



Bulletin

June 2019

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From the Executive...

Firstly, our thoughts and wishes go to the family of Chris Domeney, Head of Service of Hounslow YOT for many years, who died recently. Many knew Chris well and his commitment to improving work with children, he was well respected for his experience and expertise and will be greatly missed.

Our thoughts too go to his staff at Hounslow who will be trying to come to terms with his death and the loss of a well respected leader.

Congratulations to East Riding YOS for being the first YOT to achieve a judgement of *'outstanding' in all areas* of the new inspection framework.

Dame Glenys, Chief Inspector of Probations said:

"Staff at the organisation are skilled, impressive and highly motivated. They take the time to gain a thorough understanding of the children and young people that they work with, and are committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for them."

"Everybody at East Riding YOS should be justly proud of their hard work and commitment. They deserve to be congratulated for this wonderful achievement."

Well done East Riding, we hope you will share some of your experience at a future AYM event!

AYM Response to Government Consultations

During a period where Brexit seems to be the focus for most politicians it is clear that youth justice remains a hot topic.



Members of the AYM Executive have been busy over the past month completing responses to the many government consultations taking place.

Charlie Taylor's **review of pain inducing restraint** in the secure estate, featured in last month's Bulletin, has been a focus for many partners and Hazel Williamson on behalf of the AYM has advised the review that the AYM advocates that children should be cared for within an environment that takes account of their age, understanding and past trauma, which by its nature would then mitigate the application of restraint and avoid the use of pain.

It is clear that in rare and certain circumstances where extreme violence is seen within secure establishments that there must be some way to prevent significant harm to children and staff but the AYM ask that the use of restraint with or without pain is considered alongside the review of the youth custody estate and that this is seen within a whole systems approach in designing a model which puts children first and keeps everyone safe.

The report to the Select Committee is due early June.

Serious Youth Violence and in particular knife crime is a major issue for government – and for YOTs who are managing the young people charged and/or convicted of such offences and who quite often know the victims....

Brendan Finegan has responded to the Home Office consultation on a **public health approach to preventing serious violence**, advising that a statutory duty is misplaced and encouraging the development of the vision for tackling serious violence that fully represents a holistic approach to protecting children and their families from harm, where a focus on early intervention is required.



The AYM has also made it clear that YOTs should be added to the list of statutory partners in Community Safety Partnerships in order to more adequately prevent and tackle serious violence in local areas

Our response also advised that building on the success of the partnerships of youth offending teams, the Home Office should “encourage local partnerships to combine and gather a broad range of partners and their interventions. These should not see serious violence as different or not related to the many other threats that some children face. As the recent report by the College of Policing acknowledges, adults are responsible for most serious violent crime”.

Other consultation responses include the Ministry of Justice consultation on **guidance to CPS solicitors for dealing with offenders with mental disorders and ill health**.



AYM members may also have seen the recent article by BASW in the YJB Bulletin which appeared to suggest **social work in youth offending teams** was losing its child focus in favour of enforcement. Hannah Doughty contacted the author, Wayne Reid to advise on the excellent work of social worker in YOTs.

As a result of Hannah’s intervention, BASW has invited the AYM Chair Andy Peadar, to a meeting of the BASW England, Criminal Justice Policy Practice & Education Group. Andy will no doubt be ensuring that BASW members fully understand the pivotal role social workers hold in youth offending teams and the influence they bring on other services, including children’s teams.

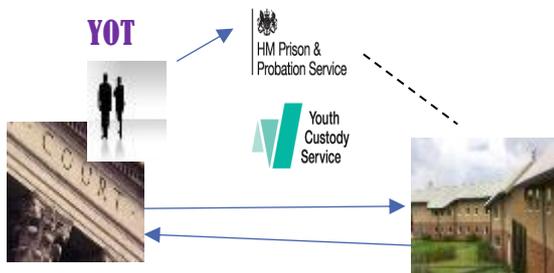


Concerns about Connectivity to the Secure Estate?



The AYM would like to know if you have an issue

Since the transfer of responsibility for the secure estate to the new Youth Custody Service (YCS), some youth offending services (YOTs) have had concerns regarding the transfer of information to the YCS placements team.



The issue becomes greater when the information sent via connectivity to YCS is then transferred to the secure establishments. Some secure estate officers are advising that the information appears as a blank page – as a result there are requests to YOTs send the information again but by secure e-mail.

Further concerns are being raised regarding placements which occur at weekends where AssetPlus, sent via connectivity, is not accessed by the YCS Placements Team and converted for use by the secure estate until the Monday.

