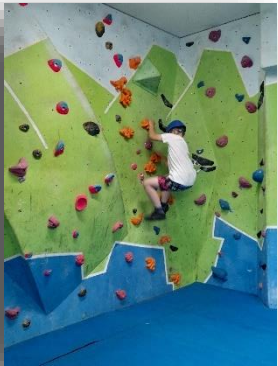


Westmorland & Furness Youth Justice Plan 2023-2024



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1. Introduction, vision, and strategy

Foreword – Jonathan Taylor, Assistant Director, Children and Families, Westmorland and Furness Council

I am pleased to present the first Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Plan 2023-2024. This statutory plan reviews the work of the service over the last year and sets out our agreed partnership priorities for the coming year.

Over the last 12 months Cumbria Youth Offending Service has continued to deliver high quality interventions both through group work and individual sessions in the context of significant change as a result of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR). This has required the creation of two new unitary councils to replace the six district councils and the county council. Services for children, young people and their families have been realigned during this change which has included the creation of two new Youth Offending Services: one for Westmorland and Furness and one for Cumberland.

A new Service manager Stefania Tracey has been appointed; she brings many years of experience and knowledge to lead the service and work with the Board so that we continue to achieve successful outcomes for our young people. We have retained many of the excellent practitioners who work in their area bases serving local communities.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Board, to thank all Cumbria Youth Offending Service practitioners and managers who have ensured smooth transition to and creation of the new Westmorland and Furness Youth Offending Service. Our staff and volunteers continue to be our greatest asset; through their dedication and commitment they ensure that young people and families receive the right support, guidance, and interventions at the right time.

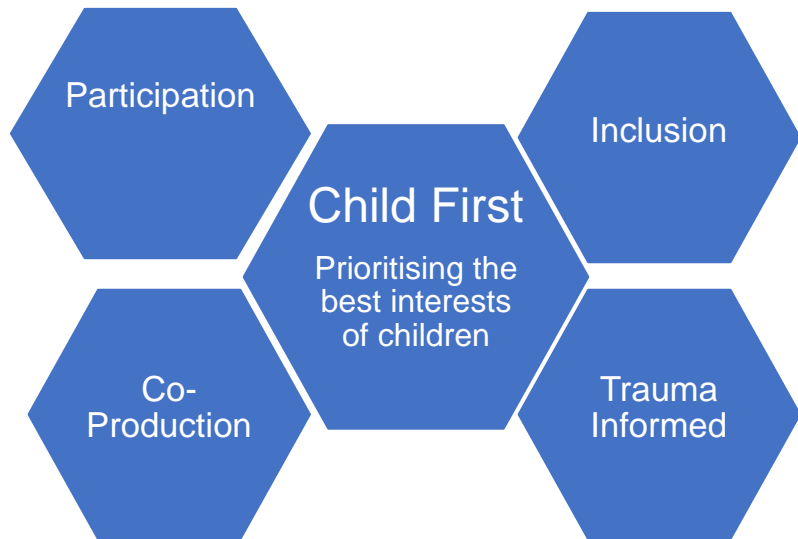
Throughout this period of change the service has continued to ensure the voice of children and young people is heard so that it can influence and shape service delivery. Westmorland and Furness Board will continue to listen to our practitioners and the young people we support to understand first-hand what it is like to receive our services. We want to celebrate success and build upon what works, using performance management information alongside young peoples lived experience to inform future decisions and priorities as we shape the new service.

Councillor Sue Sanderson, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Education and Skills

As the new elected member responsible for this service in my portfolio of Childrens Services, Education and skills, I fully support the comments Jonathan Taylor has made. I too welcome Stefania to Westmorland and Furness Council, thank all staff and volunteers who have worked so hard to improve outcomes for our young people. I look forward to working with you all in the coming year.

2. Child First: Child First – The Westmorland and Furness Approach:

Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Service is committed to developing and improving its Child First Approach. Child First is the golden thread underpinning and reflected in the work we deliver directly with children and young people, through our partnership working and staff training. Feedback and participation are crucial in ensuring this agenda is achieved. The YJS Management Board hears from staff and young people at each quarterly meeting, with a standing agenda item. In the last year we have presented artwork, video footage, photography, and soundbites.



Participation:

The YJS has a designated participation champion. 2022 has seen the launch of the participation agenda – a set program of 12 months of activity involving children and young people in key national campaigns. There will be the launch of a YJS voices group, developing pockets of participation so children can meaningfully engage and can contribute to service development and delivery.

Inclusion:

The YJS has delivered diversionary programmes of activity for young people at all levels of the criminal justice system, providing intensive four weeklong programmes of activity and support including provision of food, during school holiday periods, to help promote a childhood that is free from offending behaviour

Trauma Informed:

All staff are trained in trauma informed care and Enhanced Case Management to enable trusted relationships to be formed and interventions to be sequenced more effectively for young people.

Co-production: Working in the “With” window

The YJS has continued to consult with our young people over service delivery and how we communicate. Our young people have helped design leaflets this year and will be helping design our new logo in 2023.

3. Voice of the child:

Approximately 261 young people were involved with the Youth Justice Service last year, through 319 disposals, including out of court and statutory work. (These figures reflect the total number of children worked with Cumbria wide.) We gather feedback from the young people we have worked with to make sure we are helping young people in the ways that they need and to improve the service. Paper forms and links to electronic questionnaires were given in person or sent out to all young people who had received a service from staff in the YJS team between July 2022 and March 2023.

51 completed forms were submitted by those young people during this period. On the survey, there are a total of nine questions, a range of closed and open questions, designed to measure satisfaction with the quality of the service, the level of service provided by the staff and the ways the service could be improved.

- 86% of those asked said that the Youth Justice Service had given them excellent or good help
- 100% of those asked felt they were treated with respect by their case officer
- 100% of those asked felt they were listened to during their time with the Youth Justice Service
- 98% of those asked said that they felt they were involved in their intervention plan
- 93% of those asked said that things had changed for the better since they started working with the Youth Justice Service

I don't lose my temper much anymore.

