning across the whole organisation, and contacts with other YOTs indicate that Nottingham is well in the vanguard of effective risk management.

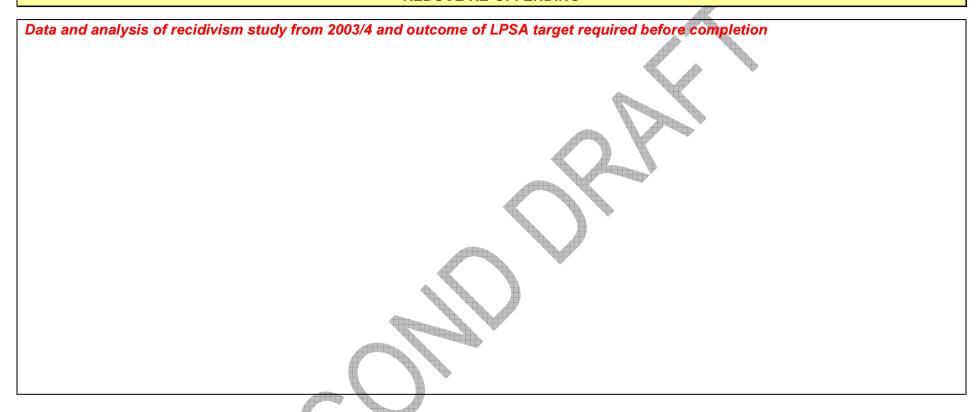
At the highest level of risk, the Intensive Supervision Team manages young people identified through ASSET as needing the closest support and supervision and includes a worker dedicated to managing those young people who pose a high risk in relation to sexual harm. These cases come from every other team across the YOT and can include young people at a very early stage of their offending career who pose a high level of risk of harm. Caseloads are reduced (although still as high as the normal workload in many other YOTs) and the development of a high risk cluster of teams will allow for a more flexible use of resources, including tracking and monitoring facilities where necessary.

No data-set for this indicator

Action plan: Intensive supervision

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / Performance Measures |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Governance and leadership | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Performance and quality systems | Undertake monthly dip-testing of 20 cases for quality and compliance with National Standards in both high risk and early intervention clusters | Sarah Day / Aileen Wilson | April 06 and ongoing | | |
| Resources | | | | | |
| People and organisation | Refresh management and risk assessment and management training for all existing staff | Shelley Nicholls | Mar 07 | Training capacity of YOT | |
| | Provide full risk assessment training programme for new staff bi-annually | Shelley Nicholls | Sept 06 | Training capacity of YOT | |
| | Plan and implement "clustering " of teams working with prolific offenders, to improve consistency of work with young people, and maximise effectiveness and value for money | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | Implement new structure and job descriptions for ISSP and RAP teams | Sarah Day | June 06 | Recruitment delays | |
| Partnership working | Ensure effective intelligence flows between YOT and divisional police officers | Sarah Day | June 06 | Recruitment delays to new police roles FIB resource constraints | |

REDUCE RE-OFFENDING



<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 Oct-Dec cohort | Pending |
|---------------------------|---------|
| KPI: 06/07 target | Pending |

Action plan: Reducing re-offending

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|--------------|--------------|-------|------------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Monitor progress of delivery plan quarterly | Ken Beaumont | April 06 and | | |
| and | | | ongoing | | |
| leadership | Identify YOT board "champion" to lead on | Ken Beaumont | July 06 | | |
| | LAA "reducing re-offending" stretch target | | | | |
| Performance | Develop systems for pro-active targeting of | Nick Orders | July 06 | | |
| and quality | programme interventions at the most active | | | | |
| systems | offenders | | | | |
| | Devise and implement process for monthly | Emma Poyser | July 06 | | |
| | updates of re-offending by those who have | | | | |
| | passed 18 or offending outside the City. | | | | |
| Resources | Expand <i>Putting it Right</i> project, focusing on | Bob Uden | July 06 | | Respect for Nottingham |
| | the 7 priority neighbourhoods for crime | | | | Crime FTAP |
| | Maintain the development of, and equip staff | Sue Matthews | April 06 and | | |
| | to use, a diverse range of resources for use | | ongoing | | |
| | with young people | | | | |
| People and | | | | | |
| organisation | | | | | |
| Partnership | Establish project management group with | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | Safer and Stronger |
| working | Probation to ensure co-ordinated approach | | | | Communities LAA |
| | to PPO's supervised by the YOT and former | | | | |
| | YOT service users who have passed 18. | | | | |

REDUCE THE USE OF CUSTODY

Performance was much improved against locally-negotiated targets which were set above the national performance thresholds. The national targets will apply for 2006/7, and a real reduction in the use of both custodial remands and sentences is important in this context.

The reduction in remands reflected the fact that this area of work had dedicated managerial oversight for the first time, and benefited from a stable and fully-resourced Bail Supervision and Remand team. The idiosyncratic nature of the performance target, however, meant that the improved performance was due in part to an increase in the number of remands to local authority accommodation which created major resource problems for Social Services. The Remand team provides a high level of monitoring, supervision and support to young people at risk of offending on bail, and its work has been enhanced by the high quality of information from the pilot Arrest Referral Team. It was disappointing that this year's Effective Practice Quality Assurance assessment did not reflect the level of activity, largely because of a lack of processes to demonstrate it, and we will establish a formal Remand Strategy this year to ensure that the review in 2007 reflects the reality of day to day work.

One factor in the high level of custodial sentences in Nottingham was the Tackling Delay initiative, which discourages courts from delaying sentence whilst other pending matters catch up. Other factors may, however, be more within our control. The *Providing Intensive Community Supervision* section outlines our efforts to address the high incidence of breach by developing a wider range of interventions available to meet the needs of a diverse client group, promote early engagement with the purpose of the order, and ensure variety to sustain commitment. Many of the young people we work with are in contact with the YOT for several years, so we need to be able to provide meaningful activities without repetition. Another feature is "the revolving door" in and out of custody that was so evident in the Peter Williams' case, where young people are released without adequate support and either re-offend quickly or are breached for non-compliance, resulting from their chaotic lifestyle. The YOT cannot address this in isolation, but our Resettlement and Aftercare provision ensures that the first weeks out of custody are negotiated whilst mainstream resources are mobilised. Nottingham Training Network has been commissioned by the YOT and Learning and Skills Council to ensure that young people being release from custody have a suitable training placement or employment identified on their day of release.

It was also apparent from the Peter Williams' case that the frequent re-allocation of cases as a result of the functional organisation of the YOT created a lack of consistency in the management of risk. We are preparing to form a high risk "cluster" within which young people have a greater level of consistent contact with a particular worker. For many young people who are at this serious and/or persistent level of offending, electronic monitoring continues to be effective in helping to create a period of stability, and despite the failings of it in Peter Williams' case, there are clear signs of improvement in the service provided by the new contractor, with which we have developed a strong working relationship.