These are obviously problems YOT managers would like to avoid, safeguarding children in the secure estate relies on sharing information in a timely manner, delays such as these potentially put children at risk.

In order to assess whether this is a problem common to all YOTs or just a few, the AYM would like to ask YOT managers to let us know if your YOT is experiencing the same, or similar issues.

The AYM regularly meets with the YJB and the YCS and we would like to raise any issues you have at the next meeting in order to find an early solution to any problems you have.

Please contact Hazel Williamson asap to let her know what issues and concerns you have:

Hazel.williamson@staffordshire.gov.uk

Funding and Planning



The YJB have now advised YOTs of their funding allocations for 2019/20

The AYM and other bodies such as the Local Government Association (LGA) have been concerned about the delay in notification of YOT grants for 2019/20 with the LGA criticising the Ministry of Justice for thwarting the planning of local authorities to address knife crime and child exploitation as a result; recognising the pivotal role YOTs play in this work.

In an article to the Independent, the LGA pointed out that funding to YOTs has reduced by more than 50% since 2010/11 and this has had a significant impact on the size of the YOT and the ability of the service to deliver services to prevent offending, leaving some with limited capacity to focus on other than the support to supervision of statutory police and court disposals. The shadow justice secretary Richard Burgon said: *“Youth offending teams play a crucial role in preventing young people becoming perpetrators or victims of crime.”* [Click here](#) to read the article.



The YJB has now announced that YOTs will receive at 99% of the allocation awarded for 2018/19. However, some will receive additional funding to “identify and share ways to address challenges such as serious youth violence, disproportionality and county lines.” This additional funding appears to meet the needs of 4 out of 6 of the YJB priorities for 2019/2022:

- improving local practice
- BAME disproportionality, and
- reducing serious youth violence.

Whilst YOTs are well known for sharing best practice and are committed to the YJB priorities, for many YOTs although only a small reduction, this is just one more additional cut to the funding to YOTs and many will not receive the additional funding resulting from the ‘top slicing’ used to support YJB priorities.

For more about the YJB Strategic and Business follow these links:

[Strategic Plan](#) [Business Plan](#)

Top Tips for HMIP Inspections

Tips from the Inspection Seminars



We asked the managers presenting at the recent seminars to put some top tips together to support YOTs who are yet to be inspected – here they are...

Things you should be doing now

1. Make sure you know your service's strengths and the challenges it is facing. Be open and honest about them
2. Brief your staff and panel members, your management board, senior managers in your LA and partner agencies and your youth panel
3. Prepare your Story of Place and your Evidence in Advance, and keep them up-to-date
4. Make sure the chair of your management board is familiar with your Story of Place and EIA
5. Think about who you would want to attend focus groups and brief them to expect an invitation
6. Think about how you can ensure the inspectors can hear the views of your service users
7. Make sure you have more than one person who is sufficiently confident with the IT to produce case information
8. Think about where you will locate the inspection team and the focus group meetings. You will need seven or eight rooms
9. Have a contingency plan in place in case the call from inspectors comes when you're out of the office or on leave



Things to do once you receive notification of the date

1. Encourage staff and panel members to complete the survey
2. Make sure there is more than one person who can speak with confidence about each case
3. Prepare admin staff to welcome members of focus groups and deliver inspectors to the correct rooms

We hope you find these useful



AYM Feedback to HMIP



Lead Inspector, Head of YOT Inspections attends Executive Board

The AYM has an established relationship with HMI Probation which enables good communication between YOTs and the inspectorate and has supported improvements in the inspection framework and ongoing application of these.

Our recent Inspection Seminars were of interest to Alan MacDonald, Head of YOT Inspections, who attended the AYM Executive Board meeting in April and as promised the Executive were able to feedback comments.



In particular, that the views of children subject to YOT supervision were not captured during inspection and so did not really feature in YOT Inspection reports. Whilst recognising the difficulties in engaging children in the criminal justice system, YOT managers felt this was a gap in the inspection framework that requires attention.

The Executive suggested that in future YOTs could either be encouraged to submit evidence to Inspectors that captures children's views or create opportunities for Inspectors to meet with young people directly; the Executive advised Alan that the AYM would be happy to support the development of such an approach.



Another area of concern arising from the inspections reported to Alan, was the focus on the effectiveness of YOT Management Boards which was welcomed by YOT managers. However, the Executive were able to feedback that some YOT managers felt that the Inspectorate should not restrict themselves from just looking at YOT Management Boards but should consider other groups such as Children's Trust Boards and Community Safety Partnerships which are sometimes have a greater influence locally on YOT activity and effectiveness.

