



# STOCKPORT YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2021/22



**STOCKPORT**  
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

# CONTENTS:

<b>Section 1: Our Vision</b>	Page 3
<b>Section 2: A Child First Youth Justice System</b>	Page 3
<b>Section 3: Introduction &amp; Context</b>	Page 5
<b>Section 4: Governance &amp; Leadership</b>	Page 6
<b>Section 5: Structure &amp; Resources</b>	Page 8
<b>Section 6: Data &amp; Performance</b>	Page 10
<b>Section 7: Quality Assurance</b>	Page 12
<b>Section 8: Service Business (Operational Delivery)</b>	Page 13
<b>Section 9: Thematic Delivery Areas</b>	Page 25
<b>Section 10: GM Youth Justice Transformation</b>	Page 30
<b>Section 11: Youth Justice Partnership Board Priorities (2021/22)</b>	Page 33
<b>Section 12: Approval &amp; Sign Off</b>	Page 34

## 1 OUR VISION:

*"The Youth Justice Partnership Board and associated services want Stockport to be the best place for children to grow up happily, healthily, with confidence, ambition and surrounded by love, care and kindness. We want them to have the very best start in life and to thrive throughout their growing up and beyond. We want families to be supported where necessary to provide this care and we believe that families are the best place for most children to grow up. This board is committed to support ways of working and programmes to enable families to look after their children safely and with confidence.*

*We know that all families need support from time to time, and some families need extra help at times, and this is particularly true for children who become known to, or are at risk of becoming involved in, crime and anti-social behaviour. The Youth Justice Partnership Board will adopt a 'child-first' principle for children within the youth justice system, which focuses on getting **'the right support at the right time'** to children and families who are struggling. This help might be in relation to a variety of early help needs, from practical and financial support, through to additional special educational needs and emotional wellbeing through to transitions into adulthood."*

## 2 A 'CHILD FIRST' YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM

2.1 Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board support the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) vision of a 'Child First' youth justice system where all services:

- Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their needs, capacities, rights and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.
- Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their prosocial identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.
- Encourage children's active participation, engagement and wider social inclusion.
- All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their family/carers.
- Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system.

2.2 The Youth Justice Partnership and wider services has a strong commitment to hearing the **'Voice of the Child'** and have explored different ways in which we can 'listen' to children to inform and shape service delivery.

- 2.3 Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support employ a number of ways in which they seek the 'Voice of the Child'; this includes electronic feedback through Asset+, post-order contacts and other methods, such as the 'YOS' Podcast, the 'Targeted Youth Services' Facebook page and Twitter updates (which include feedback from Remedi, another YJ-commissioned Victim & RJ Service organisation).
- 2.4 In 2018 it was agreed through the Youth Justice Partnership to commission Coram Voice, a national independent organisation which focuses on "getting young people's voices heard", to deliver a YJ Participation Project to hear the voice of children and young people involved in the youth justice system in a participatory way which enables feedback to assist the service in informing and shaping services accordingly. **75** children and young people have been consulted through the Youth Justice Coram Voice project in the past year and their feedback gathered on the views of the Youth Justice Service and wider partnership delivery.
- 2.5 Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support hold regular YOS Participation & Diversity sub-groups, which are attended by practitioners, Team Leaders and invited guests on specific topics. Coram Voice also attend these meetings and can report and reflect on the discussions that they have gleaned from their feedback with children and young people. It was agreed not also ask a young person to attend the formal Participation & Diversity sub-group, as this wasn't the best forum to elicit engagement but instead to hold a 'young people's forum' and for Coram Voice to feed back on their behalf, which is what they do every meeting.
- 2.6 A recent development is through the YOS 'Podcast' where members of the service are working with a local provider 'Pie Radio' to develop a regular Podcast about the Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support. This Podcast provides information on the service, why it exists and what to expect, and recently it has started to hold 'interviews' with key members of Youth Justice staff, such as the Youth Justice Police Officer, Mental Health Practitioner, Victim Officer and even the Head of Service. The Chair of the Youth Justice Partnership Board (and DCS) has also recently agreed to be interviewed. The children involved have been able to access advice on interview skills through an ITV journalist and this gives them more confidence when conducting their interviews.
- 2.7 Children and young people's views and feedback are being listened to and recorded to support service developments to inform the Youth Justice Service and the wider Youth Justice Partnership. Children and young people have been informed of their 'rights to complain' about any services and what the complaints process and procedures are if required.
- 2.8 The Youth Justice Partnership Board received a report and presentation from Coram Voice in July 2021 to give assurance that children and young people are being heard and becoming more involved in how services are shaped. The Youth Justice Partnership are committed to this principle and have included the 'Voice of the Child' as one of their key priorities for 2021/22.

### **3 INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT:**

- 3.1 The Youth Justice Plan headlines achievements against last year's plan and outlines the priorities, opportunities and challenges for the coming year. The work of Stockport's Youth Justice service delivery is monitored through the Youth Justice Partnership Board, which in turn reports through the Stockport Family leadership arrangements and the Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP). Stockport Children's Safeguarding Executive (LSB) also receives updates and reports as required. Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Services are proud to be part of the 'Stockport Family' integration, which has brought together colleagues across the whole of children's services and partners from the equivalent services within the NHS Foundation Trust. The Youth Justice Plan is a key document on the Council's Forward Plan; therefore, it goes through full democratic processes for scrutiny and comment before final approval.
- 3.2 The Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service is a multi-agency service which focuses on children at risk of offending or reoffending and a wider offer through the Targeted Youth provision on children who are at risk of becoming involved without an effective intervention; it includes LA staff and employees seconded from our statutory partners including Health, Police, and Probation. The service has strong links and partnership arrangements with a number of other key agencies & VCS organisations; such as GMCA (Greater Manchester Combined Authority), Stockport Homes, Social Care, Aspire Complex Safeguarding, Public Safety & Protection, HMCTS (Courts and Tribunal Service), and commissioned projects through Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) organisations that include: AIM (Sexually Harmful Behaviour project), Respect (Domestic Abuse), Coram Voice (Participation), CERA Ltd, Remedi (Engaging and Empowering Victims), Military Mentors and Stockport County, Manchester City & Manchester United Community Foundations, amongst many others.
- 3.3 Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out the Youth Offending Partnership's responsibilities in producing this plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan, setting out:
- How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded
  - How the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service (YOS) will be composed and funded, how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out.
- 3.4 The Youth Justice Plan must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) for England and Wales and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.
- 3.5 The global impact of Covid-19 continues to have a significant impact at an international, national, regional and local level, however, together with our partners and key stakeholders we have also seen some of the most creative, productive and

imaginative responses to ensure that service delivery can be sustained, whilst ensuring that everyone is kept safe.

## 4 GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP:

- 4.1 The **Youth Justice Partnership Board** meets quarterly. It is represented by senior partners from the key agencies that contribute to Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Services to ensure that youth justice and related interventions are delivered in partnership across the borough. It is chaired by the Director of Children's Services.
- 4.2 Members of the Youth Justice Partnership Board support the service in overcoming any barriers to effective multi-agency working. The Board is well represented, and attendance is continually good and representative of the wide range of agencies who support youth justice provision across the partnership. Retirements and restructures have meant that some members have left, which enables us to welcome new representatives from Health, Probation and Education. The Terms of Reference ensure that the board receive regular information that enables them to make an effective contribution to delivering the key youth justice outcomes and also to hold the Youth Justice Service and partners to account for their operational performance and outcomes. The Board has a clear 'Vision' as detailed within this plan and the Board's Terms of Reference operates to a 'High Strength, High Challenge' model in line with Stockport Family principles for working with children and families.
- 4.3 The Youth Justice Partnership Board continued to meet throughout 2020 and into 2021. The Board has continually reviewed the Priorities and Risk Register at Board meetings and reviewed systems that have been developed for local data and analysis (further details in the 'Performance & Priorities' sections). This year the agendas have included:
- Disproportionality; developing a local focus
  - The Youth Justice Health Offer,
  - Education & SEND provision
  - School Exclusions & Attendance
  - The 16+ offer (ETE)
  - Participation and the 'Voice of the Child'
  - Speech & Language provision (SaLT) and the GM overview
  - The 'Youth Work' offer and Targeted Youth Provision
  - Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE)
  - Serious Youth Violence & the Violence Reduction Unit
  - Victims & Restorative Justice
  - The GM Resettlement Consortium
  - Policing & School Engagement
  - Parenting provision
  - Review of the Serious Incident process (inc. Serious Incident report feedback)
  - National Standards
  - The QA Framework and revised Audit Tool.

Details of the Board's Partnership Priorities for 2021/22 can be found on P.33.

