

# Bracknell Forest Youth Offending Service

## Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2013 - 2016



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# Introduction

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998, requires Local Authorities to have a Youth Justice Plan which is annually updated to set out how Youth Justice Services will be delivered locally within the available resources. This Plan will cover the 3 year period from 2013 – 2016, and will be refreshed annually, reflecting any changes to the national and local Youth Justice landscape which impact on the priorities in this plan and the Youth Offending Service's ability to deliver the range of services designed to reduce youth offending within Bracknell Forest.

# 1. Resourcing and value for money

# Financial resources

The Youth Offending Service (YOS) is funded through contributions from the statutory partner agencies in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. These are the Local Authority, (covering Education and Social Care), the Probation Service, the National Health Service and the Police Service. The table below shows the amount of funding from each of the partner agencies for the year 2013 – 2014. These contributions are reviewed each year. In addition, the YOS receives a Youth Justice Grant from the Ministry of Justice and Department For Education which is pass ported through the Youth Justice Board and a grant from the Thames Valley Police and Crime Commissioner in respect of which there is an annual bidding process.

Youth offending service budget sources for the financial year 2013/14			
Agency	Contributions to Staffing Costs	Other Delegated Funds from Partner Agencies	Total
Police	16,000	42,976	58,976
PCC	0	23,855	23,855
Probation	11,950	0	11,950
Health	17,635	7,520	25,155
Local Authority	338,340	50,530	388,870
YJB	152,140	3,498	155,638
<b>Total</b>	<b>536,065</b>	<b>128,379</b>	<b>664,444</b>

Funding contributions from the NHS and the Probation Service have been maintained at the same level for the past 2 years. The Police contribution is made up of a lump sum, which has also been maintained at the same level, and a seconded police officer, which reduced by 0.5 FTE in 2012 and has remained at this level. The contribution from the Local Authority has been reduced by 16% from April 2013 and efficiency savings have had to be made. In respect of the Youth Justice Grant this year, the Home Office contribution is no longer included and instead this funding has been transferred to the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). A bid was made for funding from the PCC which was successful and is included in the table above. Therefore the total Youth Justice Grant this year, including the PCC contribution is reduced by 8.16%. During the period covered by this Youth Justice Plan, it is likely that all agencies will be looking for opportunities to make further savings due to the scale of the financial challenge ahead, and the YOS will come under increased pressure to demonstrate value for money to ensure continued financial support from partners.