As part of the ongoing arrangements with HMIP it is hoped Alan will be able to attend another Executive Board in the autumn.

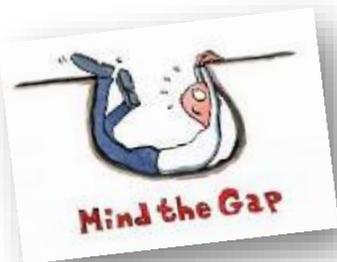
If YOT managers unable to attend either of the Inspection Seminars are interested in the AYM arranging a further session, please contact your regional representative.

Transition to Adulthood

Mind the Gap!



The Standing Committee for Youth Justice, of which the AYM is a member has, together with a coalition of organisations involved with young people, recently published a report 'Transitions to Adulthood: The case for a cross-departmental taskforce'. This report follows the report in March 2018 by the Children's Society's 'Crumbling Futures' which detailed the multiple disadvantages 16 and 17 year olds face in their lives which affect their life chances.



'Transitions to Adulthood' is a series of essays that cover all areas of young people's service provision and includes an essay on youth justice. The essays discuss the way in which young people aged 16 and 17 years fall between the gap between current children and adult service provision.

Recognising that no one government department or agency can resolve the issues alone, the report calls for the creation of a cross-departmental taskforce to consider how best to ensure that the multiple disadvantage in teenager's lives is addressed in a co-ordinated way that ensures positive outcomes.

The report also argues that "Not enough has been done to address the 'cliff edge' in the approach taken to criminal justice before and after someone's 18th birthday. The sudden changes that can happen from this point do not reflect a young person's developing maturity as they transition into adulthood. Too often a young person who has been a victim of sexual or criminal exploitation as a child may face criminalisation once they reach young adulthood."

The authors also propose that '**young adult' courts could improve justice approaches**, providing a tailored approach for young adults that takes into account developmental maturity, and adopts language and communication to ensure that young people understand and engage with proceedings. The report quotes the House of Commons Justice Committee who calls for pilots of such courts to be endorsed by the minister and HMCTS.

[Click here](#) to read the article in the Guardian

To access the full report [click here](#)



Aspiring Future Leaders Course

Places are going fast - enrol NOW for the Autumn Course



We have already received a good deal of interest in managers wanting to undertake the Aspiring Future Leaders course, aimed at operations managers aspiring to become YOT Managers, or apply for other strategic roles in the public sector.



The anticipated commencement date for the next cohort is September, completing in the new year.

For more information, or to apply, please contact Ann Wood at:
Ann.wood@aym.org.uk

Piloting the New Inspection Approach

HMIP are looking for volunteers – registration extended

HMI Probation has developed a shorter more focussed approach to inspecting smaller YOTs and is looking for volunteers to pilot this new methodology. This is in recognition that YOTs vary greatly in size and that to inspect all of them in the same way, with the same resource, would represent too great a burden for some services.



Youth offending teams (YOTs) are currently selected for inspection by HMI Probation according to a risk-based approach. This factors in the size of the services caseload, performance information and the date since the last inspection. This means that smaller services could be inspected later than their neighbours and miss out on the early insights and potential performance improvement that the process of inspection brings.

HMI Probation has designed an inspection approach that will include YOTs with smaller caseloads in close geographical proximity to each other. It aims to inspect them within the same four-year period as other services, but over less time to reduce the burden on them. The same standards will be applied which focus on organisational delivery, court disposals and out-of-court disposals

HMIP is looking to recruit YOTs to pilot this approach with pilots running in June/July and a second set of pilots in September. The roll out of the new inspections will start from November 2019 onward.

If you are interested in taking part in this pilot then you should first get your near neighbours on board. To help you do this, a list of the smaller YOTs, as identified by HMIP, is presented below in geographical order

HMIP have offered an extension for registration of interest in becoming a pilot:

Please email alan.macdonald@hmiprobation.gov.uk by Monday 10th June

Visit the [HMIP website](#) for more information.



