

DELIVERY PLAN

PREVENT OFFENDING

Overview

The first time entrant (FTE) figure of 260 for the first three quarters of 2007/08 is 7.75% higher than the adjusted 2005/06 baseline figure, against a target of 5% reduction. During the three quarters April to December 2007 the following pattern was Apr-Jun 07 FTE = 112; Jul-Sep 07 FTE = 68; Oct-Dec 07 FTE = 80. No single reason has been established with certainty as to the cause of the large Quarter 1 figure. There has been national press coverage on police outcome targets and the effect of this on the numbers of young people arrested. However, whether this is a factor that has affected the LBTH figures is doubted. The rising youth population mentioned in the summary is a contributory factor.

In response to this increase, we are undertaking detailed examination of the data we have, to determine whether this is as a result of inadequate targeting of young people vulnerable to offending, or poor results of intervention with those that have been identified for preventative or diversionary services thus far. Initial findings suggest that good systems are in place and good interventions too, but that the wider services of the Local Authority, its statutory partners and those of the voluntary and private sector need to be brought to bear in order to ensure that performance improves. The Youth Inclusion and Support Panel's (YISP) performance is noteworthy – it has expanded the cohort of young people it works with and, out of the 316 referrals, 82% have not offended/re-offended. Moreover, out of the 150 young people supported by the YIPs from April to December 2007 85% did not offend during their programme. Further information on the YISP's and YIPs' workload is provided in the Early Intervention Delivery Plan

The multi-agency YISP oversees this work with young people aged between 8 and 16 who are identified as being at risk of offending, but who have not yet entered the formal youth justice system, and who are engaged voluntarily. They were referred to the Panel from a range of sources including Children's Services, Police, and the AS Control team, Schools, the Social Inclusion Panel, third sector agencies and self-referrals by parents. The YISP has developed its capacity to work with young people at risk, especially those involved in ASB and those young people receiving reprimands (the YOT is not required to take any action in respect of those reprimanded, we do so of our own volition). The YISP will continue to work closely alongside the youth service, education, and third sector providers, on the wider preventative agenda. A key development last year was the introduction of a further Youth Inclusion Panel, which is working with the 50 most at risk young people in its paired LAP area in addition to the two previously established YIPs We have delivered the YIPs through the youth service as part of local multi-agency teams, ensuring coordination with the wider preventative and community safety agenda. Through our Local Area Agreement, we progressed wider partnership work to strengthen preventative work in schools and through mainstream youth service provision. Another key part of the preventative agenda is building the capacity

of the partnership to support parenting and families, under the Government's "Respect" agenda and through the use of the YJB prevention grant to support that work under the parenting theme. We intend to bid through the DCSF Family Pathfinders scheme, in conjunction with the Community Safety Service to expand the work of the FISP with the families of offenders. We aim to establish a priority referral system for the children in offenders' families, the siblings of young offenders, parenting support for their parents, and for the children of adult prisoners. The intended YOS involvement with the "Looking Out" initiative by Community Safety to work with adults being released from prison and their re-settlement into the Borough, will have a prevention perspective and the family work enabled under FISP will be key to this project. We are also developing closer links with inclusion work in Children's Services, broadening our early identification capacity, for example through assessment and referral of the children of adult prisoners, and aim to establish localised initiatives in conjunction with the LAP co-ordinators.

Currently the YOT youth work resource is made up of one Senior Youth Worker, who sits within the Diversion Team. The main focus of youth work has, with the advent of the YISP, become solely targeted at early intervention and prevention, for children and young people at risk of offending and who are not involved in the YJS.

In 2008-09 we propose to reinforce YOT Youth work, engaging extended Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) to deliver 1:1 Youth Work programmes incorporating and promoting "Every Child Matters" outcomes for young people already involved in the Youth Justice System. We hope to have the capacity to assess, develop and attach individual Youth Work Action Plans (YWAP's) at the Pre-Sentence Report stage, to strengthen community penalty proposals to the courts, thus helping to reduce custodial sentences. Increased youth work resource will allow us to attach YWAP's to existing statutory orders, in order to reduce offending, and serve as a transition support plan for those being released from custody and ending statutory interventions.

Data:

	07/08 Target	07/08 ³/₄ Year Adjusted Target	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Variation from Target
Number of first time entrants into the youth justice system	5% reduction on 05/06 performance = 318	241	260	7.75%

<p>Performance Indicator: 07/08 target 2005/06 Actual = 335 5% reduction on 2005/06 performance = 318</p>	<p>Reduce the number of first-time entrants to the youth justice system by 5% by March 2008, compared to the 2005/06 baseline, by identifying children and young people at risk of offending or involvement in anti-social behaviour through a YISP or other evidence-based, targeted means of intervention designed to reduce those risks and strengthen protective factors as demonstrated by Onset or other effective means of assessment and monitoring.</p>
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INTERVENE EARLY

Overview

The 100% performance achieved during 2006/07, which represented a major improvement in performance compared to the 77% performance in 2005/6, has been maintained during the period from April to December 2007. All warnings are delivered at the YOT premises by officers fully trained to deliver restorative warnings.

