



Inspection of
Youth
Offending

Archwilio Rhaglen Troseddwy'r Ifanc



Arolygiad ar y Cyd Cyfiawnder Troseddol

Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in England and Wales

Report on youth offending
work in:

Sandwell

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Foreword

This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Sandwell 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.

We judged that the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done well enough 65% 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 52% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 62% 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 Wales and the regions of England inspected so far – see the Table below.

We found that the YOS had experienced significant staffing difficulties at both case manager and operational manager level which had impacted on the quality of assessment and planning and the effectiveness of management oversight. At the time of the inspection there was a more stable staff group and management team and evidence that strategies to improve the quality of assessment and sentence planning had begun to take effect.

Overall, we consider some of the findings disappointing with *Risk of Harm to others* requiring particular attention. It was clear that senior managers were already aware of the areas for improvement raised during the inspection and had begun to put plans in place to address them. We judged that the YOS has promising prospects for the future given their readiness to act on the recommendations in this report.

Andrew Bridges
HM Chief Inspector of Probation

March 2011

	Scores from Wales and the English regions that have been inspected to date			Scores Sandwell
	Lowest	Highest	Average	
'Safeguarding' work (action to protect the young person)	37%	91%	67%	65%
'Risk of Harm to others' work (action to protect the public)	36%	85%	62%	52%
'Likelihood of Reoffending' work (individual less likely to reoffend)	43%	87%	70%	62%

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the staff from the YOS, members of the Management Board and partner organisations for their assistance in ensuring the smooth running of this inspection.

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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.

1. <i>Safeguarding score:</i>	
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: 65%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required
2. <i>Public Protection – Risk of Harm score:</i>	
This score indicates the percentage of Risk of Harm 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: 52%	Comment: SUBSTANTIAL improvement required
3. <i>Public Protection - Likelihood of Reoffending score:</i>	
This score indicates the percentage of Likelihood of Reoffending work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality.	
Score: 62%	Comment: MODERATE 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. Overall our inspection findings provide the ‘best available’ means of measuring, for example, how often each individual’s *Risk of Harm to others* is being kept to a minimum. It is never possible to eliminate completely Risk of Harm to the public, and a catastrophic event can happen anywhere at any time – nevertheless a ‘high’ *RoH* score in one inspected location indicates that it is less likely to happen there than in a location where there has been a ‘low’ *RoH* inspection score. In particular, a high *RoH* score indicates that usually practitioners are ‘doing all they reasonably can’ to minimise such risks to the public, in our judgement, even though there can never be a guarantee of success in every single case.

Recommendations (primary responsibility is indicated in brackets)

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

- (1) a timely and good quality assessment and plan, using Asset, is completed when the case starts (YOS Manager)
- (2) specifically, a timely and good quality assessment of the individual's vulnerability and *Risk of Harm to others* is completed at the start, as appropriate to the specific case (YOS Manager)
- (3) as a consequence of the assessment, the record of the intervention plan is specific about what will now be done in order to safeguard the child or young person from harm, to make them less likely to reoffend, and to minimise any identified *Risk of Harm to others* (YOS Manager)
- (4) the plan of work with the case is regularly reviewed and correctly recorded in Asset with a frequency consistent with national standards for youth offending service (YOS Manager)
- (5) there is evidence in the file of regular quality assurance by management, especially of screening decisions, as appropriate to the specific case (YOS Manager)
- (6) the learning styles of children and young people are assessed and incorporated into plans and interventions (YOS Manager).

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

Six children and young people completed a questionnaire for the inspection.

- ◇ Each of the respondents knew why they had to attend the YOS and five recalled that staff had told them what would happen when they came. All the children and young people felt that their worker was interested in them and that the staff had done their best to help them.
- ◇ All the children and young people remembered completing a *What do YOU think?* self-assessment form.
- ◇ Three of the respondents said that their YOS worker had made it very easy for them to understand how they could be helped, whilst three said that their YOS worker made it quite easy to understand how they could be helped. One respondent said that their YOS worker had *"said things over & over again"* to help them.
- ◇ Every child and young person thought their work with the YOS had made them a lot less likely to offend and three thought that things in their life were better as a result of their work with the YOS.
- ◇ Of the six respondents, five said that their situation with school, college or employment had improved.
- ◇ On a scale of zero to ten (ten being completely satisfied), all six children and young people rated the service given as five or more.

