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reducing crime



Youth Justice Board
Bwrdd Cyfiawnder Ieuentid

Youth justice

Targeting interventions effectively

20-22 April 2010

University of Nottingham

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for Nacro's annual three-day youth crime conference – the pre-eminent independent event in the youth justice calendar.

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● About the conference

Nacro's annual three-day youth crime conference is the pre-eminent independent event in the youth justice calendar. The conference is of value to managers and practitioners across the areas of youth justice and prevention, with leading speakers addressing current issues of governance, policy and practice. Complemented by a wide range of seminars and workshops, the conference provides an opportunity to critically examine key issues at a challenging time of significant change and development.

The theme of Nacro's 20th annual youth crime conference will be of relevance to all those working in youth justice and related fields.

Effectively targeting interventions at those who need them most and tailoring them to meet individual needs is at the heart of the government's youth justice strategy as outlined in the *Youth Crime Action Plan*. It underlies the commitment to deliver targeted youth support, and provides the rationale for the introduction of the Youth Justice Board's Scaled Approach and the youth rehabilitation order. Getting it right is key to diverting children away from crime, reducing reoffending and maximising young people's future potential. In a period of economic restraint, effective targeting is also vital to ensure that service provision is delivered in a way that makes the best use of available resources.

● Speakers and chairs

Confirmed speakers and chairs include:

- **Tam Baillie** Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People
- **Tim Bateman** Senior Youth Crime Policy Development Officer, Nacro
- **Dr Stephen Case** Lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Swansea University
- **Alice Chapman** Director, Youth Conference Service of Northern Ireland
- **John Drew** Chief Executive, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
- **Julie Fox** Assistant Chief Inspector for the Inspection of Youth Offending, HM Inspectorate of Probation.
- **Dr Di Hart** Principal Officer, Youth Justice and Welfare, National Children's Bureau
- **Michelle Hill** Area Manager, Nacro
- **Mark Johnson** Author of *Wasted* along with members from User Voice
- **Lorraine Khan** Senior Development Worker, Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health
- **Robbyn Linden** Operational Lead for Triage and YJLD, Lewisham YOT
- **Jane Mackenzie** England Policy Officer, Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists
- **Paul McDowell** Chief Executive, Nacro
- **Dr Ian Millward** Principal Educational Psychologist, London Borough of Newham
- **Rod Morgan** Professor of Criminal Justice, University of Bristol
- **Paul O'Hara** YOT Manager, Bradford YOT
- **Bob Reitemeier** Chief Executive, The Children's Society
- **Enver Solomon** Assistant Director of Policy, Barnardo's
- **Charlie Spencer** YOS Manager, Sandwell YOS
- **Malcolm Stevens** Director, JusticeCare Solutions
- **Philippa Stroud** Executive Director, The Centre for Social Justice

● Who should attend

The conference is aimed at anyone with an interest in youth crime or the criminal justice system, including professionals from:

- HM Prison Service
- youth offending teams
- probation boards and services
- the National Offender Management Service
- voluntary sector providers
- private sector providers
- the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice
- the Cabinet Office
- local criminal justice boards
- regional government offices
- children's services and family services.

The conference will also be of interest to:

- magistrates, members of the judiciary and legal advisers
- academics and researchers
- students
- members of the media.



Nacro, the crime reduction charity, is dedicated to making society safer. It has unrivalled expertise in developing effective solutions to crime and stimulating fresh thinking. Combining practical services to individuals, communities and organisations with pioneering campaigns, Nacro lobbies for better ways to reduce crime, while demonstrating how this may be done in practice.

Nacro's Youth Crime Section provides development, information and monitoring services to agencies in the youth justice system.

Nacro, Park Place, 10-12 Lawn Lane
London SW8 1UD

www.nacro.org.uk

Nacro is a registered charity, no. 226171.



The **Youth Justice Board (YJB)** oversees the youth justice system in England and Wales. We work to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people under the age of 18, and to ensure that custody for them is safe, secure and addresses the causes of their offending behaviour. Specifically, we:

- advise the Secretary of State on the operation of, and standards for, the youth justice system
- monitor the performance of the youth justice system
- purchase places for, and place, children and young people remanded or sentenced to custody
- identify, promote and support the development of effective practice.