YISP and YIP workloads and case numbers are not subject to a KPI. However we have produced a table below which shows the numbers of young people supported by the YISP and YIP teams in the first nine months of 2007/08. The workload has continued to increase during this period. YJB funding for the work has been confirmed, and further funding under the Area Based Grant has been prioritised and awaits approval. Interventions and support offered to children and young people have a particular focus on the Every Child Matters Outcomes. In addition, a number of targeted activities were developed to support the LAA targets, which included reducing violent crime and criminal damage, as well as anti-social-social behaviour. Programmes such “Health Defence” and “Staying Cool” violence prevention programmes, “Green Vision” Environment Project, the Good Citizen’s Programme, and “Understanding Antisocial Behaviour” workshops enabled us to offer young people a range of constructive opportunities. In the coming year we aim to introduce work with the Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) to ensure there is an even geographical spread of referrals across the Borough and a much more joined up approach across the LAPs on identifying vulnerable young people.

Police and YOS will also develop project work to focus on those young people that are vulnerable to radical views, and Project Nicole work will be run in 2008, engaging key members of the Islamic community in an interactive session to discuss terrorism and the impact it has on communities, the police and the government .We will evaluate the event to explore the organisation of a similar event for youths

As part of the localisation agenda, we will strengthen links with Registered Social Landlords and Safer Neighbourhood Teams, so that children and young people can be identified for support at the earliest opportunity when concerns are raised within the community and we aim to increase the take up of services by young people receiving Police Reprimands, despite there being no statutory requirement for us to do so.

A partnership protocol in place requires the YOT to be consulted in all cases where the partnership is considering applying for an ASB intervention on a young person, and for any young person subject to an ABC, ASBO or ASB injunction to be referred to the YOT and assessed for voluntary or statutory (in the case of Individual Support Orders) intervention. The Crime and Disorder Reduction partnership has significantly increased its use of ABCs and ASBOs as preventative tools. The availability of parenting

support is now highlighted during the assessment process. The YOT will continue to support the partnership's provision of an intervention to every young person subject to an ABC or ASBO. The ASBCU and police are to adopt the good practice in South Wales of issuing a warning letter to parents of young people whose behaviour is of concern in the first instance, before considering an ABC; the letter will include a leaflet on the parenting support programmes available.

Data: Final Warnings

	07/08 ³ / ₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³ / ₄ Year %	07/08 Target	EPQA 2003 rating	EPQA 2005 result
Final Warnings supported by an intervention	26	100%	95%	2	2.87

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target	<p>Ensure that 100% of young people on a Final Warning are supported by an intervention if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their Asset score is greater than or equal to 12, or • there are any concerns of risk of serious harm to others, or • their score is less than 12 but any sections score 4
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YISP Team April – Dec 2007	No. young people
Young people identified and targeted for support April 2007- Dec 2007	195
Young People who declined to access the service April 2007- Dec 2007	92
Young people supported between April 2007- Dec 2007	103
Source of Referral of young people who were supported	

Young people supported who were on Acceptable behaviour Contracts	35
Young people who were issued with Police Reprimands	39
Young people identified by Education's Social Inclusion Panel and other partner agencies and self referrals	29
Young people who went on to offend whilst being supported April 2007- Dec 2007	2

YIP Team Apr - Dec 2007	3/4 year 07/08
Number of young people supported by the YIP team	150
Percentage who did not offend during their programme	85%

PROVIDE INTENSIVE COMMUNITY SUPERVISION

Overview This section awaits a data update

A sample of the Prevent and Deter tactical group taken on 31st December 2006 is shown below. All but one of the groups had an initial Asset score of 17 or more. The data indicates that the White, Black and Mixed ethnic groups are disproportionately represented in the group. The White ethnic group comprises 34.4% of the PPO group, compared to 26.1 % of the 10 – 17 year old population. The Black ethnic group comprises 20.6% of the group, compared to 7.6% of the 10 – 17 year old population. The mixed ethnic group comprises 10.3% of the group, compared to 3.6% of the 10 -17 year old population. In contrast, the Asian ethnic group makes up only 3.4% of the group, compared to its 60.5% proportion of the 10 – 17 year old population.

The ISSP data demonstrates the continued increase by the YOT in the use of this service in the first nine months of 2007/08. The number of ISSPs ending in breaches in the period demonstrates the YOT's robust practice in the area of community penalty enforcement.

The ISSP recidivism data is for the last period for which a full 2 year re-offending rates are currently available. The Prevent and Deter (P&D) tactical group works with an average of 30 offenders at any time. The multi-agency group meets monthly and comprises the YOT, Police, Connexions, Children's Services, YAP UK (Intensive Supervision and Surveillance-ISSP provider) Anti-Social Behaviour Control Unit and the Youth Service. It is chaired jointly by the YOT Manager and Detective Chief Inspector (Intelligence and Operations).

We develop a multi-agency action plan for every young offender on the Prevent and Deter list and ensure added value through the P&D tactical group to existing YOT interventions for that client group

We will build capacity and partnership engagement in targeting prolific offenders through this initiative by engaging with the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

Tower Hamlets is a part of Thames Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme consortium, with Camden as lead authority, and Hackney and Islington as partners. Actions in relation to monitoring ISSP outputs and linkages to YOT have been completed; the format of group supervision of YAP advocates by the YOT operational manager has been reviewed, and the written presentation of bail ISSP proposals to the Courts has been agreed and is in place.

