

**Reducing Youth Reoffending Scrutiny Panel on 28 July 2005**

<b>Report title: Recidivism Briefing Report</b>	
<b>Report of:</b>	The Head of Community Safety
<b>Ward(s) affected</b>	All
<b>1. Purpose</b>	
1.1	To update the panel on the current position in respect of your crime in the Borough.
<b>2. Recommendations</b>	
2.1	N/A
<b>Report authorised by:</b>	
<b>Contact officer:</b> Steve Milne - Performance Management & Quality Assurance Officer <b>Tel:</b> <b>E-mail:</b>	
<b>3. Policy summary</b>	
3.1	N/A

## Recidivism Briefing Report

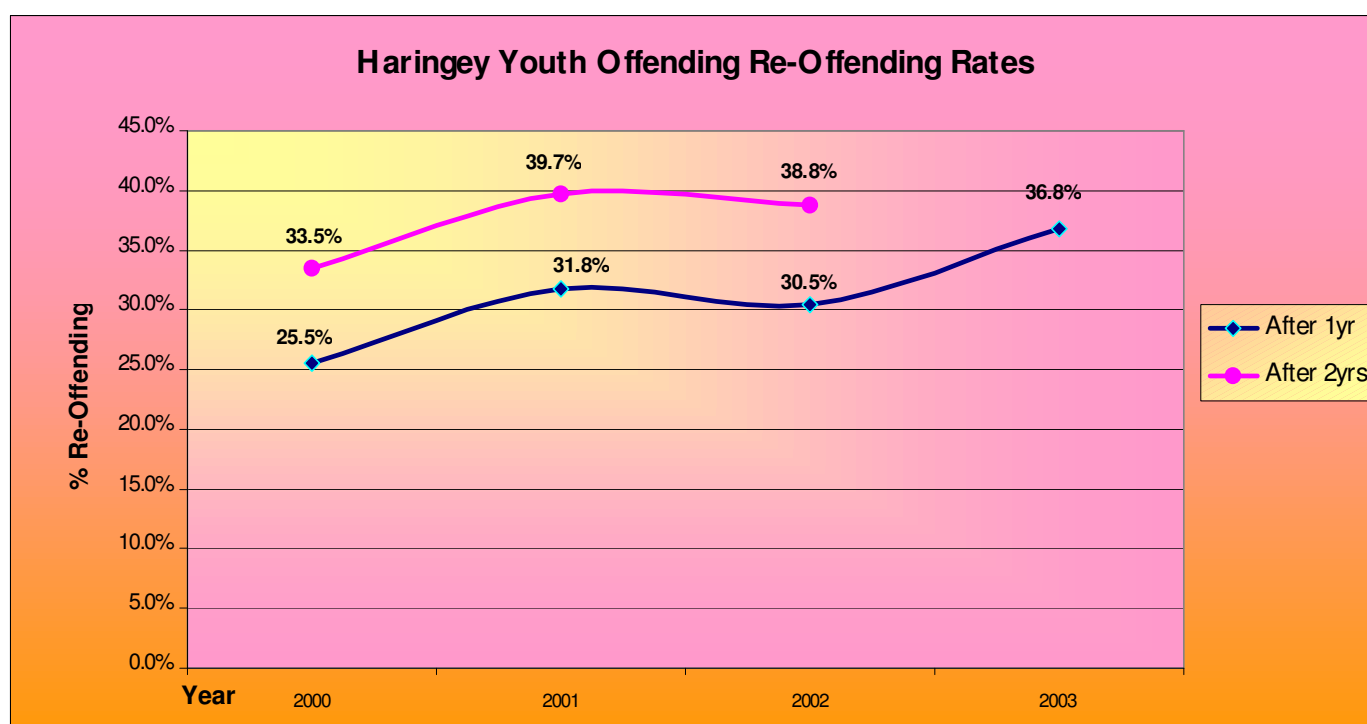
The measurement of re-offending by Young Offenders, is one of fourteen Performance Measures required of Youth Offending Teams by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB). This measurement is outcome based and specifically refers to reduction and prevention of re-offending.

Starting in 2000 and then repeated each successive year, a cohort of young people whom receive a substantive outcome (i.e. Police Reprimand, Police Final Warning or Court Conviction) between October 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> are identified, then monitored and tracked in terms of re-offending over two periods: 12 months and again at 2 year.

The increase/decrease in seriousness and frequency of offending is also monitored.

### Performance

The rate of re-offending has increased within the last year. 36.8% of the 2003 cohort re-offended during 2004. This compares unfavourably to 30.5% for the previous year. The increase from 2000 to 2001 can be attributed to improved data



recording.

## Re-Offending Breakdown

The table below shows a breakdown by level of intervention and our national and London positions for the 2002 cohort re-offending after 2 years.

Recidivism is separated into four categories, which relate to levels of offending namely Pre Court, First tier, Community and Custodial penalties. Pre Court penalties consist of Police Final Warning and Police Reprimands. First tier is low-level court sentences: Referral Orders, discharges, fines and Reparation Orders. Community penalties consist of Action Plan Orders through to Intensive Supervision Orders. Custodial sentences are self-explanatory.

The table clearly indicates that re-offending occurs more at the higher level of sentencing. Subsequently, it is more likely that a young person released from prison will re-offend than a first time offender that has receiving a final warning. This is due to the complexities involved in a young person who received a custodial sentence. He/she is far more likely to experience accommodation, substance misuse, education and family issues and the offending behaviour is also likely to be more entrenched.

<b><u>2002 Cohort Re-Offending after 2 years (i.e. by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2004)</u></b>					
<b>Re-offending performance</b>	<b>Cohort</b>	<b>Re-Offended</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>National Position From 155 YOTs</b>	<b>London Position From 33 YOTs</b>
Pre Court	79	17	21.52%	7th	3rd
First Tier	111	43	38.74%	11th	6 <sup>th</sup>
Community penalties	29	19	65.52%	28th	16th
Custodial	13	11	84.62%	65th	20th

### **The National & London Position**

Haringey's performance compares favourably nationally and in London with other YOTs particularly with Pre Court and First Tier re-offending finishing 7<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> nationally respectively.

The performance has particular significance considering the demographics of the borough of Haringey. There are high levels of crime, deprivation, transience and looked after children in comparison to other YOTs. This is a factor not taken into account currently when publishing YOTs performance in a league table and the YJB are looking at ways of weighting the tables in the future.

## **Issues/Risks/Concerns**

- It has been historically proven that young people are likely to re-offend within the first three months following sentencing.
- The most significant risk factors include:
  - Male offenders, age 14-16
  - Looked After Children
  - Persistent Young Offenders
  - Young offenders with issues concerning Education/ Training /Employment
  - Young offenders with unstable and unsuitable accommodation
- With many of the clients that re-offended, the frequency and seriousness of the offences they are committing have reduced.
- The level of re-offending will increase this year. The projected figures are 40% re-offending after 1 year and 45% re-offending after 2 years.

Briefing prepared by Steve Milne  
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20<sup>th</sup> July 2005