- 4.4 The Chair has requested that the Oct 2021 Board meeting is extended to include a development session focused on 'Induction' for new members (and a refresher for existing members). This will coincide with the published national refresh of the 'Youth Justice Management Board Guidance' which will provide a focus for the session.

The Current YOS Partnership Board membership is well represented and comprised of:

• Director of Children's Services, Stockport Council (Chair)
• Director of Place Management, Stockport Council (Vice-Chair)
• Cabinet Member (Children, Families & Education) Stockport Council
• Chief Inspector for Partnerships, GMP (Stockport Division)
• Director of Education Services, Stockport Council
• Head of Probation (Stockport & Trafford Districts, GM Probation)
• Children's Commissioning Lead, NHS Stockport, CCG
• Director of Operations (Stockport Family) Stockport Council
• ASB Services Manager (Stockport Homes Group)
• Principal Lead (Children's Social Care & Commissioning) Stockport Council
• Chair of the GM Youth Court Bench, (HMCTS)
• Head of I&E North West (Youth Justice Board)
• Service Lead, Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support, Stockport Council

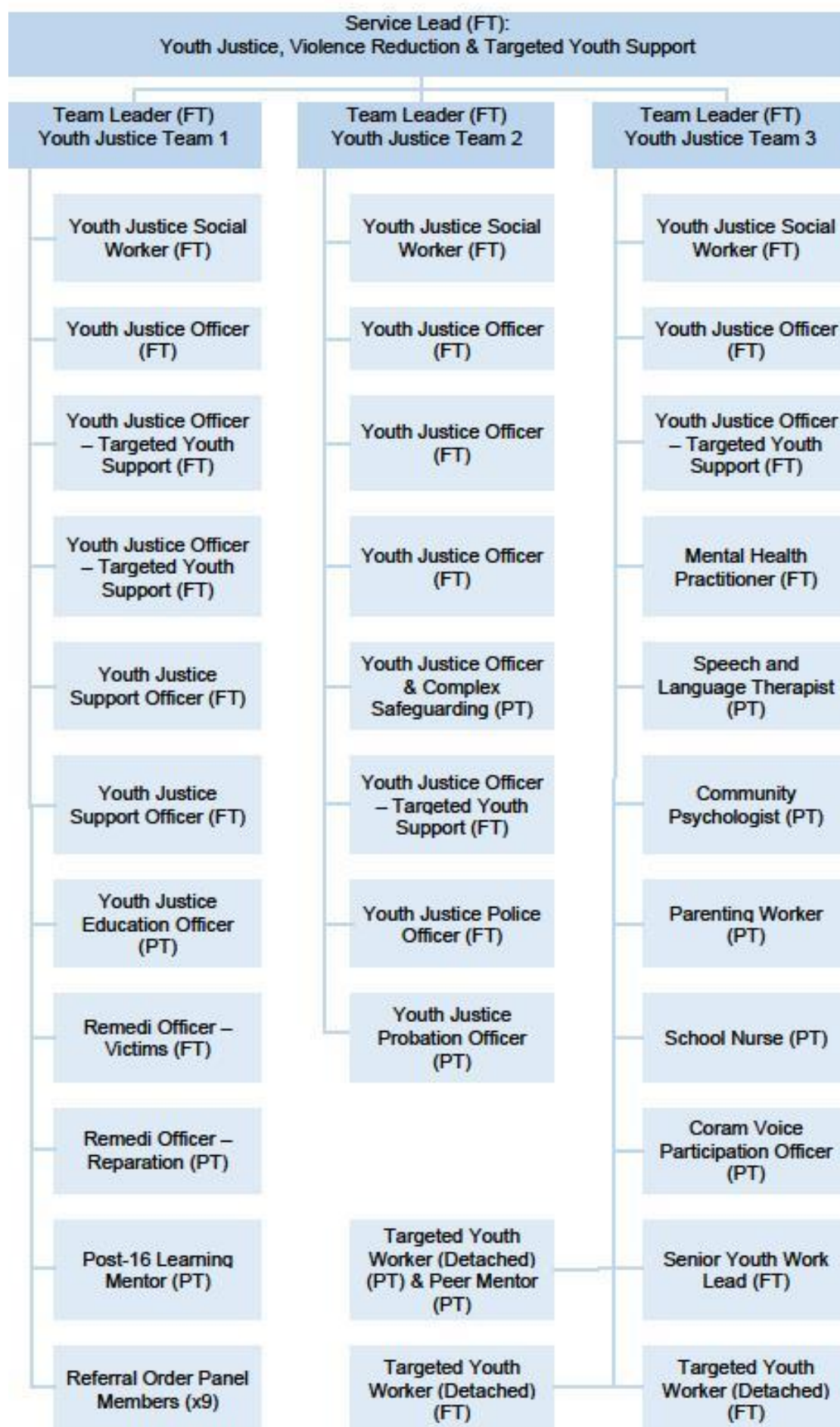
Other services, although not core members, may also be invited to give a wider context on the GM picture, local delivery or because it contributes to a specific theme, this year additional guest contributions have been welcomed from:

- Mental Health Services (Healthy Young Minds)
- Principal Lead (Education & Early Help)
- GM Speech & Language Services
- GM Resettlement Consortium
- Coram Voice (Participation Project)
- Remedi (Restorative Justice Services)

## **5 STRUCTURE & RESOURCES**



Agency	Staffing costs (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
LA (Youth Justice)	£478,594	£0	£0	£628,594
LA (Targeted Youth Support)	£150,000	£0	£0	
Police Service (GMP)	£0	£42,000	£0	£42,000
Probation Service (GM)	£0	£24,000	£5,000	£29,000
Health Service (Pennine Care)	£0	£38,800	£0	£38,800
Police and Crime Commissioner (GMCA)	£0	£0	£45,000	£45,000
YJB (Main Grant)	£0	£0	£438,233	£480,014
YJB (Remand)	£0		£41,781	
<b>Total</b>	<b>£628,594</b>	<b>£104,800</b>	<b>£530,014</b>	<b>£1,263,408</b>



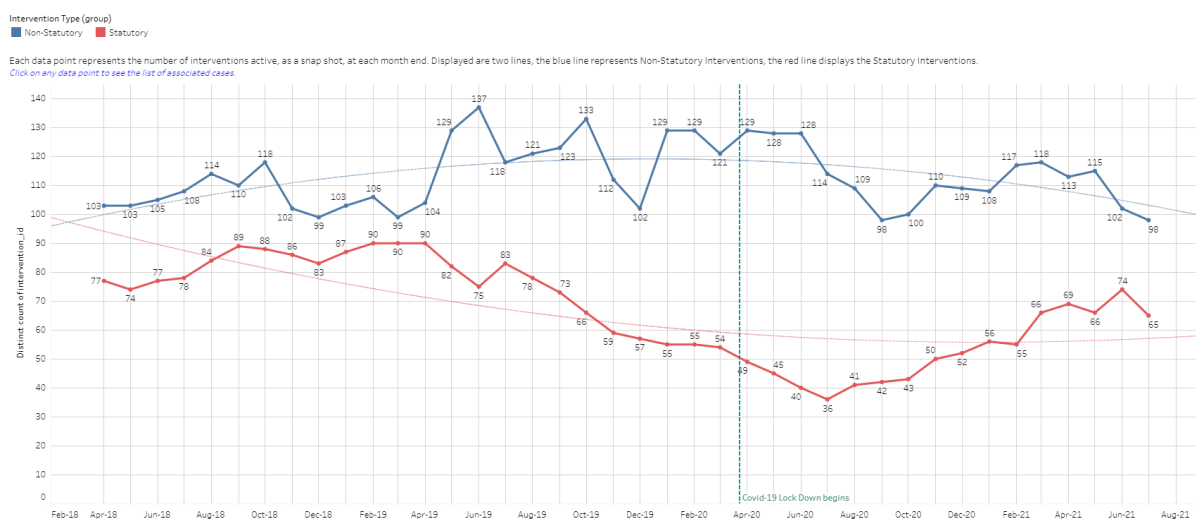
## 6 DATA & PERFORMANCE

6.1 The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is responsible for monitoring the following 3 performance areas and Youth Justice Partnerships in each Local Authority must submit quarterly information against each of them. These are:

- **Reduction in First Time Entrants:** (young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time, either before the court or receiving a caution)
- **Reduction in Youth Re-Offending:** (monitoring a select cohort of young people already in the youth justice system to determine if they re-offend, and if so, with what frequency)
- **Reduction in the Use of Custody** (reducing the numbers of young people who receive a custodial sentence in a Young Offenders Institution, Secure Training Centre or Secure Children's Home)