YJB business area	Youth offending team	YJB business area	Youth offending team	
London	Kensington and Chelsea	East & South East	Windsor and Maidenhead	
	Sutton		Bracknell Forest	
	Kingston and Richmond		Wokingham	
	Merton		West Berkshire	
	Westminster		Reading	
	Bexley		Brighton and Hove	
	Havering		Southend-on-Sea	
			Slough	
North East, Yorkshire & Humberside	Hartlepool	Midlands	Solihull	
	Darlington		Stoke-on-Trent	
	Gateshead			
	South Tyneside	North West	Blackburn with Darwen	
	York		Trafford	
	Stockton-on-Tees		Wigan	
	North Lincolnshire		Wirral	
	Northumberland		St. Helens	
	East Riding of Yorkshire		Knowsley	
	North Tyneside		Sefton	
	Rotherham		Tameside	
	Doncaster			
	North East Lincolnshire			
Wales				
	Ceredigion		Wrexham	
	Powys		Blaenau Gwent and Caerphilly	
	Pembrokeshire		Monmouthshire and Torfaen	
	Flintshire		Conwy and Denbighshire	
	Vale of Glamorgan		Newport	
	Gwynedd and Ynys Mon		Cwm Taf	
	Carmarthenshire			

Highlighting and Addressing Disproportionality in the Youth Justice System

Highlighting the issue and recommendations for improving



In last month's Bulletin, Laura Cooper from Just For Kids Law, asked for YOTs to support research into the impact of the use of Taser and spit hoods on children by providing opportunities for her to speak to children who have been affected. Below she highlights the disturbing findings of the Children's Rights Alliance (CRAE) annual report 'State of Children's Rights in England'. Laura argues that the report "highlights the urgent need to reform how we respond to children in conflict with the law and paints a bleak picture of the treatment of BAME children throughout the youth justice system." Laura also suggest some ways

forward.

BAME children in the criminal justice system

BAME children account for **45% of the custodial estate** despite only making up approximately 18% of the 10-17 year old population. These children also account for 29% of child arrests, and the **proportion of black children given a youth caution or sentence in the last year is now three times that of the general 10-17 year old population.**

Increasing use of police force on children

Through freedom of information act requests of police forces nationally we were able to collate the latest figures and statistics; the findings were shocking.

In 2017, Tasers were used on children at least 871 times and this figure was already 839 just nine months into 2018. 51% of children who had a Taser used on them were from a BAME background. The statistics for Taser use by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) were even more alarming with 68% of Taser incidents involving BAME children.

Spit hoods - bags made of mesh-like material which are placed over the head - were used at least 47 times on children in 2017 and 114 times in the first nine months of 2018. Across the whole period 34% of spit hood uses nationally were on BAME children and a shocking 72% of uses by the MPS. This disproportionate use on BAME children is likely to increase given the recent announcement that Met officers will now be allowed to use spit-hoods on the streets of London.

We know from our work that taser and spit hood use on children can cause serious physical and mental harm.

The Gangs Matrix is another controversial element of policing that predominately affects young black boys. **Recent research** has found it to be a racially discriminatory system, which stigmatises children and is "unfit for purpose". Of those on the matrix, 87% were from a BAME background and 78% were black.

A knee jerk response to knife crime

State of Children's Rights also raises serious concern about Home Office plans to introduce knife crime prevention orders (KCPOs) in a reactive attempt to address the increase in knife crime. We know from our work with children and young people that they frequently carry knives because they are scared or because they are being exploited by criminal gangs. There is no evidence that these orders, which can be given to children as young as 12, will be effective. The inevitable breach of a KCPO can result in a custodial sentence and is squarely at odds with the public health approach to tackling serious youth violence which the government has previously espoused. KCPOs will do little to address the underlying causes of knife crime and are likely to further push BAME children into the youth justice system.

Due to their seriousness and complexity, the issues we raise are not easily solved, but it is clear from our report that disproportionality should be at the top of the agenda for government and all those working in the youth justice system.

Practical steps YOT can make to address BAME disproportionately in the youth justice system:

The police and YOT should have a joint local protocol on out of court disposals (OOCs) and joint decision making, this could include reference to the disproportionate use of formal disposals on BAME children, the difficult issues around the current requirement to 'accept responsibility' or guilt for OOCs and the need to take this into account when making disposal decisions. A new Home Office Counting Rules outcome code, outcome 22, was introduced in April 2019. This is effectively a deferred prosecution and allows a child to engage in restorative justice or other voluntary and appropriate intervention instead of a formal disposal:

Outcome 22: Diversionary, educational or intervention activity, resulting from the crime report, has been undertaken and it is not in the public interest to take any further action

This was one of the recommendations in the [Lammy review](#) and could be a way to prevent the unnecessary and disproportionate use of formal disposals on BAME children.

