

Youth Justice Partnerships

Agenda Item 06a

Presentation to the Police and Crime Panel 20th March 2017

Peter Ashplant
Head of the Midlands Region, Youth Justice Board

Claire Dhimi
Walsall Youth Justice Service / Public Service Reform lead
for Criminal Justice

Current System

- Youth Offending Services established by the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act
- Local Authority Chief Executive Officers responsible for the establishment and governance of local partnerships YOT / YOS / YJS
- Statutory partnership is Local Authority, Education, Probation, Police, Health
- Wider partnerships include Fire Service, Housing, Judiciary, voluntary sector

Current System

- 3 key national performance measures;
 - Reduce First time entrants (83% reduction since 2006)
 - Reduce reoffending (73% reducing in YP and 70% reduction in offences since 2007)
 - Reduce custody (72% reduction since 2002)
- YOT's have surpassed local, regional and national targets



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

National Picture

- Charlie Taylor review – interim report published February 2016, final report published December 2016
- Government's response published simultaneously
- Govern up 'examining the case for Justice Devolution' report published December 2016
- New delivery models emerging (Manchester, West Mercia, Oldham, Gloucestershire)
- Strategic oversight remains with statutory partnership



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

National Picture

Charlie Taylor's review of Youth justice and Government's response

- Governance – YJB to continue, responsibility for youth justice secure estate moved into HMPPS, strengthen inspection of secure estate, ring fencing of YJ grant to continue, open to consider new models and local flexibility
- Tackling offending – improved interdepartmental activity (health and education), improve police custody, streamline court process, consider sentencing reform / new models, consider youth reporting restrictions and criminal records
- Improving youth custody – new pre apprenticeship pathway, more autonomy to governors, increase frontline staff, professionalise frontline staff, dedicated officer 1:4 ratio, enhanced psychological support, 2 new secure school, 1 north, 1 south



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

National Picture

Govern up 'examining the case for Justice Devolution' report
published December 2016

- Number of opportunities for devolution within criminal justice notably to Youth Justice;
 - Full devolution of youth justice powers and budgets to elected mayors or PCC's,
 - enable combined authorities to commission secure accommodation locally,
 - Enable combined authorities to reconfigure child protection services (e.g co-location of police child abuse teams and social care or regional safeguarding hubs)
 - New statutory obligation on elected mayors or PCC's to secure the sufficient provision of local early help services with a focus on those who have – school exclusions, persistent truanting, substance use, parents or siblings have committed a crime.



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Regional Activity

- West Midlands Combined Authority Public Service Reform (4 strands multiple complex needs, Employment and skills, mental health and Criminal Justice including the devolution of Youth Justice)
- Initial focus on defining the scope in three areas;
 - Offender pathways
 - Services and interventions
 - perceptions
- No specified desired outcome, looking at both economies of scale as well as innovation and sustainability.



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Regional Activity

- In 2015/16 there was just over 200 young people from the West Midlands metropolitan area sentenced to custody.
- There are currently over 120 volunteers working within the Youth Justice system in the West Midlands metropolitan area.
- Many areas receive OPCC money, projects vary and good practice and innovation is not well evaluated or disseminated.
- 2 local Children's Services directed to become Children's trusts



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Regional Activity

- Excellent cross boundary collaboration (e.g Oldbury custody block and Black Country Court partnership)
- All 7 Youth Justice Services / Youth Offending Services are seen by the Youth justice Board as performing well, with several identified as being top performing nationally.
- Regionally, strong partnerships exist with NPS, CRC and strategic health colleagues for example through the Reducing Reoffending Partnership.



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Local Developments

- Emergence and development of Early Help Services
- Locality working
- Reducing budgets and default to statutory activity
- Pressures of LAC numbers and safeguarding



WEST MIDLANDS
COMBINED AUTHORITY

Want to know more?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-youth-justice-system>

<http://crestadvisory.com/examining-justice-devolution/>

[**www.westmidlandscombinedauthority.org.uk**](http://www.westmidlandscombinedauthority.org.uk)

BIRMINGHAM · COVENTRY · DUDLEY · SANDWELL · SOLIHULL · WALSALL · WOLVERHAMPTON