# Staffing Resources

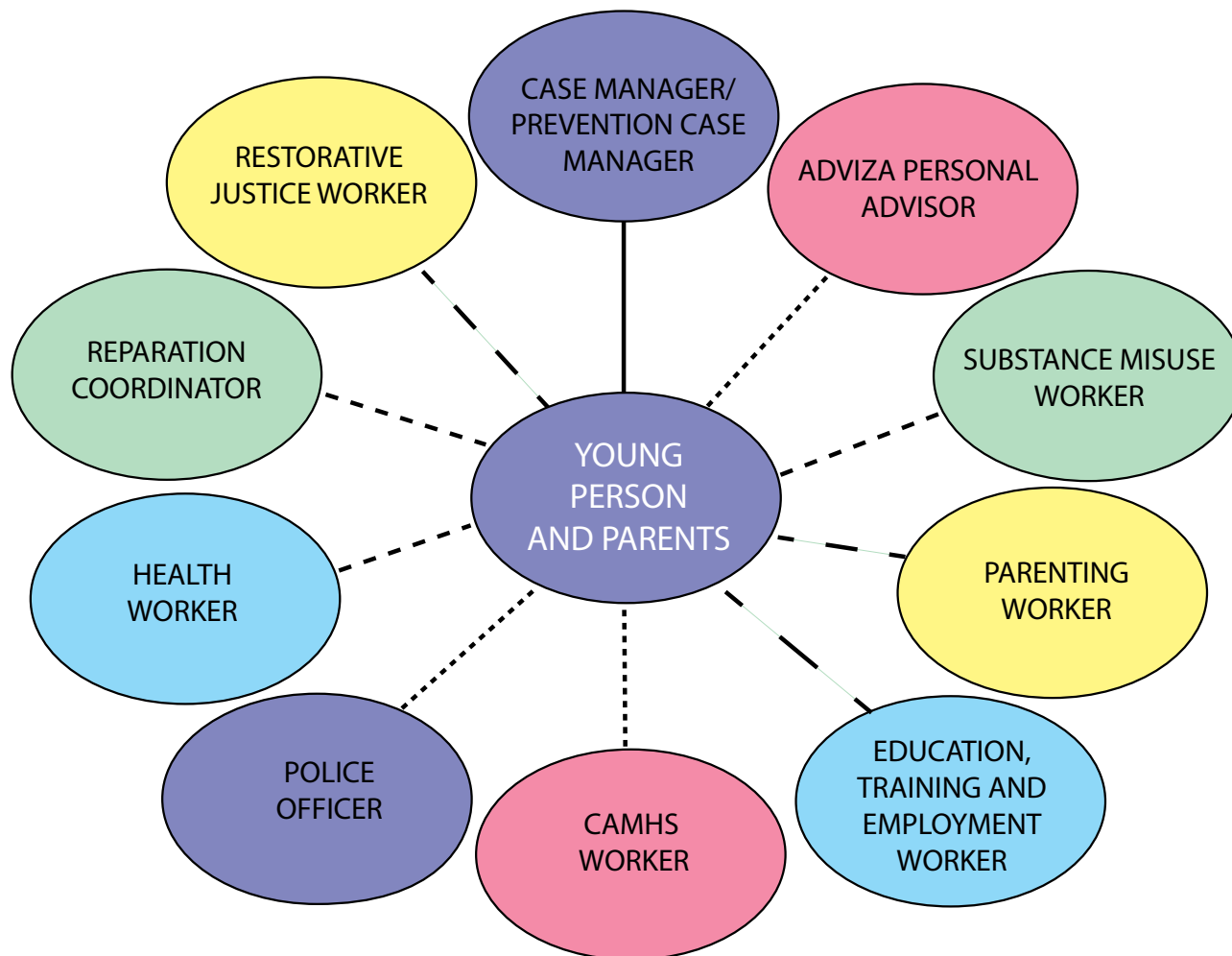
In accordance with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 the YOS has a full skill set within the workforce which is made up of professionals from a variety of agencies whose skills and experience complement each other. Although the role of Probation Officer is a statutory post under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, for several years now the Probation Service have supplied funding rather than a seconded a member of staff. However the funding has remained the same for several years, and does not meet the staff salary increments which have occurred. In order to meet the requirement to have a Probation Officer within the YOS staff team, a qualified Probation Officer has been directly employed into one of the 3 Case Manager posts. Regular analysis of need and review of Service provision have underpinned staff training and development to ensure that partnership resources are used effectively. This will continue to be a priority for the next 3 years, in order to ensure that staff have a clear direction and are enabled to further develop the skills needed to respond to new Youth Justice Legislation and the changing landscape in regard to Inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) and OFSTED.

The YOS has a good range of specialist services 'in house'. Specialist services located within the YOS team include: a named accommodation officer, substance misuse worker, physical health worker, education, employment and training worker, parenting worker, restorative justice coordinator and reparation coordinator. Staff are recruited into these posts based upon their experience and expertise and their skills are developed through supervision, appraisal and training. The Bracknell Forest Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) host a young people's substance misuse worker post for Bracknell Forest, 0.5 FTE of which is commissioned by the YOS. The YOS health worker is a 0.4 FTE post seconded to YOS from the NHS. YOS have contracts in place with CAMHS for the provision of a mental health worker for 4 hours per week and with Adviza for a personal advisor, 7.5 hours per week to work directly with NEET young people who are at risk of offending and reoffending. These posts also provide a consultancy service to case workers within the YOS team.

It has been proposed that the 0.5 FTE reparation coordinator post is to be deleted from April 2014 in order to make savings from the Local Authority's financial contribution to the YOS budget. The functions of this post will still need to be provided for young offenders subject to Statutory Court Orders and will be managed by reallocation of duties within the YOS staff team.

The YOS Performance Management Board is regularly updated on the range and quality of service provision delivered to young offenders, through short presentations from specialist workers at Management Board meetings.

# Staffing Structure 2013-14





# Commissioning

The Bracknell Forest YOS currently has Service Level Agreements and / or Protocols in place with a range of providers of universal and specialist services, e.g. Schools, Health, Children's Social Care. In addition, because of the size of the Borough, the YOS benefits from excellent 'informal' communication arrangements with service providers, at all levels, i.e. operational and strategic. The YOS Partnership benefits from its positive relationships with all agencies in Bracknell Forest that work with children and young people, so that services for young offenders which cannot be provided from within the multi agency YOS staff team are commissioned from partner agencies.

