



# Bulletin March 2023



## *In this issue:*

- P2-4** News from the Executive Board
- P5** Prevention and Diversion Project
- P6** Children in Residential Care and the Youth Justice System
- P7** 'Stable Homes, Built on Love'
- P8** Effecting Change Through a Systems Approach
- P9** 'Unacceptable, Unnecessary Harm to Vulnerable Adolescents'
- P10** Public Sector Reform and Youth Justice Services
- P11** Vacancies
- P12-15** Other News
- P16-19** Dates for Your Diary
- P20** How to Stay in Touch with the AYM
- P21** AYM Regional Representatives



## News from the AYM Executive Board

### ***Our Executive Board meet this month.***

The next AYM Executive Board is on the 7<sup>th</sup> March where once again we have a full agenda. This month we will be receiving an update regarding the secure school development and we will also be hearing about developments in safeguarding practice in the secure estate.

We welcome observers at Executive Board meetings, if you would like to attend one, please contact us by [clicking here](#), or by contacting your regional representative.

### ***Save the Date!***

Our Annual Conference and AGM ***'25 Years of Crime and Disorder'*** will be held in  
**Stafford on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 10.30 to 15.30**

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Our chair Jacqui Belfield-Smith, received a welcomed thank you letter from the chair of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB), Keith Fraser, for our collaboration with the YJB and HMPPS to deliver the Prevention and Diversion Project. Keith recognized the work of Executive Board member Mike Rees who closely supported the work. Keith extended his thanks to Mike *'for striving to deliver an effective and quality project over the last two years'*.

Keith advised that the YJB had been aware of the work youth justice services were undertaking to working with an increased cohort of children who had been diverted from the criminal justice system, but that there was no evidence base to support our understanding of this. He advised that:

***'this project feels like an important step for all of us in the system; and has created the foundations of an evidence base on which we can build to demonstrate the benefits of keeping children out of the criminal justice scheme by adopting a Child First approach'***

Mike is also, on behalf of the AYM, discussing resettlement as part of a panel presentation at the forthcoming Westminster Legal Policy Forum: Next steps for youth justice in England and Wales. The event takes place on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. Mike will be sharing examples of best practice and discussing areas for improvement that would support young people transitioning into the community.

Our chair, has also been invited by the YJB to speak at the 'Leaders' Summit' on the 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2023 on the theme of early intervention. The event aims to provide youth justice leaders with the opportunity to hear about achievements and future plans of statutory partners, to discuss barriers, opportunities and best practice at a national level and to network with colleagues from across England and Wales, we are sure Jacqui will have plenty of news to share regarding youth justice services' practice!

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## **Working with Stakeholders**

The AYM Executive continues to work closely with the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) Turnaround team to ensure the voice of the youth justice sector informs and influences the development of the Turnaround project.

In our recent meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> February, we welcomed an introduction to the newly appointed Evaluation team. Julian Edbrooke-Childs and his team at the Anna Freud Centre and Institute for Fiscal Studies have recently been appointed by the Youth Endowment Fund for the evaluation of Turnaround.

Julian and his team are starting a co-design phase to build the evaluation plans with different stakeholders and are excited to work with colleagues in YOTs implementing Turnaround to make sure the evaluation is practical and meaningful for you.

**They would be grateful for the chance to meet with and hear from you and your team to help shape the evaluation.**

If there are any young people's advisory groups you work with that might also be able to link up with Julian and the team, please do let them know.

If you'd like to get in touch, please email Julian and Martha at:

[Julian.Edbrooke-Childs@annafreud.org](mailto:Julian.Edbrooke-Childs@annafreud.org)

[Martha.Reilly@annafreud.org](mailto:Martha.Reilly@annafreud.org)

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**New!**

Our portfolio leads for custody, Michael O'Connor and Nick Jeffreys will be representing the AYM on the **Youth Custody Service Safeguarding Governance Board** which will oversee safeguarding improvements in custody and Celia Payne and Tom Dooks will be representing the AYM at the HMI Probation Stakeholder Working Group meetings that commence this month.

Sarah Goddard, portfolio lead for girls will be attending a '**Girls Learning Event**' with YCS this month, to support considerations for the way in which girls are considered and worked with in the secure estate.

We have no doubt that as with all the other stakeholder meetings, AYM members will want to share their thoughts, considerations and concerns with our portfolio leads to ensure that our partners understand the full picture of issues affecting youth justice services across the nation.

