



Inspection of  
Youth  
Offending

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Criminal Justice  
Joint Inspection

*Arolygiad ar y Cyd Cyfiawnder Troseddol*

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

Report on youth offending  
work in:

**West Berkshire**

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## Foreword

This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in West Berkshire 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 75% of the time. With the Public Protection aspects, work to keep to a minimum each individual's *Risk of Harm to others* was done well enough 78% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 83% of the time. A more detailed analysis of our findings is provided in the main body of this report, and summarised in a table in Appendix 1. These figures can be viewed in the context of our findings from Wales and the regions of England inspected so far – see the Table below.

We found a Youth Offending Team that had developed a wide range of interventions to address likelihood of reoffending. It was evident that children and young people had made progress and that factors linked to reoffending had reduced. Some work is needed to improve the quality of initial assessments and subsequent planning for *Risk of Harm to others* and Safeguarding. Effective management oversight will be critical to this.

Overall, we consider this a very creditable set of findings and the prospects for the future are promising. We were impressed by the commitment of staff to engaging with children and young people and by imaginative use of interventions.

*Liz Calderbank*

*HM Assistant Chief Inspector of Probation*

*For Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Probation*

*July 2011*

	Scores from Wales and the English regions that have been inspected to date			Scores for West Berkshire
	Lowest	Highest	Average	
<b>'Safeguarding' work</b> <i>(action to protect the young person)</i>	37%	91%	68%	<b>75%</b>
<b>'Risk of Harm to others' work</b> <i>(action to protect the public)</i>	36%	85%	63%	<b>78%</b>
<b>'Likelihood of Reoffending' work</b> <i>(individual less likely to reoffend)</i>	43%	87%	70%	<b>83%</b>

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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><i>Safeguarding score:</i></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><i>Score:</i></b> <b>75%</b>	<b><i>Comment:</i></b> <b><i>MINIMUM improvement required</i></b>

<b><i>Public Protection – Risk of Harm score:</i></b>	
This score indicates the percentage of Risk of Harm work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality. This score is significant in helping us to decide whether an early further inspection is needed.	
<b><i>Score:</i></b> <b>78%</b>	<b><i>Comment:</i></b> <b><i>MINIMUM improvement required</i></b>

<b><i>Public Protection - Likelihood of Reoffending score:</i></b>	
This score indicates the percentage of Likelihood of Reoffending work that we judged to have met a sufficiently high level of quality.	
<b><i>Score:</i></b> <b>83%</b>	<b><i>Comment:</i></b> <b><i>MINIMUM improvement required</i></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. Overall our inspection findings provide the 'best available' means of measuring, for example, how often each individual's *Risk of Harm to others* is being kept to a minimum. It is never possible to eliminate completely Risk of Harm to the public, and a catastrophic event can happen anywhere at any time – nevertheless a 'high' *RoH* score in one inspected location indicates that it is less likely to happen there than in a location where there has been a 'low' *RoH* inspection score. In particular, a high *RoH* score indicates that usually practitioners are 'doing all they reasonably can' to minimise such risks to the public, in our judgement, even though there can never be a guarantee of success in every single case.

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

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

- (1) a good quality assessment and plan, using Asset, is completed when the case starts (YOT Manager)
- (2) specifically, a good quality assessment of the individual's vulnerability and *Risk of Harm to others* is completed at the start, as appropriate to the specific case (YOT Manager)
- (3) 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 child or young person from harm and to minimise any identified *Risk of Harm to others* (YOT Manager)
- (4) there is evidence in the file of effective quality assurance by management, as appropriate to the specific case (YOT 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

Twenty-four children and young people completed a questionnaire for the inspection.

