

Children Services Scrutiny Information Pack

September 2015

This pack contains information on Domestic Abuse, Sexual Violence and Abuse, Preventing Violent Extremism and Youth Offending Team.

1. Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence and Abuse

2014/15 saw a number of significant developments in relation to Domestic Abuse and Sexual abuse.

Additional Investment

Victims of Domestic and Sexual Abuse benefited from £61,350 additional investment from the OPCC. This is targeted, specifically to better support victims and witnesses by sustaining and/or developing capacity locally to achieve the outcomes in the Partnership Business Plan and Action Plan. This included:

- Increasing capacity to support victim/survivors of rape and sexual violence, as part of existing joint commissioning arrangements with Brighton & Hove (in response to increasing demand)
- Sustaining capacity to support medium victim/survivors of domestic violence and abuse (in response to increasing demand)
- Contributing, with other local authorities in Sussex, to a Specialist Domestic Abuse Support Coordinator employed by South East Coast Ambulance Service (SeCamb), which built on a successful pilot to improve the service provided to victim/ survivors of abuse through increased staff awareness to enable early identification and referral of patients who are experiencing abuse, and to facilitate access to specialist support services.

Commissioning

East Sussex has developed a shared approach to the commissioning of future specialist services for victim/survivors of Domestic and Sexual Abuse with Brighton & Hove City Council and other commissioners (including the OPCC). This is supported by a pooled budget and single procurement process for future specialist services; this process commenced in January 2015 with the successful provider(s) due to be in place by October 2015, providing a more consistent model of support, built around a single point of contact.

To support these arrangements, a Joint Strategic Commissioner has been appointed, with strategic leadership for domestic and sexual violence and focused on the implementation of linked areas of work across East Sussex and Brighton & Hove. Supporting the Commissioner, both East Sussex and Brighton & Hove will coordinate activity (including a proposed integration of existing staff functions to create a Domestic and Sexual Violence Unit) to make the best use of resources and maximise impact.

Domestic Abuse Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

Since January 2015, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove have been developing a project to align Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) functions for the highest risk

cases. This is focused on shared working practices. Although this work is an early stage, it has demonstrated the potential to achieve more through the alignment or sharing of resources. Building on this, the Pan Sussex Executive Group has endorsed a proposal to scope a pan Sussex approach, to ensure a consistent response across Sussex supported by a shared operational framework. This builds on the changes to the MARAC process that were piloted in East Sussex in 2014, and which have had a positive impact on the management of cases including complex cases.

Talking Therapies for Victims of Rape and Sexual Violence

A developing area of work is provision of talking therapies for victims of rape and sexual violence. This has historically been managed via the Safer in East Sussex Team, supported by a Public Health Contribution. There are a number of issues in relation to these arrangements, including the access to support, suitability of clinical governance, integration other provision around trauma or talking therapies and management of demand. Development work is planned with Mental Health Commissioners to develop a simplified care pathway during 15/16. This would also enable a response to a gap in provision for adult victims of Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) are a gap, for whom there is currently limited support available.

Paediatric Sexual Assault Referral Centre

NHS England is leading on the development of a Paediatric Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC), to provide a specialist service for children and young people under the age of 14 who are victims of rape, sexual violence & abuse. Further funding was provided by the OPCC to develop specialist services to support young victims of domestic and sexual violence in their own intimate relationships linked to national Young Person's Violence Advisor programme.

Attrition Rates

Attrition (the number of cases finalised at court which do not result in a prosecution) remains a matter of concern. The Criminal Justice Board has commissioned an options analysis to consider whether Sussex should invest in this model; timetables for this work are due to be confirmed. In parallel, the partnership is working with specialist services to review and develop Criminal Justice specialist work in courts post from April - September 2015. This process is underway and will include developing working relationships with the newly commissioned Witness Service. Training for magistrates is also being prioritised for delivery in 2015/16.

Increased Reporting

There is an upward trend in reporting of both Domestic and Sexual Abuse (In the 12 months to the end of September 2014, a total of 7,152 domestic abuse incidents and crimes were reported in East Sussex, an increase of 852 (+13.5%) on the same period in the previous year; Serious Sexual Offences increased by 96 (+24.1%) in the 12 months to August 2014). While the commissioning of future specialist services presents an opportunity to review the current model of support for victims, including achieving value for money, in the medium term there will be a need to consider the partnerships response to increasing reporting of these crime types including a business case for increased investment.

The increase in child sexual abuse reporting also has a significant safeguarding overlap with the developmental work that is underway within Children's Services to ensure that referral and care pathways are also linked to the provision of child witness and therapeutic support to child victims of sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

White Ribbon

Every year three million women and girls in the UK experience rape, domestic abuse, forced marriage, stalking, sexual exploitation, and trafficking, female genital mutilation (FGM) or honour crimes. To show support as a Council against this abuse, East Sussex County Council applied for and gained The White Ribbon Campaign award. The award is for organisations demonstrating their commitment to the following aims of the campaign:

- Involving men so that the message increases in effectiveness and reach.
- Addressing and changing social norms that leads to violent behaviour against women.
- Increasing awareness on the issue and providing services aimed at reducing the incidence of domestic abuse.
- Mobilising the entire local community under the goal of ending violence against women and girls. As a part of the campaign is for male leaders to take an active stand as Ambassadors and to act as positive role models to their local communities, the male members of the Corporate Management Team and Councillors have applied to become Ambassadors, with our Chief Executive, championing the campaign.

Childrens Services Activity Reporting

Domestic abuse features significantly across the caseloads of Children's Social Care and Safeguarding Services. It is the most commonly recorded risk factor at the point of referral contact to children's social care services. It is also the risk factor most often recorded by social workers within their family assessment and identified by agencies at child protection conference.

In 2014/15 domestic abuse was the primary risk factor identified in 25% of initial child protection case conferences and 22% of all review case conferences. However, domestic abuse is rarely an isolated behaviour of concern and although it was the most frequently recorded risk identified in 37% of all social care assessments, it is commonly identified alongside other familial risk factors such as substance misuse and mental ill health.

Family Drug and Alcohol Court

Given the significant reporting of domestic abuse alongside other risk factors, children's services are currently piloting a problem solving court that builds on the innovative Family Drug and Alcohol Court established in London since 2008. The local model has been developed with input from the national team and is a court based family intervention that aims to improve children's outcomes by addressing the entrenched difficulties of their parents.

The East Sussex offer has FDAC fidelity regarding court processes such as a designated judge and the expertise of an independent multi-disciplinary team via SWIFT. However local authority referral in East Sussex will not be restricted to cases involving drug and alcohol misuse, but based on the identification of parental risks that are combined with unmet treatment needs, including those associated with substance misuse, mental ill health and/or domestic abuse. The SWIFT for FDAC response will include the timely delivery of evidence based treatment and psycho-social interventions that are delivered via one care plan.

Social Care Intervention

The SWIFT specialist family domestic abuse team provides an independent consultation function to social workers, plus a specialist assessment and treatment/intervention offer that is designed to meet the whole family's needs and expert assessment to the Local Authority and Family Courts for those cases before or in care proceedings. Activity levels during 2014/15 reported that the Domestic Abuse Team delivered 101 specialist assessments: 60 expert assessments before or during proceedings and 61 planned interventions following proceedings. It also carried out approximately 40 individual consultations to professional colleagues per quarter.

The work of the specialist service in 2014/15 also included development of our children's social care workforce in responding to domestic abuse referrals. For this purpose a number of leads or "champions" were identified in a range of safeguarding teams who worked with specialist service personnel over a 12 month period to develop their knowledge and intervention skills.

This programme was informed by a clear development timeline, culminating in the shared delivery of a domestic abuse conference to an audience of front line staff from Children's Social Care, Police and Adult Services. Evaluations of the conference are overwhelmingly positive and reflect the success of this approach.