To see a list of our portfolio leads please visit our website [click here](#). *(Please note these are updated at Executive Board meetings so may be subject to review).*

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## Consultations

Following our response to the consultation led by Ofsted regarding the proposed introduction of assurance inspections of secure training centres, the inspectorate has written to the AYM to thanking us for our contribution and advising that responses from stakeholders agreed that ***'Introducing assurance inspections to STCs is the right thing to do'***.

The inspectorate advised that whilst the STC framework was updated in December 2022 to clarify internal processes, no fundamental changes were made to the framework regarding how it will evaluate the experiences of children and how their welfare is safeguarded.

The guidance for assurance inspections will be incorporated into the existing joint inspection framework for STCs which will be republished in March/April 2023; the inspectorate confirmed that assurance inspections will not replace or replicate annual (full) inspections.

The inspectorate also confirmed that ***'The wider focus of full inspections will continue to look at the range of issues that you flagged to us in response to our consultation:***

- *staff placing the well-being of children at the centre of their practice;*
- *children being helped to build trusted and secure relationships with adults who are looking after them;*
- *staff knowing the children well, listening to them, investing time with them; protecting them and promoting their welfare;*
- *staff having the necessary skills, knowledge, training and understanding to meet the needs of children placed at an STC;*
- *the work carried out to assist children to address the issues that brought them to an STC; and*
- *the planning and practice that supports transitions and resettlement.'*

***The Executive would like to thank all our AYM members*** who have provided information to support the many consultations we are asked to respond to. Your contributions ensure that we are able to provide a national picture of the work undertaken by our members, in all aspects of youth justice.



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The AYM has been invited to attend the launch event of the **'Ending Youth Violence Lab'**, a new collaboration, funded by the Youth Endowment Fund and philanthropist Stuart Roden based at the Behavioural Insights Team.



The Lab will work closely with the Youth Endowment Fund, supporting its mission by identifying promising interventions and helping them to get ready for rigorous evaluations. The launch will enable the 'Lab' to outline its strategy, priorities and ways of working. Some of the interventions to be reviewed during the initial round of the Lab's activity will also be announced.



If you are interested in attending this event, it takes place on **4th of April from 10-1 at the Ending Youth Violence Lab's offices on Victoria Embankment, London**. To register for a place at the launch [click here](#)

## Prevention and Diversion Project

### **Report Published**

The Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) published the **Prevention and Diversion Project Report** on the 7<sup>th</sup> February: a report jointly commissioned between the YJB, Probation Service and the Association of YOT Managers (AYM).

The report found:

- on average more than half of a youth justice service caseload are children receiving preventative or diversionary support
- widespread confusion over definitions of early intervention practices
- a significant gap in data
- diverse and inconsistent practice owing to a lack of central guidance.

The project initiated a range of activity through the YJB to address these issues:

- definitions for prevention and diversion were agreed and published on the Youth Justice Resource Hub
- new diversion data will be collected from 2023/24 · practice resources have been published on the Youth Justice Resource Hub
- The Youth Ambassadors Network created a resource to support practitioners engaging children in voluntary early support and are available on the Youth Justice Resource Hub.

This has contributed to some key developments, including:

- development of an AssetPlus module specifically for diversion cases
- updated case management guidance focused on out-of-court activity will be published this year and the report's findings will be reflected within this
- the YJB and HMI Probation will work together to align case management guidance and expectations for out of court activity

We would encourage you to read the report and we would particularly like to thank the Probation Service for funding the project, the YJB for their partnership, all those in the sector who fed into various consultations and surveys and, importantly, the talented children and young adults who fed in their views and produced a powerful resource for the sector.

Early intervention with vulnerable children is crucial and this work represents an important step forward in measuring and improving the outcomes for the growing proportion of children who are successfully diverted from the system, and for those who receive preventative support.

We are continuing to work in collaboration with the YJB and Probation Service, so the most effective tools and resources are available to youth justice workers across England and Wales to keep improving this vital work. We will keep you updated on the progress of the activity associated with the project, and we would welcome any questions and comments to

[Katie.Shoebridge@yjb.gov.uk](mailto:Katie.Shoebridge@yjb.gov.uk)

To read the report [click here](#)

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# Children in Residential Care and the Youth Justice System

## **What are their experiences?**

The number of care experienced children in the youth justice system is disproportionate and yet there has been little research to help professionals understand the experiences and perceptions of children in care and involved in the criminal justice system.

