



Inspection of
Youth
Offending

Archwilio Rhaglen Troseddwyr Ifanc



Arolygiad ar y Cyd Cyfiawnder Troseddol

Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in England and Wales

Report on youth offending
work in:

Gloucestershire

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Foreword

This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Gloucestershire took place as part of the Inspection of Youth Offending programme. We have examined a representative sample of youth offending cases from the area, and have judged how often the Public Protection and the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done to a sufficiently high level of quality. Our findings will also feed into the wider annual Comprehensive Area Assessment process.

We judged that the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done well enough 76% of the time. With the Public Protection aspects, work to keep to a minimum each individual's *Risk of Harm to others* was done well enough 70% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 75% of the time. A more detailed analysis of our findings is provided in the main body of this report, and summarised in a table in Appendix 1.

These figures can be viewed in the context of our findings from the regions inspected so far. To date, the average score for *Safeguarding* work has been 64%, with scores ranging from 38-82%, the average score for *Risk of Harm* work has been 60%, with scores ranging from 36-85%, and the average score for *Likelihood of Reoffending* work has been 66%, with scores ranging from 50-82%.

We also found the progress, reported on two years ago in our previous inspection, had continued. Assessments were good, but there was scope for improvement in the areas of *Risk of Harm* and vulnerability. Statutory partners had made good contributions to the resourcing levels of the YOS and, as a consequence, a wide range of individually tailored programmes was on offer to children and young people who had offended.

Overall, we consider this a very encouraging set of findings. The recommendations in this report broadly reflect the areas for improvement identified by the YOS themselves prior to the inspection starting. In addition, we saw, in some of the more recent cases, evidence of new practices/procedures that had led to better quality work. We have confidence that the improvement plan to be produced will address the recommendations set out in this report and that there are positive prospects for the future.

Andrew Bridges
HM Chief Inspector of Probation

February 2010

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Scoring – and Summary Table

This report provides percentage scores for each of the 'practice criteria' essentially indicating how often each aspect of work met the level of quality we were looking for. In these inspections we focus principally on the Public Protection and Safeguarding aspects of the work in each case sample.

Accordingly, we are able to provide a score that represents how often the *Public Protection* and *Safeguarding* aspects of the cases we assessed met the level of quality we were looking for, which we summarise here.

We also provide a headline 'Comment' by each score, to indicate whether we consider that this aspect of work now requires either **MINIMUM, MODERATE, SUBSTANTIAL** or **DRASTIC** improvement in the immediate future.

Safeguarding score:	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Safeguarding</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
Score: 76%	Comment: MINIMUM improvement required

Public Protection – Risk of Harm score:	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Risk of Harm</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
Score: 70%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required

Public Protection - Likelihood of Reoffending score:	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Likelihood of Reoffending</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality.	
Score: 75%	Comment: MINIMUM improvement required

We advise readers of reports not to attempt close comparisons of scores between individual areas. Such comparisons are not necessarily valid as the sizes of samples vary slightly, as does the profile of cases included in each area's sample. We believe the scoring is best seen as a headline summary of what we have found in an individual area, and providing a focus for future improvement work within that area.

Recommendations (primary responsibility is indicated in brackets)

Changes are necessary to ensure that, in a higher proportion of cases:

- (1) the intervention plan is appropriate to the child or young person's likelihood of reoffending; it is reviewed and recorded in Asset with a frequency consistent with national standards for youth offending services (YOS Head of Service)
- (2) there is evidence of regular quality assurance by management, especially of screening decisions and risk and vulnerability management plans, as appropriate to the specific case (YOS Head of Service)
- (3) victim safety is fully incorporated into the work of the YOS (YOS Head of Service).

Furthermore:

- (4) the YOS should fulfil its statutory obligations in correctly identifying MAPPA eligible offenders residing in, or about to return to, the community so their *Risk of Harm* is managed appropriately and reporting arrangements contained in MAPPA guidance are complied with (YOS Head of Service)
- (5) there is effective joint working with children's social care services to safeguard and promote the well-being of children and young people (Chair of the YOS Management Board).