"Over 120 staff attended the Domestic Abuse Conference last week. Led by practitioners from the excellent SWIFT service; the conference demonstrated what incredible knowledge and skills we hold within the department." Principal Social Worker

Troubled Families

Domestic Abuse is one of the six themes of the newly expanded Troubled Families programme delivered across East Sussex by Family Key Work services. All families will be screened for Domestic Abuse as part of their assessment and offered an intervention according to need. This target is to be included in the payment by results outcome framework for East Sussex and will include the following targets:

- Reduction in the level of risk
- Reduction in repeat MARAC referral

Early Help

Within the early help sector, helping staff to develop skills and deliver Domestic Abuse interventions has also been an area of focus. The Targeted Youth Support Service now employs a young person's advocacy co-ordinator post, who oversees the domestic abuse work via early help designated champions/leads. In 2015 quarter 1 (April to June) the data is as follows: young person to parent/.carer =12; young person as victim = 38; young person as perpetrator = 9

The current Local Safeguarding Children Board action plan builds upon many of the areas above, but also includes the development and launch of a Domestic Abuse protocol for

schools. The protocol will outline to schools the risks and impact that DA can have on students, schools and communities. It also outlines the schools responsibilities to students who are affected by abuse within the home and offers tools in order to raise awareness in PSHE classes so that staff can respond effectively to disclosure.



1.1

Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:

1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance
2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships

Actions	Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update
<p>Leaders to show their support for ending violence against women and girls:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Chief Officers will apply to be White Ribbon Campaign Ambassadors & and the Chief Executive will champion the campaign. Male Councillors will be invited to be White Ribbon Campaign Ambassadors & female Councillors are able to champion the campaign. Local Members will be informed of any relevant events in their area. Encourage all staff to sign the White Ribbon Campaign pledge to take action to prevent violence against women Adult Social Care & Safer Communities Scrutiny to be updated through the Safer Communities Annual report 2015 	<p>Keith Hinkley</p> <p>Louisa Havers</p> <p>Keith Hinkley</p>	<p>November 2014</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>June 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adult Social Care & Safer Communities Scrutiny reviewed the Safer Communities Annual Report with a focus on domestic abuse and commitment to the White Ribbon Campaign July 2014. Male Chief Officers have applied to be White Ribbon Campaign Ambassadors & the Chief Executive will be championing the campaign. Ambassador forms from Councillors have also been submitted to White Ribbon Campaign. A White Ribbon article was added on the ‘in focus’ section of the Intranet encouraging staff to sign pledge, and to inform white ribbons were available in reception areas of core buildings. White Ribbon Ambassador and Champion domestic abuse awareness raising session to take place on 1 July 2015.
<p>Develop awareness raising campaign to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display anti-violence against women & girls information targeting men through council 	<p>Louisa Havers</p> <p>Claire Caddick</p>	<p>November 2014</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Raising Awareness campaign started with the invitations going out to the 25th November “Domestic Abuse Hurts Everyone” event, & a social media campaign from East Sussex County Council accounts with facts and figures of why domestic abuse is a priority.

information channels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information on support and programmes for survivors, children & perpetrators. • Commemorate United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25th November) which is also White Ribbon Day, 16 days of action, and undertake awareness raising throughout the year. 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intranet & Internet pages were updated with links to white ribbon pledges. • Articles were included in the Local Safeguarding Children's Board & Safer East Sussex Newsletter. • A key stakeholder engagement day took place on the 25 November 2014 (White Ribbon Day). Over 120 people attended, including a mixture of schools, youth support workers, governors, Councillors and local businesses. The event highlighted the impact of domestic abuse on children, what employers can do to support employees affected by domestic abuse, and raised awareness of the White Ribbon Campaign. Each delegate was given a white ribbon to wear on the day, and were called to action by writing their own personal pledge. • Engaged with High Sherriff and Lord Lieutenant as community leaders and invited to the Ambassadors training.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure men from minority communities and the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual & Transgender (LGB & T) communities are offered relevant information 			Louisa Havers Claire Caddick	March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Black Minority Ethnic (BME) Groups have fed back that the current leaflets seem to be more aimed at professionals. • Feedback to be sought from employee BME forums & Employee LGB & T forums on current information, revision to leaflets to be in line with feedback.
1.2	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1 Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing			
Actions			Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update
Support partner organisations to raise awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Ribbon Campaign (25th November 2014) 			Louisa Havers Claire Caddick	Annual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Sussex County Council, Eastbourne and Hastings Towns were awarded White Ribbon Status in November 2014. • Each local Community Safety Partnership has identified White Ribbon activity as a priority, partners are working together to reduce duplication and maximise raising awareness. • Current domestic abuse leaflets are distributed across the County,

			although these will be reviewed by March 2016 as part of the communications action in section 1.1
1.3	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing	
Actions		Lead Officer	Timescale
Internal and External Web information to be up to date and accessible:			
East Sussex County Council information on domestic abuse on Intranet to be created.		Louisa Havers	November 2014
East Sussex County Council information on domestic abuse in public areas and links on relevant internet pages to be refreshed.		Claire Caddick	March 2015
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An Intranet page has been created around domestic abuse, which includes the staff policy and guidance, links to the domestic abuse e-learning module, counselling page, safer communities partnership website, national help line numbers and local services. Internet page to be refreshed as part of the web content refresh project. Webpages to include information and advice on all aspects of violence against women & girls, including non-physical forms of violence and coercive control. Include local support service details and where to get information on how to separate safely.

2. Training & Information

2.1	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing	
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Actions			Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update
Ensure all Councillors receive domestic abuse and training on violence against women & girls to support their roles as community leaders and raise awareness of this issue.			Louisa Havers	February / March 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The raising awareness workshop with guest speaker, Chris Green from the White Ribbon Campaign for Ambassadors and Champions was rescheduled from the original date in February 2015 to 1 July 2015.
Ensure all staff receive domestic abuse and training on violence against women & girls:			Louisa Havers	November 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a range of courses available for staff within the County Council, specialist courses are available for those working directly with families, adults and children. This links to the training section of the Domestic Abuse Strategy Action Plan to commission and deliver a revised programme of domestic abuse training to provide different levels of training and facilitate within all public facing agencies including primary and secondary health care settings. E-training on domestic abuse is available to all staff now, module to be reviewed to ensure includes relevant violence against women & girls information.
2.2	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing			
Actions			Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update

Implement a Domestic Abuse Policy for all staff		Louisa Havers	November 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recent domestic homicide review conducted with Brighton & Hove identified a number of recommendations including supporting local business in regard to domestic violence and abuse, including raising awareness of this issue among staff, ensuring that employers know how to respond to domestic violence and abuse, and having the capacity to offer proactive support in the event of a serious incident or homicide. As part of these recommendations, an approach has been agreed and managers will have briefing sessions to support the roll out of the policy, and to support implementation.
3. Community Engagement				
3.1	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing		
Actions		Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update
Involve the local community in decision making through holding local awareness events.		Joint DA & SA Strategy & Partnership Officer Claire Caddick	November 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 200 pledges were obtained from Eastbourne and Hastings fresher's fairs. See section 1.1 for update on 'domestic abuse hurts everyone' event.
3.2	Links to Domestic Abuse Strategy outcomes:	1. Increased social intolerance and reduced acceptance 2. People have safe, equal and abuse free relationships 3. Increased survivor safety and wellbeing		

Actions	Lead Officer	Timescale	Progress update
<p>Network with all other public authorities, departments and local women organisations to raise awareness and ensure adequate funding for service provision.</p>	<p>Louisa Havers</p> <p>Joint DA & SA Strategy & Partnership Officer</p>	<p>March 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Safer Communities Strategic Needs Assessment for 2015/16 was signed off in November 2014 and was used to inform the priority setting and funding discussions that took place in November 2014 & January 2015. • The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership Business Plan was signed off at the Safer Communities Board on 17 March 2015. This included priority sections on Domestic Abuse and Sexual Abuse. This will also include Child Sexual Exploitation and involve working closely with the Community Safety team. • Additional monies from the Police and Crime Commissioner will contribute towards increased ISVA (Independent Sexual Violence Adviser), IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Adviser) and Domestic Abuse Coordinator for SECAMB (1 year funding).
<p>Raise community groups awareness of White Ribbon:</p> <p>Engage with local sports clubs, both amateur and professional and encourage them to participate in White Ribbon Campaign and to apply for White Ribbon Sport Club Award.</p> <p>Engage with music venues, encourage them to participate in White Ribbon Venue Award Scheme</p> <p>Engage with schools and colleges and encourage them to participate in the White Ribbon Schools Award Scheme.</p>	<p>Joint DA & SA Strategy & Partnership Officer</p> <p>Claire Caddick</p>	<p>November 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bannatynes in Hastings expressed an interest in pledging commitment to the White Ribbon Campaign and will publicise this at the “Domestic Abuse Hurts Everyone” event. Eastbourne Town has engaged the football clubs in Eastbourne, and is looking to sponsored matches. • Engage with licensing team regarding door staff wearing white ribbons and participating in White Ribbon Venue award scheme • Schools were invited to the 25th November event “Domestic abuse hurts everyone” .Two schools requested information on applying for White Ribbon Status. • A White Ribbon information pack for schools has been developed and this was presented to the Independent Schools Group on 13 May 2015. This will also be sent out electronically to schools reps on the LSCB Board. Bedes School has confirmed they will apply for White Ribbon Status.

