



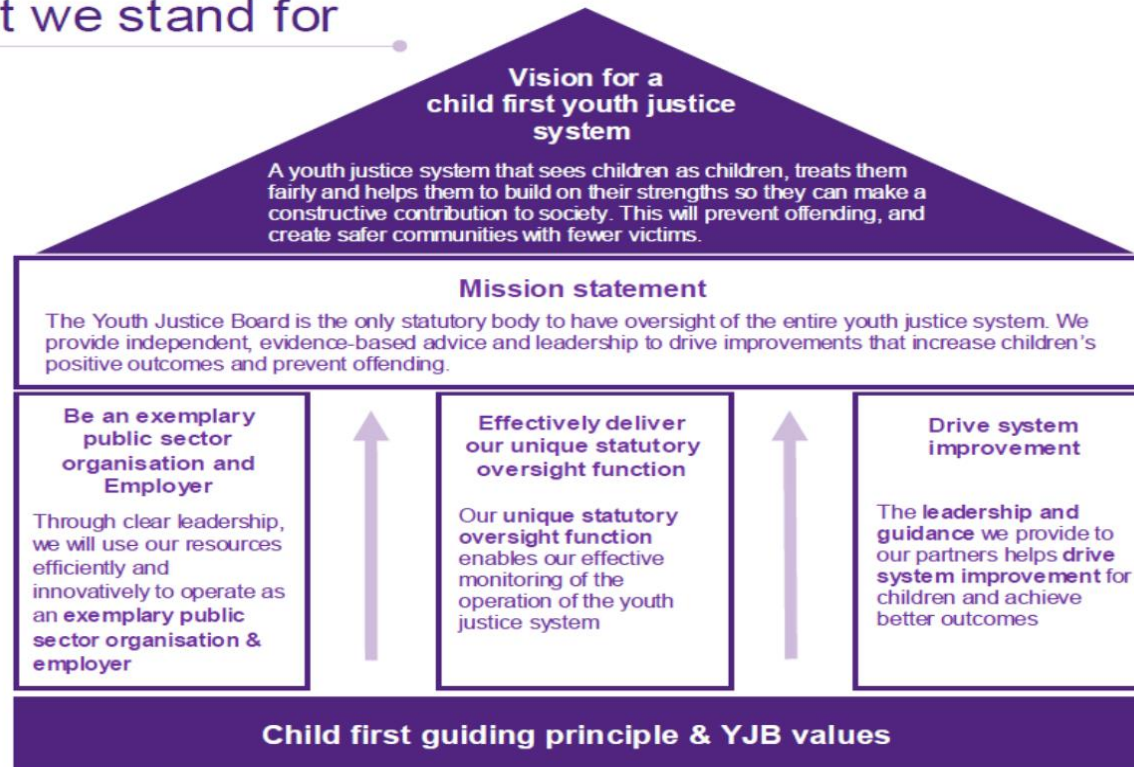
Work with Looked After Children

Annual update presentation to the Corporate
Parenting Board 30th November 2021

Kay Dargue
Head of South Tees Youth Offending Service

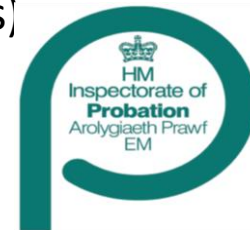
National context

What we do and what we stand for



Who we are and what we do

- Youth offending teams (YOTs) supervise 10–18-year-olds who have been sentenced by a court, or who have come to the attention of the police because of their offending behaviour but have not been charged – instead, they were dealt with out of court (Out Of Court Disposal).
- YOTs are statutory partnerships, and are multidisciplinary, to deal with the needs of the whole child.
- We are required to have staff from local authority social care and education, the police, the National Probation Service and local health services
- The Youth Justice Board (YJB) provides some funding to YOTs. The YJB also monitors our performance and issues guidance about how things are to be done (for example National Standards)
- HMIP are our regulating body