The consortium has ended its arrangements with YAP UK as ISSP provider and under a formal tender process NACRO has been appointed as the new provider in preparation for ISSP becoming a formal sentence of the Courts in 2008, following the successful

pilot period and arrangements will be made to cope with the increased demand for places on the scheme that this will produce. We will also ensure that the ISSP provider is fully engaged in the Prevent and Deter Tactical Group.

Our initiative to ensure that information on all young people made subject to ISSP is passed to the Police Prolific and Priority Offender office, for dissemination to Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams continues to enable increased surveillance to be brought to this group of offenders. Subsequent Police contacts with the young people are reported to the YOT. Work planned between the Police Inspector and Police Sargeant for Youth (new posts) and the Head of Youth Offending Services should reinforce this information exchange by establishing stronger links between YOT, Safer Schools and Safer Neighbourhood Police officers and staff, we hope to therefore improve enforcement and intelligence sharing on those youth offenders returning from custody to the community and also those who are Youth Prolific Priority Offenders, subject to ISSP and curfew, with face to face contact with their community policing team

Prolific and Priority Offender Data

% of 10 – 17 year old population figures are from the 2001 Census

Number of cases	Ethnicity %				Age %						Gender %	
	White	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Mixed	14	15	16	17	18	19	Male	Female
29	34.4	34.4	20.6	10.3	6.8	0	24.1	48.2	17.2	3.4	100	0

Number of PPO cases	Age %						Gender %	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	Male	Female

29	6.80%	0%	24.10%	48.20%	17.20%	3.40%	100%	0
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Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Data

Starting, Ending, Breached

ISSPs 3/4 Year 2007/08	Number Starting	Number Ending	Number Ending in Breach
	24	12	6

ISSP Recidivism

ISSP Re- offending after 24 months	No. in cohort	No. re- offending	No. re- offending with less seriousness	No. re- offending with same or greater seriousness	No. re- offending less frequently	No. re- offending as frequently or more frequently
Oct - Dec 2002 Cohort	3	1	0	1	1	0
Oct - Dec 2003 Cohort	5	3	1	2	2	1

REDUCE RE-OFFENDING

Overview Updated figures not available until full year figures are completed

We achieved reduced re-offending in three of the four recidivism categories in 2005/6 compared to 2004/05 (see Appendix B), and achieved the target of a 5% reduction in respect of Community Penalties. The Pre-Court re-offending rate was only two percentage points above the target and the First Tier penalty rate was even closer to the target. With regard to the Custodial cohort, whose re-offending was 100%, it is important to note that this was only in respect of four individuals. We are hopeful that our early intervention plans and post-custodial support including RAP will reduce these re-offending rates further next year.

Our Referral Order Panel is also producing good reduced re-offending rates, of the 2005 cohort, after 12 months tracking 61% did not re-offend at all, of the remaining 39%, 35% re-offended less seriously, and 61% re-offended less frequently

We have delivered on actions in respect of increasing the quality and quantity of restorative justice interventions to bring home to young people the impact of their actions; increasing Police resources for the Prevent and Deter group (2 researchers have joined the unit, one PC has been assigned to the scheme and a dedicated advocate is in place); establishing a protocol for improved Police response to YOT notification of arrestable matters and arranging for SNT's to provide surveillance to offenders on ISSP.

A multi-faceted approach was implemented in 2006/07 to reduce re-offending - improvement in restorative justice interventions, an extended and varied group work programme was made available throughout the year, and the use of evidence based practice work with individual offenders. All of these actions are to continue in 2008/9 and are to be monitored with regard to outcomes.

We will continue to develop the use of evidence-based practice work with individual offenders including "Pathways" and "Teentalk", and cognitive - behavioural programmes.

SNT's are to report their contacts with offenders on ISSP to the YOT

These actions should also improve our National Standard performance in relation to the timeliness of contacts with the young people. The action to achieve a faster response to breaches, and work in relation to ABCs and ASBOs, the ISSP cohort and the Prevent and Deter group (see Delivery plans above) will all contribute to improved performance against this KPI.

We have both extended and focussed Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) in order to:

- Engage young people in mainstream Youth work activities to reduce the risk of offending or re-offending by providing opportunities that will encourage positive lifestyles and the constructive use of leisure time.
- Undertake 1:1 youth work programmes incorporating and promoting "Every Child Matters" outcomes for young people already involved in the youth justice system.
- Assess, develop and attach individual Youth Work Action Plans (YWAP) at the PSR stage, to strengthen Community penalty

and supervisory proposals to the Courts, thus helping to reduce custodial sentences

- Assess, develop and attach individual YWAP's to existing statutory orders to reduce re-offending and serve as a transition support plan for those being released from custody and ending statutory intervention
- Deliver accredited activity programmes to provide a range of foundation and level one opportunities for structured learning within an informal setting, aimed at facilitating transfer into mainstream community based learning.
- Provide targeted work in the community with offenders and their peers where it is assessed that the underlying risk factor for offending behaviour is strongly connected to peer group and neighbourhood factors

In partnership with the Police and the Community Safety Unit, we will seek to impact upon serious youth violence linked to gang activity or group association by:

- Establishing a commission into the public safety of young people in Tower Hamlets
- The effective management by all agencies of those young people vulnerable to escalating offending by rejuvenating and strengthening the Youth Prolific Priority Offenders scheme
- Effective support and diversionary activity for vulnerable young people, through supportive work by youth workers and the voluntary sector around culture, association and citizenship

Youth violence will also be tackled by:

- Mediation and gang focus by local non-government- organisations to challenge pre-conceived ideas and to divert young people away from violence and gang culture.
- Proactive work with LB of Hackney in respect of vulnerable youths entering Tower Hamlets - to develop a cross border information sharing partnership meeting to ensure that youths entering Tower Hamlets for schooling do so in the safest environment and that those most vulnerable and those that offend are identified and appropriately supported or targeted.

