



# Bulletin May 2022



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## News from the AYM Executive Board



The Executive Board met on the 27<sup>th</sup> April and received an update on the proposed changes to the AYM Quality SEND Awards since the demise of Achievement for All. Marius Frank has been working hard to establish a new sponsor and identified 'Microlink Education' for the awards which the Executive supported. Work will now focus on engaging youth justice services to achieve the Quality Mark and Quality Lead awards.

Following the internal structure review of the AYM, regional representatives on the Executive Board have been actively working with the AYM members in their regions and we were pleased to see AYM members observing the meeting. We hope that future Executive Board meetings continue to see such active engagement of the membership.

As outlined in last month's bulletin, the Executive continues to consider its approach to ensuring consultations and practice development can be supported by the membership we are keen to hear your feedback on the portfolio areas identified for the future and we are keen to hear from members regarding the areas considered by the Executive to be priorities, these include:

Prevention and Diversion

Disproportionality and Diversity, covering all aspects such as health, education

Contextualised Safeguarding

Custody (including police custody) and Resettlement

Transitions – covering movement between community and custody, and aspects such as age and health

Sector Led Improvement

We have received feedback from some members but would encourage anyone who has an interest in designing and supporting this work to get in touch. If you have any thoughts or considerations you would like to share, please contact [lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk](mailto:lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk)

**We are also keen to hear from anyone who could undertake the role of AYM treasurer and secretary** as our current postholders will not be continuing with these roles after the AGM in June. Both these roles are supported by our business support officer and do not require specialist skills and expertise. What is required is someone who is able to pay attention to detail and an ability to think strategically about risks and opportunities for the Executive – something YOT business/managers are particularly good at.

If you feel you could take on either of these roles the current post holders are happy to discuss their roles further. Please contact [lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk](mailto:lesley.tregear@aym.org.uk) in the first instance.

**Finally, the Executive have been busy finalising arrangements for the AYM Conference and AGM on 23<sup>rd</sup> June** (see page 19 of this bulletin for more information). We hope to see many of you there.

## Youth Justice SEND Quality Awards

### **Hot off the press!**

Microlink Education is the new sponsor of the Youth Justice SEND Quality Awards!



When Achievement for All went into administration in October 2021, the AYM Marius Frank (Youth Justice Lead at Achievement for All) immediately began a search for another credible umbrella organisation with the experience and reach to manage and validate the awards process.

Marius has recently been appointed Head of Education at Microlink PC UK Ltd, and is delighted to announce that all of his youth justice work and commitments will become part of his new portfolio. Marius said of this development:

*“This is an exciting development, not only for me, but for the partnership with AYM. “Microlink has a thirty-year track record of driving up standards of workplace adjustments in terms of disabled access. These standards are demanding, and the company has an absolute commitment to applying these standards to education providers and Children’s Services, with the ambition and intent to dismantle barriers to learning and living for any child with disabilities, or disabled by life circumstance. Supporting the Awards will only be part of the new services that we will be offering to youth offending teams in England and Wales. Watch this space!”*

We are delighted to announce that the Youth Justice SEND Awards will be restarting with immediate effect. The processes for designation and redesignation will be the same as before.



### **The prices are held at 2020-21 levels.**

If your service was set for redesignation in 2021 or 2022, you will be contacted directly.

Any service that paid Achievement for All (AfA), but whose accreditation process was paused because of the closure of AfA, will be able to restart and complete the awards at no additional charge.

To find out more and express and interest in registering for the awards, or if you have any queries please contact: [education@microlinkpc.com](mailto:education@microlinkpc.com)

## Lack of Collective Knowledge of Needs of Children in Care



### **Ofsted report argues**

Ofsted has published a report '**Why do children go into children's homes?**', in which it argues there is a lack of collective knowledge regarding the needs of children in care.

The report is based on surveys of children, children's home staff and other stakeholders across 83 children's homes in 2019, and is part of a wider project looking at sufficiency and the diversity of needs children's homes try to meet.

The report also draws on discussions held between inspectors and children placed in children's homes, staff and others, all of which provide insight into the diverse and complex needs of children who go into children's homes, and the life experiences that led to them living there.

In considering the experiences of 113 children in care, the study found that their needs were very diverse, and there was usually more than one reason they were living in a children's home. Two thirds of the children in the study had entered a children's home because of some form of interruption in their previous care, including:

- foster placement breakdown (41%)
- children's home breakdown (15%)
- family breakdown (12%)

Children's home placements were not the original plan for almost half of the children considered in this study, nevertheless, around three quarters of these children were found to be well matched to their home.

Of those children found to be well matched (82), 36 had some form of foster care as their original care plan. Ofsted argues that the fact that the children were doing well in their home demonstrates how children's homes had been able to adapt to children's different needs; the authors further argue this '*challenges the commonly held assumption that foster care is a better option for children in care.*'

As a result of the findings, the report calls for further research to be undertaken, including a national audit of children's needs, to provide better understanding of the experiences of children in care, and of the complexities of sufficiency in children's social care.

To read the report [click here](#)

## 'Trauma-Informed Custody Scheme' for Detained Children



### **Introduced by Northamptonshire Police**

A new approach to dealing with the trauma children experience when entering custody has been introduced by Northamptonshire Police, one of the first police force areas to introduce such an approach.

Northamptonshire police state it detains up to 70 children each month and the trauma-informed custody process aims to better support those children who have been arrested, by helping officers better understand the effects of childhood trauma, recognise vulnerability and reduce repeat offending.

Specialist training has been provided to custody and detention officers to enable them to become *'trauma-informed to prevent "replicating traumatic experiences", and adding to the "chronic stress" their youngest detainees are already likely carrying as a result of adverse childhood experiences.*

Following advice from Dr Louise Kirby, a Northampton-based neurodiversity practitioner, the custody team have made changes to some of the cells used for children by putting blackboard paint on the cell wall so children can express themselves by drawing in chalk. They have also placed shapes high up on the walls, so that children can bounce a small rubber ball against them. Dr Kirby advises that *'this proprioception (the sense of self movement) has a soothing effect to calm and regulate the nervous system on those living with neurodiverse conditions.'*

The name of this new process is Trauma-Informed Custody for Trauma Affected Children, otherwise known as 'TIC TAC'. Initially a 12 week pilot, the programme has proved so effective that Northamptonshire Police is planning to adopt it as routine in custody suites.

As part of the TIC TAC programme the custody team has partnered with CIRV (a gang diversion programme), Northamptonshire Youth Offending Service, and with the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner's early intervention practitioners, who visit the children in custody to offer support.



For more information [click here](#)

## Child First Effective Practice Course



### ***New course: FREE places for youth justice practitioners***

Unitas is offering a new five-week online course which will focus on how practitioners can enhance their practice and think about it through a 'child first' lens.

Participants on the course will cover:

- Child First from a rights perspective
- look at the evidence behind the main principles underpinning Child First with lots of opportunity to reflect on practice
- techniques that will engage children, like motivational interviewing and solution-focused therapy
- how to apply the relationship-based practice framework to your work
- key concepts about trust, empathy, labelling, trauma, resilience
- what challenges you might face and how to demonstrate the difference in terms of outcomes for children
- theory such as constructive working, identity shift and "the 5 C's"
- complete the course with a computer-marked assessment

To read more about the Child First Effective Practice Award [click here](#)



Youth Justice Service practitioners are eligible for **FREE** places (up to two per Youth Justice Service, funded by the Youth Justice Board).

Additional places can be purchased by emailing [contact@unitas.uk.net](mailto:contact@unitas.uk.net)

### ***How to apply for your place***

- Simply fill in the registration form which can be accessed by [clicking here](#). You will then be contacted by a Student Support Coordinator to confirm your place.
- You will receive access to all online materials alongside a dedicated Learning Coach
- The first cohort can start as soon as 23 May 2022
- This effective practice award has been created by Unitas in partnership with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and is certificated by Skills For Justice Awards.



## Enhanced Funding for Drug Treatment

### ***For 50 local authorities in England***



Communities in England most affected by drug related crime and addiction will receive over £300 million of additional funding over the next 3 years to strengthen treatment and recovery services.

The Department of Health and Social Care and the Home Office announced that all local authorities will receive an uplift in funding for their treatment and recovery services as part of the drugs strategy's record £780 million investment to rebuild these services. Communities in England most affected by drug related crime and addiction will receive over £300 million of additional funding over the next 3 years to strengthen treatment and recovery services.

It also announced it will be providing enhanced funding over the next three years to 50 local authorities in some of the most deprived areas in England to *'rebuild drug treatment services'* by enhancing their drug and alcohol treatment services and increasing the capacity of services.

The announcement stated that 'record levels of funding will help achieve the government's 10-year strategy to tackle drug crime, boost treatment and level up the country.

Health and Social Care Secretary Sajid Javid said the extra funding *'will help to reverse the upward trend in drug use by tackling this major driver of crime which disproportionately impacts the most vulnerable and poorest communities.'*

The announcement stated the additional funding will support the government in meeting the ambitions in the drug strategy:

*'to prevent nearly 1,000 drug-related deaths, deliver 54,500 new high-quality treatment places and prevent a quarter of a million crimes – and towards achieving Dame Carol Black's vision for world-class drug treatment and recovery systems.'*

In addition, the government has set out plans for more intensive oversight by the criminal justice system through the enhancement of Project ADDER which currently delivers a whole system approach to tackle drug misuse. The project which is reported as showing signs of success, will be developed to provide a 'package of coordinated support' to every opiate and crack cocaine user in ADDER areas in England, backed by incentives and consequences within the criminal justice system to increase engagement in rehabilitation, treatment and recovery services through intensive oversight by criminal justice agencies; for example, through joint probation and police supervision.

For more information [click here](#)

## Alliance for Youth Justice News



Members of the Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) heard at the Annual General Meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> April, that the AYJ Chief Executive Officer, Pippa Goodfellow, will be taking a 12-month sabbatical in order to complete her doctorate. An interim Chief Executive Officer is currently being recruited.

Since taking on her role as Director of the former Standing Committee for Youth Justice, Pippa has been at the forefront of engaging with members to develop the organisation -now known as the Alliance for Youth Justice, and lead on developing the scope of the AYJ in work with different partners. The AGM was an opportunity to hear about those undertaken during the past 12 months, including the Young Advocates Project, the Girls and Young Women Project and the Impact of COVID-19 project.

Members also heard that Hannah Smithson has completed her tenure as chair of the AYJ Board. AYJ Board member and AYM representative, Lesley Tregear was elected to this role.

### ***Presentation Claudia Sturt, YJB Chief Executive***

Claudia spoke to the members meeting giving **feedback on her first year with the Board and highlighted the challenges facing the youth justice system**, including the number of children remanded to custody who later are not sentenced to detention, and the over-representation in the youth justice system of marginalised groups, in particular black boys.

Claudia spoke of the YJB's positive relationships with stakeholders throughout the sector and stated she is particularly influenced by the Edinburgh Study, a longitudinal study of children involved in the criminal justice system in Scotland which found adopting a holistic approach toward children and relationship based practice, maintaining children in education, and recognising the negative impact of early contact with the criminal justice system is more influential in enabling positive outcomes and reduced offending by children.

Claudia stated the YJB will be focusing on prevention, models of youth justice structures and policing strategies, education, and reducing the over representation of minoritized groups. She also argued that the YJB will be less focused on conditions in custody as this is considered by other organisations and more focused on the performance and effective practice of youth justice services.

Finally, Claudia argued that the YJB aims to be more influential providing greater leadership in central and local government – and less content to 'sail under the radar'.

For more information about the Alliance for Youth Justice and the projects undertaken [click here](#)

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

## Increases in Children Missing from Care

### **Amongst child victims of trafficking and modern slavery**



ECPAT UK (Every Child Protected Against Trafficking), a leading children’s rights organisation campaigning to protect children from trafficking and transnational exploitation, together ‘Missing People’ a UK charity dedicated to bringing missing children and adults back together with their families, have published a report **‘When Harm Remains: an update report on trafficked and unaccompanied children going missing from care in the UK’**.

The report shows that the number of identified and suspected trafficked children in local authority care has increased by 22% over the three years, from 960 in 2018 to 1,231 in 2020. The number of identified and suspected trafficked children who have gone missing from local authority care has also increased, from 284 in 2018 to 378 in 2020 (an increase of 24.9%).

In 2020, almost 1 in 3 (31%) trafficked children were reported missing from care and trafficked children went missing on average over eight times during each year, a rate significantly higher than for the looked after children population, which was 6.5 missing incidents per child in 2020.

The report argues that:

*‘Trafficked children continue to be one of the groups who are most at risk of going missing in the UK, with nearly one third going missing from local authority care in 2020. This compares to one in 10 looked after children in England and around one in 200 children overall in the UK.’*

The authors make a number of recommendations:

- Local authority Children’s Services must improve data recording systems.
- Safeguarding partners should ensure that a child’s first and subsequent encounters with agencies and services are protective and supportive and help prevent them from going missing.
- Law enforcement authorities should recognize consider the increased risks trafficked or unaccompanied children face when they are reported missing, and provide additional resources to support these investigations.
- The Home Office and local authorities must give trafficked and unaccompanied children the benefit of the doubt regarding their age.
- Local authorities must provide safe and appropriate accommodation for all trafficked and unaccompanied children.
- The Home Office must provide a long-term sustainable solution for every unaccompanied and trafficked child based on their best interests, in order to ensure children’s rights are respected and they can grow into adulthood with stability.

To read the report [click here](#)

## Prison Leavers Projects

### ***Focused on specific groups***

The Ministry of Justice has announced it will provide £2.8 million through its Local Leadership and Integration Fund (LLIF), to support a further 4 projects through the Prison Leavers Project, a £20 million cross-government initiative aiding the rehabilitation of those leaving custody to help reduce reoffending.

These specialist schemes are focussed on care leavers, substance misusers, female abuse victims, and short-sentence offenders. The projects aim to address key drivers of crime, such as unemployment, substance misuse and homelessness and social isolation.

The government expects these projects to help cut the £18 billion cost of reoffending, reporting that 80% of offenders have at least one previous caution or conviction.

The Ministry of Justice data shows that government around half of those leaving custody with no accommodation are likely to reoffend and that securing employment within 12 months of release from custody reduces the likelihood of reoffending by up to 9%.

In June 2021, 7 pilots received £3.9 million, some of which have been running since autumn 2021:

- Bounce Back
- Catch22
- Change Grow Live (Cheshire)
- Change Grow Live (Midlands)
- The Innovation Unit
- NEPACS
- New Futures Network/Antz Junction.

A further £2.8 million has been awarded to 4 further pilot projects that will commence in May:

- Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner for the Thames Valley: Providing a package of staff training and support for prison leavers in the Thames Valley to reduce homelessness and improve employment outcomes,
- Llamau: Targeted interventions for young men in Wales, focusing on reducing homelessness, improving family relationships and community integration.
- Nelson Trust: Provides targeted provision to support females who have experienced trauma and abuse, to help them settle back into the community, including facilitating contact with children for those who are mothers.
- St Giles Trust: Providing housing and mental health support for offenders in Yorkshire with complex needs.

The pilots will be evaluated throughout their delivery, and up to 12 months after prison leavers are released, to learn which approaches are most effective in reducing reoffending.

For more information [click here](#)





## Other News

# #FairChecks

### Call for Amendments to the Criminal Records Disclosure System

Charities Transform Justice and Unlock are leading 'FairChecks', a movement calling for a fresh start for the UK's criminal records disclosure system. FairChecks believes that people who have already served their sentence deserve the chance to work towards a better future for themselves and their families.

FairChecks is calling for the following changes to criminal records:

- Removal of criminal records for cautions;
- To 'wipe the slate clean' for childhood offences; and
- To stop the need for people to reveal short prison sentences forever.

For more information on FairChecks, Transform Justice and Unlock [click here](#)

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### Over-represented children: Updated Summary Ethnic Disparity Tool

As part of the work to address ethnic disparity, the YJB has updated and refreshed the Summary Ethnic Disparity Tool which provides information about how members of different ethnic groups were represented in the youth justice system in England and Wales in the years ending March 2016 to March 2021.



The updated tool will assist local areas to address any issues of over-representation of particular ethnic groups. It will also:

- enable the sharing of such data with other key stakeholders
- look at trends
- help to measure the impact of their work.

The tool includes information on local ethnic group's profiles for 10-17-year-olds.

The information within the Tool is drawn from the Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF) and is data based on youth justice service (YJS) quarterly returns to the YJB, and from the 2011 census. The tool is available to all Youth Justice Services via YJAF.

If you have questions regarding the tool, contact the YJB information and analysis team at:

[informationandanalysis@yjb.gov.uk](mailto:informationandanalysis@yjb.gov.uk)

**UPDATED**

## New Policy Briefing

The Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) with the Manchester Centre for Youth Studies, has published a second of three policy briefings for the 'Impact of COVID-19 on Youth Justice research project.



Latest Briefing!

This latest briefing entitled '***A critical juncture for youth justice: Learning lessons and future directions for a post-pandemic youth justice system***, considers the key challenges for the youth justice system that have been brought about, aggravated or accentuated by the pandemic. It examines delays to justice, children's experiences of courts and sentencing, and the role of youth offending teams.

The paper argues the youth justice system is at a critical juncture and considers future directions for justice for children, calling for lessons to be learnt from experiences during the pandemic.

To read the briefing [click here](#)

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## Social Workers in School Projects Extended



'What Works for Children's Social Care' (WWCSC) has announced that funding for two projects that were scaled up in 2020, following pilot programmes will be extended until the end of this current academic year.

The 'Social Workers in Schools Programme' places social workers in 21 schools across England. The second programme provides regular access to social work support and supervision for designated safeguarding leads (DSLs) in schools, enabling DSLs to discuss any issues or seek advice on situations relating to child safety within their school.

The new funding will also allow for the extension of the independent evaluations of the programmes, conducted by Cascade at Cardiff University, and NIESR. The research is due to be published in January 2023.

For more information [click here](#)

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## Youth Custody



The House of Commons Library has published a research briefing into youth custody which highlights trends and concerns regarding current provision for children in custody across all three accommodation types – secure children's homes, secure training centres and youth offender institutions. It also considers the proposals for secure schools.

To read the briefing [click here](#)

## Supported Accommodation Scheme



The Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) is to pilot the use of small units of supported accommodation with five or fewer children which it hopes will begin running in 2023. Their belief is that smaller units will achieve better outcomes for children placed in them, resulting in reduced offending which will benefit the community, as well as deliver savings for taxpayers.

Claudia Sturt, Chief Executive of the YJB, told Children and Young People Now:

*“By providing suitable accommodation for these children we hope to give them an alternative to being remanded and sentenced to custody, where we know 74 per cent of children on remand do not end up with a custodial outcome.*

*As the pathfinder develops, we also hope to support children who are suitable for release from custody to lead successful lives and to prevent them reoffending.*

*We know that, especially in London, remand disproportionately affects black boys and children looked after and we believe this is one of the important ways we can tackle the overrepresentation of these children in custody.*

*Minimising the traumatic impact of custody on children will reduce the likelihood of future offending behaviours.”*

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## HMI Probation: Academic Insight



### **Systemic Resilience**

HMI Probation has published the latest Academic Insight on systemic resilience.

In this article, Dr Alex Chard summarises the concept of systemic resilience which brings together systemic thinking and resilience theory. Moving beyond an individualised view that locates resilience as a requirement of the child, it recognises the importance of strengthening the protective factors around the child. Seeing resilience as systemic facilitates a clear link between practice with individual children and strategic responses to prevent offending that address structural factors such as poverty and social exclusion.

The author argues that in order to build resilience for children who are, or have been exploited, targeted interventions that reduce or remove the negative influence of exploiters are required, together with increasing positive protective and empathic relationships. Effective responses should be delivered on an inter-agency basis through a highly resilient, skilled and well-resourced multi-disciplinary team, such as a youth justice service, in order to meet the complex needs of children who have experienced exploitation or trauma.

To read the article [click here](#)

## Proposed Bill of Rights Criticised



Children's  
Rights Alliance  
for England

A coalition of 30 children's charities led by the Children's Rights Alliance for England, including the National Children's Bureau, 'Together' (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights), the Children's Law Centre, and Children England, have sent a letter to the Secretary of State for Justice, Dominic Raab, calling for the UK Government to abandon its proposals for a Bill of Rights, which is expected to feature in the forthcoming Queen's speech.

In the letter the group warns that the Government's proposals will significantly weaken children's human rights and the ability of children to hold the Government and public bodies to account where their rights have been infringed. The coalition report *'it is deeply concerned with the Government's specific proposals which could:*



- *Create unnecessary barriers to children's access to justice, complicate, delay and add costs to proceedings through introducing a 'permission stage' at the start of a human rights legal case.*
- *Change the definition of 'public authorities'. This could mean that the Human Rights Act (HRA) does not apply to private providers of public services. This is particularly crucial for the protection of children who live in institutions run by private providers, for example, secure training centres and children's homes.*
- *Stop the courts overturning secondary legislation that is incompatible with children's rights and the HRA and instead only allow them to make a 'declaration of incompatibility'. Secondary legislation covers regulations that can have a wide-ranging impact on many aspects of children's lives, such as welfare reform.'*

For more information [click here](#)

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## Vacancies

### **Alliance for Youth Justice seeks a policy and communications officer.**



The Alliance for Youth Justice is looking for an enthusiastic new Policy and Communications Officer to support the development of its programme of policy, communications and influencing work.

Closing date for applications is **11:59 Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

To find out more and apply for the position [click here](#)

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## ***Lincolnshire is recruiting for a youth offending officer***

Lincolnshire Children's Services Future4Me was launched countywide in February 2019 and brought together the council's core offer to adolescents by building on the Youth Offending Team, Youth Hub and Early Help. Focusing on supporting young people aged 14-18, the dedicated hub comprises of staff with a focus on youth housing, diversion from youth justice, child exploitation, community interventions as well as our psychology team.

The hub works to support our frontline practitioners, based in the localities, delivering interventions and services to children, young people and families.

The Future4me team is looking to recruit a Youth Offending Team Officer to manage children and young people subject to statutory court orders in both community and custodial settings, as well as diversionary and early intervention work.

**The service is currently recruiting to 1 full time permanent position available in Lincoln and West Lindsey, and 1 full time fixed term contract running to April 2023 covering Lincoln and West Lindsey.**

The successful candidate will have either a social work qualification (and be SWE registered), a probation officer qualification or equivalent or a formal and relevant professional degree qualification. Applicants will also require youth justice, children's social care or probation experience; have an understanding of risk assessment, risk management and a clear focus on safeguarding young people and victims.

An in-depth knowledge of the legislative framework and legal proceedings that govern youth justice, exceptional communication skills and experience of multi-agency working is also required.

**Closing date for applications is 10th May      Interviews to be held 20th and 24th May**

For more information and to apply for the position [click here](#)

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## ***Advertise your vacancy with the AYM***

[Click here](#) and fill in the form to advertise your vacancy in the AYM monthly bulletin and the AYM website.



Readers of the bulletin include AYM members and more than 150 external stakeholders from across the criminal justice sector. The website receives regular visitors from across the sector.

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**For Your  
Diary!**

## Dates for Your Diary

### Calendar of events for AYM 2022



<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Executive Board meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2022 at 8:30am	Staffordshire
AYM Conference	23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2022 at 10am	Staffordshire
Annual General Meeting	23 <sup>rd</sup> June, 2022 at 2pm	Staffordshire
Executive Board meeting	September	Date tbc

***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.***

***To keep up to date with this calendar between Bulletins, please look at our website:***

**[aym.org.uk](http://aym.org.uk)**

## Disrupting the Routes between Care and Custody for Girls and Women

The Centre for Child and Family Justice Research is holding an online launch event to share key insights from the Nuffield-Foundation funded project on Disrupting the Routes between Care and Custody for Girls and Women:

**Wednesday 4th May, 2022**

**10:00am – 11:30am**

The project, led by Lancaster University in partnership with Liverpool John Moore's University and the University of Bristol, has explored the neglected issue of girls and women who move between the care and criminal justice systems.

The project team will present key findings from the research which drew on interviews with imprisoned women who have been in care, and with girls and young women with care-experience and youth justice contact in the community, as well as interviews with a range of professionals working across the care and criminal justice systems, and analysis of local protocols aimed at preventing the unnecessary criminalisation of children in care.

For more information and register for a place [click here](#)



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## Learn, Share and Connect about Effective Assessments of Black and Mixed Heritage Boys in the Youth Justice System.

As part of the HM Prison and Probation Service 'Insights 22 Festival', HM Inspectorate of Probation is running an online webinar will take place on MS Teams on:

**Wednesday 18th May, 2022**

**12:30 until 13:45**

The webinar, entitled '**Black and Mixed Heritage Boys: Principles of Effective Assessment in Youth Justice Teams**' will include representatives from the Inspectorate who will identify the key principles of effective assessments.

Following on from this guest speakers from Lewisham and Hackney Youth Justice Services will share examples of this in practice.

There will then be an opportunity for attendees to ask questions of the speakers.

To register for your free ticket [click here](#)



HM Prison &  
Probation Service

## 'Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

Cheshire Youth Justice Services were commended in their recent HMIP inspection for the strength of the Knowledge Transfer Partnerships with academia and its impact on ensuring current evidence-based practice is at the forefront of service delivery and that experience of practice informs research. Inspectors said of the service:



*'We were impressed with the YJS's use of evidence and academic research to inform and develop practice and services. This is some of the strongest we have seen.'*

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships between youth justice and academia can provide opportunities for stakeholders to participate in joint projects, and offers a way to enhance the application of theory into practice across a range of specialist areas related to the delivery of youth justice.