The Children and Young People's Partnership (CYPP) has developed a Commissioning Strategy which is linked to the Early Intervention Strategy. As a member of the CYPP the YOS has been involved in the development of these Strategies, with particular links to the YOS Prevention Service which is an area of growth for the YOS. The YOS continues to be involved in the implementation of the Commissioning Strategy through its partnership working with the Children and Young People's Partnership and the Community Safety Partnership.

## 2. Structures and governance

The YOS sits within the Children’s Social Care branch of the Children, Young People and Learning Department of the Local Authority. The Head of the Youth Offending Service is accountable to the Director of the Department through the Chief Officer, Children’s Social Care who monitors the YOS operationally through the provision of monthly supervision.

## YOS Management Board

Governance of the YOS is provided by the YOS Performance Management Board reporting into the Bracknell Forest Community Safety Partnership. The YOS Management Board meets quarterly and is made up of the members of the Community Safety Partnership who have statutory responsibility for YOS funding and other agencies e.g. Adviza which has direct links into YOS and shared priorities around reducing the numbers of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). The YOS Management Board scrutinise YOS performance and develop actions for improvement where necessary. Its purpose is also to provide clarity for partners about the scope of their role in governing the YOS and to maintain a good understanding of the range and quality of youth justice services delivered in Bracknell Forest. Staffing and resource issues are regularly reviewed and the Board assists in setting the strategic direction of the YOS.

The YOS Management Board takes an active role in ensuring that young offenders and those at risk of entering the youth justice system have access to universal and specialist services within Bracknell Forest and that partner agencies recognise and maintain responsibility for contributing to the reduction of offending by children and young people.

Name	Agency representing
Claire Dorning	Head of Housing Strategy and Needs, Bracknell Forest Council
Chief Inspector Dave Gilbert	LPA Commander Thames Valley Police
Lorna Hunt	Chief Officer Children’s Social Care, Bracknell Forest Council
Pranay Chakravorti	Children’s Commissioner, National Health Service, Berkshire East
Valerie Rich	Senior Probation Officer, National Probation Service, Thames Valley
Ian Boswell (Chair)	Community Safety Manager, Bracknell Forest Council
Amanda Wilton	Head of Targeted Services, Bracknell Forest Council
Maninder Hayre	Assistant Director Delivery, Adviza

# 3. Performance

There are 3 Impact and Transparency National Indicators for the Youth Justice System which were introduced in April 2011 without targets.

These are:

1. Reoffending of young people in the youth justice system
2. First time entrants to the youth justice system
3. Use of custody for young people

Data for indicator 1 is taken from the Ministry of Justice Website (latest data available), and relates to the cohort of young offenders covered by the time period indicated, and their reoffending during the following 12 months. Data for indicators 2 and 3, is taken from the National Youth Justice Information System (YJMIS), hosted by the Youth Justice Board.

Indicator 1	Date	YOS Performance
Proven reoffending rate of young offenders (percentage of young people who have reoffended)  *Low is good	<b>July 2010 – June 2011</b> *(latest data available on Ministry of Justice website)	27.2% = 22 of 81
	<b>July 2009 – June 2010</b>	23.3% = 24 of 103
	<b>July 2008 – June 2009</b>	35.8% = 58 of 162

\* Although the percentage has increased in year 3 from year 2, the actual number of re-offenders has reduced as the cohort is smaller

The rate of offending of looked after children at 31/03/12 is 6.7% ie 3 out of 45 young people aged 10 - 17 who had been looked after for 12 months+.

This is the same as at 31/03/11 but has reduced from 11.5% in 2009/10.

Indicator 2	Date	YOS Performance
Number of first time entrants to the youth justice system (per 100,000 of 10 – 17 population)  * Low is good	<b>Jan 2012 – Dec 2012</b>	358 (42 young people)
	<b>Jan 2011 – Dec 2011</b>	470 (61 young people)
	<b>Jan 2010 – Dec 2010</b>	404 (51 young people)

Indicator 3	Date	YOS Performance
Convicted young people receiving a custodial sentence (per 1,000 of 10-17 population)  *Low is good	April 2012 – March 2013	0
	April 2011 – March 2012	0.17 (2 young people)
	April 2010 – March 2011	0.08 (1 young person)

## Looked After Children and offending

The rate of offending of looked after children at 31/03/12 is 6.7% ie 3 LAC offenders out of 45 young people aged 10 - 17 who had been looked after for 12 months+.

