

## **Local Authority: Gateshead MBC**

### **Programme: Gateshead Youth Offending Team**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

#### **Summary of Programme**

The £30,000 will be part of the overall direct running costs of the Gateshead Youth Offending Team, with a particular emphasis on building capacity in preventative work.

Gateshead YOT contributes to the Families Gateshead initiative which is the local element of the national Troubled Families Programme. Individual cases are kept open for a longer period than would normally be the case. The YOT Manager believes that this greater level of input may have contributed to the YOT achieving the lowest rate of reoffending in the region.

Gateshead YOT has recently reviewed all its services and is now focusing on developing its restorative justice approach with more emphasis on direct reparations and a greater frequency of face-to-face meetings between victims and young people.

The YOT Manager perceives the Families Gateshead work and the restorative justice approach as particular operational strengths.

The Team has taken an active approach in developing feedback from young people and parents and using this to inform practice development. For example, feedback from young people resulted in domestic violence work being conducted on a one-to-one basis rather than in a group situation. This change has resulted in greater and more active engagement on the part of participants and subsequently improved outcomes.

In the case of Gateshead CSP, the allocation of funding under the former Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities fund is being used by the public Health Department to commission a service from NECA. The worker from the service is co-located with the YOT Staff and works closely with the team.

#### **Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

Activities of the Youth Offending Team fit within the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan particularly with regard to reducing crime but also in developing community confidence, anti-social behaviour and improving the involvement of victims.

#### **Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

The grant forms part of the larger Youth Offending Team budget which as a result of reductions in external funding has fallen by approximately £130,000 in 2013/14 compared to the previous year.

#### **Commentary**

Gateshead YOT is performing well against the three national indicators and has the lowest re-offending rate in the Force area. They have just completed a capacity and capability self-assessment which has been submitted to their performance advisor in

the Regional Youth Justice Team. The outcomes from the review will be used to inform 2013/14 Youth Justice Plan. The work of the Youth Offending Team is subject to inspection from HMIP. Its work is monitored against key performance indicators and is accountable to the Youth Crime Management Board and beyond that to the Youth Justice Board and the Ministry of Justice.

## **Local Authority: North Tyneside MBC**

### **Programme: North Tyneside Youth Offending Service**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

**Plus £25,210 from the North Tyneside CSP allocation from the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities**

#### **Summary of Programme**

The £30,000 will form part of the overall direct running costs of the North Tyneside Youth Offending and Prevention Service, and the activities will relate primarily to the 'Reducing crime' priority of the Police and Crime Plan. The work will also contribute less directly to the other four priorities.

The Service is currently piloting a victims' care service as part of its restorative justice programme recruiting and supporting victims to become mentors, proxy spokespeople and to deliver training programmes. These activities will contribute to the 'Putting victims first' priority.

The YOPS is likely to develop its role in substance misuse programmes in relation to young people whose parents are themselves offenders, following on from the 'Children of Offenders Review'.

The YOPS Manger currently chairs the North Tyneside Task and Coordinating Group and the group is currently scoping the relationship between increased levels of particular categories of crimes and drug misuse.

The £23,682 from the former Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Preventative Activities allocation will be used to continue the current arrangement with N2L (Never too late) for a specialist worker placed within the Youth Offending and Prevention Service. N2L is North Tyneside MBC's substance misuse service and the grant will part fund the designated post.

#### **Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

Activities of the Youth Offending Service fit within the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan particularly with regard to reducing crime. The restorative justice programmes relate to the 'Putting victims first' priority and the YOPS activities will also contribute to the other Police and Crime plan priorities.

#### **Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

The budget setting process for the North Tyneside YOPS is not yet finalised but the overall budget is likely to be in the region of £1.2m for 2013/14 which would represent a reduction of about £200,000 on the previous year.

#### **Commentary**

The work of the Youth Offending Prevention Service is subject to external inspection processes and over recent years has been inspected by the quality care Commission, Ofsted, HMIP as well as by the Youth Justice Board. It is a high

performing YOT in relation to the core activities of reducing reoffending, reducing the number of first time entrants and reducing the use of custody.

