

FORWARD

The purpose of Sunderland Youth Offending Service is to provide the youth justice provisions of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and meet the principal aim *'to prevent offending by children and young people'*.

The annual Youth Justice Plan sets out how Youth Justice Services will be delivered in Sunderland during 2005/6. This includes contextual information on levels of youth crime in Sunderland, the changing local strategic planning environment, youth justice services and resourcing arrangements as governed by the Chief Officer Management Board for the Youth Offending Service. It also reports on performance for 2004/5, our aims, aspirations and objectives for 2005/6.

The philosophy of Sunderland Youth Offending Service is to be high performing, leading in the development of policy and practice in youth justice. In the past year we have made a number of achievements which reflect this approach. These include:

- Achieving first place in the national Youth Offending Service performance tables.
- Leading in the development of a Youth Justice Board Accommodation strategy.
- Leading on the development of an overarching Prevention Strategy for Sunderland and implementing the 'Tackle It' prevention initiative to support young people at risk of offending.
- Being awarded the 'Young People Mean Business' Learning & Skills Council Award, for the YOS Restorative Justice scheme.
- Having a successful year with the media, with considerable positive coverage of the YOS Community Payback scheme, our contribution to anti-social behaviour initiatives and our use of volunteers.



Sunderland Youth Offending Service Manager and Policy & Performance Manager with the Youth Justice Plan against which the service achieved 1st Place in the national Youth Justice Board performance tables.

Vision for 2005/6

To reflect the changing and developing agendas of both the criminal justice service nationally and the provision of children's services locally Sunderland Youth Offending Service has identified our vision for 2005/6 as: -

Vision for 2005-2006

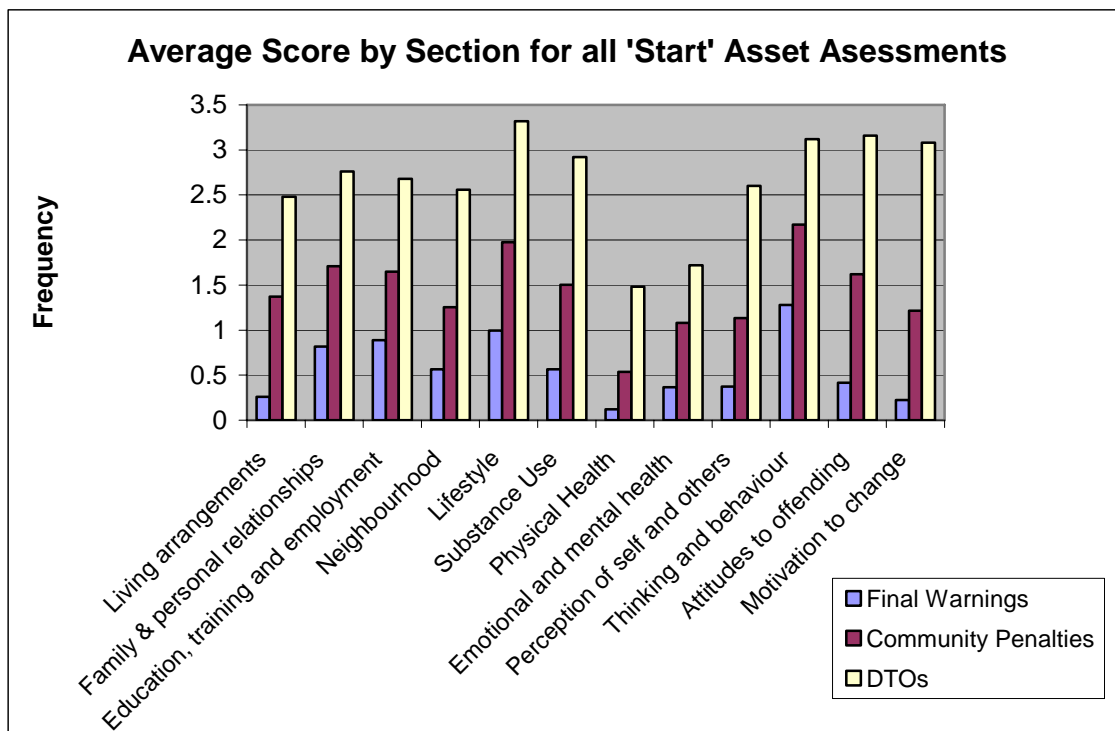
To build a safer Sunderland through the prevention and reduction of offending by children and young people by maintaining a central role in the criminal justice system whilst engaging with partners in the emerging Children's Trust.

