

Appendix 1

Youth Offending Teams in England, Wales and Scotland

Darlington

Darlington Borough has an estimated population of 100,800 (Mid 2010), living in approximately 45,000 households. Around 30% of the population consist of people aged 24 or under with in the region of 10% in the ten to 17 age bracket. Darlington Youth Offending Service (YOS) covers this geographical area with the age group 10 to 17 falling within the YOS client group (Darlington YOS, 2012).

There was a renewal, in April 2010, of the coveted ISO9001 quality award which Darlington has now held for three years. In 2009, the HMI Probation Joint Inspection Team assessed Darlington as one of the best performing YOSs in the region and in the country. There has been a dramatic fall in the number of young people being dealt with in the criminal justice system over recent years. In 2011/12 there were 62.6% fewer young people being dealt with by the courts than in 2005/6 (Darlington YOS, 2008)

Figure 1.

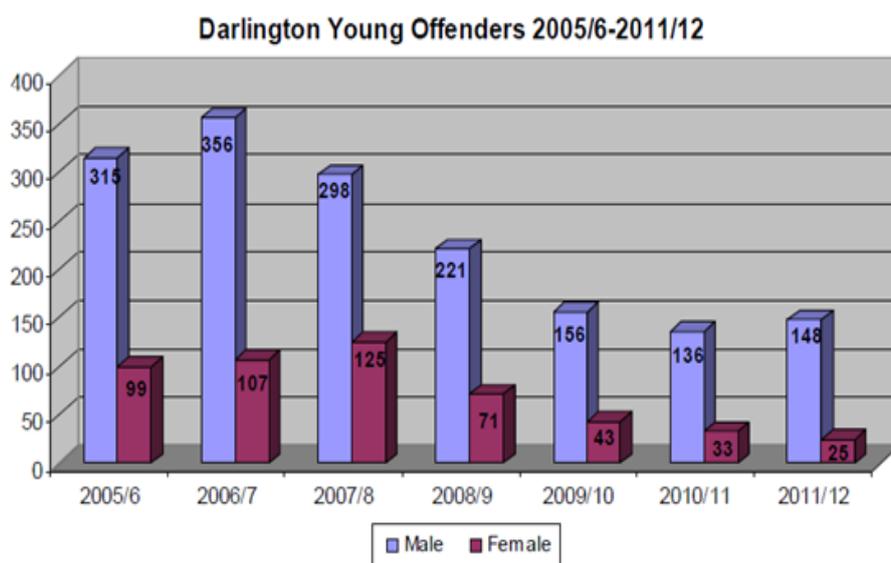


Figure 1. above shows the number of young offenders in Darlington.

Dorset

Dorset has an estimated population of just over 700,000 First Time Entrants – 161 young people were first time entrants into the criminal justice system and therefore received a criminal record.

Table 1 below illustrates the reduction by almost 75% from the figure in the base-line year of 2007/08.

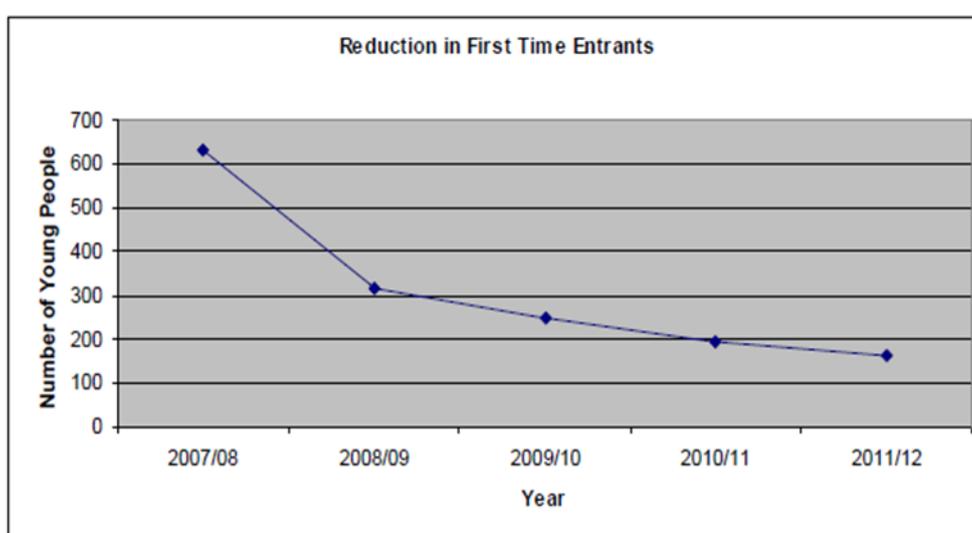


Table 1.