A paper written by Dr. Anne-Marie Day from Keele University and Andrew Clark and Professor Neal Hazel both from Salford University, has been published that seeks to explore and understand the experiences of children involved in the criminal justice system who have been looked after in residential care - ***Hearing from justice-involved, care experienced children: what are their experiences of residential care environments and regimes?***

Interpretive investigation of care experienced children's perceptions of their experiences was used to undertake the research, using semi-structured interviews with 19 children in England and thematic content analysis of the resultant data. All the children interviewed were subject to youth justice supervision and in residential care.

The findings resulting from the research demonstrate that the:

*'experiences of residential care environments and regimes have undermined their sense of how they see themselves, now and looking to the future'.*

The result of these experiences children:

*'also reported stigmatising interactions with staff that leave them feeling labelled both as a generic "looked-after child" and as a "bad kid".'*

The authors of the paper note that the negative reflections of those interviewed may not be common to all children who have experienced residential care, due to the limitation of the small sample size in this research. However, their findings raise important issues for all involved in working with children looked after residential care, in particular those involved in the youth justice system, arguing:

*'the findings have implications for those responsible for the care and development of care-experienced children, as well policymakers concerned with reducing the numbers of care-experienced children in youth justice. Those responsible for the care and development of care-experienced children should consider steps to reduce how factors outlined here disrupt a child's sense of self and introduce criminogenic labelling and stigma'.*

To access the paper [click here](#)

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## 'Stable Homes, Built on Love'



Department  
for Education

### **Children's Social Care Reform 2023**

The Department of Education has published a strategy and consultation document for social care reform - **'Stable Homes, Built on Love: Implementation Strategy and Consultation'**.

In her forward to the report, the Rt Hon Gillian Keegan MP Secretary of State for Education states that, following the publication of three independent reviews last year which together call for fundamental reform to children's social care,

*'we have a once in a generation opportunity to reset children's social care. It is an opportunity we must not waste. Children's social care has the potential to transform lives for the better.'*

The minister goes on to say *'too often the system is not succeeding in providing the right help at the right point. Resources have become trapped at the crisis end of the system, with not enough early support available. Costs are escalating without leading to any improvement in outcomes.'*

The strategy addresses the whole journey through which a child or family might experience children's social care, acknowledging that children and families may enter, leave and re-enter the system at different points. It sets out six pillars of reform, backed by £200 million of additional investment over the next two years. Each pillar maps to the outcomes and enablers within the Children's Social Care National Framework, published alongside this strategy.

The pillars are:

- Family Help provides the right support at the right time so that children can thrive with their families
- A decisive multi-agency child protection system
- Unlocking the potential of family networks
- Putting love, relationships and a stable home at the heart of being a child in care
- A valued, supported and highly skilled social worker for every child who needs one
- A system that continuously learns and improves, and makes better use of evidence and data.

To read the report [click here](#)

**The consultation closes at 11:5pm on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.**

To respond to the consultation [click here](#)

## Effecting Change Through a Systems Approach

### **'Growth' and transformative change**



HMI Probation has published its latest Academic Insight written by Dr Sarah Lewis, Director of Penal Reform Solutions and Grow Transform Belong CIC, and Emma Hands, a MSc Applied Criminology graduate who has worked with PRS since 2016.

The paper '**Growth and the core conditions of transformative change**' argues for a systems approach to be adopted to enable an organisation to grow, through building a sense of community and belonging. The authors argue that such an approach, informed by research creates an opportunity for those working in custodial settings **'to co-produce solutions with those who live and breathe the penal landscape.'**

Adopting Growth philosophy which originated in the Norwegian custodial system, to support their work, the authors argue that 'Growth is not solely about rehabilitation but instead focuses on growing an organisation and the culture within it; moving people forward as a collective and facilitating the process of cultural change, from several perspectives. It focuses on celebrating success, learning from mistakes with a growth mindset and working together to create sustainable solutions and make a collective impact. Growth has nine principles which when met support development of organisations and individuals - **maximising the power of interventions through nurturing positive relationships at all levels.**

The authors identify the six conditions for transformative change, context, relationships, adopting a strengths-based and beyond approach ('*a post-traumatic Growth perspective*'), developing whole system inclusivity, preventative Growth work, and sustainability.

