

TITLE OF REPORT: Youth Justice Service Priorities and Performance

REPORT OF: Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing and Learning

Summary

To provide an update on the Youth Justice Service key priorities for 2018/19 and performance against First Time Entrants (FTE) and Custody indicators.

1 Introduction

1.1 The Youth Justice Service has an annual requirement to produce a Youth Justice Plan to comply with the conditions of the grant provided by the Youth Justice Board to Local Authorities.

2 Background / Context

2.1 It was agreed that the Youth Justice Board should report to the Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) to update and seek the views of members on the annual strategic plan. This process began in October 2018 and a subsequent update progress against priorities and performance indicators is outlined below.

3 Key Priorities for the YOT for 2018/19

3.1 Key priorities for 2018/19 are:

- Improve the access to general health assessments for young people who enter the Criminal Justice System – carried forward from 17/19 plan.
- Explore with the Newcastle/Gateshead Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) to identify potential funding to introduce the Liaison and Diversion scheme within Gateshead.
- Apply for renewal of the Restorative Service Quality Mark (RSQM).
- Explore alternative methods of funding with regional colleagues to deliver on Attachment Based Parenting Interventions for young people known to Youth Justice Services.
- To embed the Enhanced Case Management (ECM) model and Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) research into every day practice.

- Ensure that relevant staff attend the 3 days – Trauma Recovery Training arranged for March 2019.
- To develop preventative approaches to work with young people in the Looked After Child (LAC), Child In Need (CIN), Complex Child In Need (CCIN), and Child Protection arenas and those at risk of Civil Injunctions.

3.2 Progress against priorities:

- The contract to provide the Liaison and Diversion scheme within Gateshead has been awarded to Northumberland Tyne and Wear National Health Service Foundation Trust (NTW).
- The RSQM renewal was completed and the award was approved for a further 3 years. The RSQM holder status will be valid until 6 February 2022.
- The priority for delivering attachment-based parenting is now being delivered via Targeted Family Support following restructure of services.
- ACEs are routinely discussed in assessment and recorded under significant life events. The Trauma Recovery training planned for March 2020 will assist staff in moving from identifying ACEs and assessing the impact to incorporating appropriate responses to trauma within young person plans.
- Gateshead Corporate Parenting Partnership have agreed a working subgroup building upon learning from the National protocol on reducing criminalisation of Looked After Children and develop preventative approaches to those at-risk groups. The intention is to divert young people from formal entry into the Criminal Justice System where appropriate using the multi-agency Out of Court Disposal Panel.

4 Additional Service Information

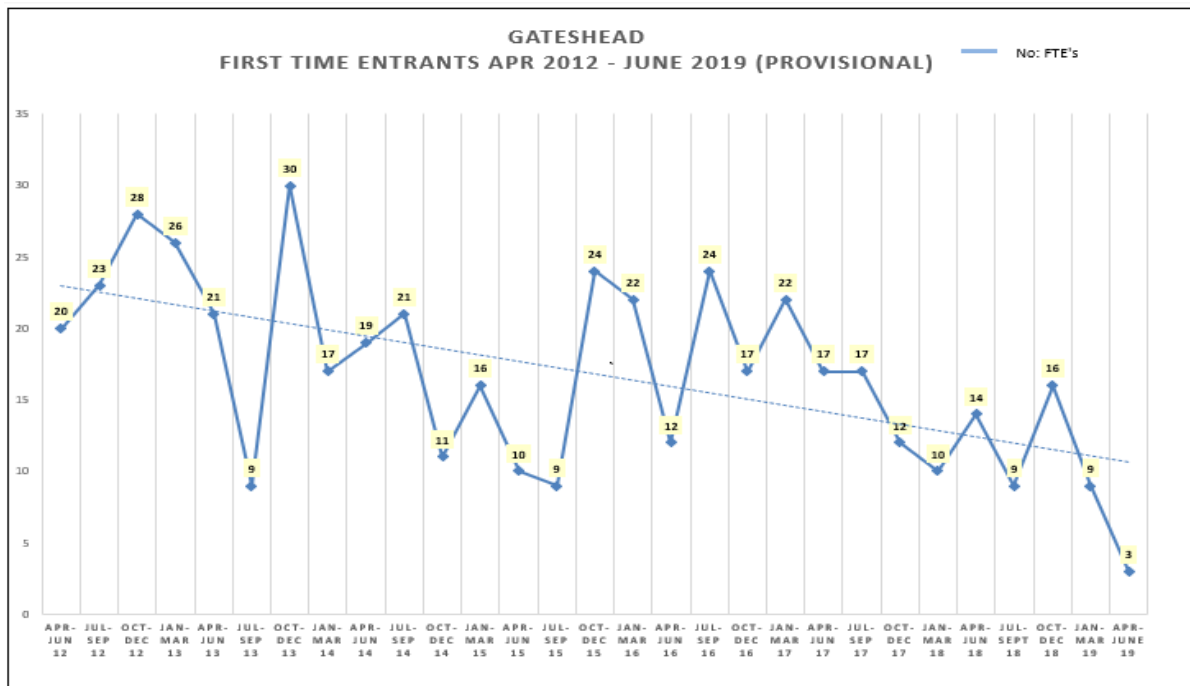
- The You Only Live Once (YOLO) project funded nationally by the Home Office has been launched across the Northumbria Police Force area. Gateshead Youth Justice Service is working with Newcastle and Sunderland football foundations, Street Doctors and The Police Crime Commissioners Office to prevent children becoming involved in knife crime or other forms of serious violence. The Police coordinate referrals to the project, children will be assessed (by the Police and Youth Justice Service) and if suitable will be offered regular mentoring (from the foundations) to reduce the risk of offending.
- The Youth Justice Service Manager is due to retire after 14 years of service. Recruitment to this post is already underway and it is anticipated that a new Service Manager will be appointed into post by the end of June.
- The Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2019 – 2020 is due to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice in August 2019. The committee will be updated on the new priorities at the next Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