This performance continues to be excellent. Maintaining this low level will be addressed by on-going targeted intervention with at risk young people via the Youth Inclusion and Support Panels (YISPs), and by close working with Dorset Police to develop Restorative Justice Alternatives to formal youth justice proceedings (Dorset YOT, 2011).

Perth & Kinross (Scotland)

Perth and Kinross has an estimated population of 144,180. The Perth and Kinross Youth Justice Partnership was established in 2004 as a result of the progress achieved by an inter-agency planning team which had been operational since 2002. The Partnership is now well established and reports to the Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership and the Community Safety Partnership (Perth & Kinross YJP, 2010).

Table 2 below shows a summary of youth crime in Perth & Kinross

| Category | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | % change | 2009/10 | % change |
|---|---------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
| Young people detected and reported for crimes | | | | | |
| (i) under 16 years | 1,045 | 988 | -5.5 | 797 | -19.4 |
| (ii) 16-21 years | 1,448 | 1,483 | +2.5 | 1,294 | -13 |
| Crimes detected to young people | | | | | |
| (i) under 16 years | 779 | 759 | -2.5 | 595 | -21.5 |
| (ii) 16-21 years | 1,295 | 1,286 | -0.7 | 1,087 | -15.5 |
| Youth related calls | 3,607 | 3,008 | -16.6 | 2,386 | -20.7 |
| Referrals to *SCRA on offence grounds | 399 | 328 | -18 | 264 | -19.5 |
| Children referred to *SCRA on offence ground | 176 | 120 | -32 | 107 | -11 |

* Scottish Children's Reporter Administration

Table 2.

North Yorkshire

North Yorkshire has an estimated population of just over 600,000. There are two Area Teams which supervise young people between the ages of 10-18 years (although supervision of some young people can extend beyond this) who are either subject to pre-court Final Warnings, or subject to court orders – either community orders or custodial sentences. The introduction of the Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) in November 2009 changed the sentencing framework for young people who can now be sentenced to a YRO with various attached requirements depending on individual risks and needs – in particular the risks of re-offending and serious harm to others. The teams carry out all work in court, including the preparation of Pre-Sentence Reports to assist magistrates in sentencing young people. The team also carries out bail and remand work and work to support victims, with a particular focus on encouraging the use of restorative justice (North Yorkshire YJS, 2012).

North Somerset

North Somerset has an estimated population of just over 200,00 and North Somerset Youth Offending and Prevention Service (YOS) is responsible for delivering specialist statutory and targeted services to prevent offending and re-offending. Projects include Youth Offender Panels, Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Scheme, community reparation projects in partnership with the independent voluntary sector, Youth Inclusion Support Project, Junction 21 Mentoring Scheme, Substance Advice Service, Family Intervention Project (closed 03/10/11), parenting services and groups, and the Positive Activities Programme (delivered across partner agencies as well as within the YOS).

Restorative Justice

The fourth report (2010) from the evaluation of three schemes, funded by the Home Office under its Crime Reduction Programme from mid-2001: CONNECT, the Justice Research Consortium (JRC) and REMEDI found that those offenders who participated in restorative justice committed statistically significantly fewer offences (in terms of reconvictions) in the subsequent two years than offenders in the control group (Ministry of Justice, 2008).

Darlington

An area that has been a focus of the Darlington YOS is Restorative Justice. One of the key objectives of the 2008-09 Youth Justice plan was to embed Restorative Justice principles into the work of the YOS and improve public confidence and victim satisfaction levels. During 2011-12 they have undertaken a large number of reparation projects where young offenders work for the benefit of the community (Darlington YOS, 2012).