6.2 Performance data is collated and submitted quarterly through the Youth Justice Board (YJB), made publicly available and published on a quarterly basis by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The impact of Covid-19, however, has meant there has been no data published since the beginning of lockdown, so we are unable to produce reliable comparative data until this happens. The service has continued to submit data quarterly and are able to run data reports based on information submitted, the graphs below set out some of the annualised information in relation to caseloads based on the ChildView Youth Justice Case Management System, which shows the initial drop off at the start of lockdown and then a gradual rise as the backlog starts to clear:

### Statutory (Youth Justice) vs Non-Statutory (Early Intervention and Targeted Youth Support)



6.3 There has been a significant ongoing focus from the Youth Justice Partnership Board to put less emphasis on national data and instead focus more on local information which

allows us to be proactive and forward-looking when understanding the demographics of children known to the youth justice system in Stockport and across GM. Arrangements have been put in place with Business Intelligence locally and we have created a Tableau Dashboard function which provides a local analysis 'snapshot' based on the 'live' data of current caseloads. This gives significant amounts of information which allows managers and practitioners to drill down into information at a case level, or at a wider geographical or thematic trends level. Examples include:

### Live 'snapshot data' (July 2021) based on Age, Gender & Ethnicity:

#### Age / Gender:

Age	Gender		Grand Total
	Female	Male	
9		2 (1.3%)	2 (1.3%)
10		3 (1.9%)	3 (1.9%)
11	1 (0.6%)	11 (7.1%)	12 (7.7%)
12	6 (3.8%)	10 (6.4%)	16 (10.3%)
13	6 (3.8%)	14 (9.0%)	20 (12.8%)
14	5 (3.2%)	23 (14.7%)	28 (17.9%)
15	3 (1.9%)	15 (9.6%)	18 (11.5%)
16	2 (1.3%)	23 (14.7%)	25 (16.0%)
17	3 (1.9%)	14 (9.0%)	17 (10.9%)
18	1 (0.6%)	10 (6.4%)	11 (7.1%)
35	1 (0.6%)		1 (0.6%)
36	1 (0.6%)		1 (0.6%)
37	1 (0.6%)		1 (0.6%)
51	1 (0.6%)		1 (0.6%)
Grand Total	31 (19.9%)	125 (80.1%)	156 (100.0%)

#### Ethnicity:

Ethnicity	
Any Other Asian Background	1 (0.6%)
Any Other Black Background	2 (1.3%)
Black - African	1 (0.6%)
Gypsy / Roma	1 (0.6%)
Information Not Yet Obtained	4 (2.6%)
Kurdish	1 (0.6%)
Pakistani	2 (1.3%)
White - British	133 (85.3%)
White and Asian	3 (1.9%)
White and Black African	2 (1.3%)
White and Black Caribbean	4 (2.6%)
White Other	2 (1.3%)
Grand Total	156 (100.0%)

6.4 The Youth Justice Partnership Board have reviewed this year's priorities as a partnership (detailed on P.33) with a significant focus on disproportionality, marginalisation and subsequent impact for children who enter the youth justice system. As a result, the Board have asked for the following areas to receive additional oversight and attention, to ensure that they are reported through the Board on a regular basis. This list is dynamic and continually reviewed.

- Ethnicity (at different entry points in the system)
- Gender (at different entry points in the system)
- Age (inc. Targeted Youth Support & Youth Justice cases)
- Children with Education & Health Care Plans (EHCP's)
- Looked After Children (including 'Other Local Authority' placements)
- Exclusions & Attendance data (cross-checked with Synergy education database)

There is also work in place to develop a 'Health' section on the dashboard with a focus on Mental Health, School Nursing and Speech and Language referrals.

## 7 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- 7.1 The Youth Justice QA Framework has been reviewed this year and a revised Audit Tool implemented that ensures that Youth Justice Team Leaders are undertaking regular case audits, which includes a 6 monthly review to look at themes and trends as a result of the findings. The Youth Justice Partnership approved these at the July 2021 Board.
- 7.2 A number of new members have joined the Youth Justice Partnership Board during 2021, due to retirements and restructures, and therefore the Chair has agreed that an extended YOS Management Board 'Induction and Development' session for all members will be held in Oct 2021.
- 7.2 The Youth Justice Partnership Board and other key partnerships continue to be briefed, as relevant, on the national HMI Probation (HMIP) Inspection programme of Youth Justice Services. GM Youth Justice Services that have now been inspected by HMIP since 2018 under the new framework include; Manchester, Oldham, Bury/Rochdale, Trafford & Wigan.

In Jan 2020 an internal audit was carried out by an independent auditor based on each of the 3 HMIP Domains (Governance/Leadership, Post-Court casework & Pre-Court casework). This year the Youth Justice Partnership Board approved a review of the findings based on work undertaken in the interim year. This took place in March/April 2021 and the findings reported through to the Board in July 2021. These recommendations will inform the 'Strategic Priorities' Plan reviewed by the Board.

- 7.3 The latest YJB National Standards Audit was submitted in 2020 based on the following NS areas; Police Custody, Out of Court Disposals, Court, Community, Secure and Transitions. Youth Justice Partnership Board members were identified to act as Champions against each area and the YJB guidance for 2021 was to embed these actions. The findings have been included in the operational 'Improvement Plan' which is reviewed regularly by the Youth Justice Management Team.
- 7.3 Stockport Family continue to undertake regular 'Practice Weeks' whereby the services are audited by Managers from other services, with a thematic area as its focus. The Director of Children's Services for Stockport carried out Practice Week with the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service last year, which received a lot of good feedback, and arrangements are in place for the service to be part of Practice Week again this year.
- 7.4 Stockport Youth Justice work closely with the other Greater Manchester (GM) Youth Justice Services, which includes joint audits. Recently Salford and Stockport have reviewed some of their 'Out of Court Disposal' (OCD) cases to learn from each other. Youth Justice Team Leaders have also observed different 'Diversion Panels' operating across GM and this has been assisted by virtual meetings which make it easier to attend.

## 8 SERVICE BUSINESS (Operational Delivery)

8.1 Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support and associated services are comprised of the following areas, which all contribute to the effective delivery of Youth Justice Partnership delivery across the Borough:

- **YOUTH JUSTICE:** statutory provision for children and young people within the criminal justice system (P.14)

- **SERIOUS YOUTH VIOLENCE REDUCTION:** a grant-funded programme delivered locally but operating under the jurisdiction of the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) focusing on children, young people and young adults at risk serious crime (P. 18)

- **EARLY INTERVENTION:** up to 12-month bespoke voluntary engagement working with young people who are at risk of entering the civil or criminal justice system. Focuses on diversion and engagement (P. 22)

- **TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT:** a short-term (up to 3 months) voluntary engagement to educate, inform and divert children & young people from behaviours that could place them at risk. This includes school-based services, a wide range of community projects and a detached youth work programme (P. 22)

- **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR:** civil enforcement and partnership interventions with children and young people causing youth disorder and harm in communities (P.24)

## Youth Justice:

- 8.2 Statutory provision for children and young people within the criminal justice system. Services continue to operate from court with specialist Youth Justice Officers on-site. The following interventions are just a flavour of some of the functions to ensure that children and young people receive criminal interventions proportionate to their offence and ongoing support that will prevent them from re-offending.:

**Out of Court Disposals (OCD):** are delivered in a partnership approach between GMP and Youth Justice to divert young people involved in low level offending behaviour from entering the formal criminal justice system.

Stockport Youth Justice OCD 'Diversion Panel' meets weekly and includes the Youth Justice Police Officer, Victim Worker and other relevant staff such as the Mental Health Practitioner and the Education Officer. Decisions are taken at this panel on the correct route for the OCD.

An identified Inspector from GMP meets with the designated Youth Justice Team Leader to review select cases to ensure that the correct processes have been followed and the right outcome achieved. There is also a GM OCD Scrutiny Panel which reviews cases on a quarterly basis from across GM (this is covered in the later GM section).

**Referral Order Community Panels:** The Youth Justice Service have a team of 11 volunteers fully trained in Restorative Justice and Mediation Skills to operate 'Referral Order Community Panels', which facilitate and agree a community contract with the young person and their family when they receive a 'Referral Order' through the court. The training has maximised their skills and increased the opportunity for direct mediation.

A full training schedule has now taken place (initially postponed due to Covid-19). And new members recruited. Some existing members have retired, and we are very grateful to them for their many years of voluntary service.

Panels have continued to be held virtually, at least once a fortnight, throughout lockdown and will continue to be reviewed. The Youth Justice Service has developed a new 'interactive contract' that is more child-friendly and this is being trialled with children, YJ staff and panel members.

