



STOCKPORT YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2023/24



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL



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Section 1: Introduction from the Chair

As the Chair of the Youth Justice Partnership Board, I endorse this year's plan on behalf of the Board. 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 & Targeted Youth Support Service is monitored through the Youth Justice Partnership Board, which in turn reports to the Stockport Family Partnership Board and the One Safer Stockport Partnership (OSSP). Stockport Children's Safeguarding Executive (LSB) also receives updates and reports as required.

Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support Services are proud to be part of the 'Stockport Family' integration, which has brought together colleagues from across the whole of children's services, including partners from the NHS, to work in a more collaborative and better coordinated way. The Youth Justice Plan is a key document on the Council's Forward Plan. Therefore, it goes through full democratic processes for scrutiny and oversight before final approval and adoption at full Council.

This year, we have focused on the recommendations of the Youth Justice HMI Inspection (led by HMI Probation). As Chair of the Board, I undertook to build upon the strengths that were identified and ensure that the areas for improvement were implemented through clear accountability arrangements across the partnership. I am pleased to report that the HMI Action Plan has been robustly reviewed at regular intervals to ensure that we remain on track with the 7 recommendations that were highlighted by HMIP. The progress against these will be clear within this plan and we continue to scrutinise any areas that the partnership needs to progress further to meet our exacting standards.

Chris McLoughlin OBE
Executive Director People and Integration
Director of Children's Services
Chair Youth Justice Partnership Board

July 2023



“The Youth Justice Partnership, 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. The board is committed to supporting ways of working that 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, 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’** for children and families who are struggling”*

Our Commitment to Understanding and Respecting Diversity

“Stockport Youth Justice Service and the wider Youth Justice Partnership Board believe that all children, young people and their families who are working with us have the right to equal access to all appropriate services from the Youth Justice Service and its partners, and not to feel excluded because of their age, gender, disability, ethnic background, skin colour, language, faith, health, social and economic backgrounds, sexuality or other prejudice”

Section 2: Local Context

ONE Stockport:

One Stockport is a growing movement that celebrates and promotes the community response we have seen across the borough, which has been born out of the Covid crisis. Working in collaboration, we can build a better future for everyone through supporting the local economy, connecting communities and promoting health and wellbeing. Details of which can be found in [The Stockport Borough Plan - One Stockport](#)



We are inclusive. We believe that our differences and unique experiences are to be celebrated. We proactively address inequality and hold ourselves accountable for ensuring all lived experiences are included and valued.

We are ambitious. In Stockport, we believe our people and the places that make up our borough. We challenge ourselves to be the best we can be for Stockport.

We are collaborative. We believe in working openly and honestly together. We support each other and always work together for Stockport.

Contextual Information

About the local area and services for children

Total Population 294,800



Child Population
21.2% of the Borough (62,408)
Age 0-17
Male – 51.43%
Female – 48.57%



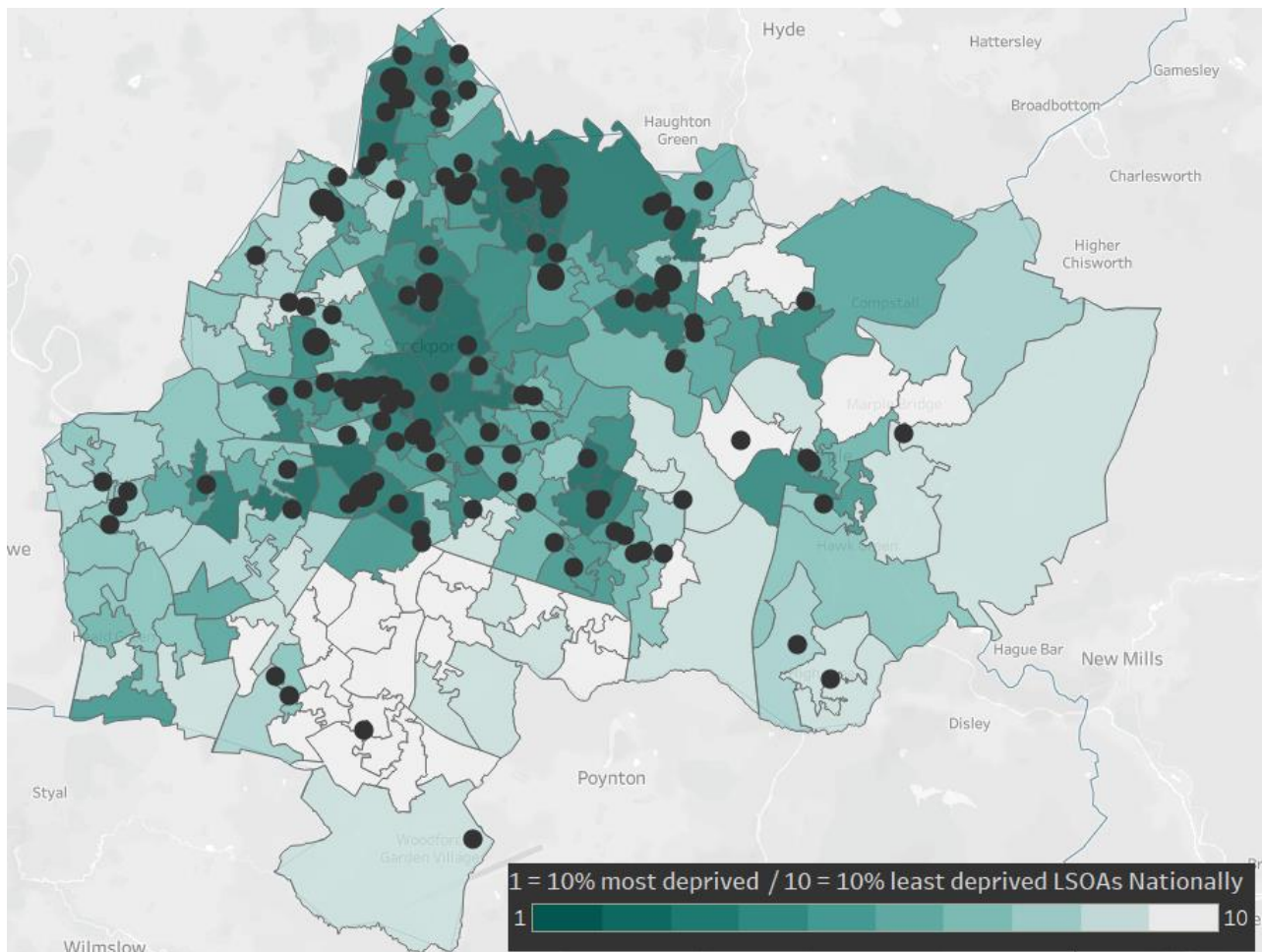
124 Schools in Stockport
4 maintained nursery schools
86 primary schools
14 secondary schools
11 independent schools
6 special schools
3 pupil referral units

16.7% of Stockport's Children live in families with relative low income, with 20.0% entitled to free school meals



13.1% of our pupils require Special Educational Needs Support, 4.6% have Education Health Care Plans

Stockport is a polarised borough with communities falling into the 10% most and least deprived areas nationally. The majority of children and young people supported by Stockport Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support live within the most deprived areas, with clear priority 'hotspots' to the north of the borough and central wards.



Stockport Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Services sit within the integrated 'Stockport Family' Children's Services directorate of Stockport Council. The remit for the service includes Youth Justice, YJ Early Intervention, Serious Violence Reduction, Targeted Youth Support and a Detached Youth Work Team.

The service is comprised of all the statutory partners, Police, Probation, Education, Health and Social Care, as well as commissioned services such as Remedi (Restorative Approaches), who provide an embedded Victim Worker and Reparation Co-ordinator. Stockport YJS also benefits from having a dedicated Health & Wellbeing Team, which includes a Mental Health Practitioner, a School Nurse, a Psychologist, a Parenting Nurse and a Speech & Language Therapist. Excellent links are in place with co-located services, such as CSC, Leaving Care, Mosaic (Substance Misuse), Education Careers & Advice Service and Stockport Family First (Edge of Care)

The Youth Justice Service has extremely good staff retention and low sickness rates. Staff report on the positive culture of the organisation and the 'can do' attitude, that allows them to be innovative and creative in their approaches to working with children and their families, increasing levels of engagement and positive outcomes.

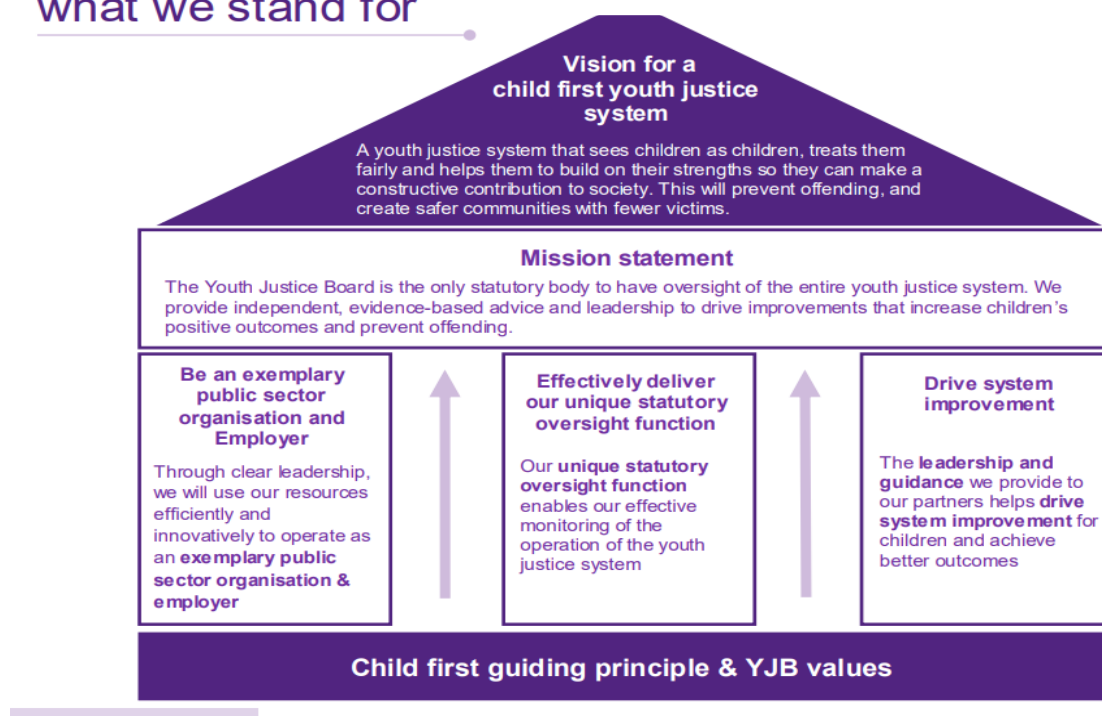
As one of the 10 GM Local Authorities, Stockport Youth Justice Service (YJS) works collaboratively with the other GM Youth Justice Services, and also reports through to the GM Youth Justice Transformation Board, hosted by GM Combined Authority (through the GMPCC).



Section 3: Child First

Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board support the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) vision of a 'Child First' youth justice system and implementation against these values are evident within our plan.

What we do and what we stand for



The four pillars of the YJB 'Child First' principle are:

- 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.

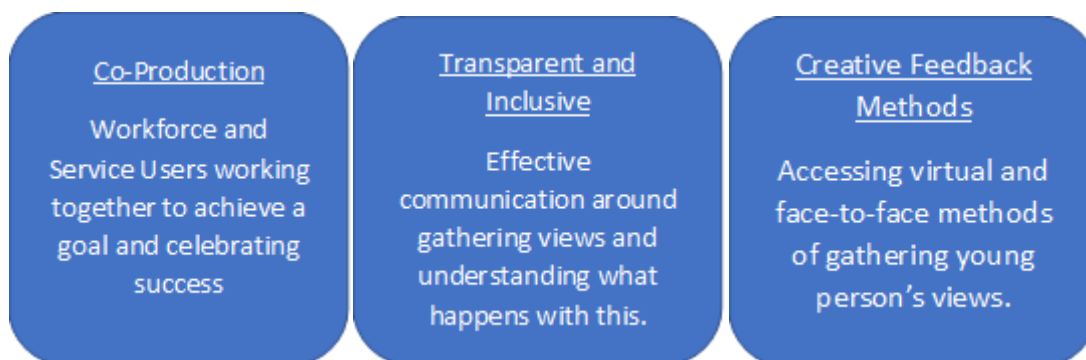
Section 4: Voice of the Child



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.

Stockport Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support currently hear the 'Voice of the Child' through a variety of methods. These include digital feedback through self-assessments for children, parents and carers, through Asset+ and Pre-Court Assessments. There are also informal discussions throughout interventions, including post-order contact to ascertain feedback. Social Media is also accessed through the 'Targeted Youth Services' Facebook page and twitter updates. We continue to build upon our 'You Said, We Did' approach to ensure that feedback is meaningful, collaborative, and beneficial for all involved.

Stockport's participation programme was reviewed last year, acknowledging the shift towards virtual methods of gathering views from children and their families, and the importance of staff development to understand the benefit of collaboration and what meaningful participation looks like. A Team Leader was assigned, as part of their extensive duties, to lead the review. As a result, a number of progressive steps have been taken to access options to support meaningful feedback and collaboration, ensuring that all staff are also consulted on the changes. The Stockport Participation Method currently focuses on the three pillars:



Staff Development: Hearts and Minds

Following the update of the Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support Participation Strategy for 2022-2023, it was identified that it was crucial to support staff development and access external support to implement co-production within the service. Providers were reviewed to find a suitable training package for practitioners, and these were also discussed with the Diversity and Participation Staff Group. **Leaders Unlocked** were selected due to the involvement of Young Advocates in their delivery model (these were young people who had accessed Youth Justice Services and were engaged in advisory boards to improve practice nationally).

Leaders Unlocked delivered face to face training to the service in March 2023, this included 4 young advocates who facilitated group discussions outlining the methods to achieve collaboration, including providing advice and support. They also supported group discussions with staff to ascertain how to achieve a successful young person's participation group.

Mind of My Own (MOMO): Shout and Xchange

In order to gain the views of young people and their parents & carers creatively we identified the importance of embracing virtual methods to achieve this (based on feedback we had gleaned from young people about changes needed to the previous model). A number of digital and virtual models were explored and following consultation it was agreed that we would trial **Mind of My Own** a specialised service who have co-produced their software with Youth Justice Services in other regions. Mind of My Own outlined their products; Shout Pro Survey Models and their Xchange Programme.

Shout Pro Surveys:

The Shout Pro Survey Model has been introduced to the service with consultation from the staff team, and subsequently we have created accessible virtual surveys whereby we can receive young person's views and develop our services with these results. These surveys are accessible with text to speech, customisable accessibility features and available in 100+ languages to ensure all young people can access the Surveys.

