

# Substance Misuse In Young People

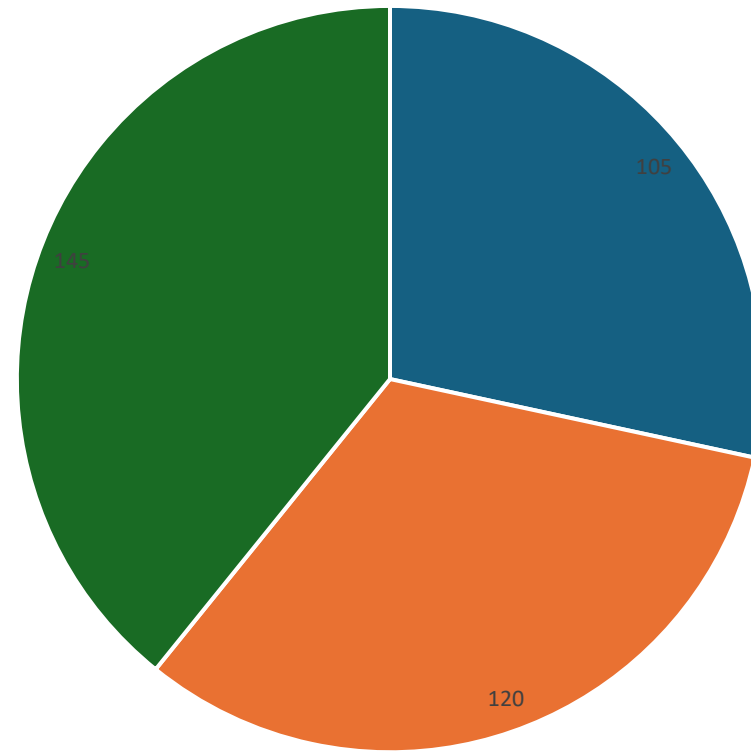
Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