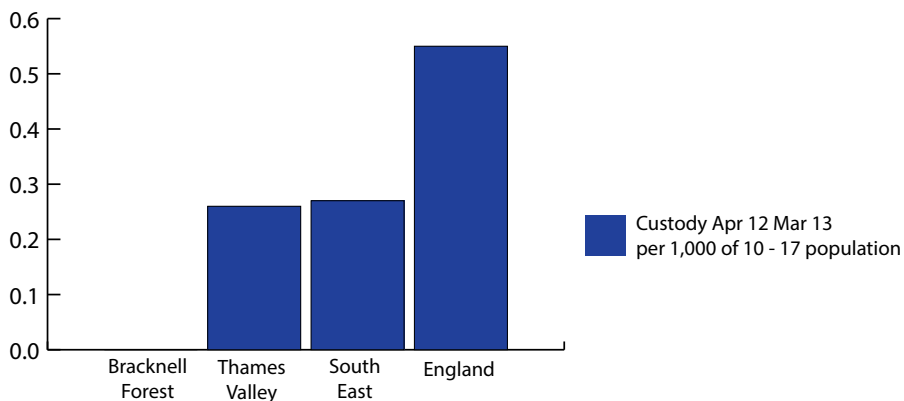
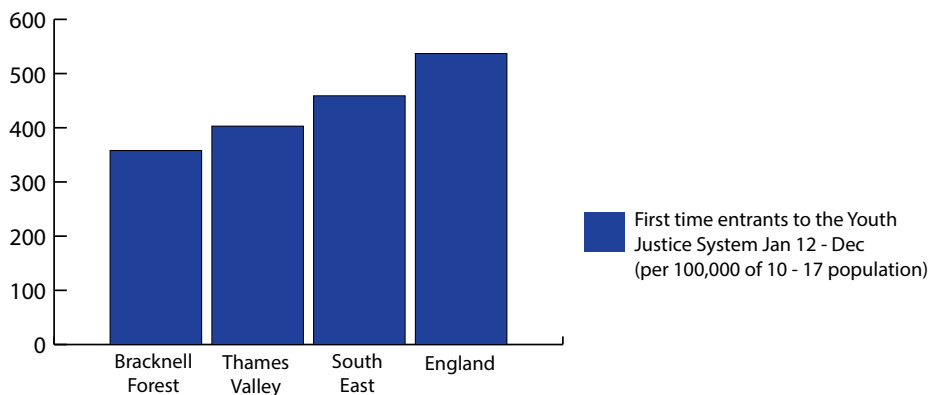
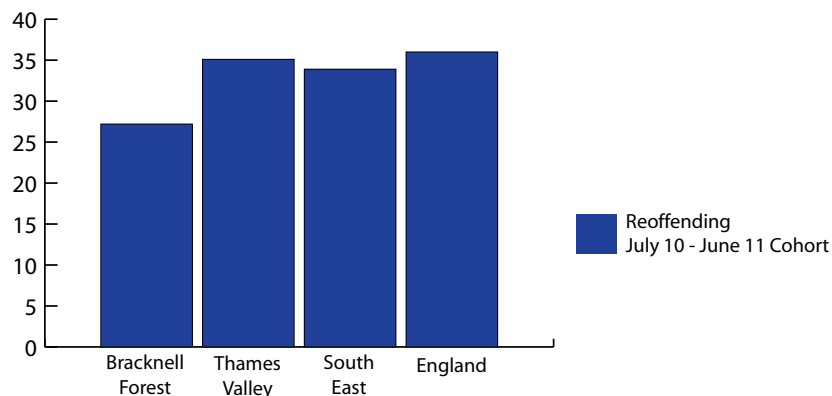
This is the same as at 31/03/11 but has reduced from 11.5% in 2009/10.

There is evidence that nationally people who have been looked after as children are over represented in the prison population. In Bracknell Forest we have had no looked after children either remanded or sentence to custody during the last two years.