We currently have two live surveys running; 'My Community and Me' aimed at children and young people accessing detached youth work sessions and community-based programmes. The second survey 'My Views' is aimed at children and young people who are currently open cases to Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support. Both surveys can be accessed via a QR link and posters have been created in the meeting rooms to ensure that they are accessible.

Xchange:

In addition to the above we are also looking to implement the 'Xchange' model from Mind of My Own. This is a digital participation tool to hear the authentic voice of young people accessing Youth Justice Services. This product has been co-designed with YJ practitioners and those accessing the service, to offer a strength-based app that enables an understanding of young people's worlds, their identity and the risk and resilience factors in their lives, in their own worlds.

Key Features of Xchange Model:

- Creates a one-page profile fully exploring the young person's sense of identity, family and social context.
- Provides essential data for service improvement, helps measure effectiveness of interventions, distance travelled and supports delivery of well-targeted services.
- Designed and conscientiously co-produced with young people involved with youth justice services, for young people.

Currently, we are looking at the IT requirements to link Xchange to our ChildView case management system. We aim to use this app with all young people to contribute to interventions, assessments, and reports. The roll out of the app and training to the team will be provided to ensure that this can be used to its full potential.

Diversity and Participation Staff Group:

Additionally, Stockport Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support hold a quarterly Participation and Diversity sub-group, which is attended by a variety of practitioners representing different parts of the service, including the representatives from the Detached Youth Work Team. Guests are also invited to discuss specific topics. Such guests include the Head of SMBC Ethnic Diversity Service and Mind of My Own to discuss survey creation, reflect on questions and gain practitioners views on these. The work also links in with the wider participatory work that is taking place within Stockport Council.

The ultimate goal is to facilitate the co-production group, with the support of Mind of My Own, to include young people in a Participation and Diversity Group to openly share their views. We are also discussing the creation of a child-friendly Youth Justice Plan to make it accessible and understandable to children, young people and their families.

Feedback below from young people working with the service:



Section 5: Governance, Leadership and Partnership arrangements



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.

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.

Stockport's Youth Justice Partnership Board (YJPB) 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.

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.

The Youth Justice Partnership Board reports jointly to the One Safer Stockport Partnership (OSSP) and the Stockport Family Partnership Board. Other relevant Boards, such as the Safeguarding Executive Partnership also receive regular reports. The Youth Justice Plan goes through full democratic processes, including relevant Scrutiny Committees and as a 'key document' in the Council Forward Plan it needs to be approved and adopted formally by the Council.

Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board has good attendance and operates well, offering high levels of support, as well as providing constructive challenge. Members promote youth justice within their own agencies and this support ensures the youth justice service operates effectively and has the resources it needs.

The Chair of the Board (Executive Director for People & Integration) has been a member of the Board since 2009, and Chaired the Board for over 10 years, since Jan 2013. The Vice-Chair (Director of Place), has been a member for since 2017.

Statutory representation includes Probation, Police, Health, Education & Social Care. The Cabinet Lead for Children, Families and Education also attends the board. Other representatives include GM Courts, Stockport Homes, Ethnic Diversity Service, Business Intelligence and Stockport Family Service Directors and Principal Leads. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) NW Regional Lead attends the Board at regular intervals and receives the papers.

Over the past year (2022/23) the agendas have included:

- ADCS/AYM/LGA Joint Report 'A Youth Justice System that works for Children'.
- Adolescents Review (Stockport & GM)
- GM Resettlement Consortium & Resettlement Strategy
- QA Framework Update (Case File Audit)
- HMIP Outcomes (Tameside & Cheshire)
- Remands (Budget Update) and MoJ Review
- Disproportionality & Diversity Policy & Action Plan
- Safeguarding Children's Board Local Learning Review (RM)
- Stockport Youth Justice Partnership Board 'Priorities Register'
- YJB revised Youth Justice Management Board Guidance
- Targeted Youth Support /Detached Youth Work
- CCE/OCG Report (presented to Safer Stockport Partnership)
- Children in Police Custody
- Diversity & Disproportionality: Action Plan
- HMIP Thematic Report: Experiences of Black and Mixed Heritage Boys in the YJS
- Numbers of Children 'Released Under Investigation'.
- SSCP Serious Violence Review
- HMIP Inspection Feedback (Rating, Initial Feedback & Timescales for Publication)
- Sexually Harmful Behaviour Report
- Probation Young Adult Hub
- Transitions Research (Update)
- Participation 'Voice of the Child (Revised Approach)
- Strip Searches (Child Q)
- HMYOI Wetherby (& Keppel Unit)
- Report on SaLT Input into GM Youth Justice Services
- YJPB Development Day

Section 6: Youth Justice Partnership Board Development

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.

The Youth Justice Partnership was inspected in June 2022 by HMI Probation (HMIP) inspection and members of the Youth Justice Partnership Board, were interviewed as part of the process. The Chair was interviewed individually by the Lead Inspector. The inspection made 7 key recommendations and the Youth Justice Partnership Board holds responsibility for the HMI Action Plan and this is reviewed at each meeting to ensure progress is monitored.

In Jan 2023, the Board held a Development Day off-site and in person, which was attended by the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support service and volunteers who support the Referral order panels. The YJB NW Regional Lead gave a presentation on the new YJB's 'sense of Purpose' and also went through the new MoJ/YJB KPI's.

Stockport's Youth Justice Partnership Board have an Induction Pack, which includes the Terms of Reference, a 'Welcome to the Board' presentation and the latest version of the YJB Management Board Guidance. All new and existing members of the Board have been offered a 1-1 session to go through their roles and responsibilities and expectations of membership.

Appendix 1: includes relevant structure charts for the Youth Justice Service and the associated directorate structures. It also contains a table showing the YJS employee ethnic and gender breakdown.

Appendix 2: includes details of funding and contributions to the Youth Justice Partnership.

Section 7: Progress Against Previous Plan

The Youth Justice Partnership Board has committed to monitor and oversee the HMIP Action Plan, which sets out the 7 key recommendations as detailed within the HMIP Inspection report. Below are the 7 key recommendations made through HMIP. This is monitored by the Board regularly and includes timescales, owner and progress.

No	HMIP Action Plan (Dec 2022) Recommendations
1	The Chair of the YJS Partnership Board should: Make sure that board members fully understand their roles and responsibilities and are proactive in holding each agency to account, to ensure YJS resources effectively meet the specific needs of YJS children.
2	The YJS Partnership Board should: Review the capacity in the management structure to ensure effective management oversight is provided to all YJS cases.
3	The YJS Partnership Board should: Ensure that current plans and discussions translate into effective arrangements to capture the views of children and families, so that their participation impacts on service delivery going forward.
4	The YJS Partnership Board should: Ensure pathways are in place to facilitate YJS practitioners contributing at the earliest opportunity to the assessment and safety planning of children at risk of exploitation.
5	The YJS Partnership Board should: Make sure that all YJS children receive their legal entitlement to education provision and proactive work is undertaken to reduce school exclusions.
6	The YJS Partnership Board should: Work with the police to implement effective information sharing which ensures the YJS is routinely informed of all children who receive a police sanction. This is to maximise all opportunities of working with children and their families at the earliest stage.
7	The YJS Head of Service should: Improve the quality of assessment, planning, implementation and delivery and review of post court work, which effectively utilises information and intelligence from other agencies and informs risk analysis, safety planning and effective interventions.

*. *A more detailed and extensive version of this action plan, showing current progress, is contained within Section 13: Service Development*

Section 8: Resources and Services

The Youth Justice Partnership contributes to the pooled budget that ensures youth justice service delivery across the borough, this includes post-court and pre-court (out of court) statutory functions. Other funding comes in the form of grants with the main contributors being the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) from the Deputy Mayor's office undertaking their Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) functions.

The Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support delivers services that extend beyond core youth justice services, to cover early intervention, detached youth work, serious violence reduction and other community safety functions.

The Youth Justice Partnership ensures that the budget in the form of grants, partnership contributions and available resources are targeted on the areas and interventions that need it most. Data is provided regularly through the Tableau Dashboard in the form of a Scorecard that provides analysis on offending, demographics, caseloads and other information to ensure that the funding is used effectively and efficiently to ensure the utmost benefit and outcomes for our local communities.

The Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Services deliver on the following areas:

- **YOUTH JUSTICE:** statutory provision for children and young people within the criminal justice system (including Out of Court Disposals)
- **SERIOUS VIOLENCE REDUCTION:** a Home Office 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.
- **EARLY INTERVENTION:** an offer 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.
- **TURNAROUND:** a MoJ grant-funded programme to support young people who have been arrested for an offence (but not necessarily charged yet), or who are committing ASB, to engage in early intervention programmes and offer additional support to the family and reduce their risk of re-offending.
- **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 and a wide range of community projects, including sports activities.
- **DETACHED YOUTH WORK:** Targeted youth work provision delivered by qualified Youth Workers in communities. Delivering a range of activities and interventions in community hubs, with a specific focus on reducing anti-social behaviour and youth disorder through engagement and participation (includes 'Safer Streets' funding)

Section 9: Performance

National Key Performance Indicators:

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 in court or receiving a caution)
- **Reduction in Youth Reoffending** (Binary & Frequency; monitoring a select cohort of young people already in the youth justice system to determine if they re-offend, and if so, how often)
- **Reduction in the Use of Custody** (reducing the numbers of young people who receive a custodial sentence in a Young Offenders Institution (YOI) Secure Training Centre (STC) or Secure Children's Home (SCH))

New KPI's from April 2023 (to include the existing KPI's above):

The following KPI's have been introduced by the MoJ and oversight will sit with the YJB through their performance monitoring. Youth Justice Partnerships are responsible for their reporting and implementation. Case Management Systems (ChildView Youth Justice in Stockport) have had to be updated to enable collation of this additional data, which will include:

The 10 new KPIs are:

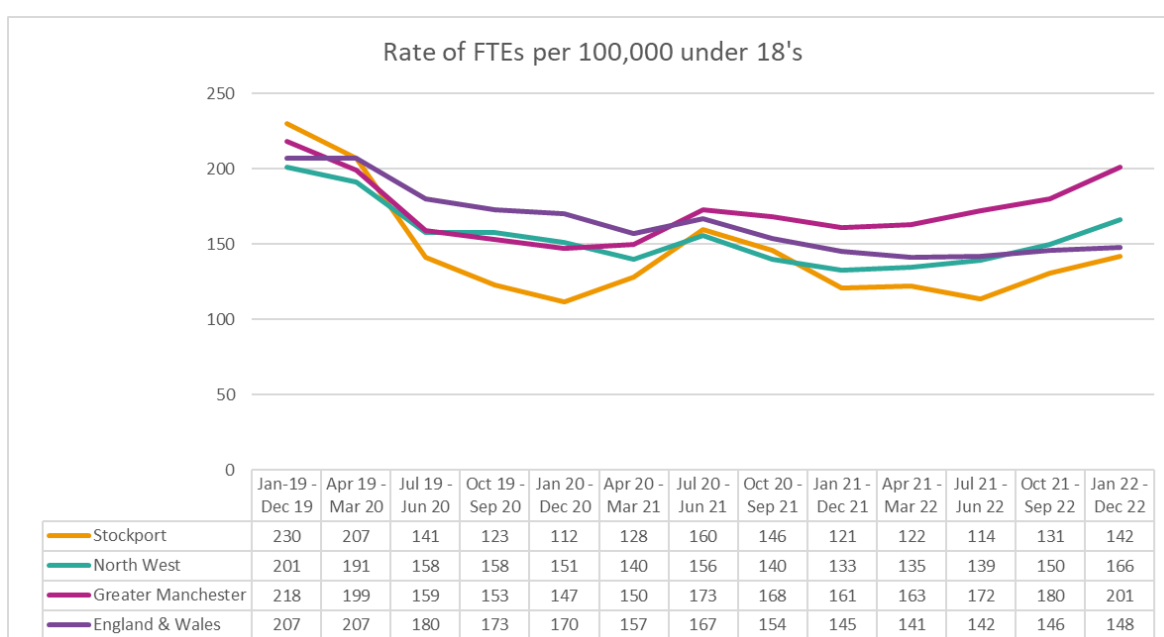
1. **Accommodation:** % of children in the community and being released from custody with suitable accommodation arrangements
2. **Education, Training and Employment (ETE):** % of children in the community and being released from custody attending a suitable ETE arrangement.
3. **SEND/Additional Learning Needs:** % of children who have an identified SEND need (or Additional Learning Need in Wales), are in suitable ETE and have a formal learning plan in place for the current academic year.
4. **Mental Healthcare and Emotional Wellbeing:** % of children in the community and being released from custody with a screened OR identified need for an intervention to improve mental health or emotional wellbeing; and of that the % of planned/offered interventions; of that % of children attending interventions.
5. **Substance misuse:** % of children with a screened OR identified need for specialist treatment intervention to address substance misuse; and of that the % of children with planned or offered intervention/treatment; and of that the % number of children attending intervention/treatment.
6. **Out of Court Disposals (OOCs):** % of OOC disposal interventions that are completed/not completed.

