

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA



Thursday 1 September 2016

at 10.00 am

in Committee Room B, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Councillors S Akers-Belcher, Belcher, Cook, Hamilton, Harrison, Martin-Wells and Tennant.

Standards Co-opted Members; Mr Norman Rollo and Ms Clare Wilson.

Parish Council Representatives: Parish Councillor Roderick Thompson (Elwick) and Parish Councillor Darab Rezai, Dalton Piercy.

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

2. **TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

3. **MINUTES**

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2016.

4. **AUDIT ITEMS**

No items

5. **STANDARDS ITEMS**

5.1 Sanctions for breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct – *Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer*

6. **STATUTORY SCRUTINY ITEMS**

Health

6.1 Health Inequalities in Hartlepool

(a) Covering report – *Scrutiny Manager*



(b) Annual Review Health Status Presentation – *Director of Public Health*

6.2 Investigation into Access to Transport for People with a Disability:-

(c) Covering report – *Scrutiny Manager*

(d) Feedback from the group work – *Members of the Working Group*

(e) Formulation of recommendations – *Members of the Working Group*

6.3 Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations – *Scrutiny Manager*

Crime and Disorder

6.4 Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

6.5 Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2016-2017 – *Director of Child and Adult Services*

7. MINUTES FROM THE RECENT MEETING OF THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

No items.

8. MINUTES FROM THE RECENT MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH

No items.

9. MINUTES FROM RECENT MEETING OF TEES VALLEY HEALTH SCRUTINY JOINT COMMITTEE

9.1 Minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2016.

10. MINUTES FROM RECENT MEETING OF SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP

No items.

11. REGIONAL HEALTH SCRUTINY UPDATE

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR CONSIDERS URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Date of next meeting – 22 September 2016 at 10.00am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.



AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES AND DECISION RECORD

28 July 2016

The meeting commenced at 10.00 am in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool.

Present:

Councillor: Ray Martin-Wells (In the Chair).

Councillors: Stephen Akers-Belcher, Sandra Belcher, Lesley Hamilton, Brenda Harrison and John Tennant.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 5.2 (ii), Councillor Jim Lindridge was in attendance as substitute for Councillor Rob Cook.

Clare Wilson, Independent Person

Also Present: Councillor Stephen Thomas, Chair of Adult Services Committee
Ali Wilson and Karen Hawkins, Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees
Clinical Commission Group (CCG)
Greg Canning, Royal College of Nursing
Sarah Murphy, NHS North of England Commissioning Unit (NECU)
Mike Hill, UNISON

Officers: Louise Wallace, Director of Public Health
Peter Devlin, Chief Solicitor
Joan Stevens, Scrutiny Manager
Angela Armstrong, Principal Democratic Services Officer

26. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Rob Cook and Independent Person Norman Rollo.

27. Declarations of Interest

None.

28. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2016

Confirmed.

29. **Assisted Reproduction Unit (ARU) Consultation - Results** *(Scrutiny Manager and Hartlepool and Stockton on Tees Clinical Commissioning Group)*

The Chair informed Members that an invitation had not been extended to representatives of the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust) to this meeting as the Trust's position had been made very clear, it was no longer interested in operating an Assisted Reproduction Unit from the University Hospital of Hartlepool. The Chair gave a reassurance that the Trust's representatives will be requested to attend a future meeting to explain the actions of the Trust, including why this Committee was provided with misinformation by the Trust during the discussions on the future of the Assisted Reproduction Unit in the University Hospital of Hartlepool, along with the reasons behind the Trust representatives previous non-attendances when they were invited to attend this Committee.

It was noted by the Chair that the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) had worked closely with the Committee and Officers along with other interested parties and had undertaken a comprehensive 6-week consultation process on the future location of the provision on the Assisted Reproduction Unit (ARU). Further detailed information on the methodology of the consultation exercise was circulated along with the analysis of responses and survey results.

The representatives from the CCG provided the Committee with a comprehensive presentation which gave an overview of the consultation process, the findings and the options available for future of the provision of the ARU.

The following options were included within the consultation:

Option 1 – A comprehensive assisted reproduction service including HFEA licensed and unlicensed provision remains at Hartlepool delivered by an alternative provider;

Option 2 – Unlicensed assisted reproductive services continue to be delivered at Hartlepool and patients requiring licensed provision choose to go to an alternative site, eg James Cook University Hospital, Queen Elizabeth University Hospital, Gateshead and Newcastle Fertility Centre at the Centre for Life; and

Option 3 – A comprehensive assisted reproduction service include HFEA licensed and unlicensed provision will no longer be available at Hartlepool but will be delivered at other sites in the region.

Feedback from the consultation proposals indicated the following percentages of people who ranked the options as first choice:

Option 1 – 58%;

Option 2 – 23%; and
Option 3 – 22%.

The representatives from the CCG informed the Committee that the consultation undertaken had been monitored by the Consultation Institute who had confirmed that the Institute were happy that the exercise had fully met its requirements for 'good practice'.

In conclusion it was noted that the Governing Body of the CCG had considered the key reports, risks and benefits and had agreed to progress option 1 as noted above including:

- Existing provision will be maintained and patients will unlikely see any changes;
- Patients will receive all treatment in Hartlepool; and
- There would be no (nil) patients potentially impacted.

A representative from the CCG indicated that the next steps would require a procurement exercise which could take up to nine months and was dependent upon which provider the contract was awarded to. In addition to this, any new service provider would need to secure a HFEA licence which could take 3-4 months once the contract was awarded. With this in mind, it was noted that it was likely that the commencement of the new contract was most likely achievable April/May 2017. However, Members were reassured that discussions would be undertaken with North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust to ensure the service would be sustained until the implementation of the new contract.

The Chair commented that the decision of the Governing Body of the CCG was a victory for democracy and common sense. On behalf of the Committee, he thanked the CCG for the presentation and the work they had undertaken and indicated that the Committee looked forward to forging a new positive relationship with the new provider of the ARU provision in Hartlepool.

Members were united in their support of the Chair's comments and thanked him and the Scrutiny Manager for their dedication and tenacity in pursuing this issue. However, Members were mindful of the arrogance shown by the representatives of the Trust through their non-attendance at Committee when invited and provision of misinformation. This exercise had shown that there was more work to be done to examine in detail previous instances where clinical safety had been used as a reason to close services in the University Hospital of Hartlepool. The decision of the Governing Body of the CCG had shown that the Governors had listened and taken note of the consultation undertaken and the views of the public.

The Chair, with the full support of the Committee wished to place on record his appreciation to Dr Mohammed Menabawey who had been instrumental in achieving the outcome announced at this meeting through his expert knowledge in assisted reproduction.

It was suggested by a member of the public that all users of the service provided within the ARU should be contacted and reassured that there would be a continuation of the service provision in Hartlepool. The Chair responded that the Trust would be advised to contact all affected parties and it was hoped that this news would also be communicated through the media as it was such a positive outcome for the provision of health services within Hartlepool.

A member of the public who had utilised the service provision within the ARU informed the Committee that he had contacted the Chief Executive of the Trust to question the future provision of this service and had not received a response and questioned who would hold the Trust to account for their actions. The Chair responded that part of this Committee's statutory responsibilities was to hold the Trust to account and would make use of its power to require the Trust's Board of Governors to attend and answer for the Trust's actions if necessary.

The Chair added that he would write to the HFEA to ask that the issuing of the new provider's licence be expedited to ensure there was no hiatus in service provision between the Trust and the new provider. It was noted that the Trust had intimated that the service would cease on 11 January 2015 and there was a requirement for 12 months' notice to cease the provision of a service. However, the Chief Solicitor indicated that this date was not considered to be effective and proper communication from the Foundation Trust to the CCG, nor to any local authority whose residents could be affected by the cessation of this service. The communication was essentially a 'press release' which was seen by the Council as being wholly inadequate and was specifically raised as an issue in the Council's case before the High Court.

The Chair concluded this item with reiterating the Committee's thanks to the CCG for the work undertaken and the Governing Body of the CCG for the decision which would ensure that the provision of an ARU would continue to be delivered in Hartlepool.

Recommended

- (1) The Chair to write to the HEFA to request that the issuing of the licence for the new provider of the ARU be expedited without delay to ensure the continuation of the service provision within Hartlepool.
- (2) The outcome of the consultation undertaken by the CCG supporting Option 1 for the continued provision of ARU services in Hartlepool be noted.
- (3) That the CCG Governing body's approval of Option 1 for the continued provision of ARU services in Hartlepool be noted.
- (4) That the CCG ensure that North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust contact all those affected by the provision of the ARU in Hartlepool to reassure them that their treatment would continue in Hartlepool and that there would be no break in service between the

Trust's contract ceasing and the new provider's contract commencing.

30. Scoping Report – Access to Transport for People with a Disability (*Scrutiny Manager*)

The Scrutiny Manager referred to the meeting of the Committee held on 14 July 2016 when Members had identified Access to Transport for People with a Disability as a topic for investigation during this municipal year. The Scrutiny Manager submitted a report. The report set out the proposed terms of reference for the investigation with some suggested potential areas of enquiry and sources of information for Members to consider. The proposed timetable for the investigation included detailed work to be undertaken by Task and Finish Groups that had been utilised to good effect in previous investigations. The programme indicated that a draft final report would be considered by the Committee in November 2016.

The Chair of Adult Services Committee thanked the Committee for undertaking this referral as it had been highlighted by local residents that this was a significant reduction in the number of opportunities for people to remain independent. It was noted that without good transport links, people were at risk of social isolation and unlikely to be able to remain active citizens without the opportunity to access education, training and employment, sport and recreation. The Chair of Adult Services Committee highlighted that the hospital shuttle bus used for transporting patients, visitors and staff to the University Hospital of North Tees was not accessible to people in wheelchairs.

It was noted by the Chair that taxi companies had found it too costly to purchase vehicles that were wheelchair accessible and in view of this the Licensing Committee had relaxed the requirements to make it more affordable.

In addition to the above, it was noted that the Committee would also be undertaking investigations during 2016/17 on mortality rates and current use of theatres across the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust.

Recommended

The remit of the investigation outlined in the report along with the proposed timetable which concluded with the draft report to be submitted to the Adult Services Committee on 3 November 2016 was approved.

31. Minutes of the meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Board held on 29 April 2016

Received.

32. Minutes of the meeting of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership held on 11 March 2016

Received.

33. Regional Health Scrutiny Update

The Scrutiny Manager confirmed that the Chair of this Committee was Chair of the North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee as well as Vice Chair of the Regional Committee for the Better Health Programme (BHP). It was noted that the first meeting of the Regional Committee for the BHP had met in Hartlepool with the most recent meeting taking place in Durham. The meeting in Durham had received further detailed information on the BHP with a presentation from key officers from the Programme Board. A number of questions had been raised at this meeting and an update will be presented to the next meeting of this Committee. It was highlighted that all the agenda documentation for the Regional Committee for the BHP were available on Durham County Council's website as the administrators for that Committee. The location of future meetings would be rotated around the region and this information would also be available on the website. If anyone had any further queries they were asked to contact Hartlepool's Scrutiny Team and it was hoped that Members and the public would be involved in what was an important part of shaping services for Hartlepool and the development of the Strategic Transformation Plan.

The Chair gave a reassurance that as Chair and Vice Chair of the North East Joint Health Scrutiny Committee and the Regional Committee for the Better Health Programme, both himself and Councillor John Robinson from Durham County Council would be examining any investigations in detail.

34. Any Other Items which the Chairman Considers are Urgent

None.

The meeting concluded at 11.08 am

CHAIR

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1 September 2016



Report of: Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer

Subject: SANCTIONS FOR BREACHES OF THE MEMBERS
CODE OF CONDUCT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Committee has previously received a report with an appended draft protocol entitled 'Non Statutory Sanctions' which sought to rectify current concerns that a breach of the Members Code of Conduct under the Localism Act, 2011, may not be adequately dealt with through the imposition of an available action. Indeed, the Localism Act, 2011 removed the previous 'sanctions' based regime, wherein if a member had engaged in proven misconduct a range of sanctions including disqualification or suspension could be imposed. The new 'action' based system under the Localism Act, 2011, has caused some disquiet in that a proven breach of a Code of Conduct may not necessarily lead to a commensurate outcome, that reflects upon the nature of the breach, whilst instilling public confidence in a system designed to regulate the behaviour of elected representatives.
- 1.2 At their meeting on the 24th May, 2016, Council received a report in the context of a periodic review of the Council's Constitution which also reflected upon the previous report on this topic to the Audit and Governance Committee. Should it be the case that Council decided to either amend its existing Code of Conduct and/ or approve a protocol to be read in conjunction with that Code, then Council approval would be needed as the Code of Conduct is one of those specific documents which legislation prescribes must be within the Council's Constitution. At the Council meeting it was indicated that the Department for Communities and Local Government had invited responses following on from a case involving a Saddleworth Parish Council Member who had received a criminal conviction but which was not sufficient to disqualify from office under Section 80 of the Local Government Act, 1972. That particular provision provides that upon conviction of a period of 3 months or more (including a suspended sentence) a member shall be disqualified from office. In this particular case, the Councillor refused calls to resign and a delegation from the Parish Council along with the MP for Oldham East and Saddleworth held a meeting with the Justice Minister which has led to the call for representations to be made to

the Department. It was indicated that the Government were not only prepared to welcome responses on the operation of Section 80 of the 1972 Act but also more generally upon the Code of Conduct regime. Members therefore resolved to make a referral to the Audit and Governance Committee with a view to make representations to the Department of Communities and Local Government.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 It has been a general concern the apparent dilution of the available powers to meet a proven breach of the Code of Conduct. Previously, the Local Government Act 2000 had allowed a wide range of sanctions to be imposed, proportionate to that breach. However, the Localism Act, 2011, had moved towards an 'action' based regime but with the notable power contained under Section 34 of the Act, where a member without reasonable excuse had not disclosed a pecuniary interest, then that omission could lead to a prosecution authorised through the Director of Public Prosecutions. Furthermore, that upon such conviction, the Court could also disqualify that person for a period not exceeding 5 years for being or becoming (by election or otherwise) a member or co-opted member of a relevant authority. Although, an authority had the power to disqualify or suspend up to a period of 6 months, the then Adjudication Panel for England could disqualify for a period not exceeding 5 years. Hence, whilst there is a sanction of disqualification it has moved away from local authorities to become criminal proceedings under the authorisation of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Since this provision has been introduced, there has been some prosecutions and subsequent convictions although, not necessarily utilising the power of disqualification. This Committee therefore received a report on the 12th November, 2015 which included a draft protocol, to operate as an addendum to the Members Code of Conduct with the potential for the imposition of a 'non statutory sanction' provided the same was proportionate and reasonable and did not interfere with the civic/ representational role of a local authority member.

2.2 The Localism Act, 2011 (Section 27 refers) still contains a 'duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct' together with the obligation to have a Members Code of Conduct which when viewed as a whole must be consistent with the following principles;

- Selflessness
- Integrity
- Objectivity
- Accountability
- Openness
- Honesty
- Leadership

- 2.3 The Code must also include provision for the registration of pecuniary interests and interests, other than pecuniary interests. Accordingly, the Members Code of Conduct adopted by Hartlepool Borough Council fully conforms with the requirements of the Localism Act and Members also chose to widen the above principles with replication of the 'Ten General Principles' which underpin the recommendations of the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life. Additionally, there needs to be 'arrangements' in place to investigate allegations of breaches of the Code of Conduct. There are also specific roles for the Independent Persons in relation to the operation of these arrangements. The Act did clarify that a Code would only operate when a member acted in their 'official capacity'.