<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (remand target 50%) | 56.0% | KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (custody target 7.5%) | 9.2% | EPQA: 05 rating | 1 |
|--|-------|--|------|-----------------|-----|
| KPI: 06/07 target (national target) | 30% | KPI: 06/07 target | 5% | EPQA: 07 target | N/A |

Action plan: Reduce the use of custody

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|-------------------|---|-------------|----------|-------|----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | | | | | |
| and leadership | | | | | |
| • | B.A. '() () () () () () () () () (| AP L O L | A 11.00 | | D 4 (' D) |
| Performance | Monitor accurate recording of ethnicity in | Nick Orders | April 06 | | Race Action Plan |
| and quality | information system | | ongoing | | |
| systems | Develop a robust remand strategy | Andy Branch | June 06 | | |
| Resources | Develop and maintain range and diversity of | Sarah Day | April 06 | | APIR action plan |
| | intervention resources | A | ongoing | | |
| People and | Develop and implement robust PSR | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |
| organisation | monitoring system | | | | |
| Partnership | Increase presence at Crown Court when | Wilf Fearon | June 06 | | ISSP targets |
| working | ISSP is being proposed. | | | | |
| | Agree protocols with key custodial units | Andy Branch | June 06 | | |
| | institutions for service levels to young people | | | | |

ENSURE THE SWIFT ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Performance against the target for the timely submission of pre-sentence reports exceeded the target and improved from the previous year. Most of the reports that fell outside the timescales were Crown Court cases where psychiatric reports (which can take up to 6 weeks) were requested, and a small number of cases where unnecessarily long adjournments were given. The implementation of Xhibit, the Crown Court portal, has been beneficial in ensuring that the YOT is aware of requests for reports without paper notification from Probation, and has taken out much of the delays which have resulted in the past. There is, however, a need to ensure that YOT work flows are configured to take full advantage of the information that it provides.

Staffing problems in the Court team and the emphasis on risk assessment and management as a critical area of development for the YOT has held back some of the developments anticipated in last year's Plan. In particular, work to develop a robust quality assurance process for presentence reports, and ensuring that staff preparing specific sentence reports have access to as much information as possible to ensure adequate risk assessments, is outstanding and will proceed in 2006. PSR training has been incorporated into the standard induction process.

In the course of 2005, a new requirement on report-writers to address "dangerousness" was introduced as a result of the Criminal Justice Act 2003. This provides the Crown Court in specified cases to impose exceptionally long sentences on offenders who the court believes to be "dangerous" in terms of the legislation. Although there has been very limited use of the powers, the issue needs to be addressed in an increasing number of reports, and this has created a particular pressure on report-writers to gather the information needed to make accurate assessments without introducing delay. The YOT's Risk Panel has taken on an additional role in the quality control of recommendations on dangerousness, and has helped to ensure consistency between individual report writers.

The congruence rate (the likelihood of the court adopting the course of action proposed in the report) remains high and reflects on the level of confidence shown by courts in the advice provided by the YOT. There continues to be a significant proportion of proposals for custody where we cannot be confident that risk can adequately be managed in the community.

Apart from the YOT's PSR performance, there are many other factors that influence local performance in reducing delay. After consistently being one of the top performing police areas in the country from 2001 to 2003, performance has been patchy since then. The LCJB is making this a key priority in 2006, and is developing an improvement plan with a particular focus on police activity which may have introduced delays at the start of the process. The YOT will continue to play an effective part in ensuring that the benefits of this work are maintained once cases reach court, and in supporting the fortnightly case progression meetings that aim to anticipate and pre-empt potential delays and problem-solve barriers and constraints in multi-agency work.

Data:

| KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (target 90%) | 91.2% | KPI: 06/07 target | 90% |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------|------|
| Tri 1. 00/00 / tpi Boo (target 00/0) | 01.270 | Tit 1: 00/07 target | 0070 |

Action plan: Swift administration of justice

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / Performance Measures |
|---------------------------------|---|----------|------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Governance and leadership | Contribute effectively to user groups and PYO case tracking group | Bob Uden | April 06 ongoing | | LCJB PYO performance |
| Performance and quality | Monitor accurate completion of PSR information in Careworks | Bob Uden | April 06 ongoing | | YJB Quarterly returns |
| systems | Develop and implement Quality Assurance framework for PSRs | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |
| | Monitor arrangement of PSR appointments at the time of adjournment | Bob Uden | April 06 ongoing | | |
| Resources | | | | | |
| People and organisation | Develop standard PSR training module and deliver bi-annually | Bob Uden | Sept 06 | | |
| Partnership working | Complete annual court user survey to assess service satisfaction levels | Bob Uden | Dec 06 | | |
| | Complete SLA with Head 2 Head for immediate mental health assessments | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |
| | Review and refresh all protocols comprising Youth Justice Agreement with courts | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |

ENFORCEMENT AND ENABLING COMPLIANCE

One of the issues highlighted by the Peter Williams' Inquiry was delays in the conduct of enforcement procedures. Whilst the Inquiry concluded that these played no part in Williams' being at liberty at the time of the murder, systems had already been revised to reduce possible delays. In October 2005, the Home Office National Enforcement Delivery Board introduced a new national target for enforcement requiring breach cases to be completed within an average of 35 days (low is better) from the final unacceptable failure to attend, and 50% (high is better) of breach cases to be completed inside 35 days. Our performance has met these targets very comfortably, with cases being completed in an average of 26 days, and 68% inside 35 days, reflecting robust systems and consistent application of the process across the YOT.

We have recently completed our second audit of the YOT's compliance with a basket of National Standards compliance, and our performance has improved from 62% in 2004 to 86% in 2005. We have improved our position from 67th to 33rd out of 156 YOTs, and in relation to a number of the most important aspects of National Standards (for example, contact with young people) we are among the top-performing YOTs in the country. This is particularly creditable given the 17% per cent increase in caseloads between 2004 and 2005.

Although ensuring programme integrity in term of ensuring the required number of contacts is an essential building block of effective practice, and physical compliance can be compelled, our long term impact on young people's behaviour depends on our ability to engage a diverse population of young people and meet their needs so that they are motivated to comply and learn new behaviours that will reduce the risk of further offending. Actions are described in other sections of this delivery plan that are designed to improve young people's engagement with the YOT, the range of intervention resources that are available to respond to their offending - related needs, and their access to services that will contribute to providing them with more stable lifestyles and improved life chances.