Our work focuses on the prevention of offending and reoffending by children and young people, ensuring the safe and effective use of custody and increasing victim and public confidence in the youth justice system.

In the year ahead, the YJB will be working to build on recent successes in reducing the number of young people coming into the youth justice system, reducing the frequency of reoffending and reducing the number of young people in custody.

In support of these aims the next 12 months will see the development of services to improve the resettlement of young people from the secure estate; the introduction of a new Youth Justice Performance Improvement Framework and the consolidation of work on the Scaled Approach.

www.yjb.gov.uk

Photos: www.philipmeech.com.

Nacro is very grateful to everyone who appears in the photos. Please note, it should not be assumed that any individuals depicted have any association with the stories or activities described in the text.

Tuesday 20 April

11.30 Registration

12.30 Lunch

14.00 Plenary 1

Chair's welcome

Enver Solomon Assistant
Director of Policy, Barnardo's

14.10 The voice of young people

Mark Johnson Author of *Wasted and policy adviser on drugs, homelessness and criminal justice, and members from User Voice*

15.00 Refreshments

15.30 Workshop 1

1 The callous-unemotional subtype of conduct problems: implications for a school-based intervention

2 Fire Service targeted youth work

3 Innovative approaches to prevent and deter offending

4 Building a circle of support and accountability around a young person

5 Young offenders: what can't they tell us? What can't we hear?

6 Prison? Me? No Way!

7 Creative writing with young people in the justice system

8 Voice and influence in the youth justice system

Seminar

The future of the secure estate

Rod Morgan Professor of Criminal Justice, University of Bristol

Malcolm Stevens Director, JusticeCare Solutions

17.00 Evening seminars

18.30 Buffet dinner

Wednesday 21 April

08.30 Day delegate registration

09.15 Workshop 2

9 Transition to adulthood

10 Working with young offenders who are parents

11 The Safer Streets Initiative

12 Using cultural narratives with African Caribbean and Afghan youths: a new approach to intervention

13 Healthy youth offending services, safer communities: a north-west approach

14 Young people and money

15 The Intensive Fostering Programme

16 Early intervention: the answer to effective targeting? A district council's perspective

Seminar

The art of the possible: making restorative justice work in a justice culture

Alice Chapman Director, Youth Conference Service of Northern Ireland

10.30 Refreshments

11.00 Plenary 2

YCAP interventions

Chair TBA

■ Triage and mental health diversion

Lorraine Khan Senior Development Worker, Sainsbury Centre for Mental Health

Robbyn Linden Operational Lead for Triage and YJLD, Lewisham YOT

■ Knife crime

Dr Ian Millward Principal Educational Psychologist, London Borough of Newham

■ Family intervention projects

Michelle Hill Area Manager, Nacro

12.30 Lunch

13.45 Plenary 3

Safeguarding agenda for YOTs

Chair Paul McDowell Chief Executive, Nacro

Bob Reitemeier Chief Executive, The Children's Society

Tam Baillie Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People

Dr Di Hart Principal Officer, Youth Justice and Welfare, National Children's Bureau

15.15 Refreshments

15.45 Workshop 3

17 Early Intervention Programme

18 The mutual benefits of linking reparation activities with local charities

19 Using restorative approaches to reduce the criminalisation of children in care

20 Inpatient intervention for young offenders with mental health problems

21 Functional family therapy

22 Behind the mask

23 Young custody leavers: the case for targeted resettlement interventions

24 How to build good YOT/court relationships

Seminar

How to improve engagement with young people who offend by addressing their communication difficulties

Paul O'Hara YOT Manager, Bradford YOT

Jane Mackenzie England Policy Officer, Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

Marnie Crew Speech and Language Therapist

17.30 Evening seminars

19.45 Conference dinner

Thursday 22 April

09:00 Day delegate registration

09.45 Workshop 4

25 Working with young women who are both perpetrators and victims in the context of serious youth violence

26 Restoring the balance: using restorative justice in communities with young people and adults

27 Taking specific learning difficulties into account in youth justice settings

28 When gut feelings are not enough: building a cultural and ethnically sensitive assessment for young gypsies and travellers