7. **Youth Justice Partnership Board attendance:** monitoring senior partner representation at management boards and monitoring if partners contribute data from their individual services that identify areas of racial and ethnic disproportionality.
8. **Wider Services:** % children who are currently on either an Early Help (EH) plan; on a child protection (CP) plan or classified as Child in Need (CiN) or a looked after child (LAC). For Wales only, children who are classified as Children in Need of Care and Support.
9. **Serious Youth Violence (SYV):** rates of children convicted for SYV on the YOT caseload.
10. **Victims:** number of victims who consent to be contact by the YOT, and of those, the number of victims: engaged with about Restorative Justice opportunities; asked their view prior to OOCB decision-making and planning for statutory court orders; provided information about the progress of the child's case (when requested) and provided with information on appropriate services that support victims (when requested)

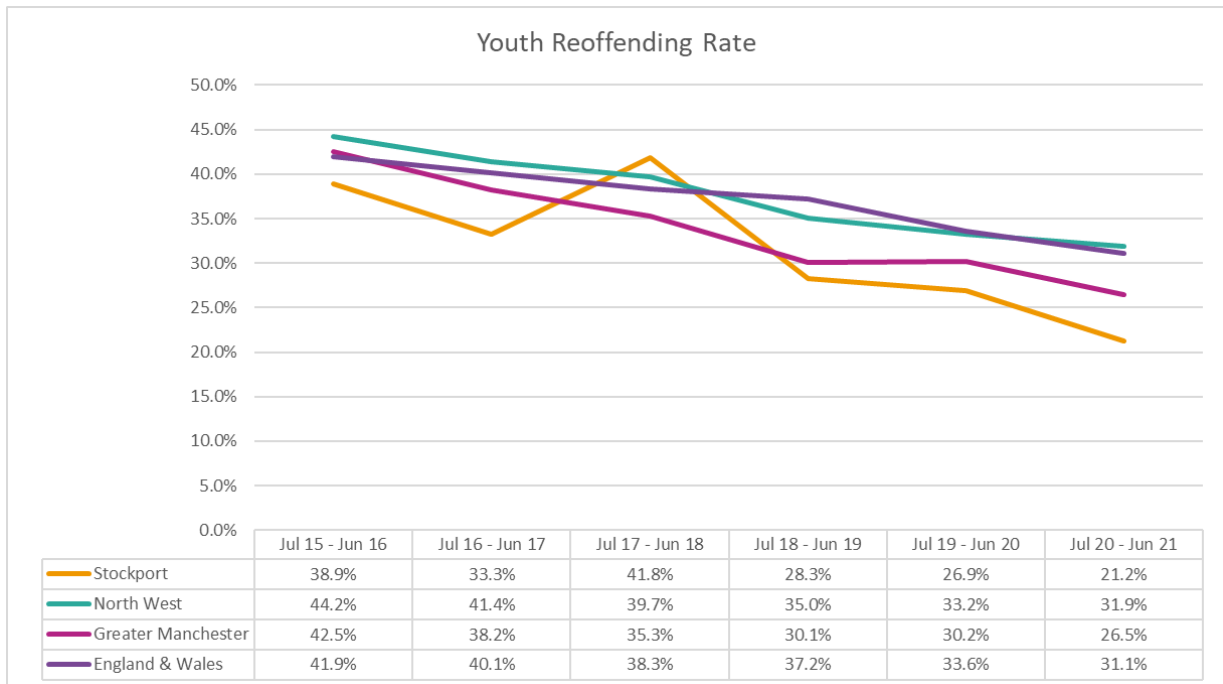
Performance data for Stockport YJS show that for the period January 2022 to December 2022 saw a slight increase in FTE's from the previous year but ***the number of first-time entrants to the criminal justice system for Stockport was lower than the national average for England and Wales, the North West and Greater Manchester.***

From July 2020 to June 2021 ***the proportion of children who reoffend, and the frequency with which they do so, has been lower than the national average for England and Wales.***

Stockport Youth Justice ***use of custody has been below the average for England and Wales*** but has been increased over the last four periods.

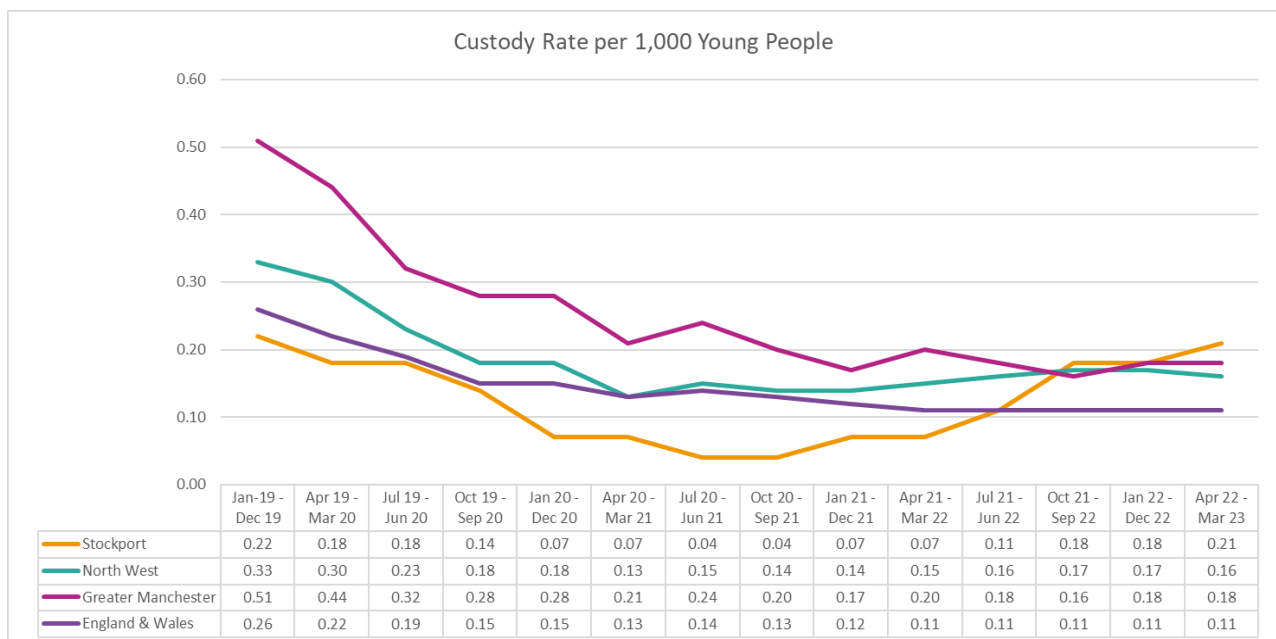


Reduction in First Time Entrants



Reduction in Youth Reoffending

Reoffending Rate (Reoffenders/Number in Cohort)



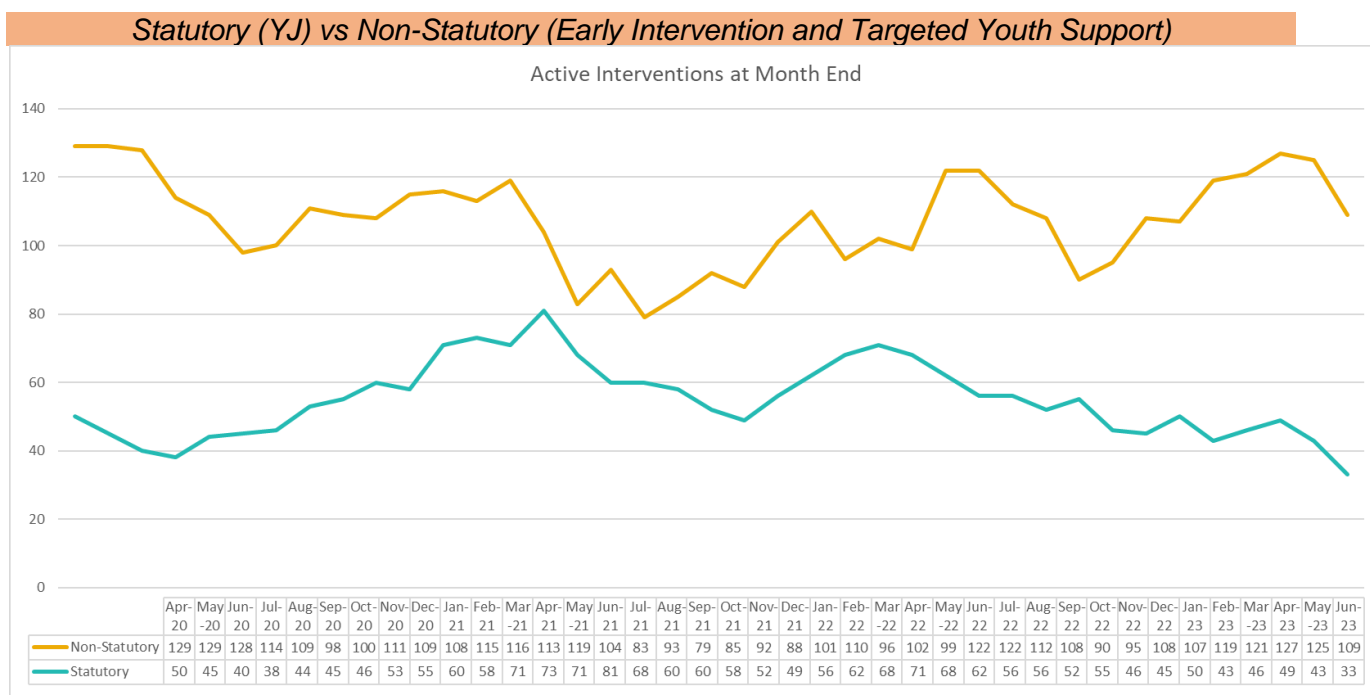
Reduction in the Use of Custody

The 'custody rate' only shows the rate of children in custody who have been sentenced and we have seen a small rise this year, due to sentencing for some grave crimes., The YJB do not publicise the remand data in the same format, although remand cases make up a significant proportion of children in custody nationally. The 'cost of remand' is significant and whilst each youth justice partnership nominally receives a grant from the Youth Custody Service (YCS), has not covered the actual cost of remand for many years, which is then borne by the authority. The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) published a remand

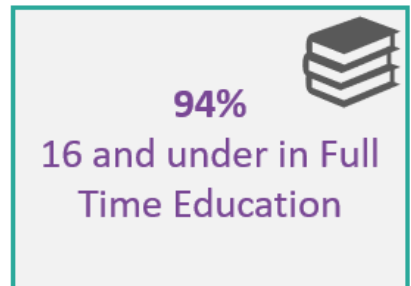
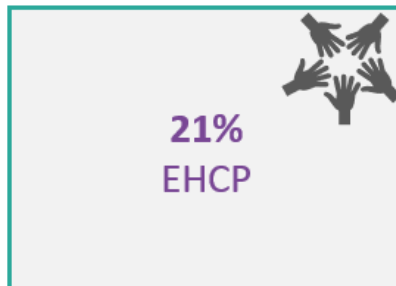
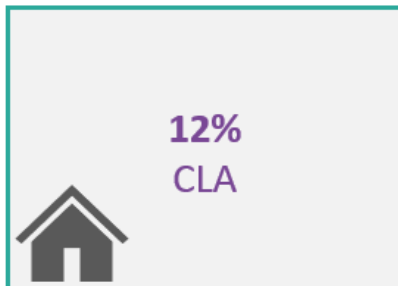
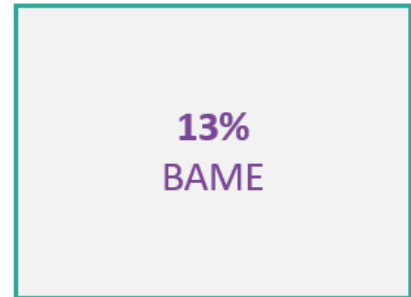
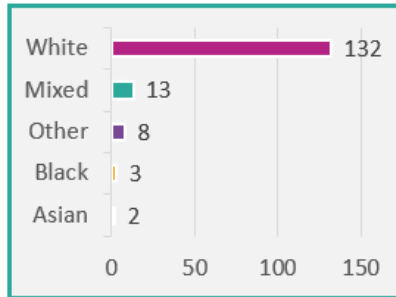
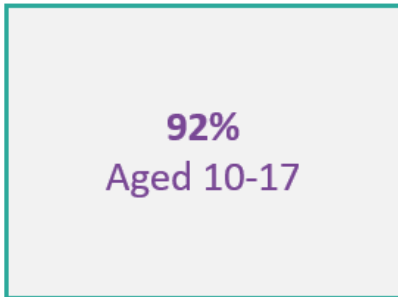
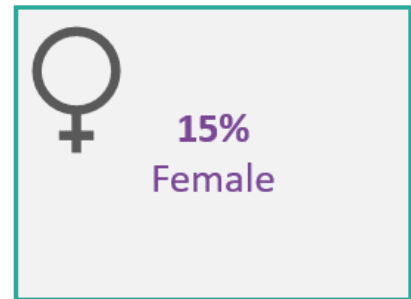
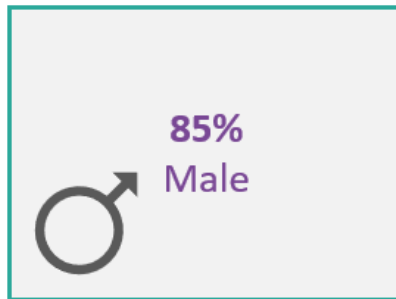
review and guidance to address the national situation, and the 'Police, Crime, Courts and Sentencing Act 2022' set out clear legislative guidelines to court and partners on the use of remand and the steps that need to be taken to reduce the numbers. Stockport's Youth Justice Head of Service sits on the national Remand Working Group, led by MoJ, and Greater Manchester have also agreed to act as a pilot to for a GM remand Pilot, which has attracted additional funding from MoJ for programme management and evaluation. This will sit within Manchester City Council (MCC) and the Stockport Head of Youth Justice will lead this, together with an Assistant Director from MCC and the Manchester Head of Youth Justice.

Local Performance:

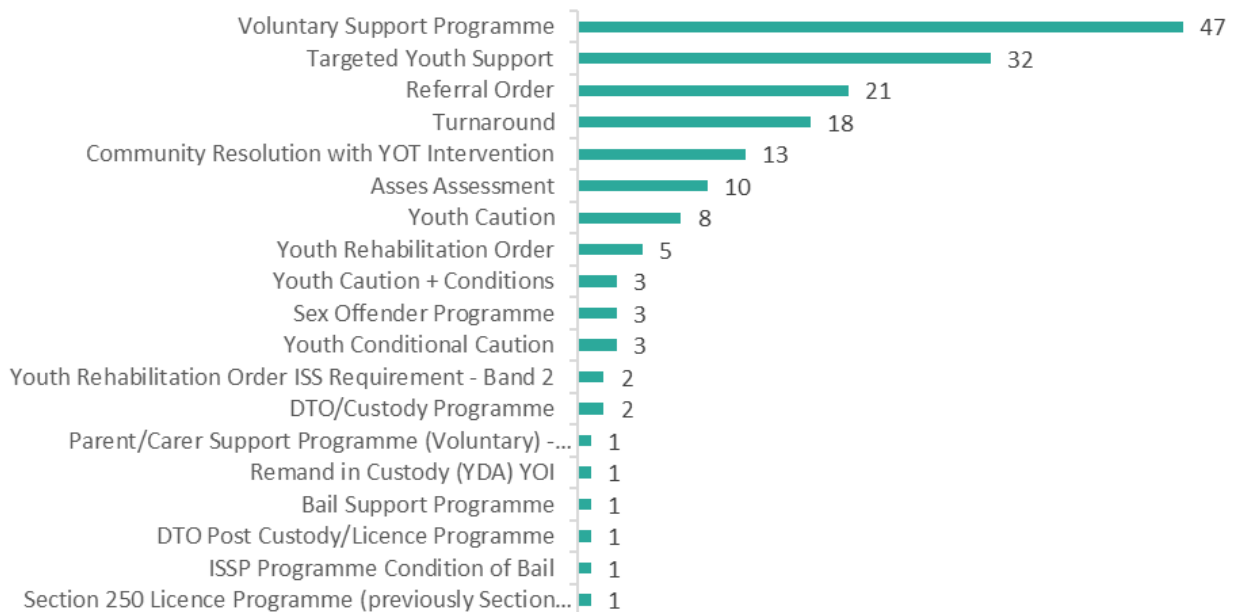
Caseload data: Performance data is collated and submitted quarterly through the YJB, made publicly available and published on a quarterly basis by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ). The graphs below set out some of the annualised information in relation to caseloads based on the ChildView Youth Justice Case Management System, which shows the initial drop off at the start of lockdown and then a gradual rise as the backlog starts to clear.