- ◆ All of the children and young people who responded said that staff had told them what to expect when they came to the YOT and that they knew why they had to come. One young person said *"everything was explained in great detail and if something was not understood it was explained further"*.
- ◆ A *What do YOU think?* questionnaire had been completed by all respondents.
- ◆ All of the children and young people reported that YOT staff were completely or mostly interested in helping them, listened to what they had to say and took action to deal with anything that concerned them.
- ◆ All respondents said that the YOT workers made it very or quite easy for them, as children and young people, to understand the help available to them. One young person reported *"she explained it in a simple way"*.
- ◆ The ten children and young people with referral orders knew what the order entailed, and had discussed their contract with their YOT case manager. They had all been given a copy of the contract to keep.
- ◆ Eight out of eleven children and young people said they knew what a supervision or sentence plan was. Seven recalled a YOT worker discussing their plan with them and said that they had been given a copy to keep. All 11 respondents recalled their supervision or sentence plan being reviewed.
- ◆ Two of the three respondents who reported that something in their life had made them feel afraid whilst in contact with the YOT said that the YOT had helped a lot to alleviate their fear. The third respondent said the YOT had helped quite a lot.
- ◆ More than half of the children and young people who responded reported that the YOT had helped them make better decisions and understand their offending.
- ◆ Eleven of twenty-two respondents said that that the YOT had helped them with their schooling. For example: *"behaviour at school is better – not running off"* and *"my YOT worker helped me get a placement at a new school"*.
- ◆ Ten of twenty-two respondents said that their health had improved. For example: *"not drinking and having nicotine patches"*; *"less drug and alcohol usage"* and *"getting glasses, give me condoms and sleeping better"*.
- ◆ From the responses, 15 out of 21 children and young people reported that their life had become better as a result of working with the YOT. For



example: *"most things, housing, money, not getting into trouble"; "not reoffending, understanding how to approach things and deal with things better, e.g. anger" and "better understanding of a good lifestyle to live".*

- ◇ Most respondents, 17 out of 21, said that they thought working with the YOT had made them a lot less likely to offend. In particular, children and young people said: *"like understanding the victim's feelings and other peoples feelings and honest I really don't want to get into trouble again";* and *"looking at the effects that crime has on victims made me look at crime in a whole new way. Work on decision making has helped me as now I can think about things in a different way and think more about the results of what I do".*
- ◇ Nineteen children and young people who responded reported satisfaction levels with the YOT of 70% or over. *"YOT is brilliant. It helps with all kinds of things from family and friends to drink and drugs".*

## Victims

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

- ◇ Six of the seven respondents were completely satisfied with the services provided by the YOT. One person said *"I was very pleased with the service provided. There were constant updates on how the case was progressing and I was informed of the final outcome".*
- ◇ All respondents said the YOT had explained what services they could offer and that their needs were taken account of: *"West Berkshire YOT provided and excellent service and were approachable and communicative".*
- ◇ All respondents reported that they had the chance to talk about the offence or about the child or young person who had committed it.
- ◇ Six respondents felt they had benefited from work done by the child or young person: *"they offered a restorative approach and showed that they understood my needs".*
- ◇ Of the four relevant respondents, three said that the YOT paid attention to their safety.

## Sharing good practice

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

<b>Delivery and Review of Interventions</b>  <b>General Criterion: 2.1</b>	Jason had completed a session on victim awareness with his case manager. However, he had struggled to think about the victim's perspective so the case manager used role play with Jason as the victim. The case manager asked him about his thoughts and feelings before, during and after the offence. The session was successful in that Jason was able to consider how the victim of his offence would have felt. He then began to take more responsibility for his role in the offence. Prior to undertaking this work, he had been difficult to engage and had struggled to accept responsibility for his actions.
<b>Delivery and Review of Interventions</b>  <b>General Criterion: 2.2</b>	Joanne, aged 17 years, was not able to settle into any kind of constructive activity. Her case manager encouraged her to attend the Evolution Project, run by Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service, for three days per week for a month. Joanne attended regularly and learned the discipline and team building skills vital to the Fire Service. Over the course of the month, she got to know the other children and young people and worked with them to overcome her difficulties in interacting with others. On completion of the course, Joanne reflected that before attending the project she did not care about reoffending or its consequences, nor did she care about other people's points of view. She recognised that she had learned much that would assist her to make progress in life and to stop offending.
<b>Outcomes</b>  <b>General Criterion: 3.2</b>	James had a record of low school attendance. He was permanently excluded from the school in his local town but had been allocated a new place in a neighbouring school which he had to be persuaded to accept. The YOT case manager then helped him with both attendance and behaviour at the new school. Areas of concern were broken down into small achievable targets in order to help James to identify triggers and to look at practical ways of addressing them. His family were also encouraged to support him. He was given a healthy drink of his choice for compliance; either half-full or full according to the level of effort and achievement. This was delivered to him at home at the end of each week after his progress had been checked with the school. James responded to this practical style of recognition as it suited his humour and level of maturity. He began to accept responsibility for his behaviour and his relationship with his parents strengthened as they became more proactive in supporting him. His progress had been sustained and his school attendance was 100%.

All names have been altered.