No data-set for this indicator

Action plan: Enforcement

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|--------------------|--------------|-------|--------------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | | | | | |
| and | | | | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | Maintain "dip-testing " of 20 cases per month | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 and | | |
| and quality | for compliance with National Standards and | Wilson | ongoing | | |
| systems | quality of assessments | | | | |
| | Monitor compliance with targets for | Bob Uden | April 06 and | | LCJB enforcement targets |
| | enforcement action | | ongoing | | |
| Resources | | | | | |
| People and | Refresh National Standards training for all | Nick Orders | Sept 06 | | |
| organisation | staff | | | | |
| Partnership | | | | | |
| working | | | - | | |

ENSURE EFFECTIVE AND RIGOROUS ASSESSMENT

The YOTs performance in relation to completion of ASSET (the YOT's risk assessment and supervision planning tool) increased to 100% in the last quarter of 2005, with overall completion rates across the year consistently at 97%, despite the complex requirements of the YJB's counting rules where young people are subject to multiple court orders. This reflects enormous efforts by staff and managers to drive performance over the past two years, and exceeds the ambitious target set in the 2004 Plan. Along with other YOTs, however, we continue to advocate that the quality of assessments would be greatly improved if the YJB adopted a policy of one ASSET for one child with automatic 3 monthly reviews.

We are now concentrating on improving the quality of core assessments and, in particular, risk of serious harm assessments. All staff have received training on assessing and managing risk, and as a result the quality of assessments, including the range of sources used and the quality of evidence provided, is steadily improving. This is being reinforced by regular "dip testing" by the deputy heads of service. New staff receive a standard induction programme including an introduction to risk assessment and the core risk assessment training will be delivered once a year to all staff who have not previously undertaken it.

The Peter Williams Inquiry highlighted the lack of effective planning and the extent to which workers reacted to events rather than planned to steer them. As a result of the training, we have developed the understanding of staff in producing effective supervision plans. We intend to further improve this area by piloting the use of literacy and learning style assessments to inform the intervention planning process. This reflects the findings of YJB research that indicates that a significant proportion of young people serving custodial sentences have a reading age of little more than 7 years, which impacts on the type of intervention and style of delivery that is adopted.

The results of the EPQA for 2005/6 showed an overall improvement in assessments for and delivery of interventions, although some weaknesses were identified in relation to the consistency of recording positive outcomes with young people. The risk training placed a strong focus on the need to evidence all aspects of our work with young people as well as our judgements in relation to risk. The effect of this training will be monitored through individual staff supervision.

We adapted our supervision policy last year to allow managers to focus on new cases in supervision, emphasising the quality of initial assessments and identification of risk and protective factors. We intend to streamline the process further this year by enabling case supervision records to be input directly to Careworks to eliminate paper records. "Dip-testing" by senior management looks at quantitative issues such as adherence to national standards and timely completion of assessments, but also has a strong focus on the quality of assessment and links to intervention planning. Issues arising from the monthly 'dip' testing process are raised with individual team managers and a quarterly report is produced highlighting current themes and actions for the YOT Board.

<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (Community target 95%) | 97.8% | KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (DTO target 95%) | 96.8% | EPQA: 03 rating | 1 |
|---|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---|
| KPI: 06/07 target | 95% | KPI: 06/07 target | 95% | EPQA: 05 result | 2 |

Action plan: Assessment

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|--------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | | | | | |
| and | | | | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | Monitor ASSET completion and quality | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 | | ASSET KPI |
| and quality | through individual case supervision by team | Wilson | ongoing | | |
| systems | managers | | | | |
| | Monthly dip-testing of 20 cases | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 | | |
| | | Wilson | ongoing | | |
| | Commission Youth Engagement Unit to | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | develop service user consultation process | | | | |
| Resources | Investigate feasibility of implementing digital | Sarah Day | June 06 | Cost implications | |
| | completion of ASSET away from home base | | | | |
| People and | Ensure that theme groups feedback is a | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 | | |
| organisation | standing agenda item for all team meetings | Wilson | ongoing | | |
| Partnership | Improve processes for accessing educational | Sarah Day | June 06 | | _ |
| working | information from schools | | | | |

SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGING IN EDUCATION TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

Performance improved during 2005/6 from 51% to 58%. There was also some improvement in our EPQA rating although the rounding up/down process meant that this is not reflected in the final rating. Inconsistent recording of ETE status has continued to affect performance, and addressing this is a priority for the coming year. At the same time, the performance indicator has required that only full-time provision (defined as 25 hours per week) counts, regardless of the local assessment of the appropriate level of provision for young people. The new performance indicator for 2006/7 introduces a degree of flexibility in this, and it is hoped that the new version of Careworks will make accurate recording easier. This alone will not improve performance, and extensive groundwork has been laid for concerted partnership effort over the next year.

A multi-agency development group commissioned research in 2005 to establish the reasons for young people failing to access or sustain their engagement in education, training and employment. This has enabled us to consult with a wide range of providers to develop a preferred model of a single referral point for hard to place young people, reflecting the established model of the 'virtual pupil referral unit'. This will be discussed with Children's Services senior management. Links with the LEA, schools, Pupil Referral Units, E2E provision, Further Education and the Connexions Service are continuing to improve. Protocols with the LEA are in the process of being revised in the light of the new Children's Services structure. We are working with the Pupil Referral Units to deliver risk assessment and management training, and with further education providers (supported by the LSC) to develop a better understanding of the YOT's client group and consistent working protocols.

A pilot scheme with Nottingham Training Network has been established to ensure young people in custody have appropriate educational placements on release. This is linked with Werrington YOI to pilot the Nottinghamshire Diploma, which allows young people to collect credits for accreditation and study completed in custody, and to add to these on their return to the community to open up their career opportunities.

We have established an internal Enjoy and Achieve Economic Wellbeing theme group to steer policy, practice and performance and key areas include

- Developing work experience and employment and training opportunities for young people dealt with by the YOT within the City Council, building on *Putting it Right*'s link with Street Scene, and linking with the *Local Jobs for Local People* initiative.
- Working with Supporting People and the Benefits Office to address issues that impact on a young person's ability to engage with further education, training and employment
- Working with the LEA and key support agencies to develop a more consistent approach to addressing violent and aggressive behaviour in schools to reduce exclusions
- Developing our information gathering processes to provide more meaningful information at the initial assessment stage and improve the accuracy of recording

Data:

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (target 90%) | 57.9% | EPQA: 03 rating | 1 |
|---------------------------------|-------|-----------------|---|
| KPI: 06/07 target | 90% | EPQA: 05 result | 1 |