17<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Moira Richardson

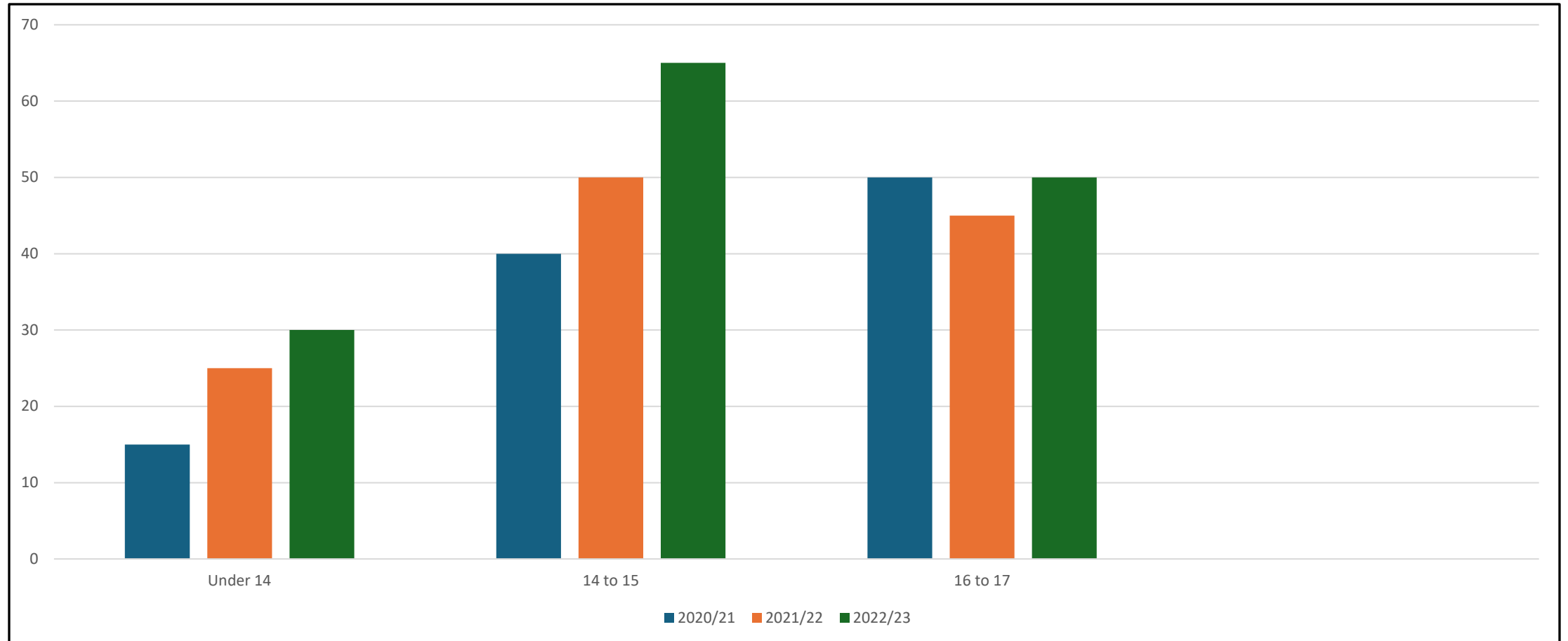
Public Health Advanced Practitioner

# Numbers in specialist treatment

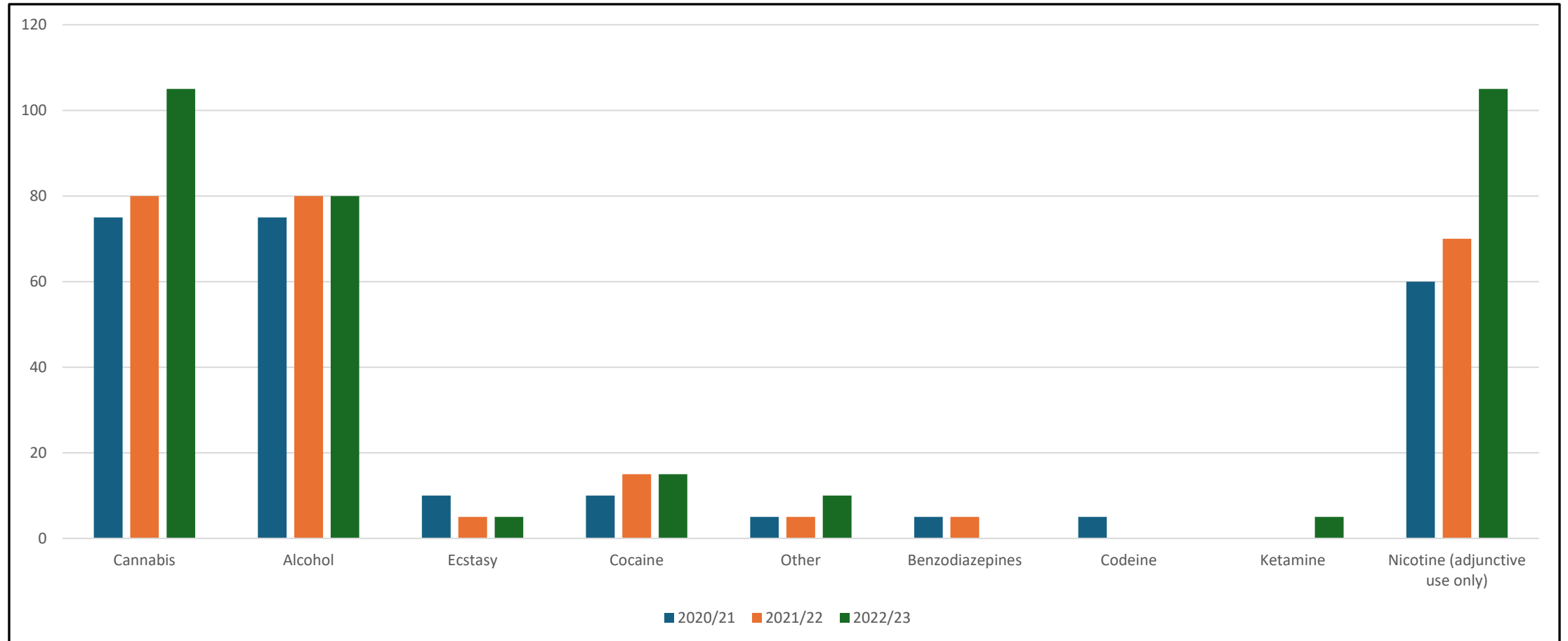


■ 2020/21 ■ 2021/22 ■ 2022/23

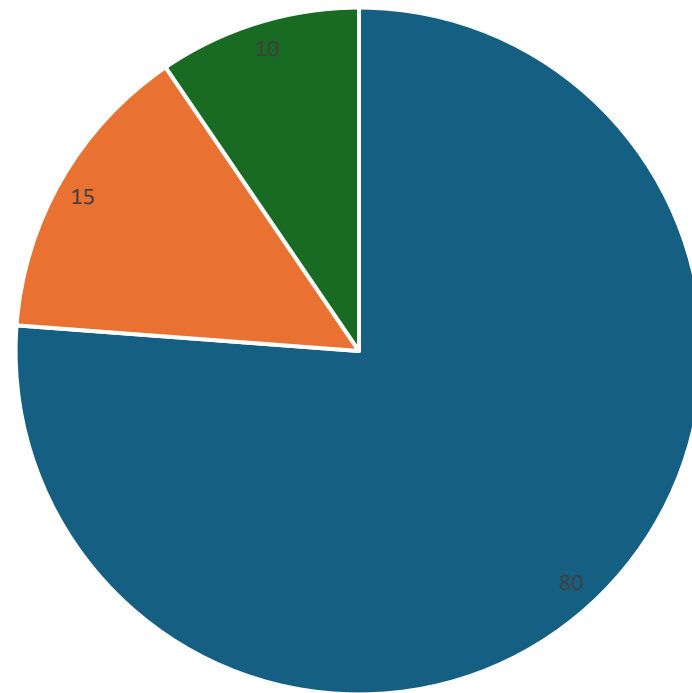
# Age range in specialist treatment



# Substance use – specialist treatment

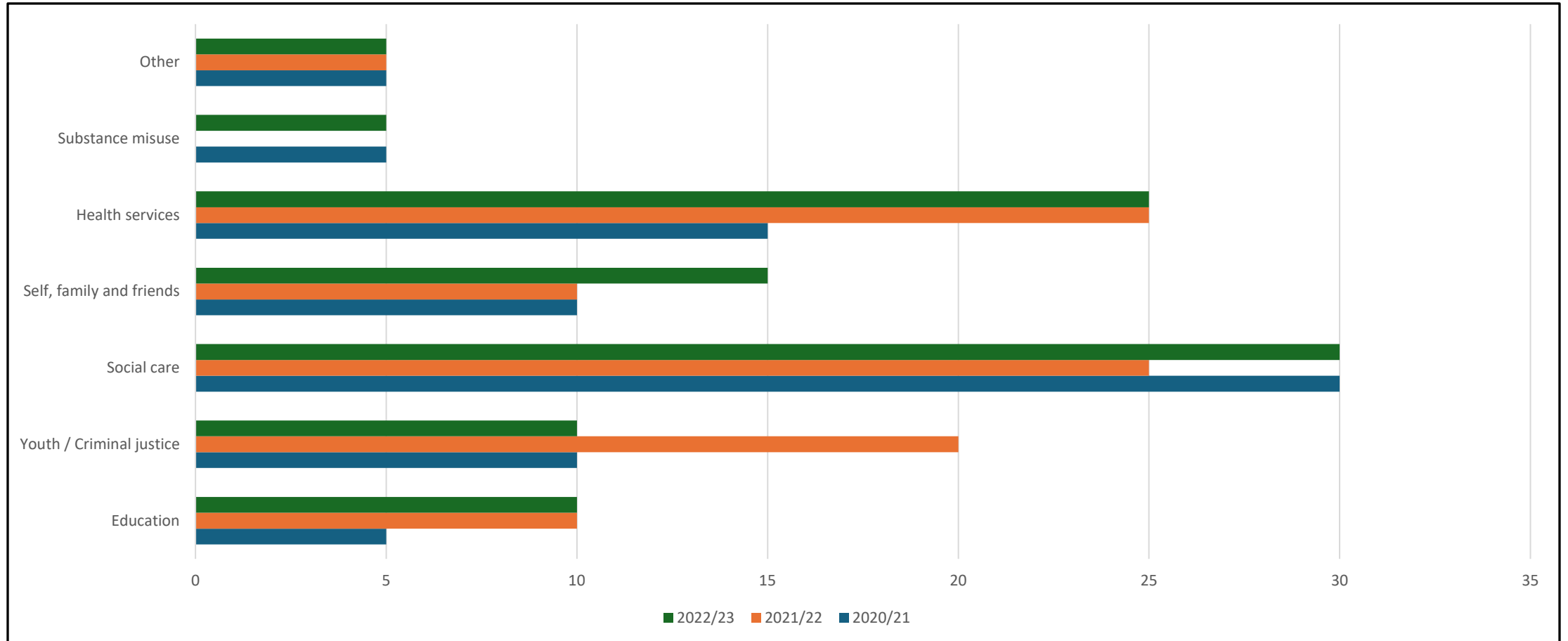


# Accommodation status at start of specialist treatment

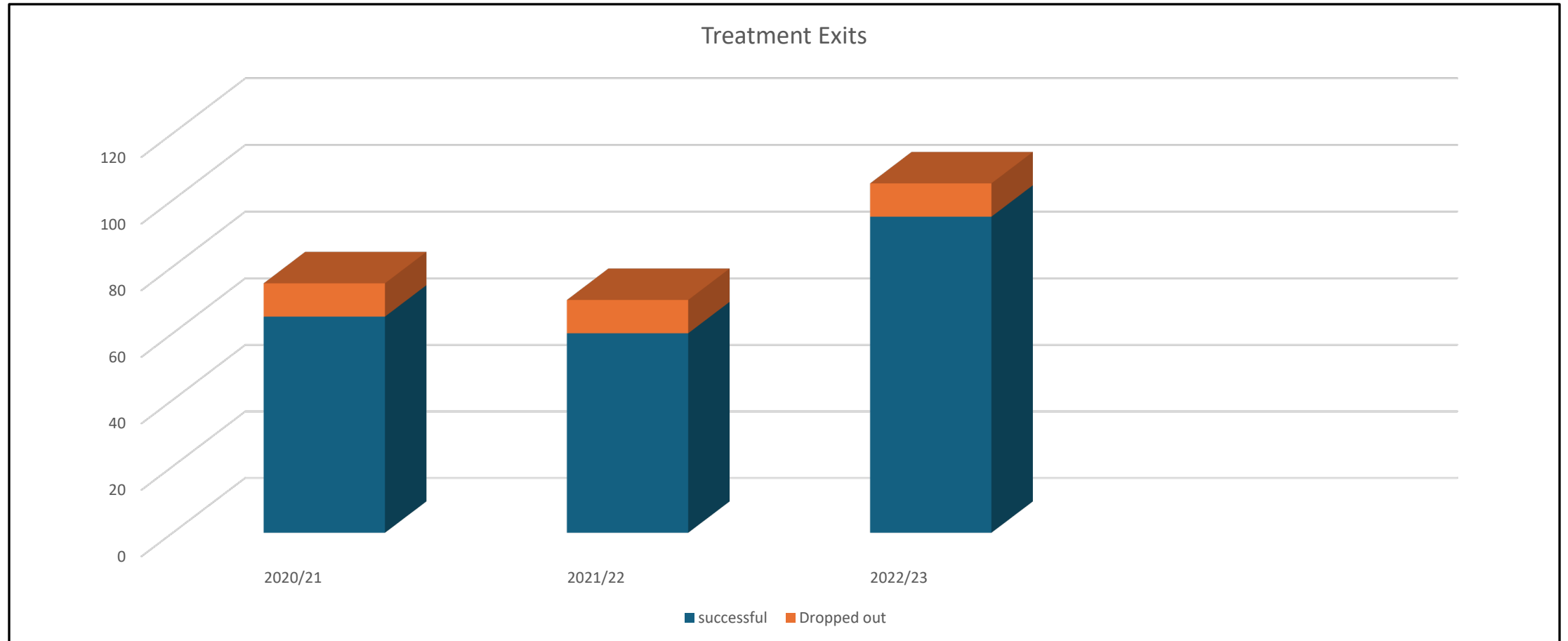


■ Living with parents ■ YP living in care ■ Supported housing

# Referral sources into specialist treatment



# Treatment exits – specialist treatment



# Unstructured provision/support

Delivered across a range of venues and events

218 professionals  
and members of  
the community  
engaged with

796 YP &  
professionals in  
education settings

Information, advice  
and guidance to  
294 people

27 hidden harm  
assessments & 18  
one to one  
interventions

4 primary schools  
provided with  
information/advice  
re hidden harm



# Children in care data 2023/24

- 29 referrals