Next steps

An improvement plan addressing the recommendations should be submitted to HM Inspectorate of Probation four weeks after the publication of this inspection report. Once finalised, the plan will be forwarded to the Youth Justice Board to monitor its implementation.

Service users' perspective

Children and young people

Twenty-four children and young people completed a questionnaire for the inspection.

- ◇ All the children and young people knew why they had to attend the YOS; and all but one felt well informed about what would happen when they attended. They all said the YOS was interested in helping them, listened to them and took action to respond to their issues and needs.
- ◇ Over three-quarters of those responding said they had completed the self-assessment form *What do YOU think?*
- ◇ Most of the children and young people (73%) said their lives had gotten better as a result of their work with the YOS, a number illustrating their reply with comments about improved relationships with family and school; 81% considered they were now less likely to offend.
- ◇ One young person said the YOS had provided shorter appointments which had made it easier for them to concentrate. Another said the YOS had explained things in a way they could easily understand. One young person responded: "I have good YOS workers and they help a lot with what I need to know and I know they are always there".

Victims

Five questionnaires were completed by victims of offending by children and young people.

- ◇ All five respondents said the YOS fully explained the services available to them. In all but one of the cases, the victims reported their needs were taken into account. Three said they had had the chance to talk about any anxieties or worries they had about contact with the YOS or the child or young person who had offended against them.
- ◇ Three victims said they had benefited from the reparation work undertaken by the child or young person.
- ◇ One victim said: "This has been an excellent service from start to finish – very professional and providing me with updates regarding the offender's progress".

Sharing good practice

Below are examples of good practice we found in the YOS

Assessment and Sentence Planning

General Criterion: 1.3

The case manager designed worksheets for Ken to complete. The first prompted him to identify his areas of vulnerability e.g. his mother's alcohol use, violence within the family and cannabis use. A second worksheet was then completed to help him identify strengths and areas of support, e.g. YOS worker, accommodation and Connexions. This then informed a personal plan that Ken completed. The case manager used all the relevant information from Ken to produce a well informed VMP. The same worksheets were subsequently used to review Ken's vulnerability at the end of the order. Encouragingly, his vulnerability had reduced in light of the improvements in his accommodation situation and through the allocation of a lead professional under CAF.

Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion: 2.2

John was a prolific offender, known to the YOS for over five years. Good links were made by the YOS case manager with a designated PPO police officer, which led to the latter attending reviews in custody and in the community following release. A specific licence condition required John to comply with the PPO programme following release; and his behaviour was closely monitored. However, he subsequently reoffended and was remanded in custody. Although the YOS involvement had by then formally ceased, continuity of service delivery was preserved as the same police officer remained involved and continued to visit him in custody.

Outcomes

General Criterion: 3.1

For the reparation element of her referral order, Kim undertook direct reparation for a local supermarket. Using her creative talents, she produced artwork for the store's staff canteen. This was very positively received and, as a result, Kim was invited to meet the manager of the shop once her ban from the store had expired. On reviewing the case, there was evidence that Kim had developed a far greater insight into the negative consequences of shoplifting and her LoR had reduced.

1. ASSESSMENT AND SENTENCE PLANNING

1.1 Risk of Harm to others:

General Criterion:

The assessment of RoH is comprehensive, accurate and timely, takes victims' issues into account and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to manage RoH.

Score:

72%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset RoSH screening was completed in 97% of cases; it was completed on time in 87% of cases; and to a sufficient quality in 69%.
- (2) The case manager assessed the RoSH classification correctly in 88% of cases. Where required, a RoSH analysis was completed in 89%; it was completed on time in 82% of cases; and to a sufficient quality in 64%. In those cases where it was assessed as insufficient, the main reason was the risk to victims not being fully considered.
- (3) Where there was no requirement for a RMP, the need for planning for *RoH* issues was recognised in 73% of relevant cases and in 70% they were acted upon.
- (4) In 67% of cases, all details of RoSH assessment and management were appropriately communicated to relevant staff and agencies.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) In one-third of relevant cases (three out of nine) the RoSH was not forwarded to the custodial establishment within 24 hours of sentence.
- (2) A RMP was not completed in slightly over one-third of cases where one was required. It was not completed in a timely manner in 37%; the quality was insufficient in 56%. The main reason for the plan being insufficient was the planned response being unclear or inadequate. There was effective management oversight of the RMP in less than 30% of cases.
- (3) Case managers were confused about some aspects of MAPPA. As a consequence, the MAPPA level box on YOIS was incorrectly marked in a number of cases.