Youth Offending in Sunderland

Sunderland is the largest City in England's North East Region with a population of almost 300,000, of which 30,664 are aged 10-17 years. Statistics for the financial year 2004/5 show:-

- There were 1574 children and young people who offended, representing 5% of the cities 10-17 population.
- 73% were male, 27% were female showing an increase in young female offenders from 23.5% in 2002/3
- 1.8% were young people from black and minority ethnic groups (BME) showing a slight increase from 1.3% in 2002/3.
- Of the cities 25 electorate wards the 10 wards with the highest concentration of young offenders usually resident were Pallion (7.9%), Hendon (7.6%), St Annes (6.1%), Castle (5.5%), Redhill (5.5%), Silksworth (5.2%), Washington North (5.2%) Sandhill (4.8%), Southwick (4.5%) and Ryhope (4.5%).
- The highest offence categories were theft & handling (18.4%), violence against person (16.4%), public order (15.7%), criminal damage (13.6%) and motoring (13.5%).
- Of the 1574 offenders there were 176 persistent young offenders

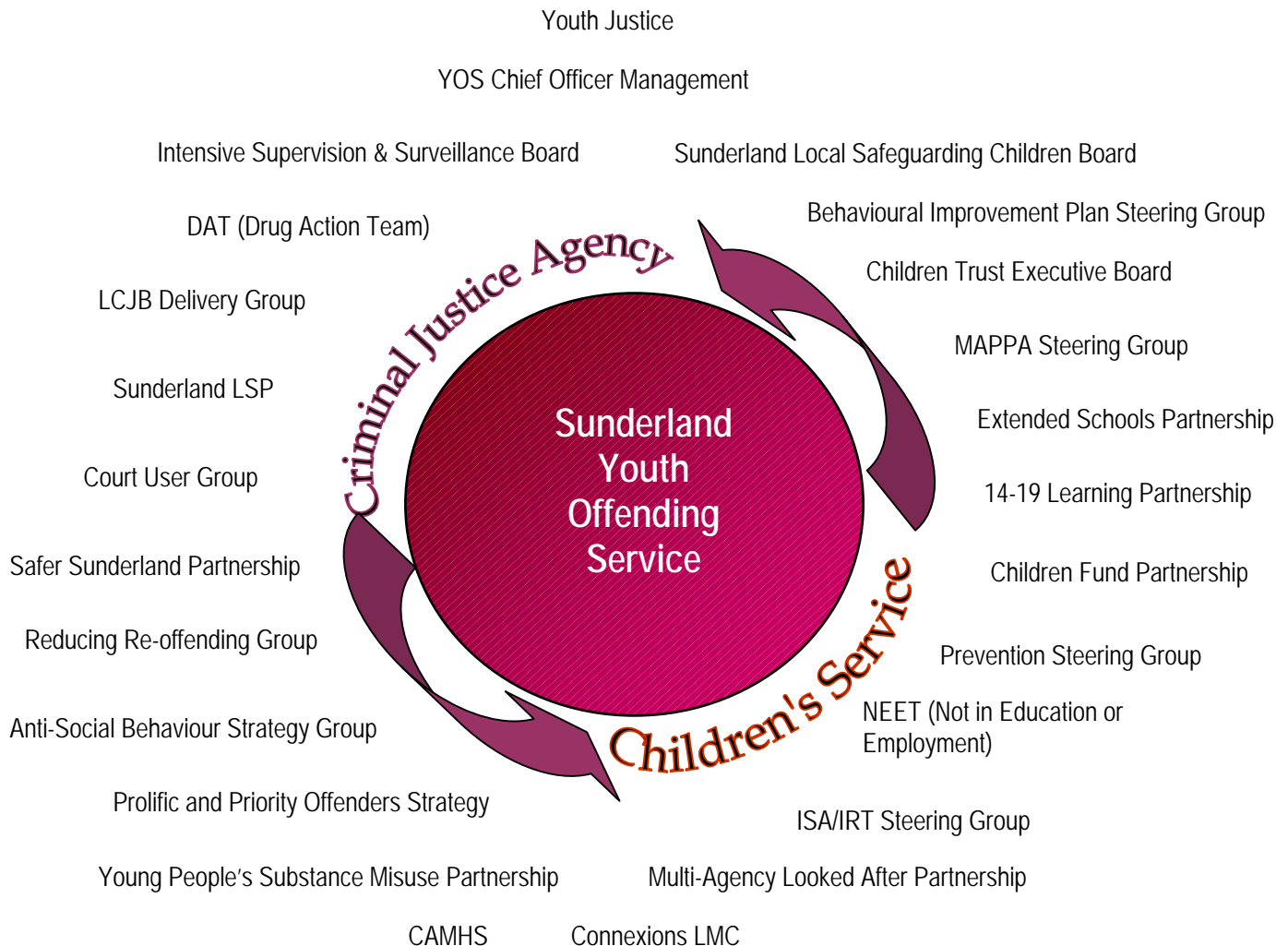
Analysis of assessment data for young people presenting to Sunderland Youth Offending Service shows the risks and needs of young offenders in Sunderland.