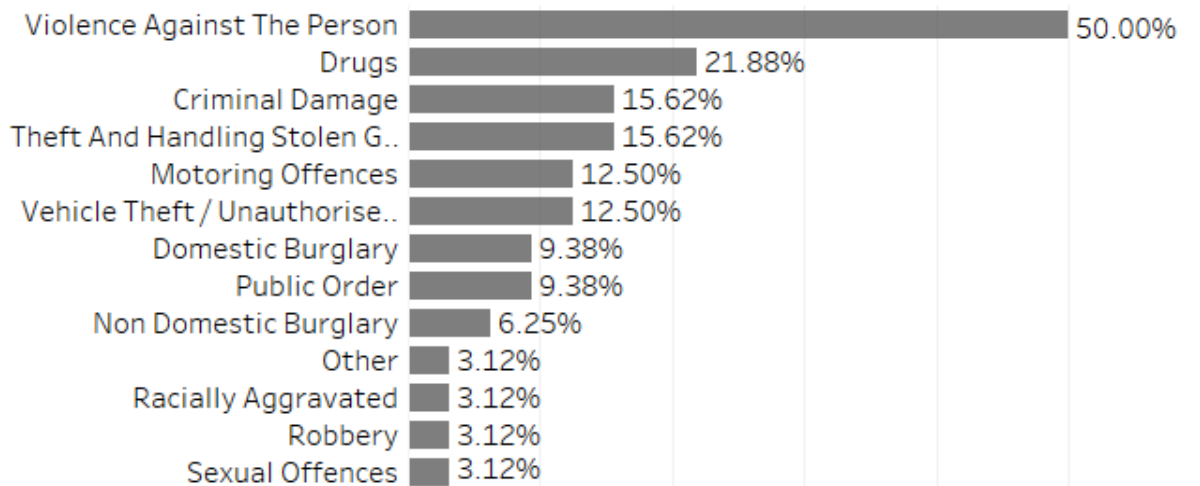
There has been a significant ongoing focus from the Youth Justice Partnership Board to put less emphasis on national data and instead focus more on local information, which allows us to be proactive and forward-looking when understanding the demographics of children known to the youth justice system in Stockport and across GM. SMBC Business Intelligence have created a Tableau Dashboard which provides a local analysis 'snapshot' based on the 'live' data of current caseloads. This gives significant amounts of information which gives assurance and challenge for the YJPB, and allows managers and practitioners to drill down into information at a case level, or at a wider geographical or thematic trends level.



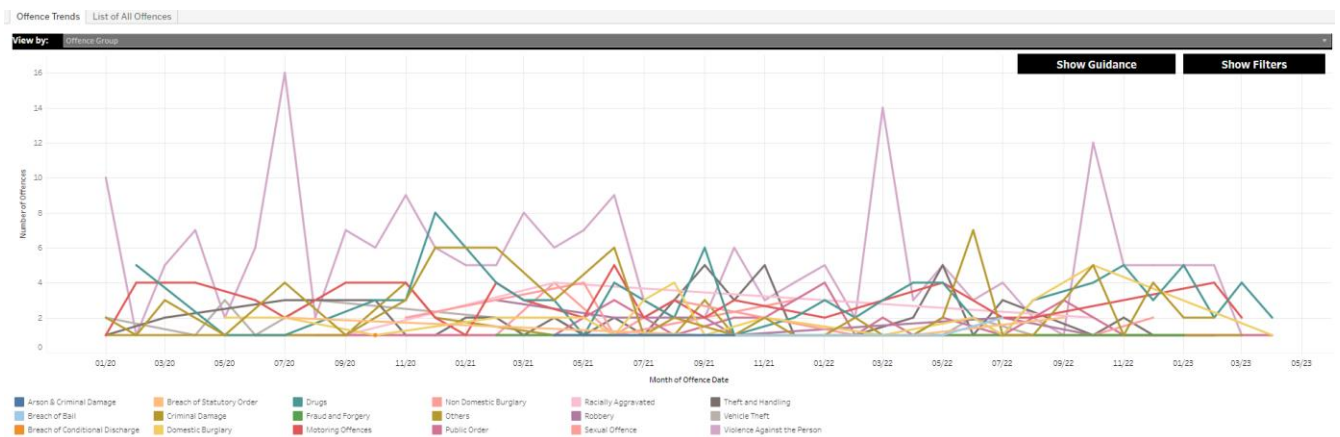
Open Interventions at 30th June 23



Open interventions, linked offences.



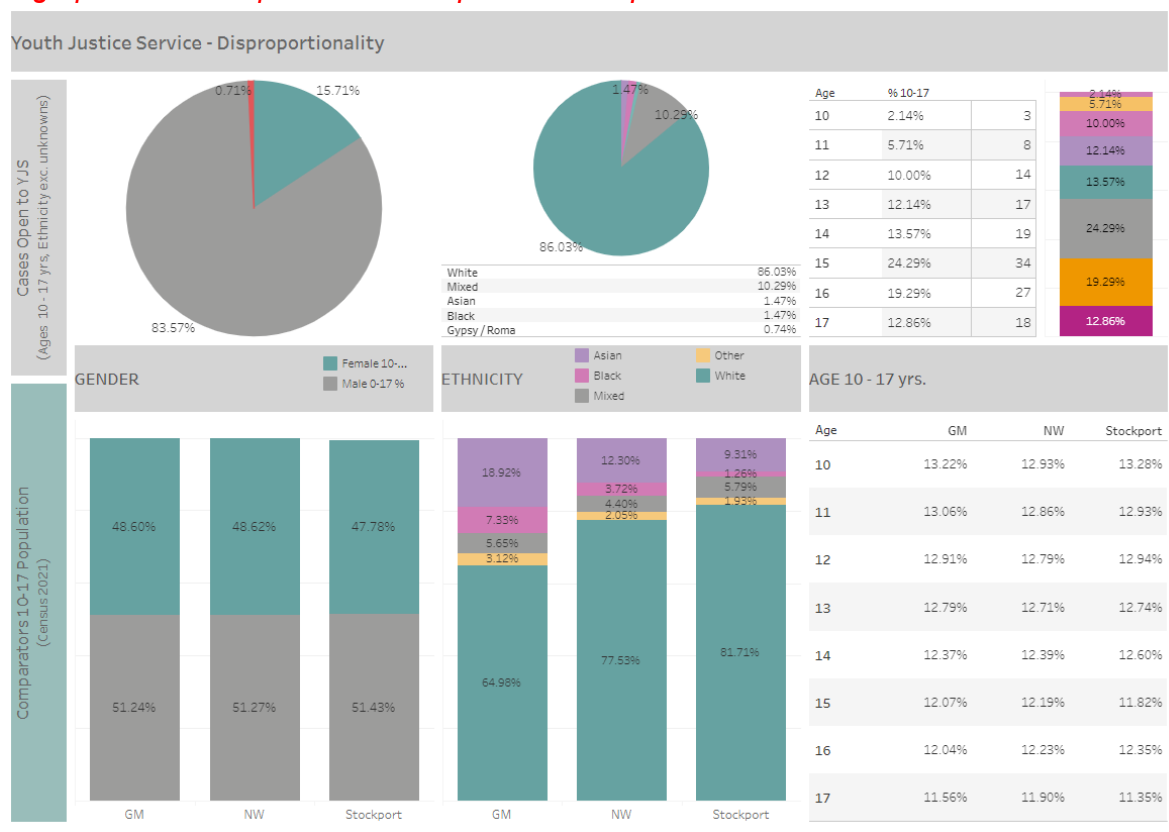
Summary Data from Main YOS Dashboard (snapshot June 2023)



Section 10: Priorities

Children from groups that are over-represented:

Demographics of Stockport's 10-17 Population Compared to GM & the North West



The local Youth Justice Tableau Dashboard collates data to ensure that we are able to monitor children within the system who are overrepresented. The Youth Justice Partnership Board have reviewed this year's priorities as a partnership 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

Business Intelligence are working with the Virtual School to automate the data relating to exclusions and attendance and a report presented to the YJPB in June 2023. The new MoJ KPI's being introduced from 2023 (and monitored by the YJB) will enable significant oversight for a number of new areas.

The Youth Justice Partnership Board has a focus on addressing diversity and disproportionality. It reviewed and approved a Diversity & Disproportionality Policy and an Action Plan which is reviewed at board meetings regularly. Monitoring has identified that, based on published data available for the 10–17-year age range, the children known to the service are generally of comparable age and gender to those in Greater Manchester and the North West. However, ethnicity varies, with vastly different ethnic profiles for each Greater Manchester authority. The latest 2023 data shows that overrepresented groups include; mixed ethnicity; males and young people aged 15.

The Youth Justice Service created several training webinars on diversity and staff have completed the YJS 'Unconscious Bias' training. After the tragic death of George Floyd, 'Black Lives Matter' training has been rolled out across the authority. BLM and wider disproportionality awareness around racism, identity and sexuality has changed the way that practice staff work with children, as they now feel more confident in asking questions and trying to engage children in conversations about their heritage, diversity and 'lived experience'.

The Diversity and Participation Group held on a quarterly basis enables space for practitioners to reflect on the over-represented groups in the service and how to address this. This group has included guest speakers from GMP, Mind of My Own and the SMBC Equality and Inclusion Service to ensure they are aware of other services and the support that can be offered. Staff are encouraged to share any initiatives to respond to over representation. Recent positive discussions have been held regarding understanding young people's experiences of 'Stop and Search' and ensuring that feedback is provided to key partners, including a single point of contact within Greater Manchester Police. The Diversity and Disproportionality policy and Action Plan is shared within this group, and with the wider staff team to ensure that there is opportunity to comment, collaborate and share their views.



Targeted Youth Support worked with 'Show Racism the Red Card' (SRtRC) to deliver Hate Crime workshops. From September 2021 to April 2022 the workshop was delivered to 510 students over 20 sessions in 8 educational establishments. For academic year 2022/2023, we continued working with SRtRC and they have been delivering in schools since the start of the academic year. These sessions have been entirely supported by SRtRC staff. SRtRC has continued to be very well received and was delivered in 9 educational establishments across Stockport from September 2022 – April 2023.

Prevention:

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. TYS is a short intervention, up to 3 months, which focuses on specific types of behaviour and offers interventions to children, young people, families and within schools. Intervention is 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.

Schools, Colleges & Education programmes delivered through TYS within the school environment offering a range of interventions from knife crime awareness through to hate crime workshops, crime prevention and education about Online Harm. Over the past year the TYS team have delivered school sessions to 7,008 pupils across the borough. The sessions are mainly aimed at Years 5/6/7 at the prevention end of interventions and to support young people in the transition to secondary school.

We aim to deliver sessions based around the highest level of concerns that schools identify, which is reflected in significant number of knife crime, hate crime and e-safety/on-line harm sessions that are delivered within schools by the Targeted Youth Support Team.

Community Projects and Activities offer 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, 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.

In addition to the existing community football foundation programmes, we added an extra football session to our portfolio on the back of the UEFA Women's Euro 2022 competition and a recognition that young people who identify as female needed a separate session from the boys. Stockport County Community Trust set up a weekly session in November 2022 and are running from one of our local schools with 30 – 40 school age girls attending.

Early Intervention Support offers a bespoke package through Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support providing up to 12 months of intervention to children and young people, which, following an assessment, seeks to ensure effective interventions are put in place that will deter them from escalating into statutory services.

Case Study:

Child A is a 15-year-old girl who was referred to the service in April 2022 due to becoming involved in ASB with her younger brother and others. She had not been known to the Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service previously and following screening was allocated as an 'Early Intervention' case rather than 'Targeted Youth Support' due to her level of need, as this gives a longer more bespoke period of intervention.

A is not in education full time, she has a history of going missing from home, a poor relationship with her mother and her father is currently in a hostel following periods of time in a substance misuse rehabilitation facility. She formed a very good connection with her case manager who was able to support A to attend TYS activities and due to her interest in the media she has attended a 12-week programme with a local radio station, Unity Radio. Her case manager works closely with children's social care to support A to reduce her missing from home episodes, engagement at school and build her relationship with her parents.

Detached Youth Work/RTime:

The Detached Youth Work offer became operational in October 2021 and is an expanded development to the existing Targeted Youth Support offer. The Detached Youth Work teams work within communities, to enable Youth Workers to actively engage and work with children and young people, including those that are involved in anti-social behaviour, organised crime, 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.

The youth work programme is called 'RTime', a name chosen by children and young people and representing an amalgamation of workers employed by Stockport Council, Life Leisure, Stockport Homes, voluntary sector organisations, all working together and with local community members to deliver youth work within communities. This ensures that the focus remain on 'youth work' and positive interventions, rather than who you are employed by. Funded predominantly through SMBC Positive Investment funding, the 'RTime' National Lottery grant and the Home Office 'Safer Streets' programme, these posts are employed to work at peak times, including evenings and weekends, to ensure the most effective level of engagement with young people. There are other VCS youth groups who have continued to work with the wider RTime programme to provide complementary sessions to ensure that activities are co-ordinated, and they are not working in isolation or duplicating existing provision.

The Detached Youth Work Team currently consists of a Senior Practitioner, 2 F/T and 2 P/T youth workers, plus additional resources through Stockport Homes and Life Leisure. It continues to operate under the 'RTime' banner as this is an established approach in Stockport which is recognised by the young people of the borough and seen as a partnership approach. 2 full-time staff have now completed a Level 3 Youth & Community qualification.

Stockport successfully bid for 'Safer Streets' funding and was awarded additional funding in 2022/23 which has meant we are able to recruit to extra Youth Workers and sessional staff to deliver enhanced activities. The focus for this project was a specific area of Stockport

with high levels of ASB. We were able to deliver extra youth sessions, a social action project, support a 3rd sector organisation to set up a youth club and fund an RTime football session.

Currently 8 evening sessions are being delivered per week focusing on high ASB areas – Brinnington, Edgeley, Bridgehall, Adswold, Swythamley, Offerton and Lancashire Hill. In addition to the existing TYS provision, the Detached Youth Work Team are also operating in 2 schools per week which are located in their areas of delivery. Over the past 6 months there have been 1,704 young people who have attended these sessions.

Priority areas are identified through the ‘Youth Disorder Panels’ where concerns are discussed and ASB is highlighted. Also, through the YJS RTime Youth Network when an issue is identified which requires a detached approach, and where other 3rd Sector and VCS organisations are not able to deliver, sessions have been set up. For example, we reported last year that in Lancashire Hill the older group that the Detached Youth Work Team are now working with had caused some difficulties with the younger established group who attend the Community Hub. As a result, parents were reluctant to allow their children to attend, so it was agreed to provide a detached approach with the older teenagers, which is now attended by between 10 and 15 young people on a regular basis. This has now become an established session.

