



Inspection of  
Youth  
Offending

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Arolygiad ar y Cyd Cyfiawnder Troseddol

# Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in England and Wales

Report on youth offending  
work in:

**Flintshire**

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## Foreword

This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Flintshire took place as part of the Inspection of Youth Offending programme. We have examined a representative sample of youth offending cases from the area, and have judged how often the Public Protection and the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done to a sufficiently high level of quality.

We judged that the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done well enough 82% of the time. With the Public Protection aspects, work to keep to a minimum each individual's *Risk of Harm to others* was done well enough 77% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 87% of the time. A more detailed analysis of our findings is provided in the main body of this report, and summarised in a table in Appendix 1. These figures can be viewed in the context of our findings from the regions of England inspected so far. To date, the average score for *Safeguarding* work has been 65%, with scores ranging from 38-82%, the average score for *Risk of Harm* work has been 61%, with scores ranging from 36-85%, and the average score for *Likelihood of Reoffending* work has been 68%, with scores ranging from 50-82%.

Overall, we consider this a very creditable set of findings; although improvements are still required, in particular to plans for managing *Risk of Harm to others*.

*Andrew Bridges*  
*HM Chief Inspector of Probation*

*September 2010*

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## Scoring – and Summary Table

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

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

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

<b>Safeguarding score:</b>	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Safeguarding</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
<b>Score:</b> <b>82%</b>	<b>Comment:</b> <b>MINIMUM improvement required</b>

<b>Public Protection – Risk of Harm score:</b>	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Risk of Harm</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
<b>Score:</b> <b>77%</b>	<b>Comment:</b> <b>MINIMUM improvement required</b>

<b>Public Protection – Likelihood of Reoffending score:</b>	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Likelihood of Reoffending</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality.	
<b>Score:</b> <b>87%</b>	<b>Comment:</b> <b>MINIMUM improvement required</b>

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

## **Recommendations** (primary responsibility is indicated in brackets)

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

- (1) a timely and good quality assessment (including an appropriate self-assessment) and plan, using Asset, is completed when the case starts (YJS Manager)
- (2) specifically, a timely and good quality assessment of the individual's vulnerability and *Risk of Harm to others* is completed at the start, as appropriate to the specific case, and is then reviewed as appropriate (YJS Manager)
- (3) as a consequence of the assessment, the record of the intervention plan is clear and specific about what will now be done in order to safeguard the child or young person, to make them less likely to reoffend, and to minimise any identified *Risk of Harm to others* (YJS Manager)
- (4) the plan of work with the case, including that to safeguard the child or young person and to minimise any identified *Risk of Harm to others*, is regularly reviewed and correctly recorded with a frequency consistent with national standards for youth offending services (YJS Manager)
- (5) quality assurance by management is effective; especially of screening decisions, assessments and plans for those with raised vulnerability or *Risk of Harm to others* (YJS Manager).

## **Next steps**

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

## Service users' perspective

### Children and young people

Thirty-eight children and young people completed a questionnaire for the inspection.

- ◇ Almost all children and young people had been given a copy of their referral order contract or supervision plan, and had discussed it with their YJS worker. In almost all cases staff had clearly explained what would happen when children and young people attended the YJS.
- ◇ The contract or plan had been reviewed in all except two cases where this had been due.
- ◇ Children and young people spoke positively about the interest shown in them by their worker and said that workers listened to what they had to say. They said that action was taken to deal with the things where they needed help and that workers made it easy for them to understand how the YJS could help. One wrote '*he made it straightforward for me, explained what I was doing or how to do the tasks that were set for me, and he was very understanding and polite to me*'. Another wrote '*If I don't understand my worker explains things again differently*'.
- ◇ When asked how well the YJS responded to issues that made it harder for them to take part in their sessions, one said that sessions were sometimes moved to another location in order to avoid having to discuss some topics with their parents/carers in close proximity. Another said that appointments were moved in order to facilitate medical appointments.
- ◇ Three quarters of children and young people received help to understand their offending, and almost three quarters to assist them make better decisions. Help with alcohol use, feeling less stressed, school or training, drug use or lifestyle had each been received by a significant proportion of children and young people.
- ◇ Over half of those with school, college or work problems said that these got better whilst they were attending the YJS.
- ◇ Almost all children and young people said that they were less likely to offend and almost three-quarters gave examples of things that had got better in their lives as a result of their attendance at the YJS. The most common themes were home life or relationships with their parents/carers or family; followed by attending the Links ETE project, getting work or getting a college place. One wrote '*now I have read about victims I understand how they feel*'.

