

Birmingham Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2014 – 2015



**Staffordshire and
West Midlands
Probation Trust**



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Purpose of the Plan

There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan. The Plan must set out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

The principal aim of the Youth Justice System, established by Section 37 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, is to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people aged 10-17 years. Local Youth Justice Services are delivered and managed through Youth Offending Services, which are multi-agency partnerships with statutory representation from local authorities (specifically Social Care and Education), the Police, Probation and Health. The model brings together a range of agencies with expertise in welfare and enforcement practices to improve outcomes. The majority of the services are prescribed by statute or policy.

Birmingham Youth Offending Service is the largest metropolitan Youth Offending Service in the country, and is identified as the most complex by the Youth Justice Board given its urban context. The service works in partnership to achieve the national Youth Justice strategic objectives which are to:

- Prevent offending
- Reduce re-offending
- Reduce anti-social behaviour
- Increase victim and public confidence
- Ensure the safe and effective use of custody.

This strategic youth justice plan outlines the governance arrangements, including the role of the Youth Offending Service Management Board, in ensuring the statutory requirements are met. The Board has responsibility for overseeing the performance of the Birmingham Youth Justice Partnership against national and local youth justice outcomes, maximising its collective resources and contributing to wider priorities as set out in the city's Children and Young People's Services Plan, the Safer Communities Plan and the Area Police and Crime Plan. Strong partnership working is essential across criminal justice and children's welfare services to ensure continuous improvements in outcomes related to the prevention and reduction of offending by young people, public protection and the safeguarding of children and young people.

Background

Birmingham is a richly diverse city with a population of over a million people. Birmingham has one of the youngest populations of any European City. The latest 2010 census figures identify that over 26% (274,135) of the population is under 18 years and 58% of these are from minority ethnic backgrounds. There are approximately 117,000 10-17 year olds.

Birmingham is a city with areas of significant deprivation. As a result, although many children and young people achieve good outcomes, others face a range of challenges, particularly in terms of their well-being and staying safe.

Section 39 (1) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the cooperation of the named statutory partners (Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health) to form a youth offending service, which includes staffing contributions from those statutory partners. The Service must provide the main supervisory elements of statutory youth justice services:

- Assessment and management of risk and safeguarding.

Which support:

- Remands in custody and those requiring support in the community
- Pre-Court interventions (ASB)
- Court Orders managed in the community, including the provision of a lay youth panel to discharge the responsibilities of Referral Orders
- Parenting Contracts and Orders
- Restorative Justice to support Victims
- Sentence planning for young people in custody and their supervision on release.

The youth justice system works on the basis that addressing risk factors such as family breakdown, educational underachievement, substance misuse, and mental illness is the best way to reduce a young person's risk of offending and re-offending.¹ The National Audit Office estimated that, in 2009, offending nationally by all young people cost the economy £8.5 - £11 billion.

The Birmingham Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment 2013-14, sets out the broader landscape in which the Youth Offending Service and other criminal justice agencies operate. It identified that:

- Total recorded crime (all ages) reduced by 1% in the twelve months to October 2013, compared with the previous year.

¹"The youth justice system in England and Wales: Reducing offending by young people", (National Audit Office, 2010).

- Data relating to most similar cities nationally in terms of size and demographics shows Birmingham still has the lowest number of crimes per 1000 residents.
- In four out of five measures (accounting for approximately 70% of those monitored for re-offending) Birmingham outperforms the national average with less re-offending in these groups which includes young offenders, prolific and priority offenders, problematic drug users and those offenders who are subject to court order.
- In relation to Youth Violence, the proportion of victims aged between 10 and 19 has increased since 2012/13, as a proportion of total victims.
- In terms of offending, the 10-19 and 20-29 age groups are all over-represented in Total Recorded Crime, lower level violence, and Violence with Injury, with the 20-29 age group also over-represented in relation to Most Serious Violence.

Overall Birmingham is maintaining good performance against the three national youth justice indicators: reducing first time entrants; reducing re-offending and reducing the use of the Secure Estate. The number of Birmingham young people who entered the youth justice system for the first-time and the number of young people sentenced to custody both continue to fall year on year, and Birmingham performs well for both measures when compared with the core cities. However whilst the overall number of young people coming to the attention of the youth justice system has fallen, the proportion of those with complex needs and high risk behaviours has risen.

Birmingham has sustained one of the lowest re-offending rates (0.93) of all core cities for the 12 month cohort July 2011 – June 2012 (latest Ministry of Justice figures) and is below the national average of 1.02. In recognition of Birmingham consistently performing better than the national average, the Service is now one of a core group of YOTs invited by the Youth Justice Board to be part of a 3 year recidivism project to support national learning about 'what works'.

Youth Crime key findings

- In the period 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2014, excluding Community Resolutions² which accounted for 1210 disposals, 2099 offences were proven against 1006 young people. This resulted in 1558 substantive outcomes, a fall of 13.30% (from 1797 in 2012/13). In comparison with the same period in 2012/13, the number of offenders represented a fall of 16.10% (from 1199), offences a fall of 12.51% (from 2399) and outcomes a fall of 13.30% (from 1797). During 2013/14, the Service worked with 1649 young people on court ordered and preventative programmes, 862 (52.27%) of these were existing clients. This compared with the Service working with 1986 young people, 988 (49.75%) who were existing clients, in the same period the previous year. This represented a fall of 16.97% over 2013/14.
- Whilst the overall number of young people coming to the attention of the youth justice system has fallen, the proportion of those with complex needs and presenting more high risks has risen. The overall amount of contact hours for each young person increased from 27.85 hours per person in 2012/13 to 32.28 hours in 2013/2014 a rise of 15.9%.

² The YJB requires reporting on substantive outcomes and community resolutions separately. Substantive outcomes include caution, caution plus and court outcomes.

- The number of first-time entrants into the Criminal Justice System has fallen from 678 in 2012/13, to 596 in 2013/14. The rate per 100,000 10-17 year population fell from 576 to 510. Birmingham performs in the top quartile when compared with other core cities.
- Nationally there has been a rise in the frequency rate for re-offending. However, Birmingham has sustained one of the lowest re-offending rates (0.93) of all core cities for the 12 month cohort July 2011 – June 2012 (latest Ministry of Justice figures) and is below the national average of 1.02. Within this cohort were 1352 young offenders tracked for 12 months, the largest across the core cities, with 32.99% re-offending against a 35.374% national average.
- Over the past few years, there has been a significant reduction in the use of custodial sentences. Although this is still a volatile indicator, custodial sentences have fallen over the past three years, going from 206 in 2011/12, before dropping to 157 in 2012/13 and then falling further to 95 in 2013/14. The three main offences that resulted in a custodial sentence over the period were Robbery; Violence against the Person; and Breach of Statutory Order. Black young people remain over-represented in the custodial population in relation to the number of black young people aged 10-17 in the general population. However, numbers fell from 32 to 22 between 2012/13 and 2013/14.
- In 2013/14, 71 young people were remanded to the secure estate between April 2013 and March 2014, resulting in 3168 remand bed nights. This was a fall from 123 young people and a total of 6399 remand bed nights across the previous year. Legislative changes in the 'Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012', placed the responsibility for funding such placements with the Local Authority from April 2013. Since then, the number of remand bed nights has fallen sharply during 2013/14. However, more young people, including 17 year olds have been assessed as vulnerable requiring increased use of more costly placements within Secure Children's Home and Secure Training Centre as an alternative to a Young Offender Institution.
- The Youth Offending Service offered restorative justice to 496 victims, which was taken up by 236. Of those victims who disclosed their age, 35.98% were 17 or under. There were high levels of feedback from victims and 100% identified that they were satisfied with the service that they received.
- The number of young offenders in full time education, training and employment at the end of their order was 74.72%. This compares to 82.98% achieved during 2012/13. The Youth Justice Board has maintained 25 hours provision as the benchmark and often young people in this cohort of school age were not offered sufficient hours and therefore this has impacted on the target. The Service will in future report on two figures – those in receipt of 25 hours and those achieving full attendance on the hours offered. The Service has also had reduced provision from Connexions.
- The Service also measures 'distance travelled', which represents a comparison between the number of hours of education, training and employment (ETE) received by each young person at the start and end of a programme. In this period, 58.49% of programmes remained unchanged in the number of hours - the vast majority of these being successfully maintained in their full time ETE provision; 27.96% of programmes had increased hours of ETE provision and 13.55% of programmes had reduced hours.

As a result of Birmingham consistently performing better than the national average in its performance on re-offending, the Service is now one of a core group of YOTs invited by the Youth Justice Board to be part of a 3 year project. The project is enabling both local and national learning about 'what works' and the Service will continue to report findings to the YOS Management Board.

Strategic Priorities

The strategic priorities for the Service for 2014/15 support the national aim for youth justice of preventing offending by children and young people and contribute to City Council key priorities for 2014/15. The strategic priorities for the Youth Offending Service partnership are to:

- Maintain and improve performance against the Youth Justice outcomes especially for those cohorts identified with poorer outcomes
- Prioritise the safeguarding of vulnerable children and young people
- Continue to work with partners including schools, public health and Districts, to share patterns of offending and need, to ensure this contributes to collective actions to reduce first time offending and re-offending
- Continue to reduce the number of robberies and violent crimes committed by young people, including those affiliated to gangs;
- Reduce the number of young people remanded to the secure estate
- Contribute to reducing sexual exploitation of young people, mainly young females, involved in the youth justice system
- Continue to improve the education, training and employment opportunities of young offenders especially those identified as being in vulnerable groups through collaboration with the private and third sectors and through joint work with the Employment Access Team within the City Council
- Ensure robust Integrated Offender Management: the joint management of offenders who pose a significant risk of harm and are considered as being likely to re-offend
- Increased focus on the use of restorative justice including its use within Community Resolutions and Out of Court Disposals
- Continue to embed whole family working and meet Service outcomes for those families identified within the Birmingham's Think Family programme;
- Ensure adherence to National Standards and inspection standards
- Undertake project planning in relation to new responsibilities relating to Unpaid Work
- Continue to promote best practice interventions to secure continued funding locally and nationally for 2014/15 by demonstrating effectiveness and best value.

The Partnership priorities have been informed by feedback from 707 self- assessment surveys completed by young people during 2013/2014:

- **40 (6%) reported living with others who got into trouble with the police.**
- **217 (31%) had lost someone special from their life.**
- **27 (4%) drank alcohol regularly and 188 (27.56%) used cannabis.**
- **21 (3%) deliberately hurt themselves and 15 (2%) had thoughts about killing themselves.**
- **181 (26%) got angry and lost their temper.**
- **136 (19%) had friends who got into trouble.**
- **27 (14%) admitted to bullying, threatening or hurting other people.**
- **68 (10%) felt they needed help with reading and writing.**
- **258 (36%) wanted more training or qualifications.**
- **143 (20%) admitted to truanting from school.**

Structure and Governance

Youth Offending Teams were established under the statutory provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act set out the requirement for a local Youth Offending Team comprising the four statutory agencies of: the Local Authority (including Children's Services), Police, Probation and Health. The primary duty to ensure a Youth Offending Service, and appropriate youth justice services, are in place rests with the local authority.

Accompanying the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 was an inter-departmental circular on "Establishing Youth Offending Teams" that set out the requirements for a governing chief officer steering group. In 2004 the YJB published "Sustaining the Success: Extending the Guidance, Establishing Youth Offending Teams", which set down the requirements for steering groups to transfer into governing YOT Management Boards. The role and responsibilities of Youth Offending Teams and their governing Management Boards are regulated by National Standards.

YOT Management Boards are primarily responsible for:

- Providing strategic direction and delivering the principal aim of reducing offending and re-offending;
- Ensuring there is a collective response to reducing youth crime;
- Determining how appropriate youth justice services are to be provided and funded;
- Ensuring the effective delivery of justice services for children and young people;
- Ensuring that children and young people involved in the youth justice system have access to universal and specialist services delivered by partners and other key agencies;
- Ensuring the services delivered have reference to the responsibility towards victims of youth offending.

Over the past year, there have been a number of significant changes nationally that have shaped the delivery of youth justice services. Many of these changes were set out in the 2010 publication, "Breaking the Cycle: Effective Punishment, Rehabilitation and Sentencing of Offenders", which heralded the most significant changes to youth justice legislation in the decade since Youth Offending Teams were established in April 2000. Despite these significant changes, there are no national proposed changes to the model of Youth Offending Teams and their governing arrangements.

The Birmingham Youth Offending Service is a multi-agency service comprising of four statutory partners: Police, Probation, Health and the Local Authority, who have a statutory responsibility for resourcing and supporting the partnership. Following the introduction of the office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in 2012, the partnership has also welcomed the Commissioner as a new key partner.

Birmingham Youth Offending Service Management Board meets quarterly and the chair has been jointly shared between the Cabinet Member for Social Cohesion, Equalities and Community Safety and Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services, with the relevant Chief Superintendent as Deputy Chair. Board members comprise representatives of each of the statutory partners, in addition to representation of the Chair of the Youth Bench, a District Judge, the Birmingham Voluntary Sector and other local partners including the Head of the Community Safety Partnership.

The Partnership Board is identified as a significant partnership for the city and has strategic links with other children's services and community safety partnerships and associated strategic plans. The Youth Offending Service is also a 'duty to co-operate organisation' of the Birmingham Safeguarding Children's Board and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board.

The Service sits within the People directorate within the City Council and the strategic lead for Youth Offending Services is also the strategic lead for the 'Think Family' Programme (Birmingham's response to the national 'Troubled Families' programme) agenda across the city.

This is seen as a key arrangement to improve joint working between children and adults' specialist services.

Birmingham Youth Offending Service currently has five multi -agency Youth Offending Teams based across the city; a city wide Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) Team (responsible for the delivery of the ISS Youth Rehabilitation Order requirement), a Court, Bail and Remand Team and a Sexually Harmful Behaviour Team.

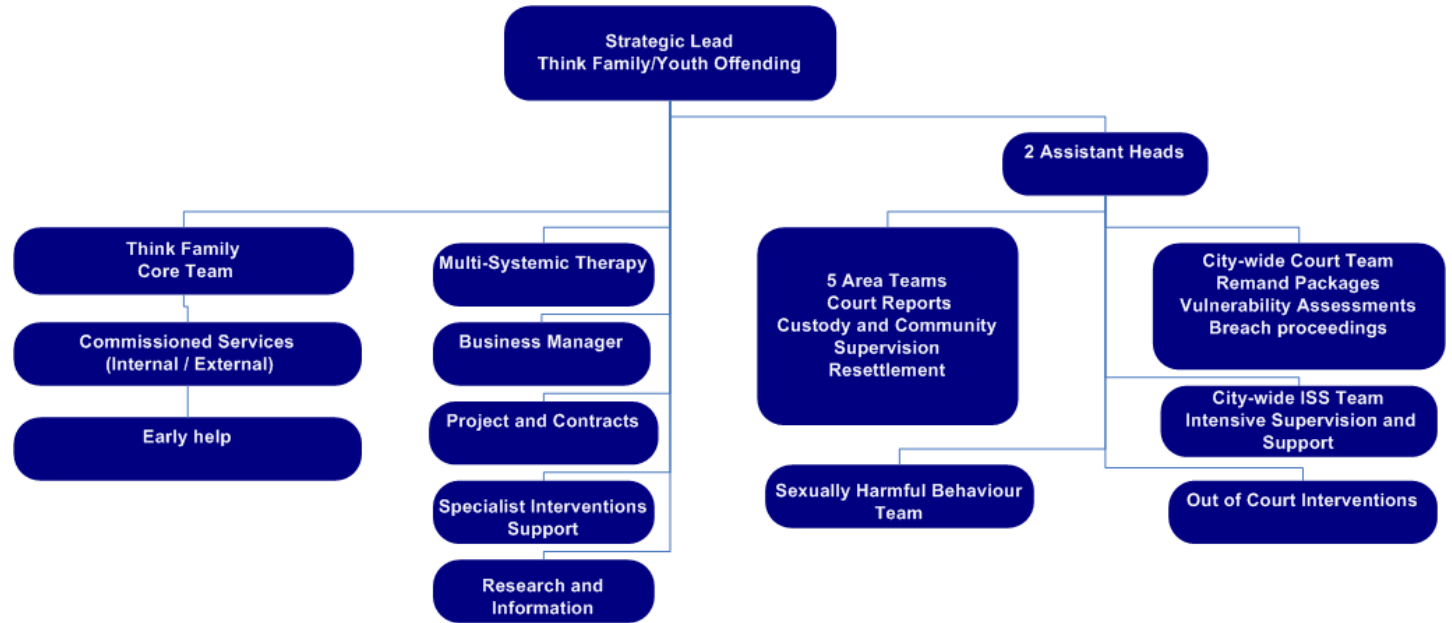


Figure 1: Simplified organisation chart, Youth Offending Service

Partnership arrangements

The Youth Offending Service is a member of, or represented in key partnerships and forums, providing the opportunity to highlight the needs and risks of those young people involved in the youth justice system, or at risk of entering it. These include the following:

- **West Midlands Strategic Management Board for Multi-Agency Public Protection arrangements**
- **Safeguarding Children's Board**
- **Birmingham Community Safety, Police and Crime Board**
- **Youth Violence Steering Group**
- **Integrated Offender Management Strategic Group**
- **NEET strategy group**
- **Attendance Strategy Group**
- **Police and Schools Panels**
- **Substance Misuse Strategy and Commissioning Group**
- **Corporate Parenting Board**
- **Prevent Strategy Group**
- **Think Family Board**
- **CAMHS Strategy Board**
- **Youth Offer Commission**

During 2013/14 the Service has continued to build on its excellent partnership working by:

- Continuing to second a case manager into the Multi-Agency Gang Unit, and funding, from 2014, a Safeguarding Social Worker to maximise opportunities to manage high risk offenders and increase interventions that reduce risk and vulnerability.
- Prioritising attendance at the nine School and Police Panels: working collectively on strategies to prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour and youth crime. The Service is also working positively with several schools and Head Teachers where offending rates require more collaborative approaches.
- Working in partnership with West Midlands Fire Service to locate two of the five Youth Offending Teams within its headquarters. This has provided excellent opportunities to enhance current partnership working between the two organisations.
- Fulfilling the requirements under the Service's Think Family Investment Agreement, which includes achieving positive outcomes for families defined under the agreement. Think Family is Birmingham's response to the national Troubled Families agenda.
- Developing relationships within the 'Think Family' partnership, including Department of Work and Pensions staff, to promote training and employment opportunities for adults within families and Third-Sector organisations commissioned to work intensively with families requiring this level of support.
- Continuing to develop partnerships with employment and training providers, thereby increasing the opportunities for young people through apprenticeships and other placement provisions, so that their life chances and outcomes are improved.
- Piloting a project with Centro and National Express to deliver a programme aimed at young people who commit minor offences whilst on public transport.
- Working alongside Barnardo's to develop services to reduce Child Sexual Exploitation and expand the Female Gender Specific Programme.