Victims

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

- ◇ With such a small number of replies, there were no themes identified.
- ◇ Both victims felt that their needs had been taken into account and that they had had the opportunity to discuss any concerns they had about the offence.
- ◇ While one victim was satisfied with the service that they had received from the YOS, one was not. This resulted from the lack of communication with the victim prior to the referral order planning meeting taking place.
- ◇ One victim had benefited directly from work carried out by the child or young person who had offended against them.

Sharing good practice

Below are examples of good practice we found in the YOS.

Assessment and Sentence Planning

General Criterion: 1.3

Kevin, a 13 year old, had been assessed as having low self-esteem and a difficult home life. His brother was on bail for attempted murder which impacted on Kevin's safety, due to the family being targeted by the family of the victim. An advocacy meeting was held, attended by a large number of agencies involved with the family, to identify what support was needed. The case manager wanted to clarify the mother's position regarding the poor behaviour of the family as a whole and the risk of losing their accommodation as a result. This was a very positive meeting where information was shared and plans were put in place for Kevin and the family.

Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion: 2.1

Thomas was sentenced to a six month Youth Rehabilitation Order and was assessed as a high *Risk of Harm to others*. He had a poor attitude to females, and little awareness of the impact of his offending on victims. After discussion with the victim worker, the case manager worked with Thomas and his stepmother to find agencies which supported women. He designed a poster advertising these services. This was an imaginative way of helping Thomas think about and understand how aggressive behaviour impacts on the victims. He was also able to make the link between his own behaviour and its potential impact on others.

Outcomes

General Criterion: 3.1

Joshua was sentenced to a 14 month DTO for a racially aggravated assault. A number of interventions were delivered in custody to increase victim awareness and to improve his understanding of the consequences of offending. On release, he completed a weapons awareness programme and a conflict resolution programme, the latter provided by Positive Aspirations, an agency specialising in working with young people with anger management problems. Joshua had made a lot of progress since his release with the support of his parents and case manager. He had not committed any further offences and had recently started college. There were clear plans in place for the Sandwell Integrated Resettlement Service to provide support once his licence had expired.

All names have been altered.

1. ASSESSMENT AND SENTENCE PLANNING

1.1 Risk of Harm to others (RoH):

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:

58%

Comment:

SUBSTANTIAL improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset RoSH screening was completed in 92% of the 38 cases in the sample, and was on time in 82%.
- (2) A full RoSH analysis was completed in 15 (75%) of the 20 cases where one was required. We agreed with the risk classification in 83% of the cases. Where we judged the classification to be incorrect, in most cases it was set too low.
- (3) Of the 11 cases where an RMP was required, eight (73%) were completed.
- (4) Where there was no requirement for an RMP, the need for planning for *RoH* issues had been recognised in 15 (75%) of the 20 relevant cases and acted upon in 14 (70%).

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The RoSH screening had been completed accurately in 13 (34%) of the 38 cases in the sample.
- (2) Where a RoSH analysis was required, it had been completed on time in half of the cases and to a sufficient standard in one-third of the cases. Those assessments judged to be of insufficient quality were either not completed in time, did not take account of previous behaviour or the risk to victims had not been fully considered.
- (3) In 71% of the cases, the RoSH did not draw adequately on all appropriate information, specifically MAPPAs, previous assessments and information from victims.
- (4) The RMP was not completed in time or to a sufficient standard in 6 of the 11 cases where one was required. Where RMPs were assessed as insufficient,

they did not adequately clarify roles and responsibilities or include sufficient information about the planned response.

- (5) Of the four cases that met the criteria for MAPPA, only one had been notified and this had not been timely. We took the view that staff and managers were unclear about the MAPPA process as a number of cases had been incorrectly recorded as meeting the MAPPA criteria for management at Level 1 and had been countersigned.
- (6) Details of the RoSH analysis and management had been appropriately communicated in nine (45%) of the relevant cases.
- (7) There had been effective management oversight of the RMP in only 4 (36%) of the 11 cases.