## 1. ASSESSMENT AND SENTENCE PLANNING

### 1.1 Risk of Harm to others (RoH):

***General Criterion:***

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

***Score:***

**82%**

***Comment:***

***MINIMUM improvement required***

***Strengths:***

- (1) An RoSH screening was completed within the required timescale in all cases; 84% were judged to be accurate.
- (2) An RoSH analysis was completed on time in all 22 cases where required.
- (3) We considered the RoSH classification to be correct in 89% of cases. In two of the four cases, we judged the classification to be too low and in the other two, too high.
- (4) An RMP was completed in all 17 cases where required; 15 (88%) were completed on time.
- (5) In almost three-quarters of cases, the *RoH* assessment drew adequately on all appropriate information, including previous assessments and information from other agencies and victims.
- (6) Details of *RoH* assessment and management had been appropriately communicated to relevant staff and agencies in 76% of relevant cases.
- (7) All cases in the sample that met the criteria for MAPPA were recognised. These cases had been appropriately notified and correctly assigned in a timely manner.

***Areas for improvement:***

- (1) The RoSH analysis was not of sufficient quality in 9 of the 23 relevant cases (39%), mainly because adequate consideration was not given to either previous relevant behaviour in six cases and/or to risks to victims in four.
- (2) RMPs were not of sufficient quality in 7 out of the 17 (41 %) relevant cases; this issue required greater management oversight. The primary reasons for

insufficiency were that the planned responses to *RoH* and the roles and responsibilities of the staff involved were unclear. Victims' issues also needed to be addressed more fully in four of these cases. Many plans were over-inclusive, containing descriptive rather than analytic information, some aspects of which were unrelated to *RoH*.

- (3) The need for planning for *RoH* issues was recognised in only 8 of the 13 cases with an increased level of *RoH* but where an RMP was not required. Of these eight cases, plans had been made to address *RoH* in six.
- (4) Management oversight of *RoH* assessments was effective in 40% of relevant cases.

## 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:***

**77%**

### ***Comment:***

***MINIMUM improvement required***

### ***Strengths:***

- (1) A timely initial assessment of LoR was carried out and was reviewed at appropriate intervals in all cases.
- (2) YOT workers had engaged actively with children and young people and their parents/carers in all but one of the cases in our sample when carrying out initial assessments. Similarly, children and young people and their parents/carers had been involved in the planning process in 82% and 80% of cases respectively.
- (3) In all but one case in our sample, the case manager had assessed the leaning style of the child or young person.
- (4) All initial assessments, but one, were informed by a *What do YOU think?* questionnaire and we were impressed by the extent to which the views of children and young people were referenced within Asset.
- (5) Initial assessments drew on information from a wide range of sources. They were informed by contact with, or previous assessments by, children's social care services and from ETE in 89% and 87% of cases respectively. Information from emotional and mental health services had contributed to all ten cases where required and information from substance misuse services to 9 out of 11 relevant cases.

- (6) YOT workers and the secure establishment were actively involved throughout the custodial planning process in all three custodial cases. A sentence plan was completed which included positive factors and responded appropriately to identified diversity needs in all cases. The plans were timely and sufficiently addressed offending-related factors in two of the three cases.
- (7) A community intervention plan or referral order contract was completed in all relevant cases. Plans were timely in 95% of cases and 71% sufficiently addressed offending-related factors. Most plans focused on achievable changes and reflected sentencing purposes. Relevant goals were set and the plans reflected national standards in 76% of cases. Objectives within intervention plans took overall account of victims' issues in 31 out of the relevant 34 (91%) cases in our sample.
- (8) A number of agencies were actively involved in both the planning process and throughout the sentence, working alongside YOT staff. These included the police (80%); health workers and education workers (67%); and substance misuse services (61%). One impressive example of this work was where a YOT case manager engaged both education services and CAHMS to ensure prompt and appropriate provision for a child whose family had previously struggled for two years to achieve services, despite identified needs.
- (9) Intervention plans were reviewed at appropriate intervals in all cases.

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

- (1) The initial assessment of LoR was insufficient in 37% of cases. The main reasons were that the evidence was unclear or offending-related factors, in particular vulnerability linked to substance misuse and motoring offences, were not clearly identified.
- (2) Just over one-third of intervention plans did not integrate RMPs and fewer than half (48%) took account of Safeguarding. In the community case sample, objectives were prioritised according to *RoH* and were inclusive of appropriate Safeguarding work in 59% and 55% of cases respectively. 37% of community intervention plans did not include all identified diversity needs, although these were nevertheless generally addressed in the subsequent delivery of interventions.
- (3) Objectives within intervention plans were sequenced according to offending-related need in just over one-third of cases. In the community case sample half of intervention plans did not set realistic timescales.
- (4) Notwithstanding the extensive contribution by children's social care services to the assessment process, their active involvement in the planning process and throughout sentence was evident in only 8 out of 16 relevant cases.

