



Safer Plymouth

Meeting Date 02 November 2022

Report from Plymouth Youth Justice Management Board

SECTION A		
Chair Name and Contact:	Jean Kelly jean.kelly@plymouth.gov.uk Report completed by Ian Taylor	
Dates of meetings since last Full Board	27/09/2022	
Executive Summary/ Key Issues only¹	Quality Assurance	Not applicable
	Partnership Co-ordination	Not applicable
	Systems Leadership	Not applicable
	Trauma Informed System Development	Not applicable

SECTION B	
What is working well?	<p>Prevention: The Youth Justice Service in Plymouth has developed and grown to support a wide group of young people in an increasingly preventative way. This is in addition to core statutory duties, which remain at the centre of work undertaken by the Youth Offending practitioners and managers.</p> <p>The Impact Project is a preventative project to divert young people from becoming first time entrants to the Youth Offending Team (YOT), following initial contact with the police. We now have a member of the YJS working from Devonport Police Station to improve the speed of decision making which is helping to signpost children/young people, families and carers to timely professional support.</p> <p>It was originally envisaged the project would work with 12 children per month (144 per year). In the first 12 months, we have made recommendations relating to 394 offences committed by 232 young people with 72% diverted away from the criminal justice system using Outcome 22 or NFA.</p> <p>Currently the monthly rate of referrals from the Police has reduced and we are currently working with 28 children on non-statutory orders in a preventative way. We are working closely with colleagues in the police to understand the reasons behind the reduction in referrals.</p>

	<p>Re-Offending Rates: The national Youth Justice Board most recently comparable published data in respect of re-offending rates reflects historic national data (April 2020 - June 2020). Plymouth's rate is currently at 30%; slightly less than the national average of 33%..</p> <p>In Plymouth we have developed a local data scorecard that allows us to monitor our current re-offending rates enabling us to respond to any changes or increases in rates. To do this we track all children that have been open to the Youth Justice Service (on a statutory order) since April 2021. In total, there have been 85 children open on statutory orders during the time since we started this tracking process and the current re-offending rate related to all of these young people is 11%. We continue to track children when their order has ended.</p> <p>Custody Rates: Plymouth have no children in custody and have not had a child in custody for the last 4 quarters.</p>
<p>What are we worried about?</p>	<p>Caseloads have reduced this month from 73 to 47 (19 of these children are subject to statutory orders), this is largely due to a reduction in non-statutory referrals received from the Police relating to children on the edge of the criminal justice system. We have seen a similar pattern in reductions in the number of children going missing over the summer as well anti-social behaviour. We need to understand this further.</p> <p>Racial Disparity will shortly be a KPI for the Plymouth Youth Justice Management Board. The current school roll shows 9% of children class themselves as an ethnicity other than white British, whilst the number of children open to the Youth Justice Service who class themselves as an ethnicity other than white British has remained at 12% in this quarter, unchanged from the last quarter. However, there is still a large disparity when it comes to children who class themselves as black or black / white or black other who make up 2.2% of the school roll but 10.6% of the Youth Justice caseload. We continue to work with our colleagues in the Child Centred Policing Team to address this.</p> <p>The average age of the children we work with has reduced from 15 years old 12 months ago to 12 years old at present. We need to understand this change and track it over time.</p>
<p>What needs to happen?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to work with the Child Centred Policing Team to identify suitable children to refer to the Impact Project. 2. The Youth Justice Service and the Child Centred Policing Team will continue to work closely to address any disparity as identified above. 3. We need to work with Education providers at an earlier age particularly primary schools. We want to identify those children

	<p>whose behaviours cause concern as early as possible, so that we can provide support and intervention. We need to understand the situation / issues behind the behaviour and work with the whole family in a trauma informed, preventative way.</p>
<p>Identify Group Impact</p>	<p><u>Statutory cases</u></p> <p>The Youth Justice Service currently have 19 statutory cases open (as at the 30th September 2022), 59% are the result of violent behaviour. The team have 28 non-statutory cases, children who have been identified as needing intervention as a preventative measure.</p> <p><u>Impact Project</u></p> <p>In its first 12 Months, the project has worked with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 394 offences committed by 232 young people • 72% of these young people were offered a diversion <p><u>Reducing Exploitation and Absence from Care and Home undertaken by the REACH Team</u></p> <p>A decision was made to move Adolescent Support Team into the Youth Justice Service alongside the Youth Justice Team, REACH and the Adolescent Safety Hub as there is a significant overlap of children the teams work with who are experiencing exploitation, involved in criminality and are also frequently missing. Following an audit of Youth the Justice Service prior to their Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation inspection in September 2021, it was recognised there was a significant amount of children (41%) were open to all 3 services between 01 January 2021 to 31 December 2021.</p> <p>As part of the move to bring the Youth Justice Service, REACH, AST and the Adolescent Safety Hub under one Service, a daily risk meeting takes place each working morning. The daily adolescent safety meeting is also attended by colleagues from the child centred Policing Team and Community Connections and is a forum to share information, allocate work or escalate concerns for services working with children at risk of exploitation, criminality or safeguarding issues that have arisen in the last 24 hours or over a weekend (including bank holidays). This will prevent duplication of work with families and children and ensure that all agencies are aware of any risk and can plan to mitigate this as a multiagency group. This meeting commenced on 03 October 2022 and the effectiveness, this will be reviewed in December 2022.</p>
<p>Formal recommendation to/action required of Full Board.</p>	<p>At present, there are no new requests or recommendations to the board.</p>

Suggested work engagement with Trauma Informed Plymouth Network	A Practice Manager within Targeted Support acts as the link with the Plymouth Trauma Informed Network. All Youth Justice Service staff are trained in the trauma recovery model and the service. Training is being sought for the REACH Team now all vacancies have been filled.
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Name of Youth Justice Management Board Chair	Jean Kelly Ian Taylor (report)
Signature of Group Chair	
Date Signed	18/10/2022