



# DARLINGTON YOS

**Children and Young People  
Scrutiny Committee**

**November 2012**

**Joanne Benson – Head of YOS**

# YJS National Priorities and Challenges

- Youth offending prevented
- Custody safe and effective
- The public protected
- The public confident and engaged
- Victims and witnesses satisfied

# YJS Local Priorities and Challenges

- Continue to reduce First Time Entrants year on year.
- Embed further RJ work to improve public confidence and victim satisfaction.
- Work effectively to increase the engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) of young people in the youth justice system.
- Provide high quality Restorative Justice Services that support victims of crime and provide confidence in both community and Youth Justice Services.
- Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system.
- Work to reduce the overall level of re-offending by young people, as well as its frequency and severity.
- Ensure the safe and effective use of custody thereby addressing one of our key areas; sustaining the reduced numbers of young people being detained in the secure estate.

# PERFORMANCE

## 3 National Indicators

- Rate of first time entrants
- Rate of proven re-offending
- Rate of court convictions leading to custodial sentence

# Offending Analysis 2011/12

- 144 (85.2%) male, 25 (14.7%) Female
- Committed 375 offences, 5.3% increase on 2010/11
- 2010/11, 33 female and 136 males
- were responsible 356 offences.

## Offences Category 11/12

- 2009/10 = 461
- 2010/11 = 354 (23% reduction)
- 2011/12 = 375 (5.9% increase on 10/11)

## Offence Category 2011/12

Theft and Handling	22%
Violence	17%
Breach of Statutory Order	16%
Criminal Damage	14%

# First Time Entrants by Year

- FTE Apr 11 to Mar 12 = 83
- 5.06% increase on 2010/11 (79)
- 2.59% increase on 2009/10 (77)
- 42% decrease on 2008/09 (133)

# Performance against NI & LI 2011/12

Ref	Description	Actual 2010/11	Target 2011/12	End of Year
NI 043	Reduce the number of YP receiving a conviction in court who are sentenced to custody	3.8%	5.0%	2.52%
LI 045	% of Young offenders engagement in suitable education, training and employment	81.7%	80.0%	72%
NI 111	First time entrants to the criminal justice system aged 10-17,	79	Reduce year on year	83
LI 1508	% of total remand episodes	8.7%	Below 9.0%	6.19%
NI 19	Rate of re-offending frequency rate per 100 young offenders	1.08%	Reduce year on year	1.54%



# Significant Achievements During 2011/12

- Significant reductions in the numbers of young people dealt with by the YOS who were NEET
- Maintaining low custody levels for young people
- Maintaining performance against our key areas of reducing the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system.
- Further improvements in victim confidence and satisfaction levels.
- Increased numbers of young people taking part in community reparation projects coupled with our successful bid through the Community Safety Partnership for additional funding to extend Restorative Justice Training.
- Maintaining the reductions in both the numbers of young offenders and the offences committed by those offenders that we have seen in recent years.
- 62.2% reduction in the numbers of young people dealt with in the criminal justice system since 2006/7.

# Significant Achievements During 2011/12

- To initiate further research around the increase in the numbers of female offenders participating in specific types of crime.
- Maintaining the confidence of the courts – A report published by the YJB in April 2011 identified Darlington YOS as one which robustly enforced orders using appropriate breach procedures whilst at the same time maintained low custody rates for young people, thereby gaining the confidence of the court which followed YOS recommendations in all the cases examined.
- Continued success with the 'pre-reprimand disposal scheme' in partnership with Durham Constabulary.

# Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act

- A single Remand Order for Youths which will apply to 12-17 year olds. This will remove differences in treatment based on age and gender as per current system and will be a more flexible and greatly simplified process for remanding any under 18 year olds.
- Local authorities to assume costs of all secure remands
- New restrictions on the use of secure remand: amendments to the Bail Act are expected to reduce the number of young people securely remanded, targeting only those who are likely to receive a custodial sentence. Nationally, significant numbers of young people currently remanded in custody are eventually found not guilty or receive a community disposal at sentence.
- An '*associated transfer of funding*' to Local Authorities to cover costs relating to custodial remands
- All young people subject to a new Remand Order for Youths to become 'looked after' by the local authority

# Changes to Youth Offending Services in light of the PCC

- As of April 2012 a number of Home Office grants which had previously been directed to YOS were redirected to the PCC. So far these include funding aimed at preventing offending and tackling substance misuse.
- In future YOS will engage with the PCC to maintain and further enhance some youth justice services

Thank You  
Any Questions?