### 1.3 Safeguarding:

**General Criterion:**

*The assessment of Safeguarding needs is comprehensive, accurate and timely and uses Asset and other relevant assessment tools. Plans are in place to manage Safeguarding and reduce vulnerability.*

**Score:**

**77%**

**Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

**Strengths:**

- (1) Assessment of vulnerability and Safeguarding were undertaken and were timely in all cases.
- (2) Safeguarding needs were reviewed as appropriate in 95% of relevant cases.
- (3) Where completed, VMPs informed interventions in 77% of cases.
- (4) In most relevant cases (86%), a contribution was made to other assessments and plans designed to safeguard the child or young person; copies of other agencies' plans were on file in 88% of relevant cases.

**Areas for improvement:**

- (1) Asset vulnerability screenings were not of sufficient quality in 43% of cases. Although case managers could generally describe factors relating to vulnerability, the information recorded was sometimes confusing. This meant that the assessment did not always trigger a formal response when needed.
- (2) Of the 19 cases where we judged that a VMP was needed, 13 were completed, 11 of which were on time. Only seven (37%) were considered to be of sufficient quality, mainly because the roles and responsibilities of those involved in the case were not clear or the planned response was lacking.
- (3) Management oversight of vulnerability assessments was not considered effective in half the cases sampled.

**OVERALL SCORE for quality of Assessment and Sentence Planning work: 78%**

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

The YOT placed a high priority on internal quality assurance processes, which took place through a framework of frequent and regular staff supervision, countersigning and performance audit. West Berkshire YOT had also introduced a number of performance improvement measures. Some, such as the moderation process for start Assets and the Asset duplication policy, had been implemented too recently to impact on the inspection findings. However, we saw a small number of cases in our sample that had utilised the new intervention plan template, implemented in October 2010, and noted the improvements that it had brought about.

## 2. DELIVERY AND REVIEW OF INTERVENTIONS

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

**General Criterion:**

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

**Score:**

**76%**

**Comment:**

**MINIMUM improvement required**

**Strengths:**

- (1) Almost all *RoH* reviews were timely (94%) and *RoH* had been reviewed following a significant change in circumstances in 10 out of 13 (77%) cases. Changes in *RoH* were identified swiftly in nine of these cases and acted upon appropriately in eight.
- (2) Case managers contributed to multi-agency meetings in all custodial cases and all but one of the community cases.
- (3) Purposeful home visits had been carried out throughout the course of the sentence in accordance with *RoH* in 95% of relevant cases and in accordance with Safeguarding issues in 84%.
- (4) In 86% of relevant cases case managers had given sufficient attention to the assessment of the safety of victims.
- (5) Specific interventions to manage *RoH* were reviewed following significant change in 70% of relevant cases.
- (6) Appropriate resources were allocated according to the *RoH* posed by the child or young person in 92% of cases.

**Areas for improvement:**

- (1) Changes in *RoH* factors were not anticipated in 10 of the 15 relevant cases.
- (2) Case managers needed to be more proactive in following up victim safety assessments during the course of the sentence.
- (3) Management oversight of *RoH* was not considered to be effective in 45% of community 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:***

**87%**

### ***Comment:***

***MINIMUM improvement required***

### ***Strengths:***

- (1) LoR was reviewed appropriately in 92% of cases. Interventions were usually of good quality (81%) and delivered in accordance with the child or young person's learning style (86%). The YOT worked hard to ensure that interventions were implemented in-line with the plans (70%) and incorporated the diversity needs of children and young people (81%).
- (2) West Berkshire YOT staff had been appropriately involved in the review of interventions in custody in all relevant cases.
- (3) Based on the assessment of LoR and RoSH, we judged the initial Scaled Approach level to be correct, and that appropriate resources had been allocated to address LoR throughout the sentence, in all but one case in our sample.
- (4) Case managers supported children and young people throughout the sentence, whether in custody or community, in all cases.
- (5) Good levels of engagement with parents/carers were sustained throughout the sentence in all cases.
- (6) In 94% of cases all requirements of the sentence had been implemented.

### ***Area for improvement:***

- (1) Interventions in the community were sequenced appropriately in less than half of cases seen.



