



# Bulletin

## December 2020



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## News from the AYM Executive Board



The Executive met virtually on 17<sup>th</sup> November with a very full agenda and two presentations from 'outside speakers'. Firstly the meeting heard from Wendy Tomlinson, **Head of Safeguarding in the Youth Custody Service (YCS)**.

Wendy was keen to discuss the way YCS and the AYM could work together to help achieved YCS' vision of being a child focused estate, a *'provider of children's services in a custodial environment'*.

The review will consider how trauma informed practice and the impact of adverse childhood experiences, such as abuse, can inform the behaviour management of children in custody. It will also consider the importance of information sharing and look at how information provided by youth offending services to custodial establishments, such as AssetPlus, can be effectively employed to support children in custody and to protect them. For example, ensuring youth offending services provide information to support appropriate visits to children in custody.

Wendy is keen to consider how mutual secondment arrangements between YCS and youth offending services can be created, to help share experiences and understanding between the community and custodial sectors

The Executive will be working with Wendy to consider how the two can work together to enable YCS to become a more child focused agency. If you have any experiences or issues to raise to the AYM to support this work please contact Jessica Edwards who is the portfolio lead for custody, at [Jessica.edwards@hackney.gov.uk](mailto:Jessica.edwards@hackney.gov.uk)

The Executive then heard from **Kate Shoebridge who has recently been seconded to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) to undertake the Diversion & Preventative project**. Kate is also keen to work with youth offending services and the AYM to identify the current level of diversion and prevention work being undertaken by services and the nature and effectiveness of this in reducing offending and first-time entrants to the criminal justice system.

There is a plethora of prevention and diversion activity currently taking place in youth offending services across the country; if you would like to share this so that it can help inform this project, please contact Tom Dooks who is the AYM portfolio lead for out of court work, at [tom.dooks@youthjusticeservices.org.uk](mailto:tom.dooks@youthjusticeservices.org.uk)

## Changes to the Executive

We were pleased to see Andy Peaden at the meeting. Andy, who has now left his role as Head of Service for Leeds YOS was thanked by our Chair Hazel, for all his hard work within youth justice and the AYM and all wished him the best for his future endeavours.

The Executive also had a chance to said goodbye and thank you to Jon Gardner, Southampton YOT Manager, as this was his last meeting in his role of AYM Regional Representative for the South East. As we said last month, Jon is leaving to join HMI Probation so it was good to be able to say goodbye properly and wish Jon all the best.

Thanks to Jon's engagement with his colleagues, we were able to welcome **Charlie Spencer**, the Youth Offending Service Improvement Lead (Interim) at Surrey, as the newly elected **South East Regional Representative**. Many AYM members and partners will know Charlie from other roles he has held, most notably perhaps in his role as Sandwell's YOT Manager where he was for many years also the AYM Regional Representative for the West Midlands Region – bringing therefore a lot of experience to the role.



Following Jacqui Belfield-Smith's election as AYM's Vice Chair, we were pleased to welcome **Celine Gafos**, Service Manager at Knowsley Youth Offending Service, as the new **Regional Representative for the North West** (Jacqui's previous role in the AYM). As Celine was able to attend the meeting it gave the Executive a chance to welcome her 'in person' (well virtually!).

Celine said *"I'm really looking forward to this new role and representing the North West particularly during this unprecedented time."*

Also in attendance at the meeting was **Marie McLaughlin**, Manchester Youth Justice Manager, who had expressed an interest in becoming an **AYM Observer**. We were very pleased to welcome Marie on board and particularly pleased when she volunteered for the role of **AYM portfolio lead for disproportionality**.

**Claire Winchester** from Norfolk YOT also joined the Executive as an **Additional Board Member**, filling a vacancy resulting from Matt Bywater's departure. Claire was unable to attend the meeting but will no doubt be keen to become involved in future meetings.