Got my own flat.

They helped me realise how bad my mentality and attitude was and how little education I had on relationships and they improved everything for me.

I haven't got into any more trouble with the law.

Haven't smoked or been in trouble. Going to school now.

Last year we asked children and young people how they would like the service to develop and how we could do things differently. This response fed directly into our Youth Justice Service plan and a leaflet was produced to let young people know that we had listened to them. This leaflet was sent to all young people open to the service. In 2022 it is hoped that the YJS Voices group will be firmly established, allowing service users a chance to shape development in the service, be involved in recruitment and to carry on speaking for young people after their intervention has finished. This year we asked our young people to look at the corporate leaflet produced to tell them about the Youth Justice Service changes. The young people made several recommendations for change and as a result the leaflet was redesigned, with their approval. This leaflet is attached at Appendix 1. One of the key changes made in response to this feedback was the introduction of more vocational programmes of Reparation with two new accredited One Award portfolios developed, one in constructions skills and the Evoke Arts award.

4. Governance, leadership, and partnership arrangements

The Youth Justice Service is hosted within the Council's Children and Families Service Directorate. The role of Head of Service is undertaken by the Youth Justice and Prevention Services Manager. This role is currently overseen by the Assistant Director, Children and Families, Westmorland and Furness Council. The Head of Service has additional responsibility for youth homelessness and youth substance misuse work within the Local authority, in addition to managing the Supporting Families programme.

The team is based in Barrow in Furness (which covers Barrow, South Lakes and Eden) and has 18 staffing posts. The operational team is made up of directly employed staff and seconded staff. The team contains seconded staff in line with the Crime and Disorder Act requirements and national guidance. In addition to these seconded staff, generic Youth Offending Service Officers and Low Risk Case workers are employed directly on a permanent basis. The teams have permanent Education Workers and support workers delivering reparation and intervention.

[The Organisational Chart for the YJS is attached at Appendix 2](#)

In addition to the core Youth Justice Service staff, health support is provided by North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust (NCIC), from the 0 -19 Strengthening Families team. This team provides intensive health support to families where children and young people are subject to statutory process, i.e., those on Section 47 and Section 17 plans, those children and young people who are Looked After, and those young people who are Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children (UASC). The post is a 0.6 whole time equivalent band 5 nurse, commissioned to undertake the health assessment element of a young person's youth justice plan. The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, (CAMHS) offers a fast-track referral route into the service for those young people open to the Youth Justice Service.

Volunteers

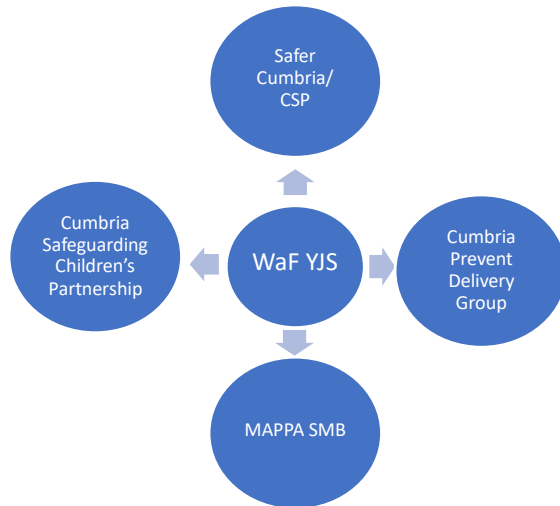
Westmorland and Furness YJS recognises that volunteers bring new skills, enthusiasm and a different perspective to our organisation. We believe that the support and commitment of volunteers is invaluable to the Youth Justice Service and the young people we work with. Volunteers enhance the services we can offer to young people and play an important role in helping to reduce youth crime and create safer communities.

As of 31st March 2023, the YJS has **8** volunteers based throughout Westmorland and Furness. These volunteers vary in age and have a valuable mixture of skills and experience. Long standing volunteers are paired alongside newly recruited volunteers to ensure knowledge and information is shared. Volunteers are supported by the Youth Justice Project and Evaluation Officer, to ensure regular oversight, supervision, and development.

2023 has seen new recruitment of volunteers, post Covid-19 and Panel Matters refresher training for all Volunteers, in addition to additional training around Harmful Sexual behaviour and Trauma informed working.

5. Partnerships:

We have a key role to play in making the link between criminal justice and social welfare systems – it is only by working together that we can achieve the best outcomes for children, young people, and their families in Cumbria. Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Service takes part in this partnership working formally, through representation on numerous partnership boards and through the multi-agency working that takes place via more informal partnerships:



Safer Cumbria: YJS remains a key and valued partner that works closely with other criminal justice and community partners to support the reduction of crime in the county. This in turn improves victim satisfaction, and works towards supporting a more effective, transparent, and responsive criminal justice service for victims and the public.

Westmorland & Furness Community Safety Partnership (CSP): has a statutory duty to work with a range of partners to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, and the fear of crime to help create safe and resilient communities. YJS will also be part of the reducing crime thematic group which sits under the CSP umbrella.

Cumbria Prevent Delivery Group: The YJS engage and participate with the pan Cumbria Prevent Delivery Group to fulfil the duties of the Prevent agenda which will include awareness raising ensure vulnerable young people are safeguarded.

MAPPa SMB: The YJS is also a core member of the MAPPa (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements) Senior Management Board which continues to provide a framework for managing the risks to the public presented by sexual and violent offenders.

CSCP: The YJS is represented on the CSCP's (Cumbria Safeguarding Children's Partnership) working and strategic groups in respect of Missing, Exploited and Trafficked children.

6. Board Development

The YJS Management Board meets quarterly and receives reports from the Youth Justice Service to facilitate scrutiny and discussion around key service delivery and performance areas. The Board's key purposes are:

- To determine the strategic direction of the Youth Justice Service.
- To oversee and monitor the work of the Youth Justice Service.
- To ensure the service is adequately resourced to carry out its statutory function of preventing offending by children and young people.

