



Inspection of
Youth
Offending

Archwilio Rhaglen Troseddwyr Ifanc



Arolygiad ar y Cyd Cyfiawnder Troseddol

Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in England and Wales

Report on youth offending
work in:

Northumberland

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Foreword

This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Northumberland 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. Our findings will also feed into the wider annual Comprehensive Area Assessment process.

We judged that the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done well enough 66% 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 61% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 67% 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 region inspected so far. To date, the average score for *Safeguarding* work has been 63%, with scores ranging from 38% - 82%, the average score for *Risk of Harm* work has been 57%, with scores ranging from 36% - 85%, and the average score for *Likelihood of Reoffending* work has been 65%, with scores ranging from 50% - 82%.

Overall, we consider this a broadly encouraging set of findings. We identified a clear link between the quality and timeliness of assessments, the quality of intervention plans and the outcomes achieved. In its evidence, supplied to us in advance of the inspection, the YOS recognised the need to continue to improve the quality of assessments and intervention plans. However, we did see examples of excellent practice with some children and young people and very good shared work with partner agencies.

In the 2005 inspection of Northumberland YOS we were critical of its inconsistent enforcement processes; it was encouraging to find a marked improvement in both children and young people's compliance with their orders and staff taking enforcement action where appropriate. This positive approach to compliance and enforcement; and the YOS's commitment to reviewing and developing its practice in assessment and sentence planning; should ensure that the Northumberland YOS will continue to improve its services, with positive prospects for the future.

Andrew Bridges
HM Chief Inspector of Probation

November 2009

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Scoring – and Summary Table

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

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

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

<i>Safeguarding score:</i>	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Safeguarding</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
Score: 66%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required

<i>Public Protection – Risk of Harm score:</i>	
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.	
Score: 61%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required

<i>Public Protection - Likelihood of Reoffending score:</i>	
This score indicates the percentage of <i>Likelihood of Reoffending</i> work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality.	
Score: 67%	Comment: MODERATE improvement required

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

Recommendations (primary responsibility is indicated in brackets)

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

- (1) a timely and good quality assessment and plan, using Asset, is completed when the case starts (Head of YOS)
- (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 (Head of YOS)
- (3) as a consequence of the assessment, the record of the intervention plan is specific about what will now be done in order to safeguard the young person's well-being, to make them less likely to reoffend, and to minimise any identified *Risk of Harm to others* (Head of YOS)
- (4) the plan of work with the case is regularly reviewed and correctly recorded in Asset with a frequency consistent with national standards for youth offending services (Head of YOS)
- (5) there is evidence in the file of regular quality assurance by management, especially of screening decisions, as appropriate to the specific case, particularly with regard to *RoH* and Safeguarding cases. (Head of YOS).

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 children and young people completed a questionnaire for the inspection.

- ◇ Twenty-nine children and young people said they knew why they had to attend the YOS and the majority said that YOS staff had told them what would happen during the period of their supervision. All of the children and young people felt that YOS staff were interested in helping them and that they were listened to.
- ◇ Twenty-five said that the YOS had taken action to help them with difficulties they faced. The main areas in which they had received help were: ETE; relationships; lifestyle; substance misuse; making better decisions; and understanding their offending behaviour.
- ◇ Things had gotten better for 9 out of the 24 children and young people who needed help with ETE; 6 out of the 17 who had health needs; and 13 out of the 30 said that life in general had improved as a result of their work with the YOS.
- ◇ Nineteen said that the work with the YOS had made it a lot less likely that they would reoffend while five said it was a bit less likely and six said that it had made no difference.
- ◇ Twenty-one of the children and young people said that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the service they received from the YOS; whilst two were not at all satisfied.

Victims

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

- ◇ Both victims said that the YOS had explained the service which could be offered and had had the chance to talk about any worries they had about the offence or about the child or young person who had committed it.
- ◇ One victim felt that their needs had been taken into account and one had benefitted from work carried out by the child or young person.
- ◇ Both were completely satisfied with the service they had received.

Sharing good practice

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

Delivery and Review of Interventions

General Criterion: 2.1

Dean was an 18 year old on DTO supervision. He had a history of violent behaviour towards his mother, sister and ex-partner and a fascination with knives. His parents were separated and he had previously witnessed domestic violence by his father against his mother. He had periods in care from a young age, and had lived with both parents for varying periods of time. Because of his increasing violence his YOS case manager referred him to the local forensic psychiatry service but this was not followed through when he received his DTO sentence. A referral to MAPPA was made and after his release extensive plans were put in place to monitor and manage his behaviour. Through this process his failure to comply with one of the conditions of his licence was quickly identified and he was immediately recalled to custody. On his release without supervision he was offered continued services.