We want to continue to work with schools on crime reduction and Good Citizenship, following the successes of Operation Curb

- Involvement in Schools by planning safety zones around them, and through the joined up schools programme, which will ensure that the delivery of key messages to young people about their safety is timely and strategically planned
- Following any serious incident of violence in/around a school we will convene a strategy meeting with key leads to minimise risk, provide reassurance and target the young people involved.

- Use the extended school cluster change teams to emphasise and discuss the needs of targeted young people including ex-offenders and those considered vulnerable to entering the youth justice system. Within the broad programme of extended services delivered in and around schools, diversionary activities can be established and provided within each of the four cluster localities

The plans described in the Prevention, Early Intervention and the Intensive Community Supervision Delivery Plans for the extension of FISP and improved intelligence sharing will also contribute to reduction of re-offending

Data:

YJ Plan 2007/08 Data

Re-offending rates for the 2003 cohort after 24 months compared to the 2002 cohort after 24 months	05/06 Actual %	05/06 Target %	06/07 Target %
Pre-Court	32.73	30.23	31.08
First Tier Penalties	61.40	59.89	58.33
Community Penalties	69.70	76.73	66.21
Custody	100	95	95

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target

Achieve a 5% reduction in the re-offending rate for 2007/08, when compared with the 2002/03 cohort with respect to pre-court decisions, first-tier penalties, community penalties, and custodial sentences, and reduce the seriousness and frequency of re-offending.

REDUCE THE USE OF CUSTODY

Overview

A new target of under 9% of all remand episodes was introduced in April 2007 (from under 30% in the previous year), following a change in the YJB Counting Rules. The percentage figures for 2007-08 and 2006-07 are not therefore directly comparable with one another. Analysis of those remanded to custody show some very serious cases (Alleged Murder, Rape, Robbery at knife point, repeat violent offending, possession of drugs with intent to supply, breach of order and absconding) which even the new remand fostering provision or the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance schemes might not secure a non-custodial outcome, given the risk to the public. Nevertheless the trend over the last year is down quarter by quarter, as follows; Apr-Jun 07 = 17 - 23.94% of total remands; Jul-Sep 07 = 13 - 23.64% of total remands; and Oct-Dec 07 = 8 - 13.79% of total remand

Planned developments implemented during 2007 have resulted in an improved performance in relation to the use of custody. Custodial sentences as % of all disposals have reduced from 8% in 2006/07 to 5.6% for the period April to December 2007, against a target of 5%

YOT managers will continue to review all cases where a custodial sentence is imposed to improve the YOT's recommendations of non-custodial options. We plan to a more proactive approach to communicating with sentencers to ensure that they are aware of all alternatives to custody and their effectiveness, and that we are addressing their concerns about using those alternatives.

Actions planned in respect of improving KPI performance in respect of Custodial Remand figures are:

- The spot purchase of Remand Fostering [and Police and Criminal Evidence Act beds] is now established and the in house Remand Fostering Scheme is in an advanced stage of development with a recruitment drive for carers commencing in January 2008
- The Race Audit is raising the profile of the over-representation of BME young people in certain stages of the Criminal Justice System among the agencies involved at Thames Youth Court. Implementation of the Race Audit Action Plan is progressing well and the agenda will be pushed ahead during the coming months. Tasks include highlighting the profile of over-representation with sentencers and encouraging other agencies e.g. the Police, to use their resources in identifying in more detail why there is an over-representation
- A new protocol between YOT and Children's Social Care [CSC] has been completed and will be fully implemented in the coming year. This will ensure smoother working processes particularly in relation to the interface between services in relation to

remand/custody.

- A Transition protocol for young people will be fully implemented in the coming year, and the YOS has inputted to its creation
- The remand management/bail support scheme has been rewritten and awaits approval and implementation.

Returns indicate a trend of a significant number of custodial remands happening in other Borough Courts at Thames Magistrates Court and at Highbury Corner Magistrates on Saturdays and Bank Holidays. Remedial actions will include having a duty Bail/Remand worker in the office on a daily basis and improving attendance at Court to ensure a “hands on” approach. In relation to Highbury Corner there will be a renewed drive with our cluster colleagues to improve the exchange of information outside office hours.