Resourcing and value for money

Youth Offending Service Partnership Funding 2014/15

The Youth Offending Service partnership's overall delegated funding in 2014/15 of £8,620,795 compares similarly with £8,489,431 in 2013/14. This has supported the stability of the Service to meet minimum statutory responsibilities following reductions since 2010/11 when the total funding was £10,642,055. Increases in 2014/15 include pay and pension contributions.

The minimum Service statutory responsibilities have increased during 2014 including additional expectations related to Unpaid Work for 16 and 17 year olds, Restorative Justice and Remands to the Secure Estate. Additional funding has been provided towards these new duties. Reductions in funding from statutory partners and the Youth Justice Board have been mitigated by the Service successfully identifying and bidding for other funding streams which has increased responsibilities but is enabling the Service to further support its ambition to prevent and reduce youth crime. This additional funding is short term and may not be available at current levels in 2015/16. There is currently no indication of the scale of any savings from statutory partners or the Youth Justice Board for 2015/16 or the collective impact of them.

During 2013/14 the Service was required to implement funding reductions, which included Local Authority (£400,000), Youth Justice Board (£325,390) and Community Safety Partnership (£100,000) and in 2014/15 reductions to the Local Authority Education Welfare funding (£138,000) and National Probation Service (£29,813). These reductions have been mitigated for a two year period (2013/14 - 2014/15) by:

1. The Police and Crime Commissioner Community Safety funding of £273,365 for a two year period commencing in 2013/14 to contribute towards support for restorative justice and work with victims, knife crime programmes, reparation and education and training opportunities for young offenders.
2. £640,000 'Think Family' funding for the Service as part of a two year Investment Agreement to take on additional responsibilities related to adults and siblings within the family and continuing to work post the statutory order. This new funding commenced in 2013/14 and concludes March 2015. This funding has also prevented 18 redundancies.
3. Successful application to the Arts Council of £69,392 for a music programme to roll out across the Service that will provide additionality for statutory services.
4. Home Office Prevent funding of £28,000 to support work related to reducing vulnerability to violent extremism.
5. Increased Youth Justice Board funding for new responsibilities in respect of Unpaid Work previously part of in kind contributions from the National Probation Service and an increase in funding for a further expansion of restorative justice.

Partner	Staffing (£)	Other Delegated Funds (£)	Total (£)
Police	382,000		382,000
Police and Crime Commissioner	273,364		273,364
Probation	629,519		664,519
Health	253,327		253,327
Local Authority	3,056,918	772,979	3,829,897
Youth Justice Board	2,088,819	431,477	2,485,296
Other sources of funding	709,392	23,000	732,392
Total	7,393,339	1,227,456	8,620,795

Figure 2: Youth Offending Service Partnership Funding 2014/15

Value for money

A new Youth Justice funding formula is due to be implemented in 2014/15 and therefore the latest available Youth Justice Board comparator data on YOT funding per 10-17 population and per Youth Justice Disposal for the period 09/10 is the latest to report on. This identified Birmingham as the lowest funded core city per 10-17 population and the second lowest funded for disposals. The Service continues to be reliant on the use of group work to deliver a range of programmes to meet National Standards, which is not ideal but reduces costs. The Service has also continued to be pro-active in identifying and successfully bidding for additional funding streams to mitigate reductions to core funding.

The significant changes to the conditions of the Youth Justice Board Good Practice Grant introduced in May 2013 set out clear expectations that this Grant cannot fund 'business as usual' including new statutory activity in place since the establishments of YOTs including Referral Order responsibilities. The Youth Justice Board continue to require YOT Managers to produce a 'costed plan' each year evidencing how the allocated funds will support a reduction in youth re-offending; reduction in first time entrants; reduction in the use of youth custody; effective public protection and effective safeguarding through developing good practice and supporting research. This development plan has to be approved by the Youth Justice Board. Mainstream funding has been revisited to fund all statutory 'business as usual', funding minimum statutory responsibilities.

Statutory Partner funding

The YOS Management Board is overseeing the allocations for 2014/15 on behalf of the Chief Executive in order to continue to deliver effective services to meet statutory responsibilities. There continues to be a number of risks associated with the funding streams of the Youth Offending Service from its statutory partners and its other funding sources. Staffing costs make up a significant part of the YOS budget from statutory partner funding:

- The Local Authority and Probation contributions fund the statutory duties of the Service including: court officers, social workers, YOT officers and Probation Officers who risk assess, write court reports, and carry out statutory interventions including enforcement activity with young people subject to court orders. Both agencies also fund specialist project staff required to provide statutory interventions, administration and management posts and continuing services that existed prior to the establishment of the YOS. These are required to meet National Standards.
- From June 2014 the responsibility for unpaid work for 16 and 17 year olds has transferred from the National Probation Service to Youth Offending Services with a funding transfer supported by the Ministry of Justice and the Youth Justice Board.
- The Local Authority also funds a Sexually Harmful Behaviour team, which works with young people from 8 years to 17 years, their parents and guardians, to reduce their risk to others and to themselves. It also funds a statutory Appropriate Adult service.
- Police funding contributions enable the secondment of Youth Crime Officers who contribute significantly to offender management and support intelligence to reduce re-offending and identify and respond to vulnerability i.e. child sexual exploitation or trafficking issues. Contributions also support the pooled management arrangements.

- Health contributions fund the secondment of clinical nurse specialists and access to psychiatry and educational psychology consultations. This ensures enhanced pathways to mental health screening and interventions for young people to reduce their risk of harm to others and to themselves i.e. self-harm.

New financial responsibilities for Remands to the Secure Estate

The Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 introduced legislative changes placing responsibility for funding remand placements for all secure and custodial remands with the Local Authority from April 2013. As part of the Act, 17 year olds were made subject to the same remand framework as 12-16 year olds, meaning that they can now be remanded into Local Authority Secure Children’s Homes (LASCHs) or Secure Training Centres (STCs) as an alternative to a Young Offender Institute (YOI), if deemed vulnerable. This has significant financial implications to Local Authorities as LASCHs and STCs, whilst more protective for young people, are more costly. For 2013/14, the costs of a bed night in each placement type were as follows:

LASCH	£580
STC	£579 (01 Apr 2013 – 30 Sep 2013)
	£587 (01 Oct 2013 – 30 Nov 2013)
	£583 (01 Dec 2013 – 31 Mar 2014)
YOI	£157

Additionally, from December 2012 all 12-17 year olds subject to a secure remand automatically acquire Looked After Children status and these remand episodes now count towards young people qualifying for ‘Care Leaver’ status on their release.

Whilst funding has been made available from the Youth Justice Board to cover some of these costs it has not devolved its historical contribution (two thirds) towards those young people then eligible to be placed within Local Authority Secure Children’s Homes or Secure Training Centres as this contribution should always have sat with the Local Authority. In addition the funding from the Youth Justice Board was reduced by 26% in 2013/14 and again by 22% in 2014/15 in anticipation of a decrease in the use of remands as legislation has restricted the criteria for remands into the Secure Estate.

The number of remand bed nights between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 has fallen significantly from those used in 2012/13 from 123 young people and a total of 6399 remand bed nights across the previous year. This is a positive trajectory supported by alternative options such as Local Authority Accommodation and Intensive Bail Support programmes being utilised. However, the proportion of young people being remanded to Secure Training Centres was far higher in 2013/14 than the previous year as shown in Figure 3. Figure 4 identifies the bed nights and costs by placement type 2013/14.

Establishment type	2013/14: Number of bed nights	2012/13: Number of bed nights	% Difference
LASCH	374	562	-33.45
STC	953	542	+75.83
YOI	1841	5295	-65.23
Overall	3168	6,399	-50.49

Figure 3: Number of bed nights, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

Age At Start of Remand Episode	LASCH		STC		YOI		Overall	
	Number of bed nights	Cost of bed nights	Number of bed nights	Cost of bed nights	Number of bed nights	Cost of bed nights	Number of bed nights	Cost of bed nights
13	11	£6,380	3	£1,737	0		14	£8,117
14	156	£90,480	308	£191,220	0		464	£281,700
15	73	£42,340	157	£91,459	39	£6,123	269	£139,922
16	134	£77,720	168	£97,384	545	£85,565	847	£260,669
17	0		317	£184,139	1257	£197,349	1574	£381,488
Overall	374	£216,920	953	£565,939	1841	£289,037	3168	£1,071,896

Figure 4: Bed nights and costs by placement type 2013/14

Figure 5 identifies the funding streams from the Local Authority and the Youth Justice Board in 2013/14 and 2014/15. The Local Authority has increased its funding towards remand placements, however it has also had to utilise the entire funding stream from the Youth Justice Board to cover bed night costs. This has impacted on the increased expectations on the Youth Offending Service and Children’s Services staffing budgets to ensure all new duties are undertaken within existing resources. If bed nights for the first three months of 2014/15 continue at the same rate, there will be an expected cost pressure of £53,000 despite the Local Authority funding increase.

Budget Description	2013/14 Allocation	2014/15 Allocation	Variation	% Change
YJB: Remands to Custody	685,228	465,218	-220,010	-32.1
YJB: Staffing	139,941	176,739	-36,798	-26.3
YJB: Transport	19,521	23,210	3,689	18.9
YJB: Secure Escorts	-37,443	-43,053	-5,610	15.0
BCC: secure budget	108,106	422,933	314,827	291.2
Expenditure	915,353	1,045,047	129,694	

Figure 5: Funding streams relating to remands to the secure estate 2013/14, 2014/15

Performance against the three Youth Justice outcomes

1. Reducing the number of first time entrants

First time entrants (FTEs) are classified as young people, resident in England and Wales, who received their first reprimand, final warning or court conviction. The figures are presented as a number and as a rate per 100,000 of the 10-17 year local population.

Performance statement: Birmingham's number of first time entrants has continued to decrease in line with the national average. Between April 2013 and March 2014, Birmingham saw 596 young people (510 per 100,000) entering the criminal justice system for the first time. This number continued to fall from 678 (576 per 100,000) in 2012/13, although it was above the national average (441 per 100,000).

From April 2013, three new out of court outcomes have been introduced to replace Police Reprimands and Final Warnings: Youth Cautions; Youth Cautions with Voluntary Conditions; and Youth Conditional Cautions. In addition, over 1000 Community Resolutions were issued in the 12 month period; these do not count as substantive outcomes and therefore do not feature in the First Time Entrants figures.

The majority of first time entrants were aged 15-17, with 47.4% aged 16 or older. 100 (16.75%) of first time entrants were female. The most prevalent offences amongst first time entrants were Violence against the Person, Theft and Handling Stolen Goods, and Robbery offences.

Of the outcomes given to first time entrants, 49.92% received pre-court outcomes, 48.4% received first tier or community penalties, and 1.68% were sentenced to custody.

Positive targeted partnership approaches include:

- 'Wrap around support' from relevant agencies and specialist third sector providers to young people who are on the cusp of gang affiliation;
- School/Police panels that respond collaboratively with young people most at risk of causing anti-social behaviour and crime;
- A specialist service which assesses and provides specialist interventions for young people engaging in sexually harmful behaviour;
- Assessments and interventions targeting young people and their parents subject to high level acceptable behaviour contracts and anti-social behaviour orders.

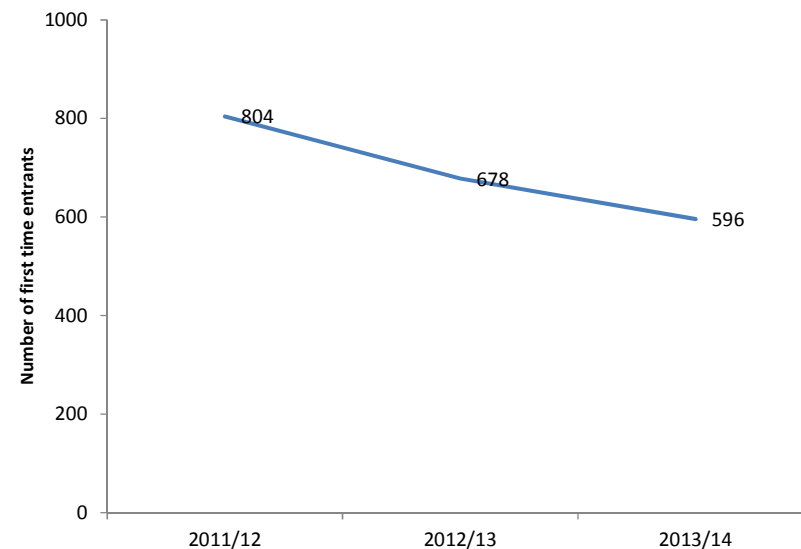


Figure 6: Number of First-time entrants by year, 2011/12 – 2013/14

2. Reducing re-offending

A proven re-offence is defined as any offence committed in a one year follow-up period and receiving a court conviction, reprimand or warning in the one year follow up or a further six months waiting period.

Performance statement: Nationally there has been a rise in the frequency rate for re-offending and analysis that young people in the Youth Justice System have more complex and challenging needs is mirrored locally. However Birmingham has sustained one of the lowest re-offending rates (0.93) of all core cities for the 12 month cohort July 2011 – June 2012 (latest Ministry of Justice figures) and is below the national average of 1.02.

Within this cohort were 1352 young offenders, the largest across the core cities, with 32.99% re-offending, which was one of the lowest percentages of re-offenders of all core cities and compared with 35.37% nationally.

Due to maintaining good performance the Service is now part of a Youth

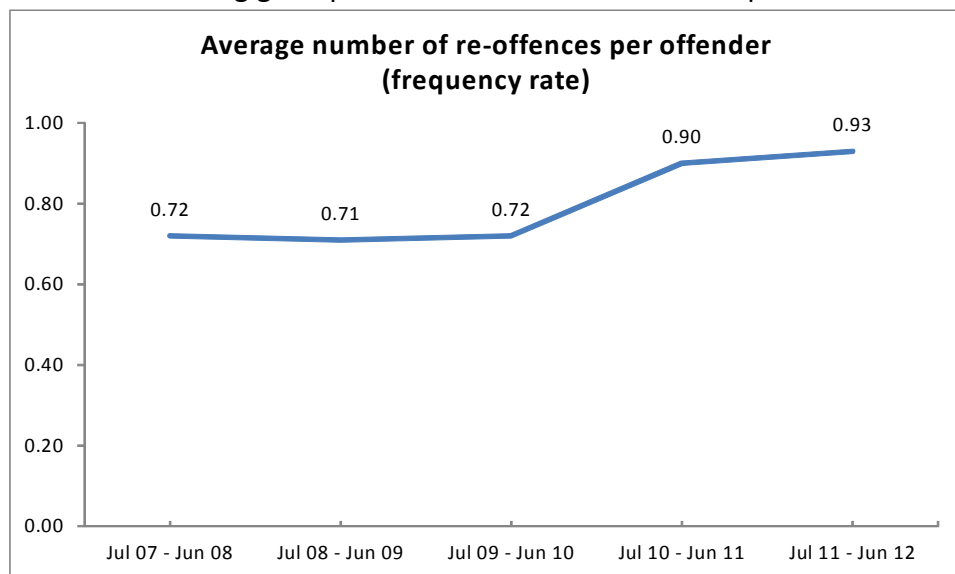


Figure 8: Average number of re-offences per offender, June 2007 –July 2012

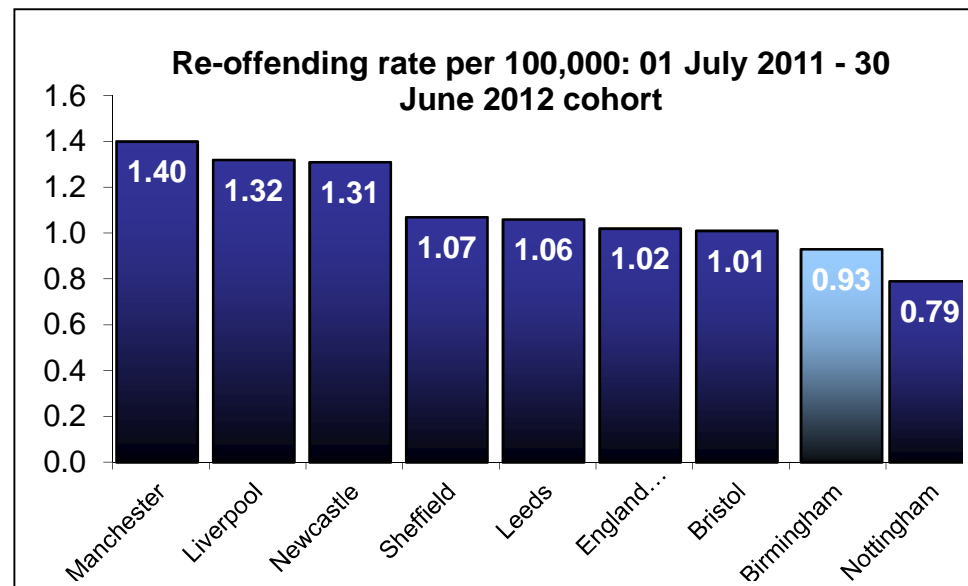


Figure 7: Comparison of latest re-offending rates between Core Cities, Jul 2011 – Jun 2012 cohort, published June 2014.

Justice Board programme which is undertaking deeper analysis of the recidivism cohort. This work is being incorporated into the performance structure in all area teams. There remains within the Service a commitment to maintain and improve this figure.

An analysis of Birmingham young people shows that those who re-offended were more strongly affected by the following risk factors than those who did not re-offend:

1. Lack of commitment including truancy;
2. Living in families under stress due to criminality, substance misuse, mental health issues;
3. Special Educational Needs;
4. Looked After status;
5. Having a large number of previous outcomes;
6. Young people at risk of gang affiliation

Positive interventions include: offending behaviour programmes with a cognitive behavioural therapy focus; restorative justice; evidence based parenting programmes; young people supported to re-engage in education, training and employment and access to substance misuse and mental health treatment.