### 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:***

**71%**

***Comment:***

***MODERATE improvement required***

***Strengths:***

- (1) Where required, all necessary action was taken to safeguard and protect children and young people from immediate harm in 80% of community cases and in one of the two custody cases.
- (2) Similarly, all necessary action was taken to Safeguard and protect other affected children and young people from immediate harm in all relevant cases.
- (3) All necessary referrals to ensure Safeguarding were made to other relevant agencies in 86% of community cases and in the one relevant custodial case.
- (4) There was evidence of effective joint working between partner agencies, particularly substance misuse services (89%) and ETE (78%), and other YOT workers to promote the Safeguarding and well-being of children and young people in the community.
- (5) Similarly, with the exception of children's social care services, there was evidence of effective joint working with partner agencies to promote the Safeguarding and well-being of children and young people in custody in all cases where required. This included ensuring continuity in the provision of mainstream substance misuse and ETE services, in the transition from custody to community.
- (6) Specific interventions to promote Safeguarding were identified in two of three custody cases and in over three-quarters of community cases and were delivered in almost two-thirds of all relevant cases. The interventions were then incorporated into the VMPs in two custody cases and over two-thirds of the VMPs in the community. Both custody cases were reviewed every three months or following significant change, as were 71% of community cases.
- (7) All relevant staff supported and promoted the general well-being of children and young people, throughout the course of the sentence, in two of the three custodial cases and in 81% of relevant community cases.

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

- (1) Joint working with children's social care services lacked consistency.
- (2) Effective management oversight of Safeguarding and vulnerability was evidenced in one of the three custodial cases and in 42% of the relevant community cases.

### **OVERALL SCORE for quality of Delivery and Review of Interventions work: 80%**

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

Children and young people had access to a wide range of interventions developed to meet local need, for example, offending behaviour programmes; substance misuse interventions; sexual health intervention programme; and interventions, jointly with the Fire Service, for children and young people who had committed offences of arson. The sensitive use of restorative conferencing was noteworthy. It was also pleasing to see the breadth and quality of reparation projects. As well as group placements, such as forest clearance and other environmental projects, we saw evidence of reparation direct to the community and to individual victims. We were particularly impressed by the commitment of staff to work alongside children and young people undertaking reparation work. We saw how such activities provided staff with invaluable opportunities to engage meaningfully on a more informal level with children and young people and how this level of engagement contributed to positive change.

### 3. OUTCOMES

Our inspections include findings about initial outcomes, as set out in this section. In principle, this is the key section that specifies what supervision is achieving, but in practice this is by necessity just a snapshot of what has been achieved in only the first 6-9 months of supervision, and for which the evidence is sometimes only provisional.

#### 3.1 Achievement of outcomes:

***General Criterion:***

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

***Score:***

**70%**

***Comment:***

***MODERATE improvement required***

***Strengths:***

- (1) All reasonable action was taken to keep the *RoH* posed by children and young people to a minimum in almost three-quarters of cases.
- (2) Over three-quarters of children and young people in our sample had complied with the requirements of sentence. Of the eight children and young people who had not complied, effective enforcement action was taken in six cases.
- (3) Overall progress had been made on the most significant factors relevant to offending in three-quarters of all cases. We judged that most improvement had taken place in the areas of thinking and behaviour, perception of self and motivation to change.
- (4) There had been a reduction in the frequency and/or seriousness of offending in 67% and 72% of cases respectively. This was above the average of YOTs inspected to date.

***Area for improvement:***

- (1) In those cases where, overall, all reasonable action had not been taken to keep the *Risk of Harm* to children and young people, whether from themselves or others, to a minimum, insufficient assessment and planning by case managers were identified as the main problem areas.

### 3.2 Sustaining outcomes:

***General Criterion:***

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

***Score:***

**83%**

***Comment:***

***MINIMUM improvement required***

***Strengths:***

- (1) Full attention had been given to community integration issues in 86% of community cases.
- (2) Action had been taken, or there were plans in place, to ensure that positive outcomes were sustainable in most cases.