Action plan: ETE

| | | I | | | |
|--------------|--|-------------------|--------------|-------|---------------------------|
| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Identify YOT Board lead | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| and | Provide quarterly reports to YOT Board and | Sarah Day | April 06 and | | |
| leadership | Children's Services DMT on progress | - | ongoing | | |
| | against targets | | | | |
| Performance | Evaluate pilot scheme with Nottingham | Sarah Day | Dec 06 | | |
| and quality | Training Network and YOI Werrington and | - | | | |
| systems | seek to extend to other YOI's if effective | | | | |
| | Complete qualitative research into the | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | educational experience of young people | - | | | |
| | known to the YOT and feed in to joint | | | | |
| | planning with Children's Services | | | | |
| Resources | Establish a working group to develop | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | suitable assessment and intervention tools | | | | |
| | for young people with learning disabilities. | | | | |
| People and | Ensure training for relevant YOT staff in | Paul Hook / Sarah | Oct 06 | | Race and diversity Action |
| organisation | numeracy and literacy screening | Day | | | Plans |
| Partnership | Develop a range of work experience | Sarah Day | Oct 06 | | Local Jobs for Local |
| working | placements in council services for young | | | | People |
| _ | people known to the YOT | | | | |
| | Provide joint training for educational | Sarah Day | Sept 06 | | |
| | establishments on managing aggressive | | • | | |
| | behaviour | | | | |
| | Work with partners to create a single referral | Sarah Day | Sept 06 | | |
| | point for hard-to-place young people | - | • | | |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION

Performance against this KPI continues to exceed the target, but problems in accessing suitable provision remain for a small number of difficult to place young people. The YJB has recognised that this is a national problem and is developing a strategy for sustainable accommodation for these young people. A lack of suitable accommodation prevents access to programmes including electronic monitoring, and increases the risk of failure to comply resulting in re-offending or breach. This was highlighted in the HMIP Inquiry as a key factor in Peter Williams' case.

We are working closely with Supporting People (which is now represented on the YOT Board) to agree service level agreements for dedicated bed-spaces with NACRO and Framework for the provision of high support accommodation. These places will be ring-fenced to young people referred by the YOT, Probation, Leaving Care Team and Housing Aid to alleviate the current problem of providers allocating accommodation to less challenging and needy young people. It is hoped that these arrangements will be in place by May 2006 to replace our current dependence on emergency short-term accommodation from the private sector.

Since July, we have employed a full-time accommodation advice and support worker within the YOT, who works with case managers to prevent homelessness, access resources, and negotiate with housing staff and providers. This post is funded through Resettlement and Aftercare grant from the YJB, but our intention is to establish the case for it to be mainstreamed as a seconded post.

The standard induction programme for all new staff now includes an accommodation module, and we intend to build on this during the next year by developing cross-agency training to build understanding of the levels of support required by our young people to access and sustain accommodation. The recently-acquired video conferencing facility will help to overcome a major barrier to young people in custody having access to accommodation on release, as accommodation providers will be able to conduct interviews prior to release.

Accommodation for those under the age of 16 who are rejected by their families remains a concern, as it is limited to over-stretched residential units and foster-care. We are working to ensure that there is early identification of family strains as a result of young people's offending, building on the work of the Arrest Referral and Bail Supervision and Remand Teams. In addition, we are negotiating with NACRO for access to a mediation service which is provided to Housing Aid, and supporting a proposal for a floating Family Support Project (based on the Dundee model. Include comment on Children's Services intensive family support development

<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 April – De | cember actual – target 95% | 97.1% |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------|
| KPI: 06/07 target | | 95% |

Action plan: Accommodation

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|------------------|----------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Identify YOT Board lead | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| and | | | | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | Establish system to provide qualitative data | Patrick Allinson | June 06 | | RAP Development Plan |
| and quality | on unmet needs to inform providers and | | | | ISSP Development Plan |
| systems | strategic partners | | | | |
| Resources | Finalise service level agreements for | Patrick Allinson | June 06 | | |
| | dedicated YOT access to bed spaces willing | | | | |
| | to accept tagged young people | | | | |
| People and | Ensure effective use of video-conferencing to | Patrick Allinson | June 06 | | |
| organisation | allow providers to interview young people | | | | |
| | prior to release from custody | | | | |
| | Mainstream seconded YOT accommodation | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | Identification of suitable | |
| | post | | | seconding agency | |
| Partnership | Establish multi-agency workshops to improve | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | | |
| working | understanding of the needs of YOT service | | | | |
| | users | | | | |
| | Ensure effective co-ordination with | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | CYPP |
| | Integrated Children's Service planning | | | | |
| | Establish protocol for Increased sharing of | Patrick Allinson | June 06 | | |
| | resources with Leaving Care Team | | _ | | |
| | Negotiate access to NACRO mediation | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | Current contract with | |
| | service to reduce evictions of young people | | | Supporting People limits | |
| | as a result of anti-social behaviour | y . | | access | |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

We continue to perform strongly against the KPI and all young people identified with a mental health concern are seen within the prescribed timescales. The YOT has dedicated provision delivered through CAMHS *Head2Head* service, which provides a range of mental health expertise. It does not second staff to the YOT but delivers services from across the whole team. We have established "surgeries" to provide the opportunities for YOT staff to discuss specific concerns, practice and support issues *with Head2Head* staff..

However, we still need to improve the understanding and confidence of YOT staff in relation to both the identification of mental health issues and use of the service. In response to developments within integrated children's services we have re-aligned our specialist steering groups around the five Every Child Matters outcomes and now have a 'Be Healthy' steering group through which we aim to improve the policies, practice and performance of all areas that impact on the health and wellbeing of young people. The group will take a lead role in building confidence and understanding within teams as all steering group members have a key role to feedback developments and issues to team meetings.

We have worked closely with Head 2 Head over the last year to develop more effective partnership working; the team manager for the intensive supervision team now has a lead role in developing the service and more effective processes between Head 2 Head and the YOT. Regular meetings now take place with the manager of Head 2 Head and a surgery has been set up In order to develop this area of work further the 'Be Healthy' steering group will be examining the YJB research 'Mental Health Needs and Effective Provision for Young Offenders In Custody and the Community' to look at what lessons can be learned. Issues identified during this process and in conjunction with the preparation for the forthcoming EPQA process for this area will form part of the 'Be Healthy' action plan for 2006/7.

A research project is underway in association with Nottingham University into the mental health needs of young offenders, and how they are met. This will be completed during 2006/7 and we will seek to build its findings into the development of services.

