

Haringey Community Safety Partnership

Briefing on Inspection of Youth Offending Services and the role of the Youth Justice Partnership Board (YJPB)

The Haringey Youth Justice Partnership Board (YJPB) is the statutory Board set up under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) and accountable to the Chief Executive to oversee Youth Offending Services in Haringey.

YOT management board's primary task is to provide strategic direction with the aim of preventing offending by children, and in accordance with section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998², ensure that the work of the YOT is defined in a publicly accessible youth justice plan that is co-ordinated with other local plans.

Ann Graham, DCS is the Chair of Haringey Youth Justice Partnership Board and Members of the Board include Cllrs Blake, Brabazon, and strategic leads from Education, Police, Probation, Health, and representatives from Courts.

The role of the Board is to oversee youth justice services provided by the partnership. It is not just about monitoring the YOT. The purpose of youth justice services is to reduce offending by young people and is measured by three national Key Performance Indicators

- a. *Reducing First time entrants to the Youth justice system:*
- b. *Reducing reoffending*
- c. *Reducing use of custody*

The quality of local youth offending services is Inspected by HM Inspectors of Probation (HMIP). There are two types of Inspection

- Single Inspection – HMIP with a one week visit
- Joint inspection - HMIP plus Inspectors from Health, Police, Social care and Education Inspectorates – three weeks including two weeks fieldwork

All YJPB partners will be involved in the Inspection process - both strategic leads and operational staff. This involvement will be in evidence preparation, individual or group interviews. Haringey is preparing for a Joint Inspection even though the majority of Inspections are Single ones so we are as ready as we can be.

The Inspection might take place anytime in a four-year cycle. (The last inspection of HYJS July 2015) decision about when an Inspection will take place is taken by HMIP in consultation with the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. The declared criteria for selection are:

- **Caseload**
- **Previous Inspection**
- **Time from last Inspection**
- **Performance Data and Information**
- **Intelligence from any source**

The Inspection focus is on three 'Domains'

- 1. Organisational Delivery:** Governance and Leadership plus staffing, facilities and IT
- 2. Court disposals** - YOS case practice and management
- 3. Out of court disposals** – partner case practice and management with YOS

Judgements are given on each element and an overall judgement given from the same range used by OfSTED:

Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement and Inadequate

As at 22 May HMIP report that the following overall Inspection judgements (including some not yet published) from 23 inspections which have taken place between April 18 and May 19:

Overall Ratings:

3	Outstanding.	Eg Essex
10	Good.	Eg Wandsworth
7	Requires Improvement	Eg Lambeth
2	Inadequate.	Eg Swansea Western Bay
1	Rating not yet set	

Inspection reports are all at [Inspection Reports](#)

There have been 14 Published reports (Single) and 4 Published reports (Joint)

Leadership and Governance

On Leadership and Governance, the YOTAD network tracking shows the following pattern of judgements

L+G grade	Single Inspection	Joint Inspection	Total
Outstanding	3	0	3
Good	8	3	11
Requires Improvement	1	0	1
Inadequate	2	1	3

HMIP will test the Leadership and Governance elements by documentary evidence and interview with partners.

The judgement on Leadership and Governance is the criteria

1.1 Is there a clear local vision and strategy for the delivery of a high-quality, personalised and responsive service for all children and young people?

Within that, Inspectors will look for evidence of the following:

1. Does the YJMB set the direction and strategy for the YOT?
The Youth justice Plan and its links to Haringey strategic plans

- 2 Does the YJPB include all statutory partners and non- statutory partners where these would add value?
Evidence of engagement by leaders of sufficient seniority to enable decision making

3. Are YJPB members active in their attendance and participation, recognising the contribution their own agency makes to the YOT?
Evidencing engagement and contribution – resource, development time, process work

4. Is the Chair of the YJMB well engaged with a sufficient understanding of the YOT’s work?
Focus on the holistic needs of young people and how the YJ system works

5. Do YJPB members advocate the work of the YOT in their own broader roles?
Evidence of how partners marshal partnership resources

6. Do other relevant local strategic partnerships give priority to work to support desistance and prevent harm, supporting integration with wider services for children and young people?
Is YJPB work evident in relevant plans and strategic Board discussions – health, Education, safeguarding, police?

7. Does the YOT leadership team provide an effective link to the Management Board?
How well do reports to Board enable effective decision-making?
How well do YOS staff understand Board vision and priorities?

Main themes emerging from published reports

The London YOTAD network is tracking the published reports and summarises these as the main themes for Leadership and Governance:

1. Gaps, attendance, sufficient seniority on the Board
2. Does Board understand the needs of the YOT cohort and make things happen to improve their safety and wellbeing
3. Are partners clear and consistent in their focus on yp who are at risk of offending?
4. Are there clear communications and approaches to joint working?
5. Does data and analysis assist decision making?
6. How does Board get a clear view of case quality and performance?
7. How does the Board tracking access to high quality ETE?
8. Learning culture – 1) of the Board 2) Board line of sight to front line staff practice
9. Workforce metrics and culture indicators
10. Identifying emerging trends of risks to yp – temporal, locality, profile of offenders and victims
11. Shared understanding of risks – immediate and contextual

Inspection readiness

Haringey formed an HMIP Inspection readiness sub group in January 2019 and using external expertise to shape:

- The logistics and communications strategy
- The evidence bases
- The Presentation which Haringey will give Inspectors
- Briefings for staff and partners

Individual Board members are being interviewed to shape developments in Board effectiveness in the coming year.

An away day is scheduled to take place 19th June to build shared understanding of the vision and priorities for the next years – aligned with other Haringey strategic Plan priorities.

HYJS is in process of identifying areas for focus and improvement in case management, review of its delivery arrangements of statutory interventions, and Out of Court disposal (domains 2, and 3).

National Standards for Youth Justice work

HMIP will seek evidence of the way in which YJMB fulfils its obligations to meet National Standards (set by the YJB on behalf of Ministry of Justice)

The standards are to be followed by strategic and senior leaders in local authorities acting in co-operation with:

- Police
- Providers of probation services
- Clinical commissioning group
- Local health board.

This is required to make sure that, where appropriate, all youth justice services are available.

The YJPB specifically has to have assurance that:

- QA systems are based on feedback from service users
- Records are transferred to/from custody
- Management Information is available Inc. passing to YJB
- Appropriate adults' services
- PACE beds
- Victim services
- Quality of case management
- Public protection and desistance policies
- Engagement and compliance with Court orders
- Address issues of Disproportionality

Conclusion

Effective youth offending services have at their core an understanding that outcomes for children in the YJ system are provided a holistic service:

- Services which respond to the needs, and changing needs, of young people in Haringey
- Effective safeguarding and public protection work including enforcement when needed
- Prevention and diversion actions by partners including community partners
- Access to, and enhanced achievement in, education training and employment
- Access to health, including mental health services

The vision of YJPB should encompass this holistic approach and the work of YJPB needs to prove to Inspectors the impact of our joint efforts.

This all means having strategic partners committed to effective multi agency working and that we need to act to keep young people safe from criminal exploitation, address county lines and challenge unfairness in the way individuals or groups are treated.

The youth offending services bridge children's services and the criminal justice system but our aspirations should be as high for the children in the YJ system as for other Haringey children.

Recommendations to Haringey Community Safety Board

- 1) That Partners note the expectations on their services for involvement in the preparation for, and Inspection of Haringey Youth Justice Services.
- 2) CSP should review how YJPB interacts with this board by performance reports, planning and delivery.
- 3) Partners take opportunity to review HMIP Inspection reports of YOT's already published for information.

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May 2019

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