East Sussex County Council PREVENT Plan 2015/16

Introduction:

- The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 requires specified authorities (local authorities, the police, prisons, providers of probation services, schools, colleges, universities and the Health sector) to have due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. The general Prevent “Duty” for statutory agencies starts on the 1st July 2015. These new duties have been introduced to ensure a consistent approach nationally to protecting and safeguarding people who may be vulnerable from being drawn into violent extremism or susceptible to radicalisation.
- The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act also introduces a statutory ‘Channel’ duty for local authorities to ensure that a multi-agency panel exists in their area, to chair the panel and to develop a support plan. The Channel duty, placing Channel on a legislative footing as part of this Act, comes into force on 12th April 2015. Channel is the name for the process of identifying and referring a person for early intervention and support.
- In fulfilling the new Prevent duty, local authorities, including elected Members and senior officers will be expected to be carrying out activity in the following key areas outlined in the plan. These include:
 - Prevent Duty
 - Assessment and Support Duty : Channel Panels
 - Education and Specified Authorities (support and guidance role)

The overarching aims of this plan are:

- To outline the scope of the new Prevent duty under Section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 in relation to East Sussex County Council
- To outline the scope of the new Channel duty under Sections 36 to 41 of the act requiring local authorities to establish and coordinate panel activity
- To include support and guidance we provide to Education and Childcare Specified Authorities
- To ensure the relevant teams/ staff implement the duty effectively
- To ensure we are compliant with the new duties as a local authority

Further reading in relation to the new duties for Local Authorities can be found here:

Prevent Duty Guidance March 2015 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/prevent-duty-guidance>

1. Prevent Duty

Partnership					
Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Establish or make use of an existing local multi-agency group to agree risk and co-ordinate Prevent activity	<p>The Prevent Tactical Group (PTG) which has been led by Sussex Police within East Sussex has been the existing multi agency group where Prevent work has been developed and shared and is well established</p> <p>A Prevent working group has been established made up of relevant partners to make the transition into the new Prevent Board</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent working group develop terms of reference and membership for new Prevent Board Prevent event to be arranged to invite all the relevant partners and provide an overview of the new duties and functions of the Board Update Prevent Tactical Group (PTG) on developments of new Board on 10th June Preparation and arrangement of Board meetings and venues for 2015/16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> East Sussex Prevent Board established with specified authorities represented to agree risk and coordinate Prevent activity 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015
Links to be made to other statutory partnerships such as Local Safeguarding Children Boards Safeguarding Adults Boards, Channel panels and Youth Offending	Links have already been made with these partnerships and Prevent has featured well with updates and awareness sessions with staff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Membership of the new Board to include other statutory partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links made with other statutory partners 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015

Local or regional Prevent co-ordinators have access to senior local authority leadership to give advice and support.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COMT briefings on Prevent • Chairs of Community Safety Partnerships provided with updates and progress • Prevent report/newsletter circulated to senior local authority leadership • Prevent Board report presented to scrutiny 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice and support provided to senior ESCC leadership 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015 Ongoing
Local multi-agency arrangements to be put in place to effectively monitor the impact of Prevent work	Sussex police have been monitoring the impact of Prevent work and we expect some of this practice to be shared with relevant partners in the future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Prevent working group will agree initial arrangements as to how this will be managed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrangements in place to monitor Prevent work 	Prevent Board	July 2015
Effective dialogue and coordination with community-based organisations	Prevent links are already established with ASC in relation to community engagement and also with the Equality and Participation Team (CS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Prevent conference/network involving community based organisations to ensure effective dialogue takes place • Specified authorities to share existing relationships and coordination activities at a local level through the Board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective dialogue and coordination with community based organisations 	Prevent Board	July 2015

Risk Assessment

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Use the existing counter-terrorism local profiles (CTLPs), to assess the risk of individuals being drawn into terrorism.	The CTLP for East Sussex is being developed by Sussex Police. This will include an annual strategic assessment of the risk and will be prepared by Police. It will include identified threats and recommendations for dealing with these risks, community tensions, hate crimes and emerging trends.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CTLP prepared in order for the Prevent Board to begin to assess the risk locally 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of risk completed using the CTLP 	Prevent Board	July 2015
This risk assessment should also be informed by engagement with Prevent co-ordinators, schools, registered childcare providers, universities, colleges, local prisons, probation services, health, immigration enforcement Youth Offending Teams and others, as well as by a local authority's own knowledge of its area.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The working group will agree initial arrangements as to how to consult with partners through the prevent Board Possible annual network event to gather views and information from Board members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk assessment also informed by relevant local partner engagement 	Prevent Board	July 2015
Local authorities to incorporate the duty into existing policies and procedures, so it becomes part of the day-to-day work of the authority.	Prevent is incorporated into the Safeguarding Adults Policy 2015 Prevent guidance and referral processes are on the staff intranet	Prevent communications plan within ESCC to incorporate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New legislative duty Background Plan for ESCC Training and awareness resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ASC and CS (LSCB) safeguarding procedures include Prevent and Channel referral 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Channel 	processes		
Action Plan					
Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Any local authority that assesses, through the multi-agency group, that there is a risk should develop a Prevent action plan. This will enable the local authority to comply with the duty and address whatever risks have been identified.	Head of Performance, Engagement and Safer Communities Adult Social Care will chair the Board initially and representation from the Safer East Sussex Team will enable ESCC to comply with this duty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify staff/resource to carry out and deliver actions within the Prevent action plan which ESCC needs to act on Develop action plan template 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identified risks recorded in the Prevent action plan to evidence compliance with the duty 	ESCC Project Support Officer	July 2015
These local action plans will identify, prioritise and facilitate delivery of projects, activities or specific interventions to reduce the risk of people being drawn into terrorism in each local authority. Many of these projects and activities will be community based.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prevent Action Plan will highlight what has been identified and ensure projects and activities are prioritised according to risk Review projects and activities and scope what activities could be utilised within the plan for intervention/support Possible discussions with B & H and WSCC in relation to sharing some projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Prevent action plan in place with clear actions and outcomes for ESCC 	ESCC Project Support Officer	July 2015