Outcomes

General Criterion: 2.3

Sarah, a 16 year old with complex needs, had been sexually abused at a young age. She was looked after and was placed in Northumberland by a neighbouring authority. Because of her violent outbursts Sarah had had extensive therapeutic involvement and was moved on several occasions; placements had included accommodation on a two-to-one basis. She had received a range of court orders supervised by the YOS and in 2007 was sentenced to a DTO. Although on release Sarah refused further mental health involvement, her YOS case manager was able to persuade her to work with the YOS health worker. A number of vulnerability issues were addressed with Sarah, including self-harming and the termination of her pregnancy. The case manager had liaised well with managers in both local authorities and had identified a number of Safeguarding issues in the home that affected both Sarah and other vulnerable residents. This had resulted in improved Safeguarding procedures in the children's home and better communication between staff in the home and other professionals. This had also led to improved communications and services to Sarah and other residents.

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:

63%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) A RoSH screening was completed in 95% of cases.
- (2) A full RoSH assessment was carried out in 86% of cases where the need was indicated.
- (3) A RMP was completed in 76% of cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) RoSH screening was not completed on time in 34% of cases; and 41% were not considered to be accurate.
- (2) A timely RoSH assessment was not completed in 43% of applicable cases and 64% were not considered to be of a sufficient quality. In ten of these cases the *RoH* to victims were not fully explored.
- (3) Only two-thirds of RoSH assessments drew adequately on all appropriate information, including MAPPAs, other agencies, previous assessments and information from victims.
- (4) All details of RoSH assessment and management were appropriately communicated to all relevant staff and agencies in just half of the cases.
- (5) Less than half of the RMPs (48%) were completed on time, of which 58% were considered to be of a sufficient quality. There was effective management oversight of only 40% of RoSH assessments and 54% of RMPs.

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:

62%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) An assessment of LoR was completed in 85% of cases.
- (2) Information from the police, children's social care services, education training providers and secure establishments informed initial assessments in the majority of cases.
- (3) An intervention plan was evident in 95% of cases; 93% reflected the sentencing purpose whilst 87% focused on achievable change and 80% gave a clear shape to the order.
- (4) The majority of intervention plans sufficiently addressed factors linked to offending, in particular: ETE, lifestyle, substance misuse, physical health, emotional and mental health, thinking and behaviours and attitudes to offending.
- (5) The relevant national standards requirements were reflected in 81% of intervention plans.
- (6) Intervention plans were sensitive to diversity issues in 68% of cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Just over half (53%) of LoR assessments were completed on time and 54% were not considered to be of a sufficient quality.
- (2) There was a lack of health service involvement in initial assessments; physical health services were involved in 23% of cases; whilst emotional and mental health and substance misuse services were involved in 57%
- (3) Less than two-thirds of assessments were reviewed at the appropriate intervals.
- (4) 52% of children and young people and 56% of parents/carers were actively engaged in the initial assessments; information from the *What do YOU Think?* forms completed by the children and young people were used to inform just 15% of the assessments.
- (5) Intervention plans were not integrated with 60% of RMPs and just 58% took account of the child or young person's Safeguarding needs.

- (6) Just over half of the children and young people and almost two-thirds of parents/carers were actively and meaningfully involved in the planning process.
- (7) Intervention plans were not prioritised according to *RoH* in 44% of cases; 62% included Safeguarding work; 54% of plans were sequenced according to *LoR*; and 57% contained work on victims issues.
- (8) Almost half of intervention plans were not reviewed at appropriate intervals.