STYOS 2021-22 Youth Justice Plan



Youth Justice Plan 2021-2022



The 2021-2022 Youth Justice Plan was submitted to the YJB in June 21. The Plan details:

- YOS Performance 2020-21
- The YOS Budget for 2021-22
- Details of Service Structures
- Staffing Arrangements
- Partnership Arrangements
- Risks to Service Delivery
- Service Priorities for 2021-22

Caseload demographic

April to September 2021

		Percentage of Total		
		Female	Male	All
Gender	All cases	11.3%	88.7%	100.0%
	Population Estimate	48.5%	51.5%	100.0%
		Percentage of Gender		
	Asian	0.0%	2.1%	1.9%
	Black	0.0%	1.6%	1.4%
	Chinese	0.0%	1.6%	1.4%
	Mixed	0.0%	5.3%	4.7%
	Not Known	8.3%	2.6%	3.3%
	Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	White	91.7%	86.8%	87.3%
Ethnicity	All	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
		Percentage of Gender		
	10-13	29.2%	18.0%	19.2%
	14	20.8%	14.3%	15.0%
	15	25.0%	14.8%	16.0%
	16	12.5%	22.2%	21.1%
	17+	12.5%	30.7%	28.6%
Age	All	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	Yes	29.2%	13.8%	15.5%
LAC	No	70.8%	86.2%	84.5%

STYOS 'offer' to Children Looked After

- Work with care home staff and Police to identify appropriate responses to young people who offend in residential settings, including the use of restorative intervention as a solution to challenging behaviours
- Ensure active STYOS attendance at all planning or strategy meetings for young people with CLA status
- STYOS safeguarding case managers provide an essential link to Children's Services teams in both Local Authorities as well as providing advice and guidance to colleagues on safeguarding issues and processes.
- Ensure all Intervention Plans for CLA are shared with young people, their carers and colleagues from Children's Services
- Developed joint supervision arrangements between STYOS and Middlesbrough Children's Services

STYOS 'offer' to Children Looked After

- Developed a working agreement between STYOS and Early Help to ensure joint planning and supervision arrangements are in place, the aim being to reduce escalation in the criminal justice and / or looked after system by working collaboratively.
- STYOS provide a 'single points of contact' for the Multi Agency Children's Hub to provide information and advice on young people known to STYOS.
- Reciprocal arrangements are in place to offer access to case management systems and this allows the MACH to ascertain if the case is open to STYOS and/or YOS staff to systems to identify if new referrals are known to children's services and ensure that joint working commences at the earliest opportunity.

Key Developments in the last year

- STYOS have strengthened the relationship with the Virtual school and have developed a joint protocol. This joint working improves communication and supports the Virtual school to create robust Personal Education Plans, and enables young people to be identified for support at an earlier point.
- CLA 'NEET' forum – Information Sharing Agreement in place with Middlesbrough College has been written which enables Looked After Children to be supported by the College to reduce their risk of becoming NEET.
- Joint Custody protocol - for young people who are given custodial sentences. Protocol aims to improve information flow, and robust planning in place to improve the transition between the community and custodial establishment to aid resettlement.

What difference does this make to our CLA?

- STYOS recognises the needs to offer an 'over and above' service to our Looked After Children
- Caseloads are monitored to ensure we do not have over representation in the criminal justice system
- Systems and processes in place to robustly manage our CLA in our service
- Collaborative and joined up work with partners. Protocols and joint working arrangements ensure clear lines of accountability.
- Young people are offered a good service, appropriate to their need and supported by trained, skilled professionals

Challenges and next steps

- Covid – adapted ways of working with our young people, and will continue to ensuring the right digital solutions are in place.
- Developing our understanding and responding to the risks presented by young people at risk of or involved in serious violent crime and exploitation.
- Prevention – longer term sustainability of the current model to divert young people including CLA away from the criminal justice system
- Embed the positive developments in ETE and monitor the impact of this work
- Progress will be monitored via YOS Management, YOS Board and YJB.