

**Meeting:** Safer Communities Executive Board

**Date:** 15 October 2008

**Report Title:** Youth Offending Service (YOS) Partnership Board

**Report of:** Linda James, Youth Offending Service Strategic Manager.

**Summary:** The Youth Offending Partnership Board is responsible, among other key targets, for one of 6 improvement targets underneath Safer Communities. This is NI 111: First time entrants to the Youth Justice System aged 10 – 17. Performance is measured by the direction of travel and this was positive at the end of quarter 1 with an 18.5% reduction over the same period last year.

**Recommendations:** For information only

**Financial/Legal Comments:** N/A

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## Background

The YOS Partnership Board is a multi disciplinary Board which meets on a quarterly basis. The Borough Commander chairs the meetings and the Deputy Director of Children and Young People's Service (CYPS) is the vice-chair.

## Youth Justice Planning Tool 2008/9:

The London Regional Manager and Senior Performance Advisor from the Youth Justice Board (YJB) undertook a validation visit to Haringey YOS on 29<sup>th</sup> August, having previously identified particular areas they wished to discuss. The summary report should be available at the end of September

and the national report by 17<sup>th</sup> November. The YOS management team were reassured that, had the YJB not been tasked with visiting every YOS, Haringey's validation would have been a desk top exercise. There were some issues in relation to the inspection of cases which were noted and will be raised with practitioners.

### **The Scaled Approach:**

The YJB has issued the Post-consultation Scaled Approach which will be introduced in September 2009 with the Youth Rehabilitation Order and new National Standards. The revised scaled approach will still include 12 Asset (assessment tool) scores, but also 4 new static risk factor scores – offence type, age at first reprimand/caution/warning, age at first conviction, number of previous convictions. On the basis of the scores, appropriate levels of intervention will be required. I have been advised by the YJB London Regional Manager that there are likely to be resource implications for London YOS's due to the anticipated number of high intervention levels identified. The YOS performance analyst is looking into methods of estimating, in advance, possible numbers in this category.

### **First time entrants (LAA target):**

Haringey has the third highest number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice system in London (after Newham and Croydon). The LAA target is to reduce this number and the baseline and targets are yet to be set. The baseline is expected to be the 2007/8 figure of 426 per annum. From 7<sup>th</sup> July a pre-reprimand scheme has been operating in the Borough. So far the YOS has received 10 referrals, one of whom did not respond at all and one did not complete the activities offered.

### **Funding applications:**

- The YOS and partners have been working with Rainer/Crime Concern and have been successful in progressing to the second round of an application for an Intensive Intervention Project, funded by the DSCF. 141 expressions of interest were received and 50 have been invited to the next stage, where 20 will be successful.
- The YOS and Youth Service have been successful in obtaining funding for the Challenge and Support Project (also DSCF funded) and will be interviewing for 2 staff at the end of September.
- Haringey YOS is one of 12 YOS's which has been asked to submit a bid to the YJB for a Knife Referral Scheme. This will be a pilot from October 2008 to end March 2009 and builds on our established 2 session Weapons Awareness course. Several other modules have been added – 1 session induction with parents/carers, 3 sessions victim awareness, 1 session managing conflict and 5 sessions offending behaviour. Information on the final content of the programme will be sent to relevant agencies in due course.