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>56%</p>	<p>Comment:</p> <p><i>SUBSTANTIAL improvement required</i></p>

Strengths:

- (1) An initial assessment of LoR had been completed in all of the 38 cases in the sample and had been completed on time in 31 (82%).
- (2) In nine of the ten custodial cases, sentence plans were completed and within the relevant timescale. These plans sufficiently addressed those factors closely linked to offending in 70% of cases. All plans included ETE, thinking & behaviour and, where relevant, substance misuse. All the plans included positive factors and took into account Safeguarding needs. Three-quarters of plans responded appropriately to identified diversity needs.
- (3) Community intervention plans/referral order contracts were completed in all cases with 95% being on time. Plans sufficiently addressed ETE, substance misuse and thinking & behaviour. Safeguarding needs were integrated within plans in 78% of the 27 relevant cases.
- (4) The community intervention plan/referral order contract reflected sentencing purposes and national standards in 81% and 87% of cases respectively.
- (5) YOS staff had been actively and meaningfully involved throughout the custodial planning process in 80% of the custody cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The quality of the initial assessment of LoR was judged to be insufficient in 39% of the cases. We took the view that in 14 of the cases the evidence was unclear or insufficient and failed to address sufficiently those factors closely linked to offending. There appeared to be some confusion about scoring of Asset and often scoring was based on an assessment of general needs rather than those factors which made offending more likely. A large number of assessments had been cloned and contained out of date information.
- (2) There was active engagement to carry out the initial assessment with the child or young person and the parents/carers in 68% and 59% of cases respectively. The *What do YOU think?* self-assessment informed only two of these. The case manager had assessed the learning style of the child or young person in seven (32%) of the cases.
- (3) Initial assessments took account of information from: children's social care services and ETE in 54% of cases; physical health services in 43%; substance misuse services in 31%; emotional/mental health services in 40%; and the secure establishment in 67% of cases.
- (4) Intervention plans did not integrate RMPs in 67% of the custody cases and in 71% of community cases. Community intervention plans included positive factors and responded appropriately to diversity needs in just over half of the cases. Learning needs/styles were incorporated into intervention plans in 11% of relevant cases. Where there was a failure to respond to diversity issues this most frequently related to race and ethnicity.
- (5) Community intervention plans/referral order contracts gave clear shape to the order in 11 (29%) of cases, set relevant goals in 13 (34%), focused on achievable change and set realistic timescales in half of the cases. Objectives were often too general and were prioritised according to *RoH* in 38% of custodial plans and in only 18% of community plans.
- (6) Reviews of intervention plans were undertaken at appropriate intervals in 24% of the community 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: 57%	Comment: <i>SUBSTANTIAL improvement required</i>

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset vulnerability screening was completed in 92% of cases and on time in 81%.
- (2) VMPs were completed in 8 of the 11 cases where required.
- (3) The secure establishment was made aware of vulnerability issues prior to, or immediately on, sentence in all relevant cases.
- (4) YOS workers had made a contribution, through the CAF, and other assessments and plans designed to safeguard the child or young person in four of the five relevant cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Asset vulnerability screenings were of a sufficient quality in half of the cases. Safeguarding needs were subsequently reviewed as appropriate in 54% of cases.
- (2) VMPs were completed on time in 5 out of 11 cases and to a sufficient standard in four cases. Where we judged VMPs to be insufficient, this was because plans had either not been completed or completed in time, roles and responsibilities had not been specified and the planned response was not sufficiently clear.
- (3) The VMP contributed to, and informed, interventions in three of the eight relevant cases.
- (4) We judged that there was effective management oversight of the vulnerability assessment in only five of the fifteen cases where required.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 57%

COMMENTARY on Assessment and Sentence Planning as a whole:

The YOS had experienced significant staffing changes which resulted in the vast majority of cases inspected having had more than one case manager. This caused a number of problems in that there were often delays in cases being re-allocated, effective handover arrangements were not in place and assessments were not then thoroughly reviewed by the new case manager.

