



Report To:	JOINT MEETING OF EXECUTIVE CABINET AND OVERVIEW (AUDIT) PANEL
Date:	10 February 2016
Executive Member / Scrutiny Panel:	Councillor Peter Robinson, Executive Member (Children and Families) Councillor Gillian Peet, Chair to People Scrutiny Panel
Subject:	REVIEW OF THE DELIVERY OF YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICES IN TAMESIDE
Report Summary:	The Chair to People Scrutiny Panel to comment on the Executive Response (Appendix 1) dated August 2015 to the Scrutiny review of the delivery of Youth Offending Services in Tameside the recommendations to support future services detailed in section 9 of report (Appendix 2).
Recommendations:	That the Overview (Audit) Panel note the recommendations detailed in section 9 of Appendix 2 .
Links to Community Strategy:	This review supports the Community Strategy priority 'Supportive Tameside' but also recognises links across all Community Strategy areas.
Policy Implications:	The review itself has no specific policy implications. Should the recommendations of this report be accepted by the Tameside Council's Executive, the relevant services will need to assess the policy implications of putting individual recommendations in place.
Financial Implications: (Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)	<p>The Youth Offending Service is significantly grant funded (82%) by the Youth Justice Board. A total grant sum of £ 0.629 million has been allocated to the Council in 2015/16. The service is also financed by an additional sum of £ 0.136 million Council funding. The majority of grant funding received relates to a core grant to deliver the service (£0.504 million in 2015/16). It should be noted that this sum was reduced by 17% when compared to the level of grant received in 2014/15.</p> <p>The Council awaits confirmation of 2016/17 Youth Justice Board grant allocations. However it is expected that further reductions will be implemented when compared to 2015/16 allocations.</p> <p>Appropriate strategies and proposals should be available for immediate implementation should this be the case to ensure current levels of expenditure are also reduced accordingly.</p>
Legal Implications: (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)	It is important that scrutiny reports are considered expediently to ensure that any recommendations are implemented promptly.
Risk Management:	Reports of Scrutiny Panels are integral to processes which exist to hold the Executive of the authority to account.
Access to Information:	The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Paul Radcliffe by:

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APPENDIX 1**Post Scrutiny - Executive Response****In Respect of:** Scrutiny Review of the Delivery of Youth Offending Services in Tameside**Date:** 4 August 2015**Executive Member:** Councillor Robinson (Children and Families)**Coordinating Officers:** Dominic Tumelty, Assistant Executive Director, Children's Services

Recommendations	Accepted/ Rejected	Executive Response	Officer Responsible	Action By (Date)
1. That the Council and partners look to develop a Youth Offending Strategy which sets out a clear vision for integration across a range of services in Tameside.	Accepted	The YOT produces a Youth Justice Plan each year; the 2015-2016 plan was submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) on 30 th August and includes plans for a clearer integration with a range of services. The plan sets out objectives for the forthcoming year in relation to our key priorities: reduction in first time entrants; reduction in re-offending; reduction in the use of custody; effective safeguarding and effective public protection. The plan forms part of the conditions of grant from the YJB and once approved by both the YJB and the YOT Management Board, will be made available via the website. The YOT Management Board consists of a broad range of representatives from key partner agencies, including the statutory partners of Police, Children Social Care, Health, Education and Probation.	Sally Dickin	Completed

<p>2. That the Council closely monitor reoffending rates in Tameside and work with partners to explore new ways to actively reduce re-offending.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The YJB has developed a reoffending tracker toolkit that was launched in Tameside in September. This toolkit will enable the YOT to monitor re-offending in a more timely way as it will produce up to date data that can be responded to more readily. Previous data on re-offending has always been after a significant time lag, resulting in information being out of date when received. With the new toolkit the YOT will be able to identify and respond to any trends or themes as they emerge to further reduce re-offending. The data produced will be scrutinised by the YOT management team and where necessary raised with the management board.</p>	<p>Sally Dickin</p>	<p>1.12.15 & Ongoing</p>
<p>3. To explore how the increased volume of diversion work will impact on capacity within the service and wider integration opportunities.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Currently being explored in the wake of the announcement of further funding cuts from the YJB; links to 1 and the need to work in a more integrated manner.</p>	<p>Sally Dickin</p>	<p>1.12.15</p>
<p>4. To identify any increases in the number of female youth offenders in Tameside and the impact this may have on staff training needs.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>A working with girls training programme has been rolled out across the GM YOT's and several Tameside staff have attended and cascaded the learning to other team members. A GM wide policy on working with girls has been agreed and Tameside are monitoring the volume of girls that enter the system.</p>	<p>Sally Dickin</p>	<p>Completed & Ongoing</p>
<p>5. That the YOT is best positioned within a model of early intervention and prevention across Early Years, Troubled Families, Education and Stronger Communities.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The AED will consider this recommendation as part of the review and design of the services to ensure a joined up approach for our young people. This is not without significant challenge given the efficiency savings that children's services are facing and at a time when cuts to service are inevitable. However the pivotal role that YOT are able to play in preventing young people from getting into trouble, supporting school attendance and reducing anti-social behaviour is</p>	<p>Dominic Tumelty</p>	<p>January 2016</p>