**Unpaid Work (UPW):** The delivery of 'Unpaid Work' (Community Service) for 16/17 year olds is the responsibility of the Youth Justice. The court can make an order with a requirement to complete between 40 and 240 hours UPW (minimum 4 hours per week for those in ETE and at least 16 hours per week for those not in ETE). In addition to the community benefit UPW offers it has an additional focus on providing the young person life-long learning, social engagement and interaction and transferable skills that can provide



improved employability skills. The court do not sentence many young people to this option, not least because there are other reparation alternatives available as part of a wider order.

**Custody, Remand & Resettlement:** The main custodial institution that young people receiving a custodial sentence or remand are sent to is HMYOI Wetherby. It is recognised that Wetherby YOI is some distance from Greater Manchester, and that parents and carers struggle to make the journey due to the limited transport access. All children and young people who are received into the Secure Estate receive continued supervision through Youth Justice whilst serving their sentence, this is done in line with National Standards and based on the specific individual needs of the young person. From point of entry plans are put in place which are working towards the young person's resettlement, including accommodation and education and training opportunities as appropriate.

This year has seen the development of the GM Resettlement Consortium, which is hosted by Oldham Youth Justice (Positive Steps) on behalf of GM. Stockport are fully involved in these arrangements and Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board received a presentation on the consortia at the April 2021 meeting.

GM DCS' and HMYOI Wetherby continue to fund a full-time Senior Social Worker based in HMYOI Wetherby, to specifically review the safeguarding needs of young people placed there from Greater Manchester. Stockport, along with the other GM authorities also receives a quarterly report on the progress of young people in the custodial estate.

As well as Wetherby YOI Stockport young people are also received into Secure Childrens Home and Secure Training Centres at various locations across England and Wales. Young people entering these facilities are given the same supervision as those within the YOI estate.

The numbers of children from Stockport sentenced or remanded in the custodial estate continues to remain very low and is one of the lowest in GM.

**Case Study: Looked After Child (leaving custody):** *KB is a young person who was S.20 LAC, aged 16, when he was released from custody. A placement was found in post-16 accommodation, but KB struggled to manage initially and the impact of being released during lockdown initially impacted on the level of additional support that could be offered.*

*The Youth Justice Officer and Social Care worked together to ensure that KB was provided with simple meal plans and completed sessions with him around budgeting and how to use his social care allowance to fund his weekly shop and any outstanding commitments. Sessions were completed with KB around cleaning and maintaining his property, as well as advice on his own personal hygiene. KB had not lived on his own prior to his release from custody and had few skills to equip him for independent living. Research has shown that this can be a difficult period for young people on release and they require enhanced support to*

*ensure they do not reoffend, and risk being recalled. In addition to the practical skills, work was also facilitated with KB's Mother around rebuilding and strengthening their relationship.*

**Restorative Justice (RJ):** Restorative Justice and Reparation are key requirements for all young people working with the YOS; they form part of every AssetPlus and Early Intervention assessment and can be a requirement within a court order as directed by Magistrates and/or Community Panel members. All victims of crime are contacted, their thoughts and feelings are discussed, and they give consent for this to be shared. Face to Face contact with the offender is the first form of Restorative Justice offered. Victims can choose to accept a response either verbally or receive a written letter from the young person (indirect RJ) and are able to choose from a portfolio of Community Reparation projects designed to give back to the local community. The projects are also put together in order to offer the offender a chance to gain transferable skills for the future. The YOS work flexibly, seven days a week, to ensure that Restorative Justice and Reparation are completed when it is needed and required.

The Youth Justice Service commission Remedi (a specialist Restorative Justice provider) to facilitate this the restorative justice process. Remedi provide a fully trained Restorative Justice Practitioner (Victim Officer) and engage with all identified victims and young people.

Between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 **93** victims were contacted. Of these, **72** victims responded. From those victims that responded, **66** victims said YES to engaging with the Restorative Justice process either indirectly or directly, giving an **92%** engagement rate. The Restorative Justice Practitioner (Victim Officer) completed **9** direct and **86** indirect restorative processes in this period.

Restorative Justice can take place on all active interventions; from early intervention through to custodial sentences. During this period **72** victim awareness sessions with young people were undertaken.

At the end of each intervention, we ask both parties to fill in an evaluation form, here are some of the responses we have received:

100% of victims were **satisfied** with the overall process of RJ.

90% of victims felt that RJ had helped them to feel **safer**.

92% of victims felt the RJ had increased their **well-being**.

98% of young people that took part in RJ were **satisfied** with the overall process.

93% of young people that took part said it had increased their **understanding of the impact** of the offence.

The Youth Justice Service have also employed a part-time Restorative Justice worker through Remedi with a focus on Reparation and associated community projects. A 'Reparation and Unpaid Work Project Portfolio' includes several local projects including

Cheadle Mosque, Wellspring Homeless Centre, Manchester Rugby Club and Woodbank Community Centre as partners in reparation activities for young people. The Remedi Reparation worker is tasked with actively sourcing new projects, undertaking risk assessments and acting as a single point of contact for all community reparation and unpaid work projects.

**Victim Case Study (the impact of 'direct' reparation):** VM was part of group involved in robberies on several victims that took place in central Manchester. There were several young people, some had their faces covered and they took almost of all the victim's had valuable belongings taken.

Two of the victims who were robbed by VM were contacted by the Youth Justice Victim Officer victims and their views recorded. The first session with VM was over the phone and the second took place at the office, whereby we discussed the impact and the young person wrote a letter. The Victim Officer then facilitated contact with both victims.

Both victims indicated to the Victim Officer that they were indifferent to 'Direct Restorative Justice' saying they would take part if the young person 'really wanted to'. VM found it difficult to express how he felt about the offence, but he worked with the Victim Officer and was able to express himself in a letter. One of the victim's was pleased but the other struggled to believe how genuine he was. After speaking to the victim further, managing expectations, preparing the young person for some challenging questions, the Victim Officer facilitated a direct contact with VM. Feedback afterwards from this victim was that they could tell straightaway he was genuine; they were glad he apologised several times without being prompted and felt that this was what they needed to hear and were very pleased. The second victim was satisfied and commented that it was obvious he had thought about what happened and the effects.

**Case Study (the impact of 'indirect' reparation):** GF is a young person who committed a serious offence and received a 3-year 'Youth Rehabilitation Order' which included undertaking 20 sessions of reparation as one of the requirements.

Before the offence took place, GF had been doing a Level 1 professional cooking course but due to his offence, he wasn't able to complete this. He was very passionate about cooking and seemed to enjoy his course and not being able to finish was making him feel worse about himself and his own abilities.

An opportunity came up through social media that a local charity that does a lot of work around community cookery lessons and food waste, were looking for volunteers to help in their community kitchens that had been set up because of Covid-19. Contact was made and the placement was set up. The feedback was that GF was amazing in the kitchen. He settled straight in, knew exactly what he was doing, and helped make over 300 meals in a day for

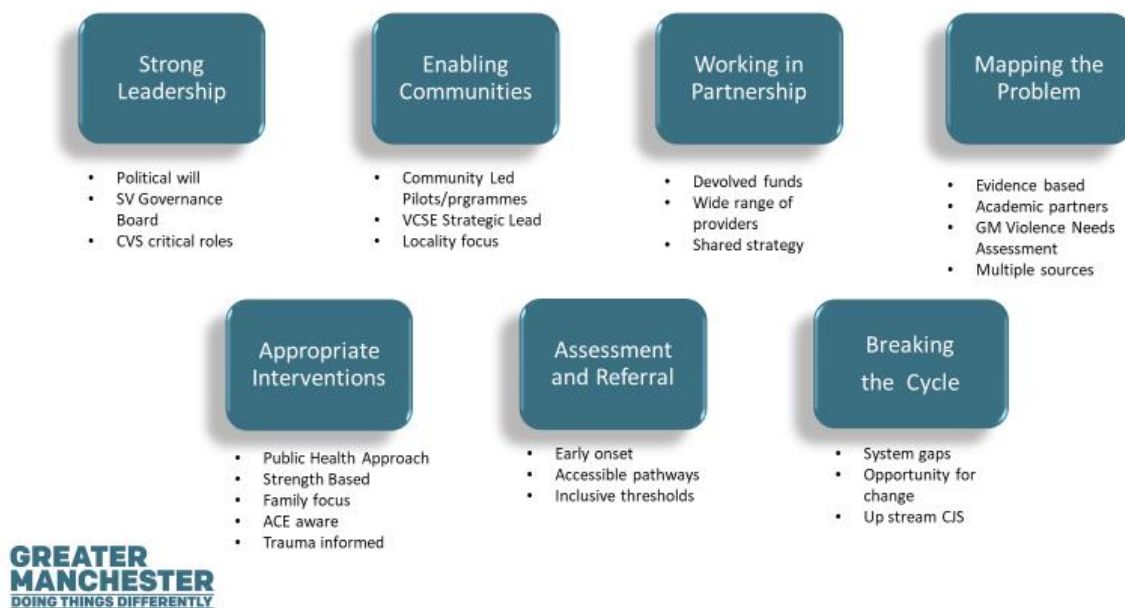
*the community. GF made such a good impression that it is now in an ongoing placement. The Head Chef has expressed that she would be interested in offering some mentoring for GF, which is a great opportunity for him. The whole experience has meant the GF has been able to 'give back' to the community, whilst also increasing his self-esteem and skills which will hopefully forge some lasting professional relationships for him.*