1.3 Safeguarding:	
General Criterion: <i>The assessment of Safeguarding needs is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to manage Safeguarding and reduce vulnerability.</i>	
Score: 58%	Comment: <i>SUBSTANTIAL improvement required</i>

Strengths:

- (1) An Asset vulnerability screening was completed in 92% and Safeguarding needs were reviewed in 66% of appropriate cases.
- (2) The secure establishment was made aware of any Safeguarding issues affecting the child or young person prior to, or immediately after sentence in 84% of relevant cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) Twenty-one out of a possible 41 VMPs were completed; 44% were completed on time; 38% informed the interventions delivered; and 32% were judged to be of a sufficient standard. Diversity needs were also not adequately addressed.
- (2) Effective management oversight of vulnerability assessments was evident in only one-third of relevant cases.
- (3) The YOS made contributions to other agencies vulnerability assessments and plans in 45% of cases.
- (4) Accurate and timely reviews of Safeguarding needs were carried out in 66% of cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 61%

COMMENTARY on Assessment and Sentence Planning as a whole:

Although the YOS had good access to health resources following the initial assessment by the YOS case worker, identifying health needs at the early initial Asset stage needed to be improved. The YOS had developed clear guidelines regarding the management of *RoH* and Safeguarding but these had not yet been embedded into all of its practices. We found that there was a lack of understanding among some staff about how to assess and manage these cases. We were particularly concerned at the lack of plans to manage those who presented a medium *RoH to others*; there was also a lack of understanding about which cases should be classified as MAPPAs level 1 and should be notified to MAPPAs. In a review prior to the inspection, managers in the YOS recognised that the quality of assessment and planning work required further attention; and had taken the decision to appoint two senior practitioners to take some of this work forward.

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:

65%

Comment:

MODERATE improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) There were effective contributions to multi-agency meetings in custody and in the community in over 80% of cases.
- (2) Purposeful home visits were carried out in 82% of the cases where children and young people posed a *RoH to others*.
- (3) In 89% of cases the resources allocated were appropriate to the *RoH* presented.
- (4) Specific interventions to manage *RoH to others* in custody were delivered as planned in 75% of cases and were reviewed following a significant change in the one case which required it.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) *RoH* was thoroughly reviewed within three months of sentence in only 54% of cases and 55% were reviewed following a significant change.
- (2) Although the case manager contributed well in one case, MAPPA was effectively used in only one out of four of those appropriate.
- (3) A full assessment of victim safety was carried out in just 26% of relevant cases and in only 32% of those assessed was it judged that a high priority was given to their safety.
- (4) Only 58% of *RoH* cases were reviewed following a significant change.

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:

79%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) The vast majority (98%) of interventions delivered were designed to reduce the LoR; 74% were sequenced appropriately; and 77% incorporated all diversity issues and were appropriate to the child and young person's learning styles.
- (2) The majority of interventions were implemented in line with the plan and 72% were considered to be of a good quality.
- (3) Resources appropriate to the LoR were allocated in 97% of cases.
- (4) YOS staff were involved in the review of interventions in all custodial cases.
- (5) In 75% of custodial and 87% of community sentence cases, YOS staff actively motivated and supported children and young people and in a similar number they reinforced positive behaviour.

Area for improvement:

- (1) 38% of interventions were not appropriately reviewed.

2.3 Safeguarding the child or young person:

General Criterion:

All reasonable actions have been taken to safeguard and reduce the vulnerability of the child or young person.

Score:

79%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) In all cases necessary and immediate action was taken to safeguard children and young people serving custodial sentences; and for those serving community sentences this was achieved in 84% of cases. Similarly, action to safeguard other children and young people affected by these cases was taken in all custodial and 78% of community cases.
- (2) In all custodial and the majority of community sentence cases the YOS and partner agencies, in particular children's social care services, health, education, substance misuse and secure establishments, worked together to safeguard children and young people and address their well-being needs.
- (3) Interventions for those serving custodial sentences were reviewed every three months or following a significant change.
- (4) Interventions identified in VMPs were delivered in all cases of children and young people serving a custodial sentence; and in 85% of community sentence cases.
- (5) Specific interventions to promote the Safeguarding of children and young people on community sentences were identified in 82% of cases and in a similar percentage actions identified in the VMP were incorporated.
- (6) There was effective management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability needs in all custody cases.
- (7) Staff had supported and promoted the well-being of 88% of children and young people who served custodial sentences and 77% of those on community orders throughout their sentences.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) The vulnerability of children and young people on community sentences was reviewed every three months or following a significant change in 60% of cases.
- (2) Management oversight of Safeguarding needs were evident in only 45% of community supervision cases.

OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 75%

3. OUTCOMES

3.1 Achievement of outcomes:

General Criterion:

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

Score:

52%

Comment:

SUBSTANTIAL improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) All reasonable action was taken to keep children and young people safe in 76% of relevant cases.
- (2) Almost two-thirds of the children and young people had complied with the requirements of their orders and enforcement action had been sufficiently well taken in 87% of relevant cases.