The importance of relationship based practice is highlighted throughout and is central to the Growth philosophy that focuses on relationships, trust and humanity. Supporting those working with individuals detained to enable change is highlighted and developed further, to include those working and living in the community, recognizing the impact of transition on effective change and growth.

The authors conclude that developing a collective perspective in an organisation in which everyone adopts the understanding that people matter will enable a long term transformative culture:

*'Using a whole systems approach and working together builds trust and understanding that can collectively support sustainable solutions to overcome existing challenges. These conditions are required for interventions and preventions to take root and grow.'*

The model is one adopted in the '**Mental Wellbeing Programme**', originally delivered as a result of an Innovation Award in HMP Bristol but since delivered in other custodial settings.

To read this latest Academic Insight [click here](#)



# Unacceptable, Unnecessary Harm to Vulnerable Adolescents

## **Public Accounts Committee Report**

The House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has published a report ***'Unacceptable, unnecessary harm to vulnerable adolescents being failed by maze of services'*** in which it says:

*'the social and personal costs of harm and adverse outcomes to vulnerable adolescents who are being failed by the system are unacceptably and unnecessarily high.'*

The estimated lifetime cost of adverse outcomes for all children who have ever needed a social worker is reported to be £23 billion every year, yet the report argues that there is a failure of ownership and 'reluctant' leadership' by Government and fragmented ownership between departments of the problems facing those vulnerable adolescents with complex and overlapping needs. There is also only limited understanding of the challenges and the overlaps or of the pathways young people take through the maze of support available to them.

The report states the Committee 'were disappointed to find that local multi-agency safeguarding partnerships, designed to join up local partners in supporting children and families, are still not good enough everywhere'; safeguarding systems are not working in some areas with tragic consequences.

Dame Meg Hillier MP, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, said:

*"The Department for Education tells us that it holds the ring across Government on supporting and protecting adolescents, but in the same breath had to say it hadn't even started work on the harms from social media. Young people from ethnic minority backgrounds are grossly overrepresented in the youth justice system, a problem that's been obvious and growing for a decade, but there's no sign of action or even special attention to the issue.*

*It's hard to escape the feeling that our young people, especially the ones who were already vulnerable and at risk, are being treated as an afterthought. Too often they fall the cracks of different services and are left to fend for themselves.*

The report makes a number of recommendations to the government to improve services and outcomes for vulnerable adolescents, including the recommendation that the:

*'Ministry of Justice and Home Office should report back within six months on what they understand about 'what works', and what action they will take to understand why ethnic minority children make up over half of all children in custody. They should also set out how they will use the understanding to address the issues'.*

The Government has two months to respond to the recommendations in this report.

To read the report [click here](#)

## Public Sector Reform and Youth Justice Services

### **Researcher Needs Your Views!**

Amy Taylor, a PhD student at the Centre for Criminology at the University of Oxford is looking at the way that public sector reform has affected the structure of youth justice services over the last decade. Prior to this research, Amy worked in the Youth Justice Policy Unit at the Ministry of Justice, where she supported Charlie Taylor on his review of the youth justice system in 2015/16.



This research looks at how wider public sector reform has affected youth justice service teams. In particular, the impact of the changing shape and role of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) on youth justice services, the way services have adapted to changes in performance monitoring structures and guidelines, and the way that they fit into local government structures.

The purpose of this research is to understand what drives changes to youth justice services. For instance, whether reforms are primarily related to ideas about the best way of responding to and supporting children who offend, or whether they are necessarily driven by pressures from central government that are related to budgets and political ideas about the structure of government.

The research will provide an original contribution to the policy questions surrounding the appropriate structure and funding of youth justice services, including how much control central government should have over local service delivery, and how YOTs can be best supported.

Amy is interested to hear how YOTs have experienced change over the last decade, and the extent to which YOTs have felt empowered and involved to structure services in the way that works best for their local area, as well as to understand how the relationship with the YJB has changed over the years.