The Service delivers these interventions through their multi-agency staff and commission third sector specialist services for reducing gang affiliation including support for Looked After Children, services for young people on the autistic spectrum specifically for those at risk of child sexual exploitation and intensive mentoring to support engagement in education, training and employment. The Service also benefits from the Fire Service’s mentoring programme which is displaying good outcomes. Robust transition arrangements with the Probation Trust for all young people approaching 18 are continuing to enable reductions in re-offending to be maintained into the adult system.

3. Reducing the use of the secure estate

Custodial sentences

This indicator compares the number of custodial sentences against the 10 –17 year old population of a local area.

Birmingham has higher than the national average custodial sentences, although levels are better than the majority of other comparator areas. The number of custodial sentences in Birmingham has dropped over the 2013/14 period to 95. This compares to 157 custodial sentences in 2012/13 and 206 in 2011/12.

The majority (88.64%) of young people sentenced to custody were aged 15-17 and young people of either Black or Black British ethnicity or dual heritage backgrounds remain over-represented. 6.9% of those sentenced to custody were young females.

The offence categories most likely to lead to custody were Robbery (37, 38.95%); Violence Against the Person (21, 22.11%); and Breach of Statutory Order (12, 12.63%), which together accounted for 73.68% of custodial sentences during the period. Although Robbery was the most common offence amongst those who received custodial sentences, the number of custodial sentences linked to Robbery offences has fallen since 2012/13 from 56 to 37, with the number of custodial sentences linked to Violence Against the Person offences also dropping sharply from 26 in 2012/13 to 21 in 2013/14.

YOS	Custodial sentences 01 April 2013 - 31 March 2014	10-17 population	Rate per 1,000 of the 10-17 population
Birmingham	95	116,751	0.81
Bristol	13	34,608	0.38
Leeds	60	65,097	0.92
Liverpool	74	39,143	1.89
Manchester	68	42,895	1.59
Newcastle	11	23,236	0.47
Nottingham	27	25,506	1.06
Sheffield	27	48,237	1.06
England and Wales average	2,303	4,946,372	0.47

Figure 9: Comparison of custody rates between Core Cities, April 2013 – March 2014.

Of the 95 custodial sentences made during the reporting period, 21 (22.11%) received up to 6 months detention, 41 (43.16%) from 6 months to 12 months and 33 (34.74%) over 12 months.

The Service has an intensive alternative to custody programme, Intensive Supervision and Surveillance programme (ISS), which is available to courts at bail and sentence stage and for young people released from custody and subject to licence. This programme includes 25 hours per week of intensive supervision and curfew enforced by electronic monitoring. During the period, 131 young people started on an ISS programme. Over the whole year, 146 young people were worked with by ISS on community-based programmes.

Remand bed nights

On 3rd December 2012 the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 came into force. This introduced significant changes affecting remands:

- 17 year olds were made subject to the same remand framework as 12-16 year olds, meaning that they could be remanded into Local Authority Secure Children’s Homes (LASCHs) or Secure Training Centres (STCs) if deemed vulnerable;
- All 12-17 year olds subject to a secure remand now automatically have Looked After Children status;
- From 1st April 2013, funding for all secure and custodial remands was devolved to Local Authorities.

The number of remand bed nights between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 fell significantly from those used in 2012/13.

In 2013/14, 71 young people were remanded to the secure estate between April 2013 and March 2014, resulting in 3168 remand bed nights. This was a fall from 123 young people and a total of 6399 remand bed nights across the previous year. However, the proportion of young people being remanded to STCs was far higher in 2013/14 than the previous year.

Establishment type	2013/14: Number of bed nights	2012/13: Number of bed nights	% Difference
LASCH	374	562	-33.45
STC	953	542	+75.83
YOI	1841	5295	-65.23
Overall	3168	6,399	-50.49

Figure 10: Number of bed nights, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

B became involved with the ISS team as a condition of his Section 90-92 Detention licence. He had already served half of his 30 Months in custody. Whilst in custody, B spent over 10 Months in solitary confinement and was totally non co-operative. At his final review before leaving custody, he made no promises to comply with the terms of his licence when he returned to the community.

A team of professionals from the ISS team, SOVA and C.A.H.M.S. were assigned to B with the aim of determining if he could re-settle back into society within the time frame of 6 Months.

The results of an informal CAMHS assessment revealed that there were no mental health concerns other than due to his isolation he had lost some of his social skills.

The team began equipping B with an intensive programme of intervention and encouragement whilst delivering the core elements of the ISS programme. Within a month B started to change from a very angry and negative person to a pleasant young man. He reconciled with his family and re-connected with his education and also returned to his love of boxing. B spoke of wanting to write letters of apologies to his victims and even the parents of his peers whom he led astray.

He has not re-offended.

An analysis of the remand data for 2013/14 identified that:

- The average length of remand episode was 34.43 days, with the average episode for those remanded to STCs and LASCHs roughly 6-8 days longer.
- 90.14% of the remanded population were male and 28.17% (20 young people) were Black or Black British, compared to 10.72% of the local 10-17 population.
- 79.35% of remand episodes during the period were made in response to offences with a gravity score of 6 or above.
- Robbery was the most common offence for which young people were remanded, accounting for 48.91% of remand episodes, with violent offences leading to a further 29.35% of episodes. 554 bed nights were given in response to the highest gravity crimes (manslaughter, murder and rape). 3 of these offences led to custodial sentences being imposed; the other 2 remands are still ongoing.
- Young people with a history of being looked after accounted for 43.03% (1363) of the 3168 remand bed nights during the period.
- 49.68% of bed nights were in relation to those aged 17: a cohort who previously could only be remanded to a YOI.
- 20.13% of bed nights for 17 year olds were in STCs, which identifies issues relating to vulnerability and safeguarding.

J was a young person on Bail ISS that was transferred from a YOT in London.

J was supported in taking his exams at City United and he took 18 in total.

Due to not being familiar with the area he was picked up and transported to all his exams. The Service worked with his school in London to provide additional revision work for him and the young person was positive about his time in Birmingham and being able to take his exams.

He fully complied with the Bail ISS and did not re-offend.

During the same period, 25 young people were remanded to Local Authority Accommodation for a total of 1293 nights as an alternative to a secure remand. The Service provided Bail Supervision and Support to 25 young people for 1379 nights, and 22 young people were given an Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Bail programme for 804 nights.

Performance against local objectives

In addition to the three national youth justice indicators, Birmingham YOS Management Board monitors the performance of other local indicators identified as significant contributors to achieving broader outcomes. This includes a young offenders' engagement in suitable full time Education, Training and Employment (ETE) at the end of their order (Council Plan 2011-14).

Young offenders engaged in full time Education, Training and Employment

This is an important protective factor to promote stability and well-being and to help reduce likelihood of re-offending and this objective will continue to be a priority.

10 young people from the YOS were given the opportunity to gain experience in Event Conferencing during the 2 day National YJB conference held at the Hilton Birmingham Metropole Hotel at the NEC.

The young people worked alongside 'Dods' (the event organiser) undertaking technical support roles with the Media Team, as well as supporting the smooth flow of the event by providing stewarding and way-finding roles.

This was a great opportunity for the young people to enhance their C.V.'s and get real experience in working at a conference event, providing them with valuable skills in event stewardship and media work.

However, for many of our cohort, the ability to be able to engage in full time ETE is becoming increasingly difficult. During the period, the number of young offenders in full time education, training and employment at the end of their order was 74.72%. This compares to 82.98% achieved during 2012/13. The Youth Justice Board has maintained 25 hours provision as the benchmark and often young people in this cohort were not offered sufficient hours and therefore this has impacted on the target. The YOS Management Board is requiring Commissioners and Providers to increase their 'offer' for these young people where appropriate and the YOS will in future report on those in 25 hours and those achieving full attendance on the hours offered. Other reasons for the reduction include:

- The nature of the YOT cohort has evolved and we are now working with young people with more complex needs and challenging behaviours and risks. This is evidenced by the high number of those not engaging in ETE who have Statements of Educational Need due to Behavioural, Emotional and Social difficulties (BESD), and an increasing number on the Autistic spectrum. This has resulted in a reduction of young people being able to maintain a full time placement.
- Financial pressures on nationally commissioned ETE providers to meet Payment by Results contracts which disincentivises providers from taking on those with lower level ability and more challenging behaviours. This has led to a 'light touch' approach to working, which for the more complex young people is not enough to fully support their successful engagement.

Within the Service there are no longer full time dedicated ETE mentors who are geared up to work intensively with the post-statutory school age NEET cohort. The Connexions Service is now only offering 0.5 - 1 day a week in each YOT for Careers Advice and guidance interviews (CIAG) compared to the 2 full time intensive Personal Advisors per YOT in the past. This offer of CIAG does not provide the relationship based style of support that is needed to successfully prepare those we are working with for ETE. An attempt to secure this intensive support from the providers has proved difficult as they are reluctant to base their staff within the Service.

Funding has been secured in 2014 from the Vulnerable Disengaged Young People's Fund to develop an initiative for 2014-15 which enables the allocation of volunteers to work with young offenders in preparing them to re-engage back into ETE and this will bring some additional support.

ETE Engagement has also been hindered by the considerable reduction in the number of work-based learning providers in the city over the past two years. This type of provision that was often the first ETE step for many of our cohort and the loss of these, often very pastoral vocational learning environments, is a barrier to successful ETE engagement for many.

The challenges of engagement for the Statutory School age cohort are made more difficult by the structure of mainstream school education that is often not conducive to the learning styles and needs for many of our cohort. There is still an ongoing difficulty of ensuring schools provide workable alternatives that meet the number of hours required. This is especially difficult for the Key stage 3 pupils where alternatives are limited.

The Service has implemented savings in the Education Welfare Service and now has one dedicated ESW to replace one in each of the five multi agency teams. It is planned to continue with a YOT ESW to focus on the BESD cohort who are often more vulnerable to disengaging from ETE.

There are also a number of young people that are successfully engaged in ETE but not able to be counted because they do not start within the timeframe of the last week of their Court Order. The YOT percentage figure does not therefore fully reflect the number of young offenders who successfully re-engage in ETE. Reasons such as awaiting course start dates, delays in the start date whilst minimum numbers are established, or waiting for the Fair Access Sharing panel to meet, might all inhibit the young person from starting within the timeframe for the YJB. However the support and intervention offered whilst they were engaged with the YOS will often lead to these young people successfully re-engaging.

The Service has successfully created direct employment opportunities for young offenders and Looked After Children, working in partnership with employers across the City including Midland Heart Housing and Jericho Foundation to provide pre-apprenticeships and apprenticeships. Almost all of the 2012 cohort who took part in the pilot Midland Heart 'Back on Track' programme for young offenders completed their apprenticeships and moved on to a traineeship, with others progressing on to employment elsewhere. A new cohort began their apprenticeships during 2014, including a care leaver, with each apprentice supported by a Midland Heart mentor. In 2013, Birmingham YOS developed a scheme whereby ex-service users have been employed by Midland Heart as apprentices and placed in the Youth Offending Service as Youth Consultancy and Support workers

As a result of the successful use of the outreach Construction Youth Trust mobile classrooms delivered programmes in 2013/14, further funding has been secured from the BBC Children in Need to run another 3 -4 mobile classrooms during 2014 - 15. These mobile classrooms provide taster days followed by the delivery of short 8 week courses providing young offenders with a level one introduction to construction qualification and work experience opportunities with major construction companies in the city. The Service also offers the Rapid English Communication Course, a software-based literacy intervention resource that allows non-specialist staff within the YOS to identify and overcome literacy problems. This is proving highly beneficial for those young people completing the course, leading to improvements in their personal confidence, improved school attendance and interview readiness.

To provide an alternative view, the Service also measures 'distance travelled', which represents a comparison between the number of hours of ETE received by each young person at the start and end of a programme. In this period, 58.49% of programmes remained unchanged in the number of hours - the vast majority of these being successfully maintained in their full time ETE provision; 27.96% of programmes had increased hours of ETE provision and 13.55% of programmes had reduced hours.

Restorative Justice

The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime (2013) governs the service provided to victims and places an obligation on the Service to:

- Take account of victims' needs;
- Invite victims to become involved in RJ interventions;
- Explain the role of the YOS and allow victims to make informed choices;
- Keep victims informed about the progress of the case;
- Provide additional support during and after the RJ intervention.

This is further reinforced by the Birmingham Victims Charter which shows the Council's commitment to improving services for victims of crime and anti-social behaviour and supports victims in reporting crime to the Police. It also reinforces the duty of the Service to adhere to the standards set out in the Code of Practice for Victims and work more closely with other agencies such as Victims Support.

Supporting victims and Restorative Justice (RJ) processes provide opportunities to redress the harm caused by young offenders to their victims. In order to ensure that victims are supported and have a voice, we work in partnership with colleagues from a variety of other agencies. Where appropriate, and with the victim's consent, the Service will plan and oversee mediation between the victim and their offender.

Work with victims has been given a higher priority by the YJB for the next three years and features more prominently in its audit processes. This is in response to the national Code of Practice and is reflected in the Birmingham Victim's Charter. Funding for training has been provided by the YJB and over the next year additional training for all staff will be provided, to raise awareness and develop higher skills levels in working with complex cases.

In the period 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014, out of 855 relevant programmes closing, 496 victims of young offenders were identified and 236 (27.6%) took up the offer of an intervention. 68 (35.98% of those who disclosed their age) victims were 17 or under. There were high levels of feedback from victims and 100% identified that they were satisfied with the service that they received.

K was arrested with others for a Robbery of a mobile phone and money from another young person.

Prior to sentence contact was made with the victim and work was undertaken with both victim and offender to see if a Restorative justice intervention was feasible. The Restorative Practice Worker co-ordinated work with both parties over a period of 4 months.

Extensive offending behaviour work and victim awareness with the offender and regular contact with the victim and his mother resulted in a face to face meeting, during which both young people had the opportunity to express their views and come to an agreement as to their future contact.

The offender's mother also wrote a letter of apology, expressing to the victim and his parents her regret and apology for her son's behaviour. Since this time there has been contact between the two young people, but with no further offending.

Safer Travel Project

The Service is currently piloting a project with Centro and National Express delivering a programme aimed at young people who commit minor offences whilst on public transport. Once identified, young people attend a Victim Awareness session at the YOT, which focuses on the cost to the public of damage to both buses and trains and the effects of anti-social behaviour on passengers. This is followed up with 3 sessions at the National Express bus depot, where young people spend their Saturday afternoons cleaning buses and removing graffiti from bus shelters.

Reparation (Community Payback)

Where direct mediation is not appropriate, we ensure that the young offender is involved in an indirect reparation project. This means that every young person can quickly engage in community work towards 'paying back' for their crimes.



There are a range of reparation and community payback programmes and the number of hours that a young person is expected to undertake is set by the court. Victims are often consulted about the nature of reparation the young person engages in.

This year has shown an expansion of the allotment projects across the Service with vegetables being grown and cultivated by young people and the produce being donated to local food banks.



Unpaid work

Responsibility for 16 and 17 year olds on court disposals including Unpaid Work has moved from the National Probation Service to the YOS. Due to a delay in the change of responsibility, coupled with late confirmation of both budgets and guidance, the Service has not been in a position to start its own Unpaid Work unit. However, negotiations with Probation and the new Community Rehabilitation Companies have resulted in a continuation of their provision until the end of the financial year.

Accommodation

Ensuring that young people have suitable accommodation is a critical factor to preventing re-offending. Suitable accommodation is important in aiding young people to maintain consistent attendance at school, gain employment, engage with health services and benefit from programmes to address offending behaviour. Research has indicated that the presence of stable accommodation in a young person's life can mean a reduction of more than 20% in re-offending rates. Conversely, a lack of suitable housing options has contributed in the past to overuse of the secure estate and poor outcomes for young people.

The Youth Offending Service has an Accommodation Pathway Service that involves liaising with local partners and the local housing department to ensure that the housing-related needs of young people are being addressed. This service is coordinated by a specialist worker, on behalf of the Youth Offending Service, commissioned from the third-sector. Through Supporting People funding, the Service has access to specialist, dedicated accommodation, which includes emergency provision.

Work is ongoing in relation to ensuring the provision of suitable accommodation and support for young people on release from custody.

Between April 2013 and March 2014, 98.69% of young people were assessed as having suitable accommodation at the end of their order or on release from custody.

Think Family

The continued development of 'Think Family', Birmingham's response to the National Troubled Families programme, has brought about a significant change to **the thinking** and practices of the Service. Staff are now working in a more holistic way with families, not just focusing on the young offender, but taking into account, and providing provision for, other problem areas, such as training and employment opportunities for parents and education and training for other siblings within the family.

Focusing on the 3 national criteria of Crime and ASB, ETE and unemployment and worklessness, as well as the local criteria of 'low parenting capacity', staff have developed working practices that allow them to continue with their offender-focused work within the Youth Justice Board's National Standards and, in tandem, adapt the Family Common Assessment and Integrated Support Plan processes.

Combining both of these agendas has brought about changes to practice, redefining of some specialist roles and emphasising the necessity for closer working with partner agencies and third-sector providers. Increasing numbers of staff have benefited from attending the Level 4 Working with Complex Families City and Guilds. In addition managers have also received appropriate training to keep them skilled in supervising staff working with complex family cases.

In respect of the Investment Agreement the Service is on target to have achieved successful outcomes for 792 families by May 2015. Figures indicate that the Service has engaged with 785 families and that successful outcomes have been achieved with 447 families.

Parenting interventions

Parenting interventions aim to reduce parenting risk factors, such as harsh or erratic discipline, poor supervision and conflict at home, and to strengthen protective factors such as positive and consistent discipline, constructive supervision and supportive parent-child relationships. The Service utilises the Triple P-Positive Parenting as its main evidence based family support programme. Staff work closely with the Restorative Practice Workers to provide Family Group Conferencing across the following areas:

- Families supporting and reinforcing Bail Support packages;
- Families supporting and reinforcing alternative to custody programmes;
- Engaging the family several months before release of the young person from custody;
- Supporting the family and helping them develop additional skills i.e. parenting and supervision skills;
- Getting agreement from both the young person and the family to be involved in the process.

D was increasingly absconding from school and his mother suspected that he was mixing with some young people who were connected with local gangs.

Following arrest for Theft from Motor vehicles of Sat Nav systems, D was given a Referral Order.

D's mother expressed her concern that she was struggling to set proper boundaries for D and that he might entice some of her younger children to follow his example.