		recognised. The review of services will give opportunity to ensure that there is no duplication and that the right young people are effectively targeted.		
6. For the YOT to strengthen links with schools and the Pupil Referral Service in relation to social education, offending behaviour and the decision making process for exclusions.	Accepted	The YOT Head of Service has met with the new principle of the PRU and accepted an invitation to join the PRU management committee. The YOT already work closely with the PRU but there are opportunities to strengthen this area of work with the purpose of increasing the numbers of young people who remain in education. The YOT has worked with the PRU to develop an additional training opportunity for young people and intends to influence and inform services for young people in the future.	Dominic Tumelty	January 2016
7. For the YOT to inform and influence packages of support and short term interventions for children and families where behaviour patterns are emerging.	Accepted	Ongoing and through links with other partner agencies. The YOT is currently identifying opportunities that can be created for the service to play a key role within the early help and prevention agenda.	Sally Dickin	Ongoing

APPENDIX 2

1. INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIR OF THE SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL

- 1.1 I am pleased to present this report of a review undertaken by the Supporting People and Resources Scrutiny Panel of the Delivery of Youth Offending Services in Tameside.
- 1.2 Each local authority in England and Wales has its own form of Youth Offending Team which creates a strong partnership approach towards the management and delivery of youth offending services at a local level. The multi-disciplined team is made up of staff from Social Services, Police, Probation, Education and Health.
- 1.3 The youth justice system works to prevent offending and re-offending carried out by young people under the age of 18. It is different to the adult system and structured to address the needs of youth offenders.
- 1.4 Not only is it more cost effective to be proactive in crime prevention it can also be beneficial to the young person in question. Often a variety of factors will need to be addressed, such as leaving education, home life or having parents and other family members who have offended.
- 1.5 In Tameside it is important that work is undertaken to identify and manage the risk of offending behaviour and actively aim to reduce the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system.
- 1.6 In order for the most appropriate interventions to take place it is important that time is taken to understand the complexity and range of issues. By making the best use of available intelligence, resources and skills services can work towards a clear vision of improved outcomes for young people and families in the borough.
- 1.7 The Council has a role to play in developing a youth offending offer based on local need. This includes exploring the best ways to deliver services and develop wider support through early intervention and prevention.
- 1.8 On behalf of the Supporting People and Resources Scrutiny Panel, I would like to thank all those who have participated in this review.

Councillor Gillian Peet
Chair of the Supporting People and Resources Scrutiny Panel

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 There is a clear aim to improve the sustainability of youth offending outcomes in Tameside and actively reduce the impact that offending and reoffending has on local communities. Moving towards a delivery model that focuses on early intervention and prevention will help identify young people at risk of offending for the first time.
- 2.2 Given the challenges faced by a range of services it is important that a whole system and family approach is adopted. It is important for services to utilise all available intelligence and information to influence the way decisions are made, taking the best interests of the young person into account and raising aspirations.

3. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PANEL – 2014/15

Councillor Peet (Chair), Councillor Bowden (Deputy Chair).
Councillors Ballagher, Beeley, P Fitzpatrick, R Miah, Roberts, Ryan, Shember-Critchley, Sidebottom, F Travis, Wild

Mrs L Aspin (Roman Catholic Church)
Mrs S Marsh (Church of England)
Mr N Ahmed (Muslim Faith)
Mrs T N Sharma (Hindu Faith)
Mrs A Gregory (Parent Governor)
Mr M Osmond (Parent Governor)

4. TERMS OF REFERENCE

Aim of the Review

- 4.1 To produce workable recommendations for the Council to deliver a more integrated and cohesive approach to delivering Youth Offending Services and improving outcomes for children and young people in Tameside.