Staff Training

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Local authorities will be expected to ensure appropriate frontline staff, including those of it's contractors, have a good understanding of Prevent are trained to recognise vulnerability to being drawn into terrorism and are aware of available programmes to deal with this issue.	<p>Prevent Awareness has begun to be embedded in ASC and CS safeguarding training</p> <p>LSCB Prevent workshops arranged for 2015</p> <p>Prevent additions have been added to CP training and CPDT leads in Schools</p> <p>Prevent additions have been added to ASC safeguarding training and half day refresher courses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To share Prevent duties with contacts within the Contracts Register ,the Contracts Purchasing Unit and Legal Services Lansdown Children's Home staff receive appropriate training in identifying and managing those at risk of being drawn into terrorism (The under-18 secure estate comes under the duty for Prisons and probation but will fall under ESCC for this duty) Plan/record and coordinate workshops to raise awareness of Prevent (WRAP) for ESCC frontline staff Develop Schools and Childcare Prevent support pack/toolkit New staff induction module developed Early Help (CS) practitioners identified to lead on Prevent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESCC frontline staff are appropriately trained and have a good understanding of Prevent Clear communications internally to ESCC staff around the new duties CS Early Help staff coordinating Prevent support East/West 	<p>ESCC Project Support Officer</p> <p>Alistair McGrory Operations Manager - Targeted Youth Support</p>	Ongoing
Local authority staff will be expected to make appropriate	Guidance on how to make a referral to Channel is included			Safer East Sussex Team	Ongoing

referrals to Channel (a programme which provides support to individuals who are at risk of being drawn into terrorism which is put on a statutory footing by Chapter 2 of Part 5 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015) and ensure that Channel is supported by the appropriate organisation and expertise.	<p>within our guidance for ESCC staff</p> <p><i>Prevent: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremism</i> (Word, 455KB) and already included in Prevent Awareness Sessions – this work will continue and document reviewed to reflect new duties</p> <p>Channel Panel established 2014 with relevant members in line with Home Office guidance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance on how to make a referral to Channel is included within our guidance for ESCC staff <i>Prevent: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremism</i> (Word, 455KB) and already included in Prevent Awareness Sessions – this work will continue and document reviewed to reflect new duties Review the Channel Panel process and streamline in line with MARAC processes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear pathways and referral criteria outlined in processes ESCC staff make appropriate referrals to the Channel panel 		
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Use of Local Authority Resources

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Local Authorities to ensure that publicly-owned venues and resources do not provide a platform for extremists and are not used to disseminate extremist views. This includes considering whether IT equipment available to the general public should use filtering solutions that limit access to terrorist and	<p>Extremist Speakers Framework which has been produced by ACPO to be used as good practice guide in adjusting rental agreements</p> <p>Property Strategy aware of legislation and new duty requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information contained within our rental agreements that will give us the right to prevent certain types of behaviours. People's Network Acceptable Use Policy to include relevant wording in relation to accessing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESCC publicly owned venues and resources are not used to disseminate extremist views 	<p>Property Strategy Business Services Department</p> <p>People's Network Development Manager</p>	July 2015

extremist material.		terrorist and extremist material			
We expect local authorities to ensure that organisations who work with the local authority on Prevent are not engaged in any extremist activity or espouse extremist views.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suitable background checks made with any potential partner activity around Prevent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organisations ESCC work with are, to the best of our knowledge, not engaged in any extremist activity 	Safer East Sussex Team Sussex Police	Ongoing
Local authorities to take the opportunity when new contracts for the delivery of their services are being made to ensure that the principles of the duty are written in to those contracts in a suitable form.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To share Prevent duties with contacts within the Contracts Register ,the Contracts Purchasing Unit and Legal Services Prevent addition into relevant clauses within ESCC contracts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New contracts for delivery of services on behalf of ESCC have principles of the duty written in 	Contracts Purchasing Unit	Ongoing

Other Agencies and Organisations Supporting Children

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
A range of private and voluntary agencies and	LSCB aware and will be meeting to discuss how best	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pan Sussex Child Protection and Safeguarding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of private and voluntary 	LSCB	July 2015

organisations provide services or, in some cases, exercise functions in relation to children. The duty applies to those bodies, which include, for example, children's homes and independent fostering agencies and bodies exercising local authority functions whether under voluntary delegation arrangements or via the use of statutory intervention powers. These bodies should ensure they are part of their local authorities' safeguarding arrangements and that staff are aware of and know how to contribute to Prevent-related activity in their area where appropriate.	this is disseminated	<p>Procedures Manual to include Prevent and local Channel processes</p> <p>(This manual contains the Sussex Children Protection and Safeguarding Procedures which cover the areas served by the Brighton & Hove, East Sussex and West Sussex Safeguarding Children Boards is regularly updated, twice yearly).</p>	agencies have access to and information on the new duty through the local authority (LSCB) arrangements		
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Out-of-School Settings Supporting Children

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion
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					Date
<p>Local authorities should take steps to understand the range of activity and settings in their areas and take appropriate and proportionate steps to ensure that children attending such settings are properly safeguarded. In assessing the risks associated with such settings, local authorities should have regard to whether the settings subscribe to voluntary accreditation schemes and any other evidence about the extent to which the providers are taking steps to safeguard the children in their care. Where safeguarding concerns arise, local authorities should actively consider how to make use of the full range of powers available to them to reduce the risks to children, including relevant planning and health and safety powers.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FLESS team to be provided with Prevent Awareness Training (Safeguarding is built into current visits by the Elective Home Education Team) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FLESS safeguarding processes to highlight the duty 	Flexible Learning Educational Support Service (FLESS)	July 2015

2. Assessment and Support: Channel Panels

'Channel' is a multi-agency safeguarding programme which operates throughout England and Wales. It provides tailored support to people who have been identified as at risk of being drawn into terrorism. The support offered can come from any of the partners on the panel, which include the local authority, police, education, and health providers. Support will often involve experts who understand extremist ideology. Engagement with the programme is entirely voluntary at all stages.

Assessment and Support: Local Panels					
Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Require local authorities to ensure a multiagency panel exists and chair the panel	Channel panel exists but not currently chaired by ESCC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review existing Panel and update membership - identify local authority Chair for adults/children. Arrange Channel chair training Preparation of panel processes and information sharing agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ESCC have a multiagency panel and chair the panel 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015
Require the panel to develop a support plan for accepted cases and signpost to other support where cases are not accepted		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop support plan guidance Process embedded within guidance for ESCC staff <i>Prevent: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremism</i> Pre Channel referral pathway developed for children/young people as part of the MASH (multi agency safeguarding hub) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support plan used for accepted cases. Clear pathways for signposting cases not accepted Children/young people referred to Social Work/Early help or no further action/support required 	ESCC Project Support Officer Alistair McGrory Operations Manager - Targeted Youth Support	July 2015

Place a duty to cooperate on panel partners; require partners to pay due regard to the guidance		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amend ESCC guidance <i>Prevent: Protecting vulnerable people from being drawn into violent extremism to include duty to cooperate</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel partners compliant with guidance to cooperate 	Safer East Sussex Team	July 2015
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3. Education and Specified Authorities

The education and childcare specified authorities in Schedule 6 to the Act are as follows:

- The proprietors of maintained schools, non-maintained special schools, maintained nursery schools, independent schools (including academies and free schools) and alternative provision academies
- Pupil referral units
- Registered early years childcare providers
- Registered later years childcare providers
- Providers of holiday schemes for disabled children
- Persons exercising local authority functions under a direction of the Secretary of State when the local authority is performing inadequately; and

- Persons authorised by virtue of an order made under section 70 of the Deregulation and Contracting Out Act 1994 to exercise a function specified in Schedule 36A to the Education Act 1996

Schools and Registered Childcare Providers					
Risk Assessment					
Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Specified authorities are expected to assess the risk of children being drawn into terrorism, including support for extremist ideas that are part of terrorist ideology. This should be based on an understanding, shared with partners, of the potential risk in the local area	Enquiries with Education Improvement Partnerships and Governance Services regarding appropriate pathways for communication to schools Schools risk assessment template produced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of appropriate template/report relevant to schools and childcare providers providing information of the potential risk in the local area. This will be based on the CTLP and Prevent Board Action Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and registered childcare providers receive a summary report of the CTLP on an annual basis to ensure they incorporate the local assessment of potential risk in the local area when assessing children/pupils 	Project Support Officer and Children's Services	September 2015 Ongoing
Specified authorities will need to demonstrate that they are protecting children and young people from		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparation of electronic Prevent Toolkit for Schools and Childcare providers in relation to the New 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and Childcare providers can demonstrate they have current information within safeguarding policies to evidence compliance with 	Project Support Officer and Children's Services	September 2015

being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies in place to identify children at risk, and intervening as appropriate. Institutions will need to consider the level of risk to identify the most appropriate referral, which could include Channel or Children's Social Care, for example. These policies should set out clear protocols for ensuring that any visiting speakers – whether invited by staff or by children themselves – are suitable and appropriately supervised		<p>Duties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enquiries with Education Improvement Partnerships and Governance Services re: appropriate pathways for communication to schools • Child Protection Designated Teachers Forum (East and West) presentation on emendations to policies • ESCC Early Years Team Prevent briefing – they support settings and provide strategic leadership in driving improving standards in East Sussex in line with county and national priorities and statutory frameworks. 	Prevent/Channel processes in the local area		
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Working in Partnership