The leadership, composition and role of the management board are critical to the effective delivery of local youth justice services. The Youth Justice Service Management Board is made up of management representatives from both statutory and other key partners.

As we have now established a new YJS Board following the split of Cumbria County Council we will work to ensure a strong and committed Board is in place to take the work of the new Youth Justice Service forward. Work will be undertaken with existing and new Board members to ensure the new Westmorland and Furness YJS Board is effective and able to meaningfully contribute to delivery of the partnership objectives.

7. Resources and services

Youth Justice Service funding is made up of the Youth Justice Board Grant and funding directly from Westmorland and Furness Council. Additionally, the service receives contributions from statutory partners through a combination of cash in kind and staffing.

The total Youth Justice Grant for 2023/24 has yet to be confirmed but indicative figures enable us to proceed with service planning on the basis that funding will remain the same as last year, in the region of £0.409m.

Westmorland and Furness Council contribution to the Youth Justice Service in 2023/24 is £0.368m.

Cumbria Constabulary, the National Probation Service (Cumbria) and North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust contribute to the Youth Justice Service through seconding their own staff. The overall value of the seconded staff from these partners is £0.092m.

Westmorland and Furness YJS will use funding to

- Ensure we have a well-trained, supported and motivated staffing team, with the specialist skills to engage children and young people
- Continue to fund our partnership working with North Tyne and Wear, who provide our Psychology led Enhanced Case Management approach
- Look at in house mental health support for our young people
- Continue to develop diversionary and participatory interventions

[The finance table is attached at Appendix 3](#)

8. Progress on Previous Plan:

What have we delivered?

- School holiday inclusion programmes delivered by staff in partnership with the 3rd sector
- Rollout of the new Turnaround programme
- Introduced new vocational One Awards in Construction and Arts and in Level 1 Basic Maths and English
- More targeted intervention around drug and alcohol support with the new Youth Substance Misuse worker posts
- Partnership delivery of Your Life, You Choose knife crime prevention programme to local schools
- Continued Enhanced Case Management Approach in partnership with CNTW Foundation Trust.
- Participation agenda rolled out across the service involving our young people in numerous events around International Youth Day and other national campaigns
- Serious violent crime review group established
- Joint delivery at Child First Conference in partnership with University of Central Lancashire – to help embed the Child First approach with partners across the Northwest region.
- Data collection has improved and helped target intervention, i.e., Knife crime work

What have been our challenges?

- Supporting staff through local government reorganisation
- Disaggregating Cumbria Youth Offending Service into two new Youth Justice Services
- Ensuring we have the right level of staff and resources for each service
- Creating two new YJS management boards and ensuring relevant buy in from strategic partners
- Responding to increase in out of court and prevention work.

9. Performance

Performance against our three nationally measured targets continues to be strong. For the last 5 years we have seen fewer children and young people entering the system, fewer children going to custody and our reoffending rates have fallen. We are also seeing good results for those children and young people subject to Out of Court disposals, in terms of engagement and reoffending rates. However, for the first time in some years we have seen a small increase in our First Time Entrant figures – this reflects recent national performance and is something that will be monitored closely moving forward.

There is no data or intelligence to suggest that there are any groups of children who are overrepresented in the system in Westmorland and Furness.

For the purposes of this Youth Justice Plan it is important to note that we are reporting on all children and young people in Cumbria – we are not yet in a position to split this data to reflect the new Local Authority footprint – as the work was undertaken by one Youth Justice Service previously.

Reducing First Time Entrants (FTE):

This data comes from the Police National Computer and is published by the Ministry of Justice (MOJ). The data is shown in rolling full years for 12 months to March, July, September, and December of each year. The most recent reporting period is for January 2022 – December 2022 when there were 73 First Time Entrants, compared to 62 in the same period the previous year.

The First-Time Entrant rate continues to fall in each rolling period however there is a slight increase this year despite the continued improvement in our Out of Court disposal work, including our Youth Triage scheme and improved decision-making processes. The increase in Community Resolutions, delivered by Cumbria Constabulary and more effective prevention programmes have diverted young people at an earlier stage. Evaluation of the Triage scheme continues to show low reoffending rates and high levels of engagement.

Additionally, the Youth Justice Service have an established process for out of court decision making through meetings with the Child Centred Policing Team to share information and make joint decisions on out of court disposals. This has proved invaluable to aid good, defensible joint decision making, which has improved outcomes for children and young people and ultimately reduced first time entrants to the system.

Reducing Reoffending:

The data for this indicator comes from the Police National Computer and is published by the Ministry of Justice. A 3-month cohort rather than a 12-month cohort is used and tracked over a 12-month period. The cohort consists of all young people who received a pre-court or court disposal or were released from custody in that date range.

The Binary reoffending rate for the April 2021 – June 2021 cohort is 40%, a reduction on the same period the previous year, from 42.4%. Although historically the rate for Cumbria has remained fairly static and difficult to reduce, we are now starting to see a noticeable fall in this rate. To illustrate, the binary rate for the previous period, January 2021 – March 2021 was 20.6% a **significantly** lower rate than the England and Wales average for the same period which stood at 31%.

There has been a real focus over the last three years in trying to reduce reoffending for Cumbrian children and young people. Work around compliance panels, intervention sequencing, ensuring engagement and an innovative approach to intervention has all contributed to the results we are now starting to see. Trauma Recovery and Enhanced Case Management is embedded in our work across the county and staff within the service have received training around trauma informed practice and ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) which has further equipped them with the skills to engage children and young people with complex lives.

Reoffending after Out of Court Disposal:

The Youth Justice Service tracks reoffending rates amongst the cohort of children and young people receiving intervention through our Out of Court Disposal scheme, Youth Triage. This assists us in gaining a more accurate picture of the effectiveness of this programme and allows us to monitor the impact on First Time Entrant rates as well as reoffending rates in the future.