Objectives

- 4.2
1. To explore the way that youth offending services are delivered in Tameside
 2. To understand the changing landscape of the youth justice system
 3. To examine the work that is undertaken to prevent children and young people entering the youth justice system
 4. To compare working practices and performance outcomes with other areas in relation to pre-court interventions and reoffending rates
 5. To explore the benefits that can be achieved by adopting a more integrated approach towards early intervention and prevention
 6. To understand the role of schools and Pupil Referral Unit with young people who offend

Value for Money/Use of Resources

- 4.3 It is important that children and young people in Tameside are supported and receive the necessary levels of support. It is essential that the Council, partners and schools are working collaboratively to improve outcomes and develop effective strategies aimed at early intervention and prevention work to reduce the number of young people entering the youth justice system and to improve re-offending rates.

Equalities Issues

- 4.4 Youth offending can impact on all sections of Tameside's communities. The review will consider strategies that lead to positive and inclusive environments so that children and young people from all backgrounds receive the necessary support to improve future outcomes.

People and Place Scorecard

- 4.5 The following targets from the People and Place Scorecard relate to delivery of youth offending services.

Strong Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Victim based crimes (per 1000 population)• Re-offending
Youth Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• % of young people (aged 16-18) not in education, employment or Training (NEET)
Schools & Attainment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permanent Exclusions (Primary)• Permanent Exclusions (Secondary)

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 The working group met Stephanie Butterworth, Executive Director - People; Dominic Tumelty, Assistant Executive Director, Children's Services; and Sally Dickin, Head of Service to receive an overview of Youth Offending Services in Tameside.
- 5.2 The working group met with Sally Dickin, Head of Service; Gary Morement, Probation Officer; Kerry Glennie, YOT Practitioner; and Amanda Smith, YOT Practitioner to further explore the range of work and support that is undertaken.
- 5.3 The working group met with Sally Dickin, Head of Service; and Emma Varnam, Head of Stronger Communities to look at the role of Neighbourhood and Community Services in developing a more integrated approach towards improving youth offending outcomes.
- 5.4 The working group met with Sally Dickin, Head of Service; and Jane Forrest, Head of Strategy and Early Intervention to explore the range of collaborative work that is undertaken to prevent offending.
- 5.5 The group met with Brian Collier, Interim Principal at Tameside Pupil Referral Service to explore the role of the service in supporting young people in education and improving youth offending outcomes.

6. BACKGROUND TO THE REVIEW

- 6.1 The Youth Custody Report (April 2015) showed a total of 999 young people under the age of 18 in custody nationally. While a range of information sources show that fewer young people are committing crimes it is important that the incidence of reoffending is reduced.
- 6.2 There are two distinct elements of youth offending that require attention both locally and nationally. The first is to explore new ways of working to engage young people, families and communities earlier to prevent children from committing crime in the first instance. The second is to ensure that effective support is in place with regards to employment, education and training to reduce the number of young people that re-offend.
- 6.3 With the redesign of Children's Services it is important that youth offending strategies are effective and different ways of working are explored to improve outcomes. The review will look at current approaches and options available for the future delivery youth offending services in Tameside.

7. REVIEW FINDINGS

Requirements

- 7.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the co-operation of the named statutory partners to form a Youth Offending Team (YOT) and places a duty for partners to co-operate in order to secure youth justice services appropriate to their area.
- 7.2 Statutory partners are identified as the local authority, Police, Probation, Education and Health Services. However, membership of the YOT is not limited to these representatives and could include substance misuse workers and specialist staff in the production of management information.
- 7.3 In order for services to be as effective and responsive as possible the act does not prescribe service delivery at a local level. There are however two principal statutory functions assigned to each YOT. These are:

- To co-ordinate the provision of youth justice services for all those in the authority's area who need them.
- To carry out such functions assigned in the youth justice plan formulated by the local authority.

7.4 The term YOT is generic and across the country many are now called Youth Offending Services. A number are referred to as Youth Justice Services and a handful have been rebranded to Youth Support Services, or similar. Regardless of the name the YOT must be recognisable and provide the main supervisory elements:

- Assessment of young people who have offended along with the management of risk and safeguarding issues.
- Supervision of young people who have been remanded to custody and those requiring support in the community, as directed by court.
- Provision on pre-court interventions.
- Supervision of young people who have been given court orders which are to be managed in the community. This also includes the provision of a lay youth panel to discharge the responsibilities of Referral Orders.
- Sentence planning for young people in custody and supervision of them on release.