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
In England, governing bodies and proprietors		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pan Sussex Child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governing bodies and proprietors of all schools and 	LSCB	September 2015

of all schools and registered childcare providers should ensure that their safeguarding arrangements take into account the policies and procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). In Wales, Local Service Boards provide strategic oversight		Protection and Safeguarding Procedures Manual to include Prevent and local Channel processes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Services disseminate new duty requirements and share updated local safeguarding arrangements 	registered childcare providers have safeguarding arrangements which take into account the LSCB policies and procedures		
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Staff Training

Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Specified authorities should make sure that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk of being drawn into terrorism, and to	Several schools have had workshops to raise awareness of Prevent and the Police Prevent Engagement Officer has delivered several sessions to staff and pupils across East Sussex Train the trainer events for WRAP have taken place with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training cycle prepared for Senior Leadership Teams, Safeguarding Leads, Designated and Deputy Designated Teacher Training dates and schedule shared with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior leadership staff have appropriate knowledge and understanding of local arrangements to disseminate to staff 	Project Support Officer and Children's Services / LSCB	September 2015 ongoing

challenge extremist ideas which can be used to legitimise terrorism and are shared by terrorist groups. They should know where and how to refer children and young people for further help. Prevent awareness training will be a key part of this	many schools in attendance	schools and registered childcare providers			
IT Policies					
Duty	Progress	Milestones	Outcomes	Lead	Completion Date
Specified authorities will be expected to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school, including by establishing appropriate levels of filtering.	ESCC e-Safeguarding Support Part of this service includes; PREVENT - A guide to implementing policy into practice E-Sussex, E-Safe Safeguarding all children in East Sussex all the time. This document provides an Educational Institution Prevent Assessment document and includes a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT policy and practice guidance for Schools and childcare providers • Acceptable Use Policy of the school for pupils and staff to ensure that use of material related to violent extremism is prohibited; and ensure pupils, staff and governors are clear on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children are safe from extremist material when accessing the internet at school 	ESCC e-Safeguarding Support	September 2015 Ongoing

	good practice checklist.	<p>the policy, monitoring practices and the sanctions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff, pupils and parents are aware of the issues regarding risk and responsible use • Internet filtering systems prevent or block users' access to unsuitable material. When the filtering system is turned on, users cannot open or link to sites that the filtering system recognises as unsuitable. Many filtering systems will also provide facilities to filter incoming and outgoing email. 			
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Annual Report on the performance of the East Sussex Youth Offending Team (YOT)

1. Background.

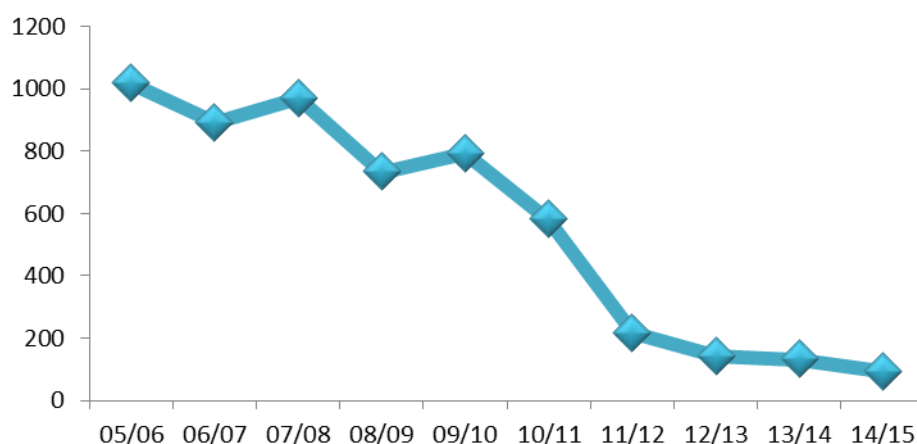
1.1 The East Sussex Youth Offending Team (YOT) is a multiagency team which brings together a range of statutory partners from police, probation, health and local authority services to work with others to deliver the youth justice services prescribed in sections 37 - 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). The YOT also works closely with other partners, such as schools and the voluntary sector to prevent offending and reduce reoffending in young people in East Sussex. There are a range of performance indicators that are measured at both a national and local level to gauge the effectiveness of the service.

2. Performance

2.1 First Time Entrants to the Youth Justice System

There were 94 First Time Entrants to the youth justice system in 2014/15 compared with 133 for 2013/14.

First Time Entrants

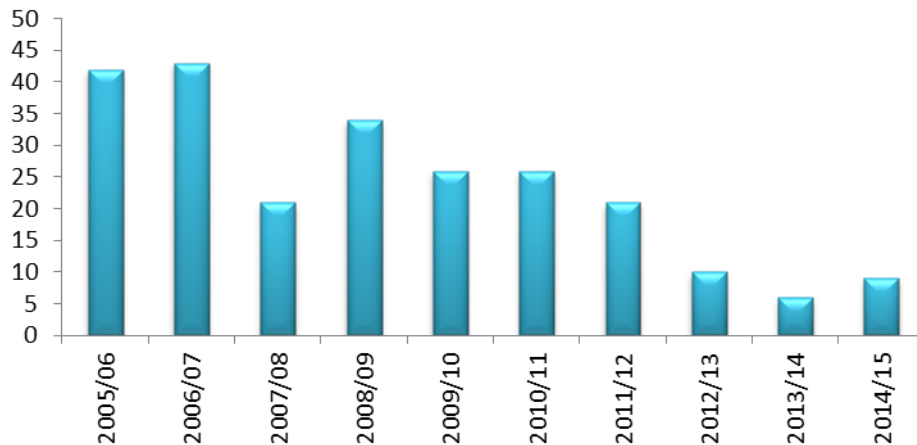


The introduction of Community Resolution and the TYS Referral Pathway in 2011/12 has been largely responsible for the dramatic drop in First Time Entrants. Whilst numbers levelled since that steep decline, the 29% reduction seen last year was far greater than the 7% reduction seen when comparing 2013/14 with 2012/13.

2.2 Custody

There were nine young people sentenced to custody in 2014/5. This was an increase on the previous year but is still the second lowest total in the last ten years.

Custodial Sentences

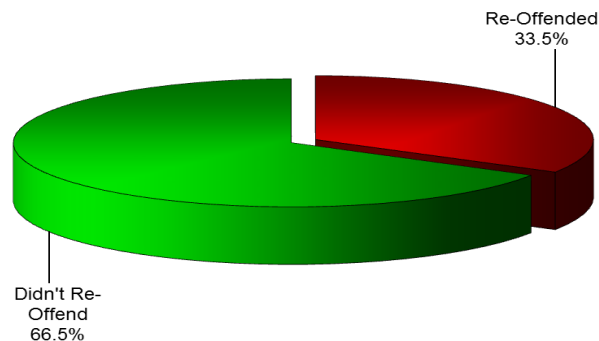


2.3 Reoffending

National Reoffending data is measured by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) using Police data. A cohort of young people who have offended within a 12 month period is identified and then tracked for 12 months to assess the level of reoffending. Because of a time lag in the data being available nationally, this report has been compiled using data provided in the quarterly MoJ Statistics Bulletin on Reoffending for a cohort of local young people who offended between April 2012 and March 2013.

The vast majority of young people in the cohort do not reoffend.