## Prevention and Early Intervention

In relation to Indicator 2, (table above) the YOS has been successful at achieving a significant reduction in the number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System, and has undergone a change of structure and reorganisation of resources to focus on prevention and early intervention. Through effective partnership work, the YOS has increased the number of referrals into the YOS Prevention Service, which has provided the opportunity to work in a direct way with young people at the earliest opportunity when their anti social behaviour and/ or low level offending is indicating that there is a risk of escalation into more serious criminal activity. The YOS works directly with the 'troubled families' team and contributes to achieving their key 'payment by results' targets. YOS will continue to invest in the Prevention Service, during the 3 year period covered by this plan, with the aim of achieving positive outcomes for children and young people, whilst also avoiding the high cost of providing intensive statutory supervision of Court Orders and Custodial Sentences

The charts below show Bracknell Forest YOS performance compared with Thames Valley, South East and England for the latest period of recorded National Data. Lower figure indicates good performance.



# 4. Partnership arrangements



The YOS is represented at strategic level on the Bracknell Forest Partnership, and on 2 of the key strategic partnerships which report into it, i.e. the Community Safety Partnership and the Children and Young People's Partnership. The YOS contributes to a number of the working groups which have been set up to develop and deliver appropriate plans and direct services to support the priorities of the Bracknell Forest **Children and Young People's Partnership**. The YOS is represented on the following multi agency groups:

- Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Partnership
- Parenting Strategy Group
- Care Matters Steering Group
- Participation Group
- Life Chances Team
- Early Intervention Strategy Group
- Early Intervention Hub
- Family Focus Reference and Operational Group

In relation to the **Community Safety Partnership**, the YOS is represented on the following multi agency groups set up to deliver the priority areas identified in the Community Safety Partnership Plan 2011 – 14:

- Reducing Crime / Partnership Tasking
- Anti Social Behaviour Working Group
- The Drug and Alcohol Strategic Group
- Prevent Steering Group
- Channel Panel
- Domestic Abuse Executive and Forum
- Domestic Abuse Service Coordination Group

The YOS is also a statutory partner on the **Local Safeguarding Children Board** and is represented by the Head of YOS on the Executive and the Quality Standards and Case Review Group.

The Head of YOS also Chairs the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group, and the YOS Operational Manager attends the Child Sexual Exploitation Operational Group.

The Head of YOS is one of 2 trainers responsible for the delivery of the National Safer Workforce training to all key personnel in agencies who recruit staff to work with children and young people.

YOS has protocols in place with Children's Social Care, to reduce the offending of Looked After Children, and a Joint Working Protocol to define roles and responsibilities in regard to the management of cases where both services are involved with the young person / family.

YOS is fully involved with local partnership work to reduce the number of young people in Bracknell Forest who are NEET (not in education, employment or training). YOS has a contract in place with Adviza to deliver targeted services to young offenders who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET. YOS has a dedicated Education Training and Employment worker in post who sits on the Participation Group and works closely with schools to prevent young people being excluded.

## Local Strategic Plans

The strategic plans which most closely relate to the strategic priorities of the YOS are the Community Safety Partnership Plan, 2011-2014, 'Creating Opportunities', Children and Young People's Strategic Plan, 2011 – 2014, the Bracknell Forest Substance Misuse Strategy 2011 – 2014 and the Bracknell Forest Early Intervention Strategy 2012 – 2014.

The Children and Young People's Plan, Creating Opportunities, clearly reflects YOS priorities of reducing the harm caused to children and young people and the community through involvement with crime and anti social behaviour. Keeping young people safe from harm, reducing youth crime and anti social behaviour and intervening early to divert young people away from entering the Youth Justice System are priorities reflected in the Children and Young People's Plan, the Community Safety Partnership Plan and the Substance Misuse Strategy. The role of the YOS partnership is to ensure that local partnerships give sufficient priority to the needs of children and young people at all stages of their involvement, (or potential for involvement) in the youth justice system.

# Thames Valley Criminal Justice Board

Bracknell Forest YOS is a member of the Thames Valley Criminal Justice Board (TVCJB), along with the other eight YOS in Thames Valley. Representation on the main Board is undertaken by one of the Heads of Youth Offending Service on an annual rotation basis. There are a number of working groups set up to develop and deliver the Board's priorities. These are made up of representatives of the Criminal Justice Agencies within Thames Valley and YOS representation on these working groups is shared amongst the Thames Valley Heads of YOS. Currently the Bracknell Forest Head of YOS is a member of the Programme Delivery Group. The role of the group is to review the TVCJB's performance measures linked to the Board's priorities, identify areas of poor performance and initiate remedial action to ensure the performance targets are achieved. Membership is made up of the senior managers from all LCJB agencies that have responsibility for criminal justice performance.