The table below shows the reoffending rates for those children and young people who have been subject to a Triage intervention between the 1st October 2021 and 31st March 2022. This cohort of children and young people have been tracked to provide the most up to date reoffending data. The data looks at whether offences have been committed up to 6 months and 12 months after completing Triage intervention. This is shown compared with a similar period, 1st April 2021 – 30th September 2021.

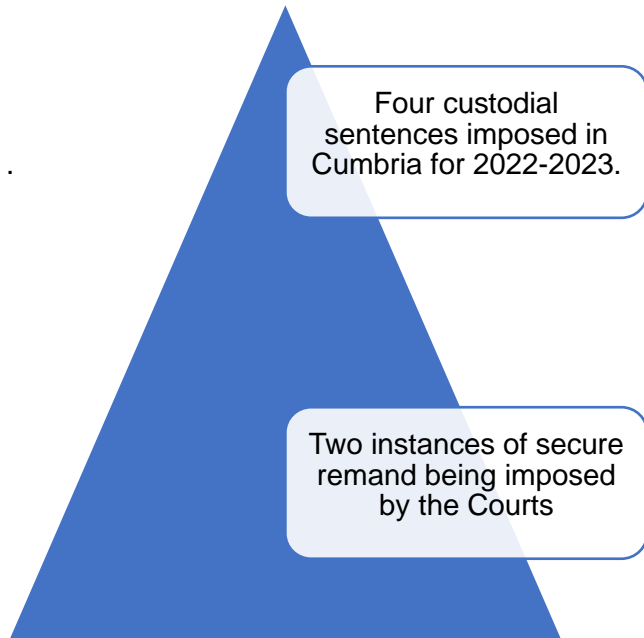
The data shows an overall reoffending rate for this cohort of 8.6% for 6 months and 13.8% for 12 months - a decrease from the previous cohort. We are seeing a high level of engagement with the scheme, but it is of note that there are high numbers of young people with complex needs coming through to the service at this stage – hence the need for robust assessment and consistent, family focused interventions. Children and young people being dealt with out of the court arena are still very much in need of the support and range of services offered by the Youth Justice Service.

1st April 2021 to 30th Sept 2021		
	6 months	12 months
No of young people	63	63
No of reoffences	10	12
	15.9%	19%

1st Oct 2021 to 31st Mar 2022		
	6 months	12 months
No of young people	58	58
No of reoffences	5	8
	8.6%	13.8%

Use of Custody:

The indicator uses case level data from the Youth Justice Application Framework and is the number of custodial sentences in the period given to young people with a local residence aged under 18 years on the date of their first hearing related to the outcome. Successfully appealed sentences are discounted. If a young person was given the same type of custodial sentence on the same day to be served concurrently or consecutively, they will only be counted once.



2022-2023 saw custody rates for Cumbria remain very low with only four custodial sentences imposed.

There were two instances of Court imposed Secure Remand, for serious offences of violence. These have equated to 175 remand bed nights.

Compliance and engagement have been a key focus of practice within the service for the last 4 years, finding innovative ways to engage with those on community orders to prevent breach and return to court. More tailored, needs led interventions for court orders have contributed to a reduction in non-compliance. The Youth Justice Service has built strong and consistent relationships with sentencers, and we are able to offer courts credible and robust options for those offending in Cumbria.

Our local data dashboard can be found in [Appendix 4](#)

10. KPI's

National Key Performance Indicators:

New Key Performance Indicator	Current Position
<p>Suitable accommodation</p> <p>Education, training, and employment</p> <p>Special educational needs and disabilities / additional learning needs</p> <p>Mental health care and emotional wellbeing</p> <p>Substance misuse</p> <p>Out of Court Disposals</p> <p>Links to wider services</p> <p>Management Board attendance</p> <p>Serious Violence</p> <p>Victims</p> <p>Links to wider services</p>	<p>Work is currently ongoing with our Case Management system provider to ensure that all data can be collected regularly to meet the KPIs expected.</p> <p>Some of this data is already collected for YJS management board reporting and for the end of year data dashboard – See appendix 4.</p> <p>Westmorland and Furness YJS welcomes the chance to report on these additional KPIs – this will enable us to set new targets for the year and to understand where there are gaps in our provision and commissioned services. Some of this work has already started, and is outlined in the service plan; for example;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MENTAL HEALTH: A service wide mapping and review of the health offer for children in the YJS will be undertaken this year • ETE: There will be a drive on ensuring all our children and young people are engaged in meaningful ETE • SEND: There will be a renewed focus on this area of work for 2023-2024 <p>Some of this data is already collected, for example: We have a new Westmorland and Furness YJSMB and will be able to supply accurate information related to attendance.</p>

11. Priorities

This year we will focus on three priority areas in terms of local performance in addition to the national indicators set out above:

ETE:

- To ensure that young people are fully engaged in ETE at the end of their intervention

REOFFENDING:

- To continue to monitor our reoffending rate for Triage Intervention and maintain this at under 10% (OOCB)

OUTCOMES:

- To monitor the effectiveness of our Interventions approach including our accredited Award work and reparation activities

PRIORITY AREA:	HOW WE WILL ACHIEVE:
Education: We need to drive up performance in this area and make sure children and young people have the right opportunities and access and are engaged at the end of their interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our Education worker has strong links with the Local Authorities Access and inclusion teams. • We have a new Education Representative as part of the new Westmorland and Furness YJS Management Board
Children from groups which are overrepresented: There is no data to indicate children from Black or Minority Ethnic backgrounds are overrepresented in the criminal justice system in Cumbria. We are however seeing increases in young people with SEND and specifically EHCPs entering the system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More work to be undertaken this year on our data around children and young people with SEND and EHCPs • Continue work with the Safer Cumbria Partnership around Reducing the Criminalisation of Children looked after to ensure this group are not overrepresented in the system
Prevention: The YJS offer Support and Intervention to children at risk of becoming involved in the Criminal Justice system in partnership with the Child Centred Policing teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monthly meetings with Child Centred Policing teams to discuss children who need who need support through prevention. • Expansion of Turnaround prevention programme • Continue work with partners in schools to deliver prevention initiatives
Diversion: Cumbria has a two-tier approach to diversion. Cumbria Constabulary deliver Community Resolutions whilst the YJS deliver Youth Triage, an Out of Court disposal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We report reoffending data for our Triage cases to YJS management board and audit these cases on a regular basis. • The YJS Head of Service attends the quarterly Out of Court Scrutiny panels where decisions are reviewed.