<u>Data:</u>

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (acute target 95%) | 100% | KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (non-acute target 95%) | 100% |
|---------------------------------------|------|---|------|
| KPI: 06/07 target | 95% | KPI: 06/07 target | 95% |

Action plan: Mental health

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance and leadership | Identify YOT Board lead | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| Performance | Monitor use of mental health assessment | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 and | Lack of SQIFA template | |
| and quality systems | tool through dip testing | Wilson | ongoing | in Careworks | |
| Resources | Evaluate evidence of unmet needs to address service gaps from University of Nottingham research | Shelley Nicholls | June 06 | Delays in completion of research | |
| People and organisation | Training for YOT staff in use of SQIFA | Shelley Nicholls | Sept 05 | | |
| | Develop improvement action plan based on University of Nottingham and YJB research | Shelley Nicholls | Sept 05 | Delays in completion of research | |
| Partnership | Support University of Nottingham research | Shelley Nicholls | May 05 and | | |
| working | project to identify unmet needs | | ongoing | | |
| | Review CAMHS / YOT protocol | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |

SUPPORT ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES

Last year we highlighted issues in relation to the service provided to the YOT by Compass Young People's Service; this has continued to give us cause for concern throughout 2005/6 and significantly affected our performance against the KPI for assessment. However, we have taken action and are currently working with the service to help them improve. A comprehensive service level agreement is being developed and the service has signed up to monitoring and managing the performance information relating to their service more actively. Mechanisms have been created to ensure that all referral, assessments and contacts with the service are accurately recorded although to date these have not been effective as planned. The YOT have asked GOEM to carry out a root and branch review of the service that the YOT is receiving and how it relates to current YOT practice. The outcome of this review should be known early in 2006 and will have an impact on the method of delivery for 2006/7.

The Arrest Referral pilot continues to be successful; regular reports are now provided to GOEM covering delivery issues, service developments and best practice. The team have developed an induction module for all staff to fit within the YOT induction programme. In addition the service has made strong links with other initiatives such as Positive Activities for Young People, Supporting Communities, Outside In and the New Leaf project. The core work for the team and referrals is generally identified through their screening and assessment process in the police cells at the two custody suites in the city. However, referrals are now being accepted from the YOT YISP team which has proved to be an effective way to intervene early with young people on the fringe of offending and anti-social behaviour.

The development of the Resettlement and Aftercare Provision and the introduction of the Community Support Grant enabled us to ensure that key staff working with young people released from custody have a thorough understanding of substance misuse related issues. It is anticipated that the planned development of a high risk cluster of teams in 2006/7 will enable greater flexibility and joint working across the higher risk end of the service. Links are already in place through the ISSP team in relation to the Sherwood Project to ensure that serious and persistent offenders with substance misuse issues are identified and that there is a continuity of service between the YOT and Probation service staff. Staff from all relevant areas of the YOT will be represented within the 'Be Healthy' theme group (described in Support Access to Mental Health) and this forum will be used to ensure that clear pathways are in place to address the issues of all young people misusing substances.

Data:

| KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (Assessment | 41.2% | KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (specialist | 100 | KPI: 05/06 Apr-Dec (early access to | 100% |
|--------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------|------|
| target 85%) | | assessment target 85%) | % | intervention target 85%) | |
| KPI: 06/07 target | 85% | KPI: 06/07 target | 85% | KPI: 06/07 target | 85% |

Action plan: Substance misuse

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|--------------|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Implement findings of GOEM review on | Sarah Day | June 06 | Delay in completion of | |
| and | contract arrangements for substance misuse | | | GOEM review | |
| leadership | services | | | | |
| | Develop exit strategy for Arrest Referral | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | Loss of staff as a result | YOT HR Strategy |
| | scheme if funding is not continued beyond | | | of funding uncertainty | Substance Misuse KPI |
| | Sept 06 | | | Redundancy costs | |
| Performance | Validate accuracy of intervention recording | Nick Orders | April 06 and | | |
| and quality | by Compass staff | | ongoing | | |
| systems | | | 20000s Stroots | | |
| Resources | Develop range of tier 2 services for young | Andy Branch | June 06 | | APIR Action Plan. |
| | people | | | | Race and Diversity Action |
| | | | ₩ | | Plans |
| People and | Refresh training for all YOT staff in | Andy Branch | Sept 06 | | |
| organisation | assessment for substance misuse | | | | |
| Partnership | Review Compass performance to ensure | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| working | quality and consistency of service in | | | | |
| | accordance with service level agreement | | | | |
| | Develop YOT alcohol misuse strategy | Andy Branch | Sept 06 | | City Alcohol Reduction |
| | | | | | Strategy |

SUPPORT RESETTLEMENT INTO THE COMMUNITY

This is an area that we are continuing to develop as the needs of young people released from custody continue to be high and resource intensive. Last year we proposed to jointly fund, with the county YOS, a project commissioned through Nottingham Training Network to broker provision for young people prior to release from custody. This service was established in November and is now receiving referrals; the service is now dedicated to the city and funded by ISSP and RAP grant. We have introduced the role of an accommodation officer, again funded by ISSP and RAP; this has been successful in improving our knowledge and understanding of accommodation issues for young people and has been critical in improving partnership working with the Supporting People initiative. However, we have not been successful in introducing a benefits advisor due to the specialist nature of the role. However, we have developed strong links with the benefits team through our dedicated personal advisor for the high risk cluster and are using these links to improve services for young people. The amalgamation of ISSP and RAP/CSG grant funding streams this year will provide us with an opportunity to be more creative with the resources available and increase the flexibility to provide monitoring and tracking services to outside ISSP as appropriate.

We have recently purchased a video conferencing system to enhance the service provided to young people in custody. This system will allow staff to manage planning meetings from the YOT base and include parents in the planning process on a more consistent basis. In addition we will be able to create the capacity for more effective custodial visits to take place in preparation for release. In addition to DTO board meetings, the system has already been use by our accommodation office to discuss housing issues prior to release. This development is particularly important as there are no YOIs in the Nottingham area. In addition to this we are developing our IT solutions to allow access to the YOT case management system on site at YOIs and will be piloting this with Werrington YOI early this year.

We have continued to achieve our YJB target for DTO planning meetings and the introduction of video conferencing will allow us greater flexibility to ensure that this continues to be an effective process. In the autumn we carried out an Effective Practice Quality Assurance process for this area and as a result of that process have an action plan to ensure that this area of service is improved. In addition, in December we carried out a mini health check against the new YOT inspection criteria and as a result additional actions have been included in the improvement plan.