Working with the YOS Parenting Worker, D's mother developed a number of skills and had the opportunity to meet and speak to other parents who were in the same situation.

With increasing confidence the relationship between D and his mother has improved and with the support of the YOS worker extensive work has been undertaken to address his offending behaviour.

To date D has not reoffended.

In the reporting period, 855 Youth Offending Service programmes ended in respect of 702 young people. Of these 855 programmes, 92 (10.76%) were supported by a parenting intervention: the majority engaging on a voluntary basis and 36 subject to a Parenting Order. Over the whole year, the Service worked with 91 young people and their families on parenting interventions. This was a reduction from the same period in the previous year due to a fall in the number of parenting workers to four across the Service.

Of the young people supported by parenting interventions between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, 51.09% had an improved Asset score in the *Family and Relationships* section, indicating a reduced pre-disposition to re-offend. The majority of work with parents takes place within groups, enabling parents to support each other and several parents have set up self-help groups to continue this support.

The parenting workers are working more closely with partnership colleagues prompted by the Think Family agenda. Greater collaborative work with MST, Action for Children, Barnardo's, Shelter, Family Action and Malachi Community Trust is providing greater support to parents.

Multi-systemic Therapy

Multi-systemic Therapy (MST) is a unique, goal-oriented, comprehensive treatment programme designed to serve multi-problem youth in their community. MST is the only family-focused and community-based treatment programme that has been the focus of several major research studies and demonstrated clinical- and cost-effectiveness for youth with complex emotional, social, and academic needs. Research studies of young people who break the law repeatedly and/or abuse illegal substances are clear. The causes of youth offending are difficulties in the following areas: family relations, school performance, peer relations and neighbourhood and community relations. MST interventions focus on key aspects of these areas in each youth's life. All interventions are designed in full collaboration with family members and key figures in the child's life.

D was being looked after by his elder sister, S, who struggled as she lacked the necessary parenting skills. D became involved in anti-social behaviour with other youths, was absconding from school and was eventually arrested.

The YOS assisted D and S by finding them suitable housing, getting S the necessary benefits with the help of DWP, supporting S to develop parenting skills and working with D to address his offending behaviour and school attendance.

Since its inception in December 2011 in Birmingham, MST have worked with 79 families and we are currently carrying a caseload of approximately 16 cases. Between September 2013 and February 2014, performance figures indicate that MST have been successful in keeping young people at home in almost 95% of cases, in education in over 70% of cases and a reduction in the number of arrests being made in almost 90% of cases. Due to the size of the city, MST does not currently service the south of the city, but it is hoped that based on the above outcomes, another team will be established in the coming future. Over the forthcoming year, it is intended to continue to contribute towards reduction of recidivism rates in Birmingham and build upon current successes.

Specialist Interventions

Appropriate Adults

The Service is responsible for ensuring Appropriate Adult support is offered to all young people aged from 10 to 16 years who are arrested and detained in the Police Station, but who do not have a parent or carer in attendance. The Appropriate Adult attends to safeguard the welfare and rights of children police detention. The service is staffed by volunteers supported by a full time co-ordinator and is available to all Police stations across the city. Out-of-Hours coordination is covered on a paid casual basis and the Service works closely with colleagues from Social Care and Health in respect of the corporate parenting of Looked After Children.

In April 2013, a ruling in the High Court indicated that to treat 17 year olds in custody as adults was unlawful and contrary to the Children's Act and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. In order to promote good practice pending changes to legislation, agreement has been reached with West Midlands Police that Appropriate Adult support will be offered to all 17 year olds that are arrested. At present it is impossible to ascertain what demands this may make on the Service in future. However, as this is a mainly volunteer-led service it is hoped that it will be possible to respond to increased workload without impact on the Service. During 2013/14 the Service provided Appropriate Adults on 411 occasions. These related to 282 young people.

A revised protocol between Children's Services, West Midlands Police and the Youth Offending Service, has been agreed and covers the transfer of those young people denied bail at the police station, to local authority accommodation (PACE Act) with an emphasis that no young person should be unnecessarily detained in a Police Station overnight.

Anti-Social Behaviour

The Youth Offending Service's Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Support Team is a city-wide service with a small staff team providing support across the five area YOT's. The team works with young people aged between 10-17 years subject to an ASB sanction including an early warning letter, Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC), an Anti-Social Behaviour Order (ASBO) or a Criminal Anti-Social Behaviour Order (CRASBO).

The Team delivers a service which complements and builds upon the already existing local processes developed to tackle anti-social behaviour. Where the Safety Communities Team, Police, Housing Departments and Registered Social Landlords make the decision to use an enforcement measure on a young person who is committing anti-social behaviour, a referral is made to the team to undertake a comprehensive assessment of need followed by an appropriate support package for the young person and family.

Due to reductions in staffing and the high volume of ASB Early Warnings being issued by the enforcement agencies, the team can only offer a limited service in these cases. Therefore young people will be prioritised by identified need and risk. The ASB worker will complete a full assessment, whilst considering the Think Family criteria with the view to signpost to appropriate existing services or initiate an fCAF.

During the period the ASB team worked with 277 young people in support of Individual Support Order programmes and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts in addition to preparing assessments and supervising young people on court ASBOs and CRASBOs.

Female Gender Specific Programme

This year has seen a proposal put forward and accepted for the establishment of a Female Gender Specific (FGS) unit for young women within the Youth Offending Service. This is the culmination of a number of years work by committed staff who are passionate about their work with young women. It is envisaged that the unit will be in place by the end of 2014 and the relevant posts agreed. This would fulfil the obligation of the public sector to design services with the different needs of young women and young men in mind as laid out in the Gender Equality Duty which was incorporated in the Equality Act (2006).

This programme is based on Oregon's (USA) 'Guidelines for Effective Gender Specific Programming for Girls (2000)' which advocates a holistic approach to working with young women.

An examination of the data relating to young women within the service highlighted the following areas:

- Using April 2012 – March 2013 figures, young women accounted for 17% or 214 of all young people open to the YOS.
- 26.64% had a history of being Looked After compared to 11.33% of young men.
- 40.65% had a Vulnerability Management Plan compared to 27.53% of young men. 14% were assessed as being of high or very high vulnerability compared to 5.48% of young men.
- A high number have been sexually exploited or are at risk of sexual exploitation.

These figures indicate that young women have significantly different needs from those of young men, are more likely to have Looked After status and have higher levels of vulnerability. It is therefore clear that specific programmes are needed to meet the needs of all young women within the service. Due to the intensity of the work required and the resources available to bring about change it would not be possible to work with all young women in the service. The unit will therefore work with the most complex cases identified by the Child Sexual Exploitation assessment developed by Barnardo's. Seriousness and frequency of offending, mental health concerns and substance misuse will also form part of the criteria for acceptance onto the programme. However, all young women will attend a programme of Healthy Relationships and Keeping Safe within their area YOT.

In the past year the programme has continued to give intensive support to those young women who are victims of sexual exploitation and sexual violence. This programme is in response to new challenges and increased knowledge of how young females can be coerced into supporting or engaging in criminal activities through sexual violence and exploitation. This approach is enabling the Service in partnership with third sector providers to improve safeguarding strategies, policy and practice to address serious violence against young females and reduce their involvement in the criminal justice system.

The work has included the following interventions:

- Healthy Relationships

A young woman aged 17 subject to a 6 months YRO was referred to Female Gender Specific Summer Programme.

Interventions were delivered using drama, discussion, media, internet, worksheets & games.

Concerns were raised by staff that that she had experienced some form of trauma, which was recognised through her body language, responses in discussion and questions asked.

Over a 2 week period she disclosed she was a victim of two counts gang rape and it had been photographed, and these images had been widely distributed on the Internet.

Her feedback was that she felt safe to share this information and the staff really showed care, interest and understanding of her experience.

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub was informed and safeguarding measures have been put place.

She has continued to engage with interventions and staff and has not re-offended.

- Keeping Safe
- Offending Behaviour
- Restorative Justice
- Life Skills.

The range of interventions will be further developed in 2014/2015. The MST Supervisor who is a Forensic Psychologist will be available for guidance. There will be two tiers of intervention based on complexity.

- Tier 1: Daily life skills training alongside wellbeing
- Tier 2: Young women with borderline personality disorder traits and attachment issues who have had past trauma.

DBT (Dialectical Behaviour Therapy) is a psychological therapy for people with the above problems (Tier 2). It is anticipated that training in this therapy will be provided for staff working in the unit.

The engagement of young women has been crucial to the success of the programme, which should be relationship-based: a mixture of one-to-one work and work in small groups with consistent female workers within a relaxed but structured environment. As they begin to feel safe the young women begin to disclose what is happening to them in their lives.

Outcomes of this programme will be measured against a number of areas, results of pre and post psychometric tests, frequency and seriousness of reoffending, feedback from young women and the Barnardo's measure of change.

Preventing Violent Extremism

For 2014/2015 Birmingham Youth Offending Service has developed six main themes that align with the Counter Terrorism Unit's identified priorities:

1. Challenging the use of the Internet as a recruitment tool for extremism: A new cohort of young people will be asked to create a second short movie to highlight the changing nature of extremism, and how this affects them. This again will be put on to YouTube and other social media websites frequented by young people; the aim once again is to encourage young people to be more analytical and critical of what they see on the internet rather than taking things at face value and like the previous short movie will then become a resource for the Service to encourage discussion and debate on the issues at hand.
2. Specialist Interventions will continue to be offered to young people on Orders in conjunction with our other Third Sector provider, Barnardo's, as research has identified that young people with communication disorders, Autism, Asperger's etc. are amongst the most vulnerable to radicalisation and extremism.
3. Purchasing of new, updated material around Right wing extremism from Rewind a community based organisation who work closely with Channel, Security and Partnership Teams and Youth Offending Services. The training packs will continue to support staff to work with young people in a pre-Channel space, as well as those on Channel. Packs will once again be purchased for each YOT area.

4. Birmingham YOS continues to work in partnership at three levels: Strategic level, being a member of the Birmingham PVE Strategy Board and communicating closely with both the Birmingham City Council PVE Coordinator and BCC Channel Coordinator. At an Operational Level with the Security and Partnership Teams and being a member of the Channel panel as well as locally working closely with community based and voluntary groups. This allows the YOS to align itself with national strategy and interpret this to a local level as well as being aware of emerging trends locally.
5. Birmingham YOS will continue its work on non- violent extremism through group and one to one work challenging environments conducive to extremist narratives as well as developing its integration strategy helping vulnerable young people to settle back into mainstream society.
6. Birmingham YOS will continue to ensure appropriate quality referrals are made to the Channel Panel in order to access more support and resources.

Sexually Harmful Behaviour

A specialist Sexually Harmful Behaviour Team (SHB) undertakes risk assessments and therapeutic interventions to prevent and reduce sexually harmful behaviour in partnership with key agencies. The team was established jointly by the Youth Offending Service and Children’s Services to provide specialist provision for young people aged 7-18 years of age who are at risk of entering the Criminal Justice System or are subject of a Court Order for sexual offences. Whilst the majority of referrals are from Children’s Social Care, referrals are received from CAMHS, GPs and Paediatricians, Schools, Police and the Youth Offending Service.

Families and carers are essential to this work and are actively engaged throughout SHB interventions. Protection of victims is comprehensively assessed at all stages. This service works with young people either on a voluntary or statutory basis. It also delivers pro-active

presentations, provides consultations for concerned professionals and carries out preventative work in schools in order to promote appropriate behaviour.

The Service has worked in partnership with health to increase assessment and intervention from CAMHS for young people engaged with the SHB service. It was identified by the SHB Team that mental health problems and neurodevelopmental disorders have a significant impact on the behaviour of young people exhibiting sexually harmful behaviours.

To ensure holistic care packages, the CAMHS service have responded by providing to the Youth Offending Service, a band 7 Clinical Nurse Specialist under the supervision of a Child Psychiatrist who provides assessment and treatment of those young people identified as not having their mental health needs met elsewhere.

Approximately 26% of the total referrals received by the Sexually Harmful Behaviour team over the 12 month period have been assessed by CAMHS with advice or direct intervention provided as part of the overall intervention programme. In addition, CAMHS have appointed a trainee Psychologist to undertake specialist interventions, psychometric testing and to promote Forensic Psychology assessments and interventions.

During the period the SHB team received 133 new referrals and worked with 110 young people during the year.

Referral source	Number of referrals	% of referrals
Children’s Social Care	66	49.62
Schools	28	21.05
Primary Health	13	9.77
Youth Offending Service	11	8.27
Police	11	8.27
Housing	3	2.26
Government Agency	1	0.75
Overall	133	

Figure 11: SHB Team: Number of referrals by source, April 2013 - March 2014

J is a 17 year old male from a family with a history of neglect, domestic violence, and emotional and sexual abuse. He had a sexual relationship with his younger sister that started when he was ten or eleven years old and his sister was three years younger, that continued for some years.

J was taken into care about a year ago. Though at first resistant to working with the team, once he started working he found it a positive experience and has now completed 17 sessions. At the time of referral he was attending an education provision for two hours a week because of his bail conditions.

Subsequently, because of his consistent engagement, it was decided that prosecution would not be in the public interest.

The removal of bail conditions has allowed J to obtain a training place four days a week, and he is also undertaking voluntary work for five hours a week in an animal sanctuary.

He is also continuing to work with the SHB team, and these factors contribute to a continuing reduction in risk to the community as well as enabling J to live a rewarding life in the future.

Weapons offences

The number of weapons offences has fallen overall by 13.6%, between 2012/13 and 2013/14, and the number of young people committing weapons offences has fallen from 140 to 121 in the same period. Weapons offences include possession of offensive weapon, possession of a bladed article, possession of a firearm imitation or real, knife-enabled robberies or theft from person or aggravated burglary. Self-defence and fear are the most frequently cited reasons for carrying a weapon.

The key risk factors from national research affecting an individual's likelihood of carrying a weapon are:

- Being male (though females more likely to carry weapons "for self-defence")
- Having recently been threatened or a victim of crime
- Involvement in drug dealing;
- Having limited abilities to resolve disputes
- Involvement with a criminal peer group

It is difficult to estimate how many young people carry knives but there are fears it is becoming 'normal' in some areas. Young people tend to carry pen knives or flick knives, but kitchen knives are more commonly used in stabbings. Most young people who carry knives say they do so for 'protection', this is compounded by the perception, that there is widespread possession amongst young people, as well as experience of victimisation. In terms of those committing knife-enabled crime, young people at risk of gang affiliation and/or are socially excluded are more predisposed to be violent, particularly those who witness or experience violence in the home or in the community.

The "Knife Means Life" programme has been developed by the Intensive Supervision and Support Team as a multi-agency approach to reduce knife crime. The 6 week programme includes:

- The reasons why young people carry and use knives,
- Knife crime and the law,
- What to do if someone is bleeding,
- What to do if someone is unconscious,
- Managing conflict and keeping safe,
- Consequences of knife crime for victims, offenders and the wider community.

AR was suspended from school having been found in possession of a knife.

He was later arrested and received a Caution. Neither of his parents was in employment and due to rent arrears were facing eviction from their home.

Following assessment of the family, AR was referred to CAMHS and subsequently received Cognitive Behavioural and Solution Focused therapies.

He was also put on the Knife programme by the YOT. The MST team supported the parents and working with DWP, managed to assist in the family being rehoused and their arrears reduced.

The young person has not reoffended

The Service is working alongside Street Doctors (a national charity) and West Midlands Police to ensure that the programme is engaging, informative and interactive. The programme includes giving young people the confidence in delivering basic first aid skills; this is delivered by Street Doctors medical students. The final session gives young people the opportunity to talk to ex-offenders and victims of knife crime.

Research has shown that, nationally, young people who previously took part in the Street Doctors element of the programme have saved a total of three lives as a direct result of what they had learned.

Nationally all Youth Offending Teams run Knife Crime Prevention Programmes to tackle knife carrying among young people who offend as part of a Court Order who are convicted of any offence where a knife, or the threat of a knife, is a feature. In addition the Birmingham Youth Offending Service requires young people who possess knives at Court and pre court stage (Cautions) to undertake the programme. In addition to the current interventions offered to young people the Service is:

- Developing a Knife Prevention Programme for Parents to reinforce the dangers of young people carrying weapons and devise strategies to support the parenting role;
- Strengthening interventions with young people who have not committed knife-related offences to ensure that they are aware of the dangers of carrying knives;
- A city-wide campaign with clear messages in relation to the risks of carrying and using knives: If you carry a knife you are more likely to have it used against you or at risk of using it if your emotions take over and there is no safe place to stab.

The Service's Knife Crime Prevention programme was set up with support from Accident and Emergency Consultants in the City and has set modules in either group or individual sessions. The modules include: attitudes to knife carrying; health; laws surrounding knives and weapons; managing conflict and anger; peer education; public space awareness; and social implications of knife possession. It includes detailed information on what happens when someone is stabbed and what the consequences are for the victim, the victim's family and the community as well as for the young person and their family.

Substance Misuse

Nationally, the rates of drug use among young people have fallen by around a third in the last decade. Cannabis and alcohol are the most common substances used by young people, though volatile substances (such as glues, gases or aerosols) also remain an issue, particularly at younger ages. The number of young people accessing substance misuse treatment across Birmingham averages at approximately 500 young people with complex treatment needs, and 1500 young people requiring short alcohol interventions. Numbers in treatment and substance of choice have remained relatively stable over the year and reflect the national picture. The main drug use is a combination of alcohol and cannabis with low numbers needing support for Class A drug misuse.

The 2013 - 2014 Substance Misuse Public Health England data highlighted that 49% of all referrals for specialist treatment in Birmingham came from the Youth Offending Service compared to 33% nationally. The overall age profile and wider vulnerabilities are listed below:

Age	%
Under13	1%
13-14	14%
15	26%
16	31%
17	30%

Figure 12: Age range of referrals to specialist treatment, 2013/14

A range of wider vulnerabilities were also identified from referrals in addition to complex substance misuse including:

Looked After Child	16%
Domestic Abuse	12%
Mental Health Problems	32%
Sexual Exploitation	1%
Self-Harm	8%
NEET	29%
Pregnant or young parent	2%
Child Protection Plan	5%
Anti-Social Behaviour/Criminal Act	32%
Affected by parental substance misuse	17%

F had been using cannabis for some time and had increasingly stolen items from home to pay for his drugs.

Eventually his mother refused him entry to the house and he ended up 'sofa surfing' at friends' houses. But, as a result of stealing from them he ended up living on the streets.

