



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

Reinspection report on youth
offending work in:

Sefton

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Foreword

In the Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Sefton in 2009 we found that there was the need for drastic or substantial improvements in seven of the eight inspection criteria. This was an extremely disappointing set of findings and we undertook to conduct a reinspection this year.

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 75% 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 81% 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 YOT had made significant efforts to implement the improvement plan submitted to us in July 2009, and as a result, the overall performance was much stronger. The quality assurance systems now in place had ensured that in most cases, relevant assessments and reviews were undertaken, although as yet, they were too often of insufficient quality.

Overall, we consider this a very encouraging set of findings, and believe that the foundations for sustained improvement are in place.

Andrew Bridges
HM Chief Inspector of Probation

December 2010

	Scores from Wales and the English regions that have been inspected to date			Scores for Sefton
	Lowest	Highest	Average	
'Safeguarding' work <i>(action to protect the young person)</i>	38%	91%	67%	75%
'Risk of Harm to others' work <i>(action to protect the public)</i>	36%	85%	62%	70%
'Likelihood of Reoffending' work <i>(individual less likely to reoffend)</i>	50%	87%	69%	81%

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the staff from the YOT, 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.

<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.	
<i>Score:</i> 75%	<i>Comment:</i> <i>MINIMUM improvement required</i>
<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.	
<i>Score:</i> 70%	<i>Comment:</i> <i>MODERATE improvement required</i>
<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.	
<i>Score:</i> 81%	<i>Comment:</i> <i>MINIMUM improvement required</i>

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 (YOT 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 (YOT Manager)
- (3) intervention plans, including risk management plans and vulnerability management plans are 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* (YOT Manager)
- (4) the plan of work is regularly reviewed with a frequency consistent with national standards for youth offending services, including the requirement to undertake a review following any significant change in circumstances (YOT Manager)
- (5) there is evidence in the file of regular quality assurance by management, especially of screening decisions, 'Risk of Serious Harm' forms, risk management plans and vulnerability management plans as appropriate to the specific case (YOT Manager).

Furthermore:

- (6) information exchange between case workers and other partnership workers and case managers should be improved to ensure that all relevant information is available to case managers (YOT Management Board).

Next steps

An updated 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.

Sharing good practice

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

Assessment and Sentence Planning

General Criterion: 1.1

Steven was serving a DTO for a series of robberies committed against gay men. During extensive enquires for the preparation of the PSR, allegations of sexual offending also emerged. Whilst these were not related to the robberies, the case manager had assessed that power and control issues were consistent risk factors in both types of offending. The case manager addressed this within the risk assessment and produced an excellent risk management plan which included comprehensive strategies to manage both violent and potential future sexual offending.

Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion: 2.1

Edward was subject to a youth rehabilitation order. Although there was relatively little offending history, the case was correctly assessed as presenting a high RoSH as a result of other serious allegations and his own disclosure of violence against children, violent fantasy, animal cruelty and other worrying behaviour. The case was referred to MAPPA and accepted as a Category 3 case. Edward was moved into supported lodgings with a staff to child ratio of 2:1. There was regular support for the child through the YOT psychologist and education workers. The case manager and psychologist made regular visits to offer training and advice to the staff in the home where Edward was placed to ensure that they were able to manage him as well as possible, consistent with the VMP and RMP.

Outcomes

General Criterion: 3.1

Alan was serving a DTO for offences of violence linked to the illicit drug market. Through a thorough initial assessment, the case manager was aware of, and subsequently attended, children's social care services meetings regarding Alan's younger brother. The case manager was able to both gain and share significant information about the *RoH* posed by the brothers and the risks that they and others were subject to. Through this process, both children were appropriately safeguarded and the *RoH* managed.

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:

71%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset RoSH screening was completed on all but one case in the sample, and was completed on time in 79%.
- (2) We agreed with the RoSH classification in 83% of cases. A RoSH analysis was completed on all but one of the 16 cases where this was required.
- (3) In cases not requiring a full RoSH assessment, where there were issues of *RoH*, these had been acted on in 89% of relevant cases.
- (4) A RMP had been completed in all cases where required.
- (5) Only one case met the criteria for referral to MAPPA, this case had been referred appropriately and was managed at the correct level.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The RoSH screening was accurate in only 58% of cases.
- (2) Where the full RoSH analysis had been undertaken, this had been done on time in only half and to a sufficient quality in only one-third of cases. We assessed the full analysis as insufficient for a variety of reasons including an incorrect classification, previous relevant behaviour not being considered, lack of timeliness and the risk to victims not being fully considered.
- (3) Although RMPs had been completed in 13 cases, these had been completed on time in only eight and to a sufficient quality in only seven. The main aspects lacking from the RMPs were that the planned response to identified RoSH was unclear or inadequate, or that roles and responsibilities were not clear.
- (4) Management oversight of *RoH* issues was effective in only 35% of all cases and of RMPs in only 38%.