- (4) In more than half of the relevant cases, management oversight of the *RoH* assessment was ineffective.

1.2 Likelihood of Reoffending:	
<p>General Criterion:</p> <p><i>The assessment of the LoR is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to reduce LoR.</i></p>	
<p>Score:</p> <p>75%</p>	<p>Comment:</p> <p>MINIMUM improvement required</p>

Strengths:

- (1) An initial assessment of LoR was completed in 97% of the cases; it was completed on time in 84%; and to a sufficient quality in nearly three-quarters. Good contact was made with other agencies to inform the initial assessment, particularly the police (97% of relevant cases) and emotional/mental health services (84%). There was active engagement to carry out the initial assessment with the child or young person in 84% of cases; a *What do YOU think?* was completed in two-thirds of cases. In 85%, the YOS actively engaged parents/carers.
- (2) In 88% of the custody cases, the initial assessment was forwarded to the custodial establishment within 24 hours of sentence.
- (3) The initial assessment was reviewed at appropriate intervals in 71% of the cases.
- (4) An intervention plan/referral order contract was produced in 98% of cases; it was timely in 90%; and in 72% was of a sufficient quality. 77% of the plans took account of Safeguarding needs, while 73% included positive factors.
- (5) 83% of intervention plans/referral order contracts gave a clear shape to the order; 86% focused on achievable change; and 93% reflected sentencing purposes. 81% of plans/contracts set relevant goals; 79% set realistic timescales; and 80% reflected national standards. 80% of intervention plans/referral order contracts were inclusive of appropriate Safeguarding work, while 76% were sensitive to diversity issues.
- (6) The child or young person was actively and meaningfully involved in the planning process in 81% of the cases; and their parents/carers were likewise involved in nearly three-quarters. There was good engagement in the planning process between the YOS and other agencies: ETE (76%); substance misuse (79%); secure establishment (100%); and the police (90%).

Areas for improvement:

- (1) In 13 of the 16 initial assessments of LoR where the quality was insufficient, the main reason was the lack of evidence provided by the case manager. In two-thirds of cases, the case manager had not assessed the learning style of the child or young person.
- (2) 45% of relevant intervention plans/referral order contracts did not integrate RMPs; 54% were not prioritised according to *RoH*; and 44% were not sequenced according to offending related need. Less than two-thirds of plans took account of victim issues. The intervention plan was not reviewed at appropriate intervals in nearly one-third of cases.
- (3) Children's social care services were not actively and meaningfully involved in the planning process in 62% of relevant cases.

1.3 Safeguarding:	
General Criterion: <i>The assessment of Safeguarding needs is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to manage Safeguarding and reduce vulnerability.</i>	
Score: 75%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset vulnerability screening was completed in all but two of the cases. In 82% it was completed on time. It was of a sufficient quality in three-quarters. Safeguarding needs were reviewed as appropriate in 82% of cases.
- (2) The VMP contributed to interventions in 72% of cases.
- (3) In custody cases, the secure establishment was made aware of vulnerability issues prior to, or immediately on, sentence in all but 2 of the 13 relevant cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) A VMP was not completed in one-third of the instances where it was required. In 43% of cases, completion of the VMP was not timely or of a sufficient quality. Where the plan was completed but was of an insufficient quality, the main reasons were that roles/responsibilities were not clearly set out and the planned response was inadequate or unclear.

- (2) In almost half of the relevant cases, active liaison and information sharing with the custodial establishment around Safeguarding issues was not evidenced.
- (3) The YOS had not made a contribution through the CAF and other assessments/plans to safeguard the child or young person in half of the relevant cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 75%

COMMENTARY on Assessment and Sentence Planning as a whole:

Gloucestershire YOS was, and had been for some considerable time, operating a risk led approach. This positioned them well in relation to the scaled approach. The YOS used an integrated risk management form (for both vulnerability and *RoH*) and held case planning forums for discussion of cases identified as posing high or very high *RoSH* or vulnerability. This ensured appropriate focus was given to the cases that required the most attention. To be of maximum benefit, however, it was important that the quality of *RoH* and vulnerability assessments continued to receive active attention by staff and managers alike and that all relevant staff and agencies, including children's social care services, attended the case planning forums as necessary.