Percentage of cohort reoffending

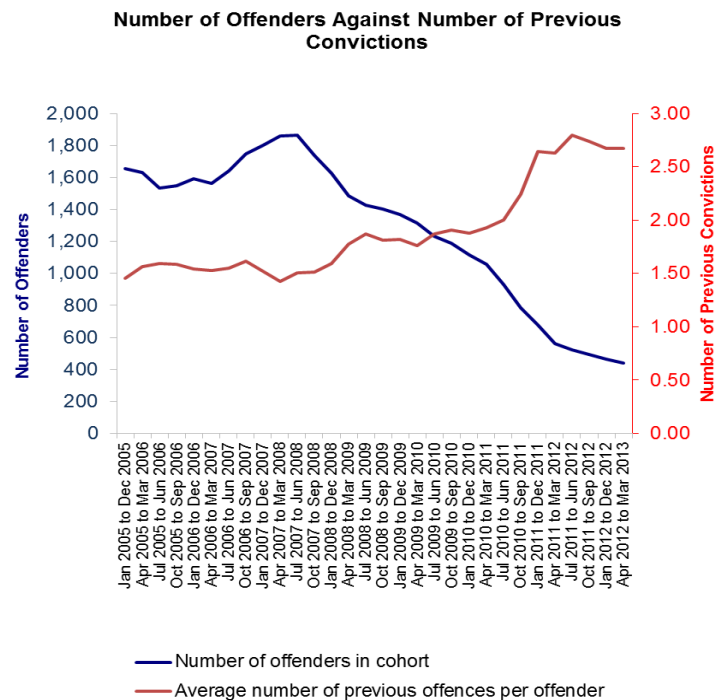


Despite this small increase, East Sussex saw the largest reduction amongst all of our YJB defined statistical neighbours in proportions of young people reoffending when comparing the latest outturn with the previous year's cohort.

2.4 Changing Caseload Profile

It continues to be the case that the profile of the YOT caseload has changed since 2005 as the chart below demonstrates. The blue line shows the number of young people in the cohorts has been dropping from a peak of 1,863 in the period July 2007 - June 2008, down to 439 for the latest cohort. The rate of decline in numbers has slowed somewhat over the last year. Similarly the number of previous offences seems to have reached a fairly constant level over the last year at around 2.7 offences per offender. This represents a 77% increase when compared with the July 2007 – June 2008 cohort.

When looked at this in conjunction with the low numbers of First Time Entrants, it becomes apparent that the YOT has a smaller caseload of more entrenched young offenders than in previous years.



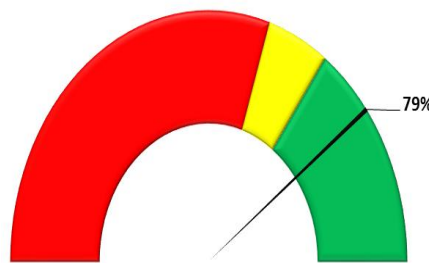
2.5 Education Training and Employment

The charts below show that overall ETE performance for 2014/15 is rated as Green with overall performance at 71%.

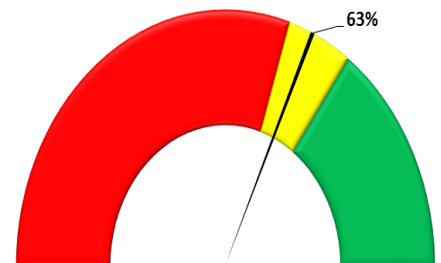
Year to Date ETE Performance



Year to Date SSA ETE Performance



Year to Date ASSA ETE Performance

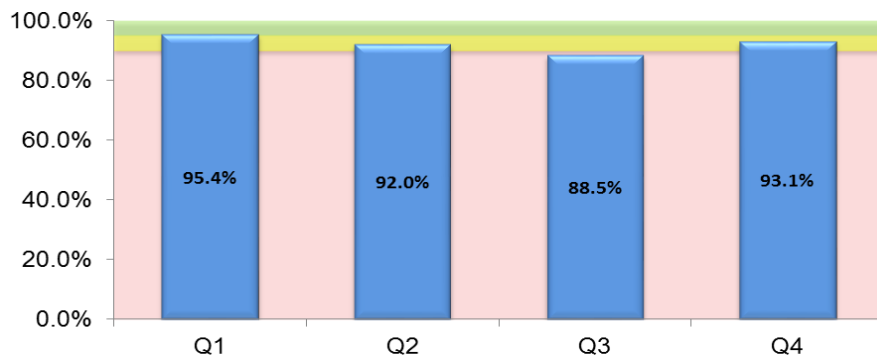


Statutory School Age performance is rated Green at 79% and Above Statutory School Age performance, at 63%, is rated Amber.

2.6 Young People in Suitable Accommodation

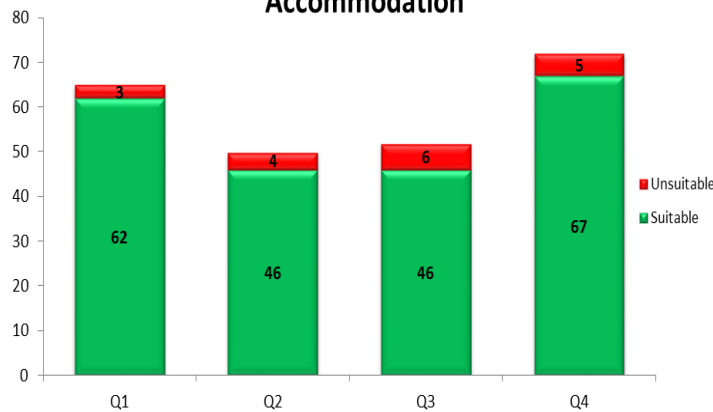
As the chart below shows, performance in Q4 rose in percentage terms, up from 88.5% to 93.1%.

Percentage of Young People In Suitable Accommodation



This meant that overall the annual percentage was 92.5% of interventions closing with the young person in suitable accommodation. That is 2.5% short of the 95% target. The chart below shows the actual numbers behind this percentage performance.

Actual Numbers of Young People in Suitable Accommodation

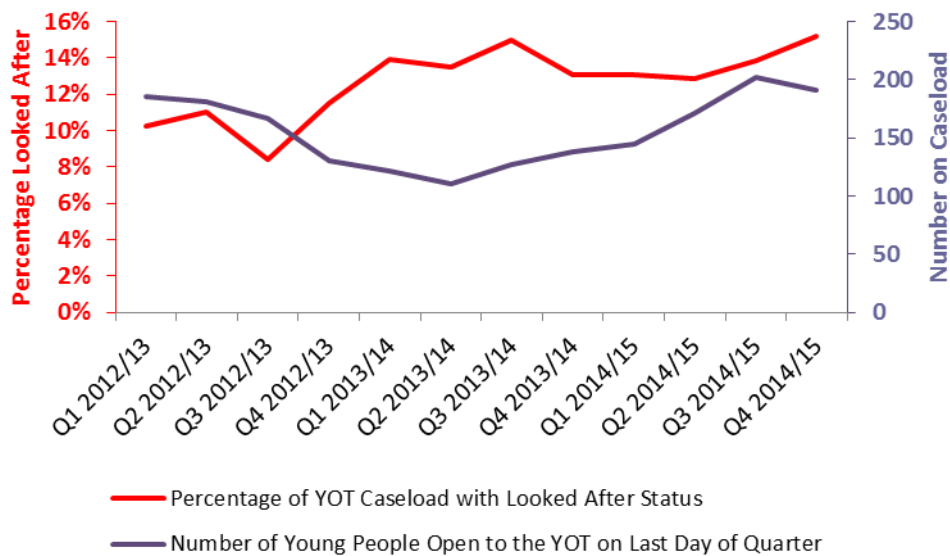


2.7 Looked After Children

Because of the increased vulnerability of children within the care system, a snapshot is taken of the legal status of open cases on the last day of each quarter¹. As can be seen from the chart below the percentage of LAC young people on the caseload fluctuates between 8% and 15%. It is also the case that not all the LAC on the YOT caseload are local East Sussex children because YOT will manage the offending work with children placed within East Sussex by other Local Authorities.