The (anonymous) survey should take about 5 minutes to complete, and as a thank you for completing the survey, at the end you can choose to be entered into a draw to **win a hamper full of social enterprise products:**

Beer from Tap Social Movement,  
Confectionary from Proof Social Bakehouse,  
Coffee from New Ground  
The Clink 10 Years of Reducing Reoffending cookbook,  
A tea towel from Fine Cell Work, **and more!**



**TAKE THE  
SURVEY**

If you would like to speak to Amy directly, or would be willing to be interviewed on this topic, please email [amy.taylor@crim.ox.ac.uk](mailto:amy.taylor@crim.ox.ac.uk)

**The closing date for completing the survey is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

To see more and complete the survey [click here](#)

## Vacancies

### ***Early Intervention and Prevention Coordinator – Wakefield Youth Justice Service***

Wakefield Youth Justice Service is seeking an Early Intervention and Prevention Coordinator to join their team.

The position is offered as a full time, permanent position.

**The closing date for applications is 12<sup>th</sup> March 2023.**

For more information [click here](#)



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### ***Advertise your vacancy here and reach the sector!***

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

Increase your reach when recruiting – the Bulletin is delivered to all AYM members as well as more than 150 different external stakeholders.

With many 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 you can access now by clicking [here](#).



### ***Fill in the form and we will do the rest!***

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## Other News

# News

### New Government Appointments



The Secretary of State for Justice, Dominic Raab has announced the appointment of **new members of the Youth Justice Board** - Duwayne Brooks OBE (*pictured left*) and Phil Bowen (*pictured right*).

Phil Bowen is well known to the AYM; he has been the Director of the Centre for Justice Innovation since 2012. Prior to this Phil had been a civil servant in the Ministry of Justice, and was an adviser on criminal justice reform in the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit.



Duwayne is the Chair of Trustees at Juvenis, a charity dedicated to improving the lives of young people, diverting those who may be vulnerable to crime, exclusion from school and exploitation. He was an associate at the College of Policing, working on improving youth engagement within policing at a local level across England and Wales. He has also held roles including member of the Metropolitan Police Stop and Search Strategy, Firearms & Taser Reference Groups as well as a Critical friend on Stop and Search at London Mayor's Office of Policing and Crime.

Duwayne has also served as an elected Councillor on Lewisham Council and spent 4 years as the lead member on the Safer Communities Board at the Local Government Association, leading on policy projects like VAWG, Prevent, Probation, Hate Crime and ASB.

***We look forward to working closely with Phil and Duwayne.***

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The Justice Secretary has also announced the appointment of Lynn Emslie as **Chair of the Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody**.

The Independent Advisory Panel on Deaths in Custody (IAPDC) is part of the Ministerial Council on Deaths in Custody in England and Wales. The IAPDC is a source of expert advice to Ministers and departments/agencies with the central aim of preventing deaths in custodial settings. The IAPDC is co-sponsored and funded by the MoJ, Department of Health and Social Care, and the Home Office.

The tenure of the new appointments is three years.

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## Using Pepper Spray in Women's Prisons and the Children's Secure Estate?



On the 7<sup>th</sup> February the Justice Select Committee held an inquiry into prison staffing levels and recruitment and retention difficulties. In the hearing they heard from the national president of the Prison Officers' Association Mark Fairhurst, that synthetic pepper spray is 'very successful' in men's prisons, and its use should be extended to establishments detaining women and children. He argued that

*'The youth estate is getting worse. Because, politically, we are dealing with children, I think there is a lot of pressure not to issue it; but I do not know a copper who stops to ask you your age before they spray you with PAVA or taser you. If you are violent, they are going to protect themselves. Why can't my members have that protection?'*

Fairhurst compared the equipment police officers are issued in comparison to prison officers and argued that in the youth secure estate officers *'have no protection at all'*. He argued that the lack of protection awarded to police officers is the cause of retention problems in the secure estate.

To read the article [click here](#)

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## Social Worker Recruitment and Retention Declines



Department  
for Education

The latest figures from the Department of Education indicate a worrying decline in the number of social work positions filled in local authorities.

The data shows that there were 7,900 child and family social worker vacancies at 30th September 2022, an increase of 21% or 1,400 vacancies from a year earlier. This represents both the highest number and the largest annual increase since the series started in 2017.

The corresponding vacancy rate increased to 20%, or one in every five social work positions, up from 17% in 2021 and the highest rate reported in the series.

Overall, 69% of vacancies were covered by agency workers employed by local authorities in 2022, down slightly from 70% last year.