## **Local Authority: Northumberland County Council**

### **Programme: Northumberland Youth Offending Service**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

**Plus £35,000 from the Northumberland CSP allocation from the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities**

#### **Summary of Programme**

The £65,000 will form part of the overall direct running costs of the Northumberland Youth Offending Service and the activities will relate primarily to the 'Reducing crime' priority of the Police and Crime Plan. The work will also contribute significantly to the priorities relating to anti-social behaviour, community confidence and victim support.

The YOS is engaged in working with identified families within the Supporting Families programme which links with the national Troubled Families agenda.

Northumberland YOS has developed an accommodation strategy to provide stable and suitable accommodation for high risk young offenders coming out of custody. This is an aspect of work which could be further developed on a regional basis.

In common with some other YOTs in the area, Northumberland YOT is a Point of Arrest Liaison and Diversion Pathfinder, part of a national programme. The purpose of the initiative is to develop effective models of early intervention, diversion and youth justice liaison for under 18 year olds.

The Service places a high emphasis on restorative justice and has a service level agreement with a voluntary sector provider (Remedi). Over the course of the last year it has worked to increase the level of contact and support provided to victims. Every victim of youth crime where the offence has resulted in a criminal sentence is contacted by a victim officer and offered a say in what the young person can do to make amends. Depending on the victim's wishes, restorative justice approaches ranging from mediation to direct reparation can be employed

Plans for future development include an alcohol intervention project addressing the link between alcohol and anti-social behaviour. The project is likely to be focused on Ashington and Bedlington.

#### **Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

Activities of the Youth Offending Team fit within the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan particularly with regard to reducing crime. The restorative justice programmes relate to the 'Putting victims first' priority and the YOT activities will also contribute to the other Police and Crime plan priorities.

#### **Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

Northumberland County Council created its Targeted Adolescent Service in April 2011 bringing together the Youth Offending Service, Substance Misuse Service, the Teenage Pregnancy Team, Leaving Care Team, Positive Futures and a commissioned CAHMS Service. This structure provides an inclusive, integrated

framework within which the teams can work together to ensure best possible outcomes.

Reductions in Northumberland CC funding and Youth Justice Board funding has resulted in a reduction in the operational budget of the Service of about 35% in the two year period up to 2013. There have been further reductions this year.

### **Commentary**

The numbers of young people entering the youth justice system in Northumberland has reduced significantly (by over 70%) since 2007 and the YOT continues to achieve low levels of custodial sentences. It is a high performing service and is subject to the inspection and oversight regimes through the Youth Justice Board and HMIP.

**Local Authority: South Tyneside MBC**

**Programme: South Tyneside Youth Offending Service**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

**Plus £25,210 from the Safer South Tyneside Partnership allocation from the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities**

**Summary of Programme Proposed**

The £30,000 will form part of the overall direct running costs of the South Tyneside Youth Offending Service. The Youth Justice Plan for 2013/24 is likely to feature a higher focus on domestic violence and restorative justice work. In addition, substance misuse, with an emphasis on alcohol, and the issue of looked after children who offend returning after out-of-Borough placements, will also feature alongside more established priorities.

The £25,210 allocation from the former Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Preventative Activities allocation will be used to continue the current contractual arrangement with NECA (North East Council on Addictions) for a specialist worker placed within the Youth Offending Team and line-managed by the Specialist Youth Support Manager.

**Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

The core activities of the Youth Offending Service fit within the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan particularly with regard to reducing crime. In addition, the operation of the Service will contribute to other priorities within the plan.

**Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

The grant forms part of a larger budget in the region of £1,28m for 2013/14 representing a reduction from the £1.4m 2012/13 budget.

**Commentary**

The work of the Youth Offending Service is monitored against key performance indicators and is accountable to the Youth Offending Service Partnership Board and beyond that to the Youth Justice Board and the Ministry of Justice. The current Youth Justice Board's assessment of South Tyneside Youth Offending Service is that it is an organisation which is performing well in all areas.

## **Local Authority: City of Sunderland**

### **Programme: Sunderland Youth Offending Service**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

**Plus £42,247 from the Safer Sunderland Partnership allocation from the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities**

#### **Summary of Programme**

The £30,000 will form part of the overall direct running costs of the Sunderland Youth Offending Service.

Sunderland YOS undertake a range of developmental and innovative work alongside their statutory requirements. Their Strengthening Families work, part of the national Troubled Families initiative, promotes a whole families approach and one of the local criteria for involvement is the incidence of domestic violence.