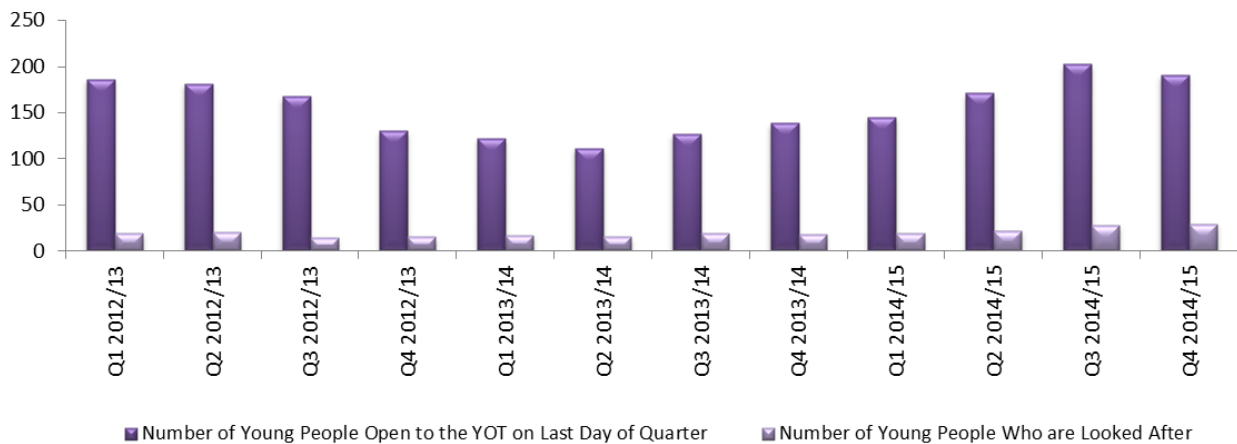
¹ This is a count of young people rather than interventions so if a young person has multiple interventions open they will only count once. This differs slightly from the way this measure was previously reported.

LAC on last Day of Quarter



The red line shows the number of open cases and it seems that there is an inverse relationship between the open cases and the percentage of the caseload who are LAC. As the caseload increases the proportion of LAC decreases. As the chart shows the number of young people who are LAC remains fairly constant whilst the caseload numbers fluctuate. Therefore the number of LAC as a percentage of the overall caseload can be a misleading figure.

Numbers of LAC Young People on Caseload

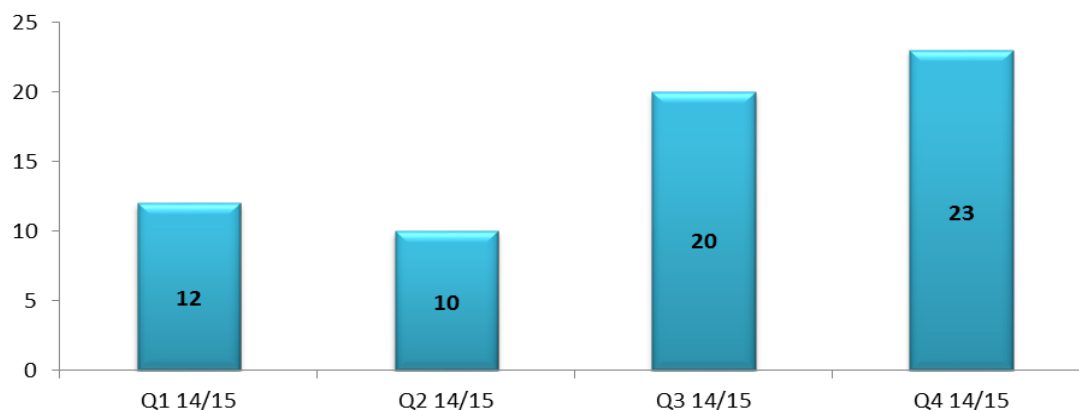


Looking at the period from Q1 2012/13 there were 235 incidences of LAC being recorded on the last day of a quarter. This relates to 96 individuals. 52 individual young people account for the 98 incidences of young people being recorded as LAC on the last day of each quarter this year.

2.8 Young People Held Overnight in Police Custody

The chart below shows quarter by quarter the number of incidences of young people being held overnight.

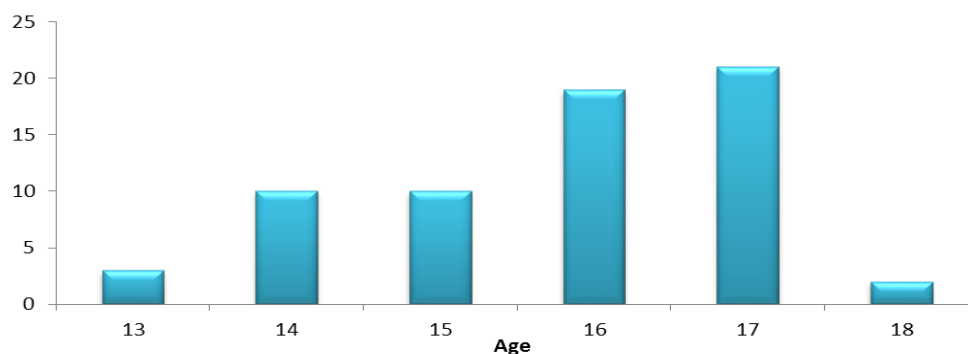
Held Overnight



The total for 2014/15 was 65, although clearly the majority of these came in the last half of the year. 26 young people have been held overnight just once since April 1st 2014, however 12 have been held more than once, with two young people being held on six separate occasions each. In Q4 one young person was held overnight on four separate occasions. 88% of those young people held overnight have been males.

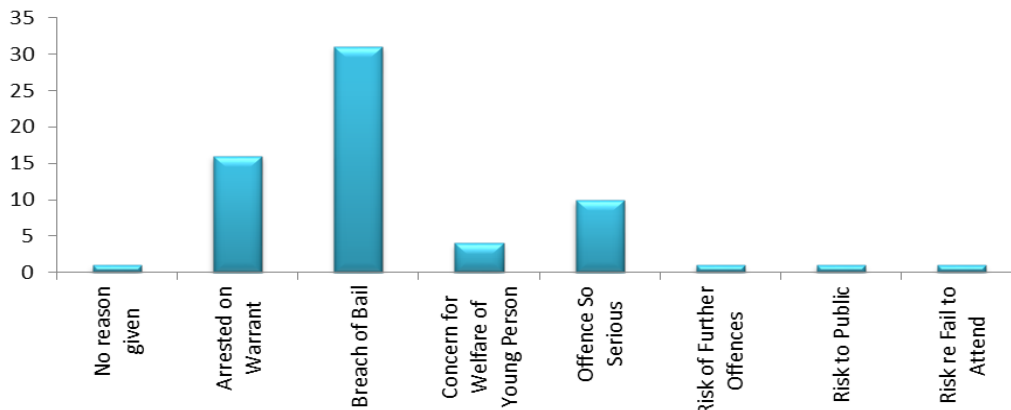
The age breakdown of young people being held overnight shows that the majority of incidents are for young people aged 17, Whilst there were nearly as many incidents for 16 year olds, this only relates to eleven young people, as five young people were held on multiple occasions, one 16 year old being held five times.

Age Breakdown 2014/15



The chart below shows the reasons recorded for a young person being held overnight.

Reasons 2014/15



The decision to hold the young person overnight is most often due to the young person either breaching their bail conditions or because a warrant has been issued for their arrest. However 10 incidents were due to the seriousness of the offence the young person had committed. One young person was held overnight without the police giving any reason for doing so.

3. National developments

3.1 There continues to be significant changes to and influences on the work of the Youth Offending Team both locally and nationally. The pace of change now appears to have slowed, allowing the YOT to embed these changes and to ensure that the quality of service and performance remains high.

3.2 The LASPO (Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders) Act was passed in May 2012, with a number of the provisions within the Act coming into force in December 2012. This included the introduction of the single remand order with the status of 'looked after child' being applied to all young people on remand. Further provisions, including the changes to the out of court disposal, came into force in April 2013. These changes have now been embedded into the day to day practice of the YOT. The impact continues to be monitored through the Chief officers Group. In addition, there is now an elected Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in Sussex and a significant proportion of funding that previously went directly to the Youth Offending Team has now be allocated to the PCC office. The PCC has continued to support the work of the YOT and has agreed that the same level of funding for 2015/6 will continue to be allocated.