## Victims

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

- ◇ Seven victims said that the YJS had explained their service to them.
- ◇ Six said that their needs had been taken into account and that they had had a chance to talk about any worries concerning the offence or the offender. However, three said that these things had not happened in their cases.
- ◇ Only one victim had directly benefited from work done by the child or young person who had committed the offence.
- ◇ Two victims said that the YJS had not paid sufficient attention to their safety.
- ◇ Overall six victims were satisfied with the service they had received, but three said that they were not at all satisfied.

## Sharing good practice

Below are some examples of good practice we found in the YJS.

### Assessment and Sentence Planning

General Criterion:  
1.2c and 2.2a

#### Contact with a previous YOT

Chris moved to North Wales, having been known to another YOT for earlier offences. The case manager established good links with the first YOT. The quality of assessment was significantly improved as a result and interventions successfully built on the progress that had already been made.

### Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion:  
2.2a

#### Bespoke group work

A group of young people were known to the YJS; although they did not have convictions in common. Police intelligence indicated that the group was causing concerns on their estate. The case managers decided to address their problems both as a group and individually. They designed a programme of group interventions delivered by different partners, including one by the local police beat officer.

### Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion:  
2.3e

#### Contact with parent/carer also in custody

Mark was isolated due to one of his parents also being in custody for a separate offence. He was worried as he was unable to make contact. The case manager worked actively with the secure estate to facilitate direct contact using the prison telephone system.

### Outcomes

General Criterion:  
3.2

#### Focused ETE work in custody

Paul received a long DTO. The key to successful rehabilitation was appropriate ETE provision. Paul was supported to develop relevant experience, take voluntary awards and complete application forms. Work experience was arranged ready for release, which led to further work. Paul had not reoffended and was developing increased confidence in his ability to maintain an offence free lifestyle.

## 1. ASSESSMENT AND SENTENCE PLANNING

### 1.1 Risk of Harm to others:

**General Criterion:**

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

**Score:**

**72%**

**Comment:**

**MODERATE improvement required**

### **Strengths:**

- (1) An Asset RoSH screening was completed in almost all cases. All except two of those that had been completed were also timely.
- (2) Assessment of the safety of victims was undertaken in most cases where the victim had engaged with the YJS.
- (3) A full RoSH analysis had been completed in all except three cases where this was required.
- (4) Over three-quarters of RoSH assessments drew on all appropriate information from other agencies and previous assessments. Good use was made of intelligence from the police when assessing the RoSH, with examples of intelligence being received on one case then appropriately applied to inform work with related cases.
- (5) The recorded RoSH classification was correct in most cases.
- (6) In custodial cases the RoSH analysis had always been forwarded to the custodial establishment in a timely manner.
- (7) The Risk Strategy meeting held in those cases assessed as high or very high RoSH was a valuable tool to support integrated working between agencies to manage RoSH and to share intelligence. These meetings were often attended by police beat officers. Relevant details of the RoSH assessment and management had been appropriately communicated to all relevant staff and agencies in almost all cases.
- (8) Where there was no need for a RMP, the need to plan to manage *RoH* issues had been both recognised and acted upon in all except one case.