29 Addressing the weapon and gang culture in young people

30 Breaking barriers in communication

31 Early intervention initiatives in Northern Ireland

32 The Young Witness Service, managed by Victim Support

Seminar

Resettlement and accommodation

John Drew Chief Executive, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales

Bob Ashford Head of Youth Justice Strategy, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales

11.00 Refreshments

11.30 Plenary 4

Targeting risk and interventions effectively

Chair Tim Bateman Senior Youth Crime Policy Development Officer, Nacro

Julie Fox Assistant Chief Inspector for the Inspection of Youth Offending, HM Inspectorate of Probation

Dr Stephen Case Lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice, Swansea University

Charlie Spencer YOS Manager, Sandwell YOS

12.45 Lunch and close of conference

● The workshops and seminars

Delegates at Nacro's youth crime conferences value the opportunity to choose from a wide range of interactive workshops and seminars. There are four workshop and seminar sessions in the programme. Delegates can choose to attend one of eight different workshops or the scheduled seminar. Additionally, there will be four evening seminars, enabling delegates to expand networks and share ideas in a relaxed but stimulating atmosphere.

● The workshops

1 The callous-unemotional subtype of conduct problems: implications for a school-based intervention

Presenters

Alice Jones Lecturer in Psychology, Goldsmiths College, University of London

Laura Warren Educational Psychologist, Buckinghamshire County Council

Norah Frederickson Professor of Educational Psychology, University College London

Content

This presentation will detail an ongoing school-based intervention programme being run with children at a primary school for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties (EBD). This programme represents a joint project between basic science research and educational psychologists and has been developed to specifically address the needs of children with chronic and severe antisocial behaviour who have elevated levels of callous-unemotional (CU) traits. The current neurocognitive research suggests that children with elevated CU traits would benefit from modified treatment approaches, including avoiding strategies that are ineffective for individuals with elevated CU traits (eg, punishment) and identifying and exploiting relative strengths (eg, response to reward). This presentation will explore the first dataset from a single-case design evaluation of this intervention using information from the pupils, teachers and parents.

2 Fire Service targeted youth work

Presenter

David Hackney Head of Youth Services Section, West Midlands Fire Service

Content

The Youth Services section of West Midlands Fire Service seeks to make the West Midlands safer by working with young people at risk of becoming victims, misusers of fire or perpetrators of fire-related crime. The FIRE Programme is an intensive programme designed for young people either excluded or on the verge of exclusion from school, and young offenders. By targeting these young people, we are reaching those who are most likely to become householders in the least affluent areas where most domestic fires occur and where most secondary fires and vehicle arson take place. By targeting in this way we are directing our resources where they are most effectively deployed.

The workshop aims to inform participants about FIRE and promote discussion on the concept of providing opportunities for self-reflection in programmes where the young person is removed from their normal day-to-day life through custody, adventure activities and restorative justice, comparing these approaches with each other and with fire service programmes.

3 Innovative approaches to prevent and deter offending

Presenter

Ash Ali Programme Development Manager, YOT Solutions

Content

This workshop is aimed at practitioners and managers working in youth offending teams or in preventative or diversionary services involved with young people in the criminal justice system. It is designed as a

practice forum, sharing direct examples of interventions developed by YOT Solutions which have been integrated across a number of YOTs to meet the Youth Justice Board's Scaled Approach. Alongside practical demonstrations, the workshop will explore underpinning methodologies, assessment and evaluation structures and also draw upon how the resources respond effectively and creatively in engaging young people to lead positive and emotionally healthy lifestyles.

4 Building a circle of support and accountability around a young person: a restorative process of targeting interventions according to need and risk

Presenters

Tim Chapman Lecturer, University of Ulster
Donna Murray Youth Conference Co-ordinator, Youth Justice Agency, Northern Ireland

Content

This workshop is designed for people working with young people who have persistent patterns of harmful behaviour. It will outline a restorative process which has been designed for young people who have committed serious offences or have a record of persistent offending in Northern Ireland. This process involves a restorative youth conference for those harmed by the young person, which assesses needs and risks and generates an intervention plan. The young person is then supported by a circle of support and accountability made up of family, friends, community representatives and professionals. Case studies will be presented and the process will be demonstrated by a simulated exercise.