3. VARIATION IN STANDARDS REGIMES

- 3.1 It was mentioned in the report to the Committee on 12th November, 2015, the wide variation in the operation of standards regimes, which again are mentioned for information purposes within the confines of this report. The Ethical Standards in Public Life etc (Scotland) Act, 2000, provides for a model Code of Conduct and the operation of a Standards Commission in Scotland. On the finding of an contravention of the Code of Conduct there can be a formal 'censure' of the individual member but also a power of suspension (not exceeding 1 year) and also disqualification not exceeding a period of 5 years. The Public Service Ombudsman in Wales also has the power to suspend and disqualify in cases of a proven breach of the Code of Conduct. Similarly, in Northern Ireland, the Northern Ireland Ombudsman has powers of suspension and disqualification through the Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 2014.
- 3.2 In the case of Heesom-v-Public Service Ombudsman for Wales [2014] EW HC1504 (Admin) the High Court considered the appropriate 'sanction' where there had been 14 separate allegations which comprised elements of bullying and general misconduct, likely to bring the member and the office of Councillor into disrepute. The case tribunal had disqualified the member for a period of 2 1/2 years but on appeal it was indicated that 'an absence of criminality did not render the sanction unlawful'. The Court however noted the potential conflict with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights (the right to freedom of expression and information). The Court therefore felt that the period of disqualification was 'excessive' and replaced the sanction with an 18 month period of disqualification. This being more consistent with the aims of maintaining standards in public life.

4. NON STATUTORY SANCTIONS

- 4.1 In the absence of a sanctions regime, many local authorities have looked towards the guidance provided in the case of R-v-Broadland District Council ex parte June Lashley [2001] EW CA Civ 179. This case originated prior to the introduction of the standards regime of the Local Government Act, 2000. It therefore concentrated upon what could be considered as a 'non statutory

sanction' within the powers of the local authority. Such 'sanctions' which were available included the following;

- New internal arrangements i.e. changes to working practises,
- Giving instructions to staff
- Reporting matters to the Police or the Authority's Auditors
- A recommendation to the full Authority to remove a Councillor from a Committee

It was also considered that the drawing up of a protocol for 'Member/ Officer Arrangements' or in giving advice or making observations generally or specifically about a Councillor's conduct would very much depend upon the context of those 'arrangements' or 'instructions'. The Court also made the following observations;

'One needs always to have in mind that anything that betters the otherwise appropriate activities of a democratically elected representative must be subjected to the most searching and most rigorous scrutiny which requires the most cogent and compelling justification'.

5. REPRESENTATIONS ON SANCTIONS

- 5.1 It has been intimated that a number of local authorities will be writing directly to the Department for Communities and Local Government on this particular issue. The Monitoring Officers' representing the twelve local authorities in the North East have written to the Permanent Secretary of the Department for Communities and Local Government through correspondence dated the 12th July, 2016. A copy of that correspondence is annexed to this report (**Appendix 1**). A response was received through the Department on the 25th July, 2016 and again that correspondence is also included for Members information (**Appendix 2**). It is to be noted that the Government 'is committed to reviewing the standards arrangements established in the 'Localism Act' and that review is scheduled to take place next year'. In relation to the issue presented through the Saddleworth case, namely the grounds of disqualification under the Local Government Act 1972, it appears the Government will be consulting on a review of the disqualification criteria 'later this year'. The Committee will note the reference to the 'ultimate sanction of the ballot box' which is a theme taken up through earlier advice from Counsel instructed on the advent of the Localism Act through the then Association of County Secretaries and Solicitors. That advice indicated that the range of 'actions' was significantly different from that operating under the Local Government Act, 2000. A member could indeed be subject to 'censure' and generally actions would entail the issuing of an apology, training, potential removal from Committees by the resolution of Council but nothing to the extent of disqualification / suspension. The power to reprimand, withdraw facilities (provided the same was proportionate) and the potential 'group action' provided the errant member was affiliated to a political group were also noted as being permissible. Members have always stated that there should be a robust, resilient and fair sanctions system, but one which

also instilled confidence in its operation. Whilst the draft protocol on 'non statutory sanctions' did seek to develop this theme it would require all members to adopt and adhere to such a system, which is also dependent on the voluntary 'self disqualification/ suspension' of a member subject to a finding of a breach of the Code of Conduct. Although, Members may still wish to consider such a draft protocol it is suggested that a further report be brought to the Committee, to cover the consultation on the revised disqualification criteria under the Local Government Act, 1972, and thereafter on the anticipated review of the standards arrangements, indicated in the correspondence received through the Department for Communities and Local Government.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 That the Committee considers this report and provides comments thereon.
- 6.2 That subject to the above recommendation, that the Committee receives further reports following the consultation exercises to be undertaken through the Department for Communities and Local Government as indicated in the second appendix to this report.

7. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Council has a framework for the promotion and maintenance of ethical standards consistent with the Localism Act, 2011. Owing to the present disquiet over the non availability of statutory sanctions it is felt appropriate that the Council do fully engage with consultation exercises to be promoted through the Department for Communities and Local Government both with the regard to the disqualification criteria under the Local Government Act 1972 and the standards arrangements under the Localism Act, 2011.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 Report to Council dated 17th September, 2015
Report to Audit and Governance Committee dated 12 November, 2015
Report to Council dated 24th May, 2016

9. CONTACT OFFICER

- 9.1 Peter Devlin
Chief Solicitor and Monitoring Officer
Email: peter.devlin@hartlepool.gov.uk
Tel: 01429 523003



The person dealing with this matter is:

John Softly
Newcastle City Council
Legal Services
Civic Centre
Barras Bridge
Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 8QH
DX No. 62552 - Jesmond

Ms Melanie Dawes CB
Permanent Secretary
Dept. for Communities & Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Phone : 0191 277 7047
Fax : 0191 277 7127
E-Mail : john.softly@newcastle.gov.uk
Website : www.newcastle.gov.uk

First class post

12 July 2016

Our reference: JS/HW/PC

Your reference:

Dear Ms Dawes

Sanctions for breaches of the code of conduct for members

I have been asked to raise with you the lack of statutory sanctions under the Localism Act 2011 for a member who is found to be in breach of the code of conduct for members.

Whilst it is a matter for each council to determine the content of its code of conduct in accordance with the Localism Act 2011, this council and others in the north east region have continued to liaise closely and share good practice in respect of standards issues. The chairs and vice-chairs of standards committees from across the region meet regularly for this purpose. A recurrent theme is the effectiveness of the sanctions available for breaches of the code of conduct.

Aside from the criminal offences relating to disclosable pecuniary interests, the Localism Act 2011 does not give a council any specific powers to impose sanctions in relation to a breach of its code of conduct. In such circumstances, the council's powers are relatively limited, e.g. a public censure from the relevant committee or council, a recommendation that the member undertake training or the removal of a position on a committee (if the member or his/her group agrees).

Although these measures are effective to an extent, experience from some councils in the region indicates that, in a small number of cases, they may not act as a sufficient deterrent to some persistent "offenders". The problem seems to arise most often in the case of parish and town councils where members may not belong to political groups (and so are not subject to any group disciplinary measures), and/or may be appointed without a contested election.

If you need this information in another format or language, please contact the person who sent it.

We are aware that the Minister for Local Government indicated earlier this year that there is to be a review of the provisions in the Local Government Act 1972 relating to the disqualification of local authority members and whether the provisions of the Localism Act 2011 have any implications for any new rules on this matter. We should be grateful if you would also consider whether it would be appropriate to review the efficacy of the sanctions regime under the Localism Act 2011.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future. Please note that the content of this letter has been agreed with the monitoring officers of the councils listed below

Yours sincerely



John Softly

Assistant Director Legal Services and Monitoring Officer

- cc The Monitoring Officers of:
- Darlington Borough Council
 - Durham County Council
 - Gateshead Council
 - Hartlepool Borough Council
 - Middlesbrough Council
 - North Tyneside Council
 - North Yorkshire County Council
 - Northumberland County Council
 - Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council
 - South Tyneside Council
 - Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
 - Sunderland City Council



**Department for
Communities and
Local Government**

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**

Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London

John Softly
Assistant Director
Legal Services and Monitoring Officer
Newcastle City Council
Legal Services
Civic Centre
Barras Bridge
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 8QH

By email
john.softly@newcastle.gov.uk

E-Mail: stuart.young@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

Our Ref:
Your Ref: JS/HW/PC

Date: 25 July 2016

Dear Mr Softly,

Thank you for your letter of 12 July to Melanie Dawes CB, Permanent Secretary for the Department for Communities and Local Government about the standards arrangements for members. The Permanent Secretary has asked myself to reply on her behalf.

I was sorry to read of your concerns. As you will be aware, the Government abolished the Standards Board regime in 2012. New arrangements are in place, as part of Governments approach to localism, giving local authorities control over how they promote and maintain high standards of conduct for members.

You noted in your letter that the Localism Act 2011 does not give a council specific powers to impose sanctions where a member is found guilty of breaching the council's code of conduct. As you will know, the abolition of the Standards Board regime in 2012 included the abolition of the power of statutory standards committees to suspend members. The Standards board regime was abolished because it had, unfortunately, become a vehicle for petty, malicious and politically motivated complaints. The new localist arrangements allow local authorities to censure members who have failed to comply with their authority's code of conduct, as it is for the electorate to exercise the ultimate sanction of the ballot box and decide who should represent them on their council.

The Government is committed to reviewing the standards arrangements established in the Localism Act and this review should take place in the next year. I would remark that the points you have raised will be taken into account, as part of that review.

In relation to your point around the review of disqualification criteria for election to local government, as set out in the Local Government Act 1972, the Government will be consulting on those criteria later this year and I will ensure you receive a copy of the consultation document, once issued.

I hope this advice is of use to you.

Yours sincerely

Stuart Young

Stuart Young
Local Government Stewardship
Department for Communities and Local Government
North East Quadrant
Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street
London. SW1P 4DF

Audit and Governance Committee

01 September 2016



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN HARTLEPOOL –
COVERING REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To introduce representatives from the Public Health Department, who will be present at today's meeting to provide an update in terms of health inequalities in Hartlepool including Female Life Expectancy.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The publication of the Health Profile for Hartlepool in 2009 highlighted that female life expectancy in the Town equated to the worst in England, this generated significant media interest; nationally through the Radio 4 programme 'Woman's Hour' and locally via the Evening Gazette and Hartlepool Mail newspapers.
- 2.2 On the 6 October 2009, the former Health Scrutiny Forum received a report by the Acting Director of Health Improvement into Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool, Members agreed:-

"That the Forum [will continue] to monitor the issue of health inequalities in the town and on doing this receive an update report on an annual basis focussing on those specific wards causing concerns in relation to life expectancy of women."

- 2.3 Subsequently, representatives from the Public Health Department will be in attendance today to provide a presentation to Members in relation to:
- (a) Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool;
 - (b) Life expectancy in each Ward;
 - (c) Major causes of early deaths in each Ward; and
 - (d) Provision of services across Wards
- 2.4 **Table1** below provides a comparison between the Health Profile for Hartlepool from 2009 in relation to female life expectancy:-

Table1: Comparison of Average Female Life Expectancy (in years) in Hartlepool to National Averages.

Year	Average Female Life Expectancy in Hartlepool	Average Female Life Expectancy in England	Worst Average Female Life Expectancy in England
2009 ¹	78.1	81.1	78.1
2010 ²	79.0	82.0	78.8
2011 ³	79.8	82.3	79.1
2012 ⁴	81.0	82.6	79.1
2013 ⁵	81.2	82.9	79.3
2014 ⁶	81.5	83.0	79.5
2015 ⁷	81.6	83.1	80.0

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members note the content of this report and the presentation by the representatives, seeking clarification on any relevant issues where felt appropriate.

Contact Officer: - Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
 Chief Executive's Department – Legal Services
 Hartlepool Borough Council
 Tel: 01429 284142
 Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

- (a) Minutes of the Health Scrutiny Forum held on 6 October 2009 and 5 April 2012
- (b) The Association of Public Health Observatories (2009), *Health Profile 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015 Hartlepool*, Available from http://www.apho.org.uk/default.aspx?QN=HP_METADATA&AreaID=50333

¹ APHO, 2009

² APHO, 2010

³ APHO, 2011

⁴ APHO, 2012

⁵ APHO, 2013

⁶ APHO, 2014

⁷ APHO, 2015

Audit and Governance Committee

1st September 2016



Report of: Director of Public Health

Subject: Annual Review Health Status Presentation

1. TYPE OF DECISION/APPLICABLE CATEGORY

Non Key

2. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to present to the Audit and Governance Committee an annual update regarding the health status of the people of Hartlepool.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Understanding the health status of the population is a key public health activity. In order to improve and protect health, it is vital to understand what the health of a local population is like, in order to measure any positive or negative change.
- 3.2 Measuring health status is complex and relies on a range of data sources from routinely collected national and local quantitative statistics, as well as qualitative measures and adhoc and bespoke data collection.
- 3.3 Public Health England (PHE) has responsibility to support knowledge and intelligence across the health system. On an annual basis PHE produces local Health Profiles for each local authority area providing an overview of key measures relating to the Health and Well Being of a population. This is a useful resource for members of the Board.
- 3.4 The presentation provides Audit and Governance Committee with an opportunity to discuss what is known about the current health status of the people of Hartlepool. It is anticipated the discussion may help to and reaffirm priorities for action and service development.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Members of the Committee are asked to consider the content of the presentation and discuss the key messages regarding the health status of the people of Hartlepool.

5. CONTACT OFFICER

- 5.1 Louise Wallace
Director of Public Health
Hartlepool Borough Council
4th Floor Civic Centre
louise.wallace@hartlepool.gov.uk

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

01 September 2016



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: INVESTIGATION INTO ACCESS TO TRANSPORT
FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY – COVERING
REPORT

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Audit and Governance Committee of the working groups findings regarding the investigation into Access to Transport for People with a Disability.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At the meeting of the Audit and Governance Committee on 28 July 2016, Members agreed the aim, terms of reference and timescale for the investigation into Access to Transport for People with a Disability. At this meeting, the Committee agreed to establish working groups to gather evidence for the investigation. Three evidence gathering sessions have been held:-

Meeting 1 - 8 August at 10am – Current accessible transport provision in Hartlepool

Meeting 2 - 18 August at 2pm – To seek the views of service users and their families and interested stakeholders to identify current issues / problems with the transport provision in Hartlepool

Meeting 3 – 22 August at 4pm - Good practice and future access to transport provision

- 2.2 At today's meeting, the findings of the working groups will be reported to the Committee. Based on the findings/information provided, the Committee is requested to formulate a set of recommendations for inclusion in the draft final report, which will be presented to this Committee on 22 September 2016.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That the Committee note the findings of the working group and formulate recommendations for inclusion in the draft final report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

Contact Officer:- Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department – Legal Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1 September 2016



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

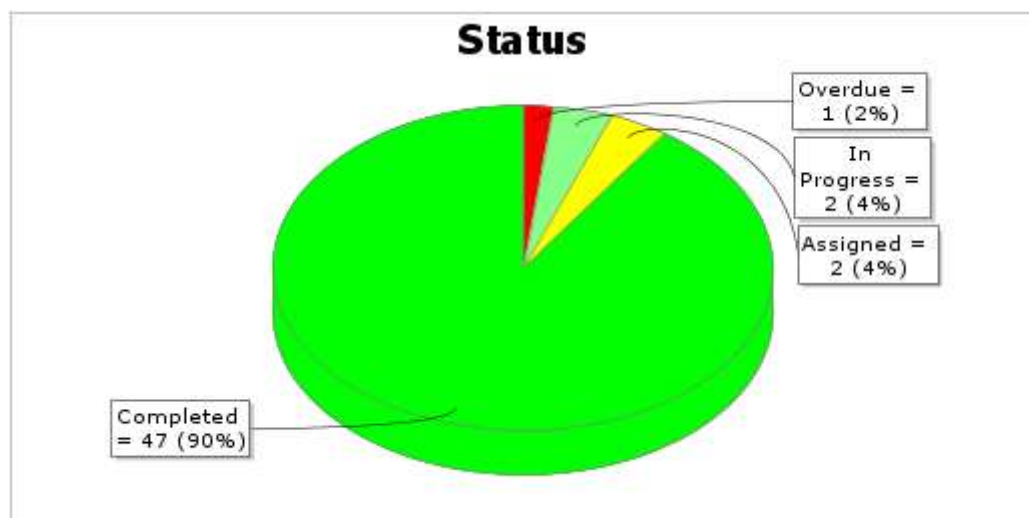
Subject: SIX MONTHLY MONITORING OF AGREED
SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide Members with the six monthly progress made on the delivery of scrutiny recommendations that fall within the remit of this Committee.