# 5. Risks to future delivery

# Local issues

The current plan for delivery of youth justice statutory services can be delivered in 2013/14 within the resources available. However, it is difficult, at this point in time to predict future delivery for the 2 remaining years covered by this Strategic Plan. The future budget position affecting the statutory partners is uncertain and further cuts are forecast. From 2014, the YOS staff compliment will reduce by 0.5 FTE and this work will have to be covered by the remaining staff team, as the functions of the post of reparation coordinator must be provided in order to maintain the credibility of the Youth Justice Service to the Courts and provide the opportunity for young offenders to make recompense to the Community for the harm caused by their offending. YOS aims to use staff resources creatively, by mixing roles and responsibilities of seconded and part time staff in order to meet the needs of the client group and Service priorities. The YOS Partnership has therefore ensured that flexibility and a range of skills are contained within the workforce.

As a result of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO) which came into force in 2012/13, remand budgets previously funded from central government, have become the responsibility of Local Authorities. Some funding from the Youth Justice Board has been provided based upon the past 3 year's usage, but it remains difficult to predict future instances of Youth Detention remands. The Children Young People and Learning Department of Bracknell Forest Council have therefore taken the decision to set up a contingency fund to prepare for any overspend on the allocated grant from the Youth Justice Board /MOJ, which clearly places additional pressure on the Department's resources.

Following the appointment of the Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) for each of the Country's police force areas, funding to YOS previously supplied by the Home Office was transferred to the PCC and the YOS had to set out a business case for the funding. This year the Bracknell Forest YOS bid was successful. From 2014 the YOS funding from the PCC will not be ring fenced and will be included in the Community Safety Fund. The Thames Valley Police Force currently provides a grant to each local authority for Youth Offending Services. Rather than making two separate grants to the local authority the Chief Constable has agreed to transfer this budget to the PCC for allocation as part of the Community Safety Fund. The YOS will therefore negotiate directly with the CSP for this funding.

# National issues

The greatest risk to future delivery, post 2014, is the financial uncertainty faced within the public sector. The statutory members of the YOS partnership, including the Local Authority, are all experiencing pressures within their own agencies and this will inevitably affect the degree to which they are able to contribute financially and 'in kind' to the YOS. A new formula for the distribution of the Youth Justice Grant from the Youth Justice Board is currently under development and this may affect the amount of funding allocated via the Youth Justice Grant in future years.



# 6. Local Delivery Action Plan



# 6. Local Delivery Action Plan 2013/16

## Key priorities for Year 1

Preventing  
Youth Crime

Reducing  
Reoffending

Keeping the number  
of children and young  
people in custody to a  
minimum

Safeguarding young  
people from harm

Managing Risk  
of Harm

# Priority 1: Preventing Youth Crime

## Why is this a priority?

Intervening earlier to address risk factors, challenge anti-social behaviour and improve parenting prevents children, young people and their families from becoming socially excluded within their communities and therefore less likely to offend or re offend in the future

## What is our aim?

To build on our success in reducing the number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System

To prevent those receiving early Out of Court Disposals from progressing further into the Criminal Justice System

To increase the number of appropriate and timely referrals into the YOS Prevention Service by Police Neighbourhood Teams, the Schools Police Officer and Children's Social Care Teams

## How will we measure success?

Referral rates will be monitored on a quarterly basis by the Community Safety Partnership

Data will be provided to the YOS Performance Management Board on a quarterly basis and to the Youth Justice Board via Police National Computer (PNC)

Carry out an annual evaluation of the YOS Prevention Service

## What will we aim to achieve this coming year?

- Maintain a low level of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System whilst ensuring that those who do not respond to prevention programmes are escalated appropriately
- Work closely with the Family Focus project to achieve a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour with the children and young people from families who meet the Family Focus criteria
- Implement the action plan from the Independent evaluation of the YOS Prevention Service carried out in 2013

## How will we do this?

- Continue to raise awareness of the Prevention Service to the Police Neighbourhood Teams, the Schools Police Officer and Children's Social Care Teams
- Offer individual or group parenting interventions to all parents/carers whose children are referred into the YOS Prevention Service
- Regular Meetings will take place between Children's Social Care Managers and the YOS Operational Manager to discuss current cases in common and identify those at risk of offending
- Work in partnership with Thames Valley Police in relation to joint decision making for first time entrants into the Youth Justice System
- The YOS will attend the Early Intervention Hub and Family Focus operational meetings regularly to identify referrals for the YOS Prevention Service
- Monitor the outcomes of targeted youth work in schools to ensure that young people at risk of offending are appropriately referred into the YOS Prevention Service