The chart shows a range of risk factors strongly associated with offending behaviour in children and young people including lifestyle, substance use, education, training and employment, family and personal relationships and other factors. Of most significance, however, the graphs illustrate that as young people progress through the offending hierarchy their risks and needs increase considerably. In light of this we have placed much emphasis on the YOS Prevention strategy as a priority development area for 2005-2006.

The Strategic Planning Environment

Sunderland Youth Offending Service has a dual role as both a criminal justice agency and as a children's service. Illustrated below is the range of local strategic partnerships and groups with which the Youth Offending Service engages, demonstrating our commitment to partnership working.



At the heart of our planning arrangements for 2005/6 is the achievement of positive outcomes for children and young people that prevent offending, reduce re-offending, and improve the life chances, health and well being of children and young people. These Children's Services outcomes are set out and measured through the performance frameworks of the *Youth Justice Board Key Performance Measures*, the *Every Child Matters Outcomes Framework* and the *National Health Service Framework for Children Young People and Maternity Service*.

The **Chief Officer Management Board** oversees the strategic planning and governance arrangements of the Youth Offending Service. Chaired by the Director of Social Services, the Board draws its membership from the four statutory agencies of the local authority, Police, Probation and Health as well as other key agencies/organisations such as the local courts.

Forward Planning

To focus our forward planning for 2005/6 we have set a number of *Service Development Priorities*. These have been drawn from the range of planning priorities for Youth Offending Services nationally including *Youth Justice Board 14 Key Performance Indicators for 2005/6*, practice development action in support of implementation of the Youth Justice Board *Effective Practice and Quality Assurance* agenda and *National Standards for Youth Justice 2004*, our *Human Resource and Learning Strategy* and our engagement with *partner agency and partnership priorities*.

Service Development Priorities

1. **Management & Workforce Development** – developing leadership and ensuring effective recruitment, selection and retention of staff.
2. **Financial Planning and Monitoring** – ensuring strong financial planning and monitoring arrangements with contingency for budget risk areas.
3. **Anti-Social Behaviour** – linking with the Sunderland Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy to deliver on the implementation of the Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2003.
4. **Race Diversity Planning** – preventing differential treatment of young people from BME groups within the criminal justice system.
5. **Resettlement** – ensuring effective planning and risk management of young people resettled in the community following custody.
6. **Communications & Marketing** – promoting positive images of young people and communicating the work of Sunderland Youth Offending Service.
7. **Client/Customer Focus** – maintaining the focus of children, young people and their families/carers at the heart of the organisation.
8. **Offender and Risk Management** – ensuring effective practice for the assessment and management of high-risk young offenders.
9. **Prevention** – drawing together a range of prevention initiatives under one overarching Prevention Strategy.