Desperate to find money for his drugs he would illegally take mobile phones from other youths. Following arrest and conviction for Robberies, the YOS found him supportive lodgings and working closely with Aquarius and CAMHS, managed to reduce his drug use and the increasing paranoia that he was experiencing.

F knows that his recovery must be taken a day at a time, but he has recently renewed his contact with his mother and they are rebuilding their relationship.

He has been on two recent work placements and is hoping that this last one may lead to the possibility of an apprenticeship.

He has not reoffended.

Between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, YOS staff referred 282 young people to the substance misuse provider, Lifeline. The main substances being misused were cannabis and alcohol with a small percentage referred for Khat and Mephedrone.

The substance misuse provider for Children's Services changed on 1st April 2014 and Aquarius were awarded the city-wide contract. Three way meetings between the Youth Offending Service, Aquarius and Lifeline have been held to ensure clear referral pathways and data sharing protocols. As a result of extensive work with both the previous and new providers there has been no break in the provision for the Youth Offending Service.

Similarly, following a commissioning exercise within the secure estate Lifeline were awarded the contract at Werrington YOI which is the Service's main provider for custodial services.

Child and Adolescent Mental Health

Birmingham has a range of Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) that aim to support children and young people who are experiencing emotional and mental health problems. Child and adolescent mental health disorders are surprisingly common. They affect 10-20% of children and young people - with the most recent UK figure indicating that 10% of 5-16 year olds had a diagnosed mental health disorder. Common mental health disorders and difficulties encountered during childhood and the teenage years include:

- ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder);
- Autism and Asperger Syndrome (the Autism Spectrum Disorders, or ASD);
- Emotional and behavioural problems;
- Conduct Disorder;
- PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder);
- OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder);
- Depression; Eating Disorders; Bullying; Anxiety.

CAMHS staff within YOS work with identified young offenders to reduce a range of risk factors that can cause young offenders to be more at risk of emotional and developmental problems. By building an individual's resilience, improvements are seen in their ability to cope with situations that may lead to offending.

Over the last 12 months, investment has been put into the training and development of YOS and specialist CAMHS staff who have attended Non Violent Resistance (NVC) training. This is a method of intervention that assists young people with complex emotional, behavioural disorders to better cope with stressful situations without the need for violence or aggression. This intervention is highly appropriate given the level of violent offences amongst young people that the Service works with. This is being further developed through the identification of a clinical supervisor for this work.

During 2014 an Independent Review was commissioned by Birmingham Children's Hospital to assess the effectiveness of the current delivery model and this concluded that the current arrangements needed to be modified. It was felt that the CAMHS YOS team would benefit from a wider professionals skills mix: the Child Psychiatry input will continue and a Team Leader is in post to overview the provision to the YOS: 2.5 Band 7 Community Psychiatric Nurses, an Assistant Psychologist, a Specialist Clinical Support worker at band 5. Some funding will be retained to fund speech and language and occupational therapy

sessions. This model will be a CAPA style model using choice and partnerships appointments allowing a better overview of caseload. Forensic Psychology input is also being developed which should assist the overall skills mix.

The review has also led to a newly proposed framework for CAMHS with a proposal for all 0-25 years services (and funding of £24m) to come under one provider umbrella with the exception of Forensic Beds. A series of events are underway to consult stakeholders and service users and an event will engage with potential service providers. A tendering process is being planned whereby providers will be interviewed and compete to win the contract which will come into effect from April 2015. The change is quite radical in that it will require a portion of funding to be transitioned from Adult Mental Health in order to meet the 16-25 year age group

A group of YOS staff have also been trained alongside CAMHS staff in the use of SAVRY (Structured Assessment of Violence Risk in Youth) and this has produced a number of informative reports on some of the most violent clients and is commonly applied across certain MAPPA clients. Training has also taken place in DBT (Dialectic Behavioural Therapy) which can assist those with suicidal tendencies and those who have experienced deep trauma in their past. The DBT approach has also been incorporated into an emotional skills group that has been piloted at one YOT and is due to roll out to other areas of the city. This will assist those with higher Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire scores by improving their problem-solving and decision-making skills.

Between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, YOS staff referred 130 young people to YOS CAMHS staff who carried out 516 interventions and offered 865 contacts. In addition 330 consultations with YOS staff were carried out.

Offending Profile

The profile of young offenders in Birmingham is similar to the National Audit Office (2010) research, which identified that the risk factors most associated with those young people at risk of custody and re-offending were:

- Higher proportion had risks related to family relationships;
- Higher levels of truancy and NEET;
- Association with negative peers including gangs;
- Negative mind-set and attitude;
- High levels of substance misuse, including alcohol;
- Aggressive behaviour;
- Special Needs.

Proven Offences

In the period 01 April 2013 to 31 March 2014, 2099 offences were proven against 1006 young people. This resulted in 1558 outcomes. In comparison with the same period in 2012/13, the number of offenders represented a fall of 16.10% (from 1199), offences a fall of 12.51% (from 2399) and outcomes a fall of 13.30% (from 1797).

However, major changes in legislation and central government policy in the intervening time have significantly altered the landscape in which the Service operates. As the numbers of young people coming into the criminal justice system has fallen, the Service works with a cohort of young people with more complex and resource-intensive needs. In addition, the Service is engaging with the wider family and their assessed needs under the 'Think Family' agenda.

Community Resolutions

As detailed above, changes in the criminal justice system have displaced the disposal of some crimes from formal action through the CPS and courts to more informal processes to deal with low-level crimes and ASB. Community Resolutions are one such avenue which allows police officers to bring offenders and victims together to find an acceptable outcome. It is implemented by the police as 'a common sense alternative' to pursuing formal action saving a huge amount of officer time.

In the period, 1210 Community Resolutions were made. The top 3 crime categories where a Community Resolution was used were Theft, Assault and Criminal Damage. Community Resolutions were used across the 10 - 17 age range. Work is ongoing to understand the detail of offences where a Community Resolution was used to ensure that they are used appropriately.

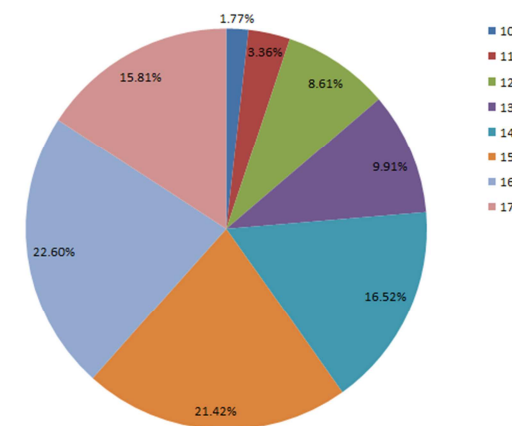


Figure 13: Community Resolutions by age, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

Offences by type

The offence types with the highest prevalence of offending were:

- Violence against the person;
- Theft and handling stolen goods;
- Robbery.

These were the same as in 2012/13, though the number of offences has fallen for each type.

Overall, the 2099 proven offences were broken down as shown in figure 15.

Age and Gender

It is well established that young people with a criminal record have a more difficult and less successful transition into adulthood. It has also been researched extensively that the earlier a young person becomes involved in

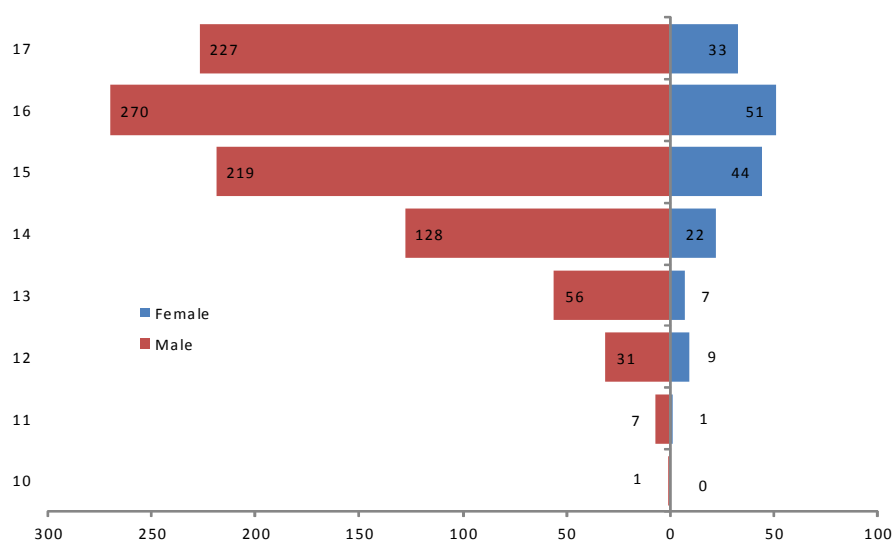
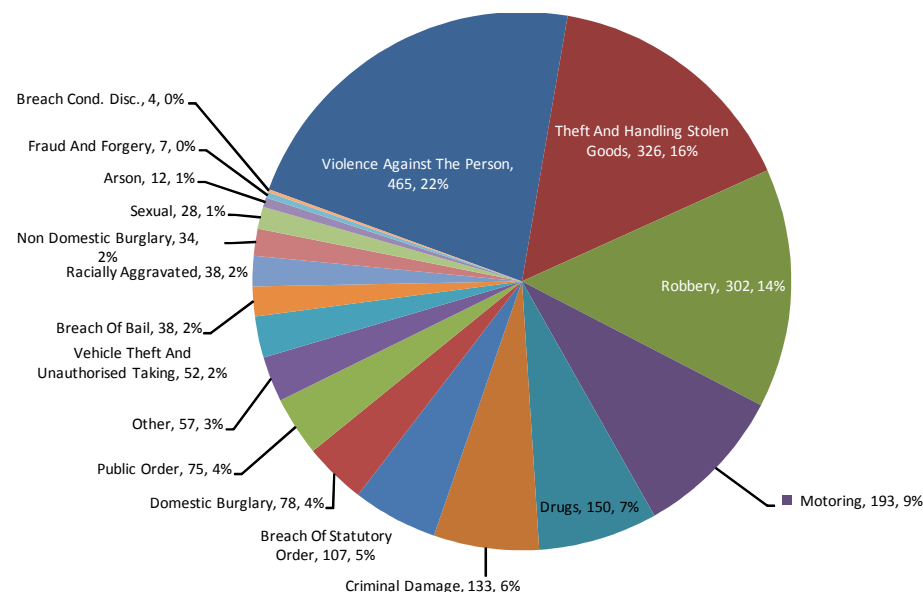


Figure 16: Proven offences by age, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

committed by 17 year olds have been disproportionately affected by the use of Community Resolutions.

Offence types	2012/13	2013/14	% change
Violence against the person	544	465	-14.52%
Theft and handling stolen goods	424	326	-23.11%
Robbery	312	302	-3.21%

Figure 14: Offences with the highest prevalence, 2012 - 2014



offending, the higher the risk of persistence. Young offenders and those who are violent at a young age also have an increased likelihood of becoming persistent, recidivist offenders, and engaging in violent crime.

Children and young people are subject to criminal prosecution from the age of 10 and national figures show offending peaking at age 17, with a decrease thereafter. However, in contrast to the previous year's figures, where local figures matched national trends, in 2013/14 figures show a peak at 16 years, with a fall-off thereafter. There is no current evidence that offences

Young men accounted for 855 (84.99%) and young women, 151 (15.01%) of the 1006 young people who had offences proven against them in 2013/14.

Offending remains a predominantly male activity. In 2013/14, of the 2099 proven offences committed, 1794 (85.47%) offences receiving a substantive outcome were committed by young men, 305 (14.53%) by young women. This gives a rate of 2.10 offences per person for males and 2.02 for females.

There is a difference in the nature of offences committed by each gender. Though the number of young females involved in violent offences is much lower than young men, young females have a far higher proportion of offences in the violence against the person category. The difference between the genders in all offence categories is shown in figure 17.

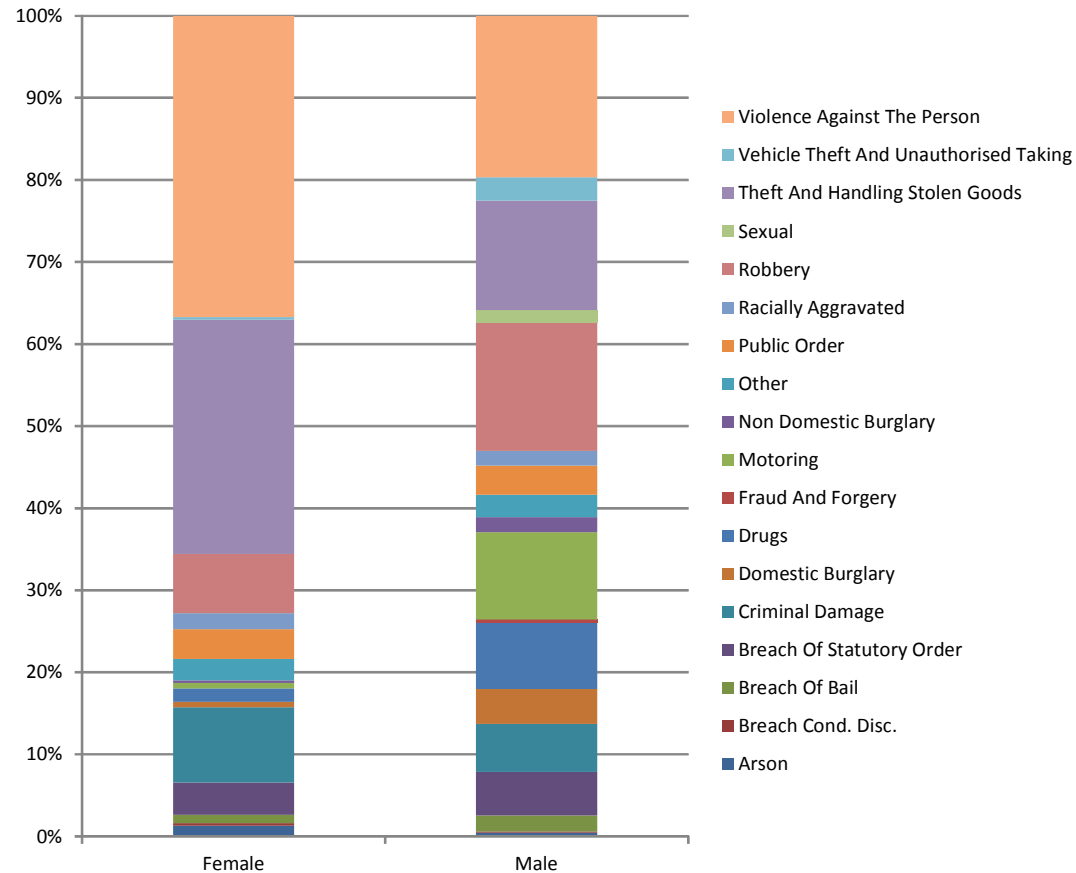


Figure 17: Proven offences by age and gender, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

Ethnicity

The most recent data³ to breakdown the 10 – 17 population by ethnicity has been used to analyse the number of offenders with proven offences in 2013/14 in relation to the overall 10 – 17 population of the city.

The Service continues to place a high priority on reducing disproportionality, both in terms of young people engaged in the criminal justice system and the use of the secure estate.

Comparison with 2012/13 shows an increase in the proportion of offenders from Black or Black British background, though their over-representation in the criminal justice system has fallen (from

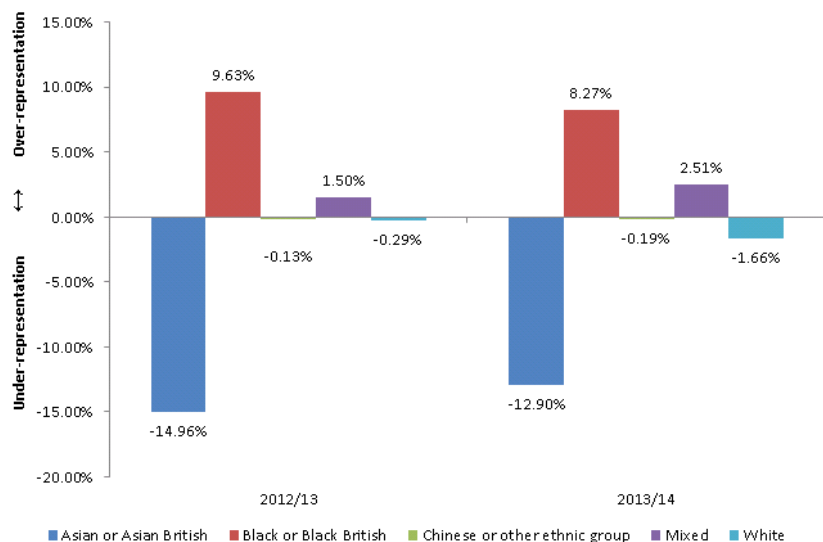


Figure 19: % of disproportionality between offenders and general population, 01 April 2013 - 31 March 2014

	Number of young people	% of 10 - 17 population	Number of offenders	% of 10 - 17 offending population
Asian or Asian British	39,459	33.5%	207	20.6
Black or Black British	12,633	10.7%	191	19.0
Chinese or other ethnic group	2,804	2.4%	22	2.2
Mixed	9,936	8.4%	110	10.9
White	53,042	45.0%	436	43.3
Not Recorded			40	4.0
Total	117,874		1006	

Figure 18: 10 – 17 year's population: Number of offenders with proven offences by ethnicity, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

9.63% in 2012/13 to 8.27% in 2013/14). To a lesser extent, young people of dual heritage (categorised as 'Mixed' by the Youth Justice Board) also remain over-represented.

Offenders from an Asian or Asian British background have also increased as a proportion of the 10 – 17 years population offending: though they remain significantly under-represented in the criminal justice system.

However, those young offenders from a Black or Black British background remain over-represented in the criminal justice population.

Both Asian young people and White young people remain under-represented in the youth justice population.

A range of actions are being taken by the Partnership to reduce the over representation of Black young males, including contributing to preventative work to reduce school exclusions and gang affiliation which is significant to this agenda.

³ Office of National Statistics Census 2010

Outcomes

In respect of the 2099 offences proven between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, 1558 outcomes were made.