Data:

Proportion of Secure Remands against all Remands (excl. conditional and unconditional remands)	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 05 or 06 rating
Secure Remands	38	20.65%	9%	2.06

Proportion of Custodial Sentences against all sentences	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %
Custodial Sentences	23	5.58%	5%

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target (new performance indicator)	Reduce the use of the secure estate for remands to 9% of the total number of remand episodes, excluding unconditional bail, and for custodial sentences to no more than 5% of all sentences imposed.
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ENFORCEMENT AND ENABLING COMPLIANCE

Overview : An audit of compliance and enforcement will be held in January 2007

Data for 2005/6 revealed a high number of young people among our caseload who unacceptably failed to comply with the requirements of their order, with the National Standards Audit indicating a breach level of 88%. Upon analysis of the data, it was clear that caseworkers were not always seeking the approval of Operational Team Managers to deviate from National Standards in deciding not to breach orders, which is a requirement of National Standards. Action has been taken to ensure that correct procedure is followed.

We aim to improve our performance relating to compliance, including the timeliness of breach action. However, breach rates for ISSP (above) at 23% indicate that a robust approach towards enforcement is already built into practice for the group of offenders most vulnerable to custodial sentences. In 2006 a letter was received by the Head of Youth Offending Services from a District Judge sitting at Thames Youth Court commending the team's integrity in providing information to the Courts, and indicating that he felt confident in accepting our proposals to the court for community penalties as a result.

We have reviewed arrangements with the Courts for breach matters to be listed as a priority in the light of the National Enforcement Delivery Board's measures and implemented recommendations arising from the analysis of breaches undertaken as part of the race audit, in order to address potential discriminatory practice in respect of race.

Through the Prevent and Deter initiative, we have engaged the resources of Safer Neighbourhood Police teams to provide additional enforcement and surveillance for persistent offenders, and all young people on ISSP's and ASBO's are referred to the local teams in order to support enforcement.

Feedback from the SNT's to YOT case-managers, and monitoring of performance in that respect, is to be established and will be reported to the YOT Management Board.

DTO TRAINING PLANS

Overview

The constant improvement in this area since 2002 has continued in 2007 with 86% of DTO Plans completed within national standard timescales.

Our agreement of protocols with the secure estate for drawing up initial training plans within National Standards will hopefully continue to further improve our performance in 2008/09, but performance is mainly down to the secure establishments

Data:

Ensure that all initial training plans are drawn up within 10 working days of sentences being passed.	07/08 ^{3/4} Year Actual	07/08 ^{3/4} Year Actual %	07/08 Target %
Initial Training Plans Completed within target	18	85.71%	95%

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target

Ensure that all initial training plans for young people subject to Detention and Training Orders (DTOs) are developed within the time scales prescribed by the National Standards for Youth Justice Services 2004 i.e. within 10 working days of sentences being passed.

SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE ENGAGING IN EDUCATION TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

Overview

The performance against the ETE KPI for the period from April to December 2007 has improved significantly to 82% against a target of 90%.

The inclusion of the YOT into integrated Children's Services has facilitated this improvement. Full time education for offenders at the PRU is being provided

Progress has been made against all the actions contained in last years Youth Justice Plan. The protocol between the YOT and schools is place, however both PSR authors and Referral Order Panellists report difficulties in obtaining information from Schools regarding attendance and performance on individuals in the short timescales allowed for Court or Panel sittings, and this is to be improved.

The EPQA Improvement plan is in place and subject to ongoing monitoring, negotiations are in place to provide YOT specific Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) and summer University courses. The second roll out of the NRF funded TH College "Step up" course is underway, providing potential additional pre- E2E support for 16+ young people.

Work is ongoing with LEAP Confronting Conflict, LEA, the Children's Fund and Schools to develop Tower Hamlets Restorative Justice in Schools programme. Also ongoing in respect of Key Skills 4 is work with schools to extend their provision to YOT, and to access facilities through NEET Working Group meetings, i.e. new Princes Trust and 3rd Dimension Music programme.

We aim to provide a Connexions PA for every young person on the Prevent and Deter list. A literacy support programme is available via the GAP project, and Shannon Trust peer support materials are available to the advocates from ISSP and mentors from the RAP scheme.

Appraisals of YOT seconded staff, including education secondees, are now undertaken jointly between the YOT and parent agency. Training in relation to ETE and YJB Inset motivational interviews has been provided for staff to support them to deal with disaffected young people. We shall also ensure that there is a range of good training providers.

The YOT Connexions worker has strong links with New Start, and they meet on a monthly basis to discuss referrals, there are also strong links with LSC training providers. The YOT Education Worker attends various meetings that focus on skills development training.

A further Connexions worker is now seconded part time to YOT, though not all young people on the Prevent and Deter list receive the service, and this position must be improved.

We will utilise the Education Improvement Programme to help those who do not achieve the basics in education by age 16, using New Start, Connexions and the services of the YOS Keeping Young People in Education (KYPE) worker, funded by the Youth Justice Board

We will help young offenders become “job ready” in conjunction with Lifelong Learning, and Tower Hamlets College, and to provide entitlement to ESOL

Data:

	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual (Adjusted for weighting)	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 03 rating	EPQA: 05 result
Offenders in ETE	186.5	81.8%	90%	1	2.56

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target	Ensure that 90% of young offenders supervised by YOTs are in suitable full-time education, training or employment
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SUPPORT ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION

Overview:

In the first two quarters of the 2006/07 year, the YOT achieved the target of placing 95% of young people in appropriate accommodation at the conclusion of their orders. However, in the third quarter only 89.77% of young people were accommodated appropriately. As a result the three quarter year accumulated figure was 94.55%, and the target was narrowly missed.