2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION


- 2.1 This report provides details of progress made against the investigations undertaken by this Committee in the 2013/14 and 2014/15 Municipal Year. **Chart 1** (overleaf) provides a detailed explanation of progress made against each scrutiny recommendation since the last six monthly monitoring report was presented to this Committee in February 2016.
- 2.2 Members will see that action SCR-HS/3e/ii is shown as overdue. An explanation of this is outlined in the update for this actions and the Committee is asked to approve an extension of the completion date to the 31 December 2016.



Year 2013/14
Investigation COPD

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-HS/1a/ii That the Health and Wellbeing Board develop a strategic approach to COPD to ensure that inequality is not worsened by:- (ii) ensuring that any changes to service provision are appropriately evaluated	SCR-HS/1a/ii/1 The CCG undertake regular review of our commissioned services in order to ensure that they are both effective pathways and complying with our objective to provide the best value for money in care services. Whilst we strive to be innovative in the services that we design and commission we also seek to learn from other areas. We continually monitor and	Scrutiny	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	16-Aug-2016 The commissioned Hartlepool and Stockton Specialist Stop Smoking Service uses a short 'lung health questionnaire' as a standard addition to their assessment procedure. All clients who attend a Stop Smoking Service drop in who are over the age of 35 are asked to complete the questionnaire as standard on their first visit. The aim is to highlight clients who may be at risk of developing chronic respiratory illness and refer them on to their own GP for	<div> <div style="width: 100%;">100%</div> <div>Completed</div> </div>

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	assess the services that are delivered and listen to the feedback and experiences of our patients. We are currently undertaking a review of COPD and Pulmonary Rehab (PR) services which aspires towards a more cost effective service, integrated with primary care and enhancing access to PR for lower levels of COPD severity.				further investigation. Answering 'yes' to 3 or more of the 5 questions constitutes somebody who may be at risk. These clients are referred directly to their own GP by the Service. They are also given a tear off card reminding them to contact their GP if they haven't been contacted within 4 weeks. In addition, for Hartlepool, a pilot study is currently underway whereby the Specialist Service can offer spirometry testing for eligible clients. 11-Apr-2016 Waiting for results of evaluation.	
SCR-HS/1b That the Health and Wellbeing Board explores ways to promote COPD support programmes, such as the pulmonary rehabilitation programme, to encourage people to attend	SCR-HS/1b/i The CCG are currently undertaking a review of our commissioned PR services to ensure that we commission services which will meet the needs of our patients. We continue to work with our GP members and the acute trust to encourage patients to access the programme and promote self-management. We have also implemented a scheme within practices to identify patients with COPD and which highlights PR use by practice with benchmarking between practices as well as prevalence and uptake of the COPD screening figures which are fed	Scrutiny	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	19-Aug-2016 The CCG have completed a review of our commissioned PR services to ensure that they commission services which will meet the needs of their patients and deliver services closer to them when needed. They continue to work with our GP members and the acute trust to encourage patients to access the commissioned programmes and actively promote self-management. They have also implemented a scheme within practices to identify patients with COPD and which highlights PR use by practice with benchmarking between practices as well as prevalence and uptake of the COPD screening figures which are fed back to practices to help to increase performance. 09-Oct-2015 The CCG has	 100% Complete d



Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
	back to practices to help to increase performance.				access to data on levels of activity related to the avoidable attendances and admissions associated with respiratory conditions and therefore this is a contributing factor to our efforts to encourage patient self – management.	
SCR-HS/1c That the Health and Wellbeing Board, through an integrated and co-ordinated approach, work in partnership with relevant organisations and groups to promote a consistent message on COPD through the use of a single questionnaire	SCR-HS/1c The CCG continually seek to work in partnership with other commissioners and providers to ensure that we are aware of patient needs and expectations and to develop ways to learn and progress together.	Scrutiny	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	11-Apr-2016 The CCG continually seek to work in partnership with other commissioners and providers to ensure that we are aware of patient needs and expectations and to develop ways to learn and progress together. Health and Wellbeing Board received the Action Plan in relation to the implementation of the Investigations recommendations at its meeting on the 2 March 2015. The Board noted progress of the COPD recommendations and action plan was noted	 100% Completed
					12-Jan-2016 The CCG continually seek to work in partnership with other commissioners and providers to ensure that we are aware of patient needs and expectations and to develop ways to learn and progress together. Health and Wellbeing Board received the Action Plan in relation to the implementation of the Investigations recommendations at its meeting on the 2 March 2015. The Board noted progress of the COPD recommendations and action plan was noted - to be progressed.	





Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
					<p>10-Feb-2015 This work is now progressing well with theatre in education performances/workshops for year 7 pupils being timetabled for the summer term. Additional performance planned for Year 10s to coincide with launch of smoking intervention for young people. School nurses, other school staff and youth workers are being trained to deliver this intervention with support from the Specialist Service.</p> <p>10-Feb-2015 The work is ongoing and a report has been prepared by the Tees Valley Public Health Shared Service for the March Board meeting.</p>	




Year 2014/15
Investigation CVD




Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-HS/3a/i That CVD provision commissioned by HBC be reviewed to ensure that it is effectively joined up and integrated to take advantage of the opportunities across service areas, with regard to the work being undertaken in relation to the	<p>SCR-HS/3a/i</p> <p>Ensure future CVD provision is considered as part of future developments across all service areas, including BCF.</p>	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2017	31-Mar-2017		<div>0%</div> Assigned

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
BCF; SCR-HS/3a/i It is effectively joined up and integrated to take advantage of the opportunities across service areas, with due regard to the wider piece of work being undertaken in relation to the Better Care Fund;						
SCR-HS/3a/ii That community provision for the delivery of Healthy Heart Checks is developed and the use of community buildings, such as community centres and libraries be explored to improve accessibility and sustainability of services and facilities	SCR-HS/3a/ii Ensure Health Check delivery is integrated into the proposed model for community hubs and is better aligned with existing health and social care services in the community.	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2017	31-Mar-2017		<div><div></div></div> 0% Assigned
SCR-HS/3a/iii That CVD provision commissioned by the Council be reviewed to ensure that there are no gaps/shortfalls in provision.	SCR-HS/3a/iii Health Check delivery will be closely monitored across all sites and among the eligible population to ensure targets are met.		31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	05-May-2016 Steering group established to monitor community provision.	<div><div>100%</div></div> Completed
SCR-HS/3b/i That as part of the	SCR-HS/3b/i Issues to be explored with GP practices with a	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	07-Apr-2016 The CVD review considered the GP practice	<div><div>100%</div></div> Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
service review of the HHC Programme currently being undertaken by the TVPHSS consideration be given to: (i) Why the take up of HHC varies across GP practices	view to a more consistent approach by sharing good practice.				provision in August 2015 and the Committee agreed to commission GPs to provide the NHS Health Check and performance is being monitored.	
SCR-HS/3b/ii That as part of the service review of the HHC Programme currently being undertaken by the TVPHSS consideration be given to: (ii) How those from the most deprived communities can be better engaged	Further consultation to be carried out with providers and the wider community to establish new approaches to awareness and engagement.	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	07-Apr-2016 At Finance and Policy Committee in August 2015, it was agreed that community health checks will be offered in the most deprived communities.	 100% Completed
SCR-HS/3b/iii That as part of the service review of the HHC currently being undertaken by the TVPHSS consideration be given to: (iii) How the process for the transmission of data to GPs practices in relation to HHC in community facilities could be improved	Data transfer processes are being reviewed to ensure patient information from community checks transfers seamlessly onto the GP clinical database.	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	07-Apr-2016 This process has been agreed through the Tees Valley Shared Public Health Service.	 100% Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
SCR-HS/3c That the Health and Wellbeing Board support the approach to amend the childhood measurement letter, for use in the next roll out of measurements, in order to make it compassionate and friendly by using suitable wording;	SCR-HS/3c Hartlepool is represented on the NCMP national steering group to feedback and influence decision-making around the communication of NCMP data. National letters have already been adapted locally and continue to be regularly reviewed.	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016		 Completed
SCR-HS/3d That an evaluation be undertaken of the work carried out in schools relating to CVD awareness, with focus on ensuring the continued provision of activities.	SCR-HS/3d/i Capacity within Public Health will need to be identified to carry out the CVD evaluation with schools.	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	12-Apr-2016 Evaluation undertaken and completed by Teesside University as part of the BHF Hearty Lives project	 Completed
SCR-HS/3d That an evaluation be undertaken of the work carried out in schools relating to CVD awareness, with focus on ensuring the continued provision of activities.	SCR-HS/3d/ii Initial scoping around the work in schools and 'what more schools can do' was carried out as part of the Healthy Weight Healthy Lives conference in February 2015 and a new obesity strategy for Hartlepool is currently in development.	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	12-Apr-2016 Exercise completed as part of Obesity Conference in 2015 and captured within Hartlepool Healthy Weight Strategy approved in September 2015	 Completed
SCR-HS/3d That an evaluation be undertaken of the	SCR-HS/3d/iii Further work will need to be aligned with the development of a	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	12-Apr-2016 Action addressed as part of Hartlepool Healthy Weight Strategy 2015-2025	 Completed

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
work carried out in schools relating to CVD awareness, with focus on ensuring the continued provision of activities.	'curriculum for life' as part of the overall obesity strategy.					
SCR-HS/3d That an evaluation be undertaken of the work carried out in schools relating to CVD awareness, with focus on ensuring the continued provision of activities.	SCR-HS/3d/iiii NEAS may be able to support CPR training alongside defibrillator provision	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	12-Apr-2016 Awaiting dates from NEAS to provide defib awareness training to key sites	 100% Completed
SCR-HS/3e/i That the Council continue to raise awareness of CVD by:- (i) Continuing to offer the Healthy Heart Check to Council staff;	SCR-HS/3e/i Further NHS Health Check opportunities to be promoted with HBC staff across all sites utilising nurse bank and mobile health improvement service.	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2017	31-Mar-2017	08-Jul-2016 Community Healthy Heart Check (HHC) events have now taken place in MGSC (6-10 June) and the Orb Centre (26 May, 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 June). 64 HHCs carried out in MGSC, 17 HHCs carried out in Orb Centre up to 9/6/16. Awaiting data from health bus who were also present at the MGSC event. A further week of activity will take place in MGSC w/c 25 July and will be promoted to HBC staff. 12-Apr-2016 New steering group established and initial pilot community locations identified - Middleton Grange Shopping Centre and Burn Valley ward	 50% In Progress
SCR-HS/3e/ii That the Council continue to raise awareness of CVD	SCR-HS/3e/ii To be arranged with NEAS as part of Community Defibrillation	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	18-Aug-2016 Action not complete due to NEAS restructure. A new officer is now in place to lead on resuscitation	 50% Overdue

Recommendation	Action	Assigned To	Original Due Date	Due Date	Note	Progress
by:- (ii) Encouraging Council staff to become CPR trained	programme – awaiting dates for training.				training so a course for HBC staff will be provided later in 2016. 08-Jul-2016 Awaiting dates for training from NEAS	
SCR-HS/3e/iii That the Council continue to raise awareness of CVD by:- (iii) Publicising the Healthy Heart Checks in all Council buildings and GP practices.	SCR-HS/3e/iii Promotional materials to be developed and circulated to all sites and key services.	Louise Wallace	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	05-May-2016 Promotional materials developed.	 100% Completed
SCR-HS/3f/i That the Health and Wellbeing Board:- (i) Encourage businesses across Hartlepool to install defibrillators within their workplace and register the defibrillators with NEAS	SCR-HS/3f/i Businesses involved in Better Health at Work Award to be approached initially. Several businesses already have defibs in place but exercise is needed to confirm registration with NEAS.	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2017	31-Mar-2017	08-Jul-2016 Report on a further roll-out of the defib scheme going to F&P committee in July. Current defib locations have been mapped and need to check registration with NEAS. 12-Apr-2016 Schools approached initially as part of Defibs for Hartlepool charity group	 50% In Progress
SCR-HS/3f/ii That the Health and Wellbeing Board ii) Explore the installation of defibrillators in venues for community provision usage, including the Health Bus.	SCR-HS/3f/ii Units in place in HBC sites and Parish Councils – further locations have been identified for phase 2.	Steven Carter	31-Mar-2016	31-Mar-2016	18-Aug-2016 Further funding for phase 2 of the project agreed at July F&P committee. 08-Jul-2016 Further sites identified as part of thye next phase of the defib project - report going to F&P committee in July.	 100% Completed

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 That Members:

- i) Note progress against the agreed recommendations and explore further where appropriate.
- ii) Approve the extension of the completion date for action SCR-HS/3e/ii to the 31 December 2016.

4. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 In order for Members to continue to monitor the progress of Scrutiny recommendations.

5. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- (a) Report of the Scrutiny Support Officer entitled 'Six Monthly Monitoring of Agreed Scrutiny Recommendations' presented to the Audit and Governance Committee on 11 February 2016.

6. CONTACT OFFICER

Joan Stevens – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department – Legal Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 284142
Email: joan.stevens@hartlepool.gov.uk

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1st September 2016



Report of: Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

Subject: SAFER HARTLEPOOL PARTNERSHIP
PERFORMANCE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance for Quarter 1 – April 2016 to June 2016 (inclusive).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The updated Community Safety Plan 2014-17 published in 2016 outlined the Safer Hartlepool Partnership strategic objectives, annual priorities and key performance indicators 2016/17.

3. PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 3.1 The report attached (**Appendix A**) provides an overview of Safer Hartlepool Partnership performance during Quarter 1, comparing current performance to the same time period in the previous year, where appropriate.
- 3.2 In line with reporting categories defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS), recorded crime information is presented as:

Victim-based crime – All police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Other crimes against society - All police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state.

The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons

4. PROPOSALS

- 4.1 No options submitted for consideration other than the recommendations.

5. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equality of diversity implications.

6. SECTION 17

- 6.1 There are no Section 17 implications.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The Audit and Governance Committee note and comment on partnership performance in Quarter 1.

8. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Audit and Governance Committee has within its responsibility to act as the Councils Crime and Disorder Committee and in doing so scrutinise the performance management of the Safer Hartlepool Partnership.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:-

Safer Hartlepool Partnership – Community Safety Plan 2014-17

10. CONTACT OFFICER

Denise Ogden
Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods
Civic Centre
Hartlepool Borough Council
(01429 523301)
Denise.ogden@hartlepool.gov.uk

Clare Clark, Head of Community Safety and Engagement

Hartlepool Borough Council
(01429) 523100
clare.clark@hartlepool.gov.uk

APPENDIX A**Safer Hartlepool Partnership Performance Indicators – Quarter 1 - 2016/17**Strategic Objective: Reduce Crime & Repeat Victimisation

Indicator Name	Baseline 2015/16	Local Directional Target 2016/17	Current Position Apr 16 - Jun 16	Actual Difference	% Difference
All Recorded Crime	8,133	Reduce	2,030	32	1.6%
Domestic Burglary	333	Reduce	51	-39	-43.3%
Vehicle Crime	567	Reduce	115	-22	-16.1%
Shoplifting	1,246	Reduce	361	80	28.5%
Local Violence	1,821	Reduce	487	52	12.0%
Repeat Incidents of Domestic Violence – MARAC	45%	Reduce	42%	12	32%

Strategic Objective: Reduce the harm caused by Drugs and Alcohol

Indicator Name	Baseline 2015/16	Local Directional Target 2016/17	Current Position Apr 16 - Jun 16	Actual Difference	% Difference
Number of substance misusers going into effective treatment – Opiate	653	3% increase	666	-26	-3.8%
Proportion of substance misusers that successfully complete treatment - Opiate	4.1%	12%	5.6%	-6	-0.6%
Proportion of substance misusers who successfully complete treatment and represent back into treatment within 6 months of leaving treatment	25%	10%	33.3%	-6	-6.1%
Reduction in the rate of alcohol related harm hospital admissions	131	Reduce	Data expected August 2016**		
Number of young people found in possession of alcohol*	31	Reduce	Data not available due to technical difficulties with Police IT systems		

Strategic Objective: Create Confident, Cohesive and Safe Communities

Indicator Name	Baseline 2015/16	Local Directional Target 2016/17	Current Position Apr 16 - Jun 16	Actual Difference	% Difference
Anti-social Behaviour Incidents reported to the Police	6,705	Reduce	1,687	-80	-4.5%
Deliberate Fires	421	Reduce	91	-38	-29.5%
Criminal Damage to Dwellings	532	Reduce	115	-14	-11%
Hate Incidents	129	Increase	43	9	26%

Strategic Objective: Reduce Offending & Re-Offending

Indicator Name	Baseline 2015/16	Local Directional Target 2016/17	Current Position Apr 16 - Jun 16	Actual Difference	% Difference
Re-offending rate of young offenders*	1.7	Reduce	1.5	-0.2	-11.8%
First-Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System	35	Reduce	7	-2	-22.2%
Offences committed by Prolific & Priority Offenders	Data unavailable	Reduce	57	-27	-32%
Number of Troubled Families engaged with	307	530	313	217	59%
Number of Troubled Families where results have been claimed	35	168	51	117	30%

* Re-offending figure is based on Cohort tracking – new cohort starts every quarter and this cohort (i.e. of Young Persons) is then tracked for a period of 12 months. Example: Jul 2013 to Jun 2014 and tracked until end of Jun 2015

Recorded Crime in Hartlepool April 16 – June 16**Victim-based crime**

All police-recorded crimes where there is a direct victim. This victim could be an individual, an organisation or corporate body. This category includes violent crimes directed at a particular individual or individuals, sexual offences, robbery, theft offences (including burglary and vehicle offences), criminal damage and arson.

Crime Category/Type	Apr 15 - Jun 15	Apr 16 - Jun 16	Change	% Change
Violence against the person	435	487	52	12.0%
Homicide	0	1	1	100.0%
Violence with injury	218	200	-18	-8.3%
Violence without injury	217	286	69	31.8%
Sexual Offences	45	37	-8	-17.8%
Rape	11	11	0	0.0%
Other Sexual Offences	34	26	-8	-23.5%
Robbery	18	13	-5	-27.8%
Business Robbery	1	1	0	0.0%
Personal Robbery	17	12	-5	-29.4%
Acquisitive Crime	953	942	-11	-1.2%
Domestic Burglary	90	51	-39	-43.3%
Other Burglary	123	91	-32	-26.0%
Bicycle Theft	42	36	-6	-14.3%
Theft from the Person	8	5	-3	-37.5%
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	137	115	-22	-16.1%
Shoplifting	281	361	80	28.5%
Other Theft	272	283	11	4.0%
Criminal Damage & Arson	369	351	-18	-4.9%
Total	1820	1830	10	0.5%

Other crimes against society

All police-recorded crimes where there are no direct individual victims. This includes public disorder, drug offences, possession of weapons and other items, handling stolen goods and other miscellaneous offences committed against the state.

The rates for some crime types within this category could be increased by proactive police activity, for example searching people and finding them in possession of drugs or weapons.

Crime Category/Type	Apr 15 - Jun 15	Apr 16 - Jun 16	Change	% Change
Public Disorder	66	79	13	19.7%
Drug Offences	74	70	-4	-5.4%
Trafficking of drugs	20	8	-12	-60.0%
Possession/Use of drugs	54	62	8	14.8%
Possession of Weapons	17	16	-1	-5.9%
Misc. Crimes Against Society	21	35	14	66.7%
Total Police Generated Crime	178	200	22	12.4%
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME IN HARTLEPOOL	1998	2030	32	1.6%

Recorded Crime in Cleveland April 16 – June 16**Victim-based Crime**

Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Violence against the person	487	5.3	556	4.2	1053	7.7	909	4.8	3005	5.5
Homicide	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Violence with injury	200	2.2	253	1.9	413	3.0	394	2.1	1260	2.3
Violence without injury	286	3.1	303	2.3	640	4.7	515	2.7	1744	3.2
Sexual Offences	37	0.4	60	0.4	115	0.8	96	0.5	308	0.6
Rape	11	0.1	22	0.2	40	0.3	33	0.2	106	0.2
Other Sexual Offences	26	0.3	38	0.3	75	0.6	63	0.3	202	0.4
Robbery	13	0.1	8	0.1	40	0.3	19	0.1	80	0.1
Business Robbery	1	0.0	1	0.0	2	0.0	3	0.0	7	0.0
Personal Robbery	12	0.1	7	0.1	38	0.3	16	0.1	73	0.1
Acquisitive Crime	942	10.3	1374	10.3	1706	12.5	1607	8.5	5629	10.3
Domestic Burglary	51	1.3	127	2.1	195	3.4	175	2.2	548	2.3
Other Burglary	91	1.0	230	1.7	187	1.4	204	1.1	712	1.3
Bicycle Theft	36	0.4	36	0.3	72	0.5	66	0.4	210	0.4
Theft from the Person	5	0.1	20	0.1	38	0.3	30	0.2	93	0.2
Vehicle Crime (Inc Inter.)	115	1.3	308	2.3	245	1.8	204	1.1	872	1.6
Shoplifting	361	4.0	317	2.4	528	3.9	527	2.8	1733	3.2
Other Theft	283	3.1	336	2.5	441	3.2	401	2.1	1461	2.7
Criminal Damage & Arson	351	3.9	603	4.5	663	4.9	528	2.8	2145	3.9
Total	1830	20.1	2601	19.4	3577	26.3	3159	16.8	11167	20.3

Other crimes against society

Crime Category/Type	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop	Crime	Per 1,000 pop
Public Disorder	66	0.7	59	0.4	214	1.6	136	0.7	475	0.9
Drug Offences	74	0.8	54	0.4	110	0.8	79	0.4	317	0.6
Trafficking of drugs	20	0.2	9	0.1	19	0.1	13	0.1	61	0.1
Possession/Use of drugs	54	0.6	45	0.3	91	0.7	66	0.4	256	0.5
Possession of Weapons	17	0.2	16	0.1	22	0.2	23	0.1	78	0.1
Misc. Crimes Against Society	21	0.2	42	0.3	56	0.4	55	0.3	174	0.3
Total Police Generated Crime	178	2.0	171	1.3	402	3.0	293	1.6	1044	1.9
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME	2030	22.3	2772	20.7	3979	29.2	3452	18.4	12233	22.3

Anti-social Behaviour in Hartlepool April 16 – June 16

Incident Category	Apr 15 - Jun 15	Apr 16 - Jun 16	Change	% Change
AS21 - Personal	558	624	66	11.8%
AS22 - Nuisance	1159	1028	-131	-11.3%
AS23 - Environmental	50	35	-15	-30.0%
Total	1767	1687	-80	-4.5%

Anti-social Behaviour in Cleveland April 16 – June 16

Incident Category	HARTLEPOOL		REDCAR		MIDDLESBROUGH		STOCKTON		CLEVELAND	
	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop	ASB	Per 1,000 pop
AS21 - Personal	624	6.9	827	6.2	1138	8.3	1122	6.0	3711	6.8
AS22 - Nuisance	1028	11.3	1657	12.4	2017	14.7	2025	10.8	6727	12.3
AS23 - Environmental	35	0.4	77	0.6	68	0.5	63	0.3	243	0.4
Total	1687	18.5	2561	19.1	3223	23.6	3210	17.1	10681	19.5
Quarterly Year on Year Comparison	Reduced by 4.5%		Reduced by 2%		Reduced by 10%		Increased by 3%		Reduced by 5%	

AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

1st September 2016



Report of: Director of Child and Adult Services

Subject: YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 -2017

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consult with members of the Audit and Governance Committee on the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2016-2017 (**Appendix 1**).
- 1.2 Finance and Policy Committee will receive a final draft of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan that will include any recommendations from the Children's Services Committee, Safer Hartlepool Partnership and Audit and Governance Committee on 5 September 2016. Full Council will be asked to ratify the plan in October 2016.
- 1.3 The Strategic Plan will also be submitted to the National Youth Justice Board.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The national Youth Justice System primarily exists to ensure that children and young people between the age of 10 and 17 do not engage in offending or re-offending behaviour. It also ensures that where a young person is arrested and charged with a criminal offence, they are dealt with differently to adult offenders to reflect their particular welfare needs as children.
- 2.2 Local Youth Offending Services were established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to develop, deliver, commission and coordinate the provision of youth justice services within each Local Authority.
- 2.3 Hartlepool Youth Offending Service was established in April 2000 and is responsible for youth justice services locally. It is a multi-agency service and is made up of representatives from the Council's Children's Services, Police, Probation, Health, Education, Community Safety and the voluntary /community sector.

- 2.4 There is a statutory requirement for all Youth Offending Services to annually prepare a local Youth Justice Plan for submission to the national Youth Justice Board.
- 2.5 The annual Youth Justice Plan provides an overview of how the Youth Offending Service, the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board and wider partnership ensure that the service has sufficient resources and infrastructure to deliver youth justice services in its area in line with the requirements of the *National Standards for Youth Justice Services* to:
- promote performance improvement;
 - shape youth justice system improvement;
 - improve outcomes for young people, victims and the broader community.

3. PROPOSALS/ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 It is proposed that the Youth Offending Service and broader Youth Justice Partnership focus on the following key strategic objectives during 2016-17:
- **Early Intervention and Prevention** - Sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that there remain strategies and services in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.
 - **Re-offending** - Reducing further offending by young people who have committed crime with a particular emphasis on the development of activities to address the offending behaviour of young women.
 - **Remand and Custody** - Demonstrate that there are robust alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands to custody whilst awaiting trial/sentencing.
 - **Voice of the Young Person** - ensure that all young people are actively involved in developing their own plans and interventions and have the opportunity to develop and inform current and future service delivery.
 - **Effective Governance** - ensure that the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board is a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.

4. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The strategic plan identifies key risk to future delivery as detailed in Section 8 of the plan these are:

- The unpredictability associate with secure remand episodes and secure remand length has the potential to place significant financial pressure on the Youth Justice Service and the broader Local Authority
- There is a national review of Youth Justice Service commissioned by the Secretary of State for Justice Sir Michael Gove being undertaken by Mr Charlie Taylor the outcomes of which is expected within the next month, it is however anticipated that there will be for reaching reforms that will be introduced within this financial year.
- Implementation of Asset Plus is a significant practice change in relation to the core business within the team, it is important that the service continues to support staff through training, coaching and oversight to ensure high standard of assessment and planning.

5. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 5.1 There has been a significant reduction in grant from the Youth Justice Board and from partner agencies for 16/17. The settlement notification was not confirmed until April 2016 consequently it was difficult to plan for 2016/17. However provision has been made to balance the budget for 2016/17 in anticipation of a reduction in funding pending a service review. It is expected that further budget reductions will take place over the next few years.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 For members of the partnership to consider the Youth Justice Plan 2016-2017 and make any recommendations to be presented to Finance and Policy Committee in September.

7. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The development of the Youth Justice plan for 2016-2017 will provide the Youth Justice Service with a clear steer to enable further reductions in youth offending and contribute to improving outcomes for children, young people and their families alongside the broader community.

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

The Youth Justice Boards: Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework (Guidance for Youth Justice Board English Regions available at: <http://www.justice.gov.uk>)

9. CONTACT OFFICER

- 9.1 Danielle Swainston, Assistant Director Children's Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, Level 4, Civic Centre, TS24 8AY. Tel 01429 523732. E-mail danielle.swainston@hartlepool.gov.uk

Jane Young, Head of Service, Child and Adult Services, Hartlepool Borough Council, level 4, Civic Centre, TS24 8AY. Tel 01429 523405. E-mail jane.young@hartlepool.gov.uk



HARTLEPOOL

YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2016 - 2017

1	FOREWARD	Page 3
2	INTRODUCTION	Page 5
3	WHAT WE HAVE ACHEIVED IN 2015/16	Page 7
4	PROPOSED STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES	Page 21
5	RESOURCES AND VALUE FOR MONEY	Page 24
6	STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE	Page 26
7	PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS	Page 29
8	RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY	Page 30
9	STRATEGIC SUMMARY	Page 32

1. FOREWARD

Welcome to the 2016 - 2017 Hartlepool Youth Justice Strategic Plan. This plan sets out our ambitions and priorities for Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and the broader local Youth Justice Partnership for the coming year.

Hartlepool's Community Strategy 2008-20 establishes a vision for the town:

"Hartlepool will be an ambitious, healthy, respectful, inclusive, thriving and outward looking community, in an attractive and safe environment, where everyone is able to realise their potential".

The Youth Justice Service and broader partnership has a key role in contributing to this vision by building upon our historical delivery of high quality, effective and safe youth justice services that prevent crime and the fear of crime, whilst ensuring that young people who do offend are identified, managed and supported appropriately and without delay.

In recent years Hartlepool has witnessed a significant reduction in youth crime. The local youth justice partnership has been particularly effective in reducing the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time; but there remains a need to drive down incidents of re-offending by young people who have previously offended through a combination of robust interventions designed to manage and reduce risk and vulnerability, restore relationships, promote whole family engagement and positive outcomes.

This plan builds upon our progress to date whilst acknowledging that the enduring economic climate, welfare reform and the introduction of new legislation and reforms relating to how we respond to children, young people, families and communities will inevitably present new challenges in the coming year.

Despite these challenges I am confident that Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and the broader Youth Justice Partnership will continue to help make Hartlepool a safer place to live, work, learn and play.

As always, the Strategic Management Board is extremely grateful for the skill and dedication of our employees in supporting young people who offend or are at risk of becoming involved in offending in Hartlepool.

On behalf of the Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board I am pleased to endorse the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2016 -2017.

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Beeston', written in a cursive style.