Areas for improvement:

- (1) *RoH* had been effectively managed in only 65% of cases.
- (2) There had been a reduction in risk factors linked to Safeguarding in 36% of relevant cases.
- (3) There had been 26% reduction in frequency and 18% reduction in seriousness of offending.

3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

General Criterion:

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

Score:

86%

Comment:

MINIMUM improvement required

Strengths:

- (1) Full attention was paid to community integration issues during the custodial phase of sentences in 88% of cases; while the figure for the community phase was 92%.
- (2) Action had been taken to ensure that positive outcomes during the custodial and community phases were sustainable in 88% and 80% of cases respectively.

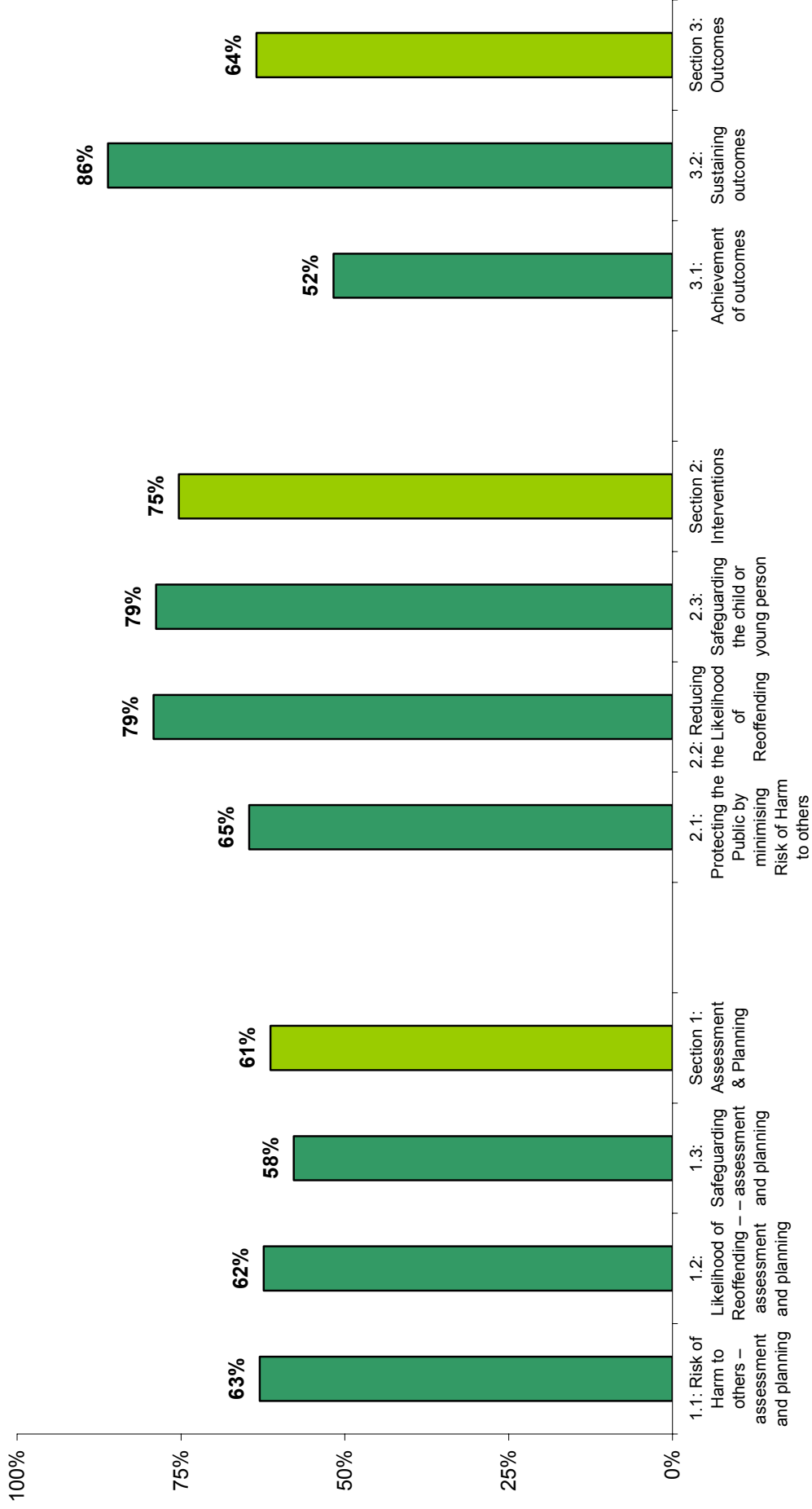
OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 64%

COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:

The figure for achieving outcomes was somewhat disappointing. This was in part due to the fact that some initial assessments were late in completion and did not therefore inform the intervention plans. Added to which, YOS staff did not routinely draw on evidence from other sources including directly from children and young people and parents/carers and *What do YOU Think?* forms. The intervention plans did not, therefore, always address the right things with children and young people. This was particularly evident in cases where they were either vulnerable or presented a *RoH to others*.

Appendix 1: Summary

Northumberland CCI General Criterion Scores



Appendix 2: Contextual information

Area

Northumberland YOS was located in the North-East region of England.

The area had a population of 307,190 as measured in the Census 2001, 10.4% of which were aged ten to 17 years old. This was equal to the average for England/Wales.

The population of Northumberland was predominantly white British (99%). The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (1%) was below the average for England/Wales of 8.7%.

Reported offences for which children and young people aged ten to 17 years old received a pre-court disposal or a court disposal in 2008/2009, at 57 per 1,000, were above the average for England/Wales of 46.

YOS

The YOS boundaries were within those of the Northumbria police and probation areas. The Northumberland PCT covered the area.

The YOS was located within the Division of Learning and Skills in the Integrated Services for Young People section of the People's Directorate. It was managed by the Head of Youth offending Service.

The YOS Management Board was chaired by the Director of Learning and Skills. All statutory partners and other co-opted members attended meetings regularly.

The YOS covered a large geographical area and had one office on a small industrial estate outside Ashington. Staff were encouraged to visit children and young people in their homes or to use locally based community resources.

YJB Performance Data

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

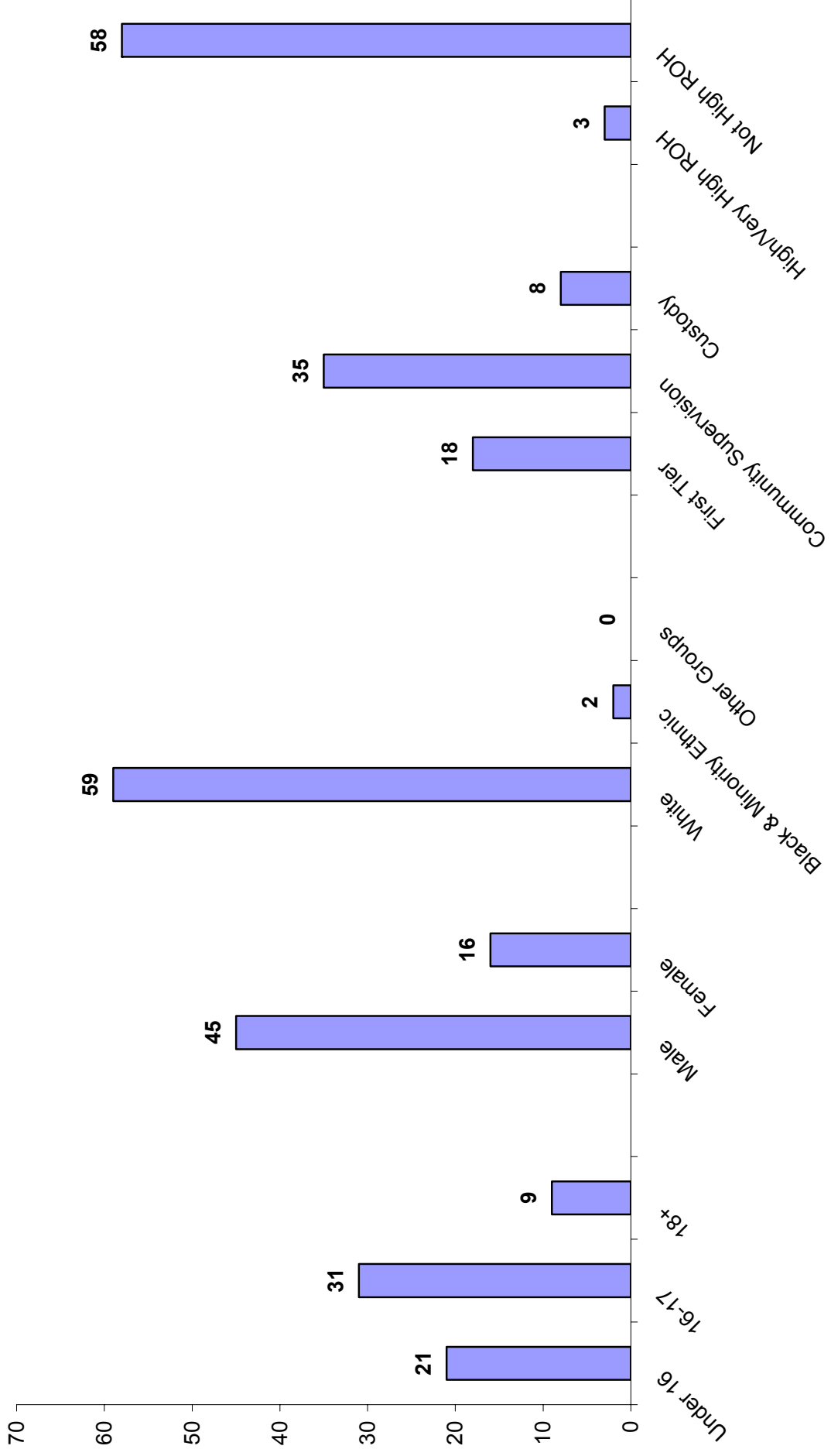
Northumberland YOS's performance on ensuring children and young people known to the YOS were in suitable education, training or employment was 78%. This was worse than the previous year, but above the England average of 72%.