**We are currently receiving nominations from colleagues in our East Midland region for their Regional Representative role**, following the departure of Shelley Nicholls.

In order for the Executive to consider nominations for the East Midlands role at the next board meeting, please send your nominations to our Vice Chair Jacqui Belfield-Smith at: [jacqui.belfield-smith@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:jacqui.belfield-smith@stockport.gov.uk) before **5<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**.

## **AYM John Hawkins' Award**

Awarding this year's AYM John Hawkins' Award has proved a difficult task for the young people of Bradford YOT to decide, and for a change this is nothing to do with COVID-19!

The entrants were of such a high standard that following feedback from the young people, the AYM is delighted to announce that for the first time there are **joint winners of the AYM John Hawkins' Award for Innovation and Creativity in Youth Justice Practice** who will share the £500 prize fund:

**Hampshire Youth Offending Team for its  
'Therapeutic Wellbeing Officers (TWO) project',  
and  
Lancashire Child and Youth Justice Services',  
'Your Choice Diversion programme'.**



The AYM John Hawkins' Award is made annually by the AYM in the memory of John Hawkins, a founding member of the AYM and former Treasurer, and Head of East Sussex YOT.

Responding to the announcement of Hampshire's award, Steve Crocker DCS for Hampshire and former YOT Manager, said:

*"As somebody who knew John and remembers him very fondly, I'm honoured that Hants YOT will receive this award for our therapeutic wellbeing workers".*

Hannah Blower Team Manager at Lancashire CYJS said:

*"We are thrilled – thank you to the AYM and children from Bradford for acknowledging the dedication of creativity of the Prevention and Diversion teams in Lancashire."*

Normally the award is presented at the Youth Justice Convention but due to COVID-19 restrictions; this year AYM Chair Hazel Williamson will virtually present the award to both winners this month. We are hoping John's sons who are deeply committed to the award will also be present for the presentation.



***Well done to Hampshire and Lancashire  
youth offending services,  
congratulations to all involved!***

## **Free Training for Operational Managers and First Line Supervisors: New Dates announced**



**The Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership (YJSIP) is pleased to invite applications for places on its established training course for staff who supervise the work of practitioners.**

YJSIP is a tripartite partnership between the YJB, that funds the programme, the AYM, that administers the programme, and senior leaders in the youth justice sector across England and Wales who deliver the programme. It is a mutual improvement programme, delivered by YOT staff who do not charge for their time.

The YJSIP operational manager training is provided to YOT managers and first line supervisors, providing new skills to support the quality of assessment and intervention planning undertaken by their staff.

The course consists of two one-day courses separated by a period of guided individual learning lasting approximately 12 weeks. The two one-day courses will be delivered via Zoom, and applicants will need to ensure that they are able to use Zoom on a computer. (Some YOTs have IT providers who block the use of Zoom, so please check before applying.)

Course members will need to use a PC with camera on, **not** a tablet or phone.

There is a choice three dates available for Day One, and when applying please indicate if you have a preferred date. These are full day courses from approx. 09:15 to 14:30, and the dates are:

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January**  
**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January**  
**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

To apply, email [phil.sutton@aym.org.uk](mailto:phil.sutton@aym.org.uk)

### ***In comments on previous courses:***

*91% said that the course met or exceeded their expectations.  
100% rated the course handbook as good or very good.  
100% rated the pre course admin good or very good.  
100% rated the facilitators' knowledge of the course as good or very good.*

***Some of the feedback from course members:*** "I found the training thought provoking and extremely helpful to my role..... It exceeded my expectations..... I found it very informative, there was no opportunity to feel bored, the training was well paced and interesting..... We covered topics directly relevant to my role which enabled me to take away lots of learning..... I have learned a lot of new things in relation to quality and supervision"

## Vacancies



### ***Kirklees YOT is Recruiting for an Experienced Social Worker***

Are you experienced in working with children within the context of a youth justice setting and have excellent report writing skills in preparing reports for the Courts?

