
Members' Bulletin

Latest Update from
the Association of
Youth Offending Team Managers Ltd

October 2017



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AYM Responds to The Lammy Review



The Rt Hon David Lammy MP has published his independent review into the treatment of, and outcomes for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the CJS. He has drawn up 35 recommendations for action.

See

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lammy-review-final-report>

AYM have published a response to the Review, which has been published in full at <http://aym.org.uk/2017/09/08/aym-response-lammy-report/>

In our response, our Chair, Lesley Tregear, highlights areas we are pleased to see being brought to the fore, areas where YOT Managers can support changes, and the recognition of the wider context of BAME crime associated with poverty.

She welcomes the recommendations which “aim to improve relationships between the criminal justice system and local communities, and to safeguard and protect individuals within the criminal justice system and remove any causes of

disproportionality with regard to BAME and GRT.”



Lesley concludes: “We look forward to reading the government response to this report and hope to be invited to help formulate future thinking on how the recommendations are taken forward.”

An Opportunity to Influence Probation Provision in YOTs

The NPS Young Offenders Governance Board is seeking our views on the current and future probation arrangements.



Hannah Doughty represents AYM on this Board, and reports that:

- ❖ YOT Managers will shortly receive caseload data from the YJB which will need to be validated
- ❖ there will be a series of consultation events, led by NPS regional leads, to inform a new resource model
- ❖ questionnaires will be sent out to YOT managers, YOT Probation secondees, Chairs of YOT management boards and NPS divisional leads

The timescale for returning questionnaires and validated data will be the end of October. It will be helpful to get as many responses as possible about the past two years to gain a national picture, but also to try and get it right in the future.



Please contribute to this process, and put your views across.

LGA calls for urgent action on safety in the Secure Estate

The LGA is calling on the Government to produce a 'clear action plan to improve conditions in youth custody'.



This follows the damning report from HMI Prisons in July, which found there was not a single establishment safe to hold children and young people.

The Chair of the LGA, Cllr Richard Watts, said: "There is no other situation in which children and young people would be placed in environments that are known to be unsafe, and youth custody should be no exception... Action needs to be taken to ensure that young people are safe in custody".



For more details see

<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/news/councils-call-urgent-action-improve-safety-youth-offending-institutions>

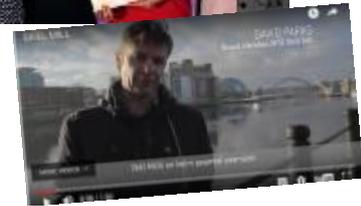
Apply for the John Hawkins Award 2017

AYM is again promoting best practice with this annual award to be presented at the Youth Justice Convention.

We will be seeking nominations from AYM members who can demonstrate innovation and creativity in youth justice.

It was won last year by Leeds YOS for their BeSMART programme, and previous winners included StreetDoctors and the Skill Mill.

We are seeking nominations from AYM members who can demonstrate innovation and creativity in youth justice in the last 12 months and can evidence why they should receive the John Hawkins Memorial Award.



John was a founder member of the AYM and a committed and enthusiastic member until his untimely death in August 2011. John was a passionate advocate for quality work and positive outcomes for young people, victims and communities. It is in this spirit and with the support of his family that the award has been devised.

To apply for the £500 award, which is to be spent on furthering the winning project and its aims, all you need do is:

- Work for a YOT with an AYM member within the management team
- Write a submission outlining why you/your project deserve the award, with a maximum of 500 words
- Be available in person or to have a representative present at the Youth Justice Convention to receive the prize.
- Be prepared to be involved in any publicity emanating from the award and endorsed by AYM Ltd

Previous winning projects cannot enter again, although a previous winning YOT may enter a different project.

Please send your submission (electronically if possible) by 5pm on **16th November 2016** to: Ian Langley, Secretary, Association of YOT Managers (AYM) c/o Elizabeth Court II, The Castle, Winchester, Hants, S023 8UG. E-Mail:

ian.langley@hants.gov.uk

AYM Joint Conference 25th October



AYM is pleased to announce its autumn conference to be held in Manchester in partnership with Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU).



The main theme will be the increasing complexity of needs of young people under supervision.

Confirmed speakers are:

- **Professor Leanne Dowse**, University of New South Wales, on young people with complex needs in the criminal justice system
- **Professor Hannah Smithson**, Head of the Manchester Centre for Youth Studies at MMU
- **Marius Frank**, Director of Achievement for All, on the SEND project run with AYM and MMU.
- **Gill Eshleby**, Strategic Manager, County Durham YOS, on a local perspective of how to implement changes for young people with complex needs.



Lunch will be provided free of charge.

The venue will be the MMU Manchester School of Art, Benzie Building.

Join us for a fascinating day!