A very small proportion of young people in Darlington are responsible for the majority of youth crime in the town, figures have shown. A report prepared by the Darlington Youth Offender Service (YOS) showed that less than two per cent of children aged between 10 and 17 living in Darlington ever come into contact with the service, with a small hardcore of repeat offenders causing most of recorded youth crime (Henderson, 2012).

The piloting of a 10 month joint initiative between Durham Constabulary and Darlington YOS has grown and widened the use of restorative justice practices within the youth justice area, guaranteeing that communities and victims are given a greater say. The delivery of a consistent restorative approach involving young people, by commissioning a Restorative Justice worker to develop and deliver a reparation programme/restorative intervention is the focus of the pilot. This will be in line with the needs of both the victim/council and ensuring victim feedback and satisfaction are the main priorities of these interactions. The first 4 months of this pilot produced over 50 referrals which was 50% higher than anticipated.

In line with government policy the use of Restorative Justice is being enlarged and Darlington YOS has responded by organising a regional 5 day training event for 6 YOSs and Durham & Tees Valley Probation Trust in order to reduce the costs of training staff individually. This enabled Darlington YOS to train 5 YOS staff and one Police Officer. These trainers will also train Referral Order Panel Members to facilitate Referral Order Panel meetings with a more Restorative approach (Darlington YOS, 2012).

Dorset

In 2010, 189 Victims were offered the opportunity to engage in a restorative activity. 37 took part in a direct restorative process and 36 in an indirect process supported by a Victim Liaison Officer and two Community Resource Officers. Satisfaction levels from victims are very high. The team delivered 2204 hours of Community Reparation in 2009. Failures to attend sessions by young people have been reduced from 19.5% to 14.1%. The progress made on this issue will be an important part of ensuring efficient use of resources.

The Safer Schools and Community Team (SSCT) oversee the delivery and quality assures the Restorative Reprimand Scheme. Police officers from each Police Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) have been trained in the delivery of Restorative Justice Interventions. A young person who admits a minor offence is offered the opportunity to take part in a restorative conference with the victim of their offence (with the victim's agreement). If they complete the process satisfactorily they will not receive a police record and the case will be closed. All young people are tracked for re-offending. The level of satisfaction at the outcome of such meetings from victims is recorded. The scheme is available across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole.

The SSCT undertook a review of the first three years of the scheme. One of the outstanding findings was the high level of victim satisfaction with the process and with the resolution of the incidents (in excess of 97% positive). The report was made available to the Dorset Criminal Justice Board who determined that the scheme should be made available to any young person under the age of 18 at any stage of their criminal career. The decision to offer a restorative disposal would be governed by the seriousness of the offence and following consultation with the YOT. This is in line with the Government's intention to use the same principles for the Out Of Court Disposal Process (Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act (LASPO)). A pilot scheme has been introduced in Weymouth and Portland and will be the focus of the work of the SSCT Project worker. This pilot will be used to establish the procedures for exchange of information and decision making, before a roll out to the whole county.

The SSCT have developed considerable expertise in the delivery of restorative justice conferences and training others to deliver. Eight members of the team are registered with the Restorative Justice Council. They will be delivering this training and validating practice with other staff in the Youth Justice and Prevention teams (Dorset YOT, 2011).

Perth & Kinross

Restorative Justice has been a central feature of the work of the Youth Justice Partnership over the past few years and has made a telling contribution to the reduction in the rate of offending. Within the past year, they have taken this a step further with a commitment to rolling out a major training programme to promote Restorative Practice within all schools in Perth and Kinross. This programme - undertaken on a cluster basis - will see all schools developing the capacity to introducing a restorative approach to managing conflict or addressing particular aspects of offending behaviour. The training was completed in June 2012 (Perth & Kinross YJP, 2010).

North Somerset

Introduction of Youth Restorative Disposals:

The Youth Restorative Disposal (YRD) was introduced to offer a quick and proportionate response a young person's low-level offending and allow victims to have a voice in how the offence is resolved. It also saves the Police and other criminal justice agencies the process time by diverting them from the criminal justice system of reprimands, final warnings and charges to Court. The young person does not receive a criminal record for a YRD.