These priorities will build on achievements in 2004/5 which saw the implementation of a number of pilot/specialist initiatives including a specialist Rehabilitation and Aftercare Programme (RAP) for young people released from custody, a '100 day anti-social behaviour clean up' campaign in the Hendon area of Sunderland under the Sunderland Anti-Social Behaviour Strategy, employing specialist staff to work on Anti-Social Behaviour initiatives and developing prevention schemes such as the 'Wear Kids', and 'Tackle It', programmes.

Right: The Sunderland Youth Offending Service Restorative Justice scheme with young offenders working on the Hendon Beach '100 day clean up' campaign



Above: The Sunderland Youth Offending Service 'Tackle IT' scheme working in partnership with Sunderland Football Club

Financial Resources

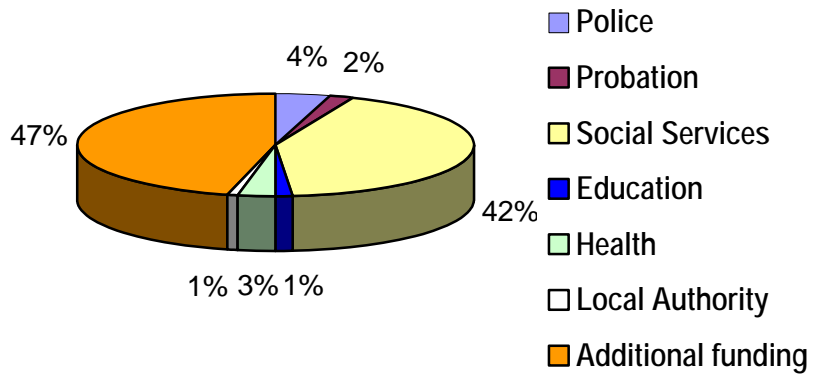
The Youth Offending Service budget draws from a number of different sources including contributions from partner agencies. Further funding sources comprise a core Youth Justice Board grant, Neighbourhood Renewal Funding and grants for specialist/specific initiatives.

The charts opposite illustrate both the expected income (including contributions in relation to both budget and staffing via secondments) and the planned expenditure for 2005-6. The **income sources** includes additional funding from:-

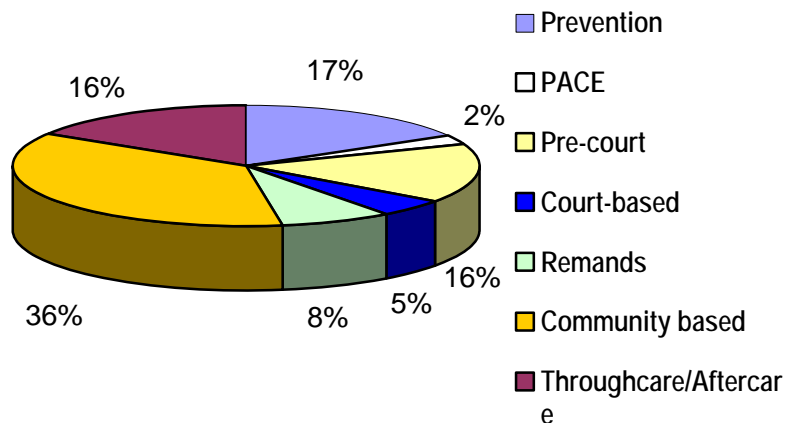
- Neighbourhood Renewal Funding
- YJB Rehabilitation and Aftercare Programme
- Substance Misuse Grant
- ETE (Frontrunner) Grant
- Home Office ASBO funding
- Children Fund

The **planned expenditure** shows the distribution of expenditure from prevention through to aftercare following custody, with the highest expenditure expected in relation to community based services.