No data-set for this indicator

Action plan: Resettlement

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|-------------------|---|---------------|----------|---------------------|------------------------|
| | - 100 til VOT D | 14 5 | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance and | Ensure LSC representative on YOT Board | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | Develop recidivism indicator to measure | Nick Orders | Sept 06 | | |
| and quality | added value in interventions for those | THICK OTUCIS | осрі оо | | |
| systems | supported by RAP | | | | |
| Resources | Integrate Community Support / RAP / ISSP | Sarah Day | June 06 | | ISSP targets |
| | resources to maximise effectiveness and | | | | Custody KPI |
| | value for money | | | | ETE KPI |
| | Implement video-conferencing to reduce staff | Sarah Day | June 06 | Access to system in | |
| | travel time | | | YOIs | |
| | Ensure immediate access to accommodation | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | Accommodation strategy |
| | for young people released from custody | | | | |
| People and | Ensure all parents have the opportunity to be | Sarah Day | Sept 06 | | |
| organisation | involved in sentence planning | | | | |
| | Provide training to staff to use video | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | conferencing facilities | | | | |
| | Establish protocols for use of video- | Sarah Day | June 06 | | |
| | conferencing with key secure establishments | - 100 | | | |
| Partnership | Develop business case for secondment of | Sarah Day | Sept 06 | | RAP Development Plan |
| working | housing support specialist | | | | ISSP Development Plan |
| | Explore commercial opportunities for use of | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | Constraints on | |
| | video-conferencing facilities by neighbouring | | | accommodation | |
| | YOTs | V | | | |

PROVIDE EFFECTIVE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

Performance against the KPI's was again close to 100% for both interventions (the number of identified victims who were offered the opportunity to participate in restorative processes) and their satisfaction with their involvement. The proportion of identified victims taking part in a direct restorative process increased to 28%, and their satisfaction with the process impacts on public confidence in the youth justice system.

Although we were pleased with these outcomes, we have been unable to extend the victim service to all orders. It continues to be restricted to referral orders although these constitute more than 50% of all YOT interventions. There are two major barriers to expansion – the capacity of YOT police officers to retrieve victim contact details and make the initial contact, and the capacity of our victim liaison workers. The planned changes to the role of YOT police officers, referred to in the *Intervene Early* section, will increase the number of victims that can be identified and contacted. With only two victim liaison workers, however, there is a lack of resilience in the service which is dependent on both posts being filled. As in previous years, staff changes and recruitment problems for a highly specialised post meant that we have been reduced to one worker for much of the last 6 months. We will therefore consider whether alternative service provision is necessary to ensure that the service is capable of covering the full range of the YOT's work, and is resilient enough to withstand personnel changes without undermining performance.

A major development during the past year has been the *Putting it Right* project, which is firmly established and undertaking work which has been identified by (and subsequently visible to) local communities. Activities such as litter picking, pruning of trees, and painting over graffiti are the most frequently requested services. Having commenced in April with a pilot scheme in one part of the City, it has expanded to over 200 placements of young people on 47 sites. Apart from the direct benefits to local communities, it increases confidence in the youth justice system by making its outcomes visible, and has improved compliance rates by giving young people meaningful and purposeful tasks. We have recently expanded the service to provide full day sessions where young people work alongside the Council's "envirocrime" team and gain insight into work experience by undertaking a wider range of skilled tasks and building relationships with the team. We are now exploring the potential to expand this further into a full work experience project in conjunction with the StreetScene service. If successful, we will seek to extend this to other council services where young people can safely be accommodated as part of the council's *Local Jobs for Local People* initiative.

The recruitment and training of volunteers for referral order panels remains a crucial area, as any shortfall leads directly to delays and an increase in the number of panels held outwith National Standards, and we continue to have a shortage of panel members from BME communities. We have reconfigured recruitment and training in the past year and all volunteers and sessional workers now receive 3 core modules before further specialist training, and we hope to see greater diversity as a result in the coming year. The proposed Prevention Plan will create opportunities for a more prominent profile of the YOT in local communities, and we expect that this will also enhance our volunteer recruitment.

Data:

| KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (intervention target 75%) | 100 | KPI: 0405/06 Apr–Dec (satisfaction target 75%) | 98 |
|--|-----|--|----|
| KPI: 06/07 target | 75 | KPI: 06/07 target | 75 |

Action plan: Restorative Justice

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|---|-------------------|----------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Review different models of victim service | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | | |
| and | delivery from other YOTs and bring | | | | |
| leadership | proposals to YOT Board | | | | |
| | Identify YOT Board lead | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| Performance | Ensure input of victim data into Careworks | Angeline Harrison | June 06 | | |
| and quality | Develop community feedback on Putting it | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |
| systems | Right completions to promote public | | | | |
| | confidence and engagement | | | | |
| | Incorporate victim consideration in PSR | Bob Uden | June 06 | | |
| | template | | | | |
| | Review best practice from YOT inspections | Aileen Wilson | Sept 06 | | |
| Resources | Expand sessional worker capacity to | Bob Uden | Sept 06 | Volunteer recruitment | |
| | supervise Putting It Right placements | | | and retention | |
| | Expand Putting it Right placements to 750 in | Emma Julian | Sept 06 | Funding | |
| | 100 locations | | | | |
| People and | Develop local bases for 25% of referral order | Angeline Harrison | Dec 06 | | Targeted prevention |
| organisation | panels | | | | strategy |
| | | | | | Extended Schools |
| | | | | | programme |
| Partnership | Develop corporate victim strategy | Angeline Harrison | Sept 06 | | |
| working | Develop links between Putting it Right and | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | Local Jobs for Local |
| | corporate employment strategies to enhance | | | | People |
| | work opportunities for young people | | | | YOT ETE strategy |
| | Incorporate adult placements in Putting it | Emma Julian | June 06 | Probation engagement | |
| | Right | | | Funding | |

SUPPORT PARENTING INTERVENTIONS

For the first time, we achieved the KPI for parenting interventions with 10.7% of the YOT's interventions supported by a parenting programme. As in previous years, parents' satisfaction with the programmes was universal. Although our previous performance has been disappointing, we believed that our information system was not capturing accurately the real level of parenting support being delivered, and it may not be coincidental that this improvement in performance followed the introduction in the last quarter of 2005 of a new process in which all case closures are scrutinised by the parenting co-ordinator to ensure that parenting interventions are captured. This is being supported by improved induction training, although the system is not user-friendly and we are continuing to press the software supplier to improve this.

The outcome of the Effective Practice Quality Assurance process was relatively disappointing, particularly as the key factor was the lack of evidence in our information system of activity that we knew was being carried out. We anticipate that this will be much improved when this area of work is reviewed in 2007, as a result of improved training and revision of systems.

Parenting has been incorporated into the Stay Safe theme steering group, and the YOT is playing a significant part in the development of a Parenting Strategy for Integrated Children's Services (Comment on ICS parenting strategy when clarified). Over the past 12 months, parenting has become more firmly embedded in YOT practice, and although our resources are currently limited to one worker, the use of mentors (two of whom are "graduates" from the YOT's programme) has increased our ability to offer greater levels of one to one support. We continue to run joint courses with Education Welfare Service ?? times a year.