Performance on ensuring suitable accommodation by the end of the sentence was 97%. This was worse than the previous year, but better than the England average of 95%.

The "Reoffending rate after 9 months" was 72%, better than the England average of 85% (See Glossary).

Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart

Case sample information: Northumberland



Appendix 3b: Inspection data

Fieldwork for this inspection was undertaken in September 2009.

The inspection consisted of:

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

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

Appendix 4: Role of HMI Probation and Code of Practice

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

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

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

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

Appendix 5: Glossary

ASB/ASBO	Antisocial behaviour/Antisocial Behaviour Order
Asset	A structured assessment tool based on research and developed by the Youth Justice Board looking at the young person's offence, personal circumstances, attitudes and beliefs which have contributed to their offending behaviour
CAF	Common Assessment Framework: a standardised assessment of a child or young person's needs, and of how those needs can be met. It is undertaken by the lead professional in a case, with contributions from all others involved with that individual
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: part of the National Health Service, providing specialist mental health and behavioural services to children and young people up to at least 16 years of age
Careworks	One of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also YOIS+
CRB	Criminal Records Bureau
DTO	Detention and Training Order, a custodial sentence for the young
Estyn	HM Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
ETE	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)
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PPO	Prolific and other Priority Offender: designated offenders, adult or young, who receive extra attention from the Criminal Justice System agencies
Pre-CAF	This is a simple 'Request for Service' in those instances when a Common Assessment Framework may not be required. It can be used for requesting one or two additional services, e.g. health, social care or educational
PSR	Pre-sentence report – for a court
"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 9-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 England in early 2009 was 85%
RMP	Risk management plan: a plan to minimise the individual's <i>RoH</i>
<i>RoH</i>	<i>Risk of Harm to others</i> . See also <i>restrictive Interventions</i>
' <i>RoH work</i> ', or ' <i>Risk of Harm work</i> '	This is the term generally used by HMI Probation to describe work to protect the public, primarily using <i>restrictive interventions</i> , to keep to a minimum the individual's opportunity to behave in a way that is a <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
RoSH	Risk of Serious Harm: a term used in Asset. HMI Probation prefers not to use this term as it does not help to clarify the distinction between the <i>probability</i> of an event occurring and the <i>impact/severity</i> of the event. The term <i>Risk of Serious Harm</i> only incorporates 'serious' impact, whereas using ' <i>RoH</i> ' enables the necessary attention to be given to those offenders for whom lower <i>impact/severity</i> harmful behaviour is <i>probable</i>
SIFA	Screening Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for specialist workers
SQIFA	Screening Questionnaire Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for YOT workers
VMP	Vulnerability management plan: a plan to safeguard the well-being of the individual under supervision
YJB	Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
YOI	Young Offenders Institution: a Prison Service institution for young people remanded in custody or sentenced to custody
YOIS+	Youth Offending Information System: one of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also Careworks
YOS/T	Youth Offending Service/Team