## What will we aim to achieve in the next 3 years?

Work will continue to further improve these targets in year 2 and 3. Review of this priority will take place in the 2014 refresh of this plan

# Priority 2: Reducing Reoffending

## Why is this a priority?

Reducing reoffending by children and young people can significantly improve their life chances. Breaking the cycle of re-offending means that our local community will be safer and there will be fewer victims of crime

Reducing reoffending in Looked After Children (LAC) is particularly important as this group of children and young people are already disadvantaged by their earlier life experiences and their offending can be the result of poor coping skills, rather than criminal intent. Nationally LAC and care leavers are over represented in the Criminal Justice System and all agencies need to work together to ensure that this over representation is not reflected locally

## What is our aim?

We aim to maintain our success in reducing the level of reoffending and prevent a rise in the reoffending rate of children and young people in the Bracknell Forest Cohort

## How will we measure success?

Data is provided quarterly to the YOS Performance Management Board on the reoffending rate of the 2012 local cohort of young offenders and we will re set the cohort annually during the 3 year period of this plan

## What will we aim to achieve this coming year?

- Prevent those receiving early out of court disposals from reoffending and progressing through the Youth Justice System
- Maintain the low the rate of reoffending of the local cohort of young offenders and ensure that Bracknell Forest's performance compares favourably with the overall performance of the South East region
- Further reduce the low rate of re offending amongst Bracknell LAC
- Increase the use of Restorative Justice amongst partner agencies and placement providers working with LAC to enable alternatives to prosecution to be considered
- Ensure continuation of support from partner agencies following completion of Court Ordered intervention by YOS so that the risk of reoffending is reduced

## How will we do this?

- We will offer voluntary intervention to young people and families when a child or young person has received an Out of Court Disposal
- Through YOS Quality Assurance processes we will ensure that intervention plans to prevent reoffending are robust, prioritised and targeted at the risk factors closely linked to the likelihood of reoffending and risk of harm to others
- Ensure that on case closure the exit strategy provides appropriate support for the child or young person and their family to prevent them re offending
- Monitor and review intervention plans for LAC who offend through the multi agency Life Chances Team
- Implement the action plan arising from the 2013 YOS audit of the joint management by YOS and Children's Social Care of Bracknell LAC who offend

## What will we aim to achieve in the next 3 years?

Work will continue to further improve these targets in year 2 and 3. Review of this priority will take place in the 2014 refresh of this plan

# Priority 3:

## Keeping the number of Children and Young People in Custody to a minimum

### Why is this a priority?

We know that Custody has a detrimental impact on the lives of children and young people and their families and resettlement into the community is difficult

Reoffending statistics show that short custodial sentences that are received for persistent reoffending or non-compliance are not effective in reducing reoffending in many cases so it is a priority for YOS to encourage the Courts to use Community Sentences in place of Custody for all but the most serious cases

Legislative changes have increased the cost of remand to Youth Detention Accommodation to the Local Authority in terms of financial and staff resources

### What is our aim?

Ensure that only those who commit the most serious offences or present a risk to the local community are remanded or receive a custodial sentence

Maintain the confidence of partner agencies, the Courts and the general public by providing robust interventions in the community as an alternative to Custody

Ensure that children and young people leaving custody receive effective support and supervision as they transfer from the secure estate and resettle into the community to prevent them returning to custody for failure to comply with Licence conditions

## How will we measure success?

Data will be supplied to the Youth Justice Board and the YOS Performance Management Board on the numbers of young people remanded or sentenced to Custody on a quarterly basis

## What will we aim to achieve this coming year?

- No children and young people sentenced or remanded to custody
- Following the disbandment of the Berkshire Intensive Supervision and Surveillance consortium, provide this Service in house as an alternative to Custody or Remand