2. DELIVERY AND REVIEW OF INTERVENTIONS

2.1 Protecting the public by minimising Risk of Harm to others:

General Criterion:

All reasonable actions have been taken to protect the public by keeping to a minimum the child or young person's RoH to others.

Score:

73%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) Where there was a significant change, the *RoH to others* was reviewed thoroughly at that time.
- (2) Changes in *RoH* were anticipated wherever feasible in 69% of applicable cases; and identified swiftly and acted on appropriately in a similar percentage.
- (3) Case Managers and other relevant YOS staff contributed effectively to multi-agency meetings, other than MAPPA, in 80% of the relevant custodial cases and in 91%, where the child or young person was being supervised in the community.
- (4) Purposeful home visits were made throughout the course of the sentence in accordance with the level of *RoH* posed in 90% of the cases, and in 88% where there were Safeguarding concerns.
- (5) Appropriate resources were allocated in accordance with the *RoH* posed by the child or young person throughout the sentence in 94% of the cases.
- (6) Specific interventions to manage *RoH to others* in the community were delivered as planned in 71% of relevant cases. A review took place in all five custody cases where there was a significant change.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) In the two relevant MAPPA cases, decisions taken were not clearly recorded or reviewed appropriately.
- (2) A full assessment of the safety of victims was not carried out in nearly half of the cases, while in 43% high priority was not given to victim safety.

2.2 Reducing the Likelihood of Reoffending:

General Criterion:

The case manager coordinates and facilitates the structured delivery of all elements of the intervention plan.

Score:

79%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) Interventions in the community were delivered in line with the intervention plan in 77% of cases; they were of good quality in 85%; designed to reduce the LoR in 93%; and incorporated all diversity issues in nearly four-fifths of cases.
- (2) In three-quarters of the custodial cases, the YOS was appropriately involved in the review of interventions.
- (3) In 90% of cases, appropriate resources were allocated throughout the sentence in accordance with the assessed LoR of the child or young person.
- (4) In three-quarters of the relevant cases, the case manager actively motivated and supported the child or young person while they were in custody. For cases that were supervised in the community, the figure was 88%.
- (5) The YOS actively engaged parents/carers in 75% of the cases when the child or young person was in custody, and in 92% when the child or young person was being supervised in the community.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Delivered interventions in the community were not reviewed appropriately in 41% of the cases.
- (2) In almost half of the relevant cases there was no evidence that the delivered interventions were in line with the child or young person's PPO status.

2.3 Safeguarding the child or young person:

General Criterion:

All reasonable actions have been taken to safeguard and reduce the vulnerability of the child or young person.

Score:

77%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) All necessary action was taken to safeguard and protect the child or young person in 89% of the relevant custody cases and in 83% where an individual was being supervised in the community.
- (2) In all three instances where the child or young person serving a sentence in custody was assessed as posing a *RoH* to another child or young person, immediate action was taken by the YOS to safeguard and protect them. In 78% of the community cases, where there was a risk posed to another child or young person, the necessary immediate action was taken.
- (3) In 92% and 88% of relevant cases, respectively, the YOS worked cooperatively with the police and education to promote the Safeguarding and well-being of the child or young person in the community. In 92% of custody cases the YOS and education also worked well together to promote the child or young person's Safeguarding and well-being. Continuity in educational provision was evidenced in the transition from custody to the community in 79% of cases.
- (4) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding in the community were identified in 93% of relevant cases. Where interventions were identified in a VMP, they were incorporated in the intervention plan 93% of the time. Safeguarding interventions were delivered in 88% of the relevant community cases and in 70% of the custody cases.
- (5) All relevant staff were assessed as having supported and promoted the well-being of the child or young person throughout the course of their sentence in 81% of the custodial phase; and 83% of the time they were supervised in the community.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The YOS and children's social care services did not work sufficiently well together to promote the Safeguarding and well-being of the child or young person in half of the relevant cases in the community.
- (2) Safeguarding interventions were not reviewed every three months, or following significant change, in 38% of community cases and in 44% of the custody cases.