Laura Cooper is a Youth Justice Lawyer and the Senior Policy and Public Affairs Advisor Children and Policing for Just for Kids Law including Children's Rights Alliance for England and Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Prolific Adult Offenders



Ministry
of Justice

Ministry of Justice Considers 'Criminal Pathways'



A recent paper by the Ministry of Justice is the fourth in an intended series of papers which is analysing data on adult prolific offenders and focuses on their prison 'events' along with their socio-economic and educational backgrounds.

Data shows that 42% of the prison population on the 31st March 2019 were prolific offenders. Perhaps unsurprisingly, in the years 2006 to 2016, prolific offenders typically received more immediate custodial sentences per year than non-prolific offenders.

Previous convictions

Only 3% of prolific offenders had no previous convictions or cautions before their first prison event, compared to 32% of non-prolific offenders; prolific offenders were more likely to receive a caution early in their criminal careers.

Over three-quarters (79%) of these offenders received their first caution or conviction as a youth; the remaining 21% received their first caution or conviction as an adult (i.e. aged 18 or over). For the offenders whose first caution or conviction was received as a youth, over half (55%) committed a theft offence as their first offence.



Differences in adult and youth court sentencing

Data shows a difference between the convictions in adult court and youth court of prolific offenders on entering the court system. A community sentence was the most common disposal given to adult prolific offenders for their first offence as a youth (29%), whereas the most common first disposal given adult prolific offenders whose first offence was committed as an adult was a fine (36%).

Of particular interest is the data on offence type at first offence which shows offences of theft were the most common first time offences committed by prolific adult offenders offending for the first time as a youth **or** as an adult.

Education and employment

Prolific and non-prolific offenders both have considerably lower levels of attainment than the wider pupil population. However, higher proportions of prolific offenders than non-prolific offenders had special educational needs and 91% had experienced fixed term exclusions.

Prolific offenders that have received one or more long prison sentence averaged 47% of their working age period claiming out-of-work benefits.

To access the report [click here](#)

'Far less than they deserve'

Report highlights concern for children with learning disabilities or autism living in mental health hospitals



The report identifies the majority of the 250 children with a learning disability or autism in mental health hospitals in England in February 2019 were on a general children's mental health ward (130) with 25 on a specialist learning disability unit.



However, 60 children were on low or medium secure units. Medium secure services accommodate young people with mental and neurodevelopmental disorders (including learning disability and autism) who present with the highest levels of risk of harm to others, **including those who have committed grave crimes.**

The Children's Commissioner has published a report questioning the need for hospitalisation of many of these children and highlights the difficulty in re-settling these children on discharge from hospital due to them becoming institutionalized and due to lack of appropriate care packages. The report also raises concerns with their treatment whilst in hospital.



Amongst these concerns is the issue of restraint and seclusion. The report states staff speak of restraint and seclusion as almost a matter of routine, although it should only be used as a last resort, and is only permitted to deal with incidents on the wards such as a child self-harming or being aggressive towards others. The authors report of families telling "shocking stories of how their children had frequently been restrained and secluded in hospital."

75 children with a learning disability, autism or both in hospital were recorded as having been restrained in December 2018, with a reported total of 820 "restrictive interventions" in total. Physical restraint "accounted for 59% of all restrictive interventions in December 2018; 80% of restrained children experienced it."

Prone restraint (face down) and seclusion each accounted for approximately 1 in 8 incidents of restraint. Concerningly, guidance for restraining adults does not permit prone restraint and the Commissioner's report points out that the government, having consulted in 2017 on the use of restrictive intervention of children, has yet to publish the resultant guidance.

[Click here](#) to read the full report

Local Authorities Fail to Carry Out Return Home Interviews

Learning from Child Exploitation can be applied...

A Children's Society Report 'The First Step' has found that on average, only half of the children who go missing receive a return home interview (RHI). These reviews, designed to help safeguard children are a statutory requirement.



The report identifies that research to support and safeguard children from sexual exploitation can be suitably applied to RHIs. In particular the understanding of the scale of *“hidden missing” - running away episodes that go unreported to the police*, the need to work *“sensitively and inclusively”* with parents, and the need to adopt a young person-centred approach to the work



Researchers found differences in practice for children placed out of area with interviews conducted by a variety of practitioners, including the voluntary sector.