To book a place please email jon.obyrne@aym.org.uk



Stay up-to-date on YJ issues

[@AssnYOTmanagers](https://twitter.com/AssnYOTmanagers)



follow us on
twitter

Do you have aspirational managers you want to develop? Act now!

AYM has decided to offer a fourth AFLs Course to YOT staff wishing to become YOT Managers. 33 people have successfully completed the course in recent years.



It will be of particular interest to managers in YOTs who are contemplating making applications for more senior roles, or who represent the Head of Service at partnership meetings.



The programme is run in partnership with Solace and is an accredited ILM development programme at level 5. It consists of an introductory workshop and four two-day modules which take place at roughly six week intervals. It begins in December 2017 and completes in June 2018.

There is no formal selection process, and we operate on a first-come-first-served basis, with the proviso that the application is supported by the Head of Service and funding is available. We have a number of expressions of interest already, so there is competition for the places left.

Aspiring Future Leaders course

To book your places or for more information please email jon.obyrne@aym.org.uk

AYM Reps in the North West and South East



Welcome to our new AYM NW Rep, Jacqui Belfield-Smith from Stockport YOT. Jacqui brings many years' experience of the youth justice sector, including the past 12 years as Head of Service for Stockport.

She replaces Hannah Doughty, who is stepping down as the AYM NW Rep. She is moving from Liverpool to a new role in Croydon. However, she remains actively involved with AYM, as she has been appointed as an Observer to the Executive.



In the South East, Jessica Edwards has stepped down as the Regional Rep and has also been appointed an Observer to the Executive. Jessica continues to hold the portfolio for courts and custody. Members in the SE are currently deciding on their new Regional Rep so the new post-holder will be announced in our next issue.

SEND



As the project enters the final six months of its contract, the work of the three partners continues as we aim to support YOTs and the secure estate in delivering better outcomes for young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

Achievement for All are working with YOTs to baseline the quality of current practice and will soon be moving into reviews of progress against baselines. They are also taking the lead in delivering workshops to senior management teams in the YOIs and STCs.



Manchester Metropolitan University continues to work with four YOTs on a research exercise, looking at how the data held by YOTs and their partners might be used more effectively to reduce criminalisation of young people with SEND.

AYM's focus is on transferring the lessons learned from the project into "business as usual", and we continue to work with the relevant inspection bodies (HMI Probation and Ofsted) to ensure alignment with their frameworks.



Don't forget our request in last month's bulletin for examples of good governance, i.e. where leaders from health, social care and criminal justice partners are working together effectively in your areas. Details (for case studies) to phil.sutton@aym.org.uk by the end of this month, please.

CJA Report on BAME Stop & Search



The Criminal Justice Alliance have published their report "No respect: Young BAME men, the police and stop and search." It has some useful findings.

Written by Peter Keeling, it can be found at <http://criminaljusticealliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/No-Respect-290617.pdf>

National Strategy for Police Custody

The NPCC has published its police custody strategy. It recognises when police custody is inappropriate, such as children and vulnerable people, and so provides 6 strategic principles for practice.



This is well worth sharing with local Appropriate Adult services, whether in-house in YOTs or commissioned externally.

Why Youth Diversion Matters: A Briefing for PCCs

The Centre for Justice Innovation has published their briefing for PCCs on diversion. Ben Estep says:



“Point-of-arrest youth diversion schemes can be a better performing and lower cost option than prosecution or out of court disposals for low-level offences. Despite their compelling evidence base, strong financial case, and years of successful operation in some areas, youth diversion schemes' provision can be piecemeal and their funding precarious. In response, the Centre for Justice Innovation has released a new briefing for Police and Crime Commissioners outlining why and how they can help ensure good quality diversion from the justice system is available for children and young people across the country. We hope this may be particularly useful for YOT managers seeking new or continued support for local diversion schemes.”

For the full report see <http://justiceinnovation.org/portfolio/youth-diversion-matters-briefing-pccs/>

If you need more information, please contact Carmen D'Cruz via cdcruz@justiceinnovation.org



AYM

What have ~~the Romans~~ Ever Done for Us?



AYM will have a stand at the YJ Convention in November.

Come and talk to us about:

- your concerns
- your wish-lists
- what we do well
- what we can do better
- what we should do in the future
- and anything else you want to tell us about or you think we should know



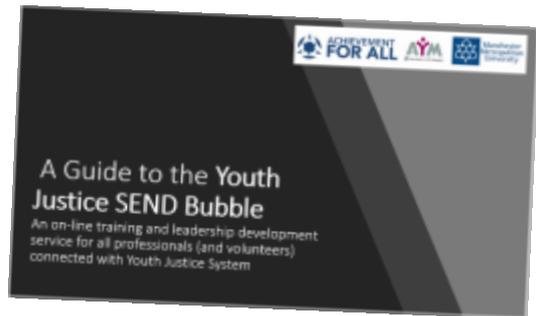
Sadly, you won't find any Monty Python members on the stand....