Most of the emphasis was on voluntary parenting interventions, with only 6 parenting orders made. Following the recruitment of a full-time antisocial behaviour parenting post until September 2006 (after several failed attempts to recruit to a part-time post), we will now be able to offer parenting interventions to parents whose children's behaviour is placing them at risk of anti-social behaviour or eviction action. The post-holder will work closely with the Community and Neighbourhood Protection Service and the Neighbourhood Policing Pilots in two parts of the City, taking referrals from weekly operational tasking meetings. This will not necessarily improve our performance against the KPI as the parents concerned may not have children who are the subject of YOT interventions, but it will reduce the risk of their children coming to the attention of the youth justice system in future.

As part of our proposed Prevention Plan, both parenting posts will work very closely with the locality teams to ensure YIP and YISP programmes deliver effective parenting support services. The YOT is supporting a bid from Crime Concern (the service provider for YIPs) to the Parenting Fund for dedicated parenting workers which will expand capacity still further.

Data:

| KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (Interventions target 10%) | 10.7% | KPI: 05/06 Apr–Dec (Satisfaction target 75%) | 100% | EPQA: 04 rating | N/A |
|---|-------|--|------|-----------------|-----|
| KPI: 06/07 target | 10% | KPI: 06/07 target | 75% | EPQA: 05 result | 1 |

Action plan: Parenting

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|--|--------------------|--------------|-------|-------------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | Identify YOT Board lead for parenting | Ken Beaumont | June 06 | | |
| and | | | | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | Develop service user evaluation tool | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | |
| and quality | Ensure all ASSETs assess parenting support | Sarah Day / Aileen | April 06 and | | |
| systems | needs by monthly dip-testing | Wilson | ongoing | | |
| Resources | Develop multi tiered toolkit for use within | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | |
| | YOT | 4 | | | |
| People and | Participate in strategic development of | Aileen Wilson | April 06 and | | CYPP |
| organisation | parenting services for children and young | | ongoing | | Corporate Parenting and |
| | people | | | | CLA Outcomes Strategies |
| Partnership | Support development of Parenting Forum as | Aileen Wilson | April 06 and | | CYPP |
| working | practice lead across Children's Services | | ongoing | | |
| | Develop protocol with CPNS for effective use | Aileen Wilson | April 06 | | |
| | of ASB parenting post | | • | | |
| | Ensure consideration of parenting options in | Aileen Wilson | June 06 | | |
| | LAC tasking meetings | | | | |

ENSURE EQUAL TREATMENT REGARDLESS OF RACE

Update data when full year available

Last year's race audit and action plan identified a number of targets, against which performance has been mixed;

Reduce inaccurate recording of ethnicity to 10% of cases – performance in 2005 was 5.7%

Reduce over-representation of young black people in the YOT population to 11.5% - performance in 2005 was 14.6%

Reduce proportion of BME young people among those convicted of robbery to 45% - performance in 2005 was 54.5%

Reduce proportion of BME young people among those convicted of drugs offences to 45% - performance in 2005 was 41.6%

Reduce the proportion of BME young people among those receiving custodial sentences to 28% - performance in 2005 was 34%

The improved recording of ethnicity may have played some part where targets have not been achieved, but we will carry out a detailed analysis of the data to identify the factors that are influencing our failure to achieve them. A number of other actions have been completed, including the incorporation of race awareness training in the induction programme, the monitoring of take-up of training by ethnicity, development of resources to ensure that they are appropriate to a diverse range of needs, and development of the YOT victim database to record ethnicity.

A number of other actions planned for 2005/6 have been deferred pending completion of the YOT's HR Strategy following publication of the YJB's Workforce planning and Development guidance, and the installation of the new version of Careworks which allows *ad hoc* reporting. We also intend to re-define the role and composition of the Black and Ethnic Minority Monitoring Group, with sub-groups to monitor each area of activity to allow more detailed oversight.

We have yet to establish a systematic process of service user evaluation across the whole of the YOT, although a robust process exists for referral orders. We intend to establish an evaluation process with young people completing YOT interventions through the Youth Service's Youth Engagement Service, and this will help us to establish whether young BME people experience the YOT differently from their white counterparts.

The terms of reference for the theme steering groups established during 2005 includes assessing the impact of their activities on equality, and particular attention will be paid to the uptake from BME communities of victim and parenting services.

Incorporate data from workforce census

No data-set for this indicator

Action plan: Equality To be completed following workforce census

| | Action | Lead | Deadline | Risks | Links to Plans / |
|--------------|--------|------|----------|-------|----------------------|
| | | | | | Performance Measures |
| Governance | | | | | |
| and | | | _ | | |
| leadership | | | | | |
| Performance | | | | | |
| and quality | | | | | |
| systems | | | | | |
| Resources | | | | | |
| People and | | | | | |
| organisation | | | | | |
| Partnership | | | | | |
| working | | | | | |

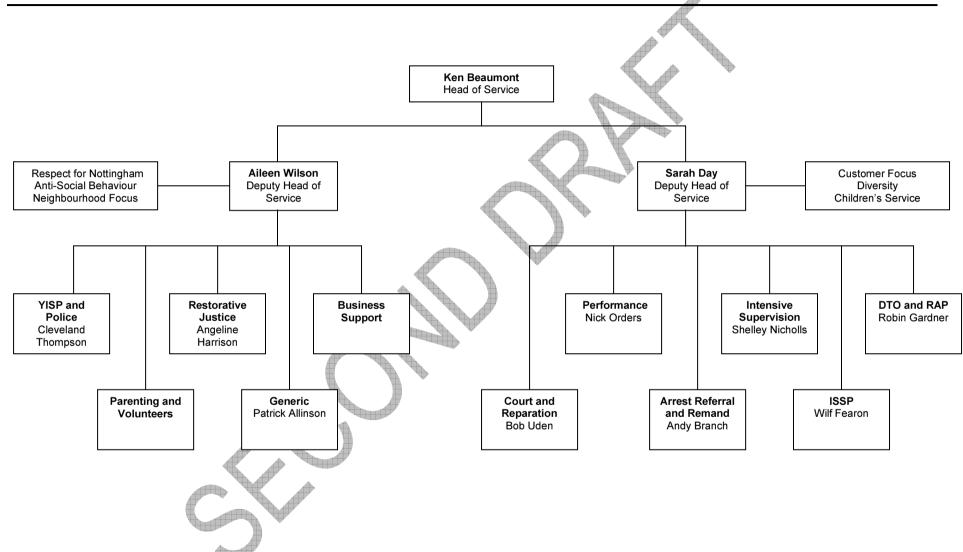
D. REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Table B: Schedule for review of plan:

| Review date | Reviewer |
|-------------------|---|
| June 30 2006 | Ken Beaumont (via Performance Review Group) |
| September 30 2006 | Ken Beaumont (via Performance Review Group) |
| December 31 2005 | Ken Beaumont (via Performance Review Group) |
| March 31 2007 | Ken Beaumont (via Performance Review Group) |