<p>Serious Violence and Exploitation: We have established a serious violence review group to look at commonalities and learning around children who commit this type of offence. We work with children referred under PREVENT and with the partnership around CE and County lines.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are linked in with Safer Cumbria’s Serious Violence needs assessment and the work of the Cumbria Safeguarding Children’s Partnership around children who are exploited, trafficked and missing. • We are key members of the CHANNEL panel.
<p>Restorative Justice and Victims: We have an RJ worker in the service who contacts all victims, for OOCB and Statutory Court orders.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This approach is quality assured annually with partners and the OPCC as part of the Quality Assurance Framework. • Feedback from victims is collected regularly to improve service delivery. • 2023 will see a focus on improving victim participation /feedback in Referral Order panels and for other statutory court orders.
<p>Detention in police custody: Westmorland and Furness YJS provides the Appropriate Adult service in working hours and Child Action Northwest are commissioned to provide this for out of hours calls.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The YJS Head of Service chairs a multi-agency quarterly “Children held in Police custody” meeting which reviews all cases where children have been detained overnight. This reports back to the Safer Cumbria Partnership.
<p>Remands: Westmorland and Furness YJS has a credible presence in local Youth and Crown courts, providing up to date information on interventions and support that can be offered and is in a strong position to provide robust bail packages for children at risk of Remand.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 saw a total of 2 young people remanded to custody, for a total of 175 nights. • Continue to work on credible alternatives to custody through our intervention’s teams.
<p>Use of custody/ Constructive Resettlement: Westmorland and Furness YJS has low custodial sentence numbers with 4 young people sentenced to custody last year. Refreshed Resettlement policy has allowed a more structured and considered approach to the care and support of those children being released from custody.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be undertaking a thematic internal review of our resettlement work in 2023. With such small numbers of children receiving a custodial sentence Westmorland and Furness YJS believes that all these cases should be of a gold standard in terms of care, support and opportunities provided to those being released from custody.

12. National Standards

Westmorland and Furness YJS have developed an internal auditing team led by Senior Practitioners and including staff from across the service. The team meets monthly and undertakes audits of casework and themed reviews into practice. Findings from these audits are disseminated to individual staff members and to the staffing group, through team meetings. Reflection sheets are completed for each audit which contain recommended actions and improvements. As a result of these audits, the following practice sessions have been delivered:

- Completion of asset plus assessment and the planning of interventions.
- Focus on Explanations and Conclusion section of the Asset plus – predominantly around desistance factors, ROSH and safety and well-being ratings.
- Managing risk and how to ensure this is recorded in the pathways and planning section of Asset plus to ensure a clear risk management plan is in place
- Incorporating trauma informed practice into assessments and delivery

In addition, we have:

- Reviewed the plans that are used with young people to ensure more child friendly
- Reviewed the paperwork initially required and incorporating this into delivery
- Reviewed and updated the OOC assessment, specifically more the risk assessment and risk management section

Additionally, we have implemented recommendations from our last National Standards Self-assessment: such as better identification of transition points, including those at resettlement and a focus on Out of Court disposal impact and effectiveness.

13. Workforce Development

Westmorland and Furness YJS is committed to a culture of continuous learning and improvement. In 2022-23 in addition to mandatory training, staff have undertaken the following additional training, some of this may be specific to individual roles within the teams:

- AIM 3 training in assessment and intervention
- Decider Skills training
- CBT training for Substance Misuse
- Pit Stop Parenting intervention training

Learning and improvement is supported by the YJS Team Practice Manager, and all Council staff receive regular supervision on a four weekly basis where training is a standing agenda item on the supervision document. In addition to this, additional training will also be discussed as part of the Council Appraisal process. In addition to this supervision staff undertaking work around AIM 3 assessment and intervention can access specialist clinical supervision and support from AIM 3.

All staff are supported to complete the Youth Justice Certificate in Effective Practice.

In 2023-24 the following training is planned:

- Further training around Knife crime - JJ effect
- Trauma Recovery Model
- Contextual Safeguarding
- Prevent Awareness Raising

14. Evidence based practice and innovation

Enhanced Case Management

The Youth Justice Service have continued the successful partnership work with North Tyne and Wear on Enhanced Case Management. In 2022 – 2023, 5 young people were referred to be managed using Enhanced Case Management. An evaluation was undertaken which was published in the Clinical Psychology Journal in February 2022.

[Link to article](#)

We have been committed to using a Trauma Informed approach since starting this work back in 2019.

What difference does this make for our young people?

- Managers will support practitioners to phase and prioritise interventions for young people in a way that meet that young person's immediate needs and their development level according to the Trauma Recovery Model
- Managers should enable staff to take a more flexible approach to non-compliance by young people with the conditions of their order in light of any extenuating circumstances.
- Staff should have a better understanding about young people's underlying needs and will be better equipped to understand the impact of childhood attachment and trauma on young people's lives. Intervention plans will be better tailored to the needs of young people.
- There will be an increased focus on the way staff engage and support young people. The improvement in relationships that working in a trauma informed way can bring, is seen as a particular benefit.
- The ECM approach will help improve the understanding, skills and practice of YJS workers as well as the way agencies as a whole work with young people, leading to increased confidence levels amongst YJS staff and partner agencies.