To view the report [click here](#)

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## New Prison Announced

The name of the UK's first all-electric prison has been revealed, HMP Millsike will open in 2025, part of the government commitment to create 20,000 modern places. Millsike follows the opening of HMP Five Wells in Wellingborough, Britain's first 'smart' prison which opened last year: work is also nearing completion at HMP Fosse Way, the new 1,700-place prison set to open in Leicestershire this spring.

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## [Legal age of marriage in England and Wales rises to 18](#)

The secretary of State for Justice has announced that as a result of the enactment of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Minimum Age) Act 2022, which gained Royal Assent in April last year, vulnerable children in England and Wales will be better protected from the damaging impact of forced marriage as a result of raising the legal age of marriage to 18 years in England and Wales.

To read more [click here](#)

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## [New Grant Round Opening](#)

The Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) is opening a new funding round – the ‘**Agency Collaboration Fund – A supportive home**’.



YEF will be looking to learn how multi-agency partnerships, led by local authorities, can support and protect children and young people who are vulnerable to extra-familial harm.

**Applications for the fund open on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.**

For more information you can view an online information workshop by [clicking here](#)

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## [Children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour](#)

The Centre for Expertise on Child Sexual Abuse has published an update to its 2018 *key messages from research series* on harmful sexual behaviours in children who may be displaying harmful behaviours towards themselves, another child, young person or adult.



The ‘Key messages from research’ papers’ aim to provide succinct, relevant information for frontline practitioners and commissioners. They bring together the most up-to-date research into an accessible overview, supporting confident provision of the best possible responses to child sexual abuse.

Research suggests that children under-18 year olds are responsible for a significant proportion of child sexual abuse, yet there remains little data on the scale of the full spectrum of harmful sexual behaviours.

Last year in England, one third of all child protection assessments relating to child sexual abuse concerned a child or young person who had harmed another child or young person. The majority of children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour do not go on to sexually harm as adults and can benefit from confident professional intervention.

To read the latest ‘key messages’ [click here](#)

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## Toughening Parole Board Scrutiny



As part of a national recruitment campaign, the government has announced the recruitment of ex-police officers and detectives in order to toughen parole scrutiny. The initiative aims to recruit 25 more Parole Board panellists from policing backgrounds, doubling the number which currently stands at 26, to 51.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Justice Secretary and Lord Chancellor, Dominic Raab, said:

*'The public want to know that parole decisions are being made by those with good insight into offenders' behaviour like police officers and detectives. Their first-hand experience and understanding of risk will give parole boards an even greater focus on public protection and make our streets safer.'*

New panellists are expected to be in place before the end of the year.

For more information [click here](#)

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## Support for the Police to Assist those with Mental Health Needs

The Home Secretary has written to Chief Constables and Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) in response to the concern they have raised with regard to the pressures that mental health issues are placing on policing.



The letter advised the Chief Constables and PCCs that the Department of Health and Social Care has announced that the £150 million of capital investment to improve the mental health crisis care response includes £7 million capital funding for the procurement of specialised mental health ambulances, with the remaining £143 million for new, or to improve existing, mental health crisis response infrastructure. The funding will provide over 30 schemes for crisis cafes, crisis houses and other similar safe spaces, and over 20 new or improved health-based places of safety.

The Home Secretary also explained that the consensus reached in December 2022 between the Policing Minister, the Minister for Mental Health, and senior police and health leaders, to develop a National Partnership Agreement incorporating the principles of the Right Care, Right Person operating model followed in Humberside, has resulted in good progress and a final product expected by the end of March 2023.

To read more [click here](#)

**For Your  
Diary!**

## Dates for Your Diary

### Calendar of events for AYM 2023



<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>
Executive Board meeting	7 <sup>th</sup> March, 2023	MS Teams
Executive Board meeting	22 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2023	Stafford
AYM Conference	22 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2023	Stafford
AYM AGM	22 <sup>nd</sup> June, 2023	Stafford
Executive Board meeting	5 <sup>th</sup> September, 2023	MS Teams
Executive Board meeting	5 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023	To be confirmed
AYM Winter Conference	6 <sup>th</sup> December, 2023	To be confirmed

***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)*



## Strip searching children – is it ever permissible?

The Children's Legal Centre Wales and Youth Justice Legal Centre bring together experts to discuss the strip search of children in this 1.5 hour webinar.