Performance against the KPI has improved in relation to numbers of young people in appropriate accommodation, from 88% in 2004/05 to 92% in 2005-6, and our performance now meets the new 95%% target.

Access to two places in a hostel commissioned via the housing departments “Supporting people” strategy was established in the past year, and provides an invaluable local resource. The support needs of those placed has been reviewed, and negotiations are underway to increase the YOT allocation of two beds

The provision of remand fostering, currently through spot purchase arrangements is in place, and this resource will include provision for transfer of young people from police station custody suites to Local Authority Accommodation under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE).

The YOT has access to the YJB pilot London wide Intensive fostering service. A protocol has been finalised between the YOT and Children’s Services Social Care on young people remanded into Local Authority accommodation. The role of the YOT accommodation officer will be developed to increase the range of accommodation resources available to the team and the YOT will work closely with key accommodation providers to offer consistent support to young people offered placements.

A protocol between with HPU and YOT is in place. The YOT is to explore the possibility of commissioning 'Broad Options' by Access to Resources Team/HPU as brokers of supported lodgings remand placements.

Data:

A named accommodation officer is in place	07/08 ¾ Year Actual	07/08 ¾ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %
Young people in suitable accommodation	240	95.62%	95%

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target

Ensure that all YOTs have a named accommodation officer, and all young people completing community interventions, or on release from the secure estate have suitable accommodation to go to.

SUPPORT ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Overview

There was one acute case in the first nine months of 2006/07; typically there might be only one or two such cases in a whole year. The number of Non-Acute cases (33) compares to 30 in same period in 2005/06, and 39 in total for the whole of 2005/06.

Performance against the KPI is consistently strong with referrals for both acute and non acute cases achieving a 100% performance against a target of 95% of cases referred within timescales. In 2007/08 we shall continue to work with CAMHS to maintain this excellent performance in relation to timescales for assessment.

Training in mental health awareness has been delivered by the YOT Forensic Adolescent Community Psychiatric nurse and the senior nurse in CAMHS. A rolling programme will commence in 2007. The CAMHS Foundation course is also available.

The YOT nurse maintains links with specialist forensic services to ensure a breadth of mental health resources are available to YOT service users, and will deliver training within the CAMHS service to ensure continued ease of take-up of CAMHS services for YOT clients.

CAMHS are to develop a system of recording YOT mental health practitioners work.

The YOT nurse provides specialist risk assessments to the Court to ensure clients' needs are understood and supported at the point of sentencing.

A service level agreement with the Mental Health Trust is in place, including cover in the absence of the YOT mental health nurse and arrangements for YISP referrals to CAMHS.

The EPQA process highlighted areas for qualitative improvement and the improvement plan had been implemented ahead of schedule. Health are currently reviewing procedures in order that appraisals of the YOT seconded health workers will be undertaken jointly between the YOT and health in 2007/08.

The Primary Care Trust has identified resources to scope and deliver primary health screening to YOT service users, with the aim of improving access to and take-up of primary health care by that group.

Data:

Refer to CAHMS for assessment: within 5 working days for acute cases; within 15 working days for non-acute cases	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 05 or 06 rating
Acute cases	0	n/a	95%	2.31
Non-acute cases	24	100%	95%	2.31

<p>Performance Indicator: 07/08 target</p>	<p>Ensure that all young people, who are assessed by Asset or the Mental Health Assessment Framework as manifesting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acute mental health difficulties, are referred by YOTs to the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) for a formal assessment commencing within five working days of the receipt of the referral, with a view to their accessing a Tier 3 or other appropriate CAMHS tier service based on this assessment • non-acute mental health concerns, are referred by the YOT for an assessment and engagement by the appropriate CAMHS Tiers 1-3 service commenced within 15 working days of referral.
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SUPPORT ACCESS TO SUBSTANCE MISUSE SERVICES

Overview: The number of young people screened for substance misuse was 259 compared to 220 in the same period in 2005/06 and is the highest number of young people ever screened by the YOT in a nine monthly period. The 64 young people who, as a result of screening by the YOT, were identified as requiring Tier 2, 3, or 4 treatment is also historically the highest number of such young people in a nine monthly period since April 2005.

Targets in relation to this performance measure continue to be broadly met, and this area of work has benefited from the resources for direct work with young people with substance misuse problems under the Resettlement and Aftercare Programme (RAP). The Borough wide young people's substance misuse service (delivered by "Lifeline") went operational at the end of 2005 and a link worker is based in the YOT two days per week. In 2007/078 we shall continue to develop and maintain strong links between the YOT and this service and embed practice arising from working with this new provider.

RAP volunteer mentor training, is established, with mentors available and deployed.

Family group conferences have not taken place as expected and this aspect of RAP provision has been reviewed although the provision of the service in future has not yet been decided.

Although there have only been a small number of cases where named accommodation has not been available to young people on release from custody we aim to eradicate this problem altogether.

Engaging support programmes are being developed in partnership with Connexions and Lifeline. Good arrangements are in place for referral to Tier 3 and 4 services via Lifeline and CAMHS. Training for YOT staff to implement the new Borough Tier 2 Initial Assessment tool is complete, and actions for improving ASSET completions (see Assessment Delivery Plan above) have helped achieve 100% screening for substance misuse in 2006/07.

We shall ensure that all young people with tier 3 or 4 substance misuse needs are referred to RAP.