15. Service Plan

<p>The vision</p>	<p>Objective 1:</p> <p>Effective Interventions at every level: <i>This will enable Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Service to reach children and young people before they enter the formal criminal justice system and to provide positive intervention for those in the criminal justice system.</i></p>	<p>Objective 2:</p> <p>Reducing reoffending: <i>We will target the hard-to-reach group of children and young people in the middle, those families entrenched in criminal behaviour, breaking the cycle of offending and adverse childhood experiences</i></p>	<p>Objective 3:</p> <p>Improving outcomes for Children, young people and their families <i>We will ensure that children and young people are helped, that they are given every opportunity to lead healthy and safe lives</i></p>
<p>How will we achieve this?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work in Partnership with the Constabulary to review the decision-making panel – ensure that assessment for young people before decision making is rolled out across the board • Further develop and expand the MoJ Turnaround Programme • Continue to develop innovative reparation and activities for young people to provide a wide menu of intervention that is meaningful and effective • Ensure a focus on diversity and anti-racist practice, including staff induction and investment in training to ensure a coordinated approach across the service • To improve Health support offered to young people at Out of court and Statutory stages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure there is a clear pathway for mental health support for all young people • To introduce an effective system of step-down support at the end of intervention • Develop our work around Substance Misuse and criminality including County lines • Work on Serious violent crime, building on the review work already started in 2022 • Continue work in partnership with the Constabulary and schools for a coordinated response to knife crime • Review role of Parenting Worker with the team - Further embed holistic whole family working and introduce targeted group work support for parents • Further develop the Youth Substance Misuse worker role within the service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on partnership working with Speech, Language and Communication therapists to ensure staff can identify these needs accurately • Drive on performance around ETE to ensure children and young people have aspiration and attainment to match – and the right provision • Develop links with the 3rd sector and improve relationships with local communities and businesses to aid reintegration and provide more opportunities for work placements • Focus on preparation for employment skills

16. Challenges, risks, and issues

Challenges, Risks and Issues	Action to Mitigate
<p><i>Disaggregation of Cumbria Youth Offending Service to two new Youth Justice Services:</i></p> <p><i>Is new Service adequately resourced?</i></p> <p><i>Can partners work across two new YJ Services?</i></p>	<p>Ensure new YJS Management Board is fully briefed and aware of challenges with regular budget monitoring</p> <p>Ensure partners are fully engaged with new YJS Management Board and issues around resourcing are highlighted</p> <p>Ensuring we have enough staff and resources in place to cover geographical area</p>
<p><i>Due to LGR, we have a shared case Management system – need to look at impact on data collection, New KPIs and data returns.</i></p>	<p>Need to supply relevant and mandatory data to Youth Justice Board by splitting Cumbria wide data to mirror new LA footprint.</p> <p>Need to ensure right resources are in the right places – by making sure we have access to the right data</p>
<p><i>Future budgetary cuts or reduction in partners agency contributions</i></p>	<p>Being aware of the financial challenges that all authorities are facing and ensuring that our structure is fit for purpose and that we can continue to deliver a service that meets the needs of children and young people. Westmorland and Furness YJS needs to ensure that resources are deployed in the right areas to ensure the right interventions are used and gaps in service provision must be picked up and acted upon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuing appropriate agency representation at YJS board level • Review of SLAs, commissioned specifications and working agreements • Ensuing YJS structure is efficient and effective • Building on 3rd Sector relationships and community partnerships
<p><i>Increase in Remands impacts on YJS budget</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of all Remand cases and ensuring YJS Management Board is sighted on all remand cases and updated with regard budget monitoring

17. Sign off, submission and approval

Chair of YJS Board - name	Jonathan Taylor
Signature	
Date	30/06/2023

18. Appendices

[Appendix 1 - Young people LGR leaflet](#)

[Appendix 2 - Service Structure Chart](#) should include details of the staff roles in the YJS and the reporting arrangements for the Head of Service. Information on the links to the data analyst should also be included. There should be a separate table in the appendix recording the ethnicity, sex and known disability of staff.

[Appendix 3 – Finance Table](#)

[Appendix 4 – Data Dashboard 2022 -2023](#)

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

What is LGR?

From 1st April 2023 local government in Cumbria will change.
Two unitary authorities will replace the current six district councils and Cumbria County Council



Cumberland
Council

Cumberland Council
will provide services
to those in the
current areas of
Allerdale, Carlisle
and Copeland.



Westmorland and Furness
will provide services to
those in the current areas
of Barrow, Eden, and
South Lakeland.

How does it affect Cumbria Youth Offending Service?