We were particularly concerned about the lack of effective management oversight in relation to *RoH* and vulnerability assessments. We saw a number of cases where poor quality or inaccurate assessments had been countersigned and managers lacked understanding of MAPPAs criteria and processes.

The YOS introduced a Delivering Risk-led YOS Policy in March 2010. It had also established 'Risk and Vulnerability Meetings', involving managers, staff and other relevant agencies, to oversee High RoSH cases, and discuss MAPPAs/Deter Young Offenders eligible cases, and those cases where there were significant vulnerability issues. However, it was not yet evident from the cases inspected

that either the policy or the meetings had made an impact on the quality of the work.

The YOS had taken recent action to ensure that all case managers invited and encouraged children and young people to complete *What do YOU think?* to inform initial assessments.

The YOS have recently introduced a comprehensive triage health assessment for all children and young people from a health worker, mental health worker or substance misuse worker from the specialist intervention team.

2. DELIVERY AND REVIEW OF INTERVENTIONS

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

General Criterion:

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

Score:

54%

Comment:

SUBSTANTIAL improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In cases where there were changes in *RoH* or acute factors they had been anticipated, wherever feasible, in 79% and identified swiftly in 71% of the sample.
- (2) Case managers and other relevant staff contributed effectively to multi-agency meetings on *RoH* presented by children and young people in all applicable community cases and in all except one custody case.
- (3) Purposeful home visits had been carried out throughout the course of the sentence, in accordance with the level of *RoH* posed and where there were Safeguarding needs in 88% of cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) *RoH* had been reviewed thoroughly and within the required timescale in 53% of cases and following a significant change in 5 of the 24 cases where we judged a review should have been undertaken.
- (2) Where there were changes in *RoH* or acute factors, these had only been acted upon in 5 of the 20 cases.
- (3) A full assessment of victim safety had been carried out in only 29% of cases where required and a high priority had been given to victim safety in 11 out of the 33 cases.
- (4) Specific interventions to manage *RoH* were delivered as planned in just over half of the community and custody cases and reviewed following a significant change in one-third.
- (5) Effective management oversight of *RoH* had been provided in five of the ten custody cases and 12 of the 27 community cases.

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:

67%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In 33 cases we judged that appropriate resources had been allocated according to the assessed *LoR* throughout the sentence.
- (2) YOS staff were appropriately involved in the review of interventions in eight out of the ten custody cases.
- (3) Based on the assessment of the case manager, we judged that the initial Scaled Approach Intervention Level was correct in all but three cases.
- (4) The requirements of the sentence had been implemented in 10 of the 12 relevant cases.
- (5) Interventions delivered in the community were judged to be of good quality and designed to reduce reoffending in three quarters of the cases. Diversity needs had been incorporated in 68% of plans.
- (6) The YOS worker was judged to have actively motivated the child or young person and reinforced positive behaviour in 90% of the custody cases and four-fifths of community cases.
- (7) Parents/carers had been actively engaged in three-quarters of custody cases and in almost all community cases where appropriate.

Area for improvement:

- (1) Interventions in the community were delivered in line with the sentence plan in 57% of cases; 58% were appropriate to learning style, 24% were sequenced appropriately and 21% were reviewed appropriately.

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:

68%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In six out of the eight relevant community cases (75%) and in the one relevant custody case all necessary immediate action had been taken to safeguard the child or young person.
- (2) All necessary referrals to ensure Safeguarding had been made to other relevant agencies in the two custody cases.
- (3) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding had been identified in 79% of relevant cases in the community and 71% of custodial cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) All necessary immediate action to safeguard and protect any other affected child or young person had not taken place in the one relevant custody case and in only one of the two relevant community cases. Referrals to other agencies to ensure Safeguarding had been made in 8 of the 13 relevant community cases.
- (2) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding in the community had been incorporated in the VMP in half of the cases, delivered in just over half and reviewed every three months or following a significant change in less than one-quarter of applicable cases. Reviews had been undertaken in two of the five relevant custodial cases.
- (3) There was effective management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability needs in 33% of the relevant cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 63%

COMMENTARY on Delivery and Review of Interventions as a whole:

The YOS offered a full range of programmes including Knife Crime Prevention and a locally commissioned 'Clued Up' programme, delivery of which could be tailored to meet individual needs. 'Clued Up' was an offending behaviour

programme that employed interactive and experiential learning methods. However, it was disappointing that case managers did not make full use of these interventions within their plans.