- (3) Effective management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability needs was assessed as being insufficient in 30% of the custody cases and in 32% where the child or young person was supervised in the community.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 77%

COMMENTARY on Delivery and Review of Interventions as a whole:

The YOS was well resourced by statutory partners, in particular police secondees were well integrated and widely used as a source of information. Case managers worked well with programme officers and other specialist staff to deliver an impressive range of interventions.

3. OUTCOMES

3.1 Achievement of outcomes:

General Criterion:

Outcomes are achieved in relation to RoH, LoR and Safeguarding.

Score:

67%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In 80% of cases, all reasonable action had been taken by the YOS to keep to a minimum the *RoH to others* posed by the child or young person.
- (2) In approximately three-fifths of the cases, there was a reduction in the frequency of offending by the child or young person. In a similar proportion there was a reduction in the seriousness of offending.
- (3) All reasonable action was taken to keep the child or young person safe in 92% of the cases.

Area for improvement:

- (1) The child or young person complied with the requirements of the sentence in two-thirds of the cases; however, the YOS did not take enforcement action sufficiently well in 55% where they did not comply.

3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

General Criterion:

Outcomes are sustained in relation to RoH, LoR and Safeguarding.

Score:

83%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

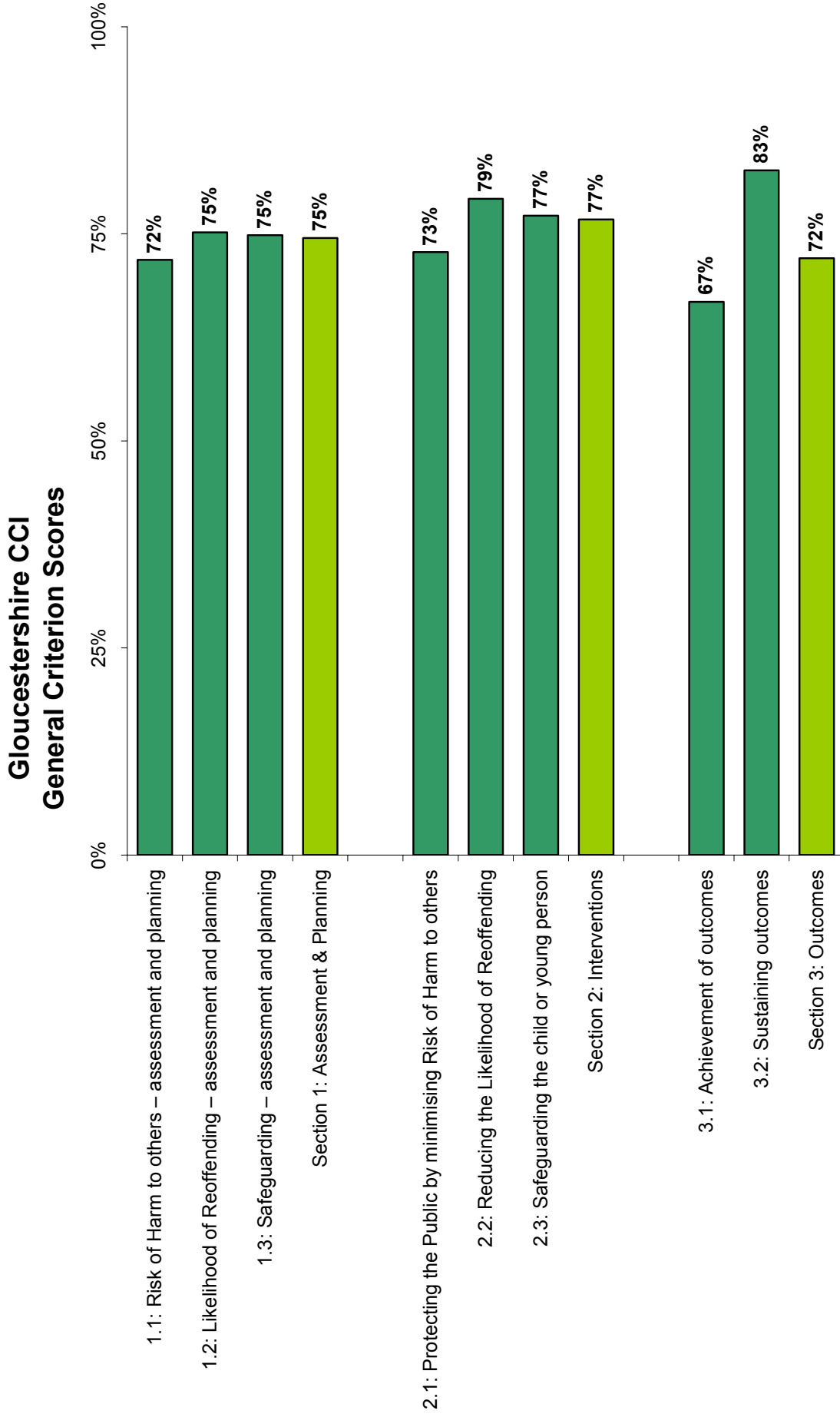
Strengths:

- (1) In 73% of relevant cases, full attention was given to community integration issues during the custodial phase of the child or young person's sentence. The same percentage was achieved in relation to action having been taken, or plans being in place, to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable in those cases.
- (2) Full attention to community integration issues was achieved in 88% of the cases being managed in the community; positive outcomes were assessed as being sustainable in 82%.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 72%**COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:**

While enforcement action was not always taken sufficiently well, the YOS had introduced pre-breach meetings in appropriate cases. There were some interesting aspects to this innovative approach, which was designed to provide the child or young person with the opportunity to demonstrate that they were now committed to complying with the sentence of the court.

Appendix 1: Summary



Appendix 2: Contextual information

Area

Gloucestershire YOS was located in the South-West region of England.

The area had a population of 564,559 as measured in the Census 2001, 10.3% of which were aged 10 to 17 years old. This was slightly lower than the average for England/Wales, which was 10.4%.

The population of Gloucestershire was predominantly white British (97.2%). The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (2.8%) was below the average for England/Wales of 8.7%.

Reported offences for which children and young people aged 10 to 17 years old received a pre-court disposal or a court disposal in 2008/2009, at 36 per 1,000, were below the average for England/Wales of 46.

YOS

The YOS boundaries were within those of the Gloucestershire police and probation areas. The Gloucestershire PCT covered the area.

The YOS was located within the Integrated Youth Support Services Department of the Children and Young People Directorate. It was managed by the Head of Service.

The YOS Management Board was chaired by a Chief Inspector of Gloucestershire Police. There was good engagement of statutory partners.

The YOS Headquarters was in the county town of Gloucester. The operational work of the YOS was based in Gloucester, Cheltenham and Cirencester. ISSP was provided across all the operational locations and individually tailored.

YJB Performance Data

The YJB summary of national indicators available at the time of the inspection was for the period April 2008 to March 2009.