The numbers of young people engaging in sessions can range between 40 and 50 young people of different ages. The sessions in Brinnington have developed into an established youth group, playing football combined with detached work. The DYW team have recently undertaken a contextual exercise in Brinnington to establish where and what further sessions we need to develop in the area. Feedback from young people indicates that they would like more sports-based sessions and have ‘locals’ delivering the work. Most of the team are Stockport-based residents and work with the BYouth Team, who are now supporting our Monday night session and will support future sessions. The local community and other partners have indicated that they would like the team to have a higher profile and be more visible, therefore we have developed a communication plan to enable this to happen, for example, putting posters in local facilities with photographs and names of the team members, amongst other ideas. This approach will be replicated in the other areas where the RTime operate.

Through the RTime approach we host a 6 weekly Youth Network. Meetings are held with VCSE organisations who provide a youth and community work approach to facilitate joint working where necessary. Recently we have supported a new youth club in Brinnington which is run by local parents who are youth work trained. They have been provided them with advice, guidance and training on policies, safeguarding approaches and behaviour management. This has been supported by additional staffing whilst they became more established. BYouth are now part of the RTime network, which has enabled them to develop a relationship with Groundwork Trust who are now supporting the Social Action Project funded through Safer Streets

The Youth Justice Service/Life Leisure & Stockport Homes Group have jointly secured a 3rd National Lottery bid to enhance the Youth Network. This enables development of a Stockport career-based pathway for youth workers and to support holiday provision for the Detached Youth Work Team. Stockport College have agreed to deliver the Level 3 Youth Work certificate from September 2023, which network members can access, also organisations have agreed to provide placements for students on the course who are not currently employed in the youth work field. The portion of the bid dedicated to enhancing the network will be allocated based on consultation and feedback from young people who

attend the sessions. The feedback for this first year is around having access to a dedicated network bid writer and young people have indicated that they would like to be involved and hold a youth celebration event.

Diversion

Out of Court Disposals:

Stockport Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support Service is committed to working with partners across the Borough to continue to develop an integrated diversion offer to families and children. There is an established diversion offer to prevent young people from entering the formal youth justice system and receiving a criminal conviction.

Out of Court Diversion Pathway:

Police will screen referrals as per GM OOCDC guidance to ensure appropriate and send to YJS Police Officer. Only young people with an open crime, who have made admissions in interview and no disposal has yet been administered are referred for OOCDC consideration.

Out of Court Diversion Panel:

The YJS Team Leader with lead responsibility for Diversion and the Out of Court process holds a weekly 'Diversion Panel' with YJS Police Officers, Education, Health, Remedi Victim Support, Remedi Mentoring & relevant partner agencies. The Police bring cases to be considered for diversion pathway. These cases are discussed with consideration of young person/family voice and whether other agencies are already involved within children's services. These cases are assessed using the nationally approved Pre-Court Assessment tool prior to decision at Panel. This ensures all areas linked to a young person's risk, desistance, safety & wellbeing, and harm to others are analysed at the earliest opportunity to prevent further involvement in criminal justice. Consideration is given to reducing duplication of work between partners, and the internal referral pathway is also open to children services, if intervention is required from YJS. Relevant case management systems for YJS, Police and Childrens Services systems are updated with content of discussion.

A local scrutiny function has been in place with GMP to review select cases to ensure that the correct processes have been followed and the right outcome achieved. There is also a GM OOCDC Scrutiny Panel which reviews cases on a quarterly basis from across Greater Manchester, and this year 'extraordinary' panels have been held looking at specific areas such as knife crime.

Case Studies:

Child B:

Child B was allocated a YJS officer for an Out of Court Disposal. This young person was a Child Looked After and experienced a number of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) and was undergoing medical assessments for undiagnosed eating disorders. Case B was initially diverted to the MVOP Panel (Mentally Vulnerable Offenders Panel) who deemed it suitable for an OOCDC to be administered. Several multi-agency meetings were arranged by the Youth Justice Officer and Team Leader, Social Worker, Care Staff and Psychologist, which ensured that there was a thorough understanding of the young person and the best

methods for the YJ Officer to build a relationship as Child B had experienced several placements moves in a short period of time.

It was assessed that Child B would benefit from having a mentor in place, and she was allocated a Remedi Mentor based within the Youth Justice Service. Prior to the mentoring support this young person had lots of Missing From Home episodes and anger issues which would result in the police being called on an almost weekly basis.

Over the 12-week programme Child B flourished and self-developed by having the support of a mentor and a case manager from the YJS. They also engage in Restorative Justice sessions with care staff and police. During the closing evaluation Child B said, "I have realised that there are people out there who want to listen, such as my mentor and YJS officer. It's allowed me to feel heard and to feel like my opinions and views are important and do matter. They have given me ways to understand myself which from the start has been very important to me."

Child B has the skills and knowledge they need to not reoffend in the future and has a great support system within the care home staff. She has a very positive outlook on life and has many aspirations for her future. One of which involves her wanting to become a Police officer herself.

Child C:

Child C was originally allocated for a court pre-sentence report for a knife offence and criminal damage. He had a diagnosis of autism and on the waiting list to be assessed for ADHD. He has had ongoing difficulties with his mental health during his adolescence.

When Child C met with his Youth Justice Officer, it turned out that he was not living with his parents because they weren't getting along, but did not have anywhere else safe to stay. Child C said he was mostly sofa-surfing but was sometimes sleeping rough. He was struggling with his mental health, and his substance use had increased because of this. Child C contacted his youth justice officer to and reported he had recently taken an overdose. The YJ officer supported his girlfriend, who was a trusted relationship, to help him access medical care and referred him to Children's Social Care. The social worker was able to get Child C accommodated under S20 and make sure he had somewhere safe to live.

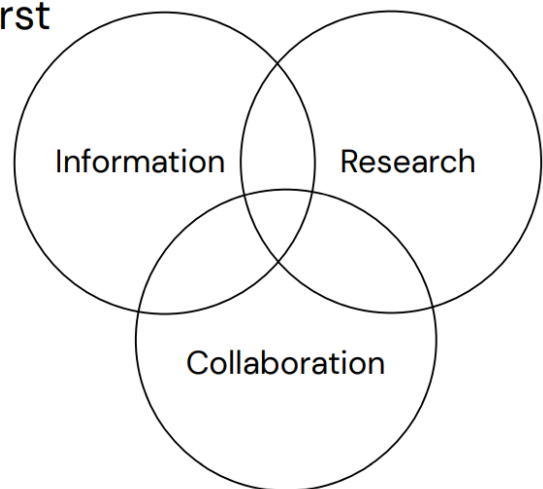
Child C's case came before the Out of Court Diversion Panel as the CPS (Crown Prosecution Service) felt that given his vulnerabilities and the worries about his mental health it would be better for him than receiving a court outcome, and also this was the first time Child C had got into trouble with the police. The panel agreed to a 'Youth Conditional Caution' (YCC). Whilst on the YCC Child C was supported to access CAMHS appointments alongside the caution and youth justice referred him to his local drug and alcohol service. He also completed several weapons awareness sessions, and the youth justice officer who delivered these was impressed with his level of engagement and discussion about the issue.

At the end of the YCC Child C felt his mental health was much better, he was no longer using substances. There were no concerns about offending and he was spending time with positive peers. With multi-agency working he also had a plan for after he turned 18 and was rebuilding his relationship with his family.

PPIED: Prevention (through) Prosecution, Intervention, Education & Diversion:

Pilots have been operating in some police divisions in Greater Manchester, to review cases where they wouldn't ordinarily proceed because 'the victim doesn't support' or they are 'not in the public interest'. PPIED is aimed at purposeful and proportional action plans with clear links to desistance and with the aim of diverting into universal services. Stockport will implement a PPIED arrangements and this will complement 'Turnaround' a MoJ grant made available this year for early intervention cases.

- 01 **Ensure** every child in Greater Manchester that is named as a suspect is treated as a child first and suspect second.
- 02 **Promote** a trauma responsive approach to offer enhanced support for children and families.
- 03 **Reduce** harm and prevent the likelihood of re-offending.



Education

Inclusion is a key corporate priority for Stockport local authority and work is being done throughout Stockport Family and education partners to use trauma-informed practice to reduce suspensions and exclusions for all children in schools across the local authority.

Education was highlighted as an area for development through the HMIP Inspection and forms part of the action plan as set out later in the plan. Education is represented on the Youth Justice Partnership Board. Work is currently in progress between Youth Justice and Virtual School to monitor the education for those young people open to Youth Justice, including attendance and exclusion data. We have recently seen an increase of young people being referred into the Youth Justice Service with an EHCP and this is an area to strengthen around links with SEN colleagues to ensure that the right service is in place to support these young people and their families.

Sometimes the very reason a young person is involved with the youth justice service may have manifested in school, a specific example of this might be around substance misuse where schools feel unable to avoid consequences as set out by the DfE, such as suspensions or exclusion to protect other children and young people. This then removes the protective factors that schools offer.

Children and young people who are involved with the YJS are vulnerable young people who are less likely to thrive by being out of an educational setting; both for their own personal educational attainment leading to better outcomes, the social aspects that schools offer and the safeguarding risks that have the potential for exploitation.

Practitioners in the YJS work closely with school colleagues and they are supported by a robust and broad offer under Stockport Family including the social work teams, Virtual School, Education Welfare Service and Inclusion Service. Examples of the kind of support these teams may offer are Educational Psychology advice, SEND advice, commissioning tutoring to fill in an educational gap, commissioning mentors or using various programmes of engagement activities via the Virtual School or the PRU. Stockport PRU (Highfields) has a worker linked to them from the YJS and the PRU is a key player in training and supporting schools with their trauma informed practice. Youth Justice Practitioners also link in with the Team around the School process to identify young people who may benefit from our service.

Restorative Approaches and Victims

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 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 1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023 102 victims were contacted through the Youth Justice Service. Of these, 65 victims responded, and of these 61 victims agreed to engaging with the Restorative Justice process either indirectly or directly, giving an 94% engagement rate. The Restorative Justice Practitioner (Victim Officer) completed 10 direct and 122 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 73 victim awareness sessions with young people were undertaken and 4 primary school victim awareness sessions to groups of Year 6 pupils (129 pupils total).

At the end of each intervention, we ask both parties to fill in an evaluation form:

- 97% of victims were satisfied with the overall process of RJ.
- 86% of victims felt the RJ had increased their well-being.

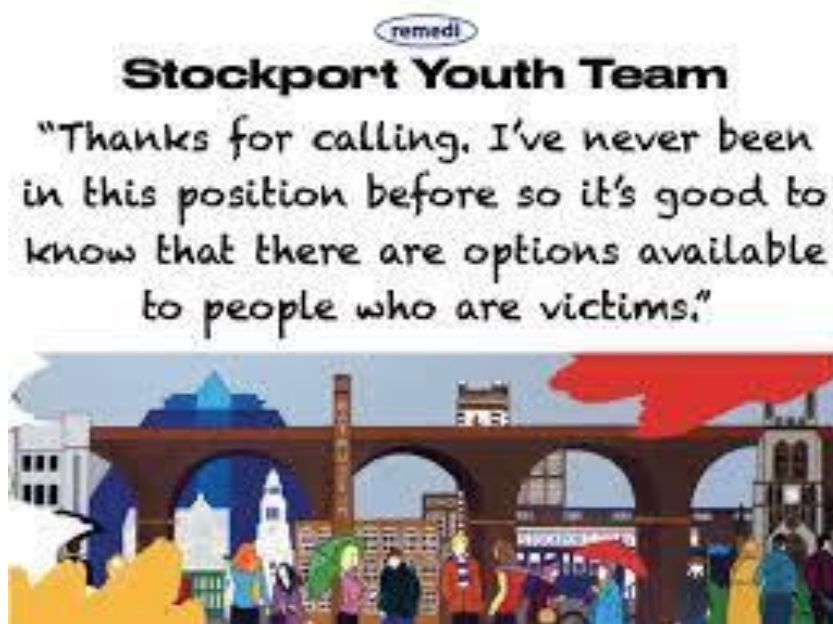
- 87% of victims felt RJ improved their satisfaction with the justice system.
- 99% of young people that took part in RJ were satisfied with the overall process.
- 72% of young people said it had increased their motivation to not re-offend

Case Study: (Victim input)

Child D

The Remedi Victim Worker completed a piece of work with Child D who had an offence of assaulting an emergency worker. The Youth Justice Police Officer was approached to complete victim awareness with Child D and they agreed to speaking to the police officer to come into a session. Child D was able to share their experiences of police and how the treatment they had received had impacted them. The police officer was able to share their experience of responding to incidents. The session was positive, and Child D felt that the officer understood, and that nobody had listened to them before about being discriminated against by the police. Child D reported feeling listened to and as though their voice had been heard and now wants to join the police force.

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.



Young people are seen for their appointment at our central Stockport base in Central House, and as part of the participatory work that is undertaken, joint work also takes place through the commissioned service provided by Remedi.

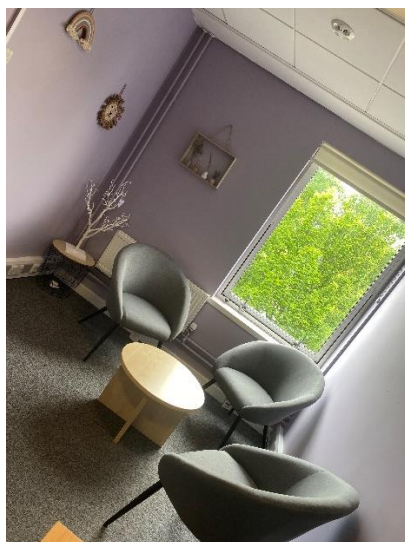
Case Study (Reparation):

Decorating Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support Rooms

A key reparation project that has taken place in 2023 is the completion of decorating the Youth Justice meeting rooms. This has included consulting the young people regarding the rooms and ensuring that their voice is heard when creating these spaces.

During reparation sessions the Restorative Justice Worker and the young people helped to choose the colours of the rooms and picked the furniture. Over 6 weeks they prepared the rooms and started painting, these sessions went really well and all the young people involved really enjoyed this project. Some young people commented on how this had sparked an interest in painting and decorating.

Each room took two coats of paint so it took 4 sessions to complete the painting then a further session was completed to put the furniture together and another to put up the posters and accessories. A further session included visiting a local craft shop and a 'Goals Tree' for young people accessing the service. Other young people created posters during reparation and these have been displayed in the meeting rooms. See transformation below:



Serious Violence

This represents a large area of work for the Youth Justice Service and the Youth Justice Partnership Board ensure they have continued focus and oversight.