### ***Areas for improvement:***

- (1) In almost one-third of cases the RoSH screening was not accurate. In one example of multiple assaults the need for a full analysis of RoSH had not been recognised in the screening even though one assault had continued when the victim's back was turned. In others previous relevant offending had not been included.
- (2) Over one-third of applicable cases did not include a RoSH analysis of sufficient quality. The main reasons for this were that previous relevant behaviour had not been considered and insufficient consideration was given to the risk to victims. In another example with a raised RoSH there were clear inconsistencies within the RoSH analysis about the level of risk posed.
- (3) Almost one-third of relevant cases did not include a timely RoSH analysis.
- (4) Management oversight of *RoH* assessment had not been effective in almost a third of applicable cases, primarily because action had not been taken to address shortcomings in paragraph 2 above even though the RoSH had been countersigned. On occasions there was a discrepancy between the assessment as recorded in the notes of the risk strategy meeting and the relevant RoSH analysis.
- (5) A RMP had been completed, and was timely, in less than half of those cases where one was required. Less than half of those completed were of sufficient quality. In some cases needs that had been identified within the RoSH analysis had not then been reflected anywhere within plans. In medium RoSH cases there was no requirement for case managers to complete a RMP. In high RoSH cases the list of actions arising from the risk strategy meeting did not always constitute a genuine plan, and in others the plan was not sufficient. Victim issues were sometimes missing, roles and responsibilities were not always clear, and there was insufficient clarity on planning for contingencies. The actions often focused on work between agencies rather than forming an integrated plan to manage all aspects of *RoH*, including those aspects to be delivered within interventions by the case manager.
- (6) Management oversight of RMPs was insufficient in two-thirds of cases, usually because there had been no RMP in place or the plan was inadequate.
- (7) There was one case which met the criteria for MAPPA due to the nature of the custodial sentence imposed; however this case had not been referred.

## 1.2 Likelihood of Reoffending:

### **General Criterion:**

*The assessment of the LoR is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to reduce LoR.*

### **Score:**

**84%**

### **Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

### **Strengths:**

- (1) An initial assessment of LoR was undertaken in all except one case. The great majority of these were completed on time and to a sufficient standard. Assessments often included relevant evidence from a broad range of sources, to which case managers then applied an analytical approach to form a clear professional judgement on its relevance to offending.
- (2) There had been active engagement with parents/carers, to carry out the initial assessment, in almost all cases.
- (3) The great majority of initial assessments had been informed by contact with, or previous assessments from, children's social care services, ETE providers, the police, substance misuse services and emotional or mental health services as appropriate.
- (4) Almost three-quarters of assessments were reviewed at appropriate intervals.
- (5) All cases had an intervention plan or referral order contract. Almost all had been completed on time and well over three-quarters sufficiently addressed the factors most linked to offending. Wherever required plans included interventions to address substance misuse, alcohol or neighbourhood issues. ETE, perception of self and others, thinking and behaviour, attitudes to offending and motivation had been included in the overwhelming majority of applicable plans.
- (6) Positive factors were included in all applicable plans.
- (7) Well over three quarters of plans included appropriate safeguarding work, were sequenced according to offending-related needs, were sensitive to diversity issues and took account of victim issues.
- (8) The child or young person and their parent/carer had been actively and meaningfully involved in the planning process in the overwhelming majority of cases. Written plans for community sentences were developed and agreed at planning meetings. These were chaired by a middle manager and were attended by the child or young person, their parent/carer and the case manager. Other workers also attended as appropriate. The police were often actively involved in planning.
- (9) Just over three-quarters of intervention plans were reviewed at appropriate intervals.

- (10) Inspectors commented particularly on the quality of referral order contracts. Their clarity and the range of interventions included on these implied a high level of understanding on the part of panel members about the range of options available to them.

**Areas for improvement:**

- (1) Where initial assessments were insufficient this was, in most cases, due to evidence being unclear or insufficient. In a few cases insufficient account had been taken of previous offending.
- (2) Less than half of initial assessments had been informed by a *What do YOU think?* or other self-assessment.
- (3) Inspectors noted that there were often inaccuracies in translating the written plan onto the Careworks system. There was insufficient space on the template that was used for written plans, with the result that the plan was often not easily readable due to it being cramped.
- (4) Intervention plans did not always include relevant aspects from RMPs.
- (5) Over one-third of applicable plans had not incorporated relevant information about the child or young person’s learning needs or style.
- (6) Timescales were not always realistic, and almost one-quarter of plans had not been prioritised according to *RoH*.
- (7) Children’s social care services had not been sufficiently involved in planning in one-third of the cases where this was required.

<b>1.3 Safeguarding:</b>	
<b>General Criterion:</b>	
<i>The assessment of Safeguarding needs is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to manage Safeguarding and reduce vulnerability.</i>	
<b>Score:</b>	<b>Comment:</b>
<b>77%</b>	<b>MINIMUM improvement required</b>

**Strengths:**

- (1) An Asset vulnerability screening was completed in all except one case. In the great majority of cases this was timely and in three-quarters it was of sufficient quality.
- (2) Safeguarding needs were reviewed as appropriate in more than three-quarters of cases.

