

IP8 Improving outcomes for youth justice

Lead Cabinet Member

Cabinet Member for Social Services

Lead Officer

Head of Children and Family Services

Overall Judgement

Jun 2017		
Actual	Performance	Comments
Amber - Acceptable	●	<p>Some of the issues continue to remain beyond our control.</p> <p>For First Time Entrants we are doing all we can with the police to review the processes that may allow more eligible young people to receive an Restorative Justice Disposal (RJD) as a diversion away from the youth justice system</p> <p>Regarding Education, Training and Employment - we are confident that everything possible is being done to increase the attendance hours of young people, but they are refusing to engage. This is a problem that falls partly outside of the Youth Offending Service control. We continue to employ a robust monitoring process to try and improve this situation.</p>

Measures

- Key for Measures
- ★ Green - on target
 - Amber - slightly short of target
 - ▲ Red - off target

	Jun 2017							Period Performance
	Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Performance (YTD)	Actual 1 year ago (YTD)	DoT 1 year ago (YTD)	Wales Average (YTD)	Perf. v Wales Average (YTD)	
YJ/L/18 % Young People Out of Court Disposals Re-offend within 12 mnths (Q) (IP8)	13%	30%	★	25%	?		!	
YJ/L/19 % Young people statutory orders who re-offend within 12 mnths (Q) (IP8)	53.3%	30.0%	▲	44.1%	?		!	Despite performance being worse year to date we must re-iterate that the number of young in the re-offending cohorts in this area continues to be small and for Q1, there is no change in the number of young people in this cohort. Small numbers of young people continued to receive court orders in Q1 2016/17 as young people continued to be diverted via an Out of Court Disposal route. Those being left within the court system are highly complex cases and are more likely to re-offend.

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	Jun 2017							Period Performance
	Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Performance (YTD)	Actual 1 year ago (YTD)	DoT 1 year ago (YTD)	Wales Average (YTD)	Perf. v Wales Average (YTD)	
YJ/L13 Number of first time entrants into youth justice system (M) (IP8)	31	20	▲	8	✘		!	<p>We saw a significant increase - by 72% when comparing to Q4 2016/17 and 56% when comparing to Q1 2016/17 - of First Time Entrants in Q1 2016/17 to a total of 31 young people. The increase emphasizes the seriousness of offending being committed by young people in Newport at the moment, with Drugs offences (primarily those in Possession of Class A Substances with intent to supply) fraud and violent offences being the most common offences. In addition one young person came through to the Youth Justice System after committing Robbery.</p> <p>Only 15 of the 31 First Time Entrants, previously received an RJD (Restorative Justice Disposal) and undertook intervention work from the Social Services Prevention Team. Despite this a further 7 young people had another form of preventative activity and an eighth young person was referred to the Education Safeguarding Team within Newport City Council's Education Department.</p>
YJ/L14 Number of young people sentenced to custody (M) (IP8)	2	6	★	1	✘		!	

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Actions

- Key for Actions*
- ★ Green - on track
 - Amber - Deviation from Plan
 - ▲ Red - Action is of concern

			Jun 2017	
	Performance	IP Progress Update	IP Activity Planned	
<p>✓ IP 8.1 Reduction in first time entrants</p>	<p>●</p>	<p>We are asking YJB for support in dealing with very serious offences. We are reviewing the Bureau Process in line with the rest of Wales. It would appear Gwent has a lower threshold to become FTE than anywhere else in Wales. Meetings with the police to review the bureau guidance.</p> <p>Robust monitoring of FTE, which we continue to do and use of audits to identify what works and what lessons to be learnt.</p>	<p>Adapt the lateral checks process to capture those escalating to a FTE Status and identify whether or not they should have been diverted. This will take place in December.</p>	
<p>✓ IP 8.2 Reduction in the use of youth custody</p>	<p>★</p>	<p>This is challenging as long as police operations are continuing to identify very serious offenders. Continue to offer viable alternatives wherever possible.</p>	<p>We have requested the YJB to review practice in this area.</p>	

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✓ IP 8.3 Access to Education, Training and Employment



Of the 9 young people of school age, 2 had a Statement of Special Educational Needs, and one of whom was in a specialist education placement for children with complex needs. Unfortunately he was not attending education or engaging with his order and he was resentenced and given an education requirement for 6 months.

I had been identified as having Speech and Language difficulties and was undergoing a series of assessments by the YOS Speech and Language Therapist. He had persistently breached his order prior to him being resentenced in April, however following the identification of his difficulties in understanding complex language, and staff having a better awareness of how to work effectively with him, he has since engaged with his order and has been working with the YOS ETE officer on CV writing, job applications and has undertaken some voluntary work organised through the YOS.

Of the 3 children who remained at 0 hours throughout the duration of the order, all had been breached for non-engagement with their orders and there was little or no parental engagement. Care proceedings are being initiated in one of these cases. All remain with the YOS with one in custody.

2 of the 9 were children in residential care, and both of these saw an increase in their engagement levels over the duration of the order. One of these young people went from 0 hours at the beginning of the order to 25 hours at the end and this was achieved through moving her away from the residential unit and enrolling her in a new mainstream school. Again the other young person saw an increase from 0 to 12 hours engagement by a move to an alternative education placement in a neighbouring authority which was sought by the YOS ETE Officer. Despite a high risk assessment including arson offences, the YOS information sharing and communication process with the Learning Provider Network (originally developed for the post-16 YOS young people to manage high risk cases) was instrumental in securing the placement and providing reassurance for the training provider. The additional costs of the placement were funded by the Bridge Achievement Centre.

4 of the 9 were Year 11 students, and only 1 was in 25 hours of Education at the end of the order. 3 of the 4 young people were on roll at the Bridge Achievement Centre (Pupil Referral Unit) and despite being offered expensive vocational provision including college, were not able to maintain the placement or not motivated to attend. 3 of the 4 young people are currently NEET with one in custody.

Those in alternative education provision including the PRU, community tuition, and specialist education providers on the whole were engaging less than their counterparts. Managing these young people with complex needs is more difficult and expensive, and attendance has certainly been an issue raised of those on roll at the PRU especially the Year 11 students. There has been a review of all social, emotional and behavioural education provision within the local authority over the last 6 months and proposals have been drawn up to change provision and the YOS has been central to these discussions. The new ASPIRE programme is starting in September run in partnership with PRU teaching staff and youth service which will work with the KS4 children on roll at the PRU and will provide an off-site full-time base targeting the Year 11 students. The ASPIRE programme has run in a number of mainstream Newport schools for a number of years and has been successful in engaging young people and providing them with recognised qualifications when they leave school.

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	Jun 2017		
	Performance	IP Progress Update	IP Activity Planned
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IP 8.4 Access to timely mental health assessment and treatment	★	Continue with current training	Continue with current practice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IP 8.5 access to timely assessment and treatment in relation to substance misuse.	★	Embedding the new substance misuse worker into YOS and developing practice to support local needs	Continue as outlined
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IP 8.6 Access to appropriate/suitable accommodation	★	First meeting took place in May between a working group to establish alternative remand provision.	Second meeting taking with place with multi agency group in september to scope the development of alternative remand accommodation