Serious Violence Reduction: The ‘Serious Violence Duty’ became law in Jan 2023, as part of the Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Act 2022 (‘the PCSC Act’). The planned commencement of the Serious Violence Duty was planned for 2023, Youth Justice and Targeted Youth Support are active partners in collating relevant data and ensuring responses to this, which will culminate in a ‘Strategic Needs Assessment’ for the borough by January 2024.

Stockport Youth Justice continue to deliver a comprehensive programme of violence reduction, which includes a borough-wide educative approach to **Knife & Weapon-related Crime**. In collaboration with GMP we 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 in 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 thousands of children have received the briefing across Stockport in class size groups. This programme continues to be rolled out and the numbers have continued to increase. From 1st March 2022 – July 2023 this programme was delivered to 5,181 young people in over 195 sessions in a total of 30 schools and educational establishments.

Child Exploitation



The Complex Safeguarding Board in Stockport reports directly through the Safeguarding Executive Partnership and ensure that Stockport Family and its partners continue to have an enhanced focus on Child Exploitation, particularly Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE), as the numbers of children being identified and referred through have increased. <http://www.safeguardingchildreninstockport.org.uk>

The Youth Justice Service work very closely with Aspire Complex Safeguarding, and GMP Phoenix. Daily Governance Meetings are held where any cases of concern are discussed through a multi-agency setting at the earliest opportunity. This includes attendance from a Youth Justice Team Leader, Complex Safeguarding Team Leader and the Challenger Police Team. The number of NRM's (National Referral Mechanisms) have increased significantly this year as the knowledge, our understanding and increased awareness of complex cases, criminal exploitation and contextual safeguarding is enhanced.

Serious Incidents are monitored closely and there are clear processes in place to ensure this are monitored and lessons learnt. In 2022/23 the Youth Justice Service tragically reported on the deaths of 2 children in separate incidents, both of whom were known to the service, associated grave crimes were also committed by children under our supervision. These were reported through Safeguarding Partnership 'Rapid Review' process and are both the subject of ongoing Child safeguarding Practice Reviews. The findings of these will be reported through to the Youth Justice Partnership Board, and practitioners' events will be facilitated to embed the learning.

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. Protocols are in place at a GM level 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.

Since the start of 2023 Stockport Family received funding from GMCA to become a pilot area, along with Tameside and Trafford to implement an ‘Adolescent Safeguarding Framework’ with some initial centralised support. <https://gmvruc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/GM-adolescent-framework-Final-1.pdf>

Locally it has been agreed that the Complex Safeguarding work will move and merge with the current Youth Justice provision to become the Youth Justice & complex safeguarding Service, this will take place from autumn 2023. This will bring Stockport in line with other GM authorities who have developed their ‘Adolescent Offer’ along similar lines and the services have merged in recognition of the level of complexity that these services are working with, and the fact that many of the children cross both services. This will also mean that the Missing From home function will sit within the same merged service.

Within this work there are a number of workstreams to ensure the strategic alignment of Youth Justice and Complex Safeguarding. This work will develop over the next three years and will support the early identification of young people at risk of exploitation, embed a trauma-responsive workforce and look at an alternative Child Protection framework for those young people who need safeguarding from extra-familial harm.

Six underpinning principles for the Framework

The six practice principles

Tailored support recognising adolescents are not a homogenous group	Strengths-based approach where young leaders also develop peer-to-peer actions	Practice which is non-judgmental, trauma-informed and restorative
Key workers will be relational, persistent and consistent for adolescents	Adolescents have agency and decision-making power on the support they would like and when	The role of parents and carers is valued and they are supported to improve young people’s wellbeing.

Collectively the six practice principles aim to inform a shared approach for all professionals. Detail on each of these principles is included in accompanying practice guidance.



Detention in Police Custody

The focus on children in police custody has remained a constant priority area across GM, as part of the GM Youth Justice Delivery Plan, and this year it has received even more oversight following the HMICFRS inspection of GMP Police Custody <https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/publication-html/report-on-an-inspection-visit-to-police-custody-suites-in-greater-manchester-2022/> which identified a number of areas for concern and made recommendations which included arrangements for children who are detained. As a result, a multi-agency pilot on 'children in police custody' is taking place in Stockport focused on Cheadle Heath Custody Suite, which seeks to understand the 'as is' situation post-Covid and the areas that partners are able to develop to improve outcomes for children. This will be co-chaired by a Superintendent from GMP's Criminal Justice & Custody Branch and the Head of Youth Justice for Stockport (who is also the GM YJ lead for Children in Police Custody).

GMCA have held a recent multi-agency roundtable, chaired by the GM Deputy Mayor and GM PCC (Police & Crime Commissioner). This focused on children 'arrest to custody'. Other roundtables are in the pipeline that plot a child's journey through the criminal justice route.

Stockport are the lead framework authority for the GM Appropriate Adult Service (for children and adults), to ensure that AA's are available in the custody suite for all children (as required by PACE 1984) and vulnerable adults. This year the existing contract was up for renewal and went out for national tender, the successful contract went to Child Action Northwest, who were the previous providers.

The numbers of children going through police custody have increased over the past 18 months, due in part to the arrest rate increase as part of GMP's new directive. We are monitoring the situation carefully and have noted that a number of these additional cases are being dealt with through early intervention (such as Turnaround and OOC), rather than increased numbers in the courts.

Remands (court)

The number of remand episodes for Stockport this year remained low, but the length of time on remand has been for prolonged periods, and this has been for significant and very grave crimes. The numbers of children from Stockport sentenced or remanded in the custodial estate continues to be one of the lowest in GM. The tables and data relating to the use of custody are covered in the performance section of this plan.

Under the PCSC Act 2022 the threshold for court remands places additional demands on the court to justify the use of remand. Greater Manchester have also agreed to act as a pilot to for a GM Remand Pilot over a 2-year period, which has attracted additional funding from MoJ for programme management and evaluation. This will mean that the remand grant is pooled to enable centralised oversight. This will sit within Manchester City Council (MCC) but remands a GM project. The Stockport Head of Youth Justice will lead this, together with an Assistant Director from MCC and the Manchester Head of Youth Justice.

Use of Custody (post-court)

The main custodial institution that young people receiving a custodial sentence or remand are sent to is HMYOI Wetherby (although some children are also placed in Secure Children's Homes). 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.

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 Children's Home (SCH's) and Secure Training Centres (STC's) at various locations across England and Wales. Young people entering these facilities are given the same level of supervision from the home YJS as those within the YOI estate. According to the *HMIP report (Feb 2023) the options for custody for children in England & Wales is:

- **Young Offender Institution (YOI):** there are currently four YOIs in England and one in Wales. Cookham Wood, Werrington and Wetherby are for boys under 18 years of age. Wetherby has a specialist unit, Keppel, for vulnerable children with complex needs. Feltham and Parc are for children and adults, although children are kept on separate units. In 2020/2021, 73 per cent of those in youth custody were in a YOI.
- **Secure Training Centre (STC):** there is currently one STC operating nationally, Oakhill, which is in Milton Keynes. STCs are smaller, purpose-built establishments designed to accommodate between 60 and 80 boys and girls aged 12 to 17. In 2020/2021, 17 per cent of those in youth custody were in an STC.

- **Secure Children's Home (SCH):** there are currently eight SCHs in England and Wales that detain children on justice grounds.² These are designed to accommodate children aged between 10 and 17 who are assessed as vulnerable. In 2020/2021, 10 per cent of those in youth custody were in an SCH.

The adult prison population is a crisis point with significant overcrowding, therefore in late 2022, an expedited decision was taken by MoJ to keep 18-year-olds within the Youth Secure Estate, instead of transitioning them to the Adult Estate. This has meant that the numbers of 18-year-old young adults in the youth estate already account for over a quarter of the total estate and the numbers are rising. It is unclear at this stage when this decision will be reversed and is likely to be a longer-term solution than originally anticipated.

Constructive Resettlement (post-custody)

Resettlement of children from custody is a statutory responsibility of local authorities and is carried out in partnership with agencies including Police, National Probation Service, Health, the Youth Custody Service and local partnerships arrangements, such as Housing, local employers and third sector agencies.

The GM Resettlement Consortium 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 have continued to receive briefings this year on the consortia and the GM Resettlement Framework, as well as approving the local Resettlement Strategy.

Stockport have set up a Custody and Resettlement panel where all young people (including Care Leavers) are reviewed to ensure that custody was the only viable option. The purpose of this panel is also to focus on the legal status of the young person and look at the potential risks factors and how these will be addressed during the custodial phase. A clear plan of what needs to happen during this phase will be formulated and this will include the role for Children's Social Care and Complex Safeguarding. By strengthening the delivery of services whilst the young person is in custody this will also impact on the likelihood of a more successful resettlement. The panel will be chaired by an Independent Chair from the Children's Safeguarding Unit who will be able to provide strategic oversight and ensure a level of challenge. It will also include the following membership.

- Children's Social Care
- Adult Social Care
- GMP
- Health
- Leaving Care
- Youth Justice
- Virtual Schools/Colleges
- Legal
- IRO
- Probation

- Adult/Childrens Safeguarding Board rep
- Stockport Homes
- YOI/STC/SCH Representative

At the point of the initial panel a scheduled meeting to discuss Resettlement will be arranged. This will ensure that the recommendations for the custodial phase were implemented and also consider the plan for release to ensure that all elements are addressed and plans around housing, education and health needs are all in place.

*In Feb 2023 HMI Probation published their HMIP 'Resettlement Effective Practice Guide' which offers a range of useful tools for regional 'Resettlement Consortiums', youth justice partnerships, senior leaders, managers, and practitioners to refer to enable effective resettlement.

<https://www.justiceinspectrates.gov.uk/hmiprobation/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2023/02/Resettlement-EP-v1.3.pdf>

Section 11: Workforce Development

Stockport Youth Justice & Targeted Youth Support continue to be funded through a range of different grants, which bring new funding into the service streams, but also new demands based on emerging priorities, both local, regional and national. The following are examples of grants and funding streams that have been made available in 2022/23.

- In 2021 we developed the Detached Youth Work Team, initially funded through **SMBC Positive Investment Funding** and then awarded onward investment through 'Safer Streets' funding. This funding is due to end during 2023, so sustainability options are being explored.
- Another successful RTime bid through the **National Lottery** has brought additional funding for Youth Work, but the operational model and requirements of the grant are focused on networks and training rather than wholly on frontline delivery.
- In late 2022 national funding was made available to youth justice services nationally through the **MoJ 'Turnaround' programme**, to work with children and their families post-arrest and often pre-charge (as covered in more detail within this plan).
- GMCA have confirmed multi-year funding to 2026 for **GMCA EIPG (Early Intervention & Prevention Grant)** for youth justice partnerships to focus children who are RUI (Released Under Investigation) or NFA (No Further action) post-arrest.
- The requirements of the **Serious Violence Duty (SVD)**, a legislative duty brought in under the Police Crime, Sentencing and Court Act 2022, brings a small pot of additional funding to complement the **GM VRU (Violence Reduction Unit)** funding to reduce serious violence reduction, focus mainly on programme management and positive interventions.
- GMCA, through the roll-out of the **GM 'Adolescent Safeguarding Framework'**, chose 3 GM authorities, one of which was Stockport, to pilot the model, with some initial GMCA support.

Whilst this additional funding is always welcomed, it does bring with it an onerous level of bureaucracy contained within a number of Terms and Conditions, which require separate audits for each grant and also quarterly returns. This is in addition to the existing funding streams that already exist, such as the YJB grants, that already demand a high level of performance management. Each of these grants also require different outcomes and therefore the demands to ensure that skilled staff are recruited, often short-term, to undertake these roles and also that existing staff are upskilled to expand their knowledge and current duties.

Stockport Youth Justice revised their Learning and Development Framework last year and that is supported by a comprehensive Training Matrix which sets out the appraisal, supervision, and training needs for the service. The matrix ensures that staff are offered the training and development they need to undertake their work, which includes new and emerging practice.

As part of the Learning and Development Framework to support ongoing development, training was commissioned in February 2023 to support case managers in completing effective contingency planning at the initial assessment stage. As a result, practice staff have gained confidence in assessing risk on the AssetPlus (the nationally accredited youth justice assessment tool).

Youth Justice Team Leaders complete QA's on monthly basis using a revised Audit Tool, giving better management oversight and identifying areas of need within timescales. These Audits help to identify areas of good practice, areas of improvement and give case managers the opportunity to review their own areas for development and consider which interventions will promote desistance.

Team Leaders also chair a weekly "Complex Cases" group, including partners from GMP and Probation, to ensure that all police intelligence and associations with transition cases and adult offenders is shared. There is clear evidence that case managers are now utilising the information from Police and Probation and incorporating this within the assessment to identify "risk" and assist them in building a better picture of associations, including Stop and Search procedures.

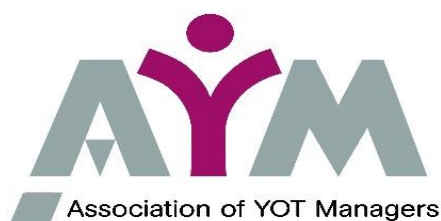
For those young people identified at risk, or experiencing child exploitation case managers attend the 'Staying Safe Panel'; cases are referred through the youth justice RMR (Risk Management Review) process to which partnership agencies are invited. Multiple links are in place with relevant professionals, particularly Social Care and Aspire Complex Safeguarding, to complete Phoenix assessments and NRM's (National Referral Mechanisms) thus ensuring safety and wellbeing is taken into consideration and acted upon. The RMR minutes are also uploaded to Liquid Logic (children's social care systems) and the intervention plans are now seen to include external controls such as Child Protection Plans, Staying Safe Panel actions, Missing From Home action plans and Phoenix Tools creating realistic multi-agency planning.

Stockport Youth Justice have an excellent staff retention record, and low levels of days lost to sickness. Staff are supported in their development; this ensures succession planning and supporting staff to pursue both academic and professional qualifications, which has seen staff undertaking Apprenticeship degrees, Youth Justice undergraduate degrees, Counselling courses, the YJ Professional Certificate in Effective Practice, Social Work Apprenticeships and a Master's degree. Lasts year we supported 2 Social Work students on their placements through trained Practice Educators who are based within the service, and we are reviewing the Level 5 youth justice accredited training courses. In addition, we are supporting our managers through the ILM Level 5 and the strategic ILM Level 7.