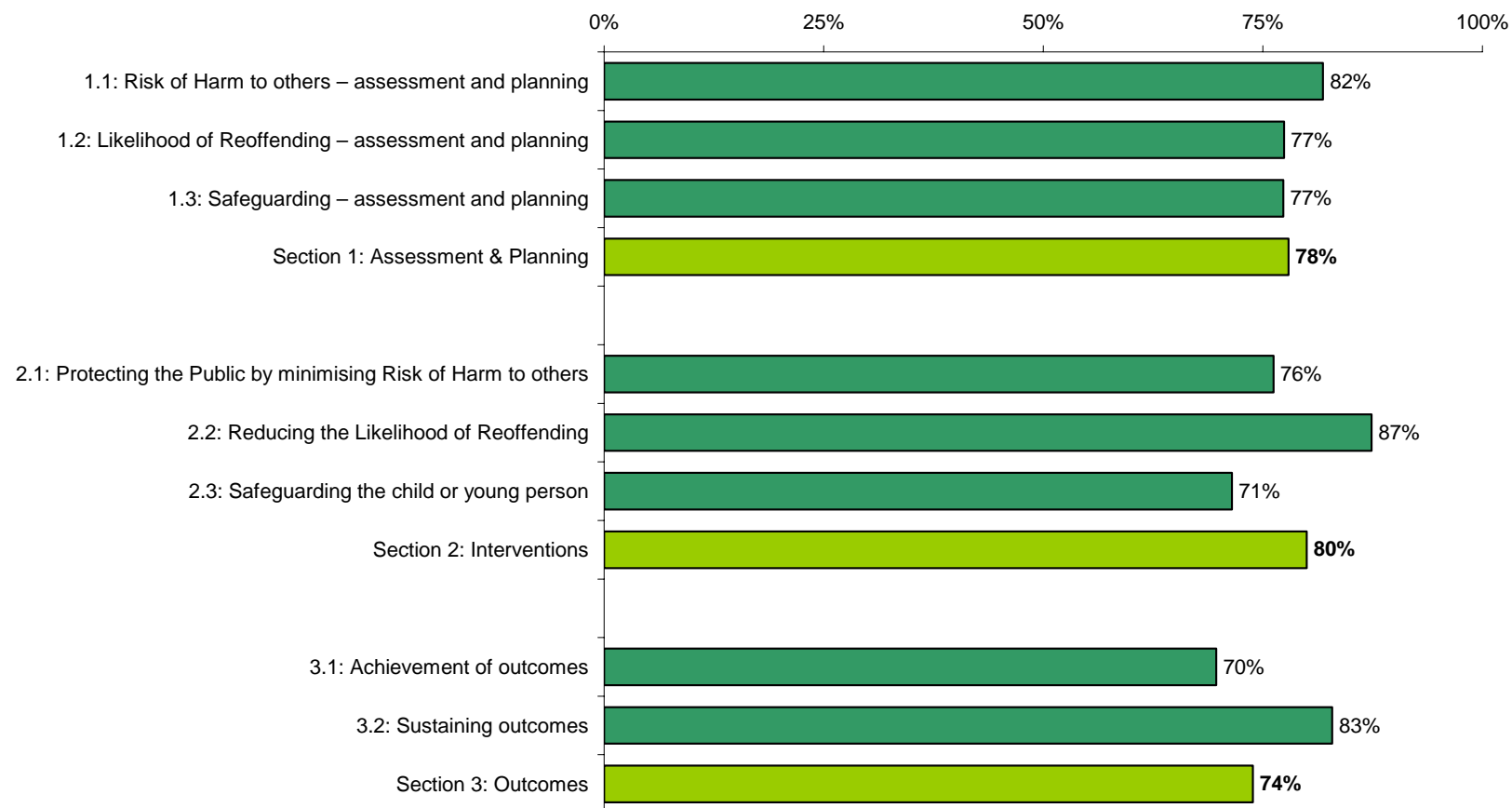
**OVERALL SCORE for quality of Outcomes work: 74%**

**COMMENTARY on Outcomes as a whole:**

It was very encouraging to note the continuing work undertaken with children and young people when requirements were completed or orders ended. In particular, we noted ongoing work with ETE services and we saw examples of children and young people continuing to engage in constructive activities to which they had been introduced during their contact with the YOT. This work built upon individual efforts made by staff to initiate constructive relationships with children and young people and their parents/carers during the orders.

## Appendix 1: Summary

### West Berkshire CCI General Criterion Scores



## Appendix 2: Contextual information

### Area

West Berkshire was located in the South East region of England.

The area had a population of 144,483 as measured in the Census 2001, 11.0% of which were aged 10 to 17 years old. This was higher than the average for England/Wales, which was 10.4%.

The population of West Berkshire was predominantly white British (93%) The population with a black and minority ethnic heritage (7%) was below the average for England/Wales of 12%.