The Intensive Supervision Programme was provided by a consortium of three West Midlands YOS' but there appeared to be limited opportunity for case managers to influence the content of this programme.

We saw little evidence that progress against plans was reviewed or that interventions had been sequenced. This had been recognised by the YOS and action had been taken to improve the frequency and quality of reviews.

3. OUTCOMES

Our inspections include findings about initial outcomes, as set out in this section. In principle, this is the key section that specifies what supervision is achieving, but in practice this is by necessity just a snapshot of what has been achieved in only the first 6-9 months of supervision, and for which the evidence is sometimes only provisional.

3.1 Achievement of outcomes:

General Criterion:

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

Score:

64%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strength:

- (1) Frequency of offending appeared to have reduced in 83% of cases, and seriousness of offending in 77% of cases, where it was possible to apply the judgement.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) *RoH* had been effectively managed in 68% of cases. This was largely due to ineffective assessment and planning.
- (2) The child or young person had complied with the requirements of the sentence in 45% of cases.
- (3) The YOS had taken enforcement action sufficiently well in 11 (52%) of the 21 cases where it had been required.
- (4) Factors related to offending had reduced in 39% of cases.

3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

General Criterion:

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

Score:

72%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) Full attention had been given to community integration in seven of the ten custody cases and in 82% of the community case sample.
- (2) Action had been taken or planned to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable in 70% of custodial cases.

Area for improvement:

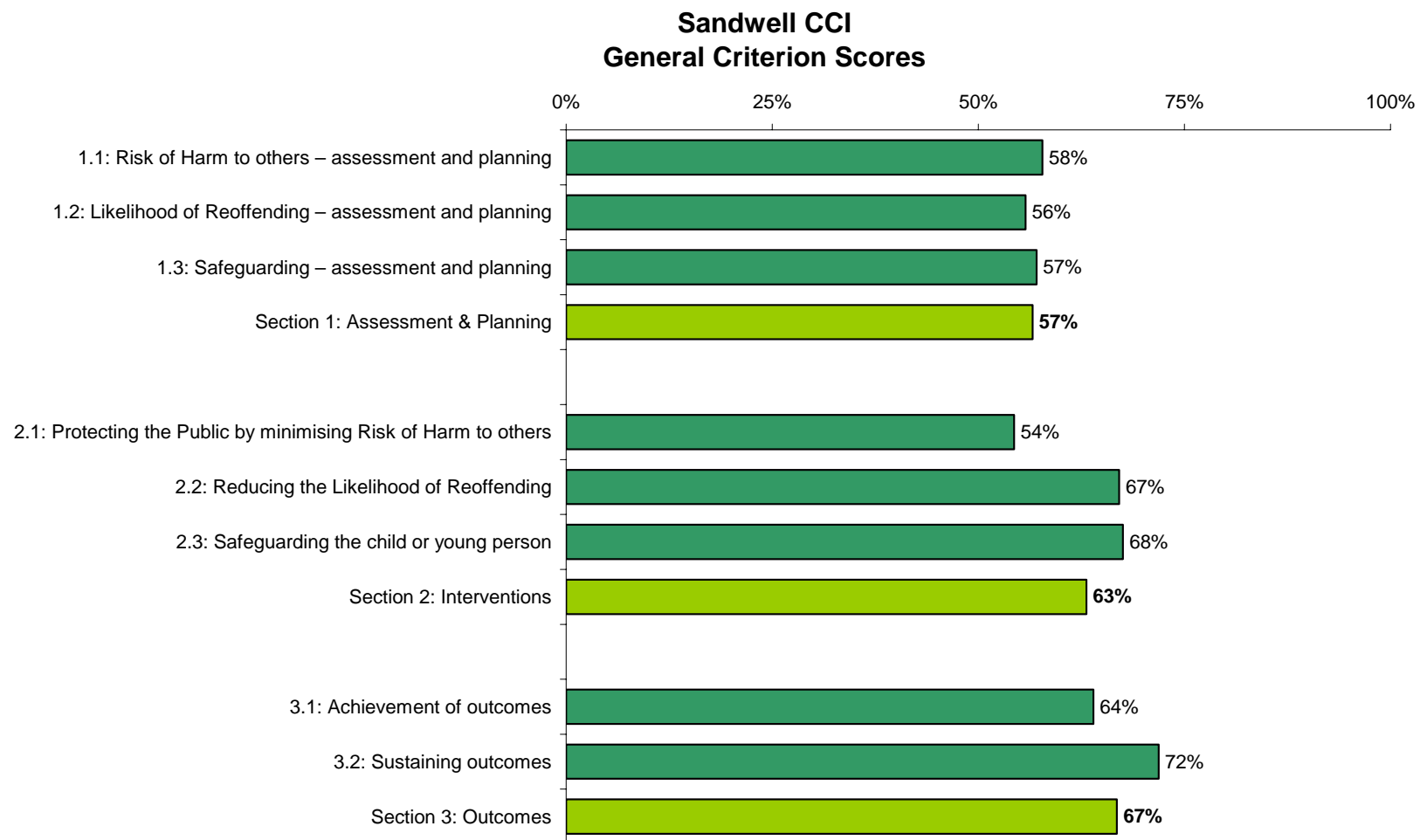
- (1) Insufficient action had been taken or planned to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable in 37% of community cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 67%

COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:

The Sandwell Integrated Resettlement Service, commissioned by the YOS, provided excellent support to children and young people and was used effectively by case managers in both custodial and community cases to sustain positive outcomes. The YOS staff were committed to delivering positive outcomes for the children and young people they supervised and we were impressed by the positive way in which they received feedback to improve practice.

Appendix 1: Summary



Appendix 2: Contextual information

Area

Sandwell YOS was located in the *West Midlands* region of England.

The area had a population of 282,904 as measured in the Census 2001, 11.0% of which were aged 10-17 years old. This was higher than the average for England/Wales, which was 10.4%.

The population of Sandwell was predominantly white British (79.7%). The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (20.3%) was above the average for England & Wales of 8.7%.

Reported offences for which children and young people aged 10-17 years old received a pre-court disposal or a court disposal in 2009/2010, at 35 per 1,000, was below the average for England/Wales of 38.

YOS

The YOS boundaries were within those of the West Midlands police area, the West Midlands Probation Trust and the Sandwell Primary Care Trust covered the area.

The YOS was located within the Children's Services Directorate. It was managed by the Head of Community Safety and Integrated Young People Services.

The YOT Management Board was chaired by the Corporate Director - People. All statutory partners attended regularly.

The YOT Headquarters is located in the town of Oldbury. The operational work of the YOT is also based in Oldbury. ISS was provided by a consortium of Dudley, Walsall, Wolverhampton and Sandwell YOS, managed by Dudley YOS.

YJB National Indicator Performance Judgement

The YJB National Indicator Performance Judgement available at the time of the inspection was dated July 2010.

There were five judgements on reoffending; first time entrants; use of custody; accommodation; and employment, education and training.

On these dimensions, the YJB scored Sandwell 23 of a maximum of 28 (for English YOTs); this score was judged by the YJB to be performing excellently.