5 Young offenders: what can't they tell us? What can't we hear? Moving towards more effective intervention for young offenders in Wrexham

Presenters

Gill Britten Key Connections Manager
Jill McMinn Advisory Teacher Speech, Language, Communication
Kathy Weigh Head of Wrexham Youth Justice Service

Content

This is a collaborative initiative set up by Wrexham Youth Justice Service, and the education, learning, achievement, prevention and inclusion departments within Wrexham County Borough Council. This research study sets out to investigate the effectiveness of raising Youth Justice Service staff awareness of the nature of speech, language and communication difficulties (SLCD) in relation to offending behaviour, and the efficacy of using the YJS Oracy Profile to identify possible SLCD in a group of young offenders. The profile is a non-standardised speech, language and communication diagnostic assessment for young adults specifically adapted for use with young offenders. The profile covers the main areas of language, includes co-ordination and sensory integration skills and considers their impact on social and emotional behaviour.

The project aims to help reduce the number of young offenders who go on to reoffend following assessment and intervention through the Wrexham Youth Justice Service. The project aims to create a method of identifying any unrecognised difficulties that could be underpinning the offending behaviour and to suggest some effective intervention strategies to help the young adults and staff mitigate the impact of those difficulties.

6 Prison? Me? No Way!

Presenter

Paul Wilkinson Chief Executive, The No Way Trust

Content

The No Way Trust actively engages with over 100,000 children and young people annually providing innovative programmes with the aim of reducing youth crime and helping the youth of this country to go forward with their lives in a positive way. We are both a crime prevention and a learning for life charity which has become highly acclaimed throughout the country, working primarily with schools and youth justice organisations. We have won many awards and accolades for the work that we do and have earned the respect of even the most challenging young people, changing lives for the better.

7 Creative writing with young people in the justice system

Presenter

Michael Crowley Writer in residence, HMPYOI Lancaster Farms for Writers in Prison Network

Content

This workshop will illustrate the benefits of creative writing as a youth justice intervention. By asking participants to undertake one or two writing exercises, and by looking at the work and testimonies of young people, the workshop will show how creative writing can contribute to reducing offending behaviour by assisting with assessment, improving self-awareness and understanding of others, improving literacy and self-esteem, and encouraging reading.

We will look at the barriers to getting young people to write about themselves and their world, and how these can be overcome using a variety of methods that employ personal experience and the imagination. Through case study and through example, a variety of forms (memoir, fiction, poetry, drama) will be looked at in order to appreciate how different forms require different approaches and provide different benefits to the young person and to the practitioner. The workshop will address the practical questions of producing a creative writing anthology, looking at issues of copyright and confidentiality, of accreditation, and organising a performance of written work. It will seek to address the obstacles that youth justice professionals may face in establishing a creative writing programme with their team and how these may be overcome. Participants should be willing to undertake a couple of quick writing exercises.

8 Voice and influence in the youth justice system

Presenter

Peta Halls Development Officer, National Youth Agency

Content

The workshop will explore service user participation in youth justice services,

drawing on the findings from National Youth Agency research recently undertaken across the sector.

This interactive workshop will explore the what, why and how of participation, focusing on how it can be built into youth justice organisations, how to create a culture of participation and the benefits of service user involvement in youth justice, as well as practical examples of effective participation practice.

9 Transition to adulthood

Presenter

Vicki Helyar-Cardwell Catch-22

Content

Part 1: Transition to Adulthood (T2A) policy campaign around young adults in the criminal justice system

The presenter will outline the work of the T2A Alliance and the key recommendations in the *Young Adult Manifesto* which are all aimed at meeting the individual needs of young adult offenders during their transition from the youth criminal justice system to the adult criminal justice system. The recommendations will cover the following four areas: diversion; sentencing; custody; and resettlement. In addition, the speaker will draw on the Alliance-commissioned research by Matrix Knowledge Group which shows the cost benefit of implementing these alternative interventions for young adults.