Changing Landscape

7.5 During recent years there has been a significant shift in the workload of the YOT with increased focus on working with young people at the pre-court stage. This is due to a change in legislations and a shift to ensure that only those young people with more entrenched offending behaviour are being put before the youth court.

7.6 The success of the YOT model relies on the ability to adjust the role and reach of the service to meet local need. This landscape spans many aspects of criminal justice and social care which are inevitably subject to change and reform as a result of national or local drivers. Within this context, the YOT partnership needs to have clear lines of accountability back to overarching parent bodies for community safety and Children's Services.

7.7 Despite the range of events and increased focus being placed on areas of Children's Services such as Troubled Families and Child Sexual Exploitation, it is important to remember that the legal requirements placed on the local authority and partners to form a YOT have not changed. Across local authorities it is becoming increasingly important for YOTs to become established within family and community intervention models.

Conclusions

1. Pre-court interventions are aimed at ensuring that only young people with entrenched criminal behaviour will appear before the courts.
2. There is a growing need for YOTs to have a clear vision and ensure they are best positioned to influence and improve outcomes across a range of services.

Recommendations

1. That the Council and partners look to develop a Youth Offending Strategy which sets out a clear vision for integration across a range of services in Tameside.

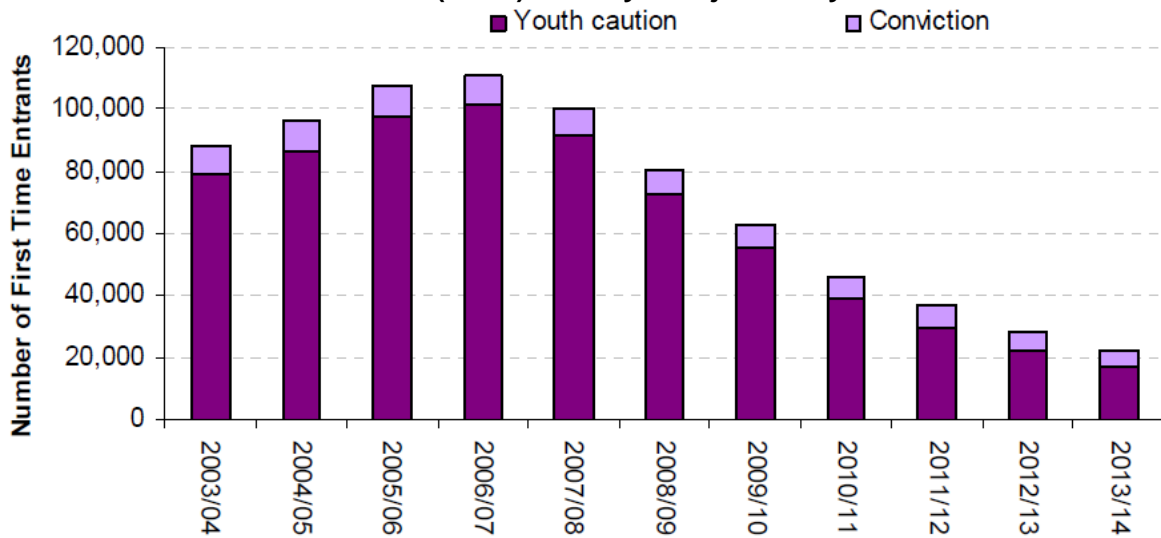
National Picture

7.8 Youth offending outcomes are monitored nationally across all local authority areas. Whilst there are a variety of ways to track whether outcomes are improving there are three targets which are used to determine the effectiveness of each YOT. These are

- To reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system aged 10-17.
- To reduce offending and re-offending by children and young people.
- To reduce the use of custody for children and young people.

7.9 Nationally there is a trend that shows a reduction in first time entrants to the youth justice system. The chart below shows that in 2013/14 there was just over 22,000 first time entrants, which equates to a 20% reduction from 2012/13 and around 80% from 2006/7.