Section 12: Evidence-based practice and innovation

Stockport YJS continues to support the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Programme (YJSIP), which is a partnership between the Association of YOT Managers (AYM), the Youth Justice Sector and the Youth Justice Board (YJB). The 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 several local authority Youth Justice Partnerships and the programme has been subject to academic evaluation. Managers from Stockport Youth Justice Service have benefited from the Leadership Training offer, Coaching & Mentoring training, Operational Management oversight and Peer Review training and delivery. YJSIP delivered several Peer Reviews during 2022/23 and therefore is an equivalent programme planned for 2023/24, to include more Peer Reviews and an associated training programme.

The Stockport Youth Justice Head of Service is the AYM rep on the YJSIP Programme Board, and also the Chair of the National Association of YOT Managers (AYM).



Health & Wellbeing:

The Youth Justice Health & Wellbeing Team are an embedded service who offer a range of health interventions and undertake a health screening on all cases and undertake direct work with children. Their work was praised by HMIP when they inspected the service. The team continue to provide direct input to young people, families and the Youth Justice team focusing on trauma -informed practices. A 'Take 3' accredited parenting programme is currently running jointly between Youth Justice & Aspire Complex Safeguarding which focuses on trauma with those families whose children are being or have been exploited. The Youth Justice Health Team consists of:

- 0.4 Speech & Language Therapist
- 1 FTE Mental Health Practitioner
- 0.2 Psychologist
- 0.3 Parenting Nurse Specialist
- 0.2 School Nurse

Section 13: Service Development Plan

	Recommendation	Action	Date	Progress	RAG
1	<p>The Chair of the YJS Partnership Board should: Make sure that board members fully understand their roles and responsibilities and are proactive in holding each agency to account, to ensure YJS resources effectively meet the specific needs of YJS children.</p>	All new board members will engage in an induction to ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities and develop their knowledge of the specific needs of children known to the YJS.	Jan 23	All new members have received an Induction Pack (including Terms of Reference, Roles & Expectations and YJB Management Board Guidance) YJPB & YJS off-site Development Day held in Jan 2023. All Board members to be offered individual refreshers and induction throughout 2023	Green
		The Chair of the YJPB will arrange individual briefings with Board members	Jan 23	Meetings will be held with the Lead for Youth Justice in the absence of the Chair. Arrangements in place.	Green
		YJPB members to ensure they are proactive in holding each agency to account, to ensure YJS resources effectively meet the specific needs of YJS children.	Oct 23	To reiterate this point with YJPB members and review regularly at YJPB to ensure that contributions and resources are equitable, and YJPB members are accountable.	Yellow
2	<p>The YJS Partnership Board should: Review the capacity in the management structure to ensure effective management oversight is provided to all YJS cases.</p>	YJ Partnership Board to review leadership responsibilities and processes within YJS leadership team to ensure there is the right focus and capacity to provide effective QA and management oversight of case work.	Mar 23	MB3 post has been created as a Deputy post, approved, recruited and in post.	Green
3	<p>The YJS Partnership Board should: Ensure that current plans and discussions translate into effective arrangements to capture the views of children and families, so that their participation impacts on service delivery going forward.</p>	Update the YJPB on the agreed and revised arrangements for Participation.	Mar 23	Presented to April 2023 YJPB & SMBC Participation Group	Green
		Engage with the Borough wide plans for service user participation through the SMBC Participation group.	Nov 22	Stockport Family Youth Voice meetings held quarterly. YJS involved.	Green
		Participation Training to be delivered to the team. This is being sought by external agencies specialising in youth voice and participation.	Mar 23	'Leaders Unlocked' training delivered to practice staff in March 2023.	Green

		Devise plan to introduce and integrate a participation tool via XChange 'Mind of my Own' to increase the voice of the child throughout the service.	Mar 23	Digital participation provider 'Mind of My Own' approved and implemented. Shout Pro Surveys are now live. Xchange app currently being tested for YJ feedback.	
		YJS Participation and Diversity Group to review feedback from service users and include a "you said we did" agenda item.	Nov 22	YJS Diversity & Participation group meets every quarter. Links made with Corporate Diversity and wider SMBC Participation Forum. Feedback from Youth Forums and 'Mind of My Own' to be collated and considered through this forum for action and implementation.	

4	The YJS Partnership Board should: Ensure pathways are in place to facilitate YJS practitioners contributing at the earliest opportunity to the assessment and safety planning of children at risk of exploitation.	Review referral pathways for practitioners to be able to raise concerns regarding concerns re: young people at risk of exploitation at the earliest opportunity and for those cases that do not meet the Complex Safeguarding (Aspire) threshold	Oct 23	<p>Referral pathways reviewed through MASSH/CSC/Aspire & Youth Justice to ensure that all CCE cases are assessed and receive an intervention as required.</p> <p>Staying Safe Panel attended (and currently chaired) by YJ. Actions and joint planning embedded into assessments and reviews.</p> <p>Mapping exercise exploring young people connected to vehicle crime, to be revisited quarterly. To include cross-border activity and liaison with neighbouring authorities, which has been discussed and reviewed strategically cross-authorities.</p> <p>YJS are active members of multi-agency discussions around NRM submissions and contributing to the local development of a local NRM panel.</p> <p>Merger YJS/Complex Safeguarding in place and expected from oct 2. Actively leading on the GM Safeguarding Adolescent Framework.</p>	
		YJS will review their current mentoring pathway to ensure that there is an enhanced offer for young people on the periphery of exploitation to engage with.	Mar 23	Barnardo's YCS contract in place to support young people who are resettling out of custody. SLA for St Giles now in place and taking referrals.	

		Multi-agency Resettlement Panel to be set up with a particular focus on Children's Social Care involvement post-sentence and healthcare provision for children upon leaving custody	Mar 23	First scoping meeting took place in Nov 2022. Custody Resettlement Panel now taking place in relation to High-Risk resettlement cases.	
5	The YJS Partnership Board should: Make sure that all YJS children receive their legal entitlement to education provision and proactive work is undertaken to reduce school exclusions.	Education colleagues to support the work of YJS to support school attendance and reduce the number of school suspensions and exclusions within a preventative framework.	Sep 23	YJS actively working with Stockport Virtual School and Education Welfare Service to create a robust school attendance monitoring system for all young people involved with the YJS. Report presented to July 2023 YJPB on progress. Virtual School to monitor cohort of YJS at Highfields PRU. Ethnic Diversity Team to support YJS around attendance and engagement in schools	
		Review the current YJS Education resource and links to other ETE services and existing meetings	Mar 23	Review agreed and to be implemented through YJPB and partners current provision within YJS and links to education colleagues. Full time 16+ Learning Mentor is now in post	
		Develop a pathway with EHCP education teams to ensure that YJS are involved in the review and monitoring of EHCP's	Nov 23	Pathway to be developed. Meeting arranged with SEND lead to progress. SEND YJ benchmarking to be reviewed through Microlink (SEND) accreditation.	
		Review links with the TAS arrangements and Footprints model	Nov 23	Review in place with Stockport Family the current operating model and role of YJS and TYS in Footprints locality developments.	
6	The YJS Partnership Board should: Work with the police to implement effective information sharing which ensures the YJS is routinely informed of all children who	Implement MoJ Turnaround guidance to set up data pathways with GMP & Business Intelligence for YJ early intervention cases (RUI's, NFA's, YC's, CR's)	Mar 23	Turnaround is now in place and pathways are in place for the MASSH. Outstanding issues around the setting up of pathways for the RUI data also how Turnaround links in with PPIED.	
		To establish Greater Manchester use of Outcome 22 through GM YJ Transformation Board, GM YJSL & GMP	Apr 23	To undertake review with GMP at a force wide level. Meetings now in place and 1st Outcome 22 review took place in April 2022.	

	receive a police sanction. This is to maximise all opportunities of working with children and their families at the earliest stage.	Joint local divisional Out of Court Policy to be implemented with GMP	Sep 23	Requirements for local policy to reflect Stockport practice. Also training for divisional police officers.	
7	The YJS Head of Service should: Improve the quality of assessment, planning, implementation and delivery and review of post court work, which effectively utilises information and intelligence from other agencies and informs risk analysis, safety planning and effective interventions.	Management Oversight policy (from Aug 2020) to be reviewed	Mar 23	This policy has now been updated, circulated to staff for comment and approved.	
		Youth Justice QA Policy & Framework Policy (April 2021) be reviewed	Jan23	Policy currently under review through YMT. Will be shared with YJPB. To be signed off Jan 23	
		Existing QA Strategy to be consistently implemented and quarterly reports produced.	Jan23	Report drafted and presented to YJPB July 2023. Regular updates confirmed.	
		Review Asset+ Training to be delivered for the Case Managers	Feb 23	Training completed in Feb 23 which all case officers attended. QA training also provided for management team. Training Provider to revisit team in 6 months to review progress.	
		YJS Child View Recording policy to be devised and implemented so that there is a clear structure around timescales for Case Managers	Apr 23	Policy drafted and approved. Apr 23.	
		Review how the YJS integrate information shared from other agencies, particularly police intelligence, in order to support assessments and case management.	Dec2 2	Daily Governance information is recorded on CVYJ (and weekly governance synopsis also provided) Complex Cases (Top 5) weekly meeting recorded on CVYJ and GMP in attendance. GMP have provided revised training on intelligence-sharing (links with GMP-intelligence action above) Bi-monthly meetings to take place with Supt, Ch Insp & YJ Hos.	

Service Development:

As a Youth Justice Partnership, we will continue to develop our understanding of equality, diversion and inclusion, so that we can be more responsive to our diverse communities.

We will build on the excellent foundation of our participatory programme, to hear the 'Voice of Children' in the YJ system and oversee the implementation of the new model 'Mind of My Own' that reflects children's voice through digital feedback and other methods of participation.

Develop the 'Adolescent Offer' initially through Youth Justice & Complex Safeguarding integration, in line with other GM authorities, and embeds our trauma-responsive workforce.

Implement the findings from the HMIP Inspection and work collectively and collaboratively, with clear accountability arrangements across the partnership, to implement the Action Plan.

Challenges, Risks & Issues:

Challenges:

- An increasing complexity of young people becoming known to the service who have suffered trauma and the need to adapt interventions to suit.
- An increase in children being exploited, rise in the number of National Referral Mechanisms (NRM's) and children becoming involved in organised crime and urban street gangs.
- Challenge around meaningful engagement and school attendance for some justice-involved children and young people. Numbers of children being excluded and on part-time timetables.
- Accurate data being available on number of children 'Released Under Investigation'.
- Increased cross-border & joint enterprise with growing levels of serious youth violence. Need for increased intelligence across divisions.
- Ongoing challenge of social media interactions, the emotive responses and the inherent risks that this poses for some of our children.

Risks:

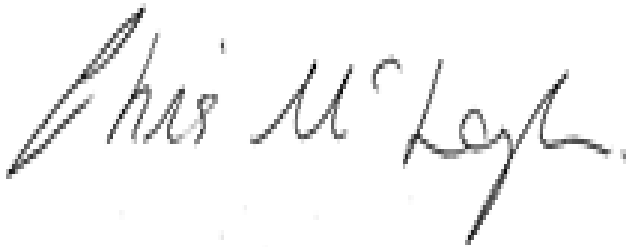
- The mental, emotional health and wellbeing of the children we support and their ability to access services following the enduring impact of the pandemic.
- A reducing financial envelope with more services funded through short-term grants that impact on the sustainability and the ability to embed services.
- Management capacity to continue to lead on several areas, as services are enhanced, whilst also emerging auditing and monitoring requirements are followed.
- Rising numbers of referrals and cases as a result of the increased arrest rate in Greater Manchester.

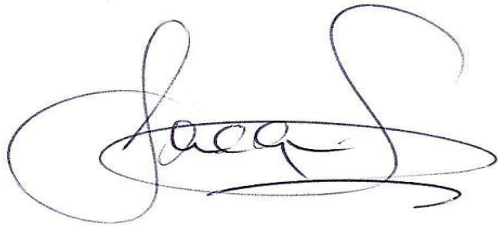
Issues:

- The development of the Adolescent Safeguarding Framework will bring together the integration of Youth Justice & Complex Safeguarding. Need to consider how the wider adolescent offer is modelled.

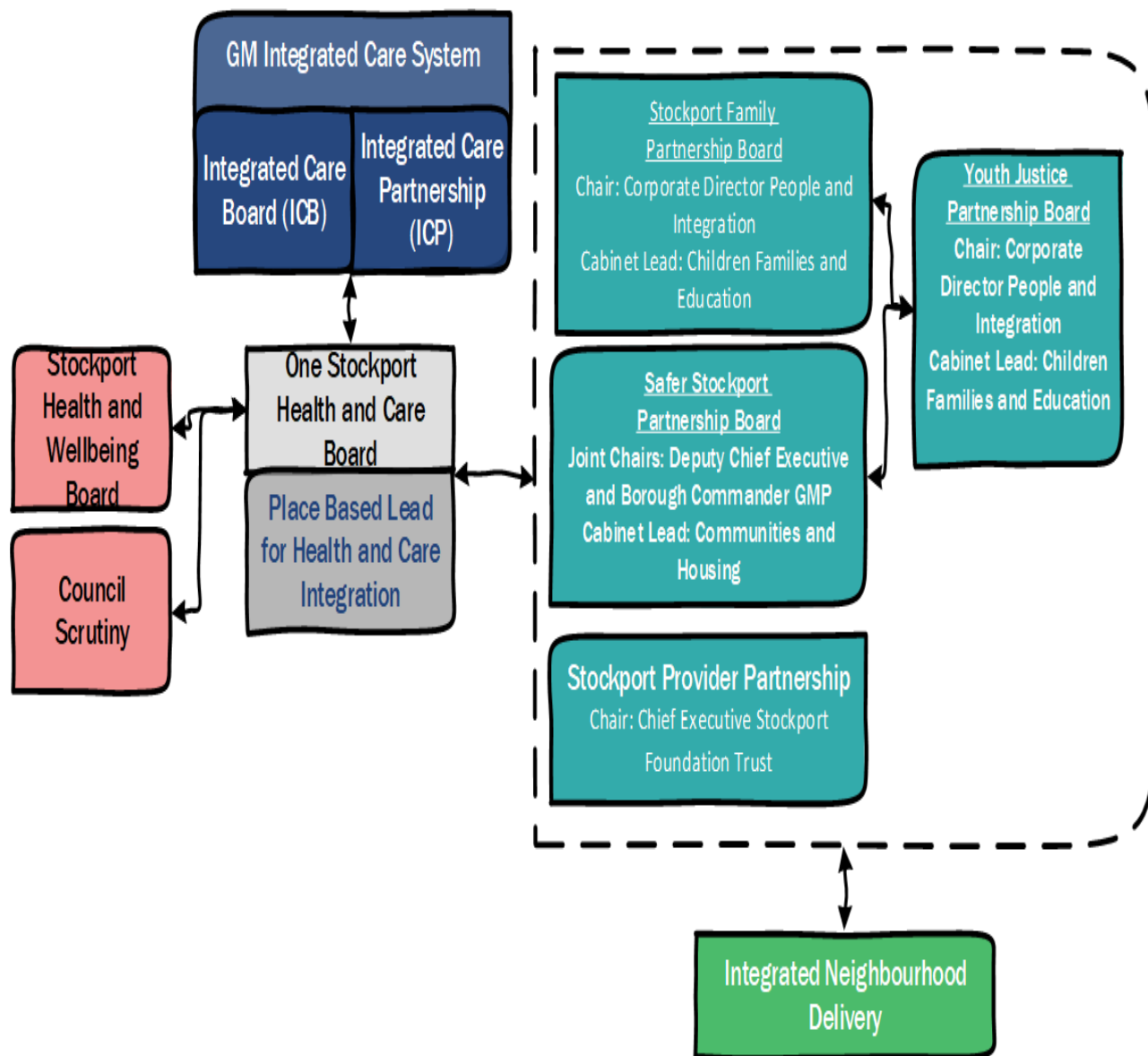
- The move towards Family Hubs across the borough includes the integration of early intervention services and consideration of how the detached youth work offer can align to the structures and the hub developments.
- Developed understanding of the impact of Stop & Search and the extent of the issue.