YOS Funding Sources 2005 - 2006



YOS Planned Expenditure 2005 - 2006



Human Resources

In the past year the Sunderland Youth Offending Service has consolidated its management structure providing strong leadership to the wider staff group. This has included the appointment of a Deputy Youth Offending Service Manager, a Prevention Manager and Business Support Manager. Key posts have been established within the developing Prevention service and an additional Information Analyst has been appointed to meet the increasing demands of the performance agenda. With the integration of the previously outsourced Mentoring Service, and a recent review of the sessional staff pool, Sunderland Youth Offending Service now has a larger sessional and voluntary support staff resource than the full time paid staff establishment.



Victim of youth crime working as a volunteer to find effective solutions to a young person's offending.

YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2005-2006

Performance

The performance of Youth Offending Services/Teams nationally is measured through Key Performance Indicators set by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. These are reported on both quarterly and annually and reflected in performance tables compiled by the Youth Justice Board across all teams. The table below reflects an outstanding performance period with targets met across the majority of the Youth Justice Board key performance indicators and first place achieved in the national performance tables.

Key Performance Indicator	Performance 2004/5	Target 2004/5	Target 2005/2006
Prevention - Reduce year on year, the number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System.	New Indicator for 2005/6	New Indicator	Reduce from baseline
Ethnicity - All YOTs should have an action plan in place to ensure that any difference between the ethnic composition of offenders on all pre-court and post-court disposals and the ethnic composition of the local community is reduced year on year.	New Indicator for 2005/6	Action Plan in place by 1 st April 2005	Reduce from 2004/5 baseline
Recidivism - Reduce the recidivism (re-offending) rates for all recidivism populations by 5% after 24 months.	2% reduction	5% reduction	5% reduction
Final Warnings - Ensure that 80% of all final warnings are supported by an intervention.	86.6%	80%	80%
Secure Estate - Reduce the use of remands and the secure estate to: - - no more than 30% of the total number of remand decisions - no more than 5% of all court disposals	24.7% 2.8%	Reduced to: 30% 6%	Reduce to: 30% 5%
Restorative Processes and Victims – Ensure that:- -75% of victims offered the opportunity to participate in restorative processes and, -75% of victims participating are satisfied	100% 88.5%	75% 75%	75% 75%
Parenting - Ensure that 10% of young people with final warnings supported by an intervention and community based penalties receive a parenting intervention and, - 75% of parents participating in parenting interventions are satisfied.	11.8% 92.8%	10% 75%	10% 75%
Asset Assessment - Ensure that Asset is completed for all (100%) of young people	99%	100%	100%
Pre-Sentence Reports - Ensure 90% of pre sentence reports are prepared within National Standards	96.9%	90%	90%
Detention & Training Orders - Ensure that all (100%) of DTO training plans are drawn up within National Standards.	100%	100%	100%
Education, Training & Employment - Ensure that 90% of young offenders supervised by YOT's are in full time education, training or employment.	83.2%	90%	90%
Accommodation - Ensure that all (100%) of young people have on completion of intervention, suitable accommodation to go to.	97.3%	100%	100%
Mental Health - Ensure that 100% of young people who are assessed as manifesting: - - acute mental health difficulties to be referred by YOTs to CAMHS for a formal assessment commencing within 5 working days. - non-acute mental health concerns to be referred by YOTs to CAMHS for a formal assessment commenced within 15 working days.	100% 100%	100% 100%	100% 100%
Substance Misuse - Ensure all young people are:- - screened for substance misuse and that those with identified needs receive appropriate specialist assessment within 5 working days and, - following the assessment access the early intervention and treatment services they require within 10 working days.	100% 100%	100% 100%	100% 100%

Contacting Sunderland Youth Offending Service

If you require any further information you can contact the Youth Offending Service at:

Lambton House, 145 High Street West, Sunderland, SR1 1UW
Tel: 0191 566 3000, Fax: 0191 566 3002

E-mail: yos@ssd.sunderland.gov.uk

Website: www.sunderland.gov.uk/yos

This publication can be made available in Braille, large print, on audio cassette and in other languages upon request. Please contact Sunderland Youth Offending Service if you require any of these.