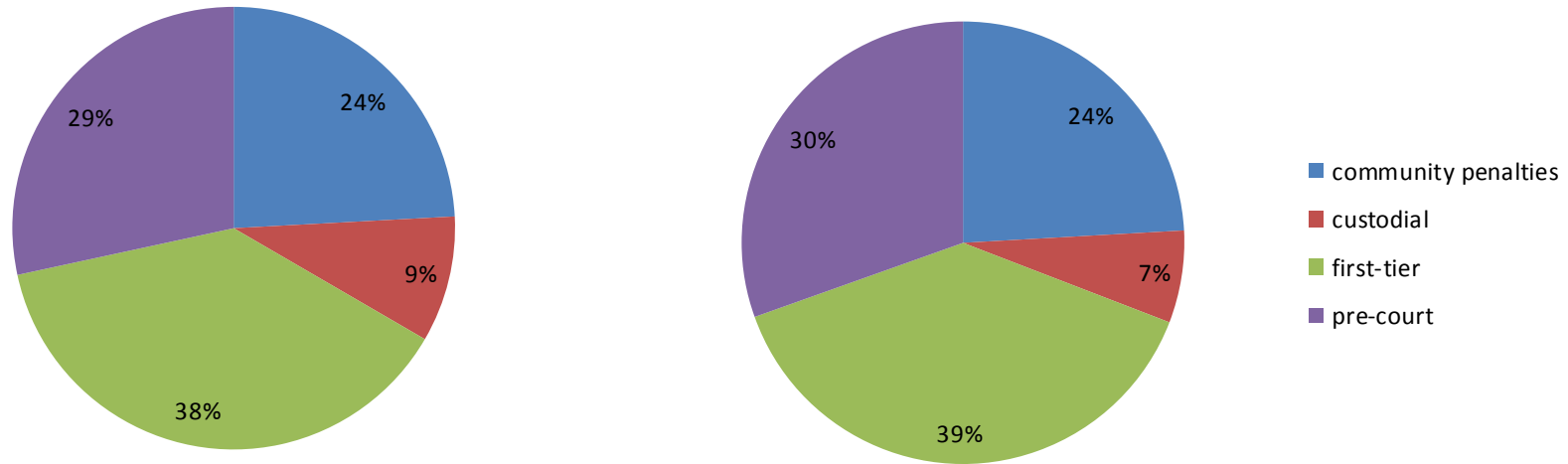


Figure 20: YJB Outcome Tier for proven offences comparison 2012/13, 2013/14

The proportion of outcomes in the custodial category fell by 2% between 2012/13 and 2013/14 with a corresponding increase in pre-court and first tier outcomes. Community penalties remained unchanged.

Working with young people

As not all outcomes generated between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 result in orders to the Service, the caseload of the Service comprises of both new and existing orders and programmes. Additionally, the Service also facilitated intervention programmes not directly related to pre-court and court outcomes as a part of its preventative role.

During 2013/14, the Service worked with 1649 young people on court ordered and preventative programmes, 862 (52.27%) of these were existing clients. This compared with the Service working with 1986 young people, 988 (49.75%) of whom were existing clients, in the same period the previous year. This represented a fall of 16.97% over 2012/13.

Age and gender

In terms of the age and gender of the young people worked with during 2013/14, figure 21 shows that the majority of young people worked with were male (1414, 85.64%). Females accounted for 235 clients (14.25%). These proportions were very similar in the previous year.

For males 17 year olds were the most prevalent age in the Service's caseload, whilst for females 16 years was the peak age. This was the same in the previous year.

Ethnicity

Those young people from a Black or Black British, or Dual Heritage remain over represented as a proportion of the clients that the Service works with, whilst the Asian or Asian British population is under-represented.

The Service intervention programmes are undertaken taking into account the cultural and religious needs of the young person and their family observances as laid down in legislation and National Standards. The Service engages translation services where necessary and has actively recruited staff with appropriate language skills to work with groups of young people who speak very little English.

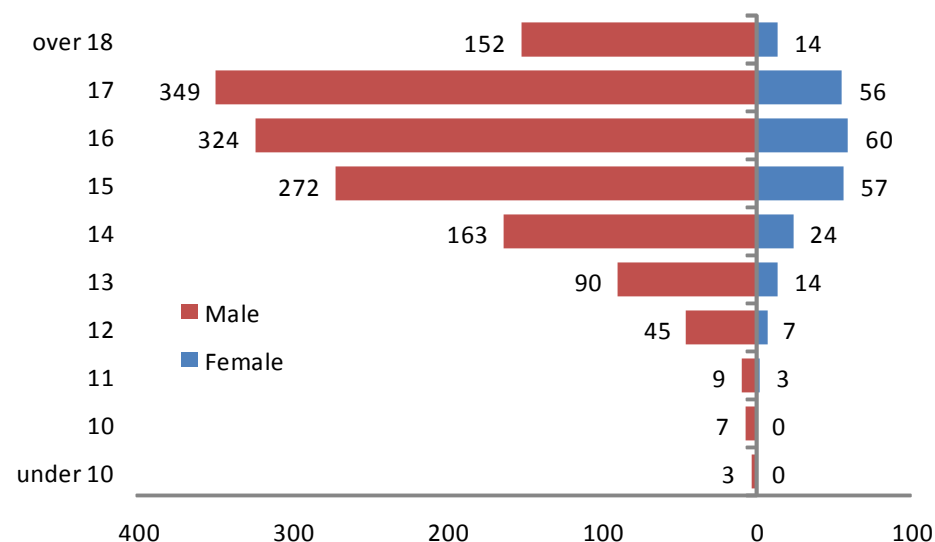


Figure 21: Number of clients worked with by Age and Gender, 01 April 2013–31 March 2014

The Service has taken a number of actions, including contributing to preventative work to reduce school exclusions and commissioning programmes to reduce gang affiliation which are significant to this agenda and is also working with faith-based organisations to address issues. The young black men’s empowerment programme, ‘The Journey’, works with young black men by strengthening protective factors to enable desistance.

The Service runs interventions which are specific to British Asian/Muslim boys, which are designed to prevent radicalisation and promote greater life chances. Work is also on-going to reduce extremism by white young people.

	Number of young people	% of 10 - 17 population	Number of offenders	% of 10 - 17 offending population
Asian or Asian British	39,459	33.5%	325	19.7
Black or Black British	12,633	10.7%	354	21.5
Chinese or other ethnic group	2,804	2.4%	39	2.4
Mixed	9,936	8.4%	187	11.3
White	53,042	45.0%	739	44.8
Not Recorded			5	0.3
Grand Total	117,874		1649	

Figure 22: Ethnicity of clients worked with, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

‘The Journey’ aims to equip young black men in the criminal justice system with the skills and practical resources to enable desistance.

During the nine weekly sessions a range of issues relating to identity, the impact of absent fathers and school experiences, are addressed through group sessions, creative writing, music and drama.

The programme encourages desistance through identifying and building on strengths, exploring the myth of hopelessness, encouraging better decision making and identifying a ‘significant other’ for each young person to act as a positive role model.

The programme, led by a black female YOT manager, has been recognised by the Youth Justice Board, as emerging best practice.

Ward

	Clients worked with	Number of 10 to 17 resident in ward	% of ward being worked with
Acocks Green	56	3243	1.73 %
Aston	90	4259	2.11 %
Bartley Green	41	2774	1.48 %
Billesley	33	2991	1.10 %
Bordesley Green	82	5387	1.52 %
Bournville	28	2525	1.11 %
Brandwood	26	2717	0.96 %
Edgbaston	23	1524	1.51 %
Erdington	52	2082	2.50 %
Hall Green	20	2986	0.67 %
Handsworth Wood	34	3173	1.07 %
Harborne	23	1687	1.36 %
Hodge Hill	44	3679	1.20 %
Kings Norton	47	2690	1.75 %
Kingstanding	64	3198	2.00 %
Ladywood	34	1339	2.54 %
Longbridge	43	2746	1.57 %
Lozells and East Handsworth	63	4228	1.49 %
Moseley and Kings Heath	24	2254	1.06 %
Nechells	66	3820	1.73 %
Northfield	47	2563	1.83 %
Not Known/Out of City	51		
Oscott	18	2580	0.70 %
Perry Barr	23	2524	0.91 %
Quinton	24	2579	0.93 %
Selly Oak	9	1110	0.81 %
Shard End	57	2929	1.95 %
Sheldon	27	2248	1.20 %
Soho	62	3538	1.75 %
South Yardley	41	3580	1.15 %
Sparkbrook	57	4725	1.21 %
Springfield	38	4170	0.91 %
Stechford and Yardley North	68	3070	2.21 %
Stockland Green	34	2328	1.46 %
Sutton Four Oaks	3	2371	0.13 %
Sutton New Hall	10	2115	0.47 %
Sutton Trinity	9	2637	0.34 %
Sutton Vesey	9	2282	0.39 %
Tyburn	43	3044	1.41 %
Washwood Heath	99	5263	1.88 %
Weoley	27	2916	0.93 %
Grand Total	1649	117874	1.40 %

Of the 1649 young people who the Service worked with in 2013/14, 1598 were usually resident within the city.

Figure 23 identifies the number of young people being worked with from each ward and the percentage that represents each ward's 10 - 17 population.

National research shows that:

- Birmingham contains some of the most deprived areas of the country with 40% of people living in areas that are in the 10% most deprived in England.
- Birmingham ranks as the 9th most deprived out of the 354 authorities in England.
- Birmingham is the most deprived of the West Midlands Metropolitan authorities.
- Of the Core Cities only Liverpool and Manchester rank as being more deprived than Birmingham and Bristol is the least deprived.

Figure 23: Number of young people being worked with by ward, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

Needs Analysis

The Youth Offending Service uses a nationally mandated system of assessment called 'Asset'. This system assesses a young person to determine a young person's likelihood to re-offend, determine the appropriate intervention level for the young person's needs and ensures that resources go proportionately to those young people with the highest needs. This 'Scaled Approach' aims to ensure that interventions are tailored to the individual and are based on an assessment of their risks and needs. The intended outcomes are to reduce the likelihood of re-offending for each child or young person by:

- tailoring the intensity of intervention to the assessment;
- effectively managing risk of serious harm to others;
- effectively managing the vulnerability of the young person.

Levels of intervention, risk to others and risk to self all contribute to the overall level of contact with a young person and are based upon a number of individual assessments reviewed in line with National Standards depending upon the assessed need or risk.

Risk Levels

Compared with 2012/13, 2013/14 saw an increase in the proportion of the Service's caseload presenting a risk to others. Those presenting a medium, high or very high risk increased from 65.2% in 2012/13 to 66.7% in 2013/14. As the overall number of young people coming to the attention of the criminal justice

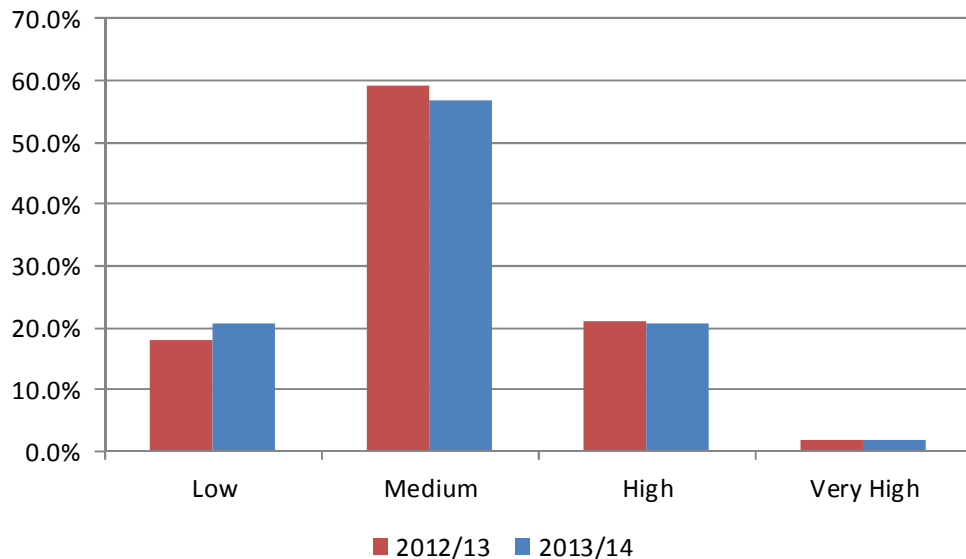


Figure 25: Assessed level of Risk to self, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

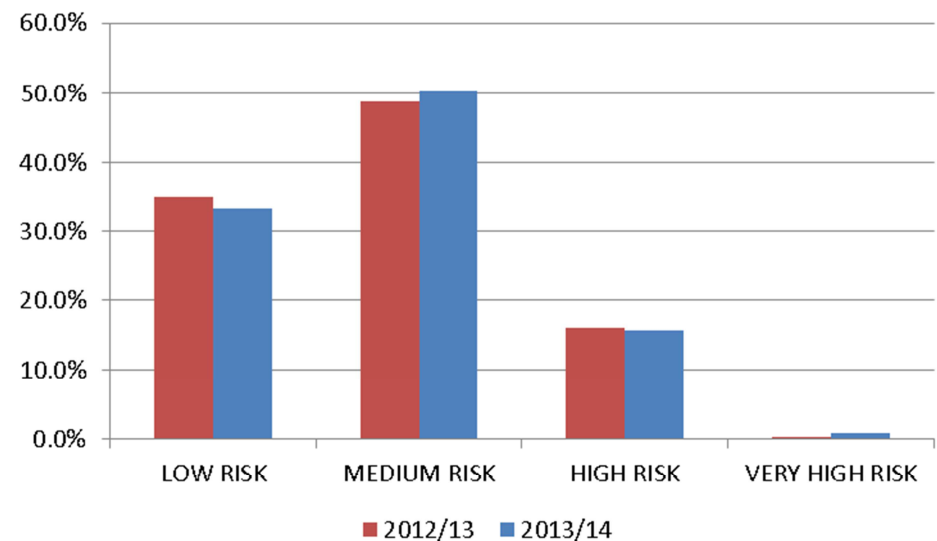


Figure 24: Assessed level of Risk to others, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

system has fallen, the proportion of those with complex needs and presenting more serious risks has risen. This is further underlined when the assessments of risks that young people pose to themselves is looked at. This is even more marked as those with medium, high or very high risks have increased from 40.9% to 43.5%.

The Scaled Approach lays down, within National Standards, the levels of contact that each young person will be subject to and each young person is set an 'intervention level' which is regularly reviewed.



Compared with 2012/13, 2013/14 saw an increase in the proportion of young people being assessed on the Enhanced and Intensive levels of intervention. The proportion of young people subject to these intervention levels rose from 66.3% in 2012/13 to 72.2% in 2013/14. These require higher contact levels than the Standard intervention level.

Comparisons between 2012/13 and 2013/14 saw contact hours reduced from 55298 hours to 53244 hours, a decrease of 3.7%. However, due to the fall in the numbers worked with detailed previously the overall amount of contact hours for each young person rose from 27.85 hours per person in 2012/13 to 32.28 hours in 2013/2014 a rise of 15.9%. This is further evidence of the increasing complexity of the cases held by the Service.

Figure 26: Intervention levels, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

Certain risk factors may lead to a greater propensity to remain engaged in offending behaviour. By mapping data contained within the Asset Core assessment, analysis has identified the incidence of the risk factors within the assessments completed.

For the young people worked with during the period April 2012 – March 2013, 5 risk factors were identified as each, in turn, affecting over 50% of the young people. The most common risk factors were broadly similar to those identified as affecting the young people worked with during April 2012 – March 2013.

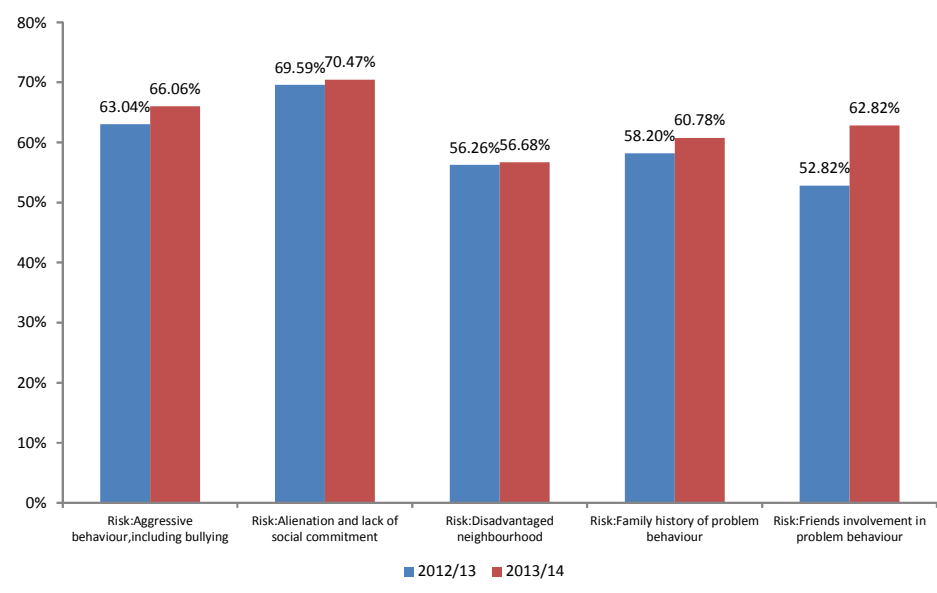


Figure 27: Significant risk factors, comparison 2012/13 – 2013/14

For the young people sentenced to custody between April 2013 and March 2014, additional risk factors – each in turn affecting over half of the cohort – included Availability of Drugs and Poor Parental Supervision and Discipline.

The average Asset scores for young people sentenced to custody were higher in every category than for young people who received non-custodial sentences.

Strengthening protective factors such as reasoning skills and employment prospects help mitigate against a young person remaining engaged in offending and diminish the effect of risk factors which are more difficult to change e.g. disadvantaged neighbourhood or family history of problem behaviour. Of the young people worked with between April 2013 and March 2014, 98.7% of those assessed were judged to have at least one protective factor.

Reducing gang and youth violence

Young people affiliated to or at risk of involvement in gangs is a critical area of work for the Youth Offending Service. Urban Street gangs and organised Crime Groups and their related criminality and violence, present a significant risk of harm to those involved both as perpetrators and/or as victims. Current data indicates that there is a strong link between Urban Street gang activity and certain types of offending behaviour (including violence, robberies and knife crime). We are becoming increasingly aware of the manipulation of young people in urban street gangs as feeder groups to sustain high level criminality for organised crime groups.