Lynn Beeston Youth Justice Service Strategic Management Board Chair

2. INTRODUCTION

The National Youth Justice System primarily exists to ensure that children and young people between the age of 10 and 17 who are arrested and charged with a criminal offence are dealt with differently to adult offenders to reflect their particular welfare needs. In summary, children and young people who offend are:

- Dealt with by youth courts
- Given different sentences in comparison to adults
- And when necessary, detained in special secure centres for young people as opposed to adult prisons.

It is the responsibility of the Local Authority and statutory partners to secure and coordinate local youth justice services for all of those young people in the Local Authority area who come into contact with the Youth Justice System as a result of their offending behaviour through the establishment and funding of **Youth Justice Services**.

The primary functions of Youth Justice Services are to prevent offending and re-offending by children and young people and reduce the use of custody.

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service was established in April 2000 and is responsible for the delivery of youth justice services locally. It is a multi-agency service and is made up of representatives from the Council's Children's Services, Police, Probation, Health, Education, Community Safety and the local voluntary/community sector and seeks to ensure that:

- All children and young people entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk and protective factors associated with offending behaviour to inform effective intervention.
- Courts and youth offender panels are provided with high quality reports that enable sentencers to make informed decisions regarding sentencing.

- Court orders are managed in such a way that they support the primary aim of the youth justice system, which is to prevent offending, and that they have regard to the welfare of the child or young person.
- Services provided to courts are of a high quality and that magistrates and the judiciary have confidence in the supervision of children and young people who are subject to orders.
- Comprehensive bail and remand management services are in place locally for children and young person's remanded or committed to custody, or on bail while awaiting trial or sentence.
- The needs and risks of young people sentenced to custodial orders (including long-term custodial orders) are addressed effectively to enable effective resettlement and management of risk.
- Those receiving youth justice services are treated fairly regardless of race, language, gender, religion, sexual orientation, disability or any other factor, and actions are put in place to address unfairness where it is identified

In addition to the above, the remit of the service has widened significantly in recent years due to both national and local developments relating to prevention, diversion and restorative justice and there is a now requirement to ensure that:

- Strategies and services are in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime or anti-social behaviour.
- Assistance is provided to the Police when determining whether Cautions should be given.
- Out-of-court disposals deliver targeted interventions for those at risk of further offending.
- Restorative justice approaches are used, where appropriate, with victims of crime and that restorative justice is central to work undertaken with young people who offend.

The Hartlepool Youth Justice Plan for 2016-2017 sets out how youth justice services will be delivered, funded and governed in response to both local need and the changing landscape and how the Hartlepool Youth Justice Service will work in partnership to prevent offending and re-offending by Children & Young People and reduce the use of custody.

3. WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED IN 2015/2016

A review of progress made against last year's plan highlights that the service has made progress across the majority of the year's priorities; but there remains key areas for improvement that will need to be driven forward in the coming year:

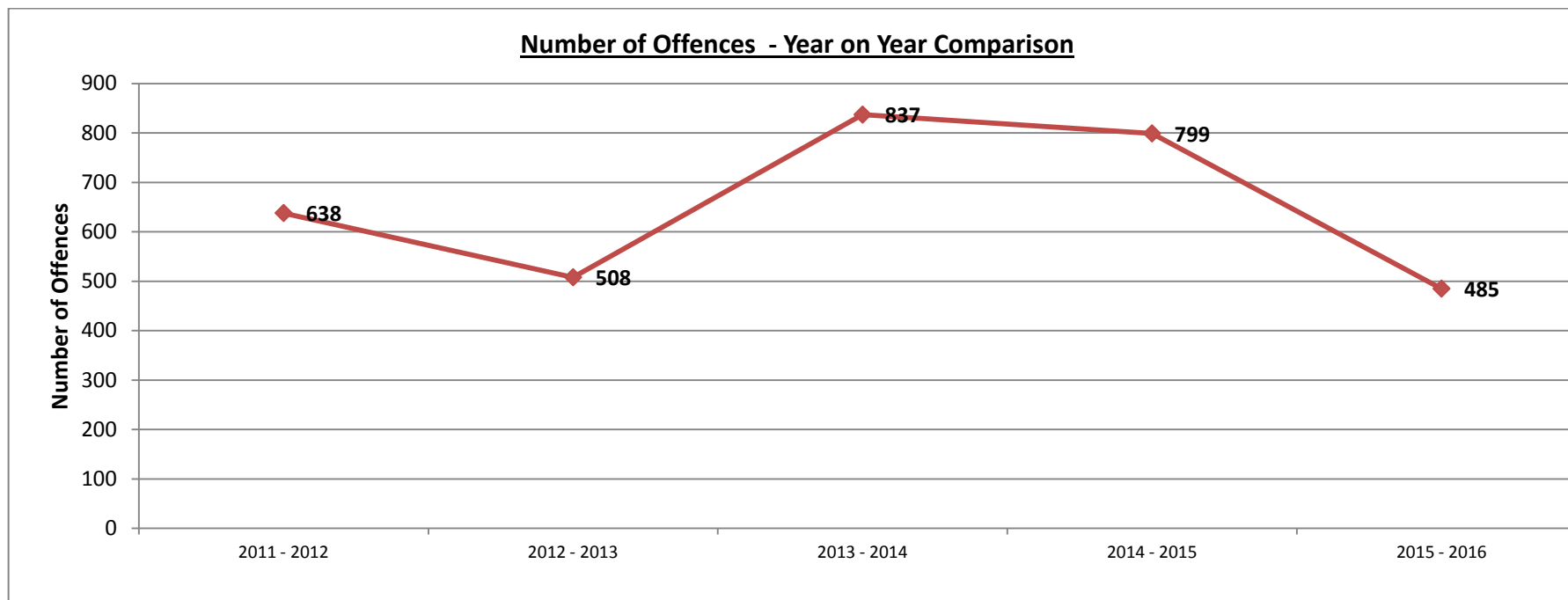
	Comments
Early Intervention and Prevention – sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that their remain strategies and services in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour	<p>The number of first time entrants into the Youth Justice System did not increase from the figure in 2014 – 2015, remaining constant at 35 in 2015-16.</p> <p>Partnership arrangements with Cleveland Police remain established and effective in relation to the diversion of young people from the Youth Justice System, through the delivery of Out Of Court Disposals.</p>
Re-offending - reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime	<p>The way this performance indicator is measured has been changed nationally which has made direct comparisons with historical performance difficult.</p> <p>This said, although Hartlepool is still above the national and regional average, the YJMIS reoffending data provides an encouraging picture, in that a reduction of 4.6% has been achieved. Alongside this, the number of re-offenders has reduced from 65 in 2014/15, to 54 in 2015/16 and also the number of re-offences has dropped from 182 in 2014/15 to 136 in 2015/16.</p>

<p>Remand and Custody – demonstrate that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.</p>	<p>The number of remand episodes has decreased from 5 in 2014-2015 to just 2 in 2015/16.</p> <p>Bail Supervision and Support/ISS packages are available and offered (where necessary or appropriate) as an alternative to custody.</p> <p>The number of custodial sentences has remained constant for both 2014-2015 and 2015/16 at 4 young people.</p> <p>The number of breaches of Bail conditions and community based orders has decreased from 45 in 2014-2015 to 36 in 2015/16.</p> <p>Compliance panels are now established within YOS practice, as a means by which barriers to engagement and reasons for lack of engagement are discussed and addressed between the case manager, the young person and their family and chaired by a member of YOS management.</p>
<p>Restorative Justice – ensure all victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches and restorative justice is central to work undertaken with young people who offend.</p>	<p>All victims of youth crime continue to be provided with the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches and restorative justice remains central to work undertaken with young people who offend.</p> <p>82% of contactable victims in 2015-2016 chose to engage in a restorative process, in comparison to 63% in 2014-2015. This represents an increase of 19%.</p> <p>During 2015/16 there was a demonstrable increase in the numbers of victims opting to participate in direct restorative processes. In all, 13 victims participated, which is a marked increase on the 2014/15 figure of 3.</p>

<p>Risk and Vulnerability – ensure all children and young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk and vulnerability to inform effective intervention and risk management.</p>	<p>Risk and vulnerability arrangements continue to benefit from regular audit activity to ensure that all young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk and vulnerability to inform effective intervention and risk management.</p>
<p>Think Family – embed a whole family approach to better understand the true impact of families in our communities and improve our understanding of the difficulties faced by all members of the family and how this can contribute to anti-social and offending behaviour.</p>	<p>Think Family approach is successfully embedded within the service and will continue to be monitored through established quality assurance and performance measures.</p>
<p>Maintain Standards – work undertaken by the YOS remains effective and achieves individual, team, service, community and national aims and objectives.</p>	<p>Audit activity (based on the YJB Thematic of ‘Reducing FTEs’ and verified by the national Youth Justice Board) in 2015-2016 indicates that Hartlepool YOS is meeting national standards relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NS1 - Prevention NS2 – Out of Court Disposals NS7 – Work with Victims of Crime <p>The YJB confirmed that no validation visit was required in relation to the successful performance of Hartlepool YOS against these standards.</p>
<p>Effective Governance – ensure that the Youth Offending Strategic Management Board remains a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.</p>	<p>The Youth Offending Strategic Management Board continues to be a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Offending Service performance.</p> <p>It is prudent that the board’s membership and activity is reviewed to reflect the reorganisation that has, and is, taking place internally and across partner organisations.</p>

Young Offenders

In spite of the adversities that significant numbers of young people, families and communities contend with in Hartlepool the local Youth Justice Partnership has had significant success in recent years in terms of preventing and reducing youth offending behaviour.



Given the decision in 2014 to transfer Youth Court listings to Teesside Magistrates, it was anticipated that there would be an increase in Breach of Bail as young people and their broader families struggle to undertake the journey from Hartlepool to Teesside. Figures suggest that this decision has not had the anticipated impact which can be attributed to the broader reductions in overall court appearances and the services efforts to secure transport for young people and families who have barriers to accessing transport. In addition, the rise in Restorative Interventions (for which responsibility lies with the Police) has also helped to restrict the number of Young People entering the Criminal justice system and the Court system.

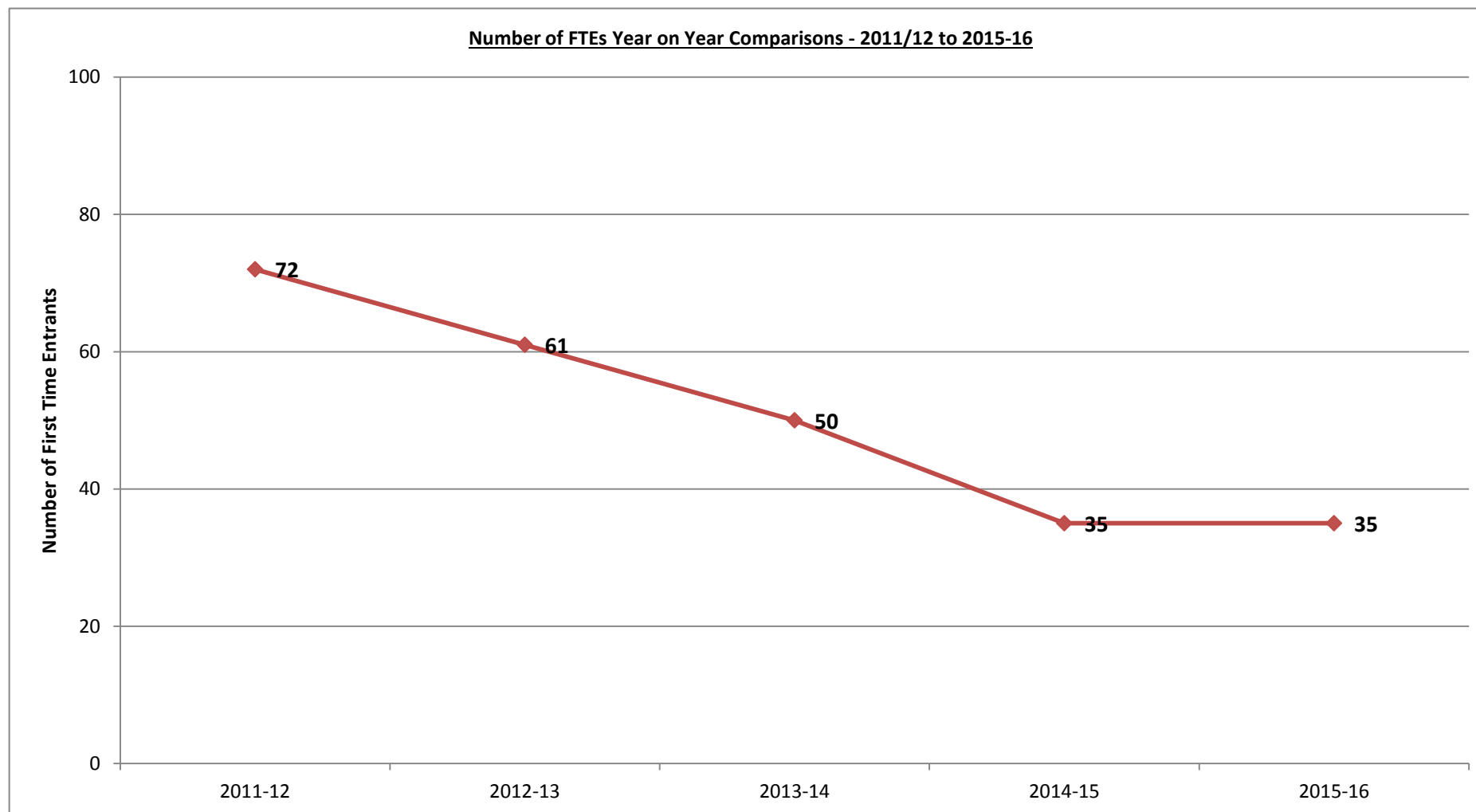
Prevention and Diversion

In recent years, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and the broader youth justice partnership have placed a significant emphasis on the prevention of young people's involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour and this has had a notable impact upon the numbers of young people entering the Youth Justice System.

Youth crime prevention and diversion is based on the premise that it is possible to change the life-course trajectories of young people by reducing risk factors that may lead to offending behaviour and building on protective factors that might help prevent offending.

It marks a concerted shift away from reactive spending towards early action and intervention through a range of programmes for young people who are deemed to be at risk of offending, which can result in better outcomes and greater value for money.

For young people whose behaviour has become more problematic robust out of court interventions have proven to be highly successful in diverting young people away from further involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour. The use of out of court interventions are able to impress upon the young people the seriousness and potentially damaging effect of their actions however they do not criminalise the young people in the way that statutory court orders inevitably do. Performance in the area has remained static in 2015/16 and will continue to be a priority for the 2016/17.