Part 2: T2A pilots – bridging the gap between the youth and adult justice systems

In addition to the campaigning side of the Alliance, T2A has established three pilots to test different approaches to improving services and support for young adults in the criminal justice system. In 2009, we set up two voluntary sector-led pilots: one in London delivered by the St Giles Trust and one in Worcestershire delivered by Youth Support Services, as well as a third pilot in Birmingham, delivered by the West Midlands Probation Service. The T2A pilots bridge the gap between the youth and adult justice systems and provide a holistic approach to working with young adults, recognising the difficulties

they face during their transition to adulthood and the additional support they require.

The speakers will outline the work of the pilots, as well as describing the way in which their pilots interact with probation, youth offending services and other agencies working with young adults.

10 Working with young offenders who are parents

Presenter

Dr Sophie Gwinnett Clinical Psychologist, Wolverhampton City Primary Care Trust

Content

The aim of this workshop is to give participants the space to reflect on issues relating to young offenders who are parents and to share ideas for best practice. It is not necessary for participants to have experience of working with young offenders or with parents. However, it is hoped that participants will come with a willingness to share ideas about how this population might be supported. The workshop will include the following:

- An overview of the evidence base on working with young offenders who are parents.
- A presentation of the findings of a piece of research carried out by the workshop facilitator, exploring fatherhood amongst young male offenders.
- Smaller group work exploring key issues in working with young offenders who are parents.
- Feedback to the larger group on the outcomes of these discussions.
- The sharing of best practice and final reflections.

11 The Safer Streets Initiative

Presenter

Marilyn Welsh Head of Safeguarding, HMYOI Werrington

Content

The Safer Streets Initiative started in July 2008. In November 2007, Henry Bolombi was discharged from HMYOI Werrington to London where he was fatally stabbed on

1 January 2008. In March 2008, Michael Alleyne was discharged from Werrington and was charged with the murder of Ben Kinsella.

The impact of these two tragedies led to the establishment organising focus groups for young people to seek their views, share their experiences and their involvement or otherwise in knife or gun crime. The young people were at the end of their sentences and from different geographical locations. The initiative was shared with the Home Office, the Commissioner for Children for England, HM Prison Service and the Youth Justice Board.

The work undertaken in Werrington represents the views, feelings and experiences of young men who have first-hand knowledge of violent crime throughout the country. It gives an invaluable insight into how young people become involved in gangs and violent crime as early as nine or 10 years of age, and how they have little hope of breaking free. We have also produced a DVD which includes interviews with young people who have been actively involved in violent crime.

12 Using cultural narratives with African Caribbean and Afghan youths: a new approach to intervention

Presenter

Dr David Avery Education Consultant, Abracadia

Content

This presentational and participatory workshop introduces an innovative model for youth justice and equality intervention using cultural narratives. Presenting a recent London-based project with teenage gang affiliates of African Caribbean descent, it then invites you to do some practice work with the model in a real life context by using its elements to participate in forming a new project with looked-after teenage Afghan refugees.

Part 1 of the workshop introduces the use of narratives around cultural heritage, offending behaviour and life scripts in the recent project. Part 2 of the workshop explores ways of using similar narratives of

cultural heritage, transit and resettlement with teenage Afghan refugees.

Two service users will also be present as co-hosts at the workshop: a young person from the first project and the Afghan Youth Key Worker, Mariam Ezzat.

13 Healthy youth offending services, safer communities: a north-west approach to developing partnership working and increasing quality access to health provision for vulnerable young people

Presenter

Nicola Ellis Primary Care Lead, North-West Regional Offender Health Team
John Whittle Senior Performance Advisor, Youth Justice Board

Content

The workshop will provide a brief outline of the joint working framework between the Youth Justice Board and Regional Offender Health Team within the north-west region. Youth offending services (YOS) are critical in assessing the needs of children and young people under their supervision and directing them to help address their offending behaviour. Healthcare organisations (principally primary care trusts) are expected to commission services that make significant contributions towards the assessment of the health needs of children and young people, with the provision of appropriate and accessible services to improve health service outcomes. In 2006, the Health Care Commission highlighted that primary care trusts as commissioners and as YOS partners received the second highest number of recommendations for required improvements as a result of joint inspections. The *Actions Speak Louder* (2009) document reviews progress against some of the existing recommendations and makes suggestions for improvements. Furthermore, the framework addresses the recommendations within the Bradley report and the 'Healthy Children, Safer Communities' strategy.