Reported offences for which children and young people aged 10 to 17 years received a pre-court disposal or a court disposal in 2009/2010, at 28 per 1,000, was better than the average for England/Wales of 38.

### YOT

The YOT boundaries were within those of the Thames Valley police area. The Thames Valley Probation Trust and the Berkshire West Primary Care Trust covered the area.

The YOT was located within the Children and Young People's Directorate of the West Berkshire County Council. It was managed by the YOT manager.

The YOT Management Board was chaired by the Head of Children's Services.

The YOT Headquarters was in the West Berkshire town of Newbury. The operational work of the YOT was based in Newbury. ISS was managed on a Berkshire-wide basis through a consortium of five Berkshire YOTs with delivery to West Berkshire through a West of Berkshire team based in Reading.

**Youth Justice Outcome Indicators 2011/2012 onwards** (this replaces YJB National Indicator Performance Judgements)

The national youth justice indicators for England have been replaced by three outcome indicators. These indicators will also be used in Wales.

**1. The reoffending measure** is a count of the number of 10 to 17 year olds who reoffend within 12 months of their conviction.

**2. The first time entrants measure** counts the number of young people given their first pre-court or court disposal and thus entering the youth justice system within each year.

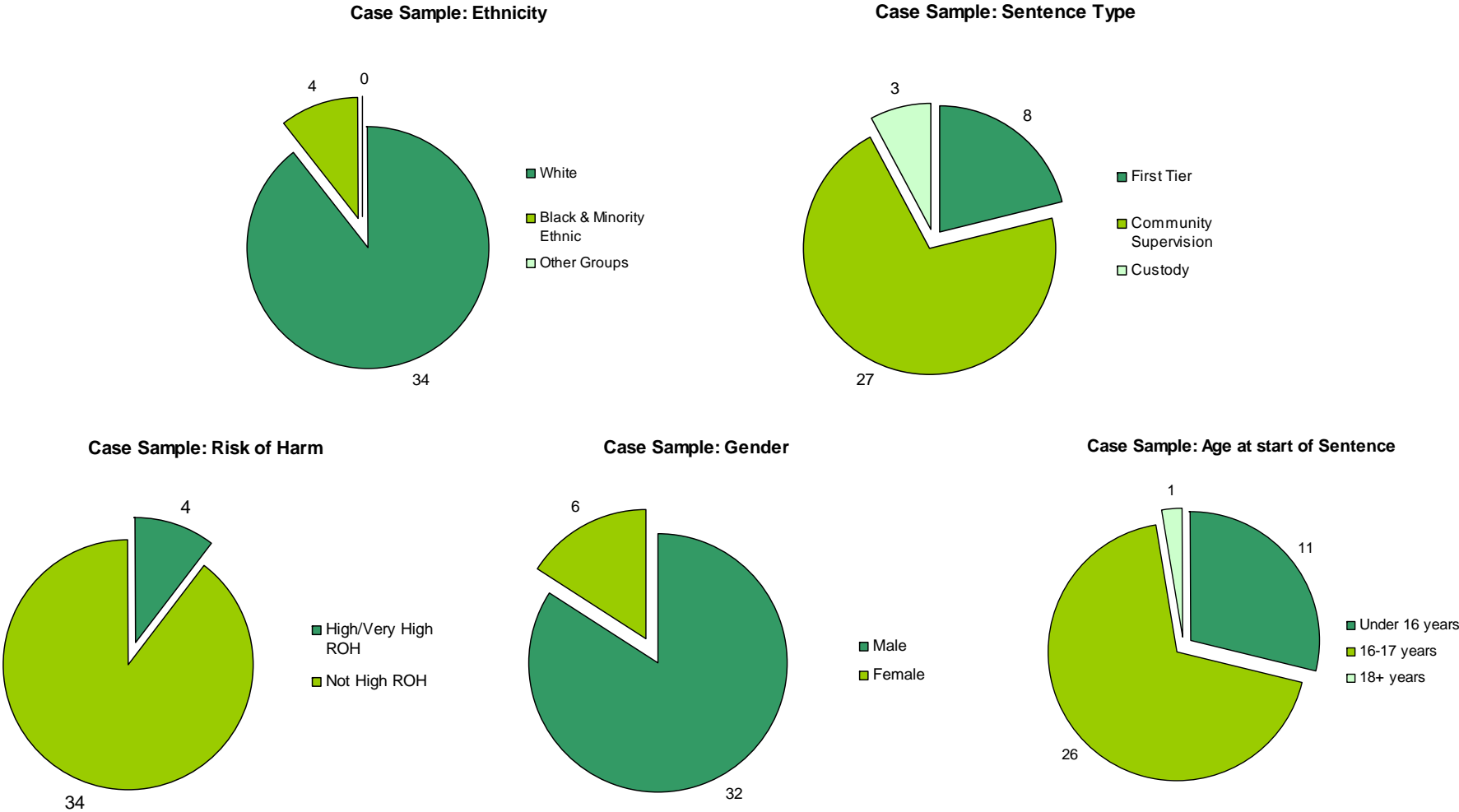
**3. The use of custody** for young people aged 10 to 17 years.