- (3) Whenever a VMP was completed it was timely, and all except one of those completed were of sufficient quality.
- (4) In all except one case where a VMP had been completed it had then informed interventions, and in all applicable cases it had been used to inform other plans.
- (5) There was active liaison and information sharing with the custodial establishment about Safeguarding issues in all relevant cases.

***Areas for improvement:***

- (1) A VMP had been completed in less than half of those cases where one was required, even where the screening had clearly indicated significantly raised vulnerability. Decisions on whether or not to complete a VMP were inconsistent.
- (2) Management oversight of vulnerability assessment and planning had been effective in less than two-thirds of cases.

**OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 80%**

**COMMENTARY on Assessment and Sentence Planning as a whole:**

A health panel met weekly in the YJS. Chaired by the YJS operational manager this was attended by substance misuse, mental health and health workers. It received, reviewed, allocated and agreed on actions arising from all relevant referrals made by case managers. It could facilitate a fast-track into CAMHS where this was appropriate.

A parallel process was in place to address ETE issues.

When a case was assessed as being high RoSH, LoR or vulnerability a risk strategy meeting was convened. This was chaired by an operational manager. All relevant partners and staff were invited to attend. Its objective was to share intelligence and to co-ordinate multi-agency working.

## 2. DELIVERY AND REVIEW OF INTERVENTIONS

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

**General Criterion:**

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

**Score:**

**85%**

**Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

**Strengths:**

- (1) Changes in *RoH* factors had been anticipated in almost all cases where this was feasible; had been identified swiftly in most cases; and immediate actions had been appropriate in over two-thirds of cases.
- (2) Case managers and all other relevant staff contributed effectively to multi-agency meetings to manage *RoH* in all relevant cases in custody, and in all except one case in the community.
- (3) Purposeful home visits were carried out in accordance with the *RoH* posed in all appropriate cases.
- (4) High priority had been given to victim safety in most cases.
- (5) Appropriate resources had been allocated throughout the sentence, according to the assessed *RoH*, in all except one case.
- (6) Specific interventions to manage *RoH* were delivered in the community in all except one case where these were required. They were reviewed following a significant change in just over three-quarters of applicable cases.
- (7) Specific interventions to manage *RoH* were delivered during the custodial phase of sentences in all cases where these were required.

**Areas for improvement:**

- (1) *RoH* had been reviewed thoroughly in line with required timescales in just under two-thirds of cases. It had been reviewed following a significant change in under two-thirds of applicable cases.

## 2.2 Reducing the Likelihood of Reoffending:

### **General Criterion:**

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

### **Score:**

**93%**

### **Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

### **Strengths:**

- (1) Delivered interventions were clearly designed to reduce the LoR in all except one case, and were implemented as described in the intervention plan in all except two cases.
- (2) Interventions were of good quality in almost all cases and most were appropriate to the learning style of the child or young person.
- (3) There was generally a good response to diversity issues in the delivery of interventions. In one example where the offender disclosed a pregnancy and abortion the case manager was changed from a man to a woman.
- (4) Case managers were responsive to the circumstances of children and young people, often locating discussions as a response to the particular situation that the child or young person was in at the time; whilst ensuring that the priorities of the intervention were still delivered.
- (5) In another example of a young person with significant behavioural difficulties and a problematic approach to engagement with the YJS, the responsiveness and flexibility of the case manager was effective in bringing the order to a successful conclusion without further incidents or breaches.
- (6) YJS workers had been appropriately involved in the review of interventions in custody in all cases.
- (7) Appropriate resources were allocated, according to the assessed LoR, throughout all sentences.
- (8) YJS staff actively motivated and supported children and young people in all except one case in custody, and in all cases in the community.
- (9) Positive behaviour was reinforced in all appropriate cases in both custody and the community.
- (10) Parents/carers were actively engaged throughout the sentence by YJS staff in all applicable cases in the community and in all except one case in custody.

### **Areas for improvement:**

- (1) In just over one-quarter of cases interventions had not been reviewed appropriately.

- (2) We were concerned that, on a small number of occasions, use of the standard programme delivered at the Youth Justice Centre was not targeted sufficiently well. The consequence was that interventions were sometimes delivered that were unrelated to the assessed offending related needs.