Chart 1: First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system 2003/4 to 2013/14

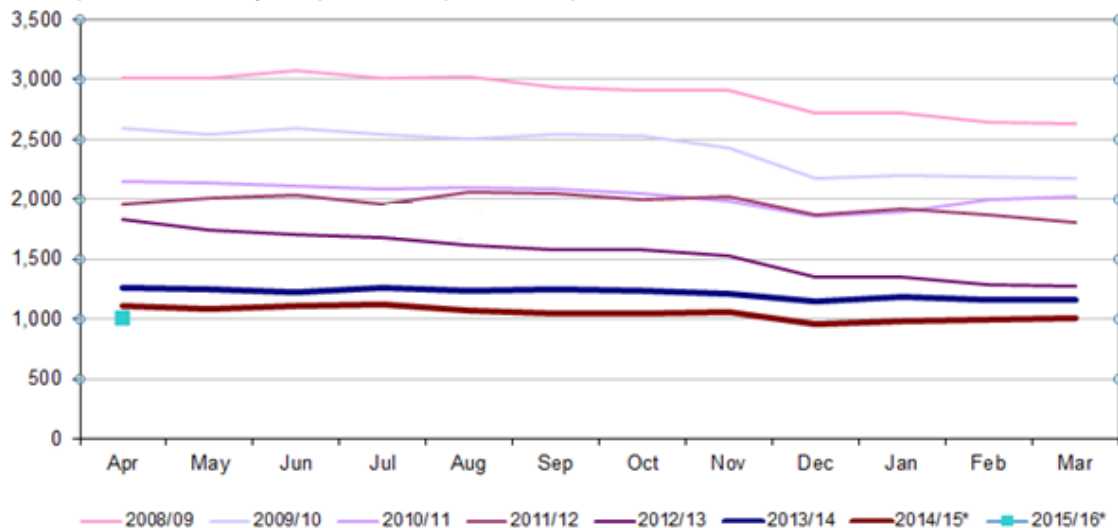


Source: Youth Justice Statistics 2013/14

7.10 With increased focus being placed on reducing the number of young people who commit crime, there is a direct correlation between first time entrants to the youth justice system and total numbers in custody.

7.11 The chart below shows the national custody population for young people under the age of 18. There is a reduction of two thirds over the period for the number of individuals in custody, falling from 3000 in 2008/9 to 999 in 2015.

Graph 1: Custody Population (under 18), 2008/9 to 2015



Source: Youth Custody Report, April 2015

7.12 The reduction in the number of young people receiving custodial sentences is mirrored in the local statistics. The positive outcomes have contributed to recent decisions to decommission of all the juvenile beds in HMYOI Hindley. This now means that young people from Tameside will be placed in HMYOI Wetherby which has potential to impact on the YOT, young people and their families in relation to ongoing support, contact and visiting.

7.13 With greater emphasis now placed on prevention methods and out-of-court disposals this requires YOTs to effectively address and combat the more entrenched criminal behaviour across the cohort of young people at a higher risk of re-offending.

7.14 The graph below shows the proportion of young people who re-offend. The frequency of re-offending remains a challenge nationally and work, which is ongoing, has been undertaken to try and understand this in more detail. Reduced rates of re-offending can be found amongst young people with no previous offences and who have been supported through out of court disposals.

Chart 2: National Statistics for the Proportion of Young People who Re-offend



Source: Youth Justice Statistics 2013/14

7.15 In 2002 over 130,000 young people formed the national reoffending cohort, by 2012/13 this had fallen by 61% to just over 52,000. This reduction now means that the average number of previous offences per offender has increased by almost the same percentage (62%). With reoffending becoming more prolific across a smaller number of offenders this now heightens the importance of a more targeted approach to support and intervention.

Conclusions

3. Prevention work that is undertaken to reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system has a significant impact in reducing the number of young people in custody.

4. Re-offending behaviour remains a challenge amongst a small cohort of offenders.

Recommendations

2. That the Council closely monitor reoffending rates in Tameside and works with partners to explore new ways to actively reduce re-offending.

3. To explore how the increased volume of diversion work will impact on capacity within the service and wider integration opportunities.

Local Picture

7.16 Tameside YOT follows national requirements in relation to the key objectives of reducing offending and re-offending; reducing first time entrants and reducing the use of custody. The demographics of young people coming into contact with the YOT are also in line with national and regional trends.

- 7.17 The table below provides a breakdown of the young people in Tameside who have become involved with the YOT from April 2014 to January 2015. The data refers to young people who have appeared before and been sentenced by the court.