- The Youth Offending Team has been renamed to the Youth Justice Service, the change was agreed to ensure that young people are not labelled as offenders and promote tertiary desistance.

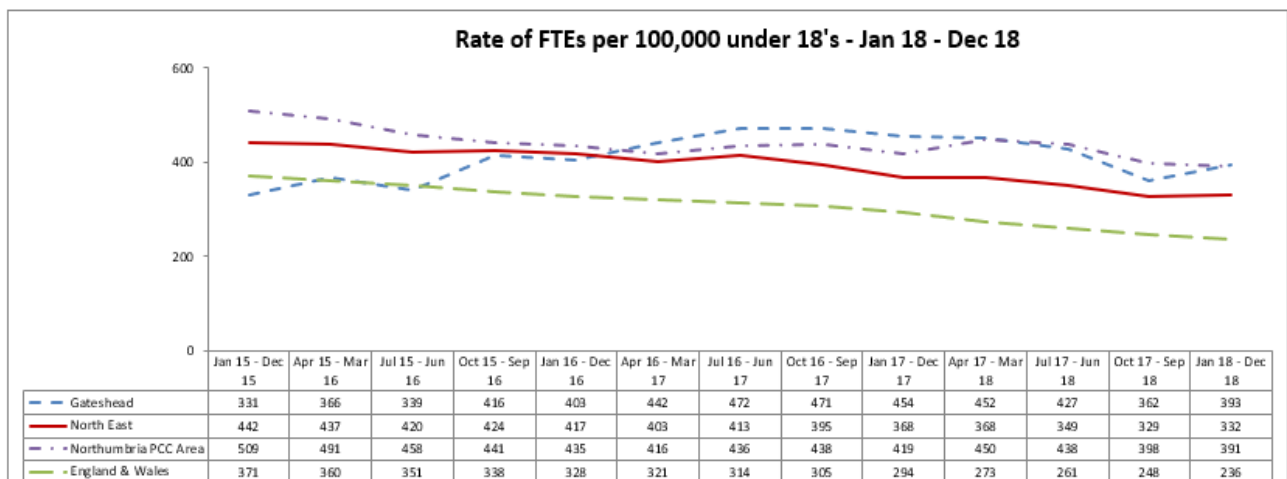
5. Performance:

- Most recent performance shows that we have had 3 First Time Entrants for the period April 2019 - June 2019. This is a 67% decrease from the previous quarter and a 79% decrease on the same period last year when 14 FTE were reported.

Quarterly trends of First Time Entrants:

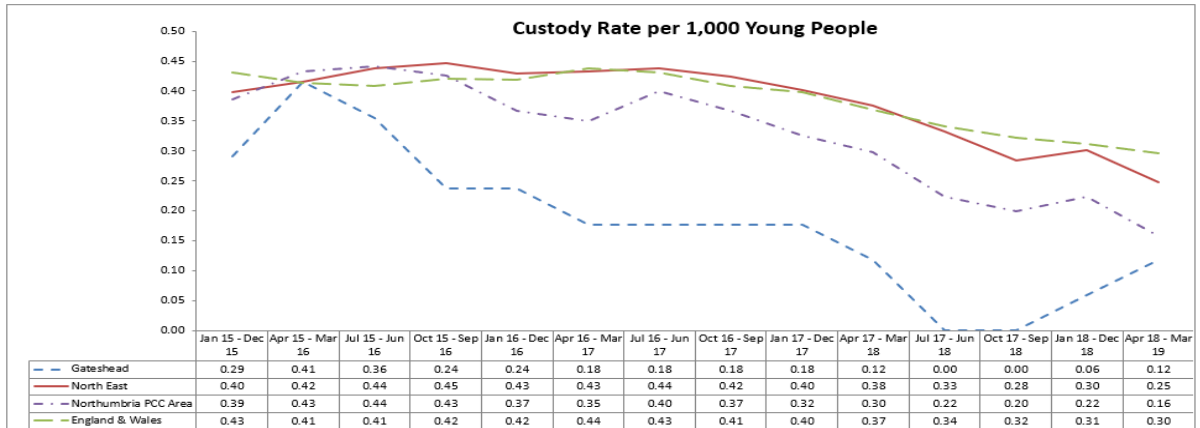


Regional and national comparison showing rate of First Time Entrants



- The latest YJB draft data for Apr 18 to Mar 19 shows the 12-month rate of Custody for Gateshead at 0.12, this represents 2 custodial sentences in the 12-month period. This is below the Northumbria PCC regional average for this period (0.16), and below the National average (0.30).

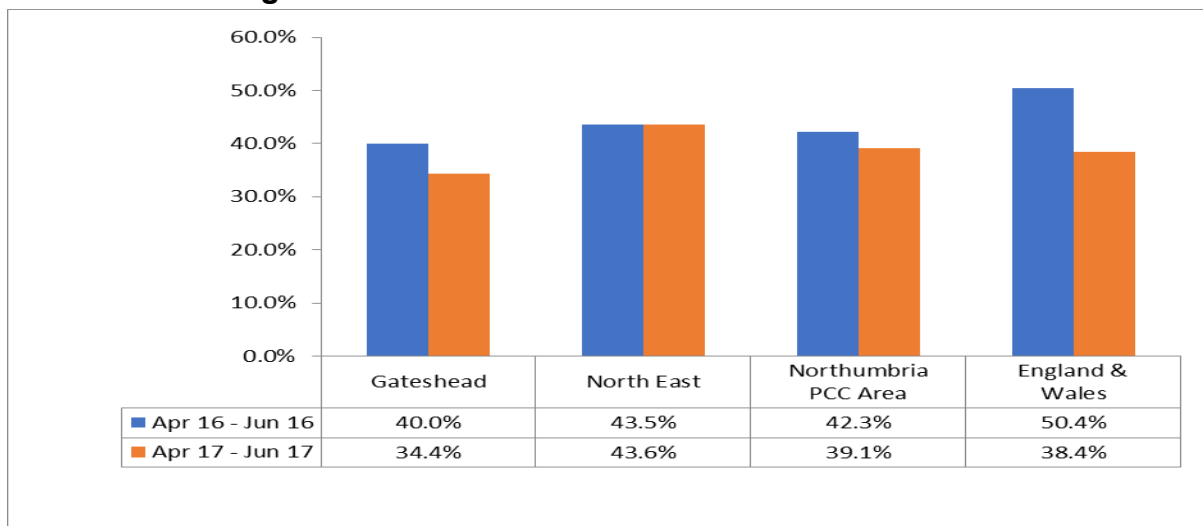
Regional and national comparison of custody rates