Section 14: Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of YJS Board	Chris McLoughlin (OBE) Executive Director People & Integration Director of Children's Services
Signature	
Date	TBC: (post-democratic approval)

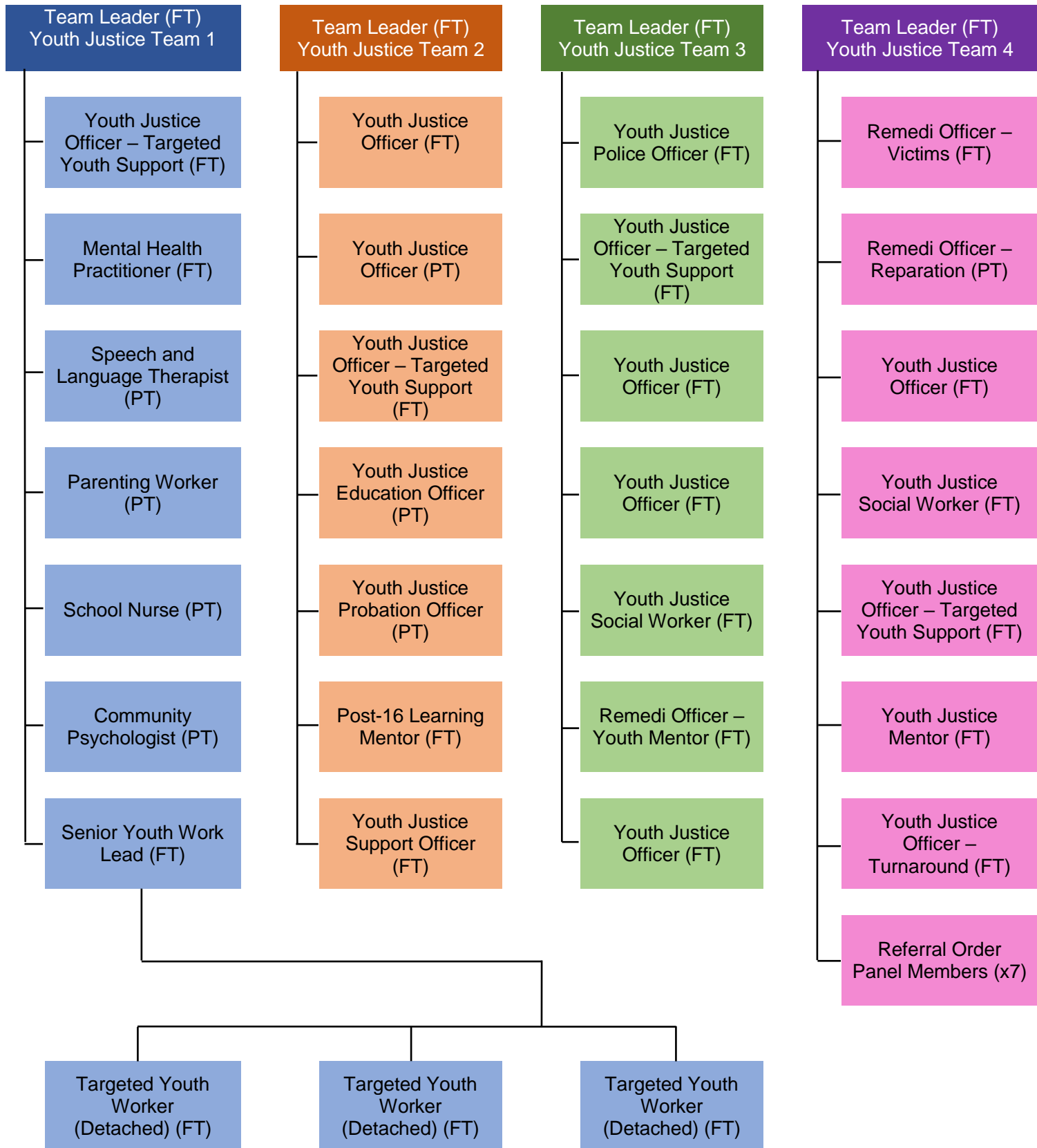
YJ Head of Service	Jacqui Belfield-Smith Head of Youth Justice, Serious Violence Reduction & Targeted Youth Support
Signature	
Date	TBC: (post-democratic approval)

Appendix 1: Staffing & Structure Charts



Head of Service (FT)
Youth Justice Service, Violence Reduction & Targeted Youth Support

Youth Justice Service, Assistant Service Lead (FT)



Ethnicity	Managers Strategic		Managers Operational		Practitioners		Administrative		Sessional		Student		Referral Order Panel Volunteer		Other Volunteer		Total			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
Asian					1														1	0
Black					2	2													2	2
Mixed														1					0	1
White		2	1	3	9	16	3			1			1	8					14	30
Any other ethnic group																			0	0
Not known																			0	0
Total	0	2	1	3	12	18	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	9	0	0	0	17	33	
Welsh Speakers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Type of Contract	Strategic Manager (PT)	Strategic Manager (FT)	Operational Manager (PT)	Operational Manager (FT)	Practitioners (PT)	Practitioners (FT)	Administration (PT)	Administration (FT)	Sessional	Students/ trainees	Referral Order Panel Volunteer	Other Volunteer	Total
Permanent		2		4	0.5	14	0.33	2			0	0	22.83
Fixed-term					2	1			1		0	0	4
Outsourced					0.4	2					0	0	2.4
Temporary											10	0	10
Vacant						3					0	0	3
Seconded Children's Services											0	0	0
Seconded Probation						1					0	0	1
Seconded Police						1					0	0	1
Seconded Health (Substance misuse)											0	0	0
Seconded Health (Mental health)								1			0	0	1
Seconded Health (Physical health)											0	0	0
Seconded Health (Speech/language)					0.6						0	0	0.6
Other/Unspecified Seconded Health					0.4						0	0	0.4
Seconded Education					0.7	1					0	0	1.7
Seconded Connexions											0	0	0
Seconded Other					0.2						0	0	0.2
Total	0	2	0	4	4.8	23	0.33	3	1	0	10	0	48.13
Disabled (self-classified)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Appendix 2: Budget Costs & Contributions 2023/24

Agency	Staffing costs (£)	Payments in kind – revenue (£)	Other delegated funds (£)	Total (£)
Local Authority	£504,166	£0	£0	£504,166
Police Service (GMP)	£0	£43,032	£0	£43,032
Probation Service (GM)	£0	£24,000	£5,000	£29,000
Health Service (Pennine Care)	£0	£43,742	£0	£43,742
Police and Crime Commissioner (GMCA)	£0	£0	£45,000	£45,000
MoJ Turnaround Grant	£0	£0	£122,462	£122,462
YJB (Main Grant)	£0	£0	£507,538	£525,061
YJB (Remand)	£0	£0	£17,523	
Total	£504,166	£110,774	£697,523	£1,312,463

Appendix 3: Glossary of Terms & Acronyms

ACE	Adverse Childhood Experience. Events in the child's life that can have negative, long-lasting impact on the child's health, and life choices
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
AIM (2 and 3)	'Assessment, Intervention and Moving On'; an assessment tool and framework for children who have instigated harmful sexual behaviour
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour
AssetPlus	YJB-accredited national Assessment Tool to be used for children who have been involved in offending behaviour
AYM	National 'Association of YOT Managers'
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CCE	Child Criminal Exploitation: where a child is forced, through threats of violence, or manipulated to take part in criminal activity
CCG	Clinical Commissioning Group
CDA 98	'Crime & Disorder Act 1998. Legislation that established 'YOT's' as statutory bodies.
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
Children	A child is anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. This is in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and civil legislation in England and Wales. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.
Child First	A system-wide approach to working with children in the youth justice system. There are four tenants to this approach, it should be: developmentally informed, strength-based, promote participation, and encourage diversion
CLA (also Cared For Child)	Child Looked After; where a child is looked after by the local authority
CIPC	Children in Police Custody
CME	Child Missing Education

Constructive Resettlement	The principle of encouraging and supporting a child's positive identity development from pro-offending to pro-social
Contextual Safeguarding	An approach to safeguarding children which considers the wider community and peer influences on a child's safety
Community Resolution (CR)	Community Resolution: an informal disposal, administered by the police, for low level offending where there has been an admission of guilt, as an out of court disposal
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company
CSC	Children's Social Care
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
CSPR	Child Safeguarding Practice Review
DCS	Director of Children's Services
EHCP	Education and Health Care Plan; a plan outlining the education, health, and social care needs of a child with additional needs
DTO	Detention & Training Order
EHCP	Education Health Care Plan
ETE	Education, Training or Employment
EHE	Electively Home Educated; children who are formally recorded as being educated at home and do not attend school
EOTAS	Education Other Than at School; children who receive their education away from a mainstream school setting
FASD	Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
FTE	First Time Entrant; a child who receives a statutory criminal justice outcome for the first time (youth caution, youth conditional caution, or court disposal)
GM	Greater Manchester
GMCA	Greater Manchester Combined Authority
GMFRS	Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service
GMP	Greater Manchester Police
HMCTS	His Majesty's Courts & Tribunal Service
HMICFRS	His Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service
HMIP	His Majesty Inspectorate of Probation; an independent arms-length body who inspect Youth Justice Services and Probation Services
HMYOI	His Majesty's Young Offenders Institute
HYMS (now CAMHS)	Healthy Young Minds

HSB (also SHB)	'Harmful Sexual Behaviour', developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour by children, which is harmful to another child or adult, or themselves
IPEP	Integrated Placement & Education Panel
JAC	Junior Attendance Centre
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Child
LGA	Local Government Association
LSB	Local Safeguarding Board (Stockport Children's Safeguarding Executive)
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
MCC	Manchester City Council
MFH	Missing from Home
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
MOMO (including Shout and Xchange)	'Mind of My Own' A digital participatory platform for children and young people to share their views about the services they receive (commissioned in 2023/24 for Stockport Youth Justice)
MVOP	Mentally Vulnerable Offender Panel
NEET	Not in Employment, Education, Training
NHS	National Health Service
NPS	National Probation Service
NRM	National Referral Mechanism: the national framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery in order to gain help to support and protect them
OSSP	One Safer Stockport Partnership: Community Safety Partnership for Stockport (as required under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998)
OOCD	Out-of-Court disposal; all recorded disposals where a crime is recorded, an outcome delivered but the matter is not sent to court
Outcome 22/21	An informal disposal, available where the child does not admit the offence, but they undertake intervention to build strengths to minimise the possibility of further offending
Over-Represented Children (Disproportionality)	Children appearing in higher numbers in the YJS than the local or national average (based on census data)
PACE	Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
PCSC 22	Police, Crime, Sentencing, and Courts Act 2022

PPIED	Prevention through Prosecution, Intervention, Education, Diversion
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit
PSP	Public Safety & Protection
PVE	Preventing Violent Extremism
RO	Referral Order
RHI	Return Home Interviews; these are interviews completed after a child has been reported missing
RJ	Restorative Justice
RMR's	Risk Management Review
RUI	Released Under Investigation; where a child is released from police custody following arrest but pre-charge whilst the case is investigation. Timescales are not set (as they are in Bail cases).
Safer Streets	A Home Office fixed-term programme based on bids for priority areas within an authority, with strict criteria. Stockport successful bid for this grant for ASB Reduction in 2023/24.
SaLT	Speech and Language Therapy
Section 20	Section 20 (Children's Act 1989) is a voluntary agreement when a parent, or person with Parental Responsibility, to agree to a child being taken out of their care and into another placement, such as foster care, for a short period of time
Section 31	Section 31 (Children's Act 1989) places a child under the care of the Local Authority (LA). A child will become a looked after child (LAC) and 'in care'. This gives the local authority 'Parental Responsibility' (PR) for the child.
SEND	Special Educational Needs & Disabilities
SHB	Sexually Harmful Behaviour
SHG	Stockport Homes Group
SIR	Serious Incident Review
SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs
SMBC	Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council
SSCP	Stockport Children's Safeguarding Partnership
SSP	Safer Stockport Partnership
STC	Secure Training Centre
SCH	Secure Children's Home
SVD	'Serious Violence Duty'; legislative duty under Police, Crime & sentencing Act 2022, placed on Community Safety

	Partnerships to reduce serious violence within their authority.
SYV	Serious Youth Violence
Turnaround	A MoJ grant-funded programme to support young people who have been arrested for an offence, but not necessarily charged yet, or who are committing ASB, to engage in early intervention programmes to offer additional support to the family and reduce their risk of further offending.
TYS	Targeted Youth Support
UASC	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker
UPW	Unpaid Work
VCS	Voluntary Community Sector
VCSE	Voluntary Community & Social Enterprise
VRU	Violence Reduction Unit
YC	'Youth Caution' (voluntary intervention post-charge given when a child admits the offence as an out of court disposal)
YCC	'Youth Conditional Caution' (statutory intervention post-charge as an out of court disposal)
YCS	Youth Custody Service for England & Wales (part of MoJ)
Young Adult	A young adult is defined as someone who is 18 (usually up to 24, sometimes 21). For example, when a young adult is transferring to the adult probation service.
YOI	Young Offender Institution
YJB	The 'Youth Justice Board'; a non-departmental public body responsible for overseeing the youth justice system in England and Wales
YJPB	Stockport 'Youth Justice Partnership Board'
YJPU	'Youth Justice Policy Unit' for England & Wales (dedicated unit within MoJ overseeing policy and ministerial decision-making for Youth Justice)
YJSIP	Youth Justice Sector Improvement Programme (a national programme led through the youth justice sector)
YOT	Youth Offending Team
YOS	Youth Offending Service