The identification of young people on the cusp of further offending allows the YOS partnership to intervene as appropriate to address offending / anti-social behaviour. Hence the Police may

intervene by way of a YRD. However, referrals to other partners e.g. YISP, can be made where further targeted interventions seem appropriate. The development of the YRD scheme has been seen to reduce the number of young people entering the Criminal Justice System for low-level crimes and possibly reducing the risk of reoffending. It has seen a significant shift in Police practice to low level crime as in previous years the 'offences brought to justice' target did not encourage diverting young people from the criminal justice system. This target and the target to reduce young people entering the criminal justice system was a source of much debate at the YOS Management Board over many years. The ending of the 'offences brought to justice' target and the development of YRD has provided an effective option in dealing with low level crime. The YRD is a substantive outcome but does not register as a criminal justice outcome for counting entrants into the criminal justice system i.e. it is diversionary.

Locally Police guidance was made available on the issuing of a YRD, this includes the following:

- Only young people between the ages of 10-17 who have not previously received a Court disposal are eligible.
- A young person may receive only one YRD.
- Serious crimes, such as weapons, sexual and drug offences, are not eligible for a YRD except in exceptional circumstances. In these cases the YRD must be authorised by an Inspector and rationale provided for decision made.
- For all restorative justice offences, referrals of offenders or victims to partner statutory and voluntary agencies should be considered i.e. Victim Support, Children's Services, Education, Alcohol and Drug Addiction agencies.

In North Somerset a total of 485 YRD have been notified to the YOT since 1st April 2008 (North Somerset YOS, 2011).

North Yorkshire

The use of Youth Restorative Disposals is an example of effective partnership working generating positive outcomes for young people. The scheme, in partnership with the Police and Targeted Youth Support, seeks to divert young people from the criminal justice service whilst ensuring they are held to account for their actions and have any assessed needs met. As part of this scheme, a Drugs and Alcohol Arrest Referral scheme has also been established and the use of 'Community Resolution' expanded to include both young people and adults.

Restorative Practice: The YJS was successful in a bid to the YJB for funding to deliver both Restorative Practice and 'Train the Trainer' training to a number of our staff and Referral Panel members. This will be rolled out and delivered across the service to all staff over the next 12 months with a view to embedding restorative practice as an approach in all aspects of our work. In particular we aim to further develop the support offered to victims of crime and to increase the number of victims who attend Referral Panels and are supported to engage in restorative meetings with young people. The new Panel Matters training due to be issued by the YJB in June will involve a considerable challenge for the service as it involves a minimum of 5 days training for new volunteer panel members, and 3 for existing panel members and YJB staff. Given the geographical spread of the service, consideration will need to be given to joint training with City of York YOT (North Yorkshire YJS, 2012).

First Time Entrants (Darlington)

First Time Entrants (FTEs) are normally dealt with (unless for serious offences) by way of reprimand, final warning or referral order. The YOS had a Public Service Agreement to reduce the number of FTEs to the criminal Justice System to no more than 275 by 2009, which has been surpassed.

Figure 2.

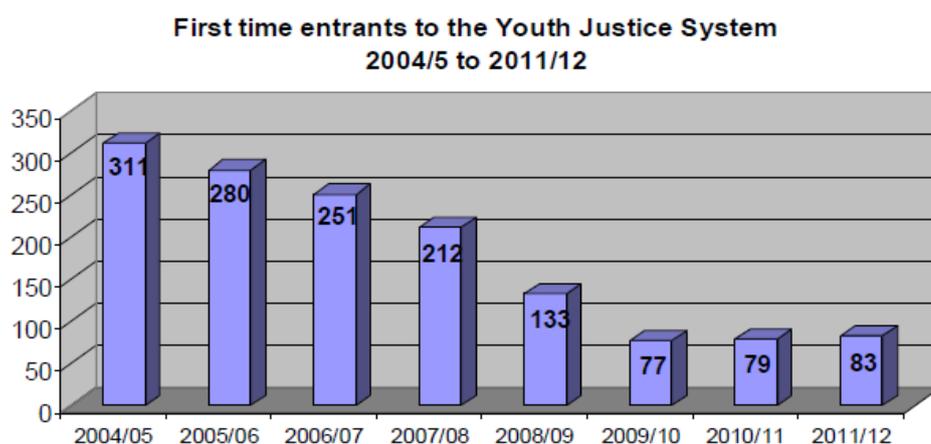


Figure 2 above shows the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System in Darlington.