Establish and maintain strong links between the YOT and the newly established Life Line young person's substance misuse service

A wizard is regularly run on the YOT database to ensure that all eligible and suitable young people have been referred.

Data:

	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 05 or 06 rating
Screening (number of start Assets completed)	255	97.33%	None	3
Specialist Assessment within 5 days	61	100%	90%	3
Early Access to Intervention within 10 days	59	96.72%	90%	3

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target	Ensure that all young people are screened for substance misuse, that those that are identified with needs receive appropriate specialist assessment within five working days and, following the assessment, access the early intervention and treatment services they require within ten working days.
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SUPPORT RESETTLEMENT INTO THE COMMUNITY

Overview

The YOT Management Board helped shape and fully signed up to, the London-wide Re-Settlement Pledge. The Head of Service worked closely with staff in the Community Safety Service to design and establish the “Looking Out” service for adult prisoners, and this work resulted in the Authority reaching the final stage of Beacon Status award for Reducing Re-offending

Data: Resettlement

EPQA: 05 rating	2	EPQA: 07 target	3
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PROVIDE EFFECTIVE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE SERVICES

Overview

A new target of 25% of victims participating in Restorative Justice was introduced in April 2007, following a change in the YJB Counting Rules. The percentage figures for 2007-08 and 2006-07 are not therefore directly comparable with one another.

The quarterly figures for victims participating in restorative justice are: Apr-Jun 07 = 5 – 5.6% of interventions closed; Jul – Sep 07 = 8 – 10.1% of interventions closed; Oct – Dec 07 = 19 – 23.75% of interventions closed

The direction of travel is positive. The target was narrowly missed in the third quarter, and robust systems are in place to ensure that this target is met in the fourth quarter. However, due to the poor performance earlier in the year, the full year cumulative figure may not meet the 25% target.

While victim satisfaction is high, the number of victims satisfied with the restorative justice services received in the first nine months of the year, numerically low, which reflects the difficulty of engaging victims in restorative justice work, and corresponds closely with previous performance for this measure over recent years.

The plan for 2008/09 is therefore one of consolidation. Work to engage victims have been developed with the appointment of a Restorative Justice co-ordinator. The proportion of victims who have engaged and who were satisfied was 100% against the target of 75%.

The RJ forum has met regularly throughout the year, YOT police officers are delivering restorative Final Warnings and a strategy for the use of RJ in anti-social behaviour work has been implemented. New community reparation schemes are created each year, and we plan to link the work that young offenders undertake to local community safety priorities through the Safer Neighbourhood Teams.

Although monitoring systems are in place for contacting victims and assessing their needs, further work is to be done in providing them information in respect of offenders' progress through the youth justice system. Additional resources for victim support to vulnerable victims and witnesses are to be provided.

We have implemented and monitored the restorative justice improvement plan.

Linking reparation activities to community priorities through closer work with the safer neighbourhoods teams is ongoing

We ensure community reparation schemes are engaging and appropriate for young people. The RJ Coordinator continues to

identify new reparation schemes, the latest being with Marner Primary School garden.

The RJ Coordinator needs to undertake more face- to- face victim-offender mediation, although this is improving and depends largely upon our ability to motivate and engage victims. Work continues with Tower Hamlets Victim Support and case- workers to further build on this area.

We are endeavouring to link community reparation to the offender’s local area but this remains a longer- term target.

Increased publicity of schemes is intended. The Re-Cycle project is to feature in the local newspaper.

Most of the victims of youth gangs and violence are other young people, and they are territorial and divisive. Relationships with other children’s service areas are to be developed to ensure that the PSHE, Citizenship and emotional health programmes in schools address these key issues. We will also establish a Commission to explore what can be done to improve the public safety of young people in Tower Hamlets. It will sit for a three month period and hear information from all agencies with information to give, and services to provide, it will consult with young people themselves via the Youth Partnership and other youth fora, and produce a plan for the way forward which will secure the commitment and engagement of all concerned.

Data:

Ensure that 25% of victims of youth crime participate in a restorative justice process; and that 85% of victims who participate and comment are satisfied with the restorative process	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual	07/08 ³/₄ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 04 rating	EPQA: 05 result
Victims participating	32	12.9%	25%		
Victims commenting and satisfied	8	100%	85%		

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target (new performance indicator)

Ensure that victims participate in restorative justice processes in 25% of relevant disposals referred to the YOT, and 85% of victims participating are satisfied.

SUPPORT PARENTING INTERVENTIONS

Overview

Performance in relation to this performance is mixed; YOT disposals ending and supported by parenting programmes for the first three quarters of 2007/08 was 9% compared with a target of 20%. The target for parenting programmes in relation to prevention programmes, however, was achieved. These indicators replaced the previous indicator which measured parental satisfaction with parenting interventions. The target of 20% was introduced in April 2007. The percentage figures for the measure for 2007-08 and 2006-07 cannot be compared with one another. Nevertheless an upward trend can be seen, especially in the figures for prevention work.