## **Serious Youth Violence Reduction:**

- 8.3 A grant-funded programme delivered locally but operating under the jurisdiction of the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) focusing on children, young people and young adults. Funding was made available from the Home Office in 2019 to certain policing areas with a specific remit to address serious violent crime. GMP is one of these areas and the funding is devolved through GMCA. Each of the 10 GM Community Safety Partnerships received funding to develop their own local Serious Violence Reduction Plan. There is a clear guidance from the Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (GM Deputy Mayor) that this needs to focus on children, young people and young adults in transition with a specific focus on the public health approach and strong links to schools. The focus for GM remains clear:

*"If we can turn young people away from violence at the earliest possible opportunity, we can make a real difference to them and our communities"*

The GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) brings together GMCA, police, probation, health and education professionals, youth justice and the fire service to address the underlying causes of violent crime and work together with communities to prevent it. The following sets out the programme and its aims:



8.4 In Stockport the Violence Reduction Plan has a clear focus on Serious Youth Violence, as directed by GMCA, and provides the opportunities to work within schools, colleges and educational establishments to develop a prevention and awareness strategy. There is an additional focus on the period of transitions for young adults, as the data around serious violence shows that it is also prevalent in the 18-15 age group. This year Stockport also updated their Serious Youth Violence Strategy, which has been approved through the Safer Stockport Partnership (SSP). It is anticipated that the new legislative ‘Serious Violence Duty’ will come into effect from early 2022.

**Knife & Weapon-related Crime:** Youth Justice, in collaboration with GMP, developed a Knife Crime Awareness Strategy through a **3-tiered intervention** approach called ‘**On The Edge**’ which builds on best practice nationally with a focus on ensuring that:

*‘On The Edge’ ensures “the most vulnerable children and young people are protected, the most challenging are tackled and the most dangerous are stopped”*

**Tier 1:** is delivered universally to all educational establishments, including secondary schools, primary schools (currently years 5&6) irrespective of their understanding or involvement.

**Tier 2:** is group-based and community work for those young people identified as posing an increased risk of becoming involved in such behaviour, they will be allocated to a YJ Officer.

**Tier 3:** is robust targeted 1-1 work to those young people either convicted through the courts or police-led intelligence proving that such behaviour is taking place.

The programme has been in place since 2019 and has been very successful (although access was hindered throughout the Covid lockdown periods) by March 2021 nearly 7,000 children had received the briefing across Stockport, in class size groups. In addition, key stakeholders have received bespoke training as part of their safeguarding development, including the NHS Foundation Trust. The programme continues to be supported by a local Stockport resident, who is also a trauma surgeon working for Salford Royal.

**Risk Management Reviews:** All AssetPlus assessments undertaken by a Youth Justice Case Manager are countersigned by a Youth Justice Team Leader, which ensures enhanced oversight for all cases, including OOC and Voluntary Support cases. The multi-agency Risk Management Reviews (RMR's) ensure that all children under supervision who meet the criteria go through the RMR process on a fortnightly basis and this is chaired by a YJ Manager.

**Serious Incident Reviews (SIR's):** The reviewed Serious Incident Review process is operational and reviewed in line with any new incidents. The YJB have also produced a revised Serious Incident Review process, and although it is not now mandated, notifications are encouraged.

A Youth Justice Serious Incident Review is undertaken when a case triggers the high threshold criteria under 'Safeguarding' or 'Public Protection'. 3 cases have been reviewed or discussed at the Youth Justice Partnership Board over the past 12 months, all linked to serious youth violence incidences, 2 of which were knife-crime offences. If the case involves other agencies it goes through the Local Safeguarding Board Rapid Review process; 2 of these cases met that criteria.

**Case Study (knife crime and diversity awareness):** *DB was had appeared in court for possession of a knife in a public place, whilst being part of a large group involved in street robberies in Manchester City Centre. DB was not charged with the robberies, but with possession and the case came following the court hearing to Youth Justice to supervise the criminal sentence, a 'Referral Order'.*

*As part of DB's Referral Order he was required to attend a number of weapons awareness sessions which involved discussion around what leads to being in possession, completing worksheets on 'How did the problem develop' and watching videos referring to the impact of knife crime on the NHS, how vulnerable it makes you, a real life story and the impact of stabbing injuries. DB attended all these sessions and they had a significant impact visually and triggered deep consequential thinking about what could have happened. It also transpired that DB had underlying concerns regarding perception and his identity as a young mixed heritage male who was living in Stockport, from separated parents of Jamaican and Egyptian heritage. DB explored this with the Youth Justice Officer and spoke about being stereotyped in school, along with other black, Asian and mixed-race peers, about being in a*

*gang, so DB felt that if he was being seen this way, then he may as well portray it and live up to the perception and expectation.*

*DB engaged well with his sessions. In discussion with the case manager it was thought that working alongside a mentor, who had previous involvement in gang activity, would address some of the negative thoughts and allow DB time and space to reflect. It also allowed DB to witness and experience positive black male role models, as the mentor is of Jamaican/Asian descent. The work with the mentor led to DB meeting black and Asian business owners in a variety of settings, which reinforced positive modelling. As a result of the intervention DB is now in a full-time college placement, studying motor body and recently completed work experience at mechanics body shop.*

**Transitions:** The rates of serious violence within the 18-25 cohort has received additional oversight as a result of the oversight of the GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU). NPS & CRC have now become GM Probation Services, and this allows better liaison with colleagues locally.

A Youth Justice Team leader is preparing a Transitions Review which will look the cases that transverse both services, this will be shared with the Youth Justice Partnership Board. Probation continue to be represented on the Board.

8.5 Work with children and young people involved in Serious Youth Violence can be very intense and requires specialist skills in engagement and understanding. It can take many weeks, even months, to start to have any meaningful dialogue with young people who have very entrenched belief systems and manifested behaviours that are often learnt over generations, through inter-familial relationships and peer groups.

Listening skills are obviously critical but 'lived experience' is often crucial to understanding the road that some of these children and young people have travelled and the temptations and peer influences that can put them on the wrong path, and subsequently have such a detrimental impact on their life chances. Awareness of Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) and County Lines is far more embedded within services now, but we are still open to learning from other authorities and from those who have previously been involved in gang-related activities and organised crime and have a unique insight that brings a different perspective.

Stockport has used some of the GM Violence Reduction Grant to employ a Mentor who has 'lived experience' and is able to work with young people at significant risk of involvement in gang activity and exploitation. They bring a distinct understanding and



level of engagement that many young people have responded to in a positive way. This post sits within the Youth Justice Service but others have benefitted from the Mentor input, who is able to share their learning with other colleagues in Social Care, Aspire Complex Safeguarding and the PRU to ensure there is a joined up process.

**Case Study (the impact of Mentoring):** *KS is a 17 year old male open to the Youth Justice Service for Burglary and is subject to a 12 month 'Youth Rehabilitation Order'. KS had already been working with the service so was well known to his Youth Justice Officer. Concerns around possible Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) had been highlighted on previous assessments and with the commission of this current offence it had become apparent that KS was involved with older, more sophisticated offenders. KS has SEND and communication difficulties, is often difficult to engage with and has been secretive about his associates and what he is doing with them.*

*The mentor based within the Youth Justice Service has 'lived experience' and has previously worked with young people considered to be at risk of being criminally exploited. The mentor has built up a relationship with KS that has enabled him to speak in a more open way about his current situation and who he is associating with. The mentor has been able to use this knowledge to support KS in recognising what exploitation is and the impact it is having on him and his immediate family. He has been supported to attend court and is currently working on improving his self-esteem and confidence in order to develop and verbalise his aspirations in a more positive and meaningful way and the mentor continues to work with him to access potential college, trade or other employment opportunities.*

## **Early Intervention & Targeted Youth Support:**

- 8.6 Early intervention offers a bespoke package of up to 12 months of intervention to children and young people to ensure effective diversion is put in place that will deter them from escalating into statutory services.
- 8.7 Targeted Youth Support (TYS) is a shorter intervention, up to 3 months, which focuses on specific types of behaviour and offers interventions to children, young people, families and within schools. Both forms of intervention are voluntary, and consent must be sought from the young person and their family/carer before engagement. This ensures that the needs of *vulnerable* children and young people are identified early and met by agencies and VCS partners working together effectively, in ways that are shaped by the views and experiences of young people themselves.
- 8.8 Targeted Youth Support (TYS) aims to ensure that the needs of vulnerable young people are identified early and met by agencies, including VCS partners, working together effectively to avoid duplication, in ways that are shaped by the views and