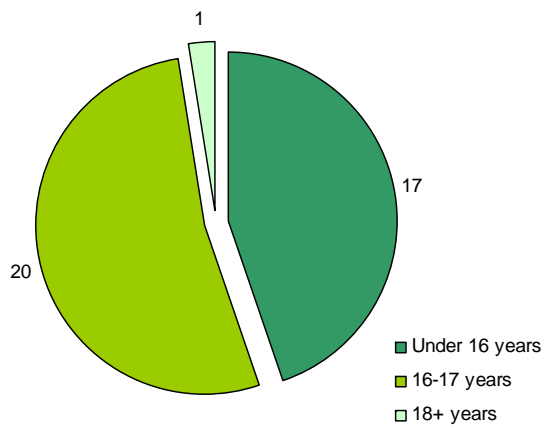
Sandwell's reoffending performance was judged by the YJB to be improving significantly and was significantly better than similar *family group* YOTs.

For a description of how the YJB's performance measures are defined, please refer to:

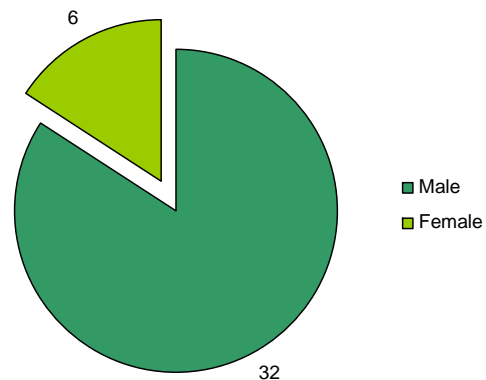
<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/practitioners/Monitoringperformance/Youthjusticeplanning/>

Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart

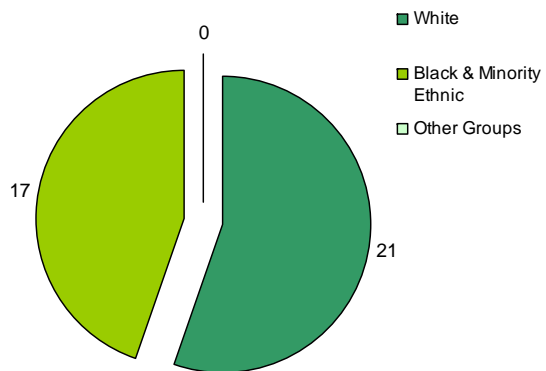
Case Sample: Age at start of Sentence



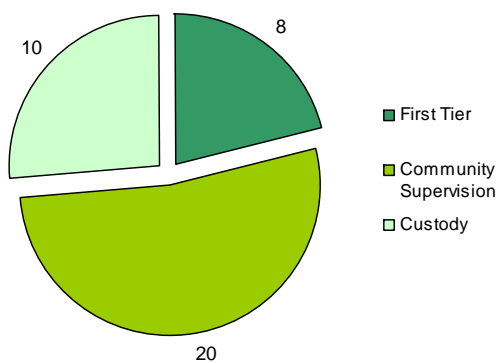
Case Sample: Gender



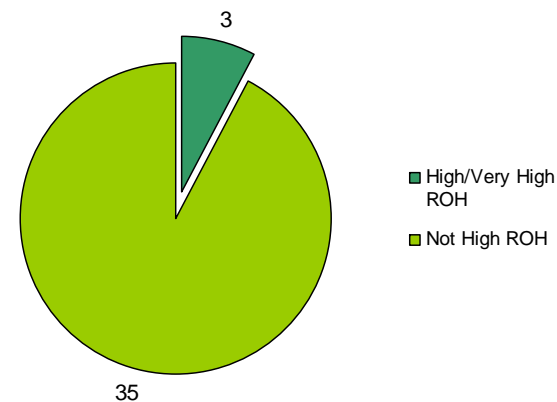
Case Sample: Ethnicity



Case Sample: Sentence Type



Case Sample: Risk of Harm



Appendix 3b: Inspection data

Fieldwork for this inspection was undertaken in November 2010.

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/inspectors/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	Education, Training and Employment: 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
RMP	Risk management plan: a plan to minimise the individual's <i>Risk of Harm</i>
<i>RoH</i>	<i>Risk of Harm to others. See also restrictive Interventions</i>
<i>'RoH work', or 'Risk of Harm work'</i>	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>
Safeguarding	The ability to demonstrate that all reasonable action has been taken to keep to a minimum the risk of a child or young person coming to harm.
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 YOT 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