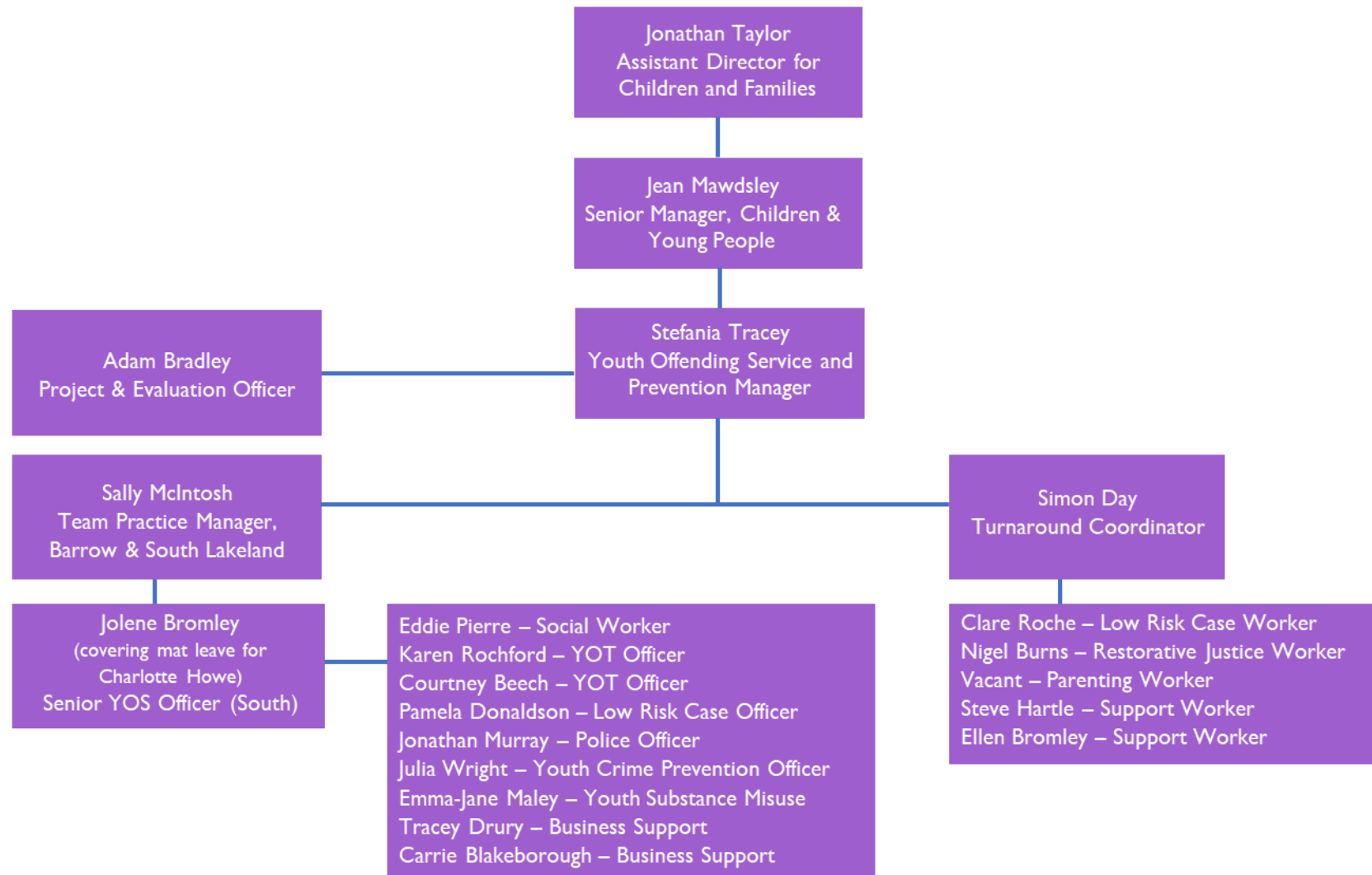
Cumbria Youth Offending Service will no longer exist from 1st April 2023. Instead, there will be two new services. Cumberland Youth Justice Service covering Allerdale, Carlisle and Copeland and also Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Service covering Barrow, Eden, and South Lakeland.

How does it affect me?

Your case manager will stay the same, but our name has changed to Youth Justice Services. We will be moving offices and will no longer be based in the fire stations, where you meet your case manager may change. The Cumberland team will have 2 office bases, the Carlisle office will move to Cumbria House and the West team will move to Workington Library. The Westmorland and Furness team will now be based in the Nan Tait Centre in Barrow in Furness. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your case manager who will be happy to help you.



Westmorland and Furness Youth Justice Service Structure



Staffing breakdown

Gender		Ethnicity		Disability	
Male	Female	White/British	Mixed	Yes	No
5	11	15	1	2	14

Volunteer breakdown

Gender		Ethnicity		Disability	
Male	Female	White/British		Yes	No
3	5	8		0	8

Appendix 3

Funding Source:	2022/2023 Whole County Funding (£000)	2023/2024 Funding split Westmorland and Furness (£000)
Youth Justice Board Grant	908	409
Cumbria County Council	632	368
National Probation Service (NPS) cash contribution	5	
YOS Budget	1545	777
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust	59	20
Cumbria Constabulary	157	52
National Probation Service	45	20
Total Contributions to the YOS	1756	869



**Dashboard
2022-23**



Remand

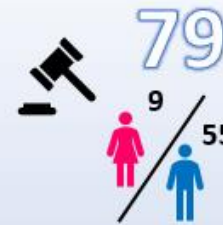
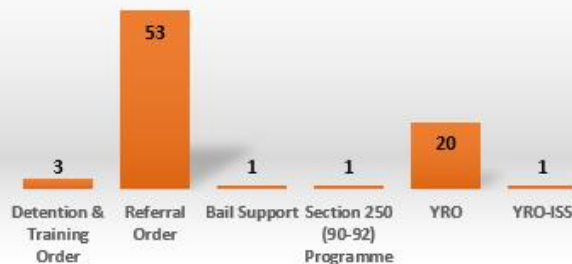
Year	No. of remand nights	No. of young people
22/23	175	2
21/22	117	2
20/21	220	5