<b>2.3 Safeguarding the child or young person:</b>	
<b>General Criterion:</b> <i>All reasonable actions have been taken to safeguard and reduce the vulnerability of the child or young person.</i>	
<b>Score:</b> <b>90%</b>	<b>Comment:</b> <b>MINIMUM improvement required</b>

**Strengths:**

- (1) All necessary immediate action had been taken to safeguard and protect children and young people in all except one case in custody and in all except two cases in the community.
- (2) All necessary immediate action had been taken to safeguard and protect any other affected child or young person in all cases where this was required.
- (3) Necessary referrals to ensure Safeguarding had been made during the custodial phase of the sentence in all appropriate cases, and in all except 3 (of 25) cases during the community phase of sentences.
- (4) Purposeful home visits were carried out in accordance with Safeguarding needs in all appropriate cases.
- (5) YJS staff worked together with other agencies to promote the Safeguarding and wellbeing of the child or young person in the community. This applied in almost all cases that involved ETE, health, substance misuse, antisocial behaviour, custodial institutions or the police. A number of examples were provided of excellent working relationships with the police, including joint work to monitor a young person with significantly raised vulnerability.
- (6) Joint working to promote Safeguarding and well-being was undertaken in all cases where this was required during the custodial phase of sentences.
- (7) YJS workers and all relevant agencies worked together well in almost all cases to ensure continuity in the provision of mainstream services in the transition from custody to the community. In one example of a Looked After Child the reviewing officer from children's social care chaired a key planning meeting in custody, which contributed to a good release plan.

- (8) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding were identified and delivered in the great majority of applicable cases in the community, and in all applicable cases during the custodial phase of sentences.
- (9) Management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability needs during the custodial phase of sentences had been effective in all except one case.
- (10) All relevant staff supported and promoted the wellbeing of the child or young person throughout all custodial sentences and throughout all except one case in the community.

**Areas for improvement:**

- (1) Joint work between the YJS and children's social care services had not happened as required in one-third of applicable cases in the community.
- (2) Interventions delivered in the community to promote safeguarding did not incorporate those identified in the VMP in two out of five applicable cases. They were not reviewed appropriately in just over one-third of applicable cases.
- (3) Management oversight of safeguarding and vulnerability needs was not effective in just over one-third of applicable cases in the community.

**OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 90 %**

**COMMENTARY on Delivery and Review of Interventions as a whole:**

Flintshire YJS had access to and made use of a broad and creative range of interventions, which could be delivered in homes or in community facilities.

Offending behaviour programmes included specific interventions focused on burglary and motor vehicle crime. The Choose2Change programme, which could be delivered as either group work or one to one had been adapted for work with children and young people. It was focused on those using or at risk of abusive relationships, or committing offences of violence. Other programmes targeted arson and motoring offences.

DVDs were sometimes used to prompt and inform sessions with children and young people.

The LINKS project targeted children and young people who were known to the YJS. With dedicated premises and staff, and operating two days a week, its aim was to prepare children and young people for reintegration back into mainstream pupil referral units or college placements.

A professionally produced Restorative Justice booklet was user friendly. It was used particularly to deliver interventions on referral orders.

The Young People's Drug and Alcohol Team had a close relationship with the YJS. The YJS also made use of interventions delivered on Saturdays at the local Youth Justice Centre and ran a Duke of Edinburgh Award programme.

### 3. OUTCOMES

#### 3.1 Achievement of outcomes:

**General Criterion:**

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

**Score:**

**76%**

**Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

**Strengths:**

- (1) All reasonable action had been taken to keep to a minimum the individual's RoH in well over three-quarters of cases.
- (2) Where the child or young person had not complied with the requirements of the sentence, enforcement action was taken sufficiently well in all except 1 of the 14 relevant cases.
- (3) There was an overall reduction in the Asset score in over half of the cases. Offending related factors showing the most frequent improvements were thinking and behaviour, motivation to change, living arrangements, neighbourhood issues, attitudes to offending, substance misuse and ETE.
- (4) There had been a reduction in the frequency of offending in just over three-quarters of those cases where there had been a sufficient history to inform a judgement.
- (5) There had been a reduction in the seriousness of offending in just under three-quarters of cases.
- (6) All reasonable action had been taken to keep the child or young person safe in all except three cases.