Table 1: Young people subject to post court statutory intervention

Age	Number	%
10	0	0
11	0	0
12	0	0
13	14	8
14	17	10
15	39	23
16	47	28
17	50	30

Source: Tameside Youth Offending Service

- 7.18 It is clear to see from the table above that the majority of young people subject to post court statutory intervention from Tameside YOT are aged 15 to 17 years. Whilst there has been a national increase in the number of girls being sentenced by the court the service is still dominated by males at around 87%.

- 7.19 In Tameside there is a relatively even level of dispersion in relation to offending across all areas. The table below shows the number of young people that the YOT work with by area. The young people that have been categorised as 'other/out of area' includes looked after children placed in Tameside.

Table 2: Tameside YOT numbers by area

Geographical Area		
District	Number	%
Ashton-under-Lyne	34	20
Denton/Droylsden/Audenshaw	38	23
Hyde/Hattersley/Longdendale	19	11
Stalybridge/Dukinfield/Mossley	31	19
Other/Out of area	45	27

Source: Tameside Youth Offending Service

- 7.20 There is an effective Greater Manchester YOT partnership which promotes the sharing of information and enables local authorities to address any training needs. This also provides a platform for sharing of good practice and allows Tameside to explore new ways of working.

Conclusions

5. The YOT partnership provides access to training and best practice methods across Greater Manchester.

Recommendations

4. To identify any increases in the number of female youth offenders in Tameside and the impact this may have on staff training needs.

Delivering Services

- 7.21 Tameside YOT become involved in a young person's life if they:
- get in trouble with the Police or are arrested
 - are charged with a crime and have to go to court
 - are convicted of a crime and given a sentence

- 7.22 The Police are usually first to contact the YOT. However, family members and friends can contact the team if they have a particularly worry about the behaviour of a young person. It is also becoming increasingly important for the service to contact parents if any information is known about nuisance or anti-social behaviour to raise awareness of the support available.
- 7.23 The Assessment Team is primarily responsible for the case management functions of young people who are on court orders. This includes Referral Orders, Youth Rehabilitation Orders and Detention and Training Orders. Each member of this team manages a caseload of young people in line with the National Standards as set out by the Youth Justice Board.
- 7.24 Work is undertaken to complete assessments, prepare reports, plan interventions, deliver individual sessions with young people as well as attend court and child protection conferences. To improve outcomes a scaled approach is used in assessments to measure risk of reoffending and every sentence plan includes an employment, education and training element tailored to the individual.
- 7.25 Given the changing landscape in youth justice and the move away from putting young people before the court the volume of post court cases has reduced. This now leaves a cohort of young people with significant and complex offending behaviour.
- 7.26 The Programmes Team is responsible for the delivery of a broad range of services which includes the delivery of diversion work, out of court disposals, court cover for overnight arrests, appropriate adult functions, Intensive Supervision and Surveillance (ISS) and Saturday working.
- 7.27 ISS provides a targeted support package to offenders with more complex and challenging criminal behaviour. Individuals have a minimum of 25 hours contact with the service over a 7 day period to deliver a range of support to work on structure, interpersonal skills and offending behaviour. The majority of young people have been out of mainstream education for some time.
- 7.28 Within this team there are two members of staff who have specialist functions, one around the delivery of the ISS programme and one with responsibility for reparation projects and victim work. Over recent years there has been a significant increase in the amount of prevention work and the Council is experiencing a high volume of diversion and out of court disposal cases.
- 7.29 A Police Officer is seconded to the team and is involved with the administering of Youth Cautions and delivers interventions around knife crime to young people where this is deemed necessary. The bulk of their work centres on the Deter Young Offender (DYO) cohort and the sharing of information and intelligence on a real time basis with case managers.
- 7.30 The DYO group consists of around twenty young people who have been identified as presenting the greatest risk of re-offending. The Police Officer monitors all intelligence that the Police receive about the cohort of young people on a daily basis and this information supports YOT staff to manage the group as effectively as possible.
- 7.31 The seconded Police Officer conducts regular home visits to each of the young people on the cohort and engages with their parents/carers, as well as attending final pre-release meetings in custody and contributing to the overall risk management plans.
- 7.32 The health of the young people is a key priority, with a speech and language therapist and mental health practitioner positioned on Tameside's YOT. Both positions are grant funded from the Youth Justice Liaison and Diversion project and this is due to cease in March 2016. The funding is aimed to help identify and support any unmet health needs that could add to the risk of becoming involved with offending.