Re-Offending

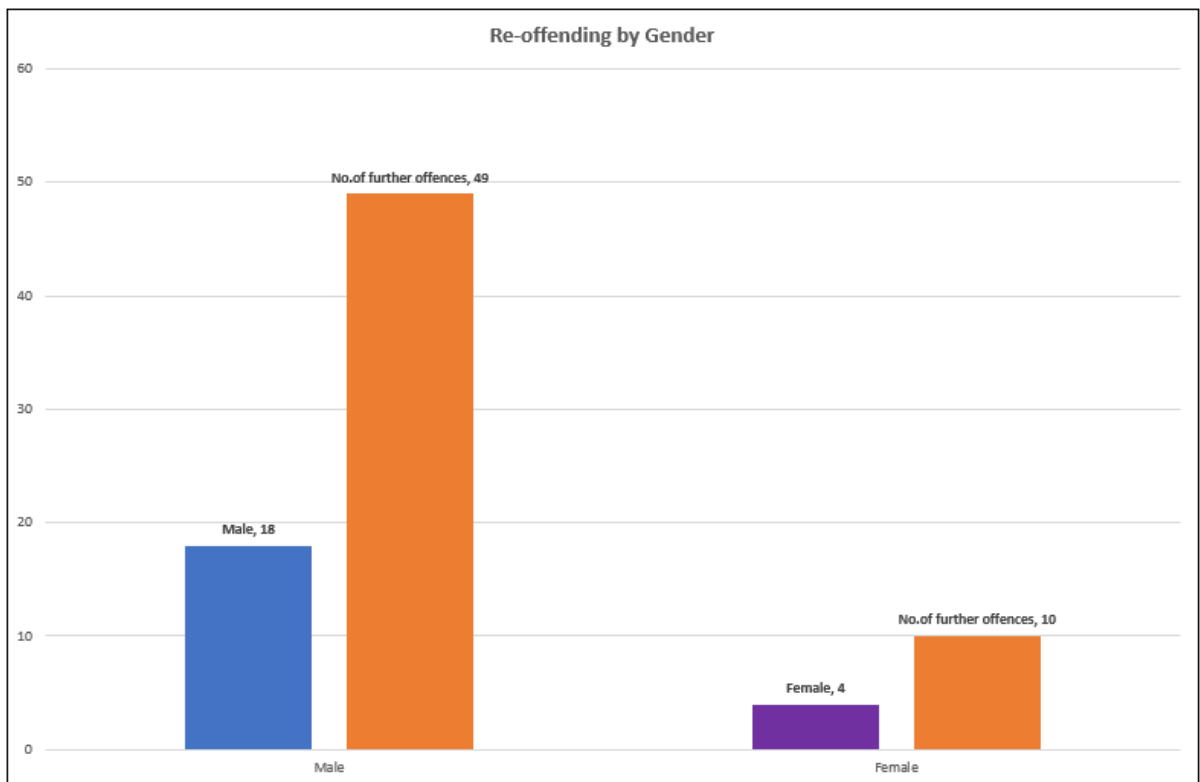
- The cohort is made up of 89 young people (69 males and 20 females). When compared to the cohort of the previous year (April 2017 to March 2018) in which we had 124 young people this is a 28% decrease in cohort size.
- The latest draft quarterly cohort reoffending data from the PNC (Police National Computer) for Apr 2017 to Jun 2017 sets Gateshead's Binary percentage (percentage of young people who go on to reoffend) at 34.4%. This is below the Northumbria PCC regional average of 39.9%, and below the National average of 39.1%.