A Guide to the YJ SEND Bubble



Use the link below to access a comprehensive PowerPoint guide to the Bubble.

It is worth passing this link on to your staff who are registered, or who would benefit from being registered.



http://res.afa3as.org.uk/YJBubble/YJBubble_Guide_2017.pptx

Pilot - Police Officers Giving Evidence by Video Link



A new pilot has been launched by the Home Office for police officers to give evidence in court by video link, freeing up more time for front line duties.

The Video Enabled Justice (VED) initiative will be piloted across London and the South East. It is hoped this will be available to vulnerable victims, and key witnesses unable to travel. The project is led by Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner, Katy Bourne.

See <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-funds-new-video-enabled-justice-programme>

New YJB Board Member Appointed

The Secretary of State for Justice has announced the appointment of Brian Tytherleigh as a member of the Board. See <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/appointment-of-brian-tytherleigh-as-a-member-to-the-youth-justice-board>



If you aren't sure who the current members are, then see the full list <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/youth-justice-board-for-england-and-wales/about/membership>

Conference - Greater Manchester YJ University Partnership

“Participatory Youth Practice: a new framework for youth justice” is the subject of the GMYJUP conference on Thursday 26th October at Manchester Metropolitan University.



Participatory Youth Practice is an evidence based, research-informed framework of youth justice practice, developed through co-creation and participatory research with young people in Greater Manchester. It uses young peoples lived experiences, supported by academic theory and research evidence, to formulate a new approach to youth justice.

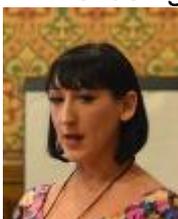
It will feature eight youth-led principles, and practitioner resources to apply the framework in practice.

The conference is free, but for more details and to register for a place go to <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gmyjup-annual-conference-2017-participatory-youth-practice-tickets-36588117043>



Edge Hill University Conference

This is advance-notice for a conference entitled “Health and Wellbeing Needs of Young People in the Justice System”.



The founder of Peer Power, Anne-Marie Douglas, will present her organisation’s partnership work with the NHS in London and how it is influencing the development of health and justice pathways for children and young people experiencing the CJS.



It takes place on 13th March 2018 at Edge Hill University.

For full details see <https://www.edgehill.ac.uk/i4p/public-event-13th-march-2018/>

Radio 4 on Youth Justice

Radio 4 featured an item on youth justice recently. It’s worth a listen on this link <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b0952svg>



Trauma-Informed Interventions and Assessments

The YJB YJ Resource Hub has published new material on trauma, covering:



- trauma-informed practice in youth justice
- the impact of trauma on children and young people
- how to work with children and young people who have experienced trauma.



See <https://yjresourcehub.uk/our-community/resources-for-sharing/item/498-trauma-informed-interventions-and-assessments.html>

Transitions to Adulthood – ‘from the pond into the sea’



The Social Care Institute for Excellence have produced a short guide about transitions, in consultation with NICE.

It is aimed at practitioners working with young people using health and social care services. It is quite short, and so provides links to other resources. It will be of use to YJ practitioners, especially when encouraging other services to engage effectively with young people.



The guide is downloadable from

https://www.nice.org.uk/Media/Default/About/NICE-Communities/Social-care/quick-guides/3312_SCIE_Planning%20for%20transition%20quick%20guide-09.pdf

Private Members Bill



In last month's Bulletin, we reported on The Age of Criminal Responsibility Bill, a private member's bill introduced by Lord Dholakia (Liberal Democrat). The Bill received its second reading on 8 September 2017. It has just one clause to raise the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12.

It will now go to the Committee Stage in the House of Lords. However, Baroness Vere stated that 'the government do not support the Bill', which although expected, is still disappointing. For details of the discussion in the Lords see

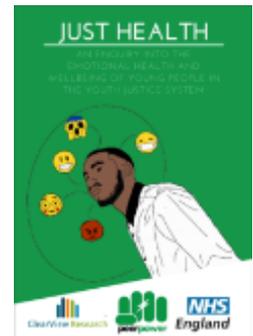
[http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-09-08/debates/D3E4D198-43BB-4B60-9FF0-CFF5B0EA1CB6/AgeOfCriminalResponsibilityBill\(HL\)](http://hansard.parliament.uk/lords/2017-09-08/debates/D3E4D198-43BB-4B60-9FF0-CFF5B0EA1CB6/AgeOfCriminalResponsibilityBill(HL))

For the progress of the Bill see <http://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/ageofcriminalresponsibility/stages.html>

“Just Health – An Enquiry into the Emotional health and Wellbeing of Young People in the YJS”



Peer Power have just published their report, which sets out various recommendations to improve the situation for young people.