### 3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

**General Criterion:**

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

**Score:**

**97%**

**Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

**Strengths:**

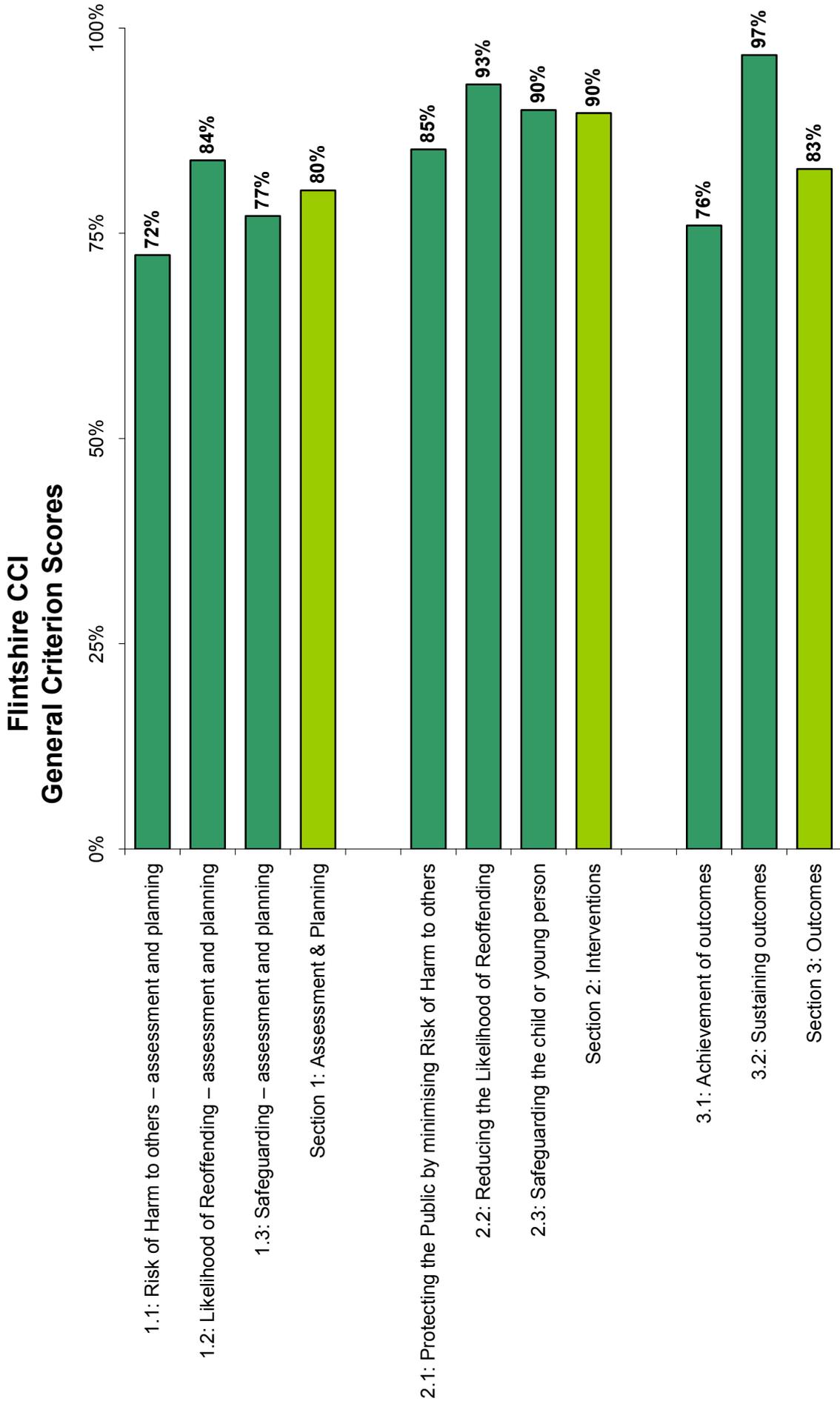
- (1) Full attention had been given to community reintegration issues during the custodial phase in all sentences
- (2) During community sentences and licence periods full attention had been given to community re-integration issues in all except one case.
- (3) Action had been taken, or plans were in place, to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable during the custodial phase of all sentences.
- (4) There were many good examples of appropriate actions being taken to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable following the completion of community sentences and licences, and this had happened in all except two cases.
- (5) Actions taken as part of exit strategies included referrals to preventative services, continuing engagement with substance misuse workers, and continuing work with ETE workers.

**OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 83 %**

**COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:**

Interventions available to form part of exit strategies also included use of a mentoring scheme run by Barnardos.

## Appendix 1: Summary



## **Appendix 2: Contextual information**

### **Area**

Flintshire YJS was located in North Wales.

The area had a population of 148,594 as measured in the Census 2001, 10.7 of which were aged 10 to 17 years old. This was slightly higher than the average for Wales, which was 10.6%. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 10.4%.

The population of Flintshire was predominantly white British (99.2%). The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (0.8%) was below the average for Wales of 2.1%. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 8.7%.

Reported offences for which children and young people aged 10 to 17 years old received a pre-court disposal or a court disposal in 2008/2009, at 31 per 1,000, were better than the average for England and Wales of 46.

### **YJS**

The YJS boundaries were within those of the North Wales police area and Wales Probation Trust (with effect from April 2010).

The YJS was covered by the Betsi Cadwallader University Health Board.

It was located within the Childrens' Services division of the Flintshire Community Services Directorate and was managed by the Service Manager – Youth Justice Service.

The Executive Management Board was chaired by the Chief Executive of Flintshire County Council. It was attended by all statutory partners and included a range of other relevant members.

The YJS headquarters was in the town of Mold.

### **YJB performance data**

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

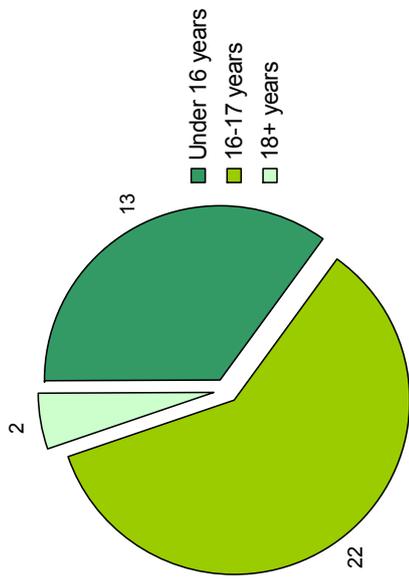
Flintshire's performance on ensuring children and young people known to the YOT were in suitable education, training or employment was 68.3%. This was an improvement on the previous year, but below the Wales average of 69.0%.

Performance on ensuring suitable accommodation by the end of the sentence was 98.8%. This was the same as the previous year and better than the Wales average of 96.1%.

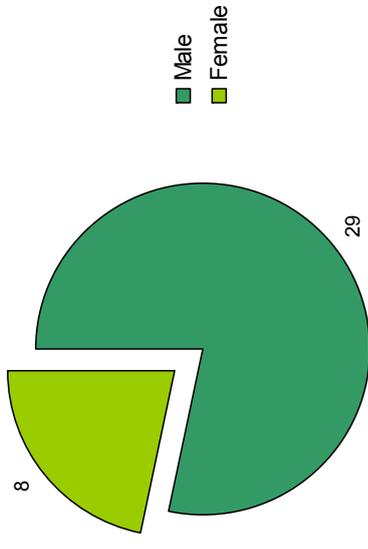
The 'Reoffending rate after 9 months' was 84%, worse than the Wales average of 74% (See Glossary).

## Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart

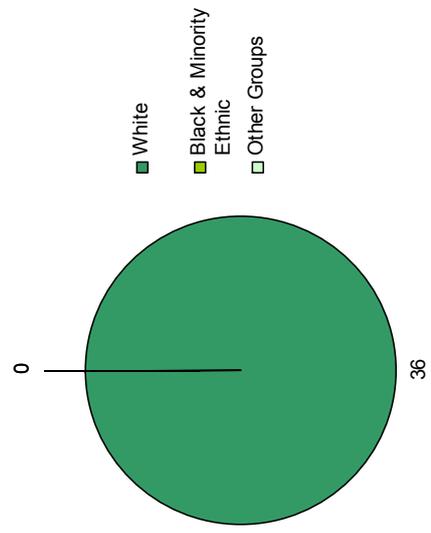
Case Sample: Age at start of Sentence



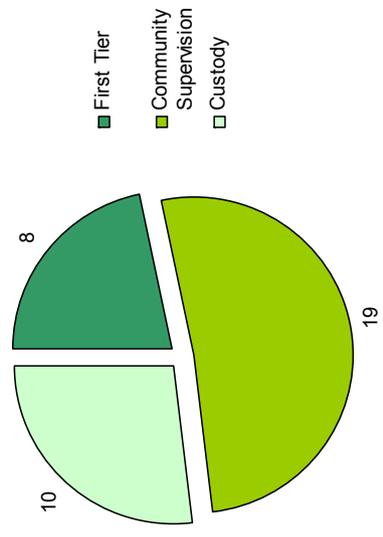
Case Sample: Gender



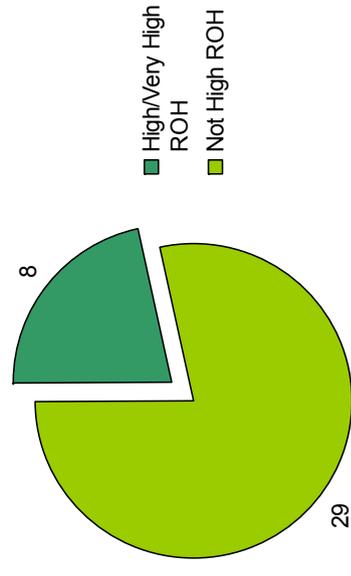
Case Sample: Ethnicity



Case Sample: Sentence Type



Case Sample: Risk of Harm



## **Appendix 3b: Inspection data**

Fieldwork for this inspection was undertaken in May 2010

The inspection consisted of:

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

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

## **Appendix 4: Role of HMI Probation and Code of Practice**

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

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

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

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

Data charts in this report are available electronically upon request

## Appendix 5: Glossary

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

Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills: the Inspectorate for those services in England (not Wales, for which see Estyn)
PPO	Prolific and other Priority Offender: designated offenders, adult or young, who receive extra attention from the Criminal Justice System agencies
Pre-CAF	This is a simple 'Request for Service' in those instances when a Common Assessment Framework may not be required. It can be used for requesting one or two additional services, e.g. health, social care or educational
PSR	Pre-sentence report: for a court
'Reoffending rate after 9 months'	A measure used by the Youth Justice Board. It indicates how many further offences are recorded as having been committed in a nine-month period by individuals under current supervision of the relevant YOT, and it can be either more or less than 100%. '110%' would therefore mean that exactly 110 further offences have been counted as having been committed 'per 100 individuals under supervision' in that period. The quoted national average rate for Wales in early 2009 was 74%
RMP	Risk management plan: a plan to minimise the individual's <i>Risk of Harm</i>
RoH	<i>Risk of Harm to others</i> . See also <i>restrictive Interventions</i>
'RoH work', or 'Risk of Harm work'	This is the term generally used by HMI Probation to describe work to protect the public, primarily using <i>restrictive interventions</i> , to keep to a minimum the individual's opportunity to behave in a way that is a <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
RoSH	Risk of Serious Harm: a term used in Asset. HMI Probation prefers not to use this term as it does not help to clarify the distinction between the <i>probability</i> of an event occurring and the <i>impact/severity</i> of the event. The term <i>Risk of Serious Harm</i> only incorporates 'serious' impact, whereas using ' <i>Risk of Harm</i> ' enables the necessary attention to be given to those offenders for whom lower <i>impact/severity</i> harmful behaviour is <i>probable</i>
Safeguarding	The ability to demonstrate that all reasonable action has been taken to keep to a minimum the risk of a child or young person coming to harm.
SIFA	Screening Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for specialist workers
SQIFA	Screening Questionnaire Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for YOT workers
VMP	Vulnerability management plan: a plan to safeguard the well-being of the individual under supervision
YJB	Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
YJS	Youth Justice Service
YOI	Young Offenders Institution: a Prison Service institution for young people remanded in custody or sentenced to custody
YOIS+	Youth Offending Information System: one of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also Careworks
YOS/T	Youth Offending Service/Team

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