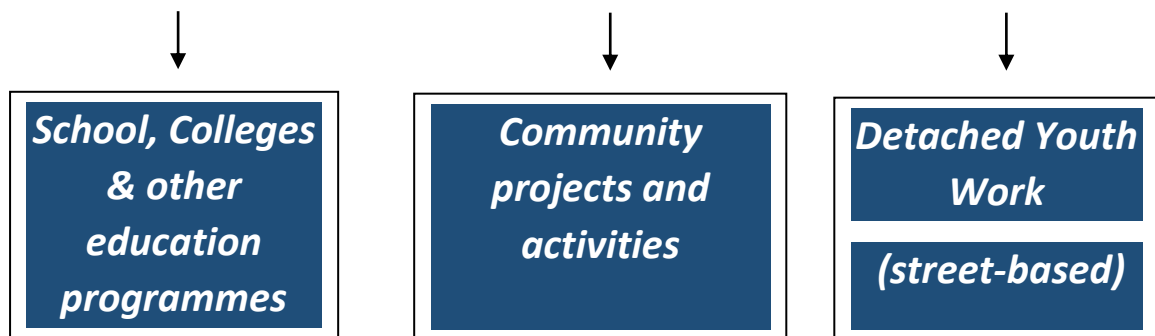


experiences of young people themselves. TYS is a voluntary community-based service which focuses on inclusion and working with those who are hardest to reach and marginalised children and young people and their families.

Additional funding was made available through the council for 2021/22 to supplement the Targeted Youth grant funding, with a specific focus on enhancing the 'Youth Work Offer', which supports the RTime arrangements currently in place with SMBC (Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support), Life Leisure & Stockport Homes.

## TARGETED YOUTH SUPPORT

The 'Targeted Youth Support' Offer falls broadly into 3 main areas



**Schools, Colleges and other education programmes:** These are programmes specifically focused on raising awareness and giving children advice and information they need to stay safe. This includes knife crime and weapon-awareness sessions that have been delivered to all Secondary Schools, offered to Years 5&6 Primary Schools, delivered in Pupil Referral Units, Independent Schools and Stockport College. Other programmes are on offer, which include Hate Crime Awareness, Crime Prevention and bespoke 1-1 sessions.

**Community Projects and Activities:** These include a broad range of community projects and sport activities that are specifically focused on targeted youth provision and is being delivered in communities across Stockport. They are funded through a mixed economy of grants, including Community Safety, and co-ordinated through Stockport Family's 'Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service' in conjunction with other partnership agencies,

including Stockport Homes, Life Leisure, VCSE groups and GMP. These are focused in priority areas and the projects increased in response to hotspot and seasonal demand, such as school holidays. These interventions include a wide range of football programmes, boxing projects, climbing sessions, fishing groups, mindfulness, yoga, outreach and diversion activities and other locally devised schemes that all have the joint aim of engaging children and young people, improving their life skills and preventing them becoming engaged in civil or criminal behaviour.

**Detached Youth Work:** The Detached Youth Work offer is an expanded development to the existing Targeted Youth Support offer. This team will be mainly street-based in communities, where Youth Workers can actively engage and work with children and young people, including those that are involved in anti-social behaviour, organised crime, criminal exploitation and other forms or risky behaviours, which has often disengaged them from other services and places them at risk; whilst also having a detrimental impact on the communities in which they live or operate within. Funded through SMBC cash limit and the RTime grant these posts are employed to work evenings and weekends to ensure the best level of engagement with young people.

## Anti-Social Behaviour:

- 8.9 Civil enforcement and partnership interventions with children and young people causing youth disorder and harm in communities. Community Safety interventions for children and young people at risk of becoming involved in civil enforcement and potentially criminal behaviour is supported through Public, Safety and Protection and predominantly managed through the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service, which is reflective of the disproportionate nature of youth disorder when compared to other crime and civil disorder trends. Involves joint working with key partners, particularly GMP, Public Safety & Protection, Stockport Homes (SHG) and Life Leisure to ensure that activity and responses can be co-ordinated.

**ASB/Youth Disorder:** Together with police colleagues and Stockport Homes, the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service has taken an active lead for devising and delivering programmes to combat youth Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB). Children and young people identified as causing ASB are the subject of discussion at multi-agency panel, where appropriate actions and engagement are agreed, which includes civil enforcement as appropriate.

ASB and Youth Disorder feature in both statutory youth justice provision and in the early intervention work. The GMCA Community Safety Grant has funded a wide range of programmes and diversionary activities that have impacted on ASB reduction. We work closely with partners from GMP, Public Safety and Protection (PSP) and Stockport Homes (SHG) in developing recommendations for civil enforcement and court action as necessary. Both the Police, Stockport Homes and Place are represented at a senior level on the Youth Justice Partnership Board.

**Youth Disorder Panel:** This multi-agency Youth Disorder Panel has been revised to reflect neighbourhood policing priorities. There are now 4 panels covering smaller geographic areas and they meet in response to reports of concern, with the intention of developing a coordinated contextual or individual response for children and young people who are identified.

## **9 THEMATIC DELIVERY AREAS:**

9.1 These are cross-cutting delivery areas that transverse several areas and are delivered in partnership with other agencies. The following cover some of the key areas:

**Education, Training & Employment (ETE):** Stockport Youth Justice Partnership are committed to working with partner agencies to ensure that all our children and young people have opportunities to succeed in ETE and this is not hindered by their offending behaviour. This has been identified as one of their priorities for 2021/22. The Youth Justice Service, as a member of Stockport Family integrated services, has regular contact with education colleagues and involved in discussion through the Early Help Board about locality-based working and Teams Around the Schools.

The Director for Education Services has been a member of the Youth Justice Partnership Board and involved in thematic discussions about the YJ Education Offer. The GM Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) funding has allowed the service to commission a Learning Mentor who works with the 16+ cohort and can focus on their post-school needs, as we know from

experience that this can be a time when offending can increase if a young person is not gainfully employed.

The Youth Justice Education Officer also works directly with local schools, attending 'Team Around the School' meetings to ensure that each school is receiving appropriate support from Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support. As well as the work in the community, she also attends specific planning meetings within the secure custodial estate, to ensure adequate information is communicated and resettlement actions are devised in a joint way.

Targeted Youth Support Officers remain aligned to schools across the borough.

**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND):** Early intervention funding for youth justice was made available through GMCA in 2018 and it was agreed by the Youth Justice Partnership that this grant would be used to develop a bespoke Health & SEND provision. This culminated in spot purchasing arrangements for a Speech and Language Therapist, a Psychologist, a Parenting Worker and a School Nurse.

A Specialist Speech and Language Therapist (SALT) has worked in the service for 3 years now (additional funding was also secured through NHS England). This practitioner is based in the service and working directly with our children and young people that have been identified as having significant speech, language and communicational needs (SLCN). This cohort of young people are identified through AssetPlus and additional screening tools adapted through SALT. This offer is available to all children and young people known to the service regardless of the intervention being provided. The therapist is also working closely with the service offering advice, support and consultation about how to work with those people not meeting the threshold for intervention but who still have some speech, language and communication needs.

A Community Psychologist works within the service on a commissioned basis to ensure the specific needs of children in the youth justice system are met, as well as jointly delivering bespoke Trauma programmes for parents and offering clinical supervision. Training was delivered to YJ practitioners by the SaLT and the Psychologist on 'Talking Mats' and another session on the impact of 'Shame'.

Case managers have become far more familiar with the process of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP's) and aim to be involved in the reviews of all of our children and young people with an EHCP as currently over 25% of the service caseload have an EHCP and it is one of the priority local data set areas for the Youth Justice Partnership Board. This is supported by the on-site Information Advice and Guidance Team and the SEN Business Support Team.

'Achievement for ALL' are a national organisation, who amongst other areas have developed a focus on SEND and Youth Justice. They created a benchmarking tool which allowed Youth Justice Partnerships to self-assess and submit their findings with the aim of achieving a 'Quality Mark' or 'Quality Lead' status if all the benchmarking requirements were met. Stockport Youth Justice Partnership met the 'Quality Mark' in September 2018 and the

'Quality Lead' status in December 2019. Next year we will explore whether these can be reviewed.