It has included substantial input by young people who have been in contact with the YJS, and has been praised by Lord McNally.

To access the report and the recommendations see <http://www.peerpower.org.uk/peer-power-launch-just-health-film-report/>

Inspectorates Report on Children Living with Domestic Abuse

HMI Probation, along with HMICFRS, CQC and Ofsted published a report this month on the multi-agency response to children living with domestic abuse.

Amongst other issues, they found:

- a long-term strategy is needed
- more work is needed to prevent domestic abuse and repair the damage done
- too much focus is on crisis management
- more clarity is needed on whose rights to prioritise



The full report is found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/645642/JTAI_domestic_abuse_18_Sept_2017.pdf

G4S Performance at Immigration Centres Questioned

Following the end of their STC contracts, G4S is now under scrutiny for their management of immigration centres. See the following BBC stories:

G4S BBC undercover reporter at Brook House Immigration Centre
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-41153552>



G4S excessive profits from running immigration detention centres <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-41260192>

G4S refuses to close to immigration centre profits to MPs
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-41269956>

A Manifesto to Strengthen Families

52 Conservative MPs and Peers have called on the government to:

- create a government focused on supporting families, including a new Cabinet-level Ministerial post
- encourage every local authority to work with voluntary and private sector partners to deliver Family Hubs
- promote the importance of active fatherhood in a child's life
- remove financial disincentives for those on low incomes to form lasting couple relationships
- use childcare funding to support parenting



- promote healthy relationships to tackle the country's mental health crisis
- relationship education should promote a culture that supports stronger families
- help prisons to put the role of families at the heart of efforts to reduce reoffending

See http://www.strengtheningfamiliesmanifesto.com/assets/Family_Manifesto.pdf

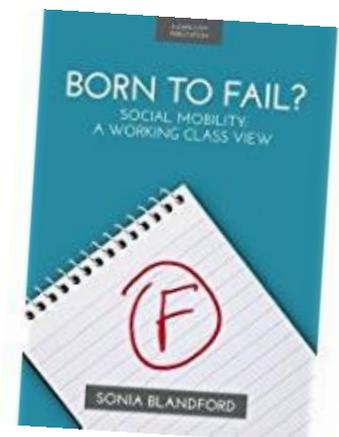
Just Published

“Born to Fail? Social Mobility: A Working-Class View”

Born to Fail? tackles head-on issues such as why education often doesn't matter to the working class; how education has failed to deliver for them; the importance of self-belief, action and confidence; and how the Early Years is the crucial time to build success from the start.



Sonia Blandford, CEO of charity Achievement for All, writes clearly about the realities facing the white working class and how to address social mobility from the inside.



Sonia set up Achievement for All, whose staff work with thousands of schools to help close the attainment gap; as well as with AYM on the DfE contract.

For more details see https://www.amazon.co.uk/Born-Social-Mobility-Working-Class/dp/1911382403/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1504813594&sr=1-1

Links of interest

MOJ Report - exploratory analysis of 10-17 year olds in the youth secure estate by black and other minority ethnic groups.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/641481/Exploratory-analysis-of-10-17-year-olds-in-the-youth-secure-estate-by-bame-groups.pdf



CPS publishes statement on supporting male victims of crimes covered by the CPS Violence against Women and Girls Strategy

<http://www.cps.gov.uk/publications/equality/vaw/public-statement-male-victims-crimes-covered-by-CPS-VAWG-strategy.pdf>

Education Policy Institute report into access and waiting times in children and young people's mental health services

https://epi.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/EPI_Access-and-waiting-times_.pdf

Academic article on how fear of crime affects punitive attitudes

<https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs10610-017-9342-5.pdf>

The economic cost of BAME overrepresentation in the CJS, including young people

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/642551/david-lammy-economic-paper-short-summary.pdf

Parliamentary Justice Committee Membership update

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/justice-committee/news-parliament-2017/update-30-03-1712/>

NAJY report on the state of youth justice 2017

<http://thenayj.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/State-of-Youth-Justice-report-for-web-Sep17.pdf>

HCPC guidance to professionals on using social media http://www.hcpc-uk.org/assets/documents/1000553EGuidanceonsocialmedia.pdf?dm_i=2NJF,JU8M,3FKM5B,22JZJ,1

Please note: The AYM Bulletin shares items which we feel may be of interest to members, but this should not be taken as endorsement of individuals, organisations or their products. The views expressed in this Bulletin do not necessarily represent those of AYM or its membership.