A wide range of expert speakers will discuss the concerns regarding strip searches and whether *'it is ever permissible in the 21st Century'*

The webinar takes place on:

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2023  
between 16.00 – 17.30**

For more information and to register for this free event [click here](#)



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## London Accommodation and Resettlement Pathfinders Conference



LONDON  
ACCOMMODATION  
& RESETTLEMENT  
PATHFINDERS

Bringing together youth justice partners to hear about the Pathfinders' progress, this conference will explore effective practice from across the region regarding accommodation and resettlement.

The conference will take place on:

**Monday 20th March, 2023,  
Between 9:15am – 4:15pm  
at**

**ETC Venues 133 Houndsditch,  
London EC3A 7DB**

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

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## Evaluation, Evidence & Impact: Delivering better outcomes for children

Children and Young People Now are holding a one day conference bringing together a range of experts and inspiring practitioners to address key challenges and provide practical tips to support professionals in their endeavours to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

The conference takes place on:

**The Hallam Conference Centre,  
central London**

on

**29th March 2023**

at

**9:15am – 4:30pm**



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

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## Alliance for Youth Justice Member's Meeting and AGM

The Annual General Meeting and Members meeting of the Alliance for Youth Justice (AYJ) will take place on:

**14:00-16:00**

on

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2023**



More details will follow in future bulletins.

The AYM is a member of the Alliance for Youth Justice



## Re-Launch of the Revised Participatory Youth Practice Framework

Join the Manchester Centre for Youth Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University and the Greater Manchester Youth Justice Services at this free re-launch event of the revised PYP framework. Originally co-created with justice-involved children and developed and embedded over the last five years across the Greater Manchester region, PYP has been revised and updated to take account of current research evidence.

At a moment in time when the English and Welsh youth justice system is advocating for a child-first approach to working with children, this event will provide an opportunity for professionals across the youth justice system, academics, and students to hear from researchers who developed PYP and youth justice professionals who have embedded PYP in their practice. They will talk about ways in which the PYP framework has led to better outcomes for children.

There will be plenty of opportunities for interactive discussions about the enablers and barriers to meaningful participation in youth justice systems.

The event takes place on:

**Wednesday 26th April, 2023**

**9:30am – 1:30pm**

at

**Pendulum Hotel (Pendulum Conference Centre)  
Sackville Street Manchester M1 3BB**

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



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## Defining the Roadmap to Responsive and Connected Justice

The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Modernising Criminal Justice Conference will bring together senior leaders from across the criminal justice sector.



The conference will receive the keynote address from **Victoria Atkins MP**, Minister of State at the Ministry of Justice before hearing from a variety of experts and leaders in criminal justice.

The conference takes place on

**22nd June, 2023**

at

**The QEII Centre, London**

To find out more and to register for a place at the conference [click here](#)

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

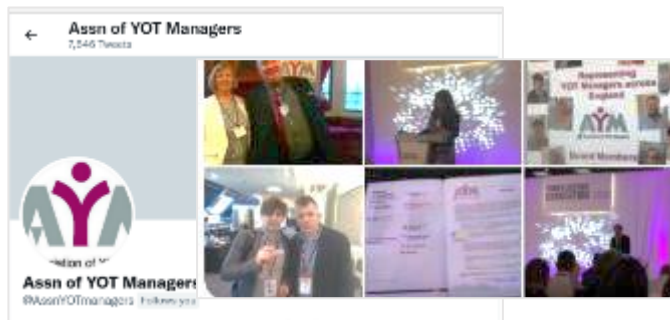
Then follow the AYM on Twitter.....

**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)



also the 'latest news' information 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.











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## **AYM Regional Representatives**

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

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

<b>East</b>	<b>Pat Jennings</b> <i>Bedfordshire YOS</i>				
<i>pat.jennings@bedford.gov.uk</i>					
<b>East Midlands</b>	<b>Nominations received</b>		<b>West Midlands</b>	<b>Celia Payne</b> <i>Wolverhampton YOS</i>	
			<i>celia.payne@wolverhampton.gov.uk</i>		
<b>South East</b>	<b>Anna Harbridge</b> <i>Southampton YOS</i>		<b>South West</b>	<b>Mike Rees</b> <i>North Somerset YOT</i>	
<i>anna.harbridge@southampton.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>Sarah Goddard</b> <i>Bradford YJS</i>	
<i>brendan.finegan@hackney.gov.uk</i>			<i>sarah.goddard@bradford.gov.uk</i>		