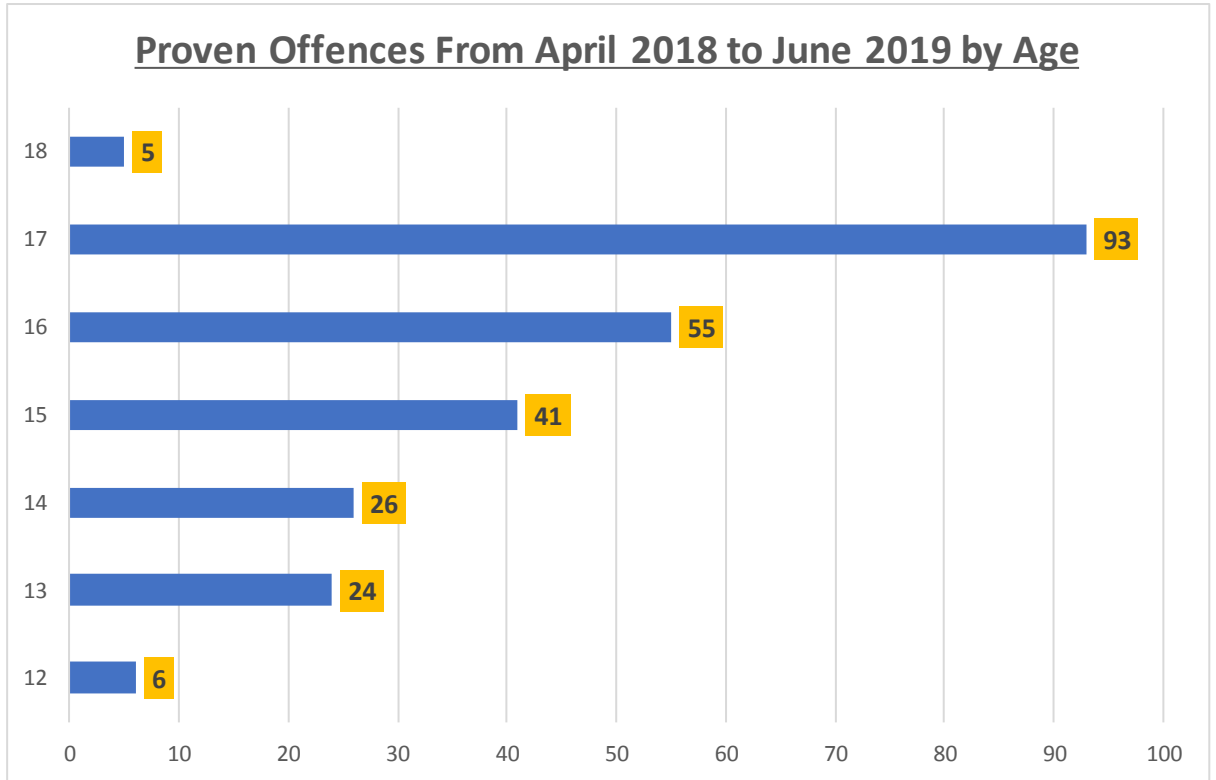
Re-offending from PNC



- The latest draft annual cohort reoffending data from the PNC (Police National Computer) for Jul 2016 to Jun 2017 sets Gateshead's Binary percentage (percentage of young people who go on to reoffend) at 32.0%. This is below the Northumbria PCC regional average of 40.5%, and below the National average of 40.1%.
- Current analysis shows that 75% of the total re-offences were committed by males, and 25% of the total re-offences were committed by female offenders.

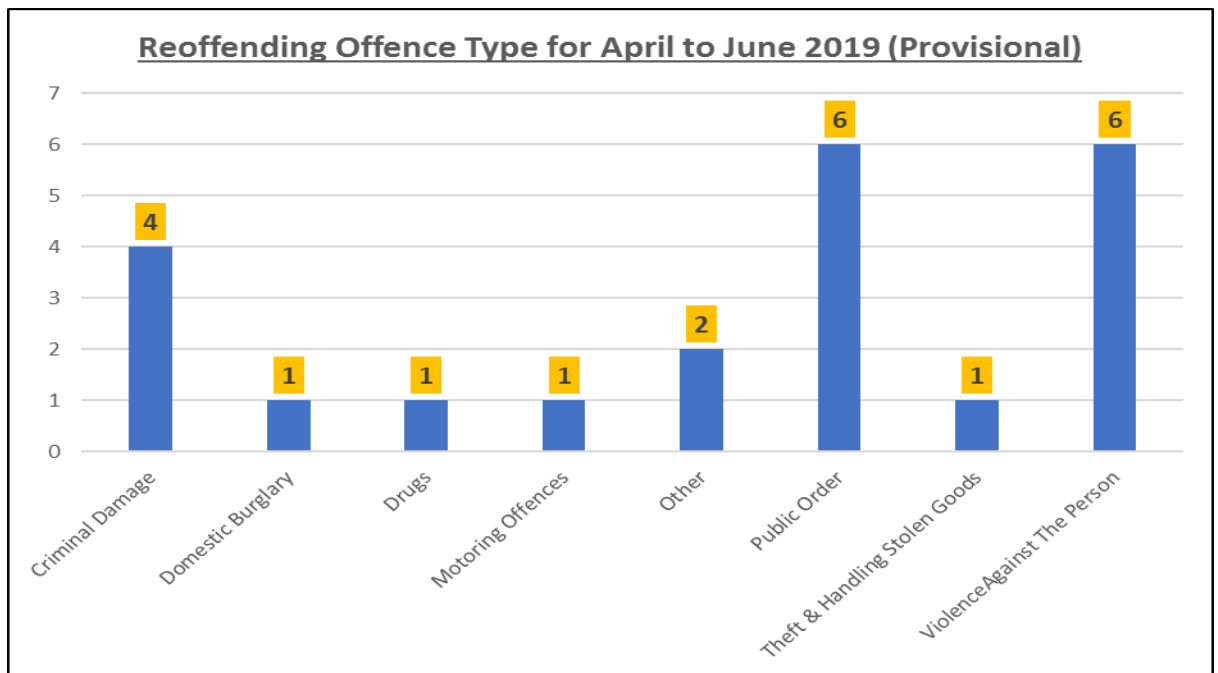
Re-Offending by Gender





- Re-offending analysis shows that of the 89-young people in this cohort, 67 young people or 75% have not re-offended to date, 22 or 25% of the 89-young people in the cohort have so far gone on to re-offend, committing a total of 59 further offences.

Live Tracker Offence Types April to June 2019 (Provisional)



6 **Recommendations:**

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) Continue to request regular updates on the key priorities.
- (ii) Note and comment on the contents of this report.
- (iii) Identify any areas of work which the committee would be interested in receiving updates about.

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