If you do and you also have experience of Looked After Children and Care regulations, and are able to undertake related and required assessments, why not apply.

**The closing date for applications 13 December 2020, 11:55pm.**

For more information and to access the online application for [click here](#)

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**Do you have any vacancies to advertise in the AYM Bulletin and/or on the AYM website?**

If so, send them to our business support Diana Bowden at: [diana.bowden@aym.org.uk](mailto:diana.bowden@aym.org.uk)

*Please note, the bulletin goes to all AYM members and to external stakeholders and is issued in the first few days of each month.*

## Consultations

### **Modern Slavery**



The Sentencing Council is seeking views on a draft of the first dedicated sentencing guidelines for offences under the Modern Slavery Act 2015. Whilst these guidelines will apply only to offenders aged 18yrs and older, many children known to youth justice services are victims of such offences and as such YOT Managers may wish to respond to this consultation.

**There are currently no definitive guidelines for offences under the Modern Slavery 2015 Act** which covers offences of holding someone in slavery, servitude, and forced or compulsory labour (section 1) and of trafficking for the purposes of exploitation (section 2). It also makes it an offence to commit an offence with the intention of committing a human trafficking offence. Both sections cover a range of behaviour.

The Sentencing Council states in this consultation that:

*“A common feature of the offending is that victims are vulnerable in some way, and whilst some may be physically restrained or imprisoned, others will be subject to threats and treatment which, combined with their vulnerability, make escape from their position an impossibility.*

*The offence of human trafficking (section 2) may involve recruiting, harbouring, receiving or transferring people cross-border, but not necessarily. It is important to note that the apparent consent or willingness of the victim is not a defence to either offence. Both offences can be committed on an organised, industrial scale with a significant commercial motivation, or they can be committed on a more limited, opportunistic or one-off basis.”*

The current legislation has been subject to two reviews since its implementation, both of which made recommendation for development of sentencing guidance. The Sentencing Council is therefore seeking to provide clear guidance regarding factors to take into account when sentencing in modern slavery cases.

The consultation is seeking views on:

- the principal factors that could be considered aggravating or mitigating factors;
- the additional factors that should influence the sentence;
- the types and lengths of sentence that should be passed; and
- anything else you think should be considered.

The Sentencing Council has also produced an online questionnaire and a resource assessment for the guideline, together with data tables showing current sentencing practice for these offences.

For more information please [click here](#) **Deadline for response is 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**

## Education in Custody



The Education Select Committee has launched the prison education inquiry which aims to examine issues faced by those in custody and how education can support them to succeed in life.

Chair of the Education Committee Rt Hon Robert Halfon MP, said:

*“Study after study has painted a bleak picture of the educational backgrounds and prospects of those in custody. More than 40% of prisoners have been permanently excluded from school – a figure which rises to nearly 90% for children in young offender institutions. A disproportionate number of those in custody have low levels of literacy and even lower levels of numeracy, while people in prison also have a high level of additional learning and other needs.”*

The inquiry will examine to what degree children and adults in custody can access suitable education that meets their needs, how effective current arrangements are in ensuring prisoners continue in training and employment on release and how this reduces reoffending. It will also look at the education opportunities for those serving longer sentences.

The Committee will consider what needs to happen to ensure prison education delivers the skills needed by employers and the economy, and how apprenticeships can work in a custodial setting.

The Committee is interested in how school exclusion policy impacts on youth custody and how alternative provision settings support young people who experience challenges in education and learning.

The inquiry would also like to hear from those who have been in custody and their perceptions of how the prison education system is working and what could be improved.

The Committee invites written submissions addressing a number of areas and issues including amongst others:

- How well additional learning needs are met by the prison education and youth custody systems, including SEND and language and communication needs?
- How successful participation in education be incentivised in prisons?
- How apprenticeships might work for those in custody?
- What should happen when prison education is assessed as not meeting standards?
- If different lengths of sentences and the movement of prisoners across the estate is managed effectively?