4. Inspection and Peer Review

4.1 The current arrangements for inspection of Youth Offending Teams remain with Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). There have been no individual inspections of the YOT in 2014/15. The majority of YOTs have now received an inspection under this regime and HMIP has stated that they aim to inspect every YOT within this period. It is therefore highly likely the East Sussex YOT will receive a Short Quality Screening inspection within the next year.

HMIP has been reviewing their inspection methodology to focus more on the outcomes achieved for children and young people as a result of youth justice interventions and are in the process of consulting on this. There are no plans to change the current arrangements for the thematic inspections. In 2014/15 there were thematic inspection reports published on Girls and Young Women who have offended, on Troubled Families and on the Resettlement of Children and Young People from Custody. These national reports are discussed at the

Chief Officers Group COG) and the learning and recommendations are considered alongside the review of the current arrangements within East Sussex. The learning from this process is then incorporated into the YOT plan and considered within the priorities for the YOT.

ES YOT was involved in the fieldwork for the thematic inspection on the Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incident Procedures and Desistence. A number of YOTs were involved in this fieldwork and the final written reports will not single out the work of East Sussex specifically. We did receive some initial verbal feedback which was in the main very positive. They stated that they saw real energy, creativity and commitment within the staff team and there were good outcomes evident in the majority of cases with progress that was quantifiable and measurable. There were also some points of learning around management oversight being evident on files and some queries over risk levels in a couple of cases. These will be incorporated into the work plan and the quality assurance processes within the YOT with progress reported to the COG.

ES YOT hosted a Youth Justice Peer Review (YJPR) in February 2015. The primary purpose of a YJPR is to help a YOT and its partners identify strengths and any areas for potential improvement. Following discussion at the COG, the focus of the review was:

- Governance and strategic oversight
- Quality of partnerships
- Effectiveness of the current YOT structure
- Effectiveness of the risk led approach to case management
- Quality & effectiveness of management oversight
- Effectiveness of case transfer between functions within the YOT

This was a useful process and the feedback was very positive, with East Sussex considered to be a strong YOT. The YOT is performing well overall, with strong governance and leadership. The new practice management group is still forming but provide practice oversight and drive service improvement through effective shared management. Nevertheless learning from the YJPR feedback may help to embed the changes introduced in 2013/14 and to improve performance still further. The learning from this has been incorporated into the overall work plan of the YOT.

5. Local developments

5.1 Structure

The implementation of a new structure in the YOT is now complete with a full complement of managers within the YOT Management Team since the recruitment of a new practice manager in June 2014. This has enabled the team to progress well. Changes within the senior management structure within ESCC Children's Services, have resulted in a move for the YOT to the Assistant Director for Safeguarding, LAC and Youth Justice. The good working relationship between Targeted Youth Support and the YOT continues as this is essential in maintaining the reduction to first time entrants and for exit strategies for YOT service users.

5.2 Looked After Children

There continues to be progress in the work to reduce the prosecution and criminalisation of LAC. The Pan Sussex Protocol was reviewed last year, and there is further work underway to ensure this protocol is fully operational. The standards and guidance in the protocol act as

a framework for ensuring best practice for dealing with LAC across Sussex. In addition to this, East Sussex remains involved in the wider regional work across the South East and is a signatory to the South East regional protocol. The shared principals in the protocol include avoiding unnecessary criminalisation; ensuring informed decision making; effective information sharing across services and boundaries; reparation of harm and ensuring the needs of victims are reflected; restorative justice principles; equity for young people placed out of area; and young people to be placed in home authority wherever possible.

5.3 Resettlement

There continue to be low numbers of young people sentenced to custody in East Sussex. This however remains a key area of work as these young people are the most complex and attaining good outcomes is challenging. This cohort is also the most likely to reoffend and are likely to be the most costly due to expensive interventions and potential remands. The YOTs across the South of the Thames region meet regularly with the secure estate (Cookham Wood YOI and Medway STC) to look at ways in which the resettlement arrangements across the region are effective and consistent. The group have looked at the recommendations of the recent thematic inspection. An audit of the resettlement work across the region is currently being undertaken to inform future development. Regional training has also been organised to improve practice in this area. The Pan Sussex YMCA Raising Your Potential Project also supports this area of work.

5.4 Assessment and Intervention

The quality of the delivery of work with young people continues to be a key focus. Integrated Intervention Plans are now being used consistently and there has been an improvement in the quality of the plans. Training was delivered last year to improve risk assessment and planning. Roll out of a new and more holistic YJB framework will be implemented.

5.5 Family Work

The development of family work within the YOT has progressed well and the team are now more confident and consistent in the delivery of whole family interventions. Links between the YOT and the Troubled Families agenda have been strengthened. The YOT was successful in securing some funding to develop the family key work model within the YOT. This work is still being rolled out and embedded and it will enable the YOT to offer families support following the end of the young person's court order, aimed at supporting young people not to reoffend. The Functional Family Therapy (FFT) project has now been delivered in East Sussex for a couple of years. FFT delivers an evidence based therapeutic intervention by trained systemic family therapists. . The FFT project was originally targeted at young people assessed as being at risk of custody but following the lead of colleagues in Brighton and Hove we have now extended the remit of this project to include young people on the edge of care. There are measures in place to evaluate the success of this project; it is still too early to say whether it has been effective with this client group in East Sussex, however initial indications are very positive.

5.6 Liaison and Diversion Scheme.

The YOT continues to support the implementation and development of the Pan Sussex Liaison and Diversion Scheme in partnership with Probation, Health and the Police. The scheme provides nurse assessments and signposting in police custody cells and focuses on mental health, learning disability and substance misuse issues. The scheme has been particularly helpful where there have been concerns around the vulnerability of particular young people in the cells. There is now a Youth Strand to the work that has brought extra capacity for early assessment from CAMHS nurses and a Speech and Language Therapist.

We have also been able to provide speech language and communication training jointly to the YOT and Police staff groups.

5.7 Local Critical Learning Reviews

There was only one serious incident which met the criteria for formal notification to the YJB in 2014/15. There was a significant increase in the numbers of serious incidents in 2012/13, but in the last two year the number has reverted to the previous low level. The incident has been reviewed in line with the new YJB operating procedures for community safeguarding and public protection incidents. There were no significant concerns found during the review, though there were actions that, with hindsight, would have improved practice. The outcomes of any future reviews will now be overseen by the LSCB QA Sub Group. In addition all new review reports will now go to the LSCB QA Sub group to be quality assured to ensure there is a multi agency ownership and oversight of any practice issues. The YOT manager sits on the East Sussex LSCB and has completed a Section 11 audit for the YOT to ensure safeguarding arrangements are sufficiently robust.

5.8 Links with Children's Services

Good working relationships with Children's Social Care are crucial to underpin the introduction of LASPO and the resulting change that all young people remanded now receive Looked After status. Operational systems have been set up to ensure that there are good partnership working arrangements in place to ensure the statutory requirements are met and the young people receive a good service that meets their needs. In addition, the homeless protocol between the YOT and Children's Services has been reviewed and new systems will be implemented to ensure an improved response, although suitable housing options do remain a challenge. . The YOT is also one of the partner agencies involved in the delivery of the Complex Case Planning process and is working with partners to explore how the use of the single plan approach can be extended.

5.9 Child Sexual Exploitation

The YOT is also contributing to the Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Strategy for East Sussex. There are clear CSE referral pathways in place to ensure that YOT clients receive the relevant service where necessary. The YOT staff team are also required to attend the training available to ensure they are confident in recognising the signs and in feeding in information to the police where appropriate. The YOT are now developing protocols and operational procedures to ensure the arrangements are robust and complement the wider work in East Sussex.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Performance within the East Sussex YOT continues to be strong and there continues to be a healthy and committed multi agency partnership that delivers this, overseen by the Chief Officers Group. However a continued focus on suitable accommodation options for young people will be a particular challenge going forward.

6.2 External peer review and the YJB thematic Desistance Inspection have both confirmed that the YOT is functioning well.