Birmingham Reducing Gang Violence (BRGV) is a work stream of Birmingham Community Safety Partnership, through which the city's strategy for tackling gang violence is developed. The Youth Offending Service is integral to the delivery of this strategy and is represented on both the Executive (Deputy Chair) and Tactical groups.

The Home Office 'Ending Gang and Youth Violence' (EGYV) peer review, in October 2012, judged that there was strong governance and vision across the Community Safety Partnership and BRGV Executive.

The specialist Multi-Agency Gang Unit (MAGU) has remained as a key operational team in 2013/14, continuing to work with the high risk known gang members. The team comprises of seconded Police Officers, Probation Officers, Housing Officers and a YOT Officer. The Youth Offending Service also funds an Early Interventions Coordinator and in 2014 will fund the Safeguarding Social Worker post based within MAGU.

Through funding provided by the Community Safety Partnership for 2013/14, the YOS has been able to continue commissioning third-sector gang intervention programmes for this vulnerable cohort of young people, building on the work undertaken in 2012/13 under the Home Office Ending Gangs and Youth Violence (EGYV) programme, where the Service worked with 161 young people, across a range of cohorts, to divert and support them to desist from gang related criminality. As funding is significantly reduced, compared to the 2012/13 EGYV funding stream, the programmes have been reduced to focus on intensive mentoring support to males, females and the Looked After Children cohorts. This area of work continues to be a key priority for the city in respect of community safety and children's safeguarding. The Service led on this commissioning and is providing operational management and oversight of these programmes, demonstrating its on-going commitment to working with partners to deliver effective strategies and positive outcomes for those engaged in, or at risk of, gang related youth violence.

A recent review and refresh of the Community Safety Partnership strategic priorities has seen a widening of focus, establishing 'Serious Youth Violence' as one of a number of over-arching priority areas, with the aim of reducing gang violence remaining as a work stream flowing out of this. Under this wider remit, the YOS will continue to play a significant role in achieving the objectives and outcomes of the partnership.

Children Looked After

National figures have evidenced that children in care are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system and have made recommendations on the use of restorative justice as an alternative form of behaviour management for minor offences. The latest Local Authority returns identified in April 2014 that 45 (5.1%) of those children who had been looked after for more than 12 months had a conviction or were made subject to a final warning or reprimand during the period 1st April 2012- 31st March 2013. This compares favourably with the national figure of 6.2% and has been supported by Police and Crown Prosecution Service practices to reduce criminalisation of young people in care for minor offences such as criminal damage.

Looked after children (LAC) are an especially vulnerable group and their prevalence in the youth justice system is regularly monitored and reported upon. Figure 28 shows that 128 young people were currently or had previously been looked after at the point of receiving a substantive outcome in 2013/14.

Young people with a history of being looked after were more likely to be sentenced to custody, with 28 (12.28%) receiving a custodial sentence compared to 67 (7.05%) of those who had never been looked after.

Despite the high proportion being sentenced to custody, young people with a history of being looked after only constituted 8.38% of First Time Entrants during the period

Young people with a history of being looked after were less likely to be in full time ETE at the end of their order (70.8%) than those who had never been looked after (75.57%).

33.8% of young people remanded to the secure estate during the period were either looked after at the time of remand, or had previously been looked after. Young people with a history of being looked after accounted for 43.03% (1363) of the 3168 remand bed nights during the period.

To ensure that looked after young people are not disadvantaged by being allocated to a new worker when a new placement moves them from one catchment area to another, a worker is allocated to them from their 'home' team and this worker is responsible for ensuring they receive the necessary support and intervention irrespective of where they are placed, either within the city or an out-of-city placement.

In addition, work is ongoing to combine all types of case reviews into a single meeting to improve integrated working and avoid unnecessary duplication.

	Number of young people
Current	82
Previous	46
Never	887
Overall	1015

Figure 28: Looked After status of offenders, April 2013 – March 2014

Behavioural, Emotional and Social Development Needs

Of the 1649 young people worked with between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, 615 (37.27%) young people were identified from Impulse as having Behavioural, Emotional and Social Development (BESD) needs. This compares with 38.6% in 2012/13.

Multi-agency meetings have been established, led by the Service Director, Education and Commissioning within the Directorate for People, to ensure collaborative approaches and improved outcomes for these young people. The Service has worked in partnership with a Head Teacher and Governors at a School with pupils identified with higher levels of truancy and engagement in youth crime and has seconded a YOT

T had been out of education since the age of around 12 and had never engaged in any ETE having built up a barrier to learning.

Whilst working with The Service, his worker identified that he enjoyed music and enjoyed writing lyrics. He was referred to a SOVA mentor and he is regularly attending a music programme with a local music-driven arts organization.

This is building his confidence and his ability to interact well with others in pressure situations.

He also has extra sessions with the Service's own music project one day a week and is using his 1-1 sessions to talk about his life of offending and apply it to lyrics.

worker to increase opportunities for supporting these pupils to re-engage in full time education and enabled families to be supported by Think Family Intensive Family Support Providers.

Since April 2013, a small pilot has taken place led by CAMHS, through the provision of a small number of hours per month, whereby an Educational Psychologist has carried out educational profiling of 6 young people, with an additional 3 to be assessed, who have been out of education and who are over 16 and who may have missed out on key assessments through their lack of school provision.

This pilot has commenced as it is thought that a significant number of YOS clients diagnosed with ADHD may have a poor working memory and their working speeds are slower than average in school. The Educational Psychologist assesses each young person and then provides the young person with a learning passport that follows them towards other more appropriate provision.

A YOS CAMHS worker also spends a day per week at Linsworth SEN School to support work with individual pupils and their parents to enable earlier intervention where emotional and mental health, particularly communication disorders are concerned; a significant number of pupils are deemed to be on the Autistic Spectrum (ASD) and/or display signs of ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

	2012/13	2013/14
School Action	247	185
School Action Plus	316	258
School Action Plus and statutory assessment	14	11
SEN statement	188	161
Grand Total	765	615

Figure 29: Number of clients worked with having identified BESD needs, 01 April 2013 – 31 March 2014

Safeguarding and public protection

Safeguarding

As a part of the assessment process, all young people are screened for issues of vulnerability and specific 'Vulnerability Management Plans' are devised and implemented to address these needs. Areas of vulnerability include concerns around mental health, substance misuse, self-harm or young people assessed as at risk from the behaviour of others.

Between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014, 1308 Vulnerability Management Plans were completed on 615 young people known to the Service. Responses include referrals to Children's Safeguarding Services, Child and Adolescent Mental Health and substance misuse and alcohol treatment services.

As a result of partnership working with CAMHS, and lessons learned from cases where young people in the criminal justice system have engaged in self-harming behaviours, all young people are now screened on entry to the Service using a 'Strengths and Difficulties' (SDQ) questionnaire. This has enabled greater screening of vulnerable young people and subsequent consultation and referrals to CAMHS workers within the Service.

This is assisting in a reduction in the number of serious incidents, and is regularly monitored by the Youth Offending Service Management Board. A single point of referral system for all completed SDQs is being devised by CAMHS workers to ensure that the system is as accurate and robust as possible where determining need is concerned. In recognition of the complexity of need within the client group, additional investment from Health has led to regular access to psychiatry time across the Service, including provision to the complex cases open to the Sexually Harmful Behaviour Team which is a key safeguarding team.

New approaches are also in place through the pilot of Emotional and Thinking Skills Group which is being rolled out: a "diluted" form of Dialectic Behavioural Therapy to assist problem solving and decision making. Evidence has shown that it is effective for those who self-harm, affiliate to gangs or show signs of eating disorders but it is useful also for improving emotional resilience in others groups of young people. CAMHS and other YOS staff have also been trained in Non-Violent Resistance which offers alternative options to violence through a programme of work with young people.

The Youth Offending Service continues to identify and support young people in the Service who are victims or vulnerable to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Improvements within Children's Services have led to a welcome decrease in referrals from the Service as young people are being identified earlier. The screening tool, developed by Barnardo's, is increasingly used by YOS practitioners. There are also CSE Champions in each of the YOT Teams to help drive and develop the agenda and awareness raising meetings are held on a regular basis. The Service is also involved in the city-wide MSET (Missing, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked) Safeguarding Children Board Sub Groups. A seconded member of staff from the Service is the operational lead for the CSE agenda for the city.

Birmingham YOS has been a key stakeholder in Birmingham City Council's implementation of the "Right Service, Right Time" model of operational delivery that attempts to seek a consensus across all agencies on how to better meet the needs of Birmingham's children, young people and families: Universal Needs, Universal Plus, Additional Needs and Complex/Significant Need. The Service contributes significantly to this agenda as its caseload encompasses three of the four areas when out of court, anti-social-behaviour and sexually harmful behaviour specialisms are taken into account, in addition to core criminal justice work.

Public Protection

The management of young offenders subject to court orders is a key responsibility of the Youth Offending Service. Those young people assessed as posing a higher risk to the public from re-offending or causing harm to others are subject to more intensive multi-agency arrangements to address concerns. Integrated Offender Management is a collaborative and graduated multi-agency response to a range of offences and behaviour, implementing interventions that seek to protect the public whilst maintaining a young person in the community where appropriate.

These responses include:

- Level 1 risk panels in each of the 5 area youth offending teams to discuss young people assessed at medium to high risk of re-offending and harm to others.
- A multi-agency Urban Street Gang Panel, chaired by the Youth Offending Service, taking referrals from partners including schools and police of those young people most at risk of gang affiliation. The Panel has a dual role in devising a multi-agency plan and matching young people with commissioned specialist third-sector provision.
- A pan-Birmingham Youth Shared Priority Forum (now referred to as ODOC “One Day, One Conversation”) which is co-chaired by West Midlands Police and YOS, to ensure robust risk management arrangements are in place for those young people assessed as ‘Persistent or Priority Offenders’ and those young people in the ‘Deter’ cohort to address concerns early. Police Offender Managers and Youth Crime Officers play a critical role with the YOT officer in ensuring robust offender management arrangements are in place.
- A pan-Birmingham level 2 youth MAPPP (Multi agency Public Protection Panel) chaired by a senior probation officer (violent offenders) and senior police officer (sexual offenders).

During the period, 285 young people (233 male and 52 female) were discussed at Local Risk Panel for level 1 risk cases and those who are deemed vulnerable. 116 were assessed as medium risk of harm to others, 36 were assessed as high risk of harm to others and 1 assessed as very high risk of harm to others. Of those assessed as vulnerable, 97 were deemed as being at medium risk of vulnerability, 33 were assessed as high and 2 as very high.

In a twelve month period 13 males were discussed at level 2 MAPPP (Multi Agency Public Protection Panel) meetings: those that are assessed as representing a high or very high risk of serious harm to others. Multi-agency action plans, which are constantly reviewed, were put into place for 5 males convicted of sexual offences and 6 convicted of violence and 2 with both violent and sexual offending. Since August 2013, 87 young people have been discussed at ODOC and joint plans put into place between the Service and Police Offender Managers to manage their risk.

The Service is responsible for completing ‘Risk of Serious Harm to Others’ (ROSH) assessments and co-ordinates robust multi-agency plans for these young people. This led to 1582 ROSH assessments being completed on 728 young people and 1068 Risk Management Plans being completed on 517 young people between 01 April 2013 and 31 March 2014 to manage that risk, an increase on the previous 12 months.

Lessons learnt

When a serious safeguarding or public protection incident occurs that involves a young person, there is a statutory requirement to review cases with partners and other agencies to establish:

- whether the appropriate level and range of care and supervision was provided to the young person;
- if the YOT and supporting agencies worked together effectively; and
- that any lessons learnt from the incident are acted upon robustly and communicated effectively within the YOT and amongst partner services.

The YOS Management Board also reviews information on those young people committing grave crimes, who were not previously known to the Criminal Justice System in order to learn lessons for preventative activity.

The Service has been involved in recent reviews relating to young people known to, or previously known to, the Service as a result of knife crime as victims as well as perpetrators.

As a result of the reviews key actions have been identified:

- strengthening interventions with young people who have not committed knife-enabled offences to ensure that they are aware of the dangers of using knives;
- continuing to support Community Safety Partnership campaigns in relation to the risks of carrying and using knives by young people not in the criminal justice system.

Risks to Service delivery

Over the last year there have been a number of significant developments within the landscape that the Service operates due to legislative and financial changes.

As a Partnership organisation, the Service is affected by changes to those partners' responsibilities and funding, as well as changes to Youth Justice Board funding. Within the last twelve months there have been a number of government consultations and initiatives, which indicate further changes specifically with regards to the arrangements for the delivery of adult offender management and probation trust arrangements. Changes to the funding conditions of the Youth Justice Board Grant have caused concern about the stability of this critical funding stream. However, cross-government consistent messages, with regards to Youth Justice arrangements, have been that there is no current intention to further alter the governance arrangements for Youth Justice provision.

Service Objective	Risk Description	Controls to Manage Risk
<p>Prevent children and young people from entering the criminal justice system.</p>	<p>Further reduction in targeted prevention funding will have an impact on outcomes; in particular this will lead to an increase in First Time Entrants (FTE).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The YOS Board monitors trends in FTEs on a quarterly basis to establish any themes for increased partnership working i.e. increase in police patrols on bus routes to reduce robberies. • Good partnership working increases the Early Help offer to effectively target evidence based interventions for those children in need and most at risk of offending. • YOS will continue to support the Think Family Programme, encouraging Schools, Partners and Districts to identify families who meet the criteria and would benefit from early support.
<p>Reduce Re-offending by children and young people under the age of 18.</p>	<p>Ensure that funding position and YOS service review do not have a negative impact on outcomes. Reduction in EET team resources is likely to have an effect on the educational attainment of young people at risk of re-offending, thereby increasing the risk of re-offending.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YOS Board will continue to monitor outcomes data and ensure targeting and quality of work to reduce re-offending is robust by YOS and broader Partnership. • YOS Board to ensure the needs of young offenders and their victims are captured within partnership needs assessments. • YOS and Children's Services will align their reviews to encourage a more joined up approach to improved outcomes for young people Looked After. • YOS Board to review the reduced education hours for any young person within the Youth Justice System • YOS to maintain its focus on identifying funding to support the engagement of young offenders in education, training and employment.
<p>Minimise the use of Remand and Custody for children and young people.</p>	<p>Low level use of remand and custody is not maintained. The transfer of remand costs to the Local Authority could result in ongoing increased cost for the Local Authority in future years.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service will maintain close liaison with Sentencers and encourage visits to YOS sites. • YOS Management Team reviews use of custody cases to identify partnership learning. • Joint work with Children's Services will minimise the impact, including enhancing the provision of alternatives to remand and custody. • 'Think Family' interventions will provide enhanced support to complex family issues.

Service Objective	Risk Description	Controls to Manage Risk
<p>Ensure children and young people are protected from harm and are helped to achieve.</p>	<p>The poor economic outlook impacts on education and employment opportunities for young people.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to maximise provision for both 16/17 year olds and school age children and young people. • The emerging 'Youth Offer' will guarantee a universal offer and one pathway for all. Targeted and specialist support will be available for vulnerable young people including those in the Youth Justice System. • will further highlight the needs of young offenders and promote new opportunities for engagement • Vulnerability management plans are reviewed regularly and YOS Board take action to collectively support young people.
<p>To improve victim satisfaction and public confidence.</p>	<p>Service and partners fail to learn from a serious incident. Reduced Public Protection.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure lessons from serious incidents are shared with partners to increase preventative work and continue to be integrated into practice improvements in conjunction with relevant partners. • YOS and partners' actions to learn lessons from serious incidents are monitored for completion at the YOS Management Board.
<p>Reduced YOS funding across a range of statutory and non-statutory partners</p>	<p>All funding streams from statutory partners are reduced in line with partner savings. The Service fails to meet its investment agreement for 'Think Family' and the funding is reduced. There is a cumulative effect from reductions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that contributions are targeted effectively to key priority areas and continue to demonstrate good outcomes and best value to all partners and funders. • Provide evidence to all funders of the positive impact on outcome and value for money of investment. • The Youth Offending Service Management Board monitors the impact of any reductions in savings.
<p>Increase in complexity of case loads</p>	<p>Overall risk and complexity of cases managed by the Service is heightened leading to increase in offending and risks to the public, increase in vulnerability issues including self-harm and poorer outcomes.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional training and development is carried out across the service. • Senior managers in YOS have engaged with NHS Clinical Commissioning Groups to ensure the needs and vulnerabilities of young offenders are captured within the needs analysis of the procurement of the 0-25 Child and Young Person Mental Health Service. • YOS has engaged in reviewing its evidence-based programmes for the 'Early Help' offer to ensure young people and families' access available interventions delivered or commissioned by the Service and through partners.
<p>Reduction in Youth Justice Grant</p>	<p>Unknown risk from the YJB recent requirement that the Youth Justice Board grant is used solely for activity which relates to 'developing good practice and research' and not to fund on-going operational activity or 'business as usual'.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek clarity from the Youth Justice Board on future requirements. Service ensures that proposed spending on service delivery meets these requirements and YJB have confidence in outputs and outcomes of the Service.

Service provision and resourcing

Service design

There are five multi-agency Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) within Birmingham, with additional city-wide teams providing specialist provision. These are a Sexually Harmful Behaviour Team, a Court and Bail and Remand Team, and an Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Team. A Multi Systemic Therapy Team has been jointly set up in 2011 between the YOS and CAMHS and is now funded through the 'Think Family' Initiative.

The new Service design model, agreed by YOS Management Board in 2013 to maximise efficiency and achieve required savings, is now in place. The model maintains multi-agency 'one stop shop' sites in order to ensure best outcomes, best value and accessibility for young people.

The model takes account of legislation, the complexity of the workload, policy and budget and is congruent with other agencies' boundaries. Changes agreed were the closure of two sites (West and Central) and the amalgamation of the two teams within one building, namely the West Midlands Fire Service Headquarters in Nechells. The Aston ward has been moved from West YOT to North YOT to reduce gang conflicts. The Service also expanded its remit in working more extensively with a whole family approach with some staff being transferred to 'Think Family' funding.

Performance and IT

The Youth Offending Service performance framework has been developed to support individual Case Managers and Managers, in delivering quality interventions to young people and their families. A number of individual strands underpin this and many are supported by the Service's case management system 'Raise':

1. Weekly workload sheets for individual Case Managers and Managers, identifying pending and outstanding assessments, plans and reviews;
2. Bi-monthly case file audits led by Team Managers;
3. Quarterly performance reviews attended by the lead Assistant Director;
4. Feedback from other service and thematic inspections to the YOS Management Board.