One Awards Achieved

Reparation hours

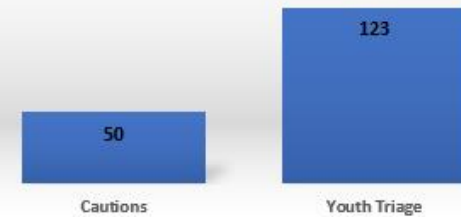
339 hours

Breakdown of Statutory Orders



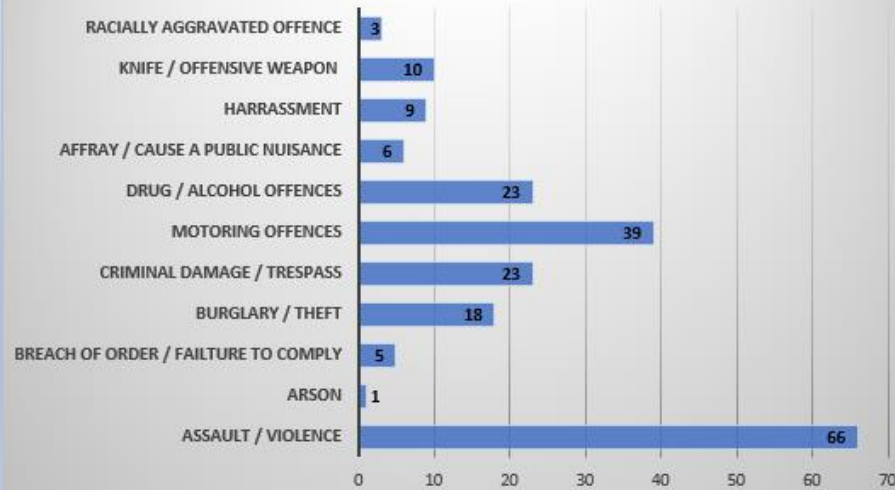
Withheld = 1
Average Age 15.7 years old

Breakdown of OOCB Orders

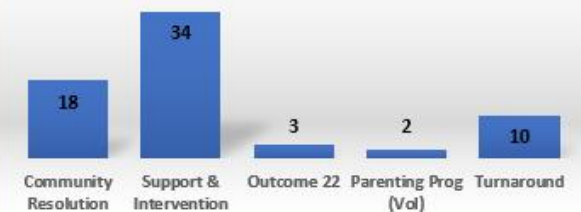


Unknown = 1
Average Age 14.3 years old

Breakdown of Statutory Order Offence Type

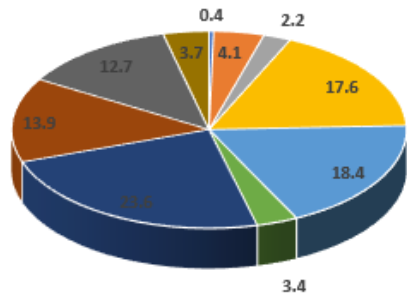


Breakdown of Prevention



Average Age 14 years old

Breakdown of Restorative Justice Final Outcome
as %



- Attended RO Panel
- Feedback RO Panel
- Other
- Shuttle Mediation
- Victim did not want RJ
- Direct Reparation
- Letter of Apology/Explanation
- RJ Conference
- Victim did not Respond
- Victim not Contacted

130 Health Assessments completed by Strengthening Families between April 2022 & March 2023. Of those 6.2% were referred to CAMHS

Custody



2022/23



2021/22



2020/21

12 Breaches

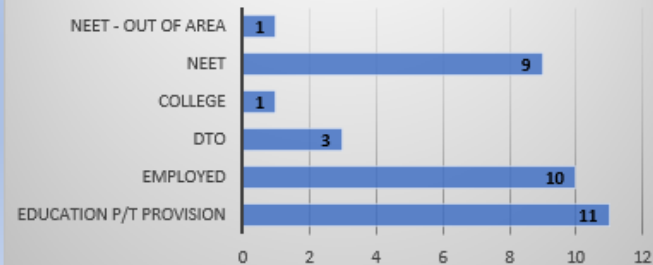
14 LAC

42,848
10-17 year olds in Cumbria

Total Number of EHCP in full year

	Total YP	No of EHCP	%
Statutory Cases	65	20	30.8
O OCD	143	28	19.6
Prevention	53	8	15.1
Total	261	56	21.5

E TE Status of Statutory orders started and ending between 01/04/22 to 31/03/2023



Common youth justice terms, please add any locally used terminology

ACE	Adverse childhood experience. Events in the child's life that can have negative, long-lasting impact on the child's health, and life choices
AIM 2 and 3	Assessment, intervention and moving on, an assessment tool and framework for children who have instigated harmful sexual behaviour
ASB	Antisocial behaviour
AssetPlus	Assessment tool to be used for children who have been involved in offending behaviour
CAMHS	Child and adolescent mental health services
CCE	Child Criminal exploitation, where a child is forced, through threats of violence, or manipulated to take part in criminal activity
Children	We define a child as anyone who has not yet reached their 18th birthday. This is in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and civil legislation in England and Wales. The fact that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate, does not change their status or entitlements to services or protection.
Child First	A system wide approach to working with children in the youth justice system. There are four tenants to this approach, it should be: developmentally informed, strength based, promote participation, and encourage diversion
Child looked-after	Child looked-after, where a child is looked after by the local authority

CME	Child Missing Education
Constructive resettlement	The principle of encouraging and supporting a child's positive identity development from pro-offending to pro-social
Contextual safeguarding	An approach to safeguarding children which considers the wider community and peer influences on a child's safety
Community resolution	Community resolution, an informal disposal, administered by the police, for low level offending where there has been an admission of guilt
EHCP	Education and health care plan, a plan outlining the education, health and social care needs of a child with additional needs
ETE	Education, training or employment
EHE	Electively home educated, children who are formally recorded as being educated at home and do not attend school
EOTAS	Education other than at school, children who receive their education away from a mainstream school setting
FTE	First Time Entrant. A child who receives a statutory criminal justice outcome for the first time (youth caution, youth conditional caution, or court disposal)
HMIP	Her Majesty Inspectorate of Probation. An independent arms-length body who inspect Youth Justice services and probation services
HSB	Harmful sexual behaviour, developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour by children, which is harmful to another child or adult, or themselves
JAC	Junior Attendance Centre
MAPPA	Multi agency public protection arrangements
MFH	Missing from Home

NRM	National Referral Mechanism. The national framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery in order to gain help to support and protect them
OOCD	Out-of-court disposal. All recorded disposals where a crime is recorded, an outcome delivered but the matter is not sent to court
Outcome 22/21	An informal disposal, available where the child does not admit the offence, but they undertake intervention to build strengths to minimise the possibility of further offending
Over-represented children	Appearing in higher numbers than the local or national average
RHI	Return home Interviews. These are interviews completed after a child has been reported missing
SLCN	Speech, Language and communication needs
STC	Secure training centre
SCH	Secure children's home
Young adult	We define a young adult as someone who is 18 or over. For example, when a young adult is transferring to the adult probation service.
YJS	Youth justice service. This is now the preferred title for services working with children in the youth justice system. This reflects the move to a Child First approach
YOI	Young offender institution