This workshop will provide an opportunity to share the framework and progress to date which could be used as an example

of good practice nationally. Participants should have a basic knowledge of the youth justice system, especially the role of health providers within YOS.

14 Young people and money

Presenters

Raj Patel Financial Management Tutor, Nacro
Sue Howes Senior Policy Development Adviser, Nacro
Linda Jack Youth Policy Adviser, Financial Services Authority

Content

Nacro has identified poor money management as a fundamental barrier to a young person's rehabilitation and reintegration into the community. A criminal conviction is very likely to leave a young person demoralised, discouraged and unable to make ends meet. This potentially increases their risk of reoffending. Everyone working with young people has a responsibility to ensure that they have the information, education and guidance they need in order to make better financial decisions and to get the most out of their lives.

Nacro understands the need to influence behaviour whilst remaining in tune with a young offender's psychology of money matters. This interactive session will therefore include practical steps for participants to take away and build on in their work with young people, as well as raising their awareness so they can become more financially astute. The session will be delivered in partnership by Nacro and the Financial Services Authority as part of the UK's National Strategy for Financial Capability.

15 The Intensive Fostering Programme

Presenters

Liz Oldfield Acting Service Manager
Paul Hargreaves Programme Supervisor, Action for Children Intensive Fostering

Content

The workshop will introduce intensive fostering including the history of the Youth

Justice Board's involvement and the history of multi-dimensional treatment foster care in America. Delegates can learn:

- about the role of the youth offending team and other agencies in intensive fostering
- what to do if the family refuses to engage
- why intensive fostering does not directly address offending behaviour or victim awareness
- who intensive fostering works best with.

It will include short videos of young people and parents giving their opinions of the programme and some short case studies.

16 Early intervention: the answer to effective targeting? A district council's perspective

Presenter

Councillor Simon Woodbridge Leader of Broadland District Council

Content

This workshop will explore the central theme, 'Targeting interventions effectively', and ask whether the best way of ensuring effective targeting is to target interventions early. Beginning with an introduction to the Stairway Programme – Broadland District council's response to crime prevention – we will discuss the research commissioned by the council in 2003 to identify: Broadland's crime profile; the characteristics of pathways to offending; and frameworks for future preventative work. This workshop will be an opportunity to share our experiences, offering best practice examples, including lessons learnt from turning research into action and our package of projects. We will also facilitate open debate, examining key issues with the early intervention approach including:

- How do we define early intervention?
- What evidence is there to support early intervention?
- How do we prove the effectiveness of early intervention projects?

- How do we work with partners to ensure success?
- How do we sustain and mainstream successful early intervention work?

17 Early Intervention Programme

Presenter

Inspector Chris Downen Sector Inspector, Dudley, West Midlands Police

Content

This programme was set up in the police operational command unit in North Dudley in May 2007 by Inspector Chris Downen to ethically divert young people away from the criminal justice system. The results to date have been a reduction in youth offending rates, including a reduction in a number of crimes such as criminal damage and serious acquisitive crime offences (burglary, robbery and vehicle crime), as well as an improvement in working practices between schools and the police in the area. There is also anecdotal evidence of an increase in community satisfaction in relation to the policing of their area. This model is currently being implemented in the Dudley sector within the West Midlands Police area.

18 The mutual benefits of linking reparation activities with local charities

Presenter

Geoff Forster Reparation Co-ordinator, East Sussex Youth Offending Team

Content

The workshop will be delivered in a style that will encourage interaction and is designed to encourage youth offending teams (YOTs) to derive maximum benefits for victims, young offenders and the local community by working closely with charities.

As a result of a successful campaign to establish better links with charities in East Sussex, we will share our experiences and outline the benefits of concentrating our reparation activities with charities and with other YOTs.

We will also explore feedback from young offenders and from case workers who monitor the young offender's reaction to their reparation experiences. We will hear from referral order panels who have conducted final panels and will have received feedback from their young offenders, and we will also hear about young offenders who have moved on in a positive way as a result of their experience at the YOT.

Participants should have some knowledge of reparation or restorative justice practices.

19 Using restorative approaches to reduce the criminalisation of children in care

Presenters

Kate Wