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News from the AYM Executive Board



September has been a time of significant change and like our colleagues and friends across the nation a period of time for grief and reflection, following the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and in recognition of her service and leadership after seven decades on the throne. Our thoughts go to the Royal Family at this time.



September also brought the appointment of a new Prime Minister, Liz Truss, who as one of her first announcements paused the Bill of Rights, championed by the former Justice Secretary Dominic Raab. That the Bill is not expected to progress in its present form is welcomed by the AYM due to the lack of consideration given to protecting the rights of children.

Consultations

Crossover Project - Michael O'Connor, Swindon Youth Justice Service Manager, and Nick Jeffreys, Coventry Youth Justice Service Manager, AYM portfolio leads for Custody and Resettlement have been working with the Ministry of Justice to help inform the development of the 'Crossover Grant', for the provision of resettlement support for children leaving custody, through the new Crossover Programme. This programme aims to test a new form of personal support for children leaving custody to improve resettlement outcomes and reduce reoffending.

Unfit to Plead – Sarah Kelly from Stockport Youth Justice Service and Alex Orwin from Blackburn with Darwen Youth Justice Service, met with the lead on youth courts in the Ministry of Justice this month to discuss the Law Commission report on Unfitness to Plead and the recommendations concerning supervision orders. The report concerns defendants who lack sufficient ability to participate meaningfully at trial, and how they should be dealt with in the criminal courts. It makes recommendations for reform of the whole unfitness to plead framework, covering the crown, magistrates' and youth courts.

Sarah and Alex were able to provide current and previous experiences of cases where children were unfit to plead and share concerns around the sanctions for breach of a supervision order if intensive support and supervision is a requirement, and the appropriateness of this given the child would not be convicted of the offence. Sarah and Alex shared how the use of a Mentally Vulnerable Offender Panel (MVOP) and learning and development within the court setting can be useful.

They were also able to raise the need for further consideration to be given regarding the transition of young people turning 18 years of age during the proceedings.

AYM Autumn Conference

We are pleased to be able to confirm the details of our Autumn Conference, kindly hosted by Milton Keynes Youth Offending Team.

To book your place at this free conference [click here](#)

Wednesday 7th December, 2022

10am – 3:30pm

**Milton Keynes Professional Development Centre,
Galley Hill, Milton Keynes MK11 1PA**



AGENDA

- 10:00 Registration**
- 10:30 Welcome** Jacqui Belfield-Smith, AYM Chair
- 10:40 Key Issues Arising from the ETE Thematic** Helen Mercer, Head of Policy and Standards, HMIP
- 11:25 YJB ETE Strategy** Sharon Gray OBE, YJB Board Member
- 12:05 Comfort Break**
- 12:20 Why everyone should know about Developmental Language Disorder (DLD)** Courtenay Norbury, Professor of Developmental Language & Communication Disorders, UCL
- 13:00 Lunch**
- 13:45 AYM Awards** Marius Franks (SEND QA), Jacqui Belfield-Smith (John Hawkins)
- 14:30 Oakhill STC ETE & Safeguarding Update** Wendy Tomlinson, Head of Safeguarding, YCS
- 15:15 Closing Summary** Jacqui Belfield Smith, AYM Chair
- 15:30 Conference Close**

AYM John Hawkins Award



Reminder!

Nominate your work this month for this prestigious award.

The deadline for nominations for the AYM John Hawkins Award 2022 is:

Friday 28th October, 2022.

The AYM's John Hawkins Award is made each year in memory of John Hawkins, previous AYM Treasurer and Head of Service, East Sussex YOT.

John's family agreed to support this AYM award to a youth justice service that demonstrates creativity or innovation in its' work with children. John's family are always very keen to visit the winning service and meet with the children benefitting from the work of the youth justice service.



Do you have a programme or project that you feel demonstrates innovation or creativity, and which provides positive outcomes for children you work with in youth justice?

Perhaps you have developed a creative approach to the work you have undertaken with children and their families, or ways in which to engage them in new ways. Why not nominate this for an award.

Winners of the award receive £500!

To submit your nomination, contact our secretary Jessica Edwards at secretary@aym.org.uk

Strategic Leadership Course

ILM 7 Qualification for Heads of Service.

The AYM is looking to deliver another cohort of the Institute in Leadership and Management Level 7 Certificate programme, delivered by our partners Solace, the UK's leading network for public sector professionals.



This course is unique in that it is the only leadership and management course offered to heads of service in youth justice. The course covers aspects of leadership and management within a strategic context and is delivered through a combination of workshops, tutorials, personal coaching, individual learning and work-based learning projects.



The programme is tailored to meet the needs of individuals within the cohort. The course outcomes can be linked to the organisation's strategic aims and strategies and the priorities of key political, organisational or community stakeholders, as well as to internal people and organisational development approaches.

The programme will take early in the new year and dates will be confirmed shortly.

If you are interested in undertaking the programme, Apply Now!

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

Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership

Keep in touch with the latest news

YJSIP is expanding its social media presence. If you are on LinkedIn, please follow us at:



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/youth-justice-sector-improvement-partnership-yjsip/>

YJSIP news will be uploaded regularly.

If you would like to get involved with the YJSIP, contact us at YJSIPadmin@aym.org.uk

Youth Justice SEND Quality Awards

Congratulations to two more Youth Justice Area Partnerships in Achieving the Quality Lead Award!



Cheshire East Area Partnership, part of the wider Cheshire Youth Justice Services, has attained the Youth Justice SEND Quality Lead Status with a Child First Commendation.

The team, which contributed significantly to the early days of the Youth Justice SEND Project in 2016-7, embracing the quality assurance framework and trialling a model peer review process, was awarded Quality Mark status in 2018, through developing more robust relationships with education services, social and health, with particular strengths in the quality of their award-winning diversion activity.

Since then, the team has continued to improve services, notably the inclusion of speech and language therapy and child and mental health service specialisms within service provision and the introduction of 'Journey First' a provision that secures support beyond statutory service "cliff-edges" post-16 and beyond.

The assessors also noted the provision of education health and care plans (EHCPs) for children aged 15 and 16 years of age, to support their transition into further education; and *'example of proactive and child-centred service provision'*.



Blackburn with Darwen Area Partnership also attained the Youth Justice SEND Quality Lead Status with a Child First Commendation and was one of the first to attain the coveted Youth Justice SEND Quality Lead award back in 2018. It is clear that the vision of the service has maintained and developed its focus towards supporting children and young people with SEND, moving forward significantly in the intervening years.

Teams around the child work together, co-ordinated through forums such as MARM (Multi-Agency Risk Management) meetings and the Transforming Lives Panel, enabling a streamlined response.

Preventative work has reduced first-time offending rates to levels substantially lower than regional, statistical neighbours and national rates, and outstanding Child First practice continues when children enter youth justice pathways.

Resettlement and positive education, training and employment pathways are negotiated and supported fully by the 'New Directions' team (first acknowledged with a CYP Now Award in 2016) who work assiduously on behalf of the child with Colleges, Training Providers, Community Centres, Employers and the Third Sector to secure a positive outcome.

The assessors state 'Above all, within Blackburn with Darwen, it is the quality of relationships that is particularly noteworthy, flourishing in a spirit of mutual trust and common resolve: relationships between professionals and the children in their care'

Well done to Cheshire East and Blackburn with Darwen!

Outcomes for Girls in Custody



HMI Prison Publish Thematic Review Report

HM Inspectorate of Prisons has published its report following the thematic review undertaken with the Office for Standards in Education Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted), HM Inspectorate of Probation, Care Inspectorate Wales and the Care Quality Commission. The aim of the review was to consider whether provision for girls in custody meets their needs, including on their release to the community and when they transition to the adult estate.

The report outlines the changes to the secure estate since the creation of five girls units within adult female prisons between 2004 and 2006, to the expansion of secure training centre (STC) provision to accommodate girls, including the creation of a mother and baby unit at Hassockfield and Rainsbrook STCs. The decline in numbers of children in custody since 2014 and the inability to safeguard children in one STC led to the decommissioning of all girls units in the adult estate and the closure of three of the four STCs by 2021.

These changes left only seven secure children's homes (SCH), commissioned for placement of children remanded and sentenced to custody, as appropriate placements for girls. In 2021, only five girls remained in Rainsbrook, however the report states:

' the SCHs refused placements for two of the girls, leaving the YCS with only the Keppel unit (part of Wetherby YOI) as a viable option to accommodate them.'

Although a further unit was opened in Oakhill STC in March this year, the report states that *'In practice during this inspection girls could be placed in SCHs or at Wetherby YOI.'*

The report states that the Youth Custody Service (YCS) has *'expressed a preference for placing girls in SCHs'*; they are better-resourced and able to provide more appropriate provision for girls than the YOI. However, the level of needs of some girls detained from courts has led to SCHs refusing placement, leaving the *'YCS with no other option than to place girls with the highest level of need into an establishment with fewer resources to meet that need.'*

The review found girls in the Keppel unit spent around five hours each day out of their cell, compared to SCHs where girls engage for much longer periods with staff and other children, *'a practice driven not by the needs of the girls' but by the culture and resources of the establishment.'* Concerningly girls, 12 times more likely than boys to self-harm and more likely to be restrained, often in response to self-harm, are too often left alone in their cell after the restraint without additional support.

The experience of transition, either to the adult secure estate, or into the community was also found to be less than satisfactory with girls feeling un-prepared for the move, or moving into unsuitable accommodation.

The review considered the journey of girls into and out of custody and found areas for improvement across all elements of the system.

To read the report [click here](#)

Further Funding to Tackle Serious Violence

Greater Manchester Receives £1m Youth Endowment Funding



Following the earlier shootings in Merseyside, Priti Patel the Home Secretary, announced in late August that the '**Clear, Hold, Build**' pilot, established in January this year across the Merseyside area would receive £350,000 for expansion. The pilot aims to reduce firearms and knife offences through delivering preventative programmes to more young people and to divert them away from violence. A further £150,000 was also announced to provide trauma-informed support in local schools and mental health provisions for people affected by a string of shootings.



The Home Office has now announced that the Greater Manchester's Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) has received £1million in funding to develop and trial a new programme in the city of Manchester which aims to help people leave a life of violent crime behind them.

This financial boost is part of a £6million joint investment, shared between a number of different regions across England, from the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) and the Home Office. The investment is to enable those areas to trial '**focused deterrence**' - a strategy developed in the United States of America.

Research from the YEF shows that focused deterrence strategies in other countries have been highly effective, reducing crime on average by 33 per cent. The aim of this YEF funding is to identify what impact focused deterrence could have in England

Focused deterrence attempts to identify the people most likely to be involved in violence and supports them to stop. Projects have worked with children as young as 14 or 15.

It involves:

- **Support** for people involved in violence to access positive support and social services;
- **Community engagement** to enable them to communicate that they want violence to stop and those involved to be safe; providing support, and encouraging;
- **Deterrence** through clear communication of the consequences of violence and swift and certain enforcement if violence does occur.

For more information on this latest pilot [click here](#)

To find out more about the Youth Endowment Fund [click here](#)



Serious Youth Violence and First Time Entrants Pathfinder

Newcastle-Upon-Tyne Report

Newcastle Youth Justice Service (YJS) has been identified as distinctive amongst the Core Cities in having a comparatively high rate of first-time entrants (FTE) to the criminal justice system - but with relatively few going on to commit serious youth violence. This Pathfinder project in Newcastle was developed to examine the factors driving this apparent divergence and extract learning points for the wider youth justice system seeking to tackle this issue.

The project aimed to address the following hypotheses:

- That first time entrants in Newcastle enter the justice system with “low level offending” which is not likely to escalate to more serious violent crime. This line of enquiry will also seek to understand why this is the case, should the hypothesis be proven;
- That interventions delivered by Newcastle (for example working with the Newcastle United Foundation) reduce the likelihood of first-time entrants escalating to more serious violent crime. This line of enquiry will also seek to understand what about these interventions work for the identified cohort;
- The extent to which the young people involved in serious violent crime in Newcastle are already known to statutory services (Children’s Social Care, Education). For the young people who went on to commit a serious violent crime; the nature of the “trigger” offence which led to their involvement with the Youth Offending Team;
- The Newcastle context – how Newcastle’s demographics compare and relate to other core cities (understanding Newcastle’s ethnic and racial make-up, the level of special education needs, the number of young people in the looked after system, the socio – economic status, number of young people in full time education etc.).

The approach of this project was unique in that it included the development of an embedded researcher working within the YJS team, allowing for a detailed analysis of not only the data but also the working practices. The project also included the multidisciplinary team which brought together criminologists, analysts, and designers, allowing a less traditional approach to the research.

The research concludes that:

- *‘Newcastle is different to many core cities, but less different to its North East neighbours;*
- *Issues of vulnerability and deprivation are evident, as well as fairly static white working-class communities;*
- *Pride within these communities can at times can be the catalyst for violence (postcode rivalries);*
- *Addressing offences young people commit associated with FTE or SYV independent of the challenges these communities have and are facing is to some extent futile.’*

To read the report [click here](#)

PCCs Should Support Care Experienced Children More



Argues the National Youth Advocacy Service

The Group Chief Executive of the National Youth Advocacy Service (NYAS), Rita Waters, has written to all Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in England and Wales following analysis of a review of all Police and Crime Plans published, following her request during the PCC and mayoral elections in 2021 for support for the charity's 'Trouble with the Law' campaign.

The campaign asked for PCCs to demonstrate their commitment to:

- Keeping care-experienced young people out of the criminal justice system;
- Ensuring policies about young people are created with young people;
- Protecting victims of exploitation and missing children;
- Campaigning to reform the criminal record system to remove lifelong stigma

NYAS has now analysed the 43 Police and Crime Plans across England and Wales in a bid to identify areas where the above pledge was adopted and where care-experienced children and young people have been prioritised and has found:

- Most Police and Crime Plans (PCPs) are focused on child sexual abuse and exploitation in the context of victim support, but rarely were links made to children who go missing from care;
- Only eight PCPs explicitly mention children in care and care leavers;
- Most PCPs focus on adults when it comes to public engagement;
- Only a few PCPs mention actions to engage children and young people in shaping the policies that will affect them;
- Only two PCPs refer to ending the life-long stigma of criminal records for children and young people.



NYAS argues PCCs can have an *'enormous impact' on the overrepresentation of care-experienced people within the criminal justice system* and is looking for them to *'stand up for care-experienced children and young people'* in order to *'shift the national debate towards protecting and improving outcomes for care experienced children and young people.'*

To find out more about the NYAS and the Trouble with the Law campaign [click here](#)

Pre-recorded Cross Examination Evidence in Youth Courts

To be Trialled in Leeds

HM Courts and Tribunal Services (HMCTS) has announced that for the first time, advocates can apply for eligible witnesses and victims at Leeds Youth Court to pre-record their cross-examination evidence, as part of a wider test on using this special measure within the youth court.



The pre-recording of evidence was trialled in crown courts to allow victims and witnesses of crimes such as rape and modern slavery to have their cross-examination video-recorded and played later during trial; subject to a successful application to the court. HMCTS has announced that this measure will now be available at the final 20 crown courts in Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire, East Anglia, Essex, London and the South East, and marks the completion of national rollout.

The recording takes place as close to the time of the offence as possible, while memories remain fresh, and helps victims avoid the stress of giving evidence under full glare of a live trial setting, which many find traumatic.

HMCTS report that more than 3,000 witnesses have already benefitted from the technology since August 2020.



The test at Leeds Youth Court will enable HMCTS to review how the process works in the youth court jurisdiction, and the department report it is hoped the measure *'will help victims avoid the stress of giving evidence in a courtroom setting, which many find traumatic.'*

The pre-recording of evidence is decided on a case-by-case basis, subject to judicial discretion.

HMCTS report that, criminal justice partners have developed a protocol for managing cases using this special measure. The protocol will be regularly reviewed by the partners, as it is applied to live cases.



The local implementation team, which includes criminal justice partners, will closely monitor the test and work together to understand what is needed to successfully support vulnerable witnesses to use this measure.

County Lines: Breaking the Cycle

Crest Publishes Report on Research



Crest, the crime and justice consultancy has carried out research, funded by the Hadley Trust, into children who have been criminally exploited.

The focus of the research was to consider how:

- It should be decided whether or not children and young people involved in county lines be treated as victims of child criminal exploitation (CCE), and
- Children and young people who are victims of CCE should be protected, safeguarded and supported in order to reduce the likelihood of re-exploitation and further harm.

The research studied the lives of 13 boys who were involved in county lines gangs that operated 'dealing bases' in two police forces regarded as 'importers' of county lines and using an 'identifying incident' considered the responses of agencies prior to and after that incident.

The authors, Joe Caluori, Jess Hull, Beth Mooney and Jessica Lumley, argue that *'the lack of clear, consistent guidance on how first responders should identify whether or not a young person is a victim of child criminal exploitation (CCE) is a significant cause of the ongoing harms and re-exploitation they experience.'*

They further argue that the *'lack of robust, effective packages of protection, safeguarding and support for potential victims of CCE in their home areas is also the cause of the harm they suffer.'*

The authors argue that:

'based on our research, that the Department for Education is guilty of a systematic failure to protect criminally exploited vulnerable children from physical and mental abuse, including torture and sexual abuse. This failure is all the more egregious coming as it does in the shadow of prominent CSE scandals in places such as Rotherham and Oxfordshire.'

The report calls for a new approach to ensure children who may be involved in county lines drug dealing are kept safe and away from the criminals exploiting them and makes a number of recommendations for criminal justice agencies and health professionals. Amongst the recommendations are:

- Any child 100 days shy of their 18th birthday, or younger, arrested in county lines should automatically be regarded as a potential victim of CCE unless there is clear evidence to the contrary;
- Children suspected of being victims of exploitation should be returned to their home area for intensive support to minimise the risk of re-exploitation;
- Police officers should receive updated training on modern slavery, child trafficking and spotting the signs of child criminal exploitation to help officers handle these cases.

To read the report [click here](#)

Vacancies



Team Manager – Kirklees Youth Engagement Service

The Youth Engagement Service is made up of the Youth Justice Service and the Youth Engagement Service Team. Team management roles within the Youth Justice Service manage case work that exists across both court and out of court work. The Youth Engagement Service management team takes a flexible approach to meeting the needs of young people and as such the role will be supported to cover multiple aspects of youth justice work and wider exploitation work.

As a Team Manager, you will manage 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. This position holds an influential position and is responsible for decision making, development of plans and the innovation of effective solutions.

As a manager you will provide supervision and opportunities for reflection and analysis, as well as being responsible for the allocation of casework and actively managing caseloads.

Deadline for applications is 11:59 Wednesday 6th October, 2022.

If you have any questions about the Youth Engagement Service, the Youth Justice Service Team Manager role and/or the interview process then please contact Ben Newsome (Service Manager) on **01484 221000** or at Benjamin.Newsome@Kirklees.gov.uk

For further information and to apply for this role [click here](#)

Court and Community Supervision Team Manager, North Somerset



North Somerset Youth Offending and Prevention Service (YOS) is a successful local multi-agency unit hosted within Children's Services, North Somerset Council.

This post is specifically in relation to managing the Court and Community Supervision Team which includes delivering services to the Courts and Out of Court Panel and managing children and young people through a range of orders and programmes who are at risk of offending/reoffending, and the victims of crime and anti-social behaviour. Parents/carers are engaged as appropriate as part of a whole family approach.

North Somerset YOS is looking to appoint a person with significant relevant experience, who holds a social work or equivalent qualification with professional status; and significant experience of working in youth justice at a senior level.

For an informal discussion, please contact **Mike Rees** at mike.rees@n-somerset.gov.uk

Closing date for applications is 24th October, 2022

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



Other News

All Change in Government



Liz Truss, a previous Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice, has announced the appointment of ministers to support her in her new role as Prime Minister. Amongst those affecting children and youth justice are the appointment of:

- The Rt Hon Brandon Lewis CBE, who replaces the Rt Hon Dominic Raab as the Lord Chancellor and Secretary for State for Justice;
- The Rt Hon Suella Braverman, replaces the Rt Hon Priti Patel as Home Secretary
- The Rt Hon Dr Thérèse Coffey, previously Secretary of State at the Department for Work and Pensions, now holds the position of Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and Deputy Prime Minister;
- The Rt Hon Kit Malthouse, previously Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, is now the Secretary of State for Education;
- The Rt Hon Simon Clarke MP as Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities;

Junior Ministerial appointments include:

- Rob Butler MP has been appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Ministry of Justice, and will serve as Minister for Prisons, Probation and Youth Justice.
- Rachel Maclean, previously Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Home Office, is now Minister of State at the Ministry of Justice;
- Will Quince MP, previously Minister for School Standards at the Department for Education, is now Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Care;
- The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick, is also a Minister of State at the Department of Health and Social Care;
- Kelly Tolhurst, previously Chief Whip, is a Minister of State in the Department for Education, responsible for schools and childhood;
- Tom Pursglove, has been appointed Minister of State at the Home Office (Crime and Policing);
- Tom Tugendhat MB, is the Minister for Security at the Home Office;
- Paul Scully, was re-appointed as a Minister of State (Minister for London) at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

We hope that we can encourage some of these ministers to meet with AYM members in the future in order to support their understanding of the issues affecting children and families in contact with the law.

Director of Youth Custody Service

Helga Swindenbank, Executive Director of the Youth Custody Service is stepping down from her role, a role she has held since April 2019. In regular meetings with the AYM, Helga has always demonstrated her commitment to improving outcomes for children in custody and the morale of staff working within the secure estate. However her time as Executive Director has proved challenging with failures in secure training centres, the introduction of secure schools and more recently the pandemic.



We wish Helga all the best in her future endeavours and look forward to meeting with the new Executive Director once appointed.



Changes for Secure Escorts

The Prisons and Probation Ombudsman has released its newest publication, part of its 'Policy and Practice series in which it highlights the positive changes made to the 'External Escorts Policy Framework' as a result of learning from its investigations.

To find out more [click here](#)

Improving Information Sharing

In response to the Health and Social Care Act 2002, the Department for Education (DfE) is engaging with local authorities to explore current practices for multi-agency information sharing in order to report to Parliament in summer 2023 on how improvements can be made.

The report will include analysis of the feasibility of implementing a 'Consistent Child Identifier' and other solutions for improving data and information sharing.

The DfE wants to understand innovative technological and non-technological solutions being developed at local and regional levels. If you have an example of local solutions, either operational or in development please contact the team by emailing:

cci.team@education.gov.uk before the 5th October.

General engagement in this agenda is also welcome via the same email address.



Assessing and Managing Self-Harm Guidance

The National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published guidance for assessment, management and preventing recurrence for children, young people and adults who have self-harmed.

The guidance includes those with a mental health problem, neurodevelopmental disorder or learning disability and applies to all professionals working with those who have self-harmed so is particularly pertinent to those working in the youth justice sector.

NICE National Institute for
Health and Care Excellence

To read the guidance [click here](#)

Teenage Suicide Rates Increase

Following the publication of the latest Office for National Statistics (ONS) data on suicide rates, YoungMinds, the children and young people's mental health charity, has called for urgent government support for the NHS and schools in order to address this issue.



The data shows that suicide rates among young people aged 15-19 years in England rose by 35 per cent from 2020 to 2021, from 147 in 2020 to 198 in 2021, the highest number in 30 years.

YoungMinds also reports that NHS data reveals 2022 is set to see the highest ever number of referrals to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). The charity states that *'figures to date show the number of under 18s needing NHS treatment is 23 per cent higher than at the same point last year.'*

A total of 241,791 young people were referred to the NHS in the first three months of this year - already half the total figure referred in the whole of last year. A large number are yet to be treated and remain on waiting lists.'

The charity has also conducted its own research with 1000 teachers and reports that, 74 per cent of teachers feel pupil's learning is being negatively impacted by poor mental health support; 59 per cent of those surveyed state they deal with mental health issues in their school on a daily basis.

To find out more about YoungMinds call to government [click here](#)

To read the latest ONS data on suicide rates [click here](#)

**For Your
Diary!**

Dates for Your Diary

Calendar of events for AYM 2022/23



Title	Date	Venue
Autumn Conference	7 th December	Milton Keynes
Executive Board meeting	6 th December, 2022	MS Teams
Executive Board meeting	7 th March, 2023	MS Teams
Executive Board meeting	22 nd June, 2023	To be confirmed
AYM Conference	22 nd June, 2023	To be confirmed
Executive Board meeting	5 th September, 2023	MS Teams

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

Youth Justice Legal Centre - Launch Party

The Youth Justice Legal Centre is holding a launch party to celebrate its membership programme and the professional youth justice community.

Attendees will hear from Chair of Trustees Clive Ellington. This is an evening designed to inspire innovation in how children in the criminal justice system are represented and treated.

A panel of leading youth justice experts including Ryan Matthews (Ryan was convicted of murder at age 17yrs and spent 5 years on death row before being exonerated) will share their insights on fighting the criminalisation of children. The event will also premiere the short film 'Judged' which was made by young people and Bafta-nominated director Renaldho Pelle and award-winning director Edward Bulmer.

The party takes place on:

Tuesday 11th October, 2022
6:30pm – 9:30pm
at
Shoreditch Town Hall, 380 Old Street, London EC1V 9LT

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

Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) Members' meeting



The next AYJ members' meeting will take place on:

Wednesday 19th October
at
2-4pm.

The meeting will include a panel focusing on the harms posed to children by stop and search, with an emphasis on strip searching. Panellists include:

- Yolanda Lear, Account Project Officer from Hackney CVS;
- Dr Ian Joseph, Research Associate at the Open University; and
- Uzma Babb, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Officer from the IOPC (tbc)



The AYM is a member of the Alliance for Youth Justice, if you wish to register to attend this meeting [click here](#)

National Children and Adult Services Annual Conference



NATIONAL
CHILDREN AND ADULT SERVICES
CONFERENCE

This conference will be held on:

2nd – 4th November, 2022

at

Manchester Central Exhibition Centre

The 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](#)

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Westminster Insight is holding online training for those professionals whose duty it is to notify the independent Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel of all serious incidents involving children.



This half day digital workshop will be led by Professor Peter Sidebotham, member of the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, who will share his insights on how to prepare for different types of reviews including multi-agency cases and partnerships reviews.

The training takes place on:

Monday 7th November, 2022

09:00 – 12:45

For more information and to 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 <https://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.










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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.

East	Pat Jennings Bedfordshire YOS				
<i>pat.jennings@bedford.gov.uk</i>					
East Midlands	Pending Nominations		West Midlands	Celia Payne Wolverhampton YOS	
			<i>celia.payne@wolverhampton.gov.uk</i>		
South East	Anna Harbridge Southampton YOS		South West	Mike Rees North Somerset YOT	
<i>anna.harbridge@southampton.gov.uk</i>			<i>mike.rees@n-somerset.gov.uk</i>		
North East	Roni Checksfield Hartlepool YOS		North West	Kathy Gill Wirral YJS	
<i>roni.checksfield@hartlepool.gov.uk</i>			<i>kathygill@wirral.gov.uk</i>		
London	Brendan Finegan Hackney YOT		Yorkshire & Humberside Nominations received		
<i>brendan.finegan@hackney.gov.uk</i>					