

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Board

3rd November 2016

Report of the Director of Social Services Health and Housing– Nick Jarman

Matter for Information

Wards Affected:

All wards

Western Bay Youth Offending Board Quarter 1 Data Report

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide an overview of performance during the period April 2016 to June 2016 against the Youth Justice Boards key performance indicators.

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 Numbers reported to the Youth Justice Board for monitoring purposes continue to fall. However, the diversion work which is captured within the Welsh Government monitoring return continues to increase.
- 2.2 The report concentrates on information provided to the Youth Justice Board but makes reference to the Welsh government returns to reassure the Board that the early intervention work not reported to the Youth Justice Board is of a high quality. The report contains Western Bay performance plus Neath Port Talbot specific data where possible.
- 2.3 Overall good performance is sustained but there are areas we need to continue to improve which are highlighted in the report below.

3. Background

- 3.1 Youth Offending Services/Teams (YOS/Ts) are statutory multi-agency partnerships who have a legal duty to co-operate in order to secure youth justice services appropriate to their area funded from a variety of sources including UK Government, Welsh Government and the statutory partners. (i.e. the Local Authority, Police, the National Probation Service and Health).
- 3.2 Bridgend, Neath Port Talbot and Swansea Youth Offending Teams has been a merged service since 29th May 2014. The management board is chaired by the Neath Port Talbot Director of Social Services, Health and Housing and has a membership in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act including Cabinet Members from all three local authorities.
- 3.3 The service reports on the following youth justice indicators:
- Reduction in first time entrants
 - Reduction in reoffending
 - Reduction in the use of custody
 - Access to education training and employment
 - Access to substance misuse services
 - Access to suitable accommodation
 - Access to mental health services

4. The summary of performance:

- 4.1 Reducing First Time Entrants – Year on year the three locality teams have driven down the number of children and young people entering the youth justice system. During 2015/16 109 children and young people met the criteria to be considered first time entrants. Of the 109, 26 children and young people were from Neath Port Talbot. This quarter there has been a 4.8% decrease in the number FTEs when comparing April 2015/ March 2016 to April 2014/ March 2015 (a reduction of five against the previous year). This is in comparison with a 1.2% increase in South Wales and an 8.5% decrease across Wales. 18 young people have been recorded locally as entering the system this quarter, five are from NPT. The data that is reported by the YJB is directly from the Police National Computer and provided as a Western Bay only figure.

- 4.2 The work to reduce First Time Entrants does not stand still. The Board will be aware of the efforts made by the service to reduce the number of children and young people entering the system with Looked After status. The latest development is a pilot due to be run from 1st December, run between the Police NPT locality team and Hillside. The aim of the pilot is to reduce the number of children and young people being arrested as a result of their challenging behavior and management problems within the unit. The pilot provides a three tier response to incidents that may be identified as a criminal offence. The pilot will be evaluated and inform an overarching protocol to be rolled out across Western Bay.
- 4.3 136 children and young people have been diverted away from the Youth Justice system across Western Bay in the first six months of this year through early intervention.
- 4.4 Reducing reoffending – This remains a challenge as the number within the court cohort reduces. Regarding re-offences per offender an increase from 3.10 to 3.54 has been reported by Western Bay for the comparison period October/ September 2013/14 against October/September 2012/13. South Wales are reporting an increase from 3.04 to 3.40 and Wales is reporting an increase from 2.88 to 3.34
- 4.5 The binary rate has increased from 38.0% to 46.5% when comparing October to September 2013/14 against October to September 2012/13. The binary rate for South Wales has increased from 43.7% to 44.9% and for Wales the rate has decreased from 40.4% to 40.0%. As with the FTE figure, the YJB take the measurement directly from the PNC and it is reported as a WB figure only. Currently we do not have the local information available to report reoffending for NPT alone. The table below breaks the percentage down in numbers.

Dates	Cohort numbers	Reoffenders	Reoffences	Binary Rate	Frequency Rate
Oct 2012 – Sept 2013	300	114	353	38.0%	3.10
Oct 2013 – Sept 2014	230	107	379	46.5%	3.54

- 4.6 In order to address this area we have requested support from YJB Cymru in relation to specific improvement work around reoffending through a “deep dive” exercise. The aim of the exercise is to examine the work being done with this group of young people across all agencies involved, identify lessons to learn and practice to build on. We are also looking to engage with the YJB and SW Police and Crime Commissioner to adopt the Enhanced Case Management system and Adverse Childhood Experience models for addressing offending behaviour.
- 4.7 Reducing the use of custody – Western Bay had a total of 4 custodial disposals during April to June 2016 compared to 3 for the same period 2014 / 15. Western Bay had a total of 13 custodial disposals during April 2015 to March 2016 compared to 15 for the same period 2014 / 15. None of the young people sentenced to custody in the first quarter are from NPT, however there is a young person remanded to Hillside from NPT for offences of a serious nature. There is a need to continue to work with the courts to ensure that the use of custody is absolutely the last resort.
- 4.9 Access to services are Wales only KPI's. Engagement in education training and employment for both statutory and above statutory school age children and young people in quarter 1 were both below the minimum required hours across WB. The average hours being offered to school age young people was 20.4 at the start, 18.4 at review and 21.4 at the end. I can confirm that the information contained in the quarter 2 submission but yet to be verified shows an increase in hours attended in NPT to an average of 24 hours by the end of the order (Welsh minimum requirement being 25 hours) and 17 hours for post school age (Welsh minimum requirement being 16 hours). The Western Bay figures improved to 22.3 being offered at the end of the order for school age children and 19.4 for post school age. The service continues to monitor this area with a report on the use of reduced timetables for children open to the service going to the Management Board in November.
- 4.10 Quarter one data shows 100% of young people as being in suitable accommodation at the beginning of their intervention and 100% at the end. This measure is limited and we are aware that it does not reflect the full story of where the young person may have been staying in between the start and end dates of orders.
- 4.11 Substance misuse services have been accessed in a timely fashion for all young people assessed as in need.

4.12 According to the quarter 1 figure twelve young people were identified across the region as needing further CAMHS assessment following initial screening; however nine of these were already in receipt of a service. The local data relating to the mental health measure is currently subject to analysis by the service which will inform a scoping exercise currently being undertaken by ABMU. It would be more beneficial to report on this measure at the end of the year so that the scoping information can be presented at the same time.

4.12 The information contained in this report is limited as it is early on in the year. Reoffending is most definitely the challenge the service faces across the region but there are clear plans in place to try to reduce this.

5. Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts associated with this report.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

None

7. Workforce Impacts

None

8. Legal Impacts

There are no legal impacts associated with this report.

9. Risk Management

There are no risk management issues associated with this report.

10. Consultation

There is no requirement under the Constitution for external consultation on this item.

11. Recommendations

That Members note the report.

Appendices

None

List of Background Papers

None.

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