  - 10 children's homes
  - 6 youth justice service
  - Remainder children in care team, children's mental health services, education, YP housing and liaison and diversion nurse
- First substance of choice
  - Cannabis - 18
  - Remainder reporting alcohol and nicotine
- Treatment exits
  - 17 treatment complete
  - Remainder transferred out of area, declined support, transferred into custody, dropped out, received unstructured support



# Aim of the Service

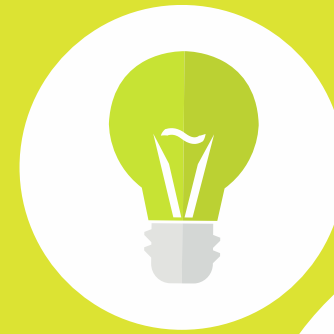
To ensure that all young people have access to a range of interventions to:

- Reduce risk and prevent further harm to children and young people
- Prevent escalation of children/young people's substance misuse problems
- Address children/young people's problematic substance misuse
- Prevent children/young people from becoming substance misuse dependent adults

# What do Positive Futures Gateshead Offer?

Multiple forms of interventions such as:

- Education
- Harm Reduction
- Psychosocial Interventions
- Drop-in sessions, assemblies & presentations
- Outreach
- Professionals training
- Flexible approaches to appointments (At school, home or out in the community)
- Signposting & referrals to other relevant services
- Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT)
- Support to access pharmacological treatment



**Change  
Grow  
Live**

**Positive  
Futures**

**Gateshead**

My sessions are so much fun. I hope we can see each other in the summer holidays too

My sessions are so much fun. I hope we can see each other in the summer holidays too

My daughter comes home from school and lets me know what she's done in each session, and I am glad the service takes a youth work approach

I would like to express my appreciation for the interesting sessions delivered to Glynwood Primary school pupils –  
Safeguarding Governor

My worker is really supportive, I have learnt how to keep myself and friends safe

# Young People's Room



# Get in Touch

Get in touch with one of the team for an informal chat for some advice or to ask more questions about the service or to make a referral.



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**Socials:**