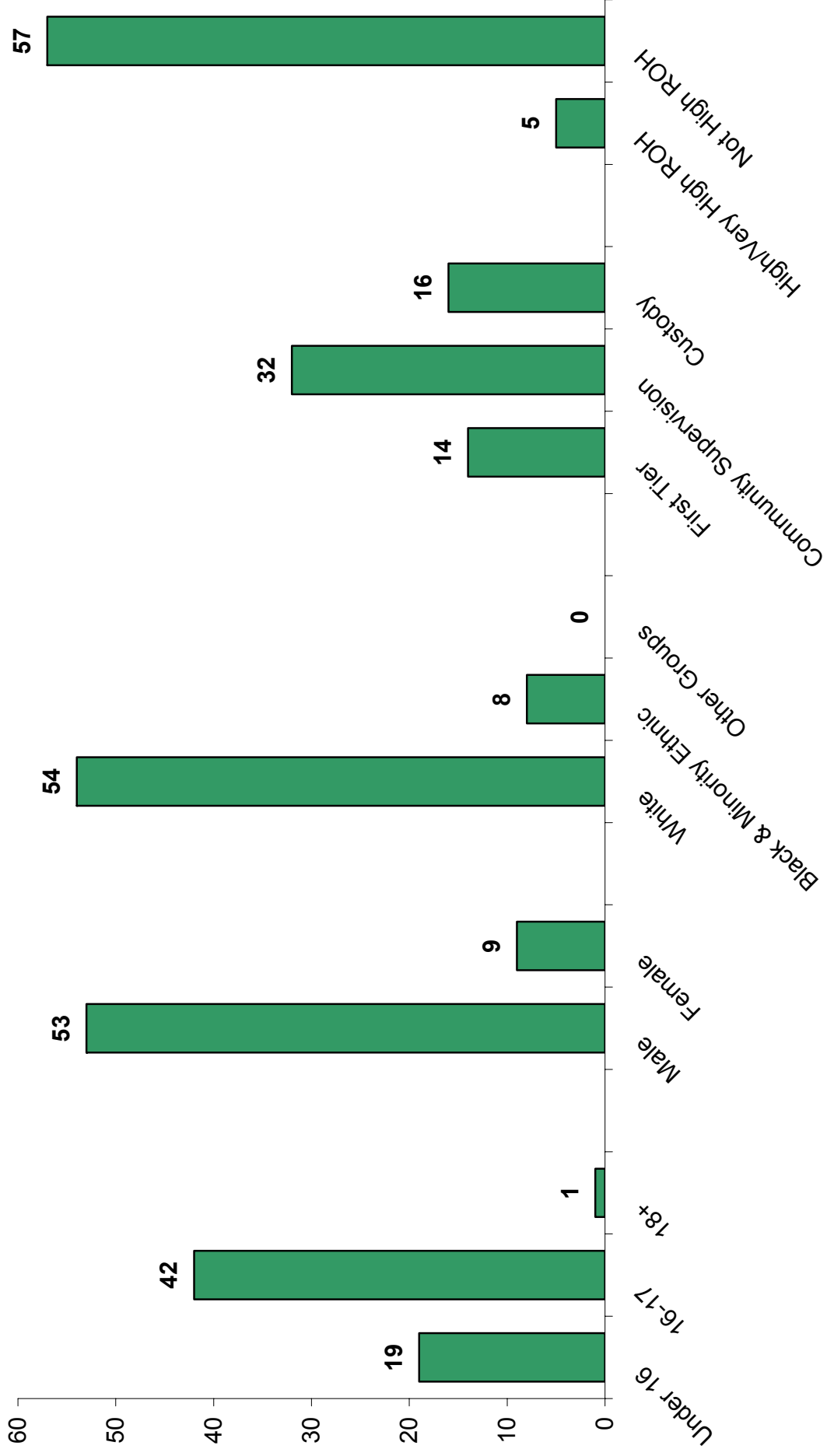
Gloucestershire's performance on ensuring children and young people known to the YOS was in suitable education, training or employment was 84.8%. This was an improvement on the previous year, and above the England average of 72.4%.

Performance on ensuring suitable accommodation by the end of the sentence was 95.5%. This was lower than the previous year but slightly better than the England average of 95.3%.

The "Reoffending rate after 9 months" was 87%, worse than the England average of 85% (See Glossary).

Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart

Case sample information: Gloucestershire CCI



Appendix 3b: Inspection data

Fieldwork for this inspection was undertaken in November 2009.

The inspection consisted of:

- ◇ examination of practice in a sample of cases, normally in conjunction with the case manager or other representative
- ◇ evidence in advance
- ◇ questionnaire responses from children and young people, and victims

We have also seen YJB performance data and assessments relating to this YOS.