For more information about the inquiry [click here](#)

To send your submission [click here](#) **Deadline for submissions is 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.**

## Youth Justice Qualifications

### **Future Course Announced**



Unitas, providers of youth justice qualifications, relevant for those working in the community and the custodial estate. Unitas uses an 'open learning' approach to suit those of all ages and educational experience; no prior qualifications are required.

Unitas is currently offering the following courses:

#### **Youth Justice Effective Practice Certificate (YJEPC):**

Due to a high demand we introduced an additional cohort in June 2020, as well as our regular October cohort. To enable more practitioners to complete this qualification we are now introducing a **January 2021 cohort, starting on 18.1.21**. Registrations are now open for this course which is accredited by Skills for Justice Awards.



#### **Managing & Coaching in Youth Justice - Level 6 Qualification:**

Launching in early 2021.

This standalone 30-week course is accredited by the University of Suffolk. To register your interest and request further information please email: [jo.church@unitas.uk.net](mailto:jo.church@unitas.uk.net)

#### **Crime, Criminology and Criminal Justice BA (Hons):**

This course launches in February 2021.

Additional options include a Certificate of Higher Education at Level 4, or Level 5 Diploma, in addition to the full BA (Hons). All qualifications are accredited by the University of Suffolk and registrations are now being taken via our website.



More  
Information



For more information about Unitas or any of the courses: please visit [www.unitas.uk.net](http://www.unitas.uk.net) or call 01603 570365

## Spending Review and Youth Justice

### **Chancellor Announces Details of SR20**

The Chancellor Rishi Sunak, has announced details of HM Treasury's latest one-year spending review (SR20). In announcing the review, the Chancellor advised that the Office for Budget Responsibility expects the economy to shrink by 11.3% this year, and not reach pre-crisis level until the end of 2022.



The review confirmed £38 billion to enable public services to fight the pandemic this year and a further £55 billion of support for the public services to respond to the crisis next year. It also provides for £100 billion of capital spending next year to kickstart growth and support jobs.

Within the review are a number of funding decisions related to youth justice, some of which are to test and support innovative service provision. 2019 Spending Round announced £200 million for the **Shared Outcomes Fund** to fund pilot projects to test innovative ways of working across the public sector, with an emphasis on thorough plans for evaluation. The first round of the Shared Outcomes Fund is funding a wide range of projects that will run between 2020-21 and 2022-23.



SR20 provides for a **further £200 million for a second round of the Shared Outcomes Fund**. The pilots funded by the first round include (amongst others):

**Transition to adulthood hubs** (£3 million) which aim to reduce reoffending by meeting the needs of young adults (18-25) and 17-year olds due to transition from youth offending services into adult probation services in London: co-locating youth offending services and probation staff alongside other services for young adults to create smoother transitions.

Not surprisingly, SR20 also includes £24 million in 2021-22 to start a new programme to **maintain capacity and expand provision in secure children's homes**. The Treasury stated

*"This will provide high quality, safe homes for some of our most vulnerable children and will mean children can live closer to their families and support networks, in settings that meet their needs."*

SR20 also confirms the £165 million of resource funding for local authorities through the **Troubled Families programme**, to provide intensive support to families facing multiple interconnected problems.

To read the full spending review [click here](#)

## ACT Early

### **Counter Terrorism Policing (CTP) Launch safeguarding Website**

The National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) has announced the launch of 'Act Early' a dedicated safeguarding website and advice line for parents, friends and families, provided by specialists at CTP.

This new resource provides advice, guidance and support for anyone who is concerned that someone they know may be at risk from being radicalised by terrorists or extremist content online.

NPCC reports that between 1st January 2019 and 30th June 2020, 17 children have been arrested in relation to terrorism offences. Some were as young as 14 years old, while nearly all will have been radicalised entirely online.