1.2 Likelihood of Reoffending:

General Criterion:

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.

Score:

79%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In all but two cases in the sample, an initial assessment of LoR was carried out. In nearly 80%, this was completed on time and to a sufficient standard. In the seven cases where the quality was assessed as insufficient, the main reasons for this were unclear or insufficient evidence, or a failure to identify factors relating to their offending patterns or vulnerability issues.
- (2) There was active engagement to carry out the initial assessment with the child or young person in 86% of cases, and where relevant, with parents/carers in 88%. These high levels of engagement were also evident at the sentence planning stage.
- (3) The initial assessment of LoR was informed by use of a *What do YOU think?* form in 61% of cases. There were also good levels of contact with other service providers such as children's social care services (78%), ETE providers (86%) and substance misuse services (78%).
- (4) In all but five cases, the initial assessment was reviewed at appropriate intervals.
- (5) Ten cases in the sample had been sentenced to custody. A custodial sentence plan had been completed and completed on time in nine of these cases, with YOT staff actively and meaningfully involved in the planning process.
- (6) A community intervention plan or referral order contract had been completed and reflected the relevant National Standard and sentencing purpose in nearly all cases.
- (7) These plans or contracts were completed on time in 90% of cases and sufficiently addressed factors related to the child or young person's offending and vulnerability in 83%. Nearly all cases with issues of substance misuse, physical health or thinking and behaviour had these sufficiently addressed in the plan or contract. There was some room for improvement where there were issues of living arrangements or motivation.
- (8) Workers from ETE providers were actively and meaningfully involved in planning in 86% of relevant cases, substance misuse workers were similarly involved in 83%.
- (9) Intervention plans were reviewed at appropriate intervals in the community and in custody in nearly all cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The learning style of the child or young person had been assessed at the start of the intervention in only 56% of cases.
- (2) The custodial sentence plan addressed sufficiently factors related to the child or young persons offending and vulnerability in only four of the ten relevant cases. The main factors not sufficiently addressed were emotional and mental health, thinking and behaviour and attitudes to offending. Living arrangements, family and personal relationships, lifestyle, motivation to change and perception of self and others were also often insufficiently addressed.
- (3) Community intervention plans and referral order contracts did not set relevant goals for the child or young person in nearly one-third of cases.
- (4) Custodial intervention plans and community intervention plans and referral order contracts prioritised work according to the assessed *RoH* in only 50% and 35% of cases respectively. Interventions were sequenced according to offending related needs in only 63% and 64% of cases.
- (5) There was evidence of sufficient involvement of staff from children's social care services in the sentence planning process in only 63% of relevant cases.
- (6) In the 13 cases where there were RMPs, these were integrated with the community intervention plan in just over half of the relevant cases.

1.3 Safeguarding:

General Criterion:

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.

Score:

77%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset vulnerability screening had been undertaken in nearly all cases, with safeguarding needs reviewed as appropriate in three-quarters.
- (2) Of the 21 cases we assessed as requiring a VMP, 19 had been completed.
- (3) Where vulnerability issues were identified prior to a custodial sentence, the secure establishment was made aware of these in 88% of cases.
- (4) A contribution had been made by the YOT to the CAF, and other assessments and plans to safeguard the child or young person in seven of the nine cases identified.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Although vulnerability screenings were undertaken, they were done on time in only three-quarters of cases, and to a sufficient quality in less than half.
- (2) Where a VMP had been required, it had been completed on time in 57% of cases, and done to a sufficient quality in 48%. The main reasons we assessed them as insufficient were a lack of clarity about worker roles and responsibilities and that the planned response was inadequate or unclear.
- (3) VMPs were not sufficiently integrated with interventions planned for with the child or young person in 8 of the 19 cases.
- (4) There was effective management oversight of the vulnerability assessment in less than half of relevant cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 77%

COMMENTARY on Assessment and Sentence Planning as a whole:

We were pleased to find that there had been very significant improvements in the quality of assessments and sentence planning since our previous inspection. A RoSH screening had been undertaken in all but one case, with the majority done on time. Previously over one-quarter of cases had no screening, with fewer than half done on time. Although there was still room for improvement to the quality of assessments, it was clear that they had gotten better. Previously there had been virtually no RMPs or VMPs and these were, at the time of the inspection, routinely in place. There were several examples of very thorough assessments and plans in cases that presented a high RoSH to others. Engagement with children and young people was much improved with increased use of the Asset self-assessment tool. There had also been major improvements in liaising with children's social care and other service providers. This was also usually reflected in the planning process, although there was a need for a greater correlation between the various plans that were produced on individual children and young people. There was also some evidence that all relevant information, particularly from partners involved in substance misuse and health was not effectively shared with case managers. This was partly as a result of the organisational structure of the YOT but also reflected the need for more effective formal protocols on information sharing. Managers had clearly worked hard to improve assessments and planning in accordance with the YOT improvement plan which had been submitted to us last July. The evidence suggests that this approach has had a significant effect on the production and timeliness of the various assessments and plans, although managers were aware that the focus must now be on the overall quality which was still insufficient in too many cases.

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:

75%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) *RoH* was reviewed thoroughly in line with the National Standard in two-thirds of cases.
- (2) Where there were changes to the *RoH* posed by the child or young person, these were identified swiftly in 85% of cases.
- (3) In the one relevant case, effective use had been made of MAPPA, with decisions clearly recorded, followed through and reviewed.
- (4) Case managers contributed effectively to multi-agency meetings in nearly all relevant cases in the community and in custody.
- (5) Purposeful home visits had been carried out throughout the course of the sentence in accordance with the *RoH* posed by the child or young person in 81% of relevant cases.
- (6) A full assessment of victim safety had been carried out in 19 of the 21 cases, with appropriate priority given to victim issues where we judged this as necessary.
- (7) Specific interventions to manage *RoH* in the community were delivered as planned in 83% of cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Where there was a significant change that indicated the need for a review of the *RoH* outside of the National Standard, it had taken place in less than half of relevant cases.
- (2) Although changes in *RoH* were identified swiftly, appropriate actions were taken in less than half of cases. Specific interventions to manage *RoH* were reviewed following a significant change in only 40% of cases.

- (3) There had been effective management oversight of work to manage *RoH* in only half of the relevant cases.

2.2 Reducing the Likelihood of Reoffending:	
General Criterion: <i>The case manager coordinates and facilitates the structured delivery of all elements of the intervention plan.</i>	
Score: 89%	Comment: MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) We assessed interventions delivered in the community as being of a good quality in 94% of the cases inspected. All had been designed to reduce the LoR, with nearly all incorporating all diversity issues.
- (2) Interventions were delivered in-line with the intervention plan in 79% of cases and had been reviewed appropriately in 76%. They were usually appropriate to the child or young person’s learning style.
- (3) The YOT had been appropriately involved in the review of interventions in each of the ten cases with a custodial element.
- (4) YOT workers had actively motivated and supported the child or young person through their custodial or community sentences in nearly all cases, reinforcing positive behaviour and engaging well with parents/carers.
- (5) Appropriate resources had been allocated according to the assessed LoR in all but two cases, where insufficient attention had been paid to issues of substance misuse.

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:

81%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) Purposeful home visits had been carried out throughout the course of the sentence, appropriate to the Safeguarding issues of the child or young person, in 83% of relevant cases.
- (2) All necessary action had been taken to safeguard and protect children and young people in custody in all but one case, and in the community, all but two.
- (3) Immediate appropriate action to safeguard and protect other children and young people, not in direct contact with the YOT, had been taken in each of the five cases we assessed this as necessary.
- (4) Of the 17 cases where referrals to other agencies were necessary to ensure the Safeguarding of children and young people, this had been done in 14.
- (5) YOT workers and all relevant agencies worked together to promote the Safeguarding and well-being of the child or young person, both in custody and the community in nearly all cases.
- (6) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding in the community had been identified in nearly all relevant cases. These were incorporated in the VMP in 81%, and also delivered in 81%.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding in the community were reviewed every three months or following a significant change in less than half of relevant cases.
- (2) There had been effective management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability needs in the community in 57% of cases and in custody 63%.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 82%

COMMENTARY on Delivery and Review of Interventions as a whole:

Interventions were mainly delivered by case workers from the Hornby Centre. We found that these interventions were generally of a high quality and addressed sufficiently the main elements of *RoH*, Safeguarding and LoR. A good range of services by the statutory partners to the YOT were available, particularly in relation to education and psychology services. The improvements in the quality of assessments and planning since 2009 meant that interventions were now more relevant, and more often tailored to the individual needs of the child or young person. The split in responsibilities between case manager and case worker continued to hinder the delivery of best practice. We do not take the view that there is anything inherently wrong with this model of delivery, although the fact that the various workers were not based on the same site, that travel between the sites was difficult and that there was limited space at the Hornby Centre were likely to magnify any problems that existed. We found that in some complex cases, there were a large number of workers involved, with the case manager taking a very limited role. This had not allowed them to effectively manage the case. Their involvement was often restricted to enforcement and review. The case manager was often not actively involved with an individual child or young person for lengthy periods and did not always have sufficient detail about the interventions or progress against objectives. Although the YOT had improved communications between case managers and case workers, the fundamental strategic issue of staff managing and delivering interventions from different sites remained. Reviews were largely undertaken in accordance with the national standard, but where one was necessary as a result of significant changes in circumstances, these were often not done.

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:

63%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) *RoH* was effectively managed in 80% of relevant cases. In the five cases where we assessed that it was not effectively managed, the main reasons for this were deficiencies in the assessment and or planning.
- (2) In the cases where the child or young person did not comply with the requirements of their sentence, enforcement action was taken sufficiently well in 14 out of 21 cases.
- (3) There had been a reduction in asset scores in just over half of all cases assessed. The area of need showing the greatest level of improvement was ETE.
- (4) All reasonable action had been taken to keep the child or young person safe in 90% of cases

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The child or young person had complied with the requirements of their sentence in only 42% of the sample.
- (2) Risk factors linked to Safeguarding had reduced in only 48% of relevant cases.
- (3) There was a reduction in the frequency of offending in only 42% of the relevant cases.

3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

General Criterion:

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

Score:

86%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

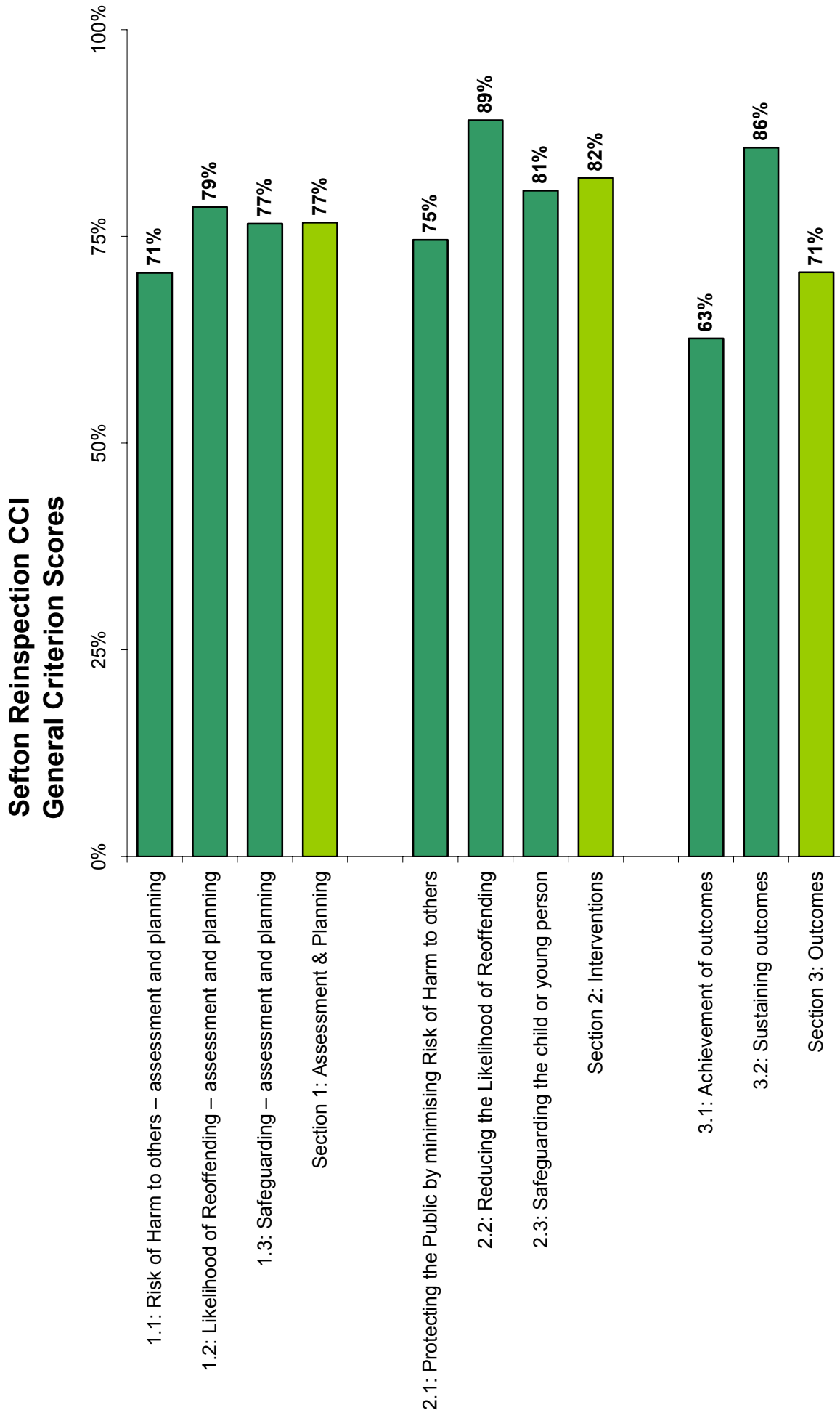
- (1) Full attention had been given to community integration issues in all but one of the ten custody cases and all but two of the cases in the community.
- (2) Action had been taken, or there were plans in place, to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable during the custodial part of the sentence in two-thirds of cases. For community cases, the action had been taken or plans were in place in over four-fifths.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 71%

COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:

Compared to the previous inspection, there had been a significant improvement in the YOTs performance with regard to outcomes. The proportion of work done to manage *RoH* that was of a sufficient standard had increased from less than one-third to more than three-quarters. There had also been a significant improvement in the scores in relation to factors linked to Safeguarding, which was close to the average of inspections conducted so far. All reasonable action to keep children and young people safe had been taken in nearly all relevant cases. The proportion of cases where there had been a reduction in the frequency of offending was still below the national average. Also, the proportion of children and young people complying with their orders or licences had actually declined significantly, although the quality of enforcement action had remained constant.

Appendix 1: Summary



Appendix 2: Contextual information

Area

Sefton YOT was located in the North West Region of England.

The area had a population of 283,958 as measured in the Census 2001, 11.2% of which were aged 10 to 17 years old. This was higher than the average for England/Wales, which was 10.4%.

The population of Sefton was predominantly white British (98.4%). The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (1.6%) 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 38 per 1,000, were below the average for England/Wales of 46.

YOT

The YOT boundaries were within those of the Merseyside police and Merseyside probation trust areas.

The YOT was located within the children's services department.

The YOT Management Board was chaired by the Strategic Director of Children's Services

The YOT Headquarters was located in Bootle Police Station. Most direct work with children was delivered from the Hornby centre, elsewhere in the Borough.

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 Sefton 23 of a maximum of 28 (for English YOTs); this score was judged by the YJB to be performing excellently.

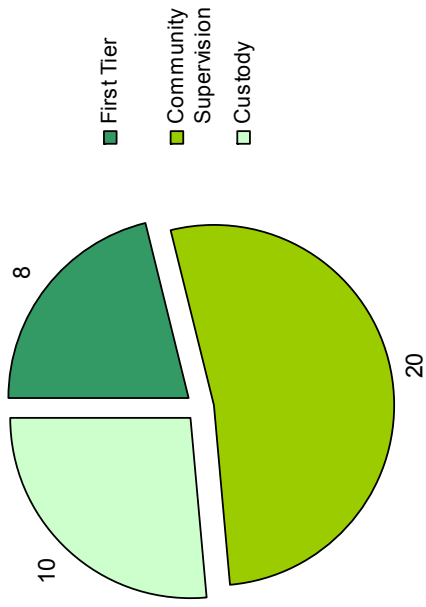
Sefton's reoffending performance was judged by the YJB to be improving and was close to similar "family group" YOTs.

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

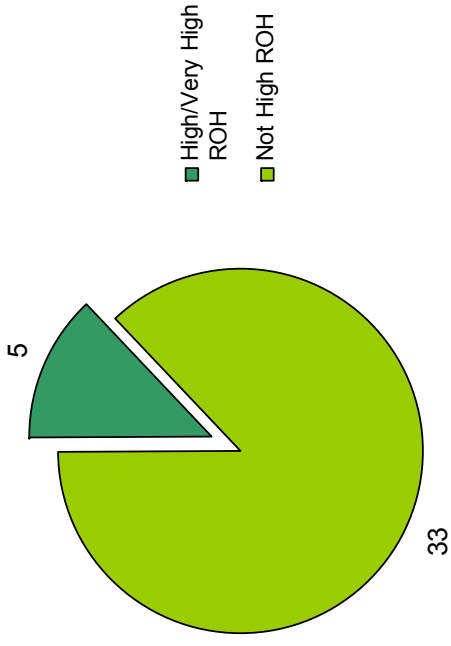
<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/practitioners/Monitoringperformance/Youthjusticeplanning/>

Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart

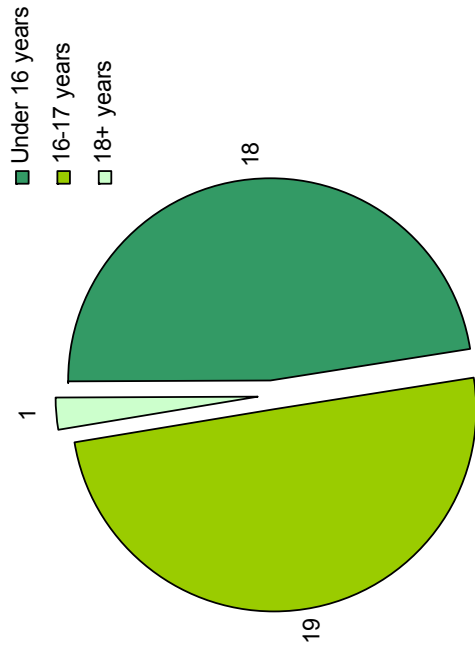
Case Sample: Sentence Type



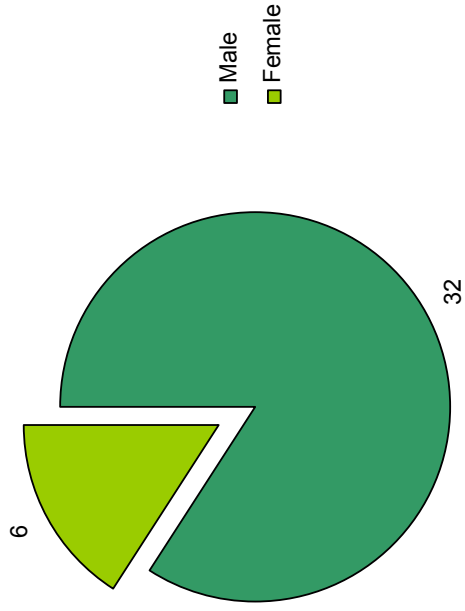
Case Sample: Risk of Harm



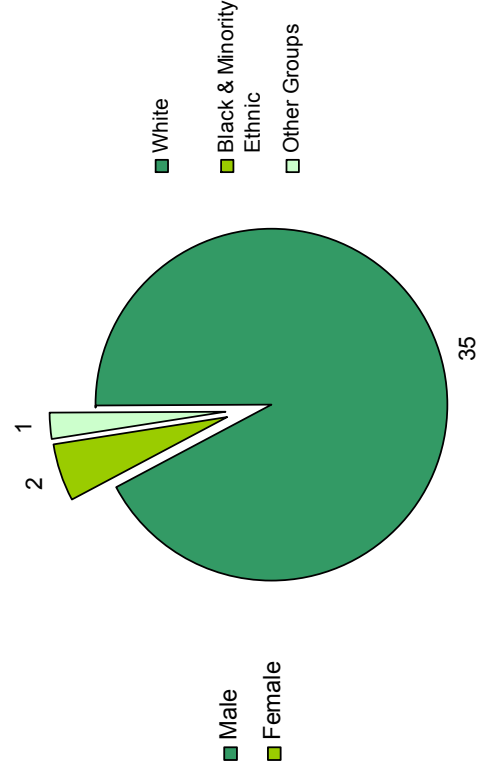
Case Sample: Age at start of Sentence



Case Sample: Gender



Case Sample: Ethnicity



Appendix 3b: Inspection data

Fieldwork for this reinspection was undertaken in September 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

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

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	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>
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>
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