The YOS is also engaged as a pathfinder project under the Point of Arrest Liaison and Diversion programme. This involvement is founded upon the YOS's existing practice in early assessment and triage work. The programme aims to achieve the early assessment of health needs of young offenders.

The Sunderland YOS are keen to promote and expand their restorative justice model which places an emphasis on the involvement and support of victims. They feel that this is an area of expertise which could be more widely applied across the region.

Youth Justice Plan priorities for 2013/14 are likely to include a continued emphasis on the specific need of looked-after children and an additional element relating specifically to domestic violence.

The funding from the former Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities programme will be allocated to the Sunderland Youth Drug and Alcohol Project. The arrangement is managed through an internal service level agreement and the work undertaken by the service is governed by the YOS quality assurance and monitoring arrangements.

#### **Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

The main body of the Youth Offending Service's work is related directly to the 'Reduction of crime' priority within the Police and Crime Plan. The Service believes its wider approach and specific projects examples of which are described above contributes to the full range of priorities.

#### **Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

The grant forms part of a larger budget in the region of £3.15m for 2013/14 representing a reduction from the £3.4m 2012/13 budget.

#### **Commentary**

The Sunderland YOS works to a system of internal quality assurance which looks at both the quality of case-work and at broader themes. The areas for thematic based assessments are usually informed by nationally identified issues or research. For 2013/14 domestic violence and sexual offending are likely to be areas examined as part of this process.

In common with other services the Sunderland Youth Offending Service is monitored against key performance indicators and is accountable to the Youth Offending Service Partnership Board and beyond that to the Youth Justice Board and the Ministry of Justice.

## **Local Authority: City of Newcastle**

### **Programme: Newcastle Youth Offending Service**

**Amount allocated: £30,000**

**Plus £35,933 from the Safer Newcastle Partnership allocation from the Youth Crime and Substance Misuse Prevention Activities**

### **Summary of Programme**

The total of PCC funding allocated for the Newcastle YOT of £65,933 will be used to fund direct delivery staff costs. The funding will be used in conjunction with that of other partners to support the achievement of the YOT's statutory aims i.e. Reducing First Time Entrants, Reducing Reoffending and Reducing the use of Custodial Sentences.

In addition the Newcastle YOT is working to locally set objectives which include:

- Supporting young offenders to access and maintain suitable accommodation.
- Improving the numbers of young offenders in full time education, training and employment.
- Improving victim satisfaction and public confidence including the development of restorative justice and victim services.

The YOT has a dedicated Restorative Justice Officer and has developed its approach with increased levels of involvement for victims in one-to-one meetings and referral order panels.

The YOT has been working with Northumbria Police on a new model for its Community Resolution Scheme with the involvement of the voluntary sector provider Catch 22. This has been running for a year and has been proved to be highly successful. It is an approach which could be replicated across the Force area.

### **Fit with Police and Crime Plan 2013-18 Priorities**

Activities of the Youth Offending Team fit within the priorities of the Police and Crime Plan particularly with regard to reducing crime but also in developing community confidence, tackling anti-social behaviour and improving the involvement of victims.

The YOT Manager Chairs the Domestic Violence abuse Partnership and sees tackling issues in relation to domestic abuse as integral to the work of the YOT. The Service undertakes relationship education with clients, works with parents and families and deals with cases where clients are involved with domestic abuse as perpetrators.

### **Relationship to wider YOS Programme**

The YOT has experienced a cut in finance from the Youth Justice Board and former Police Authority from 2012/13 to 2013/14 of about £100,000.

### **Commentary**

The Newcastle YOT sees itself as an entrepreneurial service taking opportunities to draw in resources for core work from a variety of sources.

It has an ongoing partnership with Newcastle University providing placements to students and taking part in research programmes and acting as partners in European programmes.

In common with the other Services in the Force area, the Newcastle YOT is subject to a rigorous inspection regime by the Youth Justice Board, HMIP and Ofsted.

The Youth Justice Board's current assessment of the Newcastle YOT is that it is an organisation which is performing well in all areas. Previous inspections by HMIP highlighted the way in which the YOT was able to respond to changes in local and national operating environments and a recent Ofsted on safeguarding and Looked After Children noted examples of good practice and improvements.