- 7.33 Research has shown that a significant percentage of young people within offending services have difficulty with communication and this can impact on their ability to achieve positive outcomes. The same can also be said for the incidence of mental health concerns amongst the YOT population and it is important that any needs are identified at the earliest opportunity.
- 7.34 The Health Team are currently working alongside the Police to ensure that, where appropriate, young people are diverted away from the court arena through the use of the mentally vulnerable offenders' panel. The seconded nurse post provides a specialist service across the YOT, with a number of young people having an unmet health need which requires treatment and access to a GP.
- 7.35 Tameside YOT works in close partnership with Greater Manchester Police and has created strong links that support the timely sharing of information about young people who offend. This enables both agencies to respond swiftly to any concerns raised and take appropriate action to try and prevent offending or re-offending. Shared information tends to focus on young people who are already on court orders and the DYO cohort.
- 7.36 The YOT currently receive referrals for diversionary work from a wide range of agencies, with a view to engage with the young people and divert them away from anti-social and offending behaviour before they formally enter the youth justice system. Options are also being explored to improve the way information is shared with Neighbourhood and Community Services for low level nuisance before escalating to anti-social and criminal behaviour.

Strengthening the Offer

- 7.37 There is a growing need across the Council to develop the way that services are delivered in a more joined up and systematic way to improve the long-term sustainability of outcomes. A number of services such as Social Care, Early Years and Neighbourhood Services that can be closely linked with youth offending.
- 7.38 It is important that information is shared and used to influence the way interventions are development. Integrating services and providing a comprehensive package for families can help address child development, education, family support, parenting and a range of neighbourhood issues.
- 7.39 There is a growing need for youth offending services to forge better links with education, forming part of the decision making process and improving social outcomes for children who are close to exclusion or have been excluded.
- 7.40 The development of the Public Service Hub in Denton is helping the Council to provide holistic support to children and families, bringing agencies together to ensure needs are being met at the earliest opportunity.
- 7.41 The Troubled Families Early Intervention Model has brought together partners to address issues much more up stream, looking at the family as a whole to determine what support is needed and preventing need from escalating. If a family is identified as requiring a lot of support they are assigned a key worker.

Conclusions

6. There is a clear need for information to be shared in order for service development and integration plans to be achieved.

7. Targeted work is undertaken as part of Intensive Supervision and Surveillance programme to help combat entrenched behaviour and re-offending.

8. Providing cross-service support is becoming increasingly essential in delivering effective

early intervention and prevention work.

Recommendations

5. That the YOT is best positioned within a model of early intervention and prevention across Early Years, Troubled Families, Education and Stronger Communities.

6. For the YOT to strengthen links with schools and the Pupil Referral Service in relation to social education, offending behaviour and the decision making process for exclusions.

7. For the YOT to inform and influence packages of support and short term interventions for children and families where behaviour patterns are emerging.

8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 Pre-court interventions are aimed at ensuring that only young people with entrenched criminal behaviour will appear before the courts.
- 8.2 There is a growing need for YOTs to have a clear vision and ensure they are best positioned to influence and improve outcomes across a range of services.
- 8.3 Prevention work that is undertaken to reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system has a significant impact in reducing the number of young people in custody.
- 8.4 Re-offending behaviour remains a challenge amongst a small cohort of offenders.
- 8.5 The YOT partnership provides access to training and best practice methods across Greater Manchester.
- 8.6 There is a clear need for information to be shared in order for service development and integration plans to be achieved
- 8.7 Targeted work is undertaken as part of Intensive Supervision and Surveillance programme to help combat entrenched behaviour and re-offending.
- 8.8 Providing cross-service support is becoming increasingly essential in delivering effective early intervention and prevention work.

9.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 That the Council and partners look to develop a Youth Offending Strategy which sets out a clear vision for integration across a range of services in Tameside.
- 9.2 That the Council closely monitor reoffending rates in Tameside and work with partners to explore new ways to actively reduce re-offending.
- 9.3 To explore how the increased volume of diversion work will impact on capacity within the service and wider integration opportunities.
- 9.4 To identify any increases in the number of female youth offenders in Tameside and the impact this may have on staff training needs.
- 9.5 That the YOT is best positioned within a model of early intervention and prevention across Early Years, Troubled Families, Education and Stronger Communities.

- 9.6 For the YOT to strengthen links with schools and the Pupil Referral Service in relation to social education, offending behaviour and the decision making process for exclusions.
- 9.7 For the YOT to inform and influence packages of support and short term interventions for children and families where behaviour patterns are emerging.