The research showed that *“Having a dedicated service with interviews conducted by professionals who have had additional training on RHIs has been identified as a model that allows:*

- *The streamlining of referral pathways.*
- *Higher levels of engagement by young people (including those who frequently go missing).*
- *A greater concentration of expertise to support young people.*
- *Improved understanding among practitioners of effective information sharing.”*

Recommendations from the Children Society include

- *Requiring all local authorities to create dedicated to provide RHIs*
- *Requiring local authority placing a young person outside their local authority area to:*
 - *Name the potential RHI provider as part of the placement plan.*
 - *Share information on the possible risk of missing and other vulnerabilities of the young person with the host authority and police force.*

To read the full report [click here](#)

You may also be interested in accessing the Children's Society's: [‘Conducting Good Return Interviews’](#)



Transforming Probation – Again!

Dame Glenys is “delighted”

Following repeated criticisms about the performance of community rehabilitation companies (CRCs) by HMI Probation and a review by the Justice Select Committee, the Justice Secretary David Gauke has set out his blueprint for the future of probation – bringing all offender management under the National Probation Service (NPS) and building on existing work to bring down reoffending.

Chief probation inspector Dame Glenys Stacey said she was "delighted" about the decision because the model of part-privatisation was "irredeemably flawed", and people would be safer under a system delivered by the public sector.

This change reverses the decision by the then Justice Secretary Chris Grayling to privatise part of the probation service and abolish local Probation Trusts, replacing them with a National Probation Service.



The National Audit Office said that problems with the part privatisation had cost taxpayer nearly £500m.

From December 2020, all adult offenders will be monitored by the NPS, it had previously been managing just those posing the highest threat, with low and medium risk offenders monitored by CRCs.

Under the new model, each NPS region will have a dedicated, private or voluntary sector ‘Innovation Partner’ - responsible for direct provision of unpaid work and accredited programmes. This will support NPS to identify, encourage and deliver greater innovation for vital services, including substance misuse programmes, training courses, community payback and housing support.

The new model will also give local criminal justice partners a direct role in commissioning services together with NPS.

[Click here](#) to access the announcement.

Children's Rights in Youth Justice: International Conference



The Institute of Advanced Studies and the Social and Policy Studies Unit at Loughborough University is holding this conference on **June 25th, 2019 in the Brockington Building (room B111) at our Loughborough campus.**

The conference will offer a series of presentations on the international context of children's rights in youth justice systems from prominent international academic researchers from:

- England (Professor Stephen Case),
- Scotland (Professor Kay Tisdall),
- Wales (Dr Anthony Charles),
- Northern Ireland (Dr Nicola Carr), and
- Ireland (Professor Ursula Kilkelly).

With further presentations from Pippa Goodfellow (Chair of the Standing Committee for Youth Justice) and Professor Kevin Haines (University of Trinidad and Tobago).

A further day of activities is planned for June 26th to discuss research, scholarship and enterprise opportunities stemming from the conference. All guests are invited to attend both days if they wish.

To register for this **free event**, [click here](#)

Knowsley Youth Offending Service is Recruiting

Knowsley YOS is seeking to recruit a social worker to undertake quality statutory case management for children within the service. This will include holistic assessments, report writing, court work, planned intervention delivery, restorative practice and supervision of young people in custody and the community.

The successful applicant will need to be professionally qualified and HCPC registered as a social worker, have knowledge of current child care and youth justice legislation.

Knowsley Council offers positive support for ASYEs, good training opportunities and a commitment to career progression for all social work staff. Supervision is a regular commitment including reflective sessions and 'My Time Extra'.

For an informal discussion, please contact Mark McCausland or Catherine Johnson, Operational Managers, Youth Offending Service on Tel: 0151 443 3079.

To apply for this post, please [click here](#). **Closing Date is Friday, 07 June 2019.**

NEW Masters Programme in Management of Offending Behaviour

MSc in Applied Management of Offending Behaviour

**Edge Hill
University**

Edge Hill University have introduced a new course is a unique and distinctive programme for those currently working with offenders in probation, prison, youth justice, policing or community settings, as well as those who are aspiring to work in the criminal justice sector. The course will foster the application of critical and analytical skills to the theory, policy and practice of working with offenders. It provides ideal preparation for a career in the key criminal justice agencies,

Students will develop an in-depth knowledge and understanding of a core range of contemporary issues relevant to offenders and the professionals working with them. Focussing on the processes, contexts, risks and protective factors underlying criminal behaviour, students will get the chance to evaluate the role of criminal justice agencies in offender management and rehabilitation, including scrutinising the intersectionality of power in the responses of these agencies to issues of crime, law and order.

Students will explore the role of both the individual and the state in offending and crime whilst gaining an understanding of the risk factors associated with different categories of criminal behaviour and the complex links between the social and economic realities that shape criminality.

