



Bulletin

January

2022



In this issue:

- P2-3 News from the Executive Board
- P3 Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership
- P4 ADCS/AYM/LGA Joint Youth Justice Policy Position Paper
- P5 'Time for Action'
- P6 Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre
- P6 Training of Solicitors in Youth Cases Reviewed
- P7 Unregulated Accommodation for 16- and 17-Year-Olds
- P8 'Abuse in children's institutional settings: How much is known?'
- P9 Stop Mental Health Provision from 'Slipping Backwards'
- P10 Multi-agency reform: Key behavioural drivers and barriers
- P10 Digital Exclusion and Safety Concerns
- P11-14 Other News
- P16 Vacancies
- P16-17 Dates for Your Diary
- P18 How to Stay in Touch with the AYM
- P19 AYM Executive Board

News from the AYM Executive Board



Happy New Year Everyone

We hope you had an enjoyable break over Christmas and New Year.

The Executive met on the 30th November and heard from Steve Chalke and his colleagues at Oasis Restore about their plans for the recruitment of 180 staff this summer with a view to opening the secure school in 2023. A national working group is overseeing this development and the AYM is represented by on this group by AYM Chair, Hazel Williamson.

The Executive also heard from Katy Moran of Just for Kids Law (JFKL) about the work staff are doing, which includes children's Rights monitoring/influencing; direct legal representation for children; advocating for children, and the work of the Youth Justice Legal Centre.

Katy stated that JFKL is keen to be a resource for youth justice services; AYM regional representatives will be asking AYM members what type of training could be of use to staff in order to explore opportunities further.

Christmas and New Year saw the Executive Board taking a break along with everyone else. However, we have been in contact with the Youth Custody Service regarding the latest information on COVID-19 as a result of the Omicron variant. Things are changing rapidly in the secure estate in order to manage this. If you have any queries please contact your regional representative as they are being updated whenever we hear from YCS.

In the meantime, YCS has advised us that if you are considering making a legal/professional visit to any of the secure estate that you contact the establishment before arranging a visit to understand their status i.e., whether they are in an outbreak and what site-specific arrangements might be in place. Virtual visits are being provided wherever possible. Please contact our portfolio lead Jessica Edwards if you have any issues you wish us to raise with YCS. Jessica can be contacted at Jessica.edwards@hackney.gov.uk

If you have any concerns regarding individual children in the secure estate please contact the secure placements team who will assist you.

We continue to be concerned about the issue we raised in the last bulletin regarding children in YOIS who have been assessed as high risk and assigned 'Restricted Status'. We have received some really helpful feedback from a couple of youth justice services but if you have anything further to raise, please contact our chair, Hazel Williamson, in readiness for her meeting with Helga Swidenbank, Director of the Youth Custody Service, at their next meeting. Hazel can be contacted at hazel.williamson@staffordshire.gov.uk

Have a good January everyone, let's hope for a great 2022!

Consultations

We are currently in the process of responding to a consultation by the Legal Services Board on 'ongoing competence'. To read the consultation document [click here](#)

If you have any comments you would like to be included in the AYM response to this, please email Jessica.edwards@hackney.gov.uk

Make 2022 Your Year to Deliver Training to Other Managers



For the last two years our amazing team of trainers have been delivering the YJSIP management oversight training to managers and supervisors in every region of England and in Wales. So far, they have worked with around 150 colleagues, but demand remains high and they need reinforcements.

Could you help?

The course was developed by youth justice managers and is always delivered by serving strategic and operational managers. They share a commitment to improving the quality of management oversight of assessment and planning for children. The training consists of two one-day training events separated by a 12-week period of guided learning with an emphasis on reflective practice. The one-day courses are currently delivered via Teams, but we hope this will not always be the case.

What we would need from you is:

- Prior experience of having completed this course;
- A commitment to improving practice in relation to management oversight;
- The confidence to deliver and present training materials and to support learners;
- Availability to attend a face-to-face induction event (if permitted by regulations) with an overnight stay in Warwick in May;
- An assurance from your line manager that you can be released to deliver a minimum of one course (i.e. two training days) in each year of your involvement with us.

What we offer you is:

- An opportunity to be part of an enthusiastic team of managers from all over the country;
- Training in delivering courses on MS Teams;
- An induction course and the chance to shadow experienced trainers before you start to deliver the training yourself;
- A co-trainer to work alongside you at every session
- All course administration will be taken care of, and feedback provided to you after every session.

Think about it; talk to your line manager; ask us questions.

We would love to hear from you. Contact Tor.Coupe@aym.org.uk

ADCS/AYM/LGA Joint Youth Justice Policy Position Paper

Department of Education Responds



Department
for Education

Following the publication last month of the 'Joint Youth Justice Policy Position' paper, the ADCS has reported that in discussion with the Department of Education (DfE), the DfE has acknowledged and recognized the challenges faced within youth justice. The DfE is said to have welcomed the paper but noted that some of the recommendations may be easier than others to achieve, while other issues may be best picked up by the care review.

The ADCS noted that there have been collective talks with the DfE for some time, with good intent but achieving little meaningful change. They also noted that the 'big issues' continue to grow. The ADCS stressed that whilst children's services respond to many of the challenges linked to youth justice, such as county lines and exploitation, and yet the criminal and welfare policy perspectives are not joined up at a national level. The ADCS also noted that:

'The realisation of secure schools may provide an incentive for considered engagement with this debate, as a dual registered academy and children's home, DfE will have greater accountability'.

LGA Follows up with New Research

The LGA has also commissioned new research which supports this drive for change, and is looking to identify '*what works*' for younger children involved in the criminal justice system.

Researchers are calling for any relevant reports, publications, project descriptions, data, or best practice guidelines (published or unpublished) to help the LGA understand how practice varies according to the age of the child involved.

The review is looking at:

- What actions or approaches are used to avoid contact with the criminal/youth justice system when younger children (under 14 years old) are engaging in antisocial or offending behaviour?
- For younger children in contact with the criminal justice system, what actions or interventions support their wellbeing?
- For younger children in contact with the criminal justice system, what actions, interventions or processes improve their outcomes, including avoiding future involvement with the criminal justice system?
- Do authorities and the voluntary sector work differently with victims and their families when alleged perpetrators are younger than 14 years old?

If you haven't had a chance to respond to this review yet, the AYM Executive encourages you to do so. The LGA has confirmed it is happy to receive late submissions from AYM members. Please send you information to Patricia@pjlucas.org



'Time for Action'

Report from Centre for Mental Health



The report 'Time for Action' describes the investment case for mental health services and support for babies, children and young people in response to the 2021 Spending Review. It explores how government aspirations for young people's mental health can be realised, and what needs to change to bring about a comprehensive system of support for mental health during the first 25 years of life

The report argues that mental health service provision for children and young people is underfunded *'in comparison to the return on investment they could secure if they existed at the necessary scale.'*

The authors also argue that a postcode lottery persists, exacerbated by the roll-out of new programmes and initiatives that do not provide nationwide coverage.

In considering the potential schools and colleges offer, the report argues:

'Schools and colleges offer an opportunity, as a universal service, to identify and convene help for students. Whilst school-based support is not suitable for all, a whole school approach has been shown to be successful – yet it is applied inconsistently across settings. This amplifies existing differences between schools which have resulted from mental health initiatives being funded directly from individual school budgets.'

The report also argues that:

'16-25 year olds face dramatically different life trajectories and are less likely to secure help for mental health problems than the average adult. High-profile campaigns have highlighted the issues faced by groups within this age range, but there is clear divergence in outcomes resulting from poor access to support. As with younger children, early support hubs would increase the help available to 16-25 years olds.'

The report makes a number of recommendations to help achieve a more equitable and effective level of provision for mental health services for babies, children and young people, including the recommendation that:

'The Department of Health and Social Care should agree and apply a national outcomes framework for children and young people's mental health support with NHS England.'

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

Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre



MTC Contract Cancelled

The Ministry of Justice has announced that it has achieved mutual agreement with the private contractor MTC, to end MTC's contract for providing secure accommodation at Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre.

All children at Rainsbrook were transferred following an Urgent Notification issued by Ofsted, HM Inspectorate of Prisons (HMIP), and the Care Quality Commission (CQC), following an inspection where care at the establishment was rated 'inadequate'.

The Ministry of Justice states in the announcement that staff within Rainsbrook are being supported to find new jobs and that options are being considered regarding the future use of the building, the options being considered include repurposing the site for alternative use.

To read the announcement [click here](#)

Training of Solicitors in Youth Cases Reviewed



In recognition that youth court practice is often more challenging than other areas due to the vulnerability of child defendants, the Solicitors Regulation Authority requires solicitors practising in the youth court to meet a required standard of advocacy by maintaining their competence to carry out their role by keeping their knowledge and skills up to date. This involves regularly reflecting on their practice, identifying, and addressing their training needs.

In a review of training records of solicitors practising in the youth courts, the SRA has found that more than three quarters of the records provided evidence that steps had been taken to maintain competence, with 37 percent of records demonstrating the solicitor had fully reflected, identified, and addressed their training needs; 39 percent records demonstrated that the solicitor had taken some but not all the steps we require to maintain competence. However, 24 percent of records we reviewed did not evidence that any steps had been taken at all to keep knowledge and skills up to date through reflecting, identifying, or addressing training needs.

The review found that 75 per cent of solicitors had completed training during the review period; two thirds of these focussed their training on maintaining their legal knowledge of youth court practice and procedure.

Concerningly, whilst the total number of solicitors completing training was high, the review found that **only four per cent of solicitors focussed on dealing with vulnerable young people and children training.**

To read more about the review and its findings [click here](#)

Unregulated Accommodation for 16- and 17-Year-Olds

National Standards and Inspections by Ofsted Announced



The Department of Education (DfE) has announced it will introduce national standards for unregulated accommodation, following its consultations in 2020 and 2021 regarding this type of provision for children in care and care leavers.



The placement of children in unregulated settings increased from 2,900 in 2009 to 6,490 in 2020 and quality of provision received criticism from many in the sector. The DfE reported that the vast majority of responses to its consultation were supportive of the proposed reforms with widespread support for key proposals, including the introduction of national standards, registration and inspection by Ofsted, and the banning of such placements for those aged under 16 years.

As a result of the consultation the DfE has announced all such accommodation will be called **'Supported Accommodation for Young People'**. The term 'independent provision' will cease and Ofsted will publish guidance on the difference between care and support.

As a result of responses to the consultation, the placing of 16- and 17-year-olds in accommodation also housing those up to 25 years will be permitted, providing continuity for those children transitioning into independent living. However, the national standards will require providers, and local authorities making such placements, to consider the relevant age groups and matching issues of individuals to mitigate risks before a young person is admitted or placed in these settings.

The DfE is also proposing to introduce regulations to **prohibit placing looked after children and care leavers aged 16 or 17 years in wholly independent settings** by requiring all providers to provide some form of support for young people in line with the national standards where children are placed in accommodation other than children's homes or foster placements.

Changes will be implemented from April 2023 when Ofsted will begin registering providers ahead of the new national standards becoming mandatory for all providers from Autumn 2023. At this point all providers will be required to be registered; the first full inspections are expected to begin from April 2024 with pilot inspections carried out prior to this.

To support implementation of this new regime, Ofsted will develop and consult on the registration and inspection framework, develop administrative systems to operate the regime, and recruit and train a new workforce. The DfE will provide £17.5m to Ofsted between 2022-25 to deliver this

However, there is criticism of the proposed national standards from some within the sector. The Independent Children's Homes Association (ICHA) is reported in Community Care to be concerned that Ofsted will inspect providers of accommodation rather than each individual home. ICHA's chief executive Peter Sandiford, said *'A major strength of Ofsted's current inspections of children's homes is that they physically enter them, observe the operations, and speak to the children and young people.'*

To read the report [click here](#)

'Abuse in children's institutional settings: How much is known?'

Report of Findings from Freedom of Information Requests



This report considers the data made available from Freedom of Information requests to all local authorities with a children's department (152). The request asked for the number of allegations made against adults working in institutional settings for children, between 2018 and 2021 (financial years); these allegations were broken down by type of abuse or neglect. The information request also asked how many allegations resulted in a section 47 enquiry and what were the outcomes of those enquiries.

Of the 152 requests, 120 local authorities responded, and Article 39 reports that:

only 56% (67) provided some or all of the data requested. 64 provided data on the number of allegations in total across the three years 2018-21 and 55 provided useable data for just 2020/21. 27% (33) refused to provide data on the grounds of section 12 or section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act. 17 17% (21) provided a form of data but not broken down in the way requested. Only 16 local authorities (12%) provided data on whether allegations resulted in child protection enquiries.

Article 39 carried out the same research in 2017, receiving usable data from 53 local authorities. However, due to the differences between the two data sources, no direct comparison can be made between the two.

Amongst its findings the research found that:

- 64 local authorities recorded 6,106 allegations against adults working in children's institutional settings between 2018 and 2021;
- The greatest number of allegations from institutional settings related to adults working in children's homes (2,900 allegations over 3 years);
- One local authority recorded 83 allegations against staff in children's homes in its area in 2020/21.
- Of the 16 local authorities providing information on the number of allegations that led to section 47 enquiries, the local authorities recorded 1,200 allegations over three years; only 11% of these allegations resulted in a statutory child protection enquiry.
- 59 authorities provided data on the types of alleged abuse, the most common type (44%) was physical abuse.

The report also states:

'There were 1,305 allegations of abuse against children in prisons - young offender institutions (YOIs) and secure training centres (STCs) - over three years (355 in 2020/21). However, this relates to only five institutions – indicating a far higher volume of referrals per institution. It is also an under-estimate as one local authority with a YOI in its area did not provide any data for 2020/21. One local authority received 184 allegations against staff in 2020/21 in respect of one secure training centre which has capacity to hold fewer than 90 children. None of the local authorities with YOIs or STCs in their area provided information on whether allegations resulted in section 47 enquiries.'

The report makes 4 recommendations. To read the report [click here](#)

Stop Mental Health Provision from ‘Slipping Backwards’

Calls from Health and Social Care Committee

The Health and Social Care Committee has published a report in which it calls for urgent action to prevent mental health services slipping backwards as a result of additional demand created by the pandemic and the scale of unmet need prior to it.

The report noted that half of mental health conditions become established before the age of 14, while data from NHS Digital showed that in 2020 potentially one in six young people had a diagnosable mental health disorder up from one in nine three years earlier, placing a huge additional strain on already stretched children and young people's mental health services.

Level of provision during the pandemic was considered and the report shows that more than half of children with a diagnosable condition pre-pandemic did not receive the mental health support they needed. Health and Social Care Committee Chair Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt said:

‘Partly because of the pandemic, we are seeing demand for mental health treatment pushing NHS services to breaking point. Whilst we recognise that capacity to provide such services is increasing, we are not convinced it is happening at a fast enough rate. There is a growing risk that elective and emergency care pressures will mean mental health services once again become the poor relation.’

To read the report [click here](#)

Multi-agency reform: Key behavioural drivers and barriers

Department of Education Report

Legislation in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 aimed to reform the way in which local partners and relevant agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, placing a statutory duty on health, police, and local authorities to work together to plan and deliver local safeguarding arrangements.



The Department of Education has now published a report on the key findings emerging from research undertaken to explore behavioural barriers and drivers to successful multi-agency partnership working for children's safeguarding following recent reforms.

The research included a rapid evidence assessment and scoping stage, creation of a theory of change, case study research with five partnership areas, and co-creation and exploration of potential behavioural interventions to overcome remaining barriers.

Interventions to overcome barriers were explored by strategic leaders in three partnership areas with recommendations made for partnerships to consider and apply when taking interventions forward, and for government to ensure partnerships are supported to implement interventions.

To read the report [click here](#)

Digital Exclusion and Safety Concerns

Nominet Digital Youth Index Findings

Nominet, is the official registry for .UK domain names, and delivers the National Cyber Security Centre's 'Protective DNS' (domain name server).



Nominet has published its inaugural Nominet Digital Youth Index, a free tool that will be published annually in future to enable policy makers and organisations that work with children and young people to *'understand what it feels like to be a young person growing up in a digital world'*.

This inaugural report is the result of surveying 2000 8-25 year olds and also involved interviews with parents, secondary school teachers, youth workers and social workers. The research explores access to digital communications and asked how safe respondents feel online, as well as asking about their *'related physical and mental wellbeing'*.

The findings of the research show that 1.2 million children and young people are at risk of becoming digitally excluded. 15% of those with a smartphone do not have access to a laptop or PC and almost a third (32%) have no access to home broadband –

16% of those aged 18 years who responded to the survey said they have no laptop or PC; almost half said they use alternative methods to connect to the internet instead of home broadband.

The findings in this research pose a number of questions for those supporting children and young people, from how to keep children safe when they are having to access the internet from sources other than their own home, sources which may not be secure, to considerations for future home schooling as a result of pandemic restrictions, when no home broadband is available.

Almost half of the children are teaching themselves digital skills, and whilst most (94%) said they felt safe online, *'58% of young people in the LGBTQ+ community have experienced hate speech online.'*

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

To access the Nominet Digital Youth Index (interactive data tool) [click here](#)





Other News



Amendments Tabled for Health and Care Bill

National Children's Bureau has been working with partners including the AYM to ensure that the Health and Care Bill is as effective as possible in supporting children and their families. In total 7 amendments have been tabled, 5 of which were tabled by Baroness Tyler and 2 by Baroness Meacher.

The committee stage is due to begin on Tuesday 11 January and Peers can add their name in for support up until the start of committee.



To read the amendments [click here](#)

Safer Communities – Emerald Publishing Literati Award 2021

These awards celebrate and reward outstanding contributions of authors and reviewers, not only to our journals and books, but to the body of knowledge. Sean Creaney, known to many in youth justice has won the 2021 award for his paper ***“Game playing” and “docility”: youth justice in question.***

The paper presents a 'critical perspective on the notion and practice of children's participation in the youth justice system. It seeks to expose and illuminate the diverse and complex challenges involving children on matters related to their care and the particularities of supervision arrangements.' Using Pierre Bourdieu's thinking tools, Sean explored children's experiences of youth justice supervision with particular reference to participatory practices.

To read Sean's paper which has been made freely available for 12 months [click here](#)

Understanding Racial Disparity



The YJB has published a presentation, ably supported by the Youth Ambassador Network (YAN).

In this presentation, the YJB considers how racial disparity affects 'children in their early years and in the criminal justice system.

To view the presentation [click here](#)

Vision for Women's Health Strategy Announced



Department
of Health &
Social Care

Government announces its intentions

The Department of Health and Social Care has published its Vision for Women's Health Strategy in England, following a consultation which received 100,000 responses from women across the country, and over 400 written responses from organisations and experts working in the health sector and beyond. The publication sets the government's vision for a new healthcare system, which it states *'offers equal access to effective care and support, prioritising care on the basis of clinical need and not of gender.'*

The strategy adopts a life course approach, focussing on understanding the changing health and care needs of women and girls across their lives through the identification of the critical stages, transitions, and settings where there are opportunities to promote good health, to prevent negative health outcomes, or to restore health and wellbeing.

To read the vision paper [click here](#)

Homeless Prevention Grant

Funding Announced

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has announced £315.8 million will be made available to local authorities in 2022/3 through the Homelessness Prevention Grant, to support them to deliver services to prevent and tackle homelessness.

This maintains the £310 million provided through the grant in 2021/22 and includes an additional £5.8 million to cover the cost of new burdens associated with the expansion of 'priority need' to those forced into homelessness by domestic abuse, following the implementation of the Domestic Abuse Act 2021.

Funding will be allocated to all councils responsible for housing in England based on local homelessness need in individual areas.

To read more about the grant [click here](#)



Support for vulnerable young people in serious violence hotspots

£30m targeted support announced



The Department for Education has announced that young people who are most at risk of serious violence or gang exploitation will receive targeted support to keep them engaged in education and attending lessons. This targeted support, backed by £30m is part of a rollout of 10 'SAFE' (Support, Attend, Fulfil, Exceed) taskforces, led by local schools, in 'hotspot' areas, where incidents of serious youth violence are highest.

The aim is to support vulnerable young people, and help them avoid them becoming involved in county lines and criminal activity; helping increase school attendance and reduce the likelihood of young people being permanently excluded from school.

Areas benefitting from a SAFE Taskforce are:

- Birmingham
- Newham
- Manchester
- Lambeth
- Leeds
- Southwark
- Sheffield
- Bradford
- Liverpool
- Haringey

A further 22 schools benefitting from 'Alternative Provision Specialist Taskforces', which work directly with young people in alternative provision settings to offer intensive support from experts, including mental health professionals, family workers, and speech and language therapists, has also been announced.

To read more [click here](#)

New Information Commissioner Announced

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport has announced the appointment of the new Information Commissioner, John Edwards. Edwards replaces the previous Information Commissioner Elizabeth Denham who finished her term on 30th November 2021, his five-year tenure for the position will commence on the 3rd January, 2022.



Edwards was previously New Zealand's Privacy Commissioner.

To read more about the appointment [click here](#)

Policing to Receive up to £1.1 Billion Extra



Representing 7% increase on 2021/22 funding

The Home Office has announced a 7% cash increase on last year for policing which will total £16.9 billion for 2022/23.

The additional funding is aimed at driving down crime and making streets, as detailed in the Beating Crime Plan. In particular, the plan focuses on driving down homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime.

To read more [click here](#)

First Drug Strategy Published

'From harm to hope'

A joint policy paper has been published by 6 government departments ***'From harm to hope: a 10-year drugs plan to cut crime and save lives'***.

The strategy which is described as a new approach to the problems caused by illegal drugs, that will reduce crime and improve people's lives; it is *'not a short-term fix but a long-term, 10-year strategy, one that treats drug abuse not just as a law enforcement issue but as a problem for all of society that all of government must deal with.'*

The strategy has been developed into a 'plan on a page' with 3 aims:

- To Break drug supply chains
- Deliver world-class treatment and recovery services, and
- Achieve a shift in the demand for recreational drugs.

The strategy also sets out plans to 'roll up county lines' and the exploitation of children, by strengthening the flagship County Lines Programme to tackle what the Government calls 'the most violent and exploitative distribution model yet seen'.

To read the strategy [click here](#)



However as Lyn Brown, MP for West Ham, pointed out in her motion to the House of Commons regarding child criminal exploitation:

'the 10-year drugs strategy launched last week barely even mentioned the criminal exploitation of children.'

Lyn Brown's motion regarding a Bill for child criminal exploitation was moved at its first hearing and will receive a second hearing on 14th January. To read more about this motion [click here](#)

Vacancies



Kirklees Seeks a Team Manager

Kirklees Youth Justice Service (YJS) is an integral part of the Kirklees Youth Practice Model identified as the Youth Engagement Service (YES). The YJS within the YES is a multi-disciplinary team incorporating the skills and experience of several services within Kirklees Council and working together with partners to provide the broadest possible inventory of support for the young people of Kirklees.

As a Team Manager, you will be at the forefront managing the planning of frontline intervention and engagement work delivered by your team. The role will include monitoring of information, identification of trends and real time interpretations that will contribute to plans aimed at mitigating risk. As a YJS supervisor you will hold an influential position and hold responsibility for decision making, development of plans and the innovation of effective solutions. The role will require an oversight of progress for young people identified as requiring support and intervention working in collaboration with other services and partners. You will provide supervision and opportunities for reflection and analysis, as well as being responsible for the allocation of casework and actively managing caseloads so that practitioners are able to do the quality child centred work that they need to.

The successful candidate will demonstrate a strong understanding of what best practice looks like and be passionate about inspiring and improving children's lives

For more information, please email Chris Sweeting, Service Manager at: chris.sweeting@kirklees.gov.uk

Closing Date for applications is 11:55 pm on 30th January, 2022

For more information or to apply, please [click here](#)

Advertise Your Vacancies on the AYM Website

Don't forget to let the AYM know of any vacancies you have so that we can add to them to the 'Sector Vacancy' section of the AYM website and advertise them in the monthly bulletin.



With visitors to our website each month, from across the criminal justice sector we hope this will be beneficial to your service (or organisation).

If you wish to advertise a vacancy on the AYM website, there is a short form you can complete, which will you can access now by [clicking here](#).

Fill in the form and we will do the rest!



Dates for Your Diary

Calendar of events for AYM 2022



Title	Date	Venue
Executive Board meeting	26th January, 2022 at 1pm	Virtual
Spring Seminar	February/March date tbc	tbc
Executive Board meeting	27 th April, 2022 at 1pm	tbc
Executive Board meeting	23 rd June, 2022	tbc
AYM Conference	23 rd June, 2022	tbc
Annual General Meeting	23 rd June, 2022	tbc
<p><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></p> <p><i>To keep up to date with this calendar between Bulletins, please look at our website:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">aym.org.uk</p>		

For Your Diary!



Alliance for Youth Justice

The next virtual member's meeting of the Alliance for Youth Justice is on:

Wednesday 19th January, 2022

2 – 4pm

At this meeting, HMI Probation will present findings and recommendations from the thematic inspection into the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system, and User Voice will share insights from their peer engagement with the boys.

Stephanie Roberts-Bibby, Chief Operating Officer at the Youth Justice Board, will discuss the YJB's work to address racial disparity in the youth justice system, including the development of a new national protocol.

If you are an AYJ member and wish to attend, [click here](#) to register for a place



The AYM is a member of the AYJ. If as an AYM member you would like to receive their newsletters please [click here](#)

Safeguarding Children in the Digital Age

Children and Young People Now are holding their fifth annual conference **online** on:

26th and 27th January, 2022

2- 5.30pm each day

The conference aims to provide essential learning to all professionals who work with children and young people, from the early years to the onset of adulthood. Some of the country's leading experts will provide a solid understanding of established and emerging risks – including:

- online abuse,
- misinformation,
- gambling and radicalisation



To view the agenda and register for a place [click here](#)



Want to stay up to date with YJ issues?

Then follow the AYM on Twitter.....

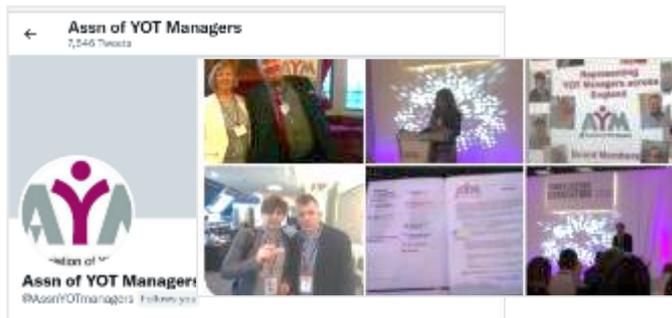
We have more than 3,000 followers who receive frequent updates on issues relating to youth justice and YOT Managers. It's easy to sign up - our username is:

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



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

PLEASE NOTE:

This AYM Bulletin shares items which we feel may be of interest to members and other interested parties, but this should not be taken as endorsement of individuals, organisations or their products or views.



If you do not wish to receive this Bulletin, 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.

East	Pat Jennings Bedfordshire YOS				
<i>pat.jennings@bedford.gov.uk</i>					
East Midlands	Karen Manville Leicester City YJS		West Midlands	Celia Payne Wolverhampton YOS	
<i>Karen.Manville@leicester.gov.uk</i>			<i>celia.payne@wolverhampton.gov.uk</i>		
South East	Charlie Spencer Surrey YOS		South West	Mike Rees North Somerset YOT	
<i>charlie.spencer@surreycc.gov.uk</i>			<i>mike.rees@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>		
North East	Roni Checksfield		North West	Vacant	
<i>roni.checksfield@hartlepool.gov.uk</i>					
London	Brendan Finegan Hackney YOT		Yorkshire & Humberside	Samantha Matthews East Riding YOS	
<i>brendan.finegan@hackney.gov.uk</i>			<i>Samantha.T.Matthews@eastriding.gov.uk</i>		