The introduction in April 2008 of a new pilot scheme by the YOS in conjunction with Durham Police was designed to further reduce the number of FTEs by diverting young people at risk of offending behaviour from entering the youth justice system. The pre-reprimand disposal is for those young people under 14 years of age who commit a first offence. This is classed as a non-conviction disposal (unlike reprimands and final warnings) and is not recorded against the young person. The young person is bailed by the Police and required to cooperate with the YOS to undertake a risk assessment and appropriate intervention whilst on bail. If the young person cooperates, as required, then no further action is taken in respect of the offence, which is discharged (Darlington YOS, 2012).

The Summer Programme (Perth & Kinross)

This was first established by the Youth Justice Team in 2007 and has been a significant means of providing targeted support to many of the young people who have become involved in offending behaviour. The Summer Programme now involves many partner organisations and consists of a mixture of outdoor education activity - gorge walking, canoeing, abseiling etc - along with social education programmes aimed at addressing questions of behaviour, relationships and trust. The Summer Programme is also open to young people referred by partner organisations and has been particularly useful in providing structured support to young people during the summer months when

the risks of offending behaviour might otherwise increase. It has also had a significant impact on the rate of offending for many of the young people involved, with there being no offending within 3-6 months of taking part in the programme. Consideration is currently being given to re-establishing a similar programme at other holiday periods as well as some continued structured input during term time (Perth & Kinross YJP, 2010).

The 'Triage Scheme' (Darlington)

A joint initiative between the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), Criminal Justice Unit (CJU), Durham Constabulary and YOS, led to the YOS officer being placed within the Integrated Offender Management Unit (OMU) to create a 'Triage Scheme'. The OMU in Darlington tries to resettle and rehabilitate offenders on statutory supervision, who show the highest risk to their communities which includes those termed Prolific Priority Offenders (PPOs), Deter Young Offenders (DYO) and High Crime Causers (HCCs). Its strength is in taking a multi-agency approach to managing offenders. The OMU ensures that offenders are assisted in their rehabilitation through positive support, but also looks to put in place deterrent sanctions and enforcement measures for those who do not comply. The OMU staff are also using more innovative methods to persuade offenders into drug treatment.

The 'Triage Scheme' diverts those young people eligible for the process away from the Court arena. The YOS Officer in the Custody Suite has been able to assess risk and vulnerability quickly with referral and interventions offered immediately.

The YOS officer also works closely with the allocated YOS case manager to provide additional interventions for those young people identified as DYO, which are the young offenders assessed as posing the highest risk of causing serious harm to others and having the likelihood to re-offend. Considerable economic benefits are being achieved both in terms of the Triage role and the DYO role and additional social benefits include improved outcomes for young people, fewer victims and improved public confidence.

Darlington YOS most recent partnership arrangement the 'Inside Out' Project is with Endeavour, a national charity which has 56 years experience of working with some of the most disadvantaged and disaffected young people across the U.K. Endeavour has agreed to fund a Project Worker, 28 hours per week for the next 3 years, with money received from the Big Lottery Fund. Endeavour specialises in providing effective personal and Partnership arrangements social development programmes for young people who have had few opportunities in life to reach their full potential. Endeavour is to work with those young people who are in custody to aid with their resettlement and will complete "in reach" sessions with those serving custodial sentences at HMP Youth Offenders Institution at Wetherby.

In addition, given the low numbers of young people from Darlington that are in custody, Endeavour will also work with young people subject to Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) and DYO. 'Inside Out' works with young offenders aged 15 and over to develop personal and social skills, increase life skills and improve their access to appropriate services. Many of the intervention sessions, spread over six weeks, focus around outdoor pursuits and problem solving. There is also

scope for young people to achieve accreditation for the work they complete. The programme will be evaluated with re-offending rates and custody levels being a key indicator of its success or otherwise (Darlington YOS, 2012).