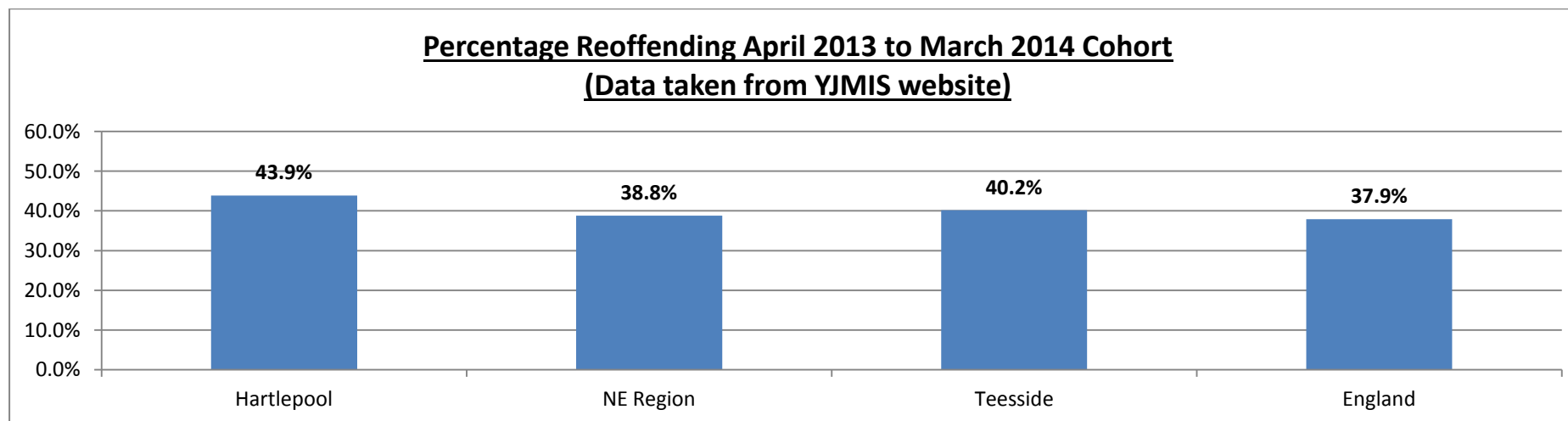
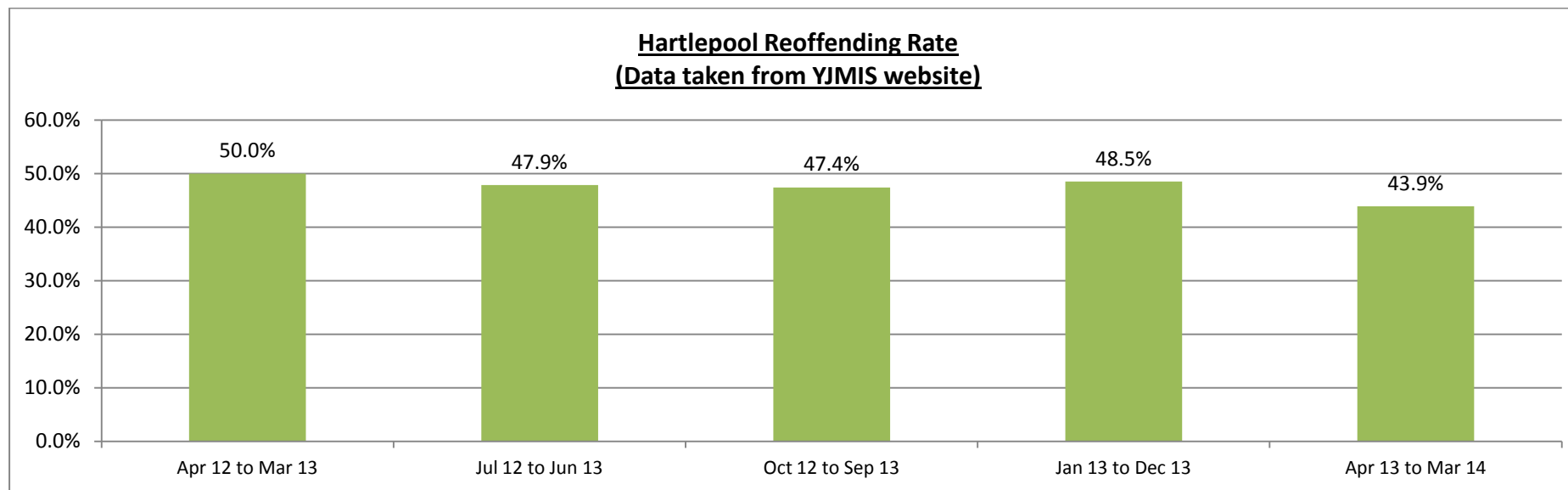


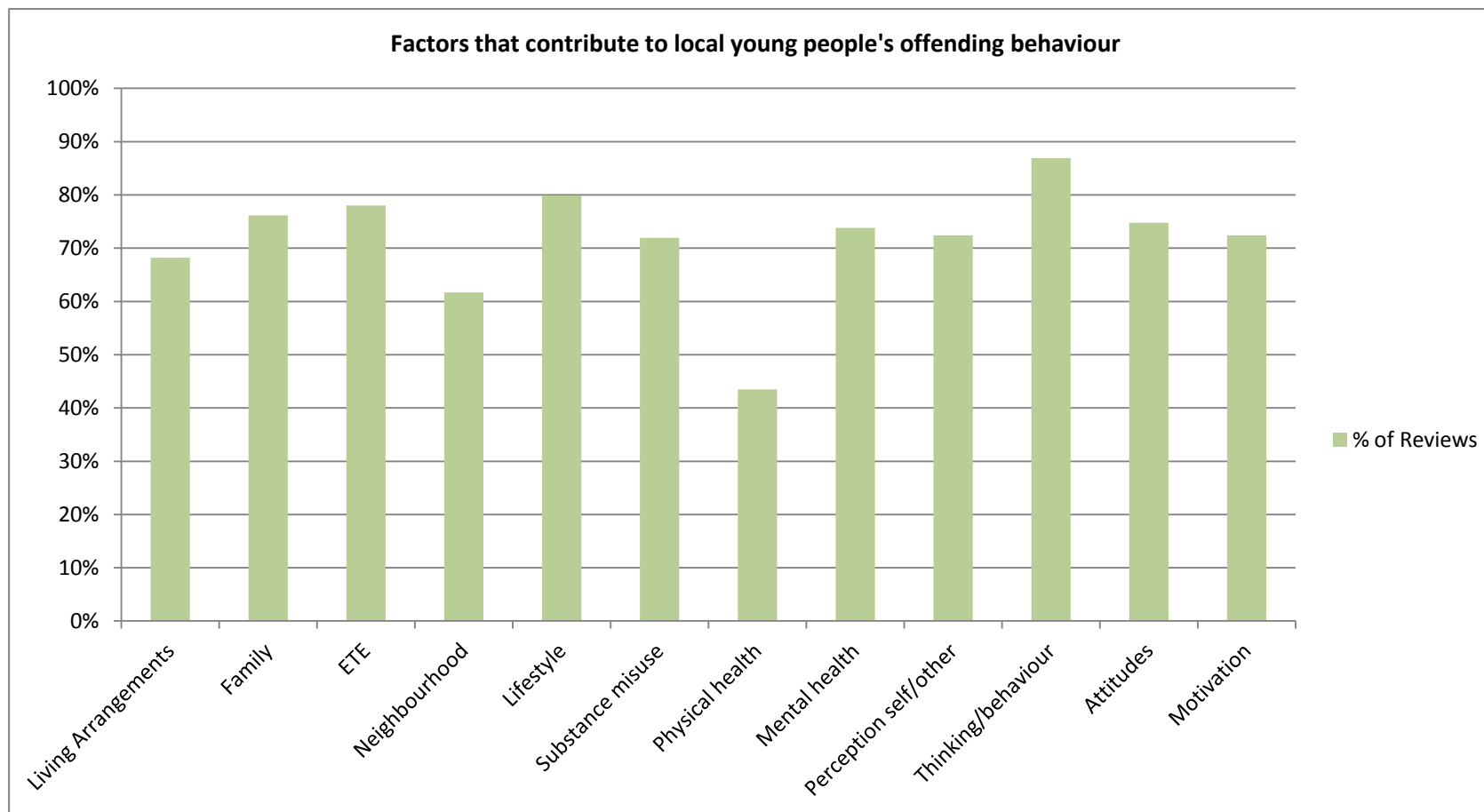
Re-offending

On top of the continuing reductions in the numbers of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time, we are now starting to see a reduction in the numbers of young people going onto re-offend. However, the rate of reoffending remains above the national and regional average and this needs to be addressed in the coming year. This will be primarily through improvements in assessments and in the structure of the interventions 'offer' to young people under YJS supervision and using feedback from young people to inform service delivery.

Cohort	Number in cohort	No of Reoffenders	No of Reoffences	Re-offences / Re-offenders	% Reoffending
Apr 12 to Mar 13	142	71	197	2.77	50.0%
Jul 12 to Jun 13	140	67	189	2.82	47.9%
Oct 12 to Sep 13	135	64	175	2.73	47.4%
Jan 13 to Dec 13	134	65	182	2.80	48.5%
Apr 13 to Mar 14	123	54	136	2.52	43.9%

Note: The cohort is tracked for a period of 12 months plus another further waiting period of six months. April 2013 to March 2014 tracked, and reporting for the quarter ending-December 2015.





Analysis highlights that the service is dealing with smaller caseloads which consist of much more complex individuals with multiple risks and vulnerabilities. Within the overall caseload, an analysis of the 'Top Ten' repeat offenders during 2015/16, reveals a cohort which display broader lifestyle choices relating to substance misuse and the need to generate income to maintain substance misuse levels. This also reflects the national and regional picture in terms of caseload composition.

Furthermore, this cohort of repeat offenders are predominantly young males who are aged between 15 and 17 and who reside within Hartlepool's most deprived neighbourhoods. Although not mutually exclusive, the common criminogenic and welfare issues prevalent amongst this cohort are identified as:

- higher than average mental health needs
- higher levels of drug and alcohol use than for the general population and in particular 'heavy cannabis use'
- low educational attachment, attendance and attainment
- having family members or friends who offend
- higher than average levels of loss, bereavement, abuse and violence experienced within the family
- a history of family disruption
- chaotic and unstructured lifestyles

Alongside this cohort of young males, there is another cohort of young females aged 16-17, whom although perhaps not as prolific in terms of reoffending they are of significant concern due to multiple complex issues which are more welfare-orientated. These include: Substance misuse, chaotic lifestyles, sexual exploitation, missing from home and family breakdown. Again, as with the male cohort, young females who are offending are noted to have a higher prevalence of poor emotional well-being. Analysis shows that this arises from loss, bereavement and domestic or sexual abuse.

Working in partnership will be the key to supporting a greater understanding these underlying issues and addressing them in a holistic and co-ordinated way to provide "pathways out of offending", reduce crime and break the cycle of offending behaviour across generations. This partnership, collaborative work is achieved through:

- Better Childhood In Hartlepool,
- Think Families, Think Communities,
- Education Leadership Commission and;
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation

It is also important to adopt an 'intelligence-led' targeted approach (particularly around prevention) and service-wide staff training to improve assessment and responses to Speech, Language, & Communication, Emotional Health and Wellbeing. An important element to the reduction of reoffending and reduction is entering the youth justice system is the development of the YJS 'offer'. This is structured and bespoke quality interventions (both by the YJS staff and partner agencies and organisations) based on high quality, integrated assessments and plans.

Victims of Youth Crime

Whilst crime rates in Hartlepool have fallen, the likelihood of being a victim of crime still remains a reality, especially in our most vulnerable and disadvantaged communities. The Youth Justice Service and broader Youth Justice Partnership are working hard to reduce the numbers of victims of crime, including the successful use of restorative justice to achieve this objective. Restorative justice provides opportunities for those directly affected by an offence (victim, offender and members of the community) to communicate and agree how to deal with the offence and its consequences.

Restorative justice is an important underlying principle of all disposals for young offenders from Triage to Detention & Training Orders. Whilst restorative processes typically result in practical reparation, for example participating in a task that benefits the community, the communication between victim and offender as part of this process can also produce powerful emotional responses leading to mutual satisfaction and socially inclusive outcomes.

In addition victims of crime are helped to access appropriate support pathways that enable them to move on from the impact of crime. A personalised approach is taken to ensure that victims of crime in Hartlepool are placed at the centre. This includes ensuring that individual needs and wishes are fully taken into account. As a result we aim to visit all victims of crime so they are able to access pathways to support, including the option to participate in restorative justice.

The Restorative Justice Service (RJ) and victim contacts continue to be delivered by the Children's Society under a commissioned arrangement. Following a contract review by HBC's Commissioning team and YJS management, the contract was extended for 2016/17, at a reduced cost. Alongside this, the YJS Manager has completed work around a revised process map and performance management framework, with particular focus on the evidencing of positive outcomes within YJS case recording systems.

During 2015/16 there was a demonstrable increase in the numbers of victims opting to participate in direct restorative processes.

	2015-16			
	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
No. of court cases on which restorative process delivered	14	14	15	6
No. of Identified victims of the offences leading to the disposal	49	18	22	4
No. of 'Direct' restorative process that victims participated in	2	1	1	2
No of 'Indirect' restorative processes victims participated in	13	8	8	9
No of Pre-Court disposals given in the period and court disposals closing in the period	1	49	43	1
No of identified victims of the offences leading to the disposal	4	45	57	1
No of victims offered the opportunity to participate in the restorative process	4	27	51	1
Number of 'Direct' restorative processes that the victims participated in	0	4	3	0
Number of 'Indirect' restorative processes that the victims participated in	2	19	34	3

Note: The above Table includes all restorative justice cases and not just those using YJB counting rules.

Quality of Services

The National Standards for Youth Justice Services are set by the Secretary of State for Justice on advice from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB). The standards apply to those organisations providing statutory youth justice services.

Self audit activity (based on the YJB Thematic of 'Reducing FTEs' and verified by the national Youth Justice Board) in 2015-2016 indicates that Hartlepool YOS is meeting national standards relating to:

- NS1 - Prevention
- NS2 – Out of Court Disposals
- NS7 – Work with Victims of Crime

The YJB confirmed that no validation visit was required in relation to the successful performance of Hartlepool YOS against these standards.

Throughout 2015/16, the YJS Head Of Service has overseen an appropriate focus on the quality of assessments and subsequent managerial oversight and quality assurance. This has been sustained by the current management team, through regular supervision, audit, staff training and policy development.

In October 2015, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and Children's Services were visited by HMIP and Ofsted, as one of seven areas chosen for a Thematic Inspection around Accommodation for 16/17 year olds. Although the final report is not due for completion until summer 2016, indicative feedback from Inspectors was generally positive.

Over the coming 12 months, the Youth Justice Service will continue to manage the challenge of the transition from ASSET to ASSETplus. This national implementation of a new assessment tool is required by all YJS' across England and Wales, and represents a significant business, practice and technological change. Hartlepool Youth Justice Service will maintain close working with the YJB Business Change Lead and the YJB Regional Advisor to adhere to the current plan of post-implementation (having successfully achieved all planned objectives to date).

The quality of ASSETplus practice will need to be a focus throughout 2016/17, with audit oversight via YJB-monitored quarterly 'baseline surveys' and via internal quality assurance, staff supervision and ongoing training. The introduction of ASSET plus is a significant change for staff therefore the priority for workforce development will be embedding ASSETplus and the ongoing practice issues arising.

Service User Feedback

During 2015-2016, twenty young people who were subject to statutory pre and post court orders participated in a 'Viewpoint' eSurvey questionnaire (overseen and administered by HMIP and YOS). This was to determine what they thought about the services they had received from Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and whether these services had been effective in terms of reducing their likelihood of re-offending and securing the help that they needed.

Overwhelmingly, the service users were positive about the services they had received from Hartlepool Youth Justice Service,

- 68% of respondents reporting that they thought the service provided was very good (an increase on last year's 53%) and a further 21% reporting that it was good most of the time.
- 84% of respondents reported that they are less likely to offend as a result of the work they have undertaken with the Youth Justice Service.
- 94% of these stated that they had been asked to explain why they had offended by a member of the service. 100% of these young people also stated that they were asked to explain what would help them stop offending. This is an improvement on the statistics from 2014/15.