In the same time period, more than 1500 children under the age of 15 were referred to the Prevent programme to help them choose a different path, away from hatred and violence. However, only 2% of referrals are received for Prevent from family and friends.

As a result of COVID-19, children may not be having so much contact with professionals – those currently more likely to make a referral to Prevent as a result of their concerns of a child's potential radicalisation.

The CTP is therefore attempting to ensure that family and friends are better informed about what might be happening, and to understand what Prevent can offer through Act Early.

The Head of Counter Terrorism Policing, Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu said of the rise in children involved in terrorism offences:

*“This is a relatively new and worrying trend in the UK, because just a few years ago we were not seeing anyone that young amongst our casework.”*

*“In my opinion that is a perfect storm, one which we cannot predict and that we might be feeling the effects of for many years to come.”*

*“Asking for help is a difficult and emotional step, but we must see it for what it is – action which won't ruin their lives but may well save them.”*

To read more [click here](#)

## Research into the Impact of COVID-19

### *And the Impact on Children in the Youth Justice System*



The Standing Committee for Youth Justice (SCYJ) and the Manchester Metropolitan University will undertake a partnership project identify the impact of COVID-19 on the youth justice system and the children involved within it.



The research is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) as part of the UK Research and Innovation's rapid response to COVID-19. Findings and recommendations from the 18-month project will be shared widely with practitioners and decision-makers to shape future policy and practice.



It is anticipated that the impact on children within the youth justice system will be greater as a result of their high levels of complex needs and mental ill health; the disproportionate rate of those from minority ethnic backgrounds in custody is also significant.

The research will also consider how professionals have adapted to remote working, the impact of the delay of criminal trials and the safety of children in custodial settings.

The research will involve interviews and surveys of statutory partners, including the Youth Justice Board and the Ministry of Justice, third sector organisations, senior national policy and decision-makers, and children with lived experiences.

For more information on the research [click here](#)

## Justice and Fairness in Prisons

Howard League for Penal Reform

### **Howard League Publish Second Briefing.**

The first briefing in the Howard League's Justice and Fairness programme, 'Justice does not stop at the prison gate: Justice and fairness in prisons' explored how a non-punitive, holistic approach can be used to reduce violence and conflict in prisons, enhancing well-being and a sense of justice for those in custody and supporting rehabilitation and release planning.

The briefing made a number of recommendations, calling for a focus on rights-based approaches. It also called for the principles of procedural justice in prisons to be adopted.



This second briefing builds on this and considers how removing punitive disciplinary processes and replacing them with just and fair approaches to care can achieve more effective and sustained 'good order'.

The briefing considers the impact of disciplinary systems in prisons and argues that adjudications and additional days of imprisonment have had 'damaging results'.

Using Ministry of Justice data, the briefing identifies the significant increase in the use of adjudications to manage behaviour, citing the 75% increase in adjudications 'from 119,678 per year in 2011 to a record high of 210,326 in 2019, despite the prison population remaining relatively constant.'

The briefing includes anonymised case studies drawn from the Howard League's legal work representing hundreds of children in prison disciplinary processes.

The briefing argues that as a result of the evidence of the discriminatory and damaging effect of additional days of imprisonment resulting from adjudications, the practice 'should be abolished and adjudication processes used sparingly and as a last resort.'

The briefing call for good order to be achieved through procedurally fair processes, and by communication, consent and respect.

To read the briefing [click here](#)



## Other News



### New Board Members for YJB Announced

The Secretary of State for Justice has announced appointments three new appointment to the Youth Justice Board (YJB). The new board members who will commence their three-year tenures on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2020, are:

- Susannah Hancock, Chief Executive of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC),
- Jacob Sakil, Strategic Development Lead for Connecting Conversations Collective, and
- Louise Shorter, founder and investigator of the charity 'Inside Justice'.