Troubled Families (Dorset)

The Government has introduced a new initiative called “Troubled Families”. This requires the local authority to work with partners to identify families in the area who make persistent and costly calls on local services; all agencies in the area will then work together to try to undertake some significant change in those families behaviour. The criteria for identifying families includes:

- family members under the age of 18 engaged in crime and anti-social behaviour
- school exclusion, not on school roll, non-attendance at school
- an adult in the family in receipt of benefits
- local priorities (to be determined)

The YISP already works with these families and these issues. A modest amount of additional funding will be made available to the YISP to take forward elements of the Troubled Families agenda. Current YISP projects will be refocused to contribute to the process. The Troubled Families work is funded on an outturn model. In order to draw down funding there must be evidence of:

- a reduction in offending and antisocial behaviour
- re-engagement with education
- family members moved off benefits

Family Intervention Project (FIP)

The Family Intervention Project aims to reduce anti-social behaviour in the most challenging and anti-social families. The YOT works with partners to identify the families who are causing the most significant harm to local communities through their engagement with anti-social behaviour. Project staff work intensively with those families to reduce the harm they cause. There are high levels of contact, including in the evenings and at weekends. FIP staff work closely with partners to ensure that there are effective boundaries in place to encourage compliance. Most families are already well known to Police and local authorities and may be facing eviction from tenancies and applications for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders. The levels of funding allow them to operate the project in Weymouth and Portland and West Dorset. The project has developed excellent partnership links with other services in the west of the county which has led to some co-ordinated engagement with challenging families.

The level of funding received for the project enables at least 10 families to be engaged with the project at any one time. The assessment process will be refined to ensure that families accepted onto the project are appropriate.

The FIP is a standalone scheme in its own right, but it makes a contribution to the YOT Partnership outcomes. It may be working with families where members are receiving interventions from the Youth Justice Team. The FIP therefore works in an integrated manner with other YOT colleagues. The FIP will have expertise to inform the development of the Troubled Families programme. FIP staff have taken part in the Domestic Abuse group with colleagues in the youth justice team (Dorset YOT, 2011).

Teenagers With Multiple Vulnerabilities (North Yorkshire)

A multi-agency strategic group has been established to review provision and delivery of services to those young people who are most vulnerable and chaotic and who receive services at tier 4. In December 2011 multi-agency audits were undertaken of all young people in North Yorkshire who were in custody during April – September 2011 (28 young people). Key findings confirmed what national research tells us of the high levels of disadvantage experienced by children in the youth justice system and their levels of damage in earlier childhood. As a priority over 2012-14 the strategic group will be considering

1. how to achieve greater integration of the work, whether organisational, structural or in the practice used;
2. whether it is possible to identify the level of risk to some of these young people and their siblings sooner; and
3. what do we need to change about our ways of working to better enable us to forecast the convergence of risk sooner?

For the TWMV strategy to impact and improve outcomes, it needs to map across to other key developments, particularly the strategies around safeguarding, Troubled Families, Child Sexual Exploitation, Looked After Children, Attendance/Behavioural NEET, Literacy and Homelessness (North Yorkshire YJS, 2012).

Participation in Youth Justice

The National Youth Agency (NYA) research with YOT practitioners indicates that both young people and youth offending teams benefit from a more participatory approach and participatory approaches are a necessary pre-condition for effective work to bring about a reduction in (re)-offending and thus make a real impact. The NYA believes the effectiveness of any youth justice service must begin with young people as service users and should improve the quality of their lives. Not starting here risks ignoring a range of vitally important issues and alienating the young person further.

The NYA believe reducing reoffending can only be achieved through a participatory approach between individual young people and adults working at a local level and in a way that places the young person's needs at the centre of the work. Participation cannot counteract the effect of other

factors that might be present in a young offenders life, past or present (e.g. substance misuse, abuse, neglect, learning disability, homelessness, detachment from education and employment), but these bigger problems cannot begin to be approached without a relationship based on trust and empathy with a caring professional who is willing and able to help.