**Mental Health & Wellbeing:** Every young person is screened at the beginning of his or her involvement with the service and this is continually reviewed. For those young people admitted to the secure custodial estate a current emotional and physical health assessment is undertaken on admittance. Healthy Young Minds (HYMS) second a full-time Mental Health Practitioner to the service and Pennine Care are represented through the CCG on the Youth Justice Partnership Board. There are several initiatives at a GMCA level to co-ordinate health and justice provision and there is an increased emphasis on neurological and brain-related trauma which has meant both local and GM training being delivered to YJ practitioners.

The Mentally Vulnerable Offender Panel (MVOP) is attended by the Youth Justice Mental Health Practitioner and reviews young people and adults in order to make recommendations to the Courts to either divert or charge. The Youth Triage process ensures identification of these young people at an earlier juncture, either at point of arrest or whilst in the police custody suite.

**Physical Health:** Stockport Family arrangements have enhanced working arrangements with school nurses, improved information-sharing and health screening and an agreement for missed immunisations for young people who are NEET. The Youth Justice Service commission a seconded school nurse one day a week during term-time. She accesses health information, screens young people around any health issues, immunises when young people miss their scheduled immunisations and arranges medication, such as ADHD tablets.

**Parental Support:** Youth Justice are responsible for the management of Parenting Orders made within the criminal courts and therefore packages of support and enforcement are in place to ensure that voluntary programmes are available for parents who require it, and that orders are managed effectively, and progress reports are provided to the courts as required. Parenting Support is also identified when civil enforcement for ASB is being considered and additional packages of support may be put in place before the case comes to court to enable the parent to assist in desistance.

Youth Justice spot purchase a part-time Parenting Worker to deliver individual packages of support and to be part of the delivery team for the RESPECT Domestic Abuse programme. In conjunction with the Community Psychologist the Parenting Worker has also delivered programmes of the 'Take 3' programme for parents, which focuses on Trauma and is delivered over 6 sessions. Feedback from the course has been well received and a report was recently presented to the Youth Justice Partnership Board.

A Youth Justice Officer, who is a trained counsellor, also delivers a 'Mindfulness' Course for parents jointly with the Community Psychologist, who also provides clinical supervision.

**Trauma-Informed Practice:** A training programme was delivered last year jointly between the Youth Justice-commissioned Community Psychologist (who is a trauma specialist) and the Parenting Worker (who is mental health trained) on the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's). This was followed by an intervention programme, which included staff clinical supervision and screening of all young people coming into the service. The Community Psychologist is a trauma specialist, so she works with young people who are displaying severe trauma. This advice has remained throughout lockdown as services have continued to be delivered. They also jointly delivered the 'Take 3' programme virtually to parents, as detailed above.

**Complex & Contextual Safeguarding & Social Care:** Safeguarding of children and young people is integral to the work of the Youth Justice and evidenced in assessments, programmes and interventions. Strong links are in place with our Stockport Family partners, particularly Children's Social Care (CSC). Youth Justice is represented on the Integrated Placements and Education Panel (IPEP), where the movement of Stockport Looked After Children is discussed regarding accommodation and education. A Youth Justice Team Leader also sits on the 'Accommodation Panel' where discussions are held regarding Care Leavers and the direct support that is needed to help them in this transition.

At a strategic level the Youth Justice Management Team are represented on Stockport Safeguarding Children's Partnership arrangements and the associated safeguarding sub-groups where they make an active contribution. At a GM level protocols are in place across authorities regarding the movement, transfer and caretaking of cases within the youth justice system and Stockport Youth Justice are part of the GM Training Partnership which ensures safeguarding is embedded within its training programmes.

Youth Justice have seconded a 0.4 Officer into the Aspire (Complex Safeguarding) Team and are represented on the strategic Complex Safeguarding Board. Youth Justice Team Leaders sit on a number of groups including the 'Staying Safe Panel'. These functions are replicated at a practice level and all relevant staff are trained on the Phoenix Tool to identify child exploitation.

**Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE):** There has been an enhanced focus on CCE this year, there have been a number of concerning incidents that have come to light following lockdown. The Youth Justice Partnership Board received an update report in July 2021 that detailed the joint response, including work with Aspire Complex Safeguarding, and the wider Youth Justice offer. A member of GMP Challenger was also in attendance. Stockport will continue

to contribute to CCE-Mapping exercises to heighten our understanding of peers, associations and triggers that identify children living in Stockport at risk.

**Missing From Home (MFH):** There are a significant number of young people open to Youth Justice who are placed here by 'Other Local Authorities (OLA's). Sometimes, due to the chaotic lifestyles and complexities that these young people have experienced they tend to contribute to a high proportion of the 'missing from home' incidents reported to the police. Youth Justice are represented on the Staying Safe Panel where these cases are discussed. Training and advice are delivered to through the Residential Providers Forum and Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support have contributed to this.

**Substance Misuse:** Youth Justice in partnership with MOSAIC (young people's substance misuse service) offer bespoke drug and alcohol awareness sessions for young people identified as requiring such a service. This ensures that awareness is increased amongst case managers regarding emerging substances that young people may be using to ensure that they can signpost young people for appropriate support. All young people who require it are offered support to address their substance misuse and an age-appropriate screening tool is completed with all young people.

**Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE):** Youth Justice are represented on the 'Channel Panel', attending Panel Meetings and offering advice and guidance on any children and young people referred to Channel. All YJ Practitioners have completed mandatory training around PVE to recognise the early signs and vulnerabilities of young people being susceptible to extremism. Furthermore, a Youth Justice Team Leader and Case Manager are both trainers for the level 2 training after completing a 'Train the Trainer' course and delivered this across the council.

**Hate Crime:** Stockport Youth Justice are members the Hate Crime Steering group and have been involved in the direction and implementation of specific messages being delivered to the community. Working with Remedi, a RJ-commissioned service, a lead practitioner undertook a significant piece of work around Hate Crime, which led to the development of a short film which offered a unique insight into how Hate Crime impacts on victims and the wider community. All schools across Stockport have been offered hour-long briefings around 'Hate Crime Awareness' and many have taken this up. Sessions have also now been rolled out to Stockport College from October.

Targeted Youth Support are currently working with '**Show Racism the Red Card**' to jointly deliver hate crime workshops in both primary and secondary schools across the borough. Years 6 and 7 will be focused on areas who have reported hate crime incidents.

**Domestic Abuse:** The Youth Justice Service are in discussions with TLC (Talk, Listen, Change) about delivering the RESPECT programme, a nationally accredited model that works directly with families and young people where there is adolescent abuse in a domestic setting. This has been delivered jointly with Stockport Families First Intensive Support Workers and the benefit is that we can also focus on families where this behaviour results in the young person being accommodated or at risk of being placed in care. Additionally, Youth Justice work with young people who are experiencing domestic abuse in close relationships. RESPECT is a group-led programme, but individual packages of support can also be tailored as appropriate.

Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support are represented at a senior level on the revised Domestic Abuse Partnership Board and a Team Leader sits on the Domestic Abuse Operational Group.

## **10 GM YOUTH JUSTICE TRANSFORMATION:**

**10.1** The GM Youth Justice Transformation is driven through a multi-agency Board which is chaired by the DCS for Tameside, with representatives from GM Youth Justice Heads of Service (including Stockport's YJ Lead), senior police colleagues, health, GMCA and the police. They are tasked with shaping the GM Youth Justice agenda. The following gives a flavour of some of the workstreams that have been developed:

**GM Early Intervention & Prevention:** GMCA have devolved funding to the GM Youth Justice Services to focus on early intervention. Each area delivers different programmes dependent on local need, but they are aligned to the principles of PIED, which is being piloted in 2 GM areas.



**Disproportionality:** GMCA have worked with the 10 GM Youth Justice partnerships to develop a data-sharing agreement that has enabled several years of data and information to be made available for analysis to review trends and inform and shape service delivery.

There is a shared commitment that the GM Youth Justice Transformation work will develop an enhanced and specific focus on 'disproportionality' to include not just ethnicity, gender, age and defined cultural group but also children who are LAC and those with EHCP's, as well as other areas that marginalise children within the youth justice system.

There has been an enhanced focus on young males of black heritage in the criminal justice system and the findings of a recent HMIP Thematic Inspection, that took place earlier this year in Manchester, is due to be published and will inform this work; this is also supported by a recent Race Audit undertaken through GMP.

**Out of Court Disposals (OOC):** The GM Early Help & Diversion workstream aims to develop a consistent and standardised approach to ensure that all young people who receive an OOC are offered the option to engage and comply, regardless of where they live, and that the same consequences are in place should they choose not to engage.

The GM OOC Scrutiny Panel has been revised and meets on a quarterly basis to review randomised cases from across GM to ensure that the correct processes have been followed and the right outcome achieved. Stockport's Lead for Youth Justice is the GM YJ rep on one of these panels.