Examples of some of the modules available to students include:

- Offending and Risk
- Crime Typologies
- Management of Offenders
- The Social and Economic Contexts of Crime

Some modules also include a field trips, allowing a real hand on approach to back up the theory.

For full details of the fees and funding opportunities click [here](#)

For an informal chat about the programme please contact the course leader:

Dr Sally-Ann Ashton on [01695 657087](tel:01695657087) or at Sally-Ann.Ashton@edgehill.ac.uk

Or go to one of the Open Days and see the facilities for yourself?

Saturday 15th June 2019, 10am-3pm – [Book Now](#)

Saturday 17th August 2019, 10am-3pm – [Book Now](#)

Saturday 12th October 2019, 10am-3pm – [Book Now](#)

Saturday 9th November 2019, 10am-3pm – [Book Now](#)

Saturday 23rd November 2019, 10am-3pm – [Book Now](#)

Other News in Brief



Briefing Paper on Tackling Knife Crime

The College of Policing has published a briefing paper to provide police and crime reduction partners with a summary of the evidence on factors associated with carrying knives, as well as strategies and interventions to tackle knife crime. The briefing is the result of non-exhaustive research of literature and consultation with subject matter experts.

The briefing concludes, “The most successful approaches to reducing violence include well-implemented problem-solving and focused deterrence strategies...”

[Click here](#) to access the article and Briefing Paper

Children ‘Lost’ in Secure Settings



The Children’s Commissioner has published a report [Who are they? Where are they](#) which states that in March 2018, 1465 children were detained in secure settings, including secure children’s homes, secure training centres, young offenders institutions, mental health wards and other residential placements, either for their own safety or the safety of others, 200 . However, 211 children were deprived of liberty as authorised by the court in other settings, but they are ‘invisible’ to us from publicly available data; the report also states that this figure is likely to be an underestimate.

The Commissioner is calling for improved data recording and monitoring and for a the Department for Education, the Minister of Justice and Department for Health to set up a joint working group to address this and other issues associated with secure settings.

Offensive Weapons Bill

The Bill was given Royal Assent on the 16th May, paving the way for knife crime prevention orders.

Guidance on the process for Knife Crime Prevention Orders will be published, including operational guidance to police forces, ahead of a pilot in London.

The AYM, like most youth organisations, opposed the introduction of KCPOs, proposing instead a focus on wider and earlier intervention with children, their families and communities.

Future of the Youth Courts

The Michael Sieff Foundation has published the report of a round table attended by event leading policy makers, the judiciary, and other key practitioners an opportunity to discuss their current thinking and to discuss where Parliament, Government and the Judiciary is planning to go or should be going next on Youth Justice, particularly in relation to the Youth Court.



The round table, held under Chatham House rules used a background paper to set the scene for discussion, providing a brief overview of the current understanding of youth justice in particular in light of the Carlile, Taylor and Lammy Reports.

The report now available, can be found [here](#)

Youth Service Funding Cuts Result in Increasing Knife Crime



The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on knife crime has recently cited research which reported *“Analysis of council youth service budgets and knife crime data since 2014 has found areas suffering the largest cuts to spending on young people have seen bigger increases in knife crime.”*

MP Sarah Jones, Chair of the APPG said:

“We cannot hope to turn around the knife crime epidemic if we don’t invest in our young people. Every time I speak to young people they say the same thing: they need more positive activities, safe spaces to spend time with friends and programmes to help them grow and develop.”

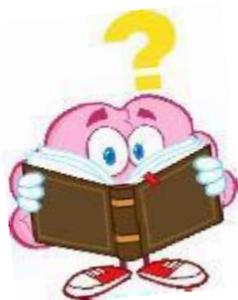
[Click here](#) to access the APPG article

Labour will Protect Youth Work

The Labour Party has pledged to require local authorities to develop a diverse, universal youth services offer, to establish and submit long-term plans for local delivery and to set out a local workforce development strategy. Cat Smith, shadow minister for voter engagement and youth affairs has said they “will introduce new legislation that clearly defines a base-level of sufficiency to reflect every young person's right to access high-quality youth work and provision.”

[Click here](#) to read the article

Items of Interest



Supporting Families: Investing in Practice

The Department of Education will provide £15m to 40 new areas to expand promising innovative approaches to keeping families safely together.



Department
for Education

Modelled on existing Family Drug and Alcohol Courts (FDACs) and Family Group Conferencing, the new programme Supporting Families; Investing in Practice, will help families work on issues together, including those impacted by domestic violence, substance misuse or addiction, in order to help create stability in the home for young people and prevent them being taken into care, where that is in their best interests.