The survey has also identified areas for further exploration. The young people were asked if there were things that made it harder for them to take part in the sessions. The two young people stated highlighted the following issues as barriers: learning needs, young people finding it difficult to understand things; sexuality.

When the young people were asked if things had got better for them in school, college or in getting a job, eight participants (80% of those who identified ETE as an issue) reported that things had got better. In relation to substance use, four out of twenty young people acknowledged they needed help to cut down their drug use. Three of these young people (75%) said they got the help they needed, with two of them reporting that things have got better.

Interestingly within the sample of twenty young people none of them identified or disclosed an issue in relation to alcohol use.

When asked about their health one young person stated they got the help in terms of improving their health or things about their body, although to date their health hadn't got any better whilst being supervised by the service. The other respondents did not identify health as a significant issue.

In relation to young people dealing with strange and upsetting thoughts, three out of the twenty (100% of those who identified emotional well-being as an issue) stated they received enough help with this and the young people stated that things had got better whilst being supervised by the service.

Alongside the annual Viewpoint survey, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service re-commissioned a piece of consultation work from the Young Inspectors in February 2016. This was to enable young people subject to current or previous YJS supervision an opportunity to offer feedback on the service received. The responses from the consultation were very informative and the Young Inspectors had a much better response than the previous year's consultation in 2015. The findings revealed that locally, many of the young people seem very happy and supported and that their needs were met during the process. In summary, the majority of young people who access the service are satisfied with the process and also recognise that something must be in place if they offend. Key areas for development to consider would be the worker / young person relationship, and the impact that has on the work undertaken with young people and whether this produces positive outcomes. It is clear some workers have got the right balance and have an effective way of building relationships with the young people and families they work with. This is a key strength of the service and one which could be built upon and shared to ensure all workers have a similar and consistent approach. Moreover, these findings will inform service development activities in the coming year, with the same consultation exercise repeated throughout the year to determine progress in terms of service user experience.

The voice of the young person is identified as a key strategic objective for 2016/17 and in line with the proposed work outlined above, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service will commission specialist training via collaborative work with Durham YOS, around Speech, Language and Communication Need. It is envisaged this will assist staff in improved assessment, plans and interventions and further serve to minimise some of the barriers to engagement outlined within the Viewpoint feedback highlighted above.

4. STRATEGIC VISION AND PRIORITIES - A BETTER CHILDHOOD IN HARTLEPOOL

Hartlepool's Children Strategic Partnership has set out its vision for children and young people within the town as follows:

Vision:

Our ambition as a children's partnership is to enable all children and families in Hartlepool to have opportunities to make the most of their life chances and be supported to be safe in their homes and communities.

Obsessions:

- Children and young people have opportunities to make the most of their life chances and are safe
- Improving family relationships, strengths, skills and ability to cope
- Reducing the impact of domestic violence, mental health, drugs and alcohol misuse on children and families
- Helping parents, carers and young people to gain skills and get jobs

The Youth Justice Service, as part of the wider services for children, seeks to deliver on the vision and obsessions through the following Youth Justice Service Strategic Priorities for 2016/17.

In order for the Youth Justice Service to contribute to the vision above it will focus on the following strategic objectives and priorities.

PROPOSED STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND PRIORITIES

It is proposed that the Youth Justice Service and broader Youth Justice Partnership focuses on the following key strategic objectives during 2016-17:

Youth Justice Strategic Priorities
<p>Re-offending - reduce further offending by young people who have committed crime with a particular emphasis in the development of Service interventions that are structured, responsive, tailored to meet identified individual need and evaluated. (Both within Youth Justice Service and provided by external agencies).</p> <p>Key Actions-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve Interventions delivered • Improve assessments of young people at risk of re-offending ensuring risks and needs are identified which inform effective intervention planning • Improve intelligence relating to those young people who are at risk of offending behaviour to inform service-wide improvement activity
<p>Early Intervention and Prevention – sustain the reduction of first time entrants to the youth justice system by ensuring that strategies and services remain in place locally to prevent children and young people from becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of better Childhood Programme • Operate a targeted approach to supporting individuals and groups of young people at risk of offending base on intelligence
<p>Remand and Custody – demonstrate that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.</p> <p>Key Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and the use of Compliance Panels to ensure continued effectiveness • Ensure the services provides intensive packages of Supervision and support to high intensity orders and bail arrangements • Ensure that the needs of young people in custody and the factors relating to their offending behaviour are addressed in the secure estate to prevent further offending upon release.

- Ensure that robust Resettlement Planning is in place for young people upon released to reduce the risk of further reoffending

Risk and Vulnerability (ASSETplus) – ensure all children and young people entering or at risk of entering the youth justice system benefit from a structured needs assessment to identify risk of harm and safety and well being concerns, to inform effective intervention and risk management.

Key Actions

- Embedd asset plus ensuring robust assessment of a young person needs
- Work in partnership with other agencies to ensure their is a coordinated assessment and plan relating to a young person risk and vulnerability
- Implement a audit cycle to ensure assessment and plans are meeting the appropriate quality standards

Restorative Justice – ensure all victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches and restorative justice is central to work undertaken with young people who offend.

Key Actions

- Ensure that victims of youth crime have the opportunity to participate in restorative justice approaches leading to satisfying outcomes for Victims
- Continue to use restorative practice across all aspects of the Youth Offending Service.

Effective Governance – ensure that the Youth Justice Strategic Management Board is a well constituted, committed and knowledgeable Board which scrutinises Youth Justice Service performance.

Key Actions

- The Youth Justice Management Board will provide oversight and scrutiny of the service action plan and performance.
- The Youth Justice Management Board will play a key role in a review of service following the publication of the Youth Justice Review I

Voice of the Young People – – ensure that all young people are actively involved in developing their own plans and interventions and have the opportunity to develop and inform current and future service delivery

Key Actions

- The team will ensure young people involvement in relation to their assessment and plans will be clearly evidence within the records
- The service will ensure young people are provided with opportunities to influence and shape service delivery f

5. RESOURCES AND VALUE FOR MONEY

The Youth Offending budget is mainly funded by a combination of Council funding and Youth Justice Board grant, although historically there have been financial contributions from the Police, Probation and Health (CCG and Public Health). The Council contribution to the service has remained protected however there have been significant reductions in the other areas of funding.

The Youth Justice Board grant was reduced ahead of the 2015/16 budget by 5.7%. During 2015/16 the YJB announced an in-year grant cut of an additional 10%. For 2016/17 the YJB have announced a further reduction of 11.75% and the cessation/amalgamation of the separate Unpaid Work Order and Restorative Justice Maintenance Grants. The combined impact of these cuts over the last two years is a reduction in total YJB funding of £140k (27%) when comparing 2016/17 to 2014/15.

In addition, the health contribution (£25k) previously funded by the PCT (now CCG) was funded by Public Health in 2014/15 but then ceased ahead of 2015/16. The National Probation Service have announced a reduction in their funding for 2016/17 onwards of 58% (£7k) in cash terms as well as reducing their staffing secondment from 1 FTE to 0.5 FTE.

Cleveland Police ceased their cash contribution in 2013/14 however additional funding from the Police and Crime Commissioner was secured towards the YOT Triage Model's, this is part of a two year joint-funding application between Stockton, Hartlepool and South Tees. This funding (£40k pa) ends in 2016/17 and no notification has yet been received about funding in future years.

2016/2017 Youth Offending Budget

Organisation	Financial Contribution	'In-Kind' Staffing Contribution	Total Contribution
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Hartlepool Borough Council	431	16	447
Youth Justice Board	372	0	372
National Probation Service	5	18	23
Police and Crime Commissioner	40	0	40
Health Service	0	42	42
Cleveland Police	0	45	45
Clinical Commissioning Group	0	0	0
	848	121	969

6. STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Service Structure

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service deploys a staff team of thirty four people, which includes three seconded staff, two commissioned staff and eleven sessional workers (**see Appendix 1**). The service also benefits from a team of ten active volunteers who are Referral Order Panel members. All staff and volunteers are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks which are renewed every three years.

Despite the positive performance outlined throughout this plan, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service has experienced a challenging year both internally and externally.

Internally, there have been changes in terms of staffing and management, with the current Youth Justice Service Team Manager taking up the post in October 2015.

Externally, the national implementation of ASSET Plus has resulted in the most significant practice, business and technological change experienced by all Youth Justice Service since the establishment of YOT's in 1998/9. The ongoing austerity measures have impacted massively, in terms of large reductions in YJB and partnership funding and resources allocation. A consequence of these cuts has seen Hartlepool YJS' staff team reduced by over 10% in the last year.

Finally, the Youth Justice Review, commissioned by Justice Minister, Michael Gove and undertaken by Charlie Taylor, already sees the interim report (published February 2016) alluding to far-reaching changes to Youth Justice Service delivery models. Confirmation of such proposals will be received in July 2016 upon publication of Charlie Taylor's final report.

In view of the above, during 2016/17, Hartlepool Youth Justice Service will need to undertake a service review in response to the all of the areas set out above. Such a review is necessary to ensure the service is able to meet its statutory requirements and obligations, whilst also sustaining high performance and achieving positive outcomes for young people, victims and the wider community.

The review will need to consider: alignment of staffing and resource; data collection, performance management and reporting mechanisms; the potential for collaborative working with neighbouring YOS'; a more targeted and multi-agency intelligence-led approach to elements of the work (particularly prevention) and more structure and quality to the interventions delivered with young people subject to Youth Justice Service involvement.

Governance

The Youth Justice Service is located within the Children's Services Division of Child and Adult Services. The Management Board is chaired by a local Police Area Commander and is made up of representatives from Child and Adult Services, Police, Probation, Health, Courts, Housing, Youth Support Services, Community Safety and the local Voluntary and Community Sector. Effective integrated strategic partnership working and clear oversight by the Management Board are critical to the success and effective delivery of youth justice services in Hartlepool. The board is directly responsible for:

- Determining how appropriate youth justice services are to be provided and funded;
- Overseeing the formulation each year of the youth justice plan;
- Agreeing measurable objectives linked to key performance indicators as part of the youth justice plan;
- Ensuring delivery of the statutory aim to prevent offending by children and young people;
- Giving strategic direction to Youth Justice Service Manager and Youth Justice Service Team;
- Providing performance management of the prevention of youth crime and periodically report this to the Safer Hartlepool Executive Group;
- Promoting the key role played by the Youth Justice Service within local integrated offender management arrangements.

The Management Board is clear about the priority areas for improvement, and monitors the delivery of the Youth Justice Strategic Plan, performance and prevention work. It is well attended and receives comprehensive reports relating to performance, finance and specific areas of service delivery.

Members of the Board are knowledgeable, participate well in discussions and are members of other related boards, which contribute to effective partnership working at a strategic level. Board meetings are well structured and members are held accountable. The membership of the Board is as follows:

Lynn Beeston Chair	Local Police Area Commander
Mike Lane Jane Young	YJS Team Manager HBC YJS Head of Service
Danielle Swainston	Assistant Director - Children's Services HBC
Emma Rutherford	Head of Virtual School HBC
Julie Allan	Head of Cleveland NPS – National Probation Service (NE)
Janet Seddon	SCN Child & Young People Out of Hospital Care Services NHS
Claire Clark	Neighbourhood Manager Community Safety HBC
Dave Wise	Chair of the West View Project (Voluntary/Community Sector representative).
Deborah Clark	Health Improvement Practitioner HBC

Lynda Igoe	Principal Housing Officer HBC
Karen Turner	Hartlepool Magistrates

7. PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service is a statutory partnership which includes, but also extends beyond, the direct delivery of youth justice services. In order to deliver youth justice outcomes it must be able to function effectively in both of the two key sectors within which it operates, namely:

- Criminal justice services.
- Services for children and young people and their families.

The Youth Justice Service contributes both to improving community safety and to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and in particular protecting them from significant harm. Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) highlights the need for Youth Justice Services to work jointly with other agencies and professionals to ensure that young people are protected from harm and to ensure that outcomes for local children, young people and their families are improved.

Many of the young people involved with the Youth Justice Service are amongst the most vulnerable children in the borough and are at greatest risk of social exclusion. The Youth Justice Service's multi-agency approach ensures that it plays a significant role in meeting the safeguarding needs of these young people. This is achieved through the effective assessment and management of vulnerability and risk and through working in partnership with other services, for example Children's Services, Health and Education to ensure young people's wellbeing is promoted and they are protected from harm.

8. RISKS TO FUTURE DELIVERY

The key risks that have the capacity to have an adverse impact on the Youth Justice Service in the coming twelve months and potentially beyond are detailed below:

Risks	Potential Impact	Control Measures
Secure Remand Costs	The unpredictability associated with remand episodes and remand length has the potential to place significant financial pressure on the YJS and broader Local Authority.	<p>It remains essential that the service can demonstrate to magistrates that there are robust and comprehensive alternatives in place to support reductions in the use of remands and custody.</p> <p>Coordinated multi-agency responses to young people at risk of remand where safe and secure accommodation is the precipitating factor to be further developed. Remand budget is incorporated within Wider Children's Services placement costs.</p>
Managing the reduction in YJB grant and contributions for 16/17 and	Consequential impact on performance. Capacity to meet strategic and operational obligations. Capacity to continue to focus	Targeted resources to address need. Review of Service. Regional collaboration with neighbouring YOS' such as coverage

managing further cuts in 17/18.	on early intervention and identification	of TYC. Robust financial management. Robust quality assurance.
Youth Justice Review, commissioned by Justice Minister, Michael Gove and undertaken by Charlie Taylor, the final report is due in July 2016	An interim report (published February 2016) alluding to far-reaching changes to Youth Justice Service delivery models.	Service review is on hold until the outcome of the Youth Justice Review to ensure findings and recommendation are taken into account
Post – Implementation of ASSETPlus – (National Youth Justice Assessment tool)	<p>There is the potential for significant ongoing service disruption as the staff team and management implement ASSETplus.</p> <p>Impact on performance (timeliness) capacity and staff confidence whilst they adjust to this different assessment and acquire the familiarity to complete, interrogate and locate the information in the assessment.</p> <p>Lack of understanding amongst partner professionals as to the increased complexity and demand place on Youth</p>	<p>AssetPlus was adopted by Hartlepool in April 2016, therefore is able to learn from other YOT's in the first two tranches re lessons learned.</p> <p>Ongoing dialogue between the local change lead who has ownership for the implementation of AssetPlus, alongside the Hartlepool YJS AssetPlus project team and Youth Justice Board.</p> <p>Ensure that Hartlepool Youth Justice Service remain involved in all planning activities to secure smooth post implementation of ASSET Plus.</p> <p>Post implementation: Undertake Assessment and Planning</p>

	<p>Justice Service staff. Impact on information sharing given the difference between a full ASSETplus and previous ASSET and ROSH documentation.</p>	<p>Foundation training with all new staff.</p> <p>Implement AssetPlus ongoing Practice changes.</p> <p>Hold refresher AssetPlus staff briefings and development days on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>Standing agenda on Board Meetings, Team Meetings and staff supervisions.</p> <p>Collaborative and reciprocal work/problem solving with neighbouring YOS' in the region. (Eg. EP Group).</p> <p>Identified staff to undertake ASSETPlus baseline assessment 3,6,9,12 months after implementation.</p> <p>Ongoing dialogue between HBC I.T. and Careworks to address and remedy any identified issues.</p> <p>Development and implementing of QA tool to keep standards.</p>
--	--	--

9. STRATEGIC SUMMARY

In spite of the adversities that families and communities contend with in Hartlepool, the local Youth Justice Partnership has had significant success in recent years in preventing and reducing youth offending behaviour.