Thematic Inspection

In July 2014, the Service was inspected as a part of a national multi-agency Resettlement Thematic Inspection, led by HM Inspectorate of Probation with the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Ofsted (both further education & skills and social care).

This inspection focuses on the work of the Secure Estate with young people sentenced to custody in Young Offender Institutions (YOIs) and Secure Training Centres (STCs) and work of YOTs and partners (Children's Services and Health) on release. The information gathered will be part of a wider piece of research looking at Resettlement processes, their effectiveness and experiences from the young person's perspective.

Four cases were identified by the inspection team from the Birmingham YOS client group, three males and one female from a potential sample of 42. The three young men had all served their sentence at Werrington Young Offender Institute and the young woman at Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre. All cases chosen by the Inspection team were of a complex nature in order to test partnership working.

Informal feedback from the Lead Inspector identified that:

- 3 of the 4 young people commented that staff had been supportive, both whilst in custody and on their release and, in the two cases where there had been Children's Services involvement, this had also been positive.
- The issue of accommodation on release has previously been a concern for young people leaving custody with some Looked After Children only having accommodation identified after release. In the cases inspected, including where there had been Children's Services involvement, positive outcomes were evidenced through joint working.
- Collaborative working between YOS, Children's Services and Health has been inconsistent in the past; however, this has been improving since the new legislation (LASPO Act 2012). In the two cases inspected where there was social worker involvement, feedback was very positive. There was good evidence of the YOS staff (including YOS CAMHS) and Children's Services staff supporting the young person during custody, in the preparation for release, and in the community.
- The Multi Agency Inspection Team recommended that consideration be given to combining the youth justice and children's reviews in the future.

Auditing

There have been a number of audit systems set up within the Service with the focus on different aspects of the work identified as a priority area at the Service's Management meetings. In response to a change in the HMIP Inspection structure and the introduction of the 'Think Family' agenda, a new format and audit tool have been developed for 2013/14 and implemented from September 2013.

Case audits, based on the HMIP Inspection criteria are being undertaken cross-team on a quarterly basis by Team and Deputy Managers and Senior Workers. Up to 130 cases are assessed within each audit and focus on ensuring that all young people receive a high quality service and that each case is appropriately assessed and delivered in relation to public protection, safeguarding and vulnerability issues.

Subsequent to each audit, a report is prepared, analysing the performance of individuals, teams and the Service. This is used to structure improvement plans for each team and for the Service as a whole.

This process is also assisting in the preparation for the possibility of a Full Joint Inspection or Short Quality Screening by HMIP or one of the Thematic Inspections that are scheduled for 2014/15.

To date, the audits have identified that:

- Auditors had seen a marked improvement overall in case management, there were no immediate safeguarding concerns raised;
- There was a lot of evidence to show offence focused work had taken place and positive outcomes achieved for young people in respect of ETE;

- There continues to be a need for greater analysis within assessments;
- A more consistent consideration of victim safety within Intervention Plans was needed;
- As a consequence of new and emerging demands brought upon the Service by the 'Think Family' agenda, the Intervention Plan tool originally provided by the YJB was no longer fit for purpose and a new tool was required that was more compatible with the fCAF, ISP and Single Assessment processes;
- There were inconsistencies both within and across teams, particularly in respect of Referral Order processes, reviews of court orders and the recording of information on Careworks Raise.

Use of IT

The Service has historically made extensive use of its IT and reporting capabilities to support and enhance services provided to young people and their families and provide analysis to senior managers and council members.

The Service contributes data to the city-wide Children's Services data-sharing hub which brings together, cleans and matches data from the Raise (Youth Offending), CareFirst (Social Care) and Impulse (Education) case management systems to provide a holistic 'single view' of a client's interaction with the various services.

The Service is developing its future operating model in line with the city council with an emphasis on providing services local to those requiring them. This necessitates a change in the way that IT is used and staff will have to be able to access core systems (email, Raise) whilst away from a fixed office location.

As the Service's desktop computers are now due to be refreshed, the Service has recently started the process to evaluate the latest mobile computers with a view to how this can replace existing equipment and facilitate a more mobile style of delivering services.

AssetPlus is a new assessment and planning interventions framework developed by the YJB to replace Asset and its associated tools. It has been designed to provide a holistic end-to-end assessment and intervention plan, allowing one record to follow a young person throughout their time in youth justice system.

The framework includes:

- More emphasis on strengths and on factors which support or hinder desistance from offending;
- A clearer distinction between the identification of need and the likelihood of re-offending to help ensure appropriately targeted youth justice interventions around offending behaviour and accurate referrals to universal services to address access to mainstream services;
- The level of assessment reflecting the complexity of the young person's personal circumstances and behaviour representing a shift away from the one size fits all approach to assessment;
- Clearer relationship between assessments and intervention plans which enable more outcome focussed interventions.

It is anticipated that deployment will commence with YOTs in Quarter 2, 2015/16 with considerable technical and business changes required in the period leading up to full implementation. However, it remains unclear as to how the new framework aligns with other assessment processes, including those relating to the Common Assessment Framework and the 'Think Family' agenda.

Service users' perspective

During the year, young people have had the opportunity to complete a Service Quality Questionnaire using Viewpoint. Of the respondents, 93.27% felt they had learnt from their time with the YOS, primarily in the areas of Education, Training and Employment; making better decisions; and gaining a better understanding of their offending. 96.15% felt that YOT staff were really interested in helping them.

The vast majority of young people were satisfied with their involvement in their work with the YOS, with 98.08% rating the opportunities they were given to plan their programme as either good or very good, and 99.03% positively rating the chances they were given to review their own progress.

The majority of the young people surveyed rated their satisfaction level of their experience of the YOS at 80% or above, and 86.46% of the young people surveyed claimed not to have re-offended since they started working with the YOT. It is hoped to extend the use of these questionnaires in the coming year.

Strategic Outcomes

The following key performance measures and priorities have been agreed by the Youth Offending Service Management Board for 2014/15 and will be subject to quarterly monitoring. The Service's performance in respect of the three national youth justice indicators: reducing the number of first time entrants to the criminal justice system, reducing recidivism and reducing the number of young people sentenced to custody, will continue to be subject to monitoring by the Youth Justice Board, who will provide nationally reported performance information and local performance management oversight.

The Key Performance measures and Service Priorities areas have been developed in consideration of the Birmingham Community Safety Strategic Plan, Birmingham Children and Young People's Plan 2012-15, the Council Business Plan for 2014 onwards and the City Council key priorities for 2014-15.

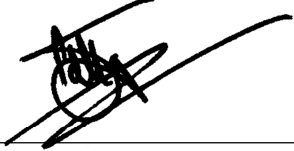
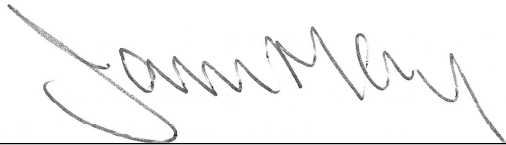

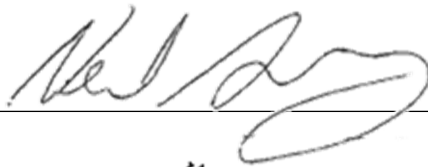

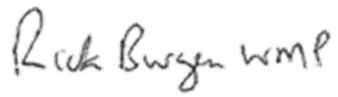
Outcome	What will make a difference	Measure	Target	Outcome	Target for 2014/15
Reduce first time entrants (FTE) to the Youth Justice system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake needs analysis of the FTE cohort in order to influence partners to effectively target prevention resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First time entrants to youth justice system (per 100,000 children) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce to 517 per 100,000 	510 per 100,000	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review Community Resolutions and acceptable behaviour contracts to ensure these are being issued appropriately and to determine their effectiveness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people who escalate from ASB to criminal behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	37.28% (Out of 59 young people worked with by ASB team in 2012-with no prior substantive outcomes – 22 got their first substantive outcome in 2013/4)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Youth Offending Service Knife Crime Programme to be incorporated into Community Safety Partnership programmes within schools and colleges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in incidences of knife crime in FTE cohort and school exclusions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce by 5% 	From 53 to 27 = 49.0% reduction (FTE cohort only)	
Reduce Recidivism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater auditing of individual cases to ensure the comprehensive implementation of a desistance based approach to assessment, planning, intervention and supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in re-offending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce percentage of young people re-offending to 33.63%./0.90 frequency rate 	(July 2011 – Jun 2012 cohort) Binary rate:32.99% Frequency rate:0.93	

Outcome	What will make a difference	Measure	Target	Outcome	Target for 2014/15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop and implement the YOS 'Think Family' business model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of successful Think Family outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 792 by May 2015 	447 (inc Aug 2014 claim)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure consistency and appropriateness in referral of high risk cases to MAPPA, and ODOC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in re-offending rates for ODOC/MAPPA clients 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	ODOC: 87 clients since 1 st August 2013.	
Reduce the use of Custody	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake analysis of young people remanded or sentenced to the Secure Estate with YOS Management Board partners for shared ownership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of young people per 1,000 of 10 – 17 population sentenced to the secure estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce rate to 1.26 	0.81 (YOS figure YDS due 22/08/2014)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess suitability of the introduction of Remand Fostering and/or Supported Lodgings provision for those young people at risk of being remanded into custody 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of young people remanded to the Secure Estate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce number of young people remanded to 115 people 	71	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extend take up of non-secure accommodation for purpose of PACE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of Young People held overnight in Police Stations prior to Court 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	24.45% (67 charged and detained out of 274 interviews attended)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse breach data to identify practice improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in young people entering custody for lack of compliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	16.5% (16 custodial outcomes out of 97 completed breach cases)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure those identified as highest risk of re-offending receive intensive support, supervision and surveillance (ISS) and Integrated Offender Management to minimise risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in young people successfully completing ISS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	50.36% (69 successful completions out of 137 completed ISS interventions)	
Reduce the number of LAC in the YJS and re-offending by this group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective partnership working to promote resilience of LAC to offending 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Young people looked after for more than 12 months given a substantive outcome 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equal or better than national average 	National Figure= 6.2% Birmingham figure=5.1%	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure LAC are accessing suitable ETE provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percentage of LAC young people in suitable ETE provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set baseline 		

Outcome	What will make a difference	Measure	Target	Outcome	Target for 2014/15
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote joint working between YOS case managers and LAC services to maximise planning, interventions and effective exit strategies from the Youth Justice System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in number of LAC who re-offend 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAC re-offending congruent with city population 	<p>(April 2010 –Mar 2011 cohort. Total number of young people = 1552)).</p> <p>City population:Binary rate=28.6%</p> <p>City population:Frequency rate=0.72</p> <p>(Number of LAC young people = 83. Number of LAC young people re-offending= 41)</p> <p>LAC:Binary=49.3%</p> <p>LAC:Freq=1.75</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Effective partnership working to improve the timely identification of accommodation provision for LAC about to be released from custody 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement in proportion of LAC with arranged accommodation before release 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	<p>5%</p> <p>(1 LAC young person out of 20 did not have planned accommodation at release).(April 2010 –Mar 2011 cohort)</p>	
Increase the number of young people in the YJS engaged with ETE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YOS education staff to work in partnership with schools to improve engagement and attainment including vulnerable groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people of school age engaged in full time education at conclusion of Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase performance to 84% overall 	<p>2012/13=84.51%</p> <p>2013/14=80.95</p>	Introduce measure based on hours offered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employability for NEET 16-18 year olds including access to apprenticeships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of young people post-school age engaged in full time ETE at conclusion of Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase performance to 84% overall 	<p>2012/13=82.11%</p> <p>2013/14=70.11%</p>	Introduce measure based on hours offered
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tailored support including practical mentoring support to improve take up and sustainable placements across ETE provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distance travelled measurements pre and post Order 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	<p>Poorer=13.55%</p> <p>Same=58.49%</p> <p>Improved=27.9%680.95</p>	

Outcome	What will make a difference	Measure	Target	Outcome	Target for 2014/15
Safeguarding & Risk Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse performance information and evidence from audits and lessons learnt and use this to drive improvements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The number of audited cases with assessments meeting acceptable standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	33% = Good 60%=Met 7% = Poor70.11	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address new and emerging safeguarding and risk issues with partners, including sexual exploitation, self-harm and Preventing Violent Extremism. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduced vulnerability and risk levels pre and post intervention amongst young people within the youth justice system 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set Baseline 	Risk to self (Medium,High,Very High) = 66.7% Risk to Others (Medium,High,Very High) = 43.5%	Introduce a distance travelled measure
Improved Youth Justice Outcomes for BME young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint review with YOS Management Board partners of the background, offences and experiences of BME young people and agree partnership action plan to address disproportionality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proportion of Black and Black British young people with improved youth justice outcomes reduces to average or below average population levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5% improvement 	3.8% improvement (disproportionality reduced from 11.0% to 10.58%)	5% improvement

Senior Partner sign off

Senior partner name	Role	Signature	Date
Peter Hay	Strategic Director for People, Birmingham City Council		04/09/14.
Councillor James McKay	Chair YOS Management Board Cabinet Member for Social Cohesion, Equalities and Community Safety		2/9/14
Councillor Brigid Jones	Cabinet Member for Children and Family Services		4/9/14
Neil Appleby	Head of Probation, Birmingham, National Probation Service		2.9.14
John Lees	Associate Director of Commissioning Maternity, Children & Young People, NHS		3.9.14
Richard Burgess	Chief Superintendent, West Midlands Police		3/9/14.

Glossary

Absolute discharge: Discharges are given for minor offences at Court. An 'absolute discharge' means that no more action will be taken.

Anti-Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs): Civil orders, designed to prevent someone causing “harassment, alarm or distress”. Breach of an ASBO is a criminal offence, punishable by up to 5 years in prison (2 years for juveniles).

Bail Supervision and Support: Bail Supervision and Support (BSS) is an intervention provided by the YOT to help ensure a young person meets the requirements of bail. The young person may additionally be electronically tagged.

Bed night: measure of occupancy one young person for one night in the secure estate.

Breach of statutory order: Is an offence of failing without reasonable excuse to comply with the requirements of an existing statutory order.

Community Sentence: When a court imposes a community sentence, the young person carries out this sentence in the community. Community Sentences in the Youth Justice System include: Referral Orders, Reparation Orders and Youth Rehabilitation Orders.

Detention and Training Order (DTOs): Detention and Training Orders (DTOs) are determinate custodial sentences which can last from four months to 24 months in length. A young person spends the first half of the order in custody and the second half released on licence. Should they offend while on licence, they may be recalled back to custody.

First-tier penalty: This is an umbrella term used for the following orders made at court: bind over, discharges, fines and deferred sentences.

First Time Entrants: First time entrants to the criminal justice are classified as offenders who received their first reprimand, warning, caution or conviction, based on data recorded by the police on the Police National Computer.

Integrated Resettlement Support: The Integrated Resettlement Support Programme (IRS) is a support programme for young people on the community licence part of their Detention and Training Order.

Intensive Supervision and Surveillance: Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) is attached to a Youth Rehabilitation Order and has been set as a high intensity alternative to custody. ISS combines a set period of electronic tagging, with up to 25 hours per week intensive supervision. ISS is aimed at young offenders on the custody threshold and has to be considered as an option before a custodial sentence is given. ISS may also be attached to conditional bail.

Parenting Orders: Parenting Orders aim to prevent offending and anti-social behaviour by reinforcing parental responsibility.

Penalty Notice for Disorder: A Penalty Notice for Disorder (PND) is an out-of-court disposal issued by the police for low-level disorder offences.

Pre-sentence report: This is a report to the sentencing magistrates or judges containing background information about the crime and the defendant and a recommendation on the sentence to assist them in making their sentencing decision.

Proven offence: A proven offence is defined as an offence which results in the offender receiving a reprimand, warning, caution or conviction.

Remands: Once the court has denied bail, there are three remand options:

1. **Remand to local authority accommodation:** A young person may be remanded to local authority accommodation. This remand may be accompanied by electronic tagging.
2. **Court-ordered secure remand:** A court-ordered secure remand allows courts to remand young people into Secure Children's Homes or Secure Training Centres. This provision applies to any 12-14 year old and to 15-16 year old girls. This also applies to 15-16 year old boys who are deemed vulnerable by the court and for whom a place is available.
3. **Custodial remand:** If the court is not satisfied that imposing community-based bail will ensure compliance, or if the offence is serious, or if the young person frequently offends, then it may order a remand in custody. This applies to 15-16 year old boys not deemed vulnerable by the court and 17 year old boys and girls.

Restorative Justice: Restorative justice is an approach to justice that focuses on the needs of the victims. Victims can take an active role in the process, whilst offenders are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions.

Section 90/91 of the Criminal Court Sentencing Act (2000): Any young person convicted of murder is sentenced under section 90. A section 91 sentence is for young people convicted of an offence other than murder for which a life sentence may be passed on an adult. The court shall, if appropriate, sentence a young person to detention for life.

Secure estate: There are three types of placement in the secure estate. These are Secure Children's Homes (SCH), Secure Training Centres (STC) and Young Offender Institutions (YOI):

1. **Local Authority Secure Children's Home (LASCH):** Secure Children's Homes in England are run by Local Authorities and are overseen by the Department for Education in England. They generally accommodate remanded or sentenced young people aged 12-14 and girls and 'at risk' boys up to the age of 16. They can also accommodate young people placed by Local Authorities on welfare matters.
2. **Secure Training Centre (STC):** There are four purpose-built Secure Training Centres in England offering secure provision to sentenced or remanded young people aged 12-17. They provide a secure environment where vulnerable young people can be educated and rehabilitated. They are run by private operators under contracts which set out detailed operational requirements.
3. **Young Offender Institution (YOI):** Young Offender Institutions can accommodate young people and young adults who offend from between the ages of 15-21 years old.

Substantive Outcome: Is an umbrella term referring both to sentences given by the court and pre-court decisions made by the police. Disposals may be divided into four separate categories of increasing seriousness starting with pre-court disposals then moving into first-tier and community-based penalties through to custodial sentences.

Self-harm: Self harm is defined as any act by which a young person deliberately harms themselves irrespective of the method, intent, or severity of the injury.

Youth Offending Service (YOS): The Youth Offending Service comprises of seconded representatives from police, probation, education, health and social services, and specialist workers, such as restorative justice workers, parenting workers and substance misuse workers.