The Secretary of State for Justice has also announced the reappointments of Ben Byrne, Sharon Gray, Neal Hazel and Keith Towler who will commence their tenures on 1 January 2021 for a period of 3 years.

For more information on members of the board [click here](#)

***The AYM are pleased to see Susannah's appointment, who has been actively engaged with the AYM in her role with the APCC. We look forward to developing similar engagement with both Jacob and Louise and would like to congratulate all three on their appointment to the board.***

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### Former YOT Manager Elected as ADCS Vice President 2021/22

Steve Crocker OBE, Director of Children's Services at Hampshire County Council and Isle of Wight Council has been appointed to the role of ADCS Vice President. Many of you may remember Steve in his role as Head of Wessex YOT (Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton) many years ago, when he took over from Phil Sutton who had been the original YOT Manager for Wessex.

Steve, who is currently the Chair of the ADCS Standards, Performance & Inspection Policy Committee, will become ADCS President on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022.



***Congratulations Steve!***

## Funding Opportunities for Local NRMs



The Home Office is seeking to award grant funding to local authorities with responsibility for children's social care to empower them to make decisions about whether children are victims of modern slavery in conjunction with local safeguarding partners.



The total available grant funding from 1 January 2021 to 31 January 2022 will be up to £500,000 and anticipate funding a maximum of 10 projects.

Applicants may only submit one bid, as an individual bid or as part of a joint bid.

For more information [click here](#)

**Deadline for bids is 10am on 14th December, 2020**

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## Children and Young People Now Awards

The shortlist of finalists for the Children and Young People Now (CYP Now) Awards 2020 has been announced and include a youth justice services and other youth justice partners.



This year's CYP Now Awards winners will be revealed at a virtual Awards ceremony held on **4 March 2021**.

In addition to the category winners being unveiled, the ceremony will include speeches and entertainment. For more information and to register attendance [click here](#)



**Good luck to you all**

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## Duke of Edinburgh Resilience Fund



The Duke of Edinburgh (DofE) charity has launched the 'Resilience Fund' to support children facing disadvantage in recovering from the effects of the pandemic and reduce the barriers to their participation with the aim of improving their academic, social and emotional development, and longer-term work prospects.

The fund consists of two time-limited packages of support:

- Funding for 12,000 Participation Places at all levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold – for disadvantaged young people starting their DofE across the UK, until 31 March 2021, and
- Funded online training for adults running DofE in licensed organisations.

For more information about the DofE charity and its Resilience Fund [click here](#)

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## Insight Brief from COVID-19 Learning Project



The first Insights Brief from the £6.4m COVID-19 Learning Project of the Youth Endowment Fund has been launched. The Brief aims to help those supporting young people to continue to build strong, positive relationships with young people through the challenges of the pandemic.

The project's learning partners, Dartington Service Design Lab, in partnership with the Centre for Youth Impact, Research in Practice and the University of Plymouth, brought together over 100 'COVID-19 round' grantees to share what they had learned about adapting their approaches during the crisis.

Recommendations from these grantees centre on two principles:  
**be flexible and work with partners**

To access and download the Brief [click here](#)



## Items of Interest



**For Your Diary!**

## Calendar of events for AYM 2020/21

Title	Date	Venue
John Hawkins' Award Presentation (Lancashire)	16 <sup>th</sup> December, 2020	Virtual Event
John Hawkins' Award Presentation (Hampshire)	21 <sup>st</sup> December, 2020	Virtual Event
Executive Board meeting	19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2021	Virtual Meeting
Executive Board meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup> March, 2021	Virtual Meeting
<p><b><i>Please contact your regional representative (see below) if you wish the Executive Board to consider a particular issue, or if you have an item you would like to bring to their attention at one of their meetings.</i></b></p> <p><b><i>To keep up to date with this calendar between Bulletins, please look at our website:</i></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="http://aym.org.uk">aym.org.uk</a></p>		

## Child Criminal Exploitation Seminar and launch of Legal Guide

The Youth Justice Legal Centre and the Children's Rights Group is holding an online seminar to launch its Legal Guide on Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE).



Hear from leading experts on the issue of child criminal exploitation:

- Philippa Southwell, Founder/Managing Director of The Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery Expert Directory
- Aika Stephenson, Co-founder and Legal Director at Just for Kids Law
- Maya Sikand, Public law and human rights barrister
- Lloyd Bidder, Senior Prevention Officer at The Children's Society, and
- Katya Moran (chair) Co-Head of the Youth Justice Legal Centre

The seminar takes place on:

**Thursday, 3rd December, 2020**

**at 15:00 – 16:30**

To register for a place [click here](#)

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### **'Solve: The Centre for Youth Violence and Conflict'**

'Solve' aims to critically address causes of violence and conflict through research, training, workshops, consultancy, advocacy and street-based youth work. Solve is holding an online event:

### **Understanding Gangs and Criminal Exploitation**

**On 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2020**

**10am -12 noon**

To book a place [click here](#)

For more information about Solve [click here](#)

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## Children and Young People Now Conference

### *Safeguarding Children in the Digital Age*



The 4th national 'Safeguarding Children in the Digital Age' conference will now take place as an online conference over four consecutive days with a series of two-hour, CPD-certified live sessions from:

**Monday 11th to Thursday 14th January 2021**

between

**1pm and 3pm**

Providing essential learning for the entire children's workforce, it will bring together leading online safety experts and safeguarding professionals to equip practitioners with the understanding, skills and confidence to ensure children and young people stay safe in the digital age.

There is also a time slot each day for delegates to engage with a range of exhibitors who would like to talk about how their products or services that can improve practice.

For more information and to book a place [click here](#)

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### The Children and Young People Now Awards Ceremony

This year's ceremony will be a virtual event taking place on:

**Thursday 4th March, 2021**

at

**4pm**

To register for a place [click here](#)

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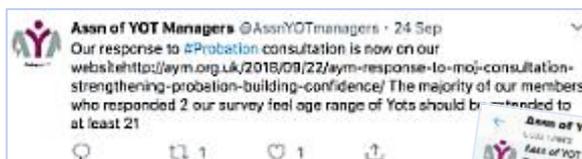
## Want to stay up to date with YJ issues?

Then follow the AYM on Twitter.....

**We have more than 2,980 followers** who receive frequent updates on issues relating to youth justice and YOT Managers.

It's easy to sign up - our username is:

**@AssnYOTmanagers**



See also the **'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](mailto: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.

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## 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.

<b>East</b>	<b>Pat Jennings</b> <i>Bedfordshire YOS</i>				
<i>pat.jennings@bedford.gov.uk</i>					
<b>East Midlands</b>	<b>VACANT</b>		<b>West Midlands</b>	<b>Pali Obhi</b> <i>Solihull YOS</i>	
			<i>pali.obhi@solihull.gov.uk</i>		
<b>South East</b>	<b>Charlie Spencer</b> <i>Surrey YOS</i>		<b>South West</b>	<b>Mike Rees</b> <i>North Somerset YOT</i>	
<i>charlie.spencer@surreycc.gov.uk</i>			<i>mike.rees@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>		
<b>North East</b>	<b>Miriam Sigsworth</b> <i>Stockton-on-Tees YOT</i>		<b>North West</b>	<b>Celine Gafos</b> <i>Knowsley YOS</i>	
<i>miriam.sigsworth@stockton.gov.uk</i>			<i>celine.gafos@knowsley.gov.uk</i>		
<b>London</b>	<b>Brendan Finegan</b> <i>Hackney YOT</i>		<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humberside</b>	<b>Samantha Matthews</b> <i>East Riding YOS</i>	
<i>brendan.finegan@hackney.gov.uk</i>			<i>Samantha.T.Matthews@eastriding.gov.uk</i>		