An emphasis on prevention and diversion needs to be maintained however this presents significant challenge in light of continued cuts in staffing and resources. In spite of recent reductions in re-offending, the rate of re-offending in Hartlepool continues to be an area of concern. The Youth Justice Service will work with partner agencies particularly Locality Teams, Schools and CAMHS to identify and support children and young people at risk of offending as part of the wider programme “A Better Childhood in Hartlepool”, Education Leadership Commission and Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Programme

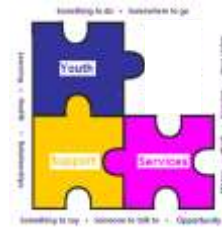
Evidence highlights that it is often the complex interplay of multiple deprivation factors and difficulties that makes problems in some households insurmountable and places the children at significant risk of involvement in anti-social and offending behaviour. As a result there is a need to place an even greater emphasis on whole family interventions to create “pathways out of offending”, reduce crime and break the cycle of offending behaviour across generations.

Whilst youth crime rates in Hartlepool have fallen, the likelihood of being a victim of crime still remains a reality, especially in our most disadvantaged communities and there remains a need to continue to invest in the delivery of restorative approaches to give victims of crime a voice, choice, control and satisfaction in the criminal justice system.

Alongside the above, there have been further policy developments at a national level alongside operational risks which the service will need to respond to and manage in the coming year. In particular, the interim report (published February 2016) by Charlie Taylor, which reviews the Youth Justice System. The final report (due July 2016) is expected to highlight a number of proposed changes to YOS delivery models – which will impact on partners locally and nationally. Some of this initial thinking makes reference to regional collaboration, changes to the secure estate, legislative amendments and devolved budget and commissioning responsibility.

Hartlepool Youth Justice Service and broader Youth Justice Partnership will be proactive in addressing the above challenges to secure further reductions in offending and re-offending by young people.

Hartlepool Youth Justice Partnership



National
Probation
Service



Protecting local
communities

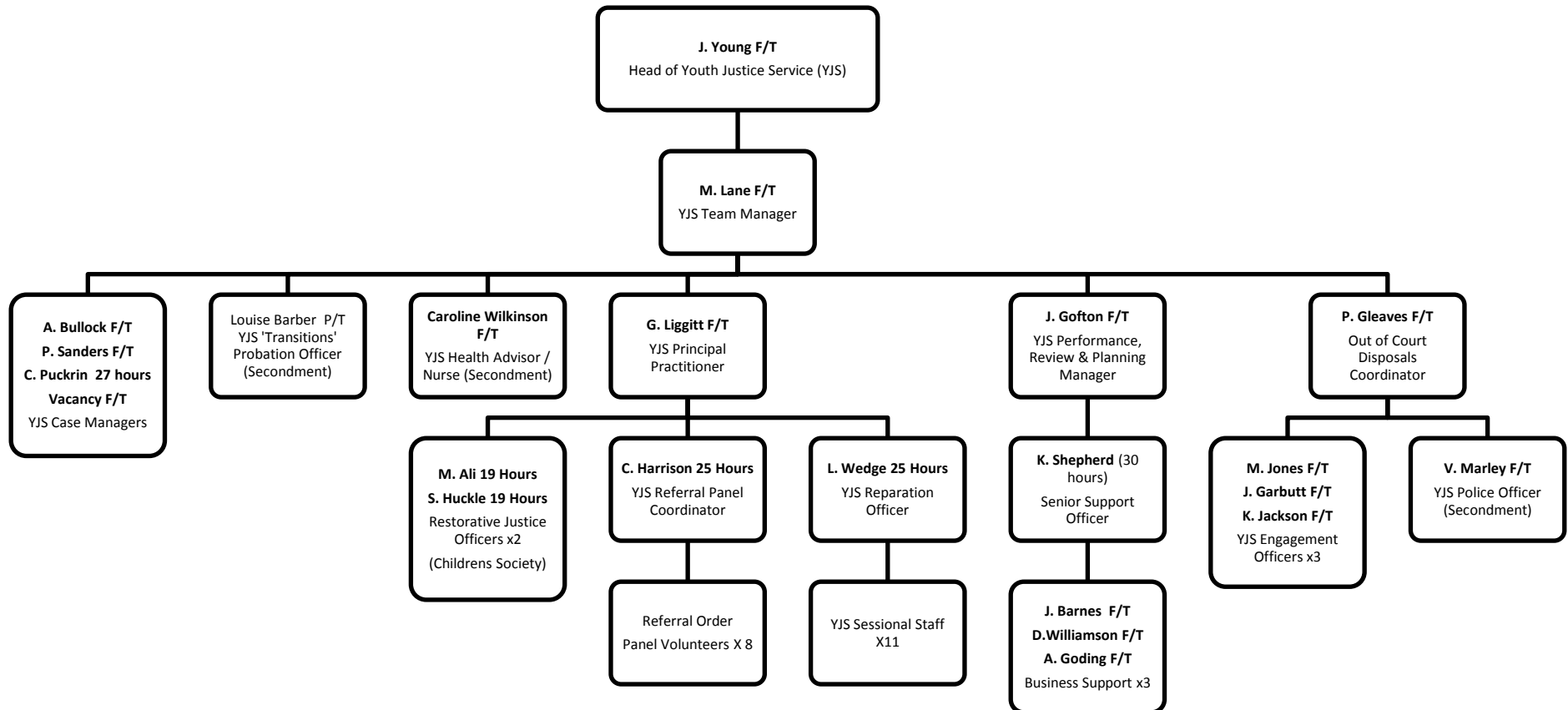
NHS
Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees
Clinical Commissioning Group



housingHartlepool
Part of the Vela Group

Appendix 1

Youth Justice Service Structure



TEES VALLEY JOINT HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

21 January 2016

The meeting commenced at 10:00 am at the Redcar & Cleveland Leisure and Community Heart

Present:

Councillor Ian Jeffrey (Chair) (Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council).

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council:
Councillors: K King and C Foley-McCormack.

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council:
Councillors: S Bailey (Substitute for Councillor Javed) and L Hall.

Hartlepool Borough Council:
Councillor: J Ainslie.

Middlesbrough Borough Council:
Councillor: J Walker.

Darlington Borough Council:
Councillor: L Tostevin (Substitute for Councillor Scott).

Also Present: Mark Cotton, North East Ambulance Service;
Emma Carter, South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust;
Ruth Kimmins, North East Commissioning Support Unit;
Julie Stevens, NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group;
Simon Clayton, NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group;
Andrew Robinson, NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group;
Johnathan Kelly, NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group;
Craig Blair, NHS South Tees Clinical Commissioning Group;
Edmund Lovell, North East Commissioning Support Unit;
Dr Posmyk, Hartlepool GP;
Sharon Pickering, Tees, Esk & Wear Valley NHS Trust;
Christine McCann, Tees Esk & Wear Valley NHS Trust;

Councillor J Robinson, Durham County Council.

Officers: Lucy Donaghue, RCBC;
Alison Pearson, RCBC;
Peter Mennear, SBC;
Joan Stevens, HBC;

Elise Pout, MBC and
Stephen Gwilym DCC.

18. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Newall, Scott and Taylor – Darlington Borough Council.
Councillors Cook and Martin-Wells – Hartlepool Borough Council.
Councillors Biswas and Dryden – Middlesbrough Borough Council.
Councillors Cunningham and Javed – Stockton on Tees Borough Council.

19. Declarations of Interest

None.

20. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 October 2015

Confirmed.

21. South Tees Hospital Trust CQC Inspection

Emma Carter, Head of Governance and Compliance, South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, presented a report to the committee which provided information on the outcome of the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection of South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, and the resulting action plan.

The Chair commented that the rating system seemed unfair. The system gave an overall rating from the lowest nomination, i.e. if the hospital was given 5 service area ratings and 3 stated the services provided were at a good level and 2 stated it required improvement, the overall rating would be required improvement.

Members were advised that the CQC would return to inspect the hospital to determine if the recommendations from the inspection had been implemented. It was not known when they would return but 8 weeks' notice would be given.

Members were advised that Staff morale had been an issue. There were currently 60-70 band 5 nursing vacancies which put pressure on existing staff. A restructure of the organisation was currently underway.

Members were advised that there had also been issues with the safeguarding training. There was an 80% compliance rate for attendance but the figures were improving. The South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation trust could supply the training figures to the Committee.

A Member asked if the A&E targets were being met. Members were advised that the figures were set nationally and that they had been met. The Trust would receive a financial penalty if the targets were not met.

A Member asked about the infection control that was in place within the hospital. Members were advised that a number of changes had been made at the hospital and a different cleaning provider had been employed. There was a constant emphasis on hand washing and bedding changes between patients. The hospital was working closely with the CCG on this.

Members were advised that some of the documentation filled out by the staff had been changed and updated. Errors could naturally occur on paper work but there were audit processes in place to monitor compliance and identify where improvements could be made.

Members were advised that this was the first full inspection of the hospital by the CQC. In the past they had come in to look at individual areas.

The Chair advised that the CQC board had appointed a new Chair.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That figures be provided on the number of employees that had been trained in safeguarding to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

22. Child and Adolescent Mental Health Transformation Plan

Ruth Kimmins from the North East Commissioning Support Unit, presented a report to the committee which provided information on the progress that had been made with the transformation plans for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) across the Tees Valley.

The Chair commented that mental health services had been overlooked for some time and it was a very important issue.

Members were advised that cyber bullying on social media was a major issue. Apps and media could be used to signpost and promote services.

Members were advised that CAMHS would go into schools to deliver training. Mental health workers could also deliver services where appropriate. CAMHS also worked closely with the school nurses. The training would be rolled out across all primary and secondary schools.

The Chair asked if CAMHS has the resources to deliver the training. Members were advised that there was some funding available to deliver the training and additional services from the voluntary sector such as MENCAP could be called upon where required.

A Member asked if CAMHS had adequate staffing levels. Members were

advised that within the acute settings mental health workers were available 24/7. There was also a crisis liaison divert service available. CAMHS worked closely with the A&E department.

A Member commented that it was an ambitious programme. She requested that the performance was monitored and that an update be provided to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee on the progress.

Members were advised that a consultation event had taken place with young people across the five CCG areas to obtain their views.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That any updates be provided to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

23. Urgent Care Strategy Consultation

Julie Stevens, Commissioning and Delivery Manager at South Tees CCG, gave a presentation providing an update on the current urgent care system, the consultations that had taken place and the suggestions for a new more streamlined system. The ideas would be subject to a further public consultation and a final decision on the urgent care system would be made by July 2016.

The Chair asked if individuals would need to be registered at the GP hubs? Members were advised that individuals would not be required to be registered at the GP hubs to use the services.

The Chair advised that the location of the GP hubs would determine how successful they would be and so location is very important. Members were advised that no decisions had been made on the location of the GP hubs. The CCG did not want to influence people taking part in the consultation.

The Chair advised Members that Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council had a GP Access Task and Finish Panel which would look at the issues raised and feed their views into the consultation. Members were advised that the CCG would meet with the GP Access Task & Finish Panel to assist with their work.

A Member commented that a GP at the front of A&E was a very good idea. Would they have access to patient records? Members were advised that they would have access to patient records.

A Member asked if public transport would be taken into consideration when the location of the GP hubs was discussed. Members were advised that this would be taken into consideration. The CCG had undertaken a lot of work with Arriva to understand the bus routes, however, Arriva would ultimately

make decisions on whether routes were commercially viable.

Members were advised that there were a significant number of individuals from Stockton and Hartlepool that used South Tees Hospital. They would be able to continue to use this service and receive the care they needed. The Chair asked if a breakdown of the A&E attendances could be provided by area.

A Member asked what would be the difference in the services offered by the GP hubs as opposed to those that were currently offered by the walk in centres. Members were advised that the GP units would have access to patient records whereas the walk in centres currently do not. 70% of attendances at the walk in centres were currently referred back to a GP.

Members were advised that the 111 telephone service made sure that people are directed to the most appropriate service. There would also be clinicians available to speak with patients if required.

Members were advised that access would be spread over 7 days a week and out of hours.

Members were advised that the NHS choices website had some valuable information and was an excellent tool but not many people knew it was available. It needed to be promoted more.

The Chair commented that some individuals found it difficult to get an appointment with their GP when they wanted it. Some of the GP surgeries had rules to ring at a certain time to obtain an appointment. Each GP surgery had a different system in place for booking appointments, some seemed to work well and some did not. The CCG confirmed that this was a theme that had come through strongly throughout consultation and they hoped that surgeries could be influenced by best practice.

A Member commented that pharmacies could be a vital tool for providing relevant information. Some pharmacies had a consultation room but others did not. Some also did not have time to see the patients. The pharmacy service could be maximised to prevent people needing to see a GP.

The Chair commented that often people would not be able to get an appointment with the same GP. Members were advised that individuals over 75 years old would have the same GP but due to the demand on services other individuals would not always be able to see the same GP.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That a breakdown of A&E attendances by area be provided to Members of the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.
3. That any updates be provided to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

24. Better Health programme

Dr Posmyk, Chair of the Better Health Programme Board, gave a presentation providing an update on the Better Health Programme (formally known as SeQIHS) and discussed the potential role for scrutiny.

Members were advised that the Better Health Programme had started locally but had pre-empted a lot of national programmes. Clinicians from all hospitals and services had a role in the Better Health Programme.

Members were advised that consultation event details would be provided to the Elected Members.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That any updates be provided to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

25. Tees, Esk & Wear Valley Quality Account Update

Sharon Pickering, from Tees, Esk & Wear Valley foundation trust presented a report which provided information on the Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust Quality Accounts.

Their end of year Quality Account would be published in April with stakeholder responses required within 28 days.

A Member commented that due to the timescales, the elections and purdah Members would not be able to look at the quality accounts. The Chair commented that the business of Health Bodies would continue as business as usual: - **NOTED.**

26. Suspension Of Council Procedure Rule no. 9

The Chair reminded Members that as the meeting had lasted for nearly three hours, it was necessary to suspend Council Procedure Rule no. 9 to allow the meeting to continue.

RESOLVED to allow the meeting to continue.

27. North East Ambulance Services; Quarterly Monitoring Report

Mark Cotton, the Assistant Director of Communications and Engagement

from the North East Ambulance Service (NEAS) presented a report to the committee which provided information on the quarterly monitoring for the North East ambulance Services.

The Chair commented that the levels of sickness absence among the staff were worrying. Members were advised that there were a number of issues around this including that policies were not flexible enough to allow staff the time off they needed. The two highest reasons for sickness absence were musculoskeletal issues and work related stress.

A Member commented that the number of qualified staff had decreased. Members were advised that there were currently 119 paramedic vacancies. Those vacancies had been tackled by the recruitment of 100 student paramedics and the intake of 100 students on the appropriate training courses at college. Recruitment was also taking place across Europe.

A joint working pilot between Fire and Ambulance Services in the Durham area was working well and had been well received.

Members were advised that a CQC inspection of the North East Ambulance Service would be taking place and a update would be provided to the committee.

Decision

1. That the report be noted.
2. That any updates be provided to the Tees Valley Joint Health Scrutiny Committee.

28. Date and Time of the next meeting

The Chair advised Members that the next meeting would be held on 15 April 2016 at 10:00am at the Redcar & Cleveland Leisure and Community Heart: - **NOTED.**