In the current environment reductions in budgets are making local authorities take tough decisions about how they can deliver youth justice services more efficiently and effectively. There is now an opportunity for local authorities to re-think approaches to youth justice and consider a participatory approach.

As the UK move towards the adoption of a 'payment-by-results' approach for the youth justice sector. The NYA argue that it will be vital that they focus sufficiently on the 'result' for the young person relative to the 'payment' for the organisation and that adequate resource is built in to develop relationships that help meet the, often complex, needs of young people involved in the youth justice system.

Participation, as part of a general approach to youth justice that values an individual, their attitudes, values, beliefs and experiences, is a necessary component of reducing an individual's likelihood of reoffending. The NYA paper 'Participation in Youth Justice: Measuring Impact and Effectiveness' raises wider questions about the nature of the research evidence that should inform policy and practice in understanding the effectiveness of various interventions in the youth justice system.

Although the NYAs review of current youth justice research has found insufficient evidence to prove a direct link between young people's participation and improved outcomes (reducing the number of first time entrants, reducing offending and reducing custody numbers) the NYA argues that this does not mean participatory approaches do not 'work' but there is simply a lack of rigorous research into whether participation in youth justice improves outcomes (NYA, 2011).

Swansea

Swansea has an estimated population of just over 220,000 (clickonwales.org, 2013). Since 2005 up until 2011 offences reported to the police committed by young people aged 10–17 have reduced by over 62%. The number of young people involved in youth crime has fallen by 52% and the number of first time entrants into the criminal system has been reduced by 62% (Swansea YOS, 2011).

Plymouth

Plymouth has an estimated population of almost 260,000 (Plymouth City Council, 2010). In respect of crime relating to young people there has been a reduction in crime. The number of young people offending (2010/11) has reduced from 587 to 557 and the number of offences committed in 2010/11 by young people has reduced from 1055 to 1041. This amounts to reductions of 5.1% and 1.3% respectively. It is also noted that motoring offences committed by young people have decreased substantially from 178 in 2009/10 to 43 in 2010/11 a reduction of 76% (Plymouth YOS, 2011).

Restorative Justice

Swansea

Swansea Youth Offending Service recognises that offending behaviour causes others harm. This harm may be physical, psychological or emotional, with each 'harmed person' (victim) affected in a different way. A victim could be an identified individual or part of a community group, business or organisation. A young person's family can also be harmed as a consequence of an offence. Swansea Youth Offending Service positively seeks to assist the process of repairing the harm caused through the work of the Restorative Practices Team (RPT). Young people are encouraged to take responsibility for their actions by acknowledging the harm caused to others and offering a means of putting things right.

Restorative Conference

This involves a meeting between the young person (wrongdoer) and all others affected and harmed by an offence. This will include the named victim/victims (harmed persons) who can be accompanied by someone for support, and the young person's parents or carer(s). It can be an informal or formal meeting (i.e., soon after an incident has occurred, or planned at an agreed time and place).

Restorative questions and a scripted format are used and adapted to enable a young person to account for his/her actions, acknowledge the harm caused to others (who all have their say) and agree a means of making amends. An opportunity is created for a direct apology to be made.

Letter of apology

A victim may not wish to meet directly with a young person, but would like to receive a letter of apology. Having thoroughly considered the victim's perspective with his/her caseworker in the YOS, a young person agrees to write a sincere, thoughtful letter in which he/she takes responsibility for causing harm and makes an apology for this. The Victim Liaison Officer within the RPT will coordinate the delivery of this to the affected person.

Practical Action

A victim may require a young person to undertake a practical task in order to repair the damage caused by an offence (e.g., clean off graffiti on a wall). If the proposed action is agreed by the young person and his/her parents, the RPT will facilitate this, having assessed it as appropriate and compliant with health-and-safety regulations (Swansea YOS, 2013).