## How will we do this?

- Ensure that Pre Sentence Reports contain credible proposals for community sentences in all but the most serious cases where custody is necessary to protect the public
- Set up compliance meetings in all cases where young people are failing to comply with their Court Orders to prevent non compliance escalating into breach proceedings at Court
- Provide the Courts with robust bail supervision packages to reduce the risk of remand into Youth Detention Accommodation
- YOS Head of Service will work with the Thames Valley Criminal Justice Board to improve the process for youth cases going through the courts, in order to avoid long periods of remand
- For those young people who are in Custody, YOS will begin planning for a young persons release from Custody (remand or sentence) at the earliest opportunity
- Use Volunteer Mentors to provide additional support for young people leaving Custody

## What will we aim to achieve in the next 3 years?

Work will continue to further improve these targets in year 2 and 3. Review of this priority will take place in the 2014 refresh of this plan

# Priority 4:

## Safeguarding young people from harm

### Why is this a priority?

Research suggests that children and young people who are involved in offending or at risk of offending are often victims of abuse or neglect. They may also be affected by poverty, inconsistent parenting, reduced educational opportunities and mental health problems. This group of children and young people may present as a risk to others but account should also be taken of their vulnerability. Children and young people who offend often take part in risky behaviours such as drug taking, alcohol misuse or inappropriate sexual activity. This can make them vulnerable to sexual exploitation, violence and abuse from others

### What is our aim?

Our aim is to identify all children and young people working with the YOS who are vulnerable to harm from their own behaviour or that of others and take actions to reduce their vulnerability and keep them safe

### How will we measure success?

Carry out a Safeguarding Audit to identify strengths and areas for improvement

Monitor referrals made to Children's Social Care, DAAT, CAMHS and the Child Sexual Exploitation Operational Group



## **What will we aim achieve this coming year ?**

- The early identification of children and young people who are vulnerable to sexual exploitation.
- Implement joint protocols with Children's Social Care, i.e Joint Working, Preventing the Offending of Looked After Children and the Management of Children on Remand
- Use the Early Intervention Hub to 'step down' all cases that do not meet social care thresholds but are still identified as vulnerable at the point of YOS case closure
- Work with partners to raise awareness of sexual exploitation with children and young people, parents and non statutory agencies that work with vulnerable children and families

## **How will we do this?**

- The YOS Head of Service will take the lead in relation to developing the Bracknell Forest Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy and report directly into the LSCB and the YOS Operational Manager will represent YOS at the Child Sexual Exploitation Operational Group
- YOS Case management staff will complete a risk assessment in relation to child sexual exploitation on all children and young people involved in risk taking behaviours
- All YOS staff will complete Safeguarding Training relating to Sexual Exploitation.
- YOS case management staff will complete a CAF on all children and young people who are still assessed as vulnerable at case closure and refer these case into the Early Intervention Hub
- YOS Operational Manager will meet regularly with Children's Social Care Team Managers to monitor joint working in cases where young people are known to both Services
- The YOS Social Worker will continue to be a member of the Life Chances Team

## **What will we aim to achieve in the next 3 years?**

Work will continue to further improve these targets in year 2 and 3. Review of this priority will take place in the 2014 refresh of this plan

# Priority 5: Managing Risk of Harm

## Why is this a priority?

Effective Risk Management protects the public from harm and reduces the impact of offending on the local community

## What is our aim?

Our aim is to robustly supervise children and young people who pose a risk of harm to others towards the successful completion of their Court Order or Individual Support Plan and achieve a reduction in the risk they pose by case closure

## How will we measure success?

We will closely monitor relevant cases through the YOS Risk Focus Group and put in place actions to reduce risk of harm

Public Protection Incidents reported to the YJB

## **What will we aim to achieve this coming year?**

- Improve the timeliness in recording responses to changes in risk levels on assessments, intervention plans and risk management plans
- Convene Risk Focus Meetings at 6 weekly intervals, chaired by the Operational Manager to facilitate defensible decision making and share accountability
- We will aim to have no Public Protection incidents meeting the criteria for reporting to the Youth Justice Board

## **How will we do this?**

- Case management staff will prepare robust risk assessments and risk management plans in relevant cases and these will be shared with other agencies where appropriate
- Cases will be Quality Assured by Managers and discussed at 4 weekly Staff
- Supervision meetings and Risk Focus meetings
- Relevant cases will be referred to MAPPA and YOS will attend all meetings
- Intelligence will be shared with Police and at MAPPA meetings

## **What will we aim to achieve in the next 3 years?**

Work will continue to further improve these targets in year 2 and 3. Review of this priority will take place in the 2014 refresh of this plan