Appendix 4: Role of HMI Probation and Code of Practice

Information on the Role of HMI Probation and Code of Practice can be found on our website:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/inspectorates/hmi-probation>

The Inspectorate is a public body. Anyone wishing to comment on an inspection, a report or any other matter falling within its remit should write to:

*HM Chief Inspector of Probation
2nd Floor, Ashley House
2 Monck Street
London, SW1P 2BQ*

Appendix 5: Glossary

ASB/ASBO	Antisocial behaviour/Antisocial Behaviour Order
Asset	A structured assessment tool based on research and developed by the Youth Justice Board looking at the young person's offence, personal circumstances, attitudes and beliefs which have contributed to their offending behaviour
CAF	Common Assessment Framework: a standardised assessment of a child or young person's needs and of how those needs can be met. It is undertaken by the lead professional in a case, with contributions from all others involved with that individual
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: part of the National Health Service, providing specialist mental health and behavioural services to children and young people up to at least 16 years of age
Careworks	One of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also YOIS+
CRB	Criminal Records Bureau
DTO	Detention and Training Order: a custodial sentence for the young
Estyn	HM Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
ETE	Employment, training and education: work to improve an individual's learning, and to increase their employment prospects
FTE	Full-time equivalent
HM	Her Majesty's
HMIC	HM Inspectorate of Constabulary
HMI Prisons	HM Inspectorate of Prisons
HMI Probation	HM Inspectorate of Probation
Interventions; <i>constructive</i> and <i>restrictive</i> interventions	<p>Work with an individual that is designed to change their offending behaviour and/or to support public protection.</p> <p>A <i>constructive</i> intervention is where the primary purpose is to reduce Likelihood of Reoffending.</p> <p>A <i>restrictive</i> intervention is where the primary purpose is to keep to a minimum the individual's <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>. Example: with a sex offender, a <i>constructive intervention</i> might be to put them through an accredited sex offender programme; a <i>restrictive intervention</i> (to minimise their <i>Risk of Harm</i>) might be to monitor regularly and meticulously their accommodation, their employment and the places they frequent, imposing and enforcing clear restrictions as appropriate to each case. NB. Both types of intervention are important</p>
ISSP	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme: this intervention is attached to the start of some orders and licences and provides initially at least 25 hours programme contact including a substantial proportion of employment, training and education
LoR	Likelihood of Reoffending. See also <i>constructive</i> Interventions
LSC	Learning and Skills Council
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board: set up in each local authority (as a result of the Children Act 2004) to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of the multi-agency work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality

MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements: where probation, police, prison and other agencies work together locally to manage offenders who pose a higher <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills: the Inspectorate for those services in England (not Wales, for which see Estyn)
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PPO	Prolific and other Priority Offender: designated offenders, adult or young, who receive extra attention from the Criminal Justice System agencies
Pre-CAF	This is a simple 'Request for Service' in those instances when a Common Assessment Framework may not be required. It can be used for requesting one or two additional services, e.g. health, social care or educational
PSR	Pre-sentence report: for a court
"Reoffending rate after 9 months"	A measure used by the Youth Justice Board. It indicates how many further offences are recorded as having been committed in a 9-month period by individuals under current supervision of the relevant YOS, and it can be either more or less than 100%. "110%" would therefore mean that exactly 110 further offences have been counted as having been committed 'per 100 individuals under supervision' in that period. The quoted national average rate for England in early 2009 was 85%
RMP	Risk management plan: a plan to minimise the individual's <i>Risk of Harm</i>
RoH	<i>Risk of Harm to others</i> . See also <i>restrictive Interventions</i>
'RoH work', or 'Risk of Harm work'	This is the term generally used by HMI Probation to describe work to protect the public, primarily using <i>restrictive interventions</i> , to keep to a minimum the individual's opportunity to behave in a way that is a <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
RoSH	'Risk of Serious Harm', a term used in Asset. HMI Probation prefers not to use this term as it does not help to clarify the distinction between the <i>probability</i> of an event occurring and the <i>impact/severity</i> of the event. The term <i>Risk of Serious Harm</i> only incorporates 'serious' impact, whereas using ' <i>Risk of Harm</i> ' enables the necessary attention to be given to those offenders for whom lower <i>impact/severity</i> harmful behaviour is <i>probable</i>
SIFA	Screening Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for specialist workers
SQIFA	Screening Questionnaire Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for YOS workers
VMP	Vulnerability management plan: a plan to safeguard the well-being of the individual under supervision
YJB	Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
YOI	Young Offenders Institution: a Prison Service institution for young people remanded in custody or sentenced to custody
YOIS+	Youth Offending Information System: one of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also Careworks
YOS/T	Youth Offending Service/Team