Data will be made available progressively through 2011, broken down by Local Authority area.

For further information about the YJB and the performance management of YOTs, please refer to:

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

Appendix 3a: Inspection data chart



## Appendix 3b: Inspection data

Fieldwork for this inspection was undertaken in March 2011

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 YOT.

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

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

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

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

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



## Appendix 5: Glossary

ASB/ASBO	Antisocial behaviour/Antisocial Behaviour Order
APIS	Assessment, Planning, Interventions and Supervision
Asset	A structured assessment tool based on research and developed by the Youth Justice Board looking at the young person's offence, personal circumstances, attitudes and beliefs which have contributed to their offending behaviour
CAF	Common Assessment Framework: a standardised assessment of a child or young person's needs and of how those needs can be met. It is undertaken by the lead professional in a case, with contributions from all others involved with that individual
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services: part of the National Health Service, providing specialist mental health and behavioural services to children and young people up to at least 16 years of age
Careworks	One of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also YOIS+
CRB	Criminal Records Bureau
DTO	Detention and Training Order: a custodial sentence for the young
Estyn	HM Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales
ETE	Education, Training and Employment: work to improve an individual's learning, and to increase their employment prospects
Family Group	Used by the YJB for comparative performance reporting, this is a group of YOTs identified as having similar characteristics
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>
ISS	Intensive Surveillance and Supervision: 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
ISSP	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme: following the implementation of the Youth Rehabilitation Order this has been supervised by ISS
LoR	Likelihood of Reoffending. See also <i>constructive</i> Interventions

LSC	Learning and Skills Council
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board: set up in each local authority (as a result of the Children Act 2004) to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of the multi-agency work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality.
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements: where probation, police, prison and other agencies work together locally to manage offenders who pose a higher <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills: the Inspectorate for those services in England (not Wales, for which see Estyn)
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PPO	Prolific and other Priority Offender: designated offenders, adult or young, who receive extra attention from the Criminal Justice System agencies
Pre-CAF	This is a simple 'Request for Service' in those instances when a Common Assessment Framework may not be required. It can be used for requesting one or two additional services, e.g. health, social care or educational
PSR	Pre-sentence report: for a court
RMP	Risk management plan: a plan to minimise the individual's <i>Risk of Harm</i>
RoH	<i>Risk of Harm to others</i> . See also <i>restrictive Interventions</i>
'RoH work', or 'Risk of Harm work'	This is the term generally used by HMI Probation to describe work to protect the public, primarily using <i>restrictive interventions</i> , to keep to a minimum the individual's opportunity to behave in a way that is a <i>Risk of Harm to others</i>
RoSH	Risk of Serious Harm: a term used in Asset. HMI Probation prefers not to use this term as it does not help to clarify the distinction between the <i>probability</i> of an event occurring and the <i>impact/severity</i> of the event. The term <i>Risk of Serious Harm</i> only incorporates 'serious' impact, whereas using ' <i>Risk of Harm</i> ' enables the necessary attention to be given to those offenders for whom lower <i>impact/severity</i> harmful behaviour is <i>probable</i>
Safeguarding	The ability to demonstrate that all reasonable action has been taken to keep to a minimum the risk of a child or young person coming to harm.
SIFA	Screening Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for specialist workers
SQIFA	Screening Questionnaire Interview for Adolescents: Youth Justice Board approved mental health screening tool for YOT workers
VMP	Vulnerability management plan: a plan to safeguard the well-being of the individual under supervision
YJB	Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
YOI	Young Offenders Institution: a Prison Service institution for young people remanded in custody or sentenced to custody
YOIS+	Youth Offending Information System: one of the two electronic case management systems for youth offending work currently in use in England and Wales. See also Careworks
YOS/T	Youth Offending Service/Team
YRO	Youth Rehabilitation Order