Table C: Signature of approval

| | Name Of Chief Officer | Signature | Date |
|--|-----------------------|-----------|------|
| Chief Executive, Nottingham City Council | Gordon Mitchell | | |
| Corporate Director of Children's Services | Edwina Grant | | |
| Chief Executive, Nottingham Primary Care Trust | Samantha Millbank | | |
| Chief Constable, Nottinghamshire Police | Steve Green | | |
| Chief Probation Officer, NPS, Nottinghamshire Area | Jane Geraghty | | |
| Chair, Crime and Drugs Partnership | Derek Stewart | | |
| YOT Board Chair and Corporate Director, Neighbourhood Services | Manjeet Gill | | |



APPENDIX B: PERFORMANCE MEASURES

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr- Dec | 2006/07 Target |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Prevent offending (target since 05/06): | | | |
| Reduce year on year the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system by identifying children | | | |
| and young people at risk of offending or involvement in anti-social behaviour through YISP or other | | 851 | 1112 |
| evidence-based targeted intervention designed to reduce those risks and strengthen protective factors as | | | |
| demonstrated by using ONSET or other effective means of assessment and monitoring | | | |
| Intervene early (new target): | | | |
| Ensure that 100% of young people on a final warning are supported by an intervention if: | | | |
| - their Asset score is greater or equal to 12, or | | | |
| - there are any concerns of risk of serious harm to others, or | | | 100% |
| - their score is less than 12 but any sections score 4 | | | |
| Intervene early (old target): | | | |
| Ensure that 80% of all final warnings are supported by an intervention programme | 94% | 96% | |
| Reduce re-offending by 5% in 2006-07, when compared with the 2002-03 re-offending cohort, with | 2002 cohort | 2003 cohort | 2004 cohort % |
| respect to each of the following four populations over 24 months: | % re- | % re- | |
| J in principle of the control of the | | , | re-offending |
| - Pre-court (Police reprimands and final warnings) | offending | offending | 07.50/ |
| - First tier penalties (Referral Orders, Reparation Orders, Fines and Discharges | 29% | To be added | 27.5% |
| - Community penalties | 74% | To be added | 70.7% |
| - Custody | 82% | To be added | 77.9% |
| | 88% | To be added | 83.5% |
| Reduce the use of custody | | | |
| - Reduce the number of remands to the secure estate (as a proportion of all remand episodes excluding | 60% | 56% | 30% |
| conditional / unconditional bail) to 30% | | | |
| - Reduce the number of custodial sentences as proportion of all court disposals to 5% | 11% | 9.2% | 5% |
| Ensure the swift administration of justice: | | | |
| - Ensure that 90% of pre-sentence reports are submitted within 10 days for PYOs | 86% | 91% | 90% |
| - Ensure that 90% of pre-sentence reports are submitted within 15 days for general offenders | 93% | 90% | 90% |
| Ensure effective and rigorous assessment, planning and supervision | | | |
| - Ensure that 100% of assessments for community disposals are completed at assessment stage | 92% | 98% | 100% |
| - Ensure that 100% of assessments for community disposals are completed at closure stage | 91% | 97% | 100% |
| - Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at assessment stage | 91% | 98% | 100% |
| - Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at transfer stage | 87% | 99% | 100% |
| - Ensure that 100% of assessments for custodial sentences are completed at closure stage | 90% | 95% | 100% |
| - Ensure that all initial training plans for DTOs are drawn up within 10 working days of sentence | 99% | 97% | 100% |

| Theme and measure | 2004/05 outturn | 2005/06 Apr- Dec | 2006/07 Target |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Support young people engaging in education, training and employment: | 540 | 500/ | 00 |
| Ensure that 90% of young offenders supervised by the YOT are in full-time education, training or employment | 51% | 58% | 90 |
| Support access to appropriate accommodation: | | | |
| Ensure that there is a named accommodation officer and that 100% of those subject to final warnings with | 92% | 97% | 100 |
| intervention, relevant community based penalties or release from the secure estate have suitable | 0=73 | 5 . 70 | |
| accommodation to go to | | | |
| Support access to mental health services: | | | |
| Ensure that all young people who are assessed by ASSET as manifesting: | | | |
| - acute mental health difficulties are referred to CAMHS for a formal assessment commencing within five | | | |
| working days of the receipt of the referral with a view to accessing a tier 3 service | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| - non-acute mental health concerns are referred to CAMHS for assessment and engagement at the | | | |
| appropriate tier (1-3) commenced within 15 working days | 100% | 100% | 100% |
| Support access to substance misuse services by ensuring that: | | | |
| - all young people are screened for substance misuse | 62% | 41% | 100% |
| - all young people with identified needs receive appropriate specialist assessment within 5 working days of | 200/ | 4000/ | 4000/ |
| assessment | 30% | 100% | 100% |
| all young people access the early intervention and treatment services they require within 10 working days of assessment | 81% | 100% | 100% |
| Provide effective restorative justice services: | 0170 | 100 /0 | 100 /6 |
| - Ensure that victims of youth crime referred to YOTs are offered the opportunity to participate in a | 72% | 100% | 75% |
| restorative process | 1270 | 10070 | 1070 |
| - Ensure that 75% of victims are satisfied | 99% | 98% | 75% |
| Support parenting interventions: | -01 | | |
| - Ensure that 10% of young people with a final warning supported by intervention or a community disposal | 8% | 10.7% | 10% |
| receive a parenting intervention | 000/ | 4000/ | 750/ |
| - Ensure that 75 % of parents participating in a parenting intervention are satisfied | 99% | 100% | 75% |
| Ensure equal treatment regardless of race (new target): Yots must deliver targeted activity that substantially reduces local differences by ethnicity in recorded | | | Target to be |
| conviction rates, by March 2008 | | | established |
| Ensure equal treatment regardless of race (old target): | | | |
| All YOTs to have an action plan in place to ensure that any difference between the ethnic composition of | | | |
| offenders on all pre-court and post-court disposals and the ethnic composition of the local community is | | Yes | |
| reduced year-on-year | | | |

Effective Practice Quality Assurance

| Theme and measure | Initial score | Predicted score | Actual score |
|--|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Early intervention: Final warning interventions | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Managing demand for custody: Remand management | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| Assessment, planning interventions and supervision | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Education, training and employment | | 1 | 1 |
| Resettlement | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| Parenting | 1 | N/A | N/A |