An online conference supported by the AYM and sponsored by the Institute for Social Responsibility at Edge Hill University, will focus upon knowledge exchange and transfer between academia and the youth justice sector.



**The conference will take place via Microsoft Teams on:**

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2022  
10am-4pm**

This event seeks to bring together those from youth justice practice, academia, charitable organisations, HM inspectorates, local authorities etc., to recognise the value of partnerships between them in practice for the benefit of children and young people, families, victims and communities.

The conference will consider what Knowledge Transfer Partnerships are, how they develop the knowledge base and are realised in practice; identifying opportunities for future collaborations. Speakers at the conference include:

- Robin Moore, HMI Probation
- Sean Creaney, Edge Hill University
- Gareth Jones, Cheshire Youth Offending Service
- Mark Hamill, Cheshire Youth Justice Service
- Ann Browning, Loughborough University
- David Parks, The Skills Mill
- Ross Gibson, University of Strathclyde
- Sue Bond-Taylor, University of Lincoln
- Sarah Brooks-Wilson, University of Birmingham
- Kathy Hampson, Aberystwyth University
- Anne-Marie Day, Keele University
- Jayne Price, University of Chester

Presentations also include students with experience of placements and research projects within Youth Justice Services.

To register for the event [click here](#)

## 'The Future for Youth Justice'

As part of the COVID-19 research project with Manchester Metropolitan University, the Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) is holding a parliamentary event, sponsored by Rob Butler MP.



The event will provide a forum for discussing the implications of the pandemic for the future of the youth justice system, and what action is needed from policymakers and parliamentarians. The event takes place on:



**Monday 20th June, 2022  
2.30pm-5.30pm**

If you are a member of the AYJ and would like to attend, please contact:

[millie.harris@ayj.org.uk](mailto:millie.harris@ayj.org.uk)

***The AYM is a member of the AYJ and AYM members are therefore eligible to attend.***

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## AYM Spring Conference and AGM



### Outline Agenda

**Thursday 23rd June, 2022**  
at  
**Staffordshire Place One,**  
Tipping Street, Stafford,  
ST16 2DH

**10am Registration**

**10:30am Conference commences**

Keynote speakers including:

Steve Crocker OBE, President of the ADCS

Andrew Nichols-Clarke, Senior Development Lead, NHS England & NHS Improvement (tbc)

**1pm Lunch**

**2pm AGM commences** (for AYM members only)

A full agenda will be made available shortly on the AYM website <https://aym.org.uk>

To book your place please [click here](#).

## The SEND Summit: Putting Policy into Practice

The SEND review, published in spring 2022, paves the way for significant policy reform at a time when professionals face an unprecedented level of challenge in achieving the best outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

*Children & Young People Now's* second SEND Summit, follows last year's inaugural virtual event, and **takes place in person on:**

**Wednesday 29th June 2022**

This event is for practitioners and leaders across the system of SEND support in schools, local authorities, and other settings. Experts in the field will guide delegates through the SEND review and what it means on the ground.

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



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## ADCS Annual Conference 2022



**6th – 8th July, 2022  
Midland Hotel in Manchester**

The conference is exclusively for ADCS members, with the first day reserved open only to Directors of Children's Services.

Key note speakers include the Secretary of State for Education, Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP.

For more information visit the conference pages on the ADCS website by [clicking here](#)

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## National Children and Adult Services Annual Conference



**2nd – 4th November, 2022  
Manchester Central Exhibition Centre**

This event is aimed at all those from local and central government, voluntary organisations and the private sector with an interest in the provision of effective services for children, young people, their families and vulnerable adults, including health, social care and education.

For more information [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 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 <https://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)

**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](mailto: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.

<b>East</b>	<b>Pat Jennings</b> <i>Bedfordshire YOS</i>				
<i>pat.jennings@bedford.gov.uk</i>					
<b>East Midlands</b>	<b>Karen Manville</b> <i>Leicester City YJS</i>		<b>West Midlands</b>	<b>Celia Payne</b> <i>Wolverhampton YOS</i>	
<i>Karen.Manville@leicester.gov.uk</i>			<i>celia.payne@wolverhampton.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>Roni Checksfield</b> <i>Hartlepool YOS</i>		<b>North West</b>	<b>Kathy Gill</b> <i>Wirral YJS</i>	
<i>roni.checksfield@hartlepool.gov.uk</i>			<i>kathygill@wirral.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>		