[Click here](#) to access the full report

Information of how to submit and expression of interest can be found [Here](#)

Awareness of ACE to Divert Children from Criminal Justice

Policing in Wales Receives £6.8m to

The Early Action Together (EAT) ACEs learning network - an initiative between Public Health Wales and policing and criminal justice agencies, is to receive £6.87m to support a public health approach to tackling offending.

The programme aims to improve how the police responds to crimes involving children and vulnerable adults - with the aim of diverting them from the criminal justice system, and ensuring they have access to help and interventions earlier.

New Children and Young People Now Award



The Centre for Justice Innovation are sponsoring a new category for the 2019 Children and Young People Now Awards – the Family Justice Award.



For those interested in making a nomination the **deadline is Friday 28 June**.
[Click here](#) for more information

The Sentencing (Pre-consolidation Amendments) Bill

Has been brought forward by the government which enable the removal of historic, now redundant layers of legislation, to pave the way for the Sentencing Code.

This will include enacting a 'clean sweep' to sentencing procedural law, which will allow for all offenders convicted after the Sentencing Code comes into force to be sentenced according to the most up to date law, irrespective of when they committed the offence - subject to exceptions to make sure that no offender is subject to a greater penalty than was available at the time the offence was committed.



Mapping Innovation

The Centre for Justice Innovation (CJI) has launched the mapping toolkit, featured in a previous AYM Bulletin, where it has added projects in England & Wales.

The CJI will be adding to the map and are really keen to hear from practitioners from across the UK about new and exciting initiatives that can be added to the website.

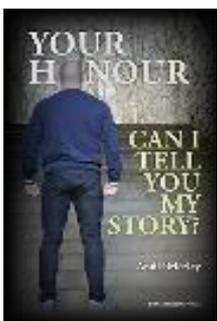
[Click here](#) to contact CJI if you would like your work to be included.
[Click here](#) to view the CJI mapping toolkit.



In its 10th Edition in April, the Serious Organised Crime (SOC) Bulletin HM Government also highlights best practice in diverting children from serious crime.

[Click here](#) to access the 10th Edition of SOC.

YOT Worker Raises Money for Charity



Leeds YOT worker Andrew Brierley, who we recently featured in this Bulletin, has raised more over £1,400 for the Martin House Hospice for terminally ill children.

More than 120 people attended the launch of his book - *Your Honour, Can I Tell You My Story?*

Well done Andy!



New Victim's Commissioner Appointed



Dame Vera Baird has been appointed as the new Victims' Commissioner and will take over the role from Baroness Newlove in mid-June 2019.



Previously the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Northumbria (since 2012), Dame Vera's appointment is for 3 years

'Youth knife crime' in context



The National Association of Youth Justice (NAYJ) has published a briefing which considers the context of youth knife crime and the way in which moral panic impacts on practitioners and policy makers, resulting a reactive, risk averse response which is at odds to effective practice.

To read the briefing [click here](#)

Labour Consultation on Improving Effectiveness Criminal Justice

The Labour Party Justice and Home Affairs Policy Commission is conducting a consultation on reforming criminal justice to prevent offending and provide effective rehabilitation. They are considering early intervention, court processes and sentencing. The **deadline for submissions is 30th June.**

[Click here](#) for more information.

Mental Health Awareness Week in May



The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock answered questions about the future of mental health provision during Mental Health Awareness Week (13-19th May). Amongst the questions he answered were those regarding raising the age of transition to adult services to 25yrs and reducing waiting times for children.

See the responses [here](#)

Want to stay up to date with YJ issues?



Then follow AYM on Twitter. We have 2,300 followers who receive frequent updates on issues relating to Youth Justice and YOT Managers. It's easy to sign up. Our username is [@AssnYOTmanagers](https://twitter.com/AssnYOTmanagers)

The most important issues are also flagged up on the front page of our website. See 'latest news' section at <http://aym.org.uk>



Via our website <http://aym.org.uk/about-us/contact-us>

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

Email our Editor lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk

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The views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent those of AYM or its membership.

If you do not wish to receive this Bulletin, then please email lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk and you will be removed from our records. Non-Member email addresses are only used for circulating this newsletter.



AYM Regional Representatives

Below is the list of regional representatives across the country, with email addresses. Please contact your regional representative if there are issues you want to raise. We welcome your input.

[Click here](#) for details of all Executive Board members.

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