The PIED Pilots are running in Bury & Tameside to review cases where they wouldn't ordinarily proceed because 'the victim doesn't support' or they are 'not in the public interest'. We await the findings from these pilots and anticipate further GM roll-out.

**GM Youth Courts:** Under normal circumstances the main youth court operates from Manchester City (serving 6 of the boroughs) whilst Stockport operates a youth court, one day a week. Stockport Magistrates Court also serves cases appearing from East Cheshire and the High Peak. The GM Youth Court Bench co-ordinates youth magistrates' provision. Management of the Saturday/Bank Holiday bail and remand courts are shared across GM and Stockport Youth Justice are actively involved picking up 'Gold Duty' on a rota.

Stockport is represented on the GM Youth Court Users Group and the Chair of the GM Youth Bench sits on Stockport's Youth Justice Partnership Board.

**Children in Police Custody:** GMP are working to develop a Child-Centred Policing Model, and 'children in police custody' is one of the areas within the remit. Stockport's Lead for Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support is the GM YJ lead for all 10 Youth Justice Services in

overseeing 'children in police custody' on behalf of the other GM Youth Justice Services. The intention is to ensure that child-focused practice is adopted across GM.

The GM contract for Appropriate Adult Services is led by Stockport on behalf of GM and the current provider for children and vulnerable adults in police custody is Child Action North West (CANW). This contract has been extended for a further 2 years. This operates every day, including evening and weekends and continues to be to provide a single point of contact. Similarly, GMCA commission a GM-wide Integrated Health Liaison and Diversion Partnership (IHLDP) to operate within all the GM Custody Suites and the Magistrates Courts. This contract is currently subject to a renewal tender.

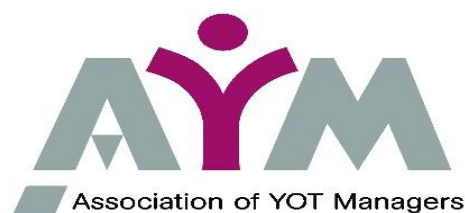
GM Childrens' Services have agreed to jointly fund a S.38 PACE Bed to reduce the numbers of children held in overnight detention. This is a GM spot purchasing arrangement through MCC.

**Health and Justice:** The GM Health and Justice Strategic Board have highlighted the health needs of children and young people in the youth justice system as one of their priority areas. GM Heads of Youth Justice Services are actively involved in commissioning discussions for trauma-based programmes, speech and language provision and mental health input.

Additional funding through NHS England has been secured for Speech & Language provision in Youth Justice Services.

**Custody and Resettlement:** The GM Resettlement Consortium has now been developed and is hosted by Oldham Youth Justice (Positive Steps) on behalf of GM (although Stockport are actively involved). This is funded through GMCA. Additionally, the GM DCS' and HM YOI Wetherby jointly fund a full-time Senior Social Worker, to specifically review the safeguarding needs of young people from Greater Manchester in HMYOI Wetherby.

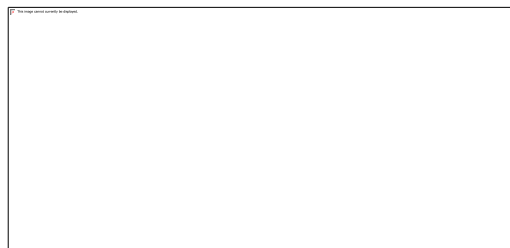
**Association of YOT Managers (AYM):** Not under the jurisdiction of GM, the AYM is a well-regarded national professional body for Youth Justice Managers in England. The association can draw on the wealth of knowledge and breadth of experience to promote public understanding and shape youth crime policy. Stockport is represented on the AYM and the Stockport Lead for Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support is the Vice-Chair for the association and as a Director sits on the National Executive: <https://aym.org.uk>



**Sector-Led Improvement:** The Youth Justice Sector Improvement programme (YJSIP) is a partnership between the Association of YOT Managers (AYM), the Youth Justice Sector and the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and is governed through the AYM Executive.

YJSIP is committed to sector improvement investment and development offers several programmes of training and development to youth justice professionals. It has developed an expertise in Peer Reviews, based on the LGA model, and offers up to 6 Peer Reviews a year throughout England & Wales, delivered through trained Youth Justice professionals and partners. These have been undertaken and well received by over 50 local authority Youth Justice Partnerships and the programme has been subject to academic evaluation.

The YJSIP have delivered a hybrid model of training this year and a virtual Peer Review. Stockport Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Lead is both the AYM rep and one of the North West regional reps on the YJSIP Programme Board

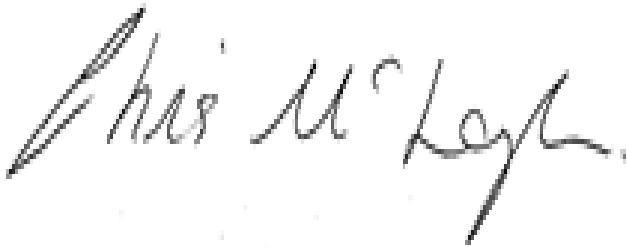


## 11 Priorities

<b>Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board</b> <b>Priorities 2021/2022</b>			
Priority	Reason	Action	Expected outcome
<b>Disproportionality &amp; Diversity</b>	To better understand the local demographic and the disproportionate representation within the YJ System that can impact on children and young peoples' life chances.	To develop robust local data sets that provide live information and can evidence disproportionate groups. To develop a Policy and Implementation Plan.	To be able to target resources and increase understanding of children who are disproportionately represented within the system.
<b>Role of Education and the wider Early Help offer</b>	To contribute to locality and place-based working and ensure that the education and wider early help offer for young people at risk is as robust as it can be.	Develop an enhanced schools-based and early help offer through Targeted Youth that is aligned to the placed-based and early help delivery models.	Improved linked with schools and education services to ensure outcomes for children at risk of entering the youth justice system are strengthened.
<b>Adolescent Offer</b>	To be instrumental in the development of the 'Adolescents' pathways across GM and locally; which include all services for children at risk aged 13-19.	To review the range of services that are available for adolescents, including Youth Justice & Targeted Youth provision, that contribute to this agenda.	To ensure services are co-ordinated and joined up with a focus on adolescents. To see a reduction in CCE and other factors that place young people at risk.
<b>Voice of the Child</b>	To ensure that we operate a 'Child First' youth justice system that hears the 'Voice of Children' and is prepared to act upon it to improve service delivery.	To listen to what children and young people are telling us and think of new and innovative ways that make this meaningful.	To evidence that the 'Voice of the Child' has informed and shaped services and improved our offer for children at risk of, or involved in, the youth justice system.
<b>New Ways of Working (Covid Recovery)</b>	To understand the impact of Covid-19 and consider which 'new ways of working' will become business as usual.	To continue to implement a recovery model, which 'restores, reinvents and retains' aspects of delivery.	To be able to move forward and continue to deliver a service which is both adaptable and flexible, whilst still meeting need and providing support.
<b>Induction &amp; Development (Board Members)</b>	To ensure that all new and existing member of the Youth Justice Partnership Board understand their roles & responsibilities.	Review the induction procedures and schedule a development session. Ensure thematic areas are reviewed at Board meetings.	Improved understanding of the role for Board Members, which ensures that they promote and champion the role of youth justice in their own services.
<b>Quality Assurance (Implementation &amp; Oversight)</b>	To ensure effective QA across a range of service areas that continues to improve outcomes.	Through continual audit and monitoring processes, both locally and across GM.	Improved outcomes for children and young people as a result of effective service delivery.

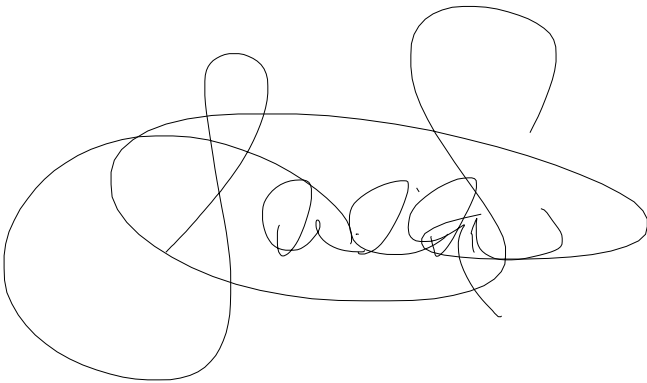
## 12 APPROVAL AND SIGN OFF:

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris McLoughlin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

**Chris McLoughlin**

*Director of Children's Services (Stockport Council)  
Chair of the Youth Justice Partnership Board*

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jacqui Belfield-Smith". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

**Jacqui Belfield-Smith**

*Service Lead: Youth Justice, Violence Reduction & Targeted Youth Support*

*Date: TBC (post-democratic approval)*