Plymouth

A driver for 2011/2012 was the embedding of the principles of Restorative Justice throughout the work of the YOS. The YOS Management Board has aligned resources so that the YOS has the capacity to do this and to enable the service to have a dedicated Victim Advocacy Worker to ensure that the voice of the victim is considered in all aspects of the YOS's work. An additional aim was for members of the community, including young people, to be involved in all aspects of the service including influencing its direction and methodology and ensuring that resources meet both community and individual needs.

Plymouth YOS believe that restorative justice is not suitable in all cases (for example, where the offender denies responsibility for the crime or the victim is unwilling to participate even indirectly). It can however play an important role in reducing reoffending, helping victims and increasing public confidence in the youth justice system by holding young people to account so that they will take part in repairing the harm they have caused and will learn from the experience. It will also give victims a voice and reduce the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and it enables the engagement of members of the local community and reinforcing parental responsibility.

Restorative justice is not a soft option Plymouth YOS argue. Many offenders find it difficult to face the consequences of their crimes. Research shows that most victims who participate in some form of restorative justice process find it helpful and are satisfied with the outcome.

Once a young person has been sentenced at court a specifically trained victim advocate worker will make contact with the victim to explain the sentence that the young person has received and to offer support to the victim that may go some way towards repairing the harm that has been done by the offence.

Victims are offered a range of opportunities to take part in the restorative justice process and these can include the following:

- Face to face meetings with the young person who committed an offence against them at either a referral panel meeting or specially arranged restorative conference
- Mediation between the victim and the offender, (again this can either be a face to face meeting or facilitated through 'shuttle mediation' where a mediator conveys wishes, feelings and thoughts between the victim and the offender
- The victim can agree to receive a letter of apology from the offender
- The offender can perform a specific piece of unpaid work directly for the benefit of and at the request of the victim

If the victim does not want to participate in the RJ process, (or there is no clear victim) the offender will have to perform a number hours of unpaid work (reparation) in order to make amends for his offending to the community in general. (This can range from projects such as gardening on the Youth Offending Service (YOS) allotment to painting, graffiti removal and environmental works. (Plymouth YOS, 2011).

SO 2 DO (Swansea)

Some young people go through times in their lives when they are getting into trouble in their community, at home or at school. They may be at risk of being excluded from school or are known to the police for anti-social behaviour.

The So 2 Do project was set up by South Wales Police and the Children's Commissioner to work with lots of other agencies including schools and the Youth Offending Service to identify and support young people who are vulnerable and in need. Referrals to the project can be made by schools, the Police or an agency who is concerned for your welfare.

So 2 Do is not just one project but is made up of many different projects run by many different agencies. The young people who have been identified for this project will usually be told by their school. If you are part of the So 2 Do project you may be working with the Youth Inclusion Project (YIP).

The YIP (Youth Inclusion Project) offers voluntary support and activities to young people aged 10 to 16 (with a focus on those aged 10 to 13) who are deemed "at risk" of offending and incidents of anti-social behaviour, within the City & County of Swansea.

The YIP offers interventions on an individual basis, sometimes using group activities when appropriate, with the main aim of preventing young people entering the criminal justice system.

The YIP Project Worker will develop a programme of work sessions that directly addresses the factors likely to be associated with any personal issues, offending or incidents of anti-social behaviour. They will also take into account the young person's school or work attendance, home life and community involvement (Swansea YOS, 2013).

Positive Futures (Plymouth)

Positive Futures is an intervention based social inclusion project working within the Programme Delivery Team. Interventions are focused to reduce young people's substance misuse and criminal behaviour. A variety of interventions including sports activities, arts projects, TKAP (knife crime) group work, substance misuse programme and healthy living programmes are used to effect positive change. The project was previously based in one neighbourhood of Plymouth but due to its success (Gold standard for 2010-2011) in meeting both national and local objectives it was agreed that it be delivered as a citywide project.

Positive Futures will work across Plymouth with key partners to coordinate the strategic development and delivery of positive activities and interventions for young people who are at risk of social exclusion and offending behaviour. This work will be undertaken in line with this Youth Justice Plan and Plymouth's Children's and Young People's Plan 2011-2014 to enable the public and private

sectors to improve the lives of young people in health, education raising aspirations, reducing inequality and offending behaviour (Plymouth YOS, 2011).

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