The capacity on parenting was flagged through the Inspection as a risk factor in relation to introducing a more systematic referral system for parenting support. Accordingly, we used the YJB Prevention grant to build capacity in this area, specifically providing 25 additional parenting interventions by funding an additional Family Support worker to join the Coram Family Team at the Mary Hughes Centre, costing £42,835 (25.4% of total grant). This has helped meet growing demand for parental support from the work of the YISP in dealing with young people subject to ABCs, reprimand cases referred by YOT Police to the YISP, and YOT assessments of ASB cases. Parenting assessments are also triggered by the Prevent and Deter Tactical Group.

The increased provision is prioritised for those young people in the stages of early intervention by anti social behaviour, preventative and youth justice services, though more Parenting Orders are expected to be generated via YOT proposals to the Court, and referrals are being closely monitored, with weekly reports to the Director of Children's Services and Head of Youth and Community Learning

Practitioner training in respect of parental assessments has taken place.

A borough wide parenting strategy has been established for children's services which will ensure a seamless service from universal support to crisis intervention.

YOT workers are required to assess all parents at ASSET stage and offer voluntary interventions or recommend parenting orders if necessary

A seconded parenting worker from Coram Family is now based in the YOT 3 days per week. This person is boosting parenting referrals by the following means:

- Attend team meetings
- Meeting with all staff individually to discuss cases regarding any parenting issues or possible referrals and to support staff in

completing the referral form.

- Meeting with parents and carers to discuss the programme , or to do so via telephone contact
- Attend police Final Warnings
- Collate a parenting pack to be sent to parent/carers
- Organise and deliver a taster session of the parenting programme model 'Strengthening families strengthening Communities'.
- Devise an information leaflet to be included in the letter to be sent to all parents of young people coming to notice for Anti-Social Behaviour

Plans to improve this area of performance are in place and involve a concerted corporate approach, centred on working with the families of offenders, the "Think Family" initiative and our efforts in respect of the prevention of re-offending. We aim to link with work across services building on the parenting agenda – ranging from the Family Nurse partnership, Family Welfare Association and Family Support Workers in Children's Centres, Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities programmes through extended schools, to more intensive work supported by Coram Families and our social care teams. FISP work provides an additional tool for intensive work with chaotic families.

We will work with other areas of Children's Services and parenting support services to target the parents of those less than 5 years of age considered vulnerable. Tower Hamlets partnership has a Parental Engagement and Family Support Strategy and Board which co-ordinates the commissioning of work with parents. The YOT links with this and is therefore able to support families to access the full range of parenting programmes available across the Borough.

Our Early Years Service ensures that Parenting Support is targeted towards supporting vulnerable families, intervening before children are 5. The YOT links closely with Children's Centres to ensure that information is provided about vulnerable families in their area. A range of support is provided including Family Nurse partnership work for young first time parents, family support worker outreach support, parenting courses and intensive support from the Family Welfare Association.

A development programme to support the work of schools in respect of parent and family support as part of the progress to a local extended schools programme has trained large numbers of school staff in parenting programmes, and social care links have been established in each of the 4 extended school cluster links.

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Data:

	07/08 ¾ Year Actual	07/08 ¾ Year Actual %	07/08 Target %	EPQA: 04 rating	EPQA: 05 result
Number of YOT interventions supported by parenting programmes	22	8.87%	20%	2.69	2.75
Number of Prevention programmes supported by parenting programmes	5	20%	20%		

Performance Indicator: 07/08 target (community interventions) (new performance indicator)	Ensure that for 20% of young people with a Final Warning with intervention, relevant community-based penalty, or DTO, and for 20% of young people on prevention programmes, their parent/carer(s) receive a parenting intervention.
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Action plan: Parenting

Please enter the details of your actions in the Action Planning Tool

ENSURE EQUAL TREATMENT REGARDLESS OF RACE

Overview:

A CEN representative is now part of the YOT MB

The Race Audit Action Group will conclude with a multi-agency (Court Clerks, Youth Court sentencers, Police, Crown Court Prosecution Service, YOT) action plan and will meet quarterly in 2008-9 to monitor progress. An amended in-depth report on key issues arising from the audit, commissioned from Social information Systems Ltd, who amalgamated all Race Audits into a national paper on behalf of the YJB, was appended to the Youth Justice Plan 2007-8, and the work of the Group was informed by an in-house report on local issues for the Borough and the Government's select committee report's recommendations on the matter.

An Equalities Impact Assessment of the Crime and Drugs Reduction Partnership Strategy was undertaken in 2006 which identified a number of activities to be undertaken by the YOT including:

- Production of a standard protocol to ensure appropriate race equality policies are in place when working in partnership with external organisations
- Provision of gender appropriate support packages to truly reflect the offending rate of each gender group. With regard to this requirement, the YOT provides group work and one-to-one programmes using support packages such as "Pathways" (Cognitive behavioural programme) , "Teen-Talk" and the Violent Offender Programme, which cater to the requirements of both genders and which can be adapted for gender specific group or one-to-one sessions. A male only group of young offenders has completed a 12 week "Pathways" programme. Gender specific work is also delivered on a one-to-one basis, especially with female young offenders who often require work which is personalised to their individual requirements. Prevention work delivered by the YISP Team via programmes such as the ongoing Health Defence programme, "Green Visions", which comprises both a taster programme and a full 4 session programme, and PAYP school holiday activities cater for both sexes, with gender specific activities for the young people where appropriate. A 5 session "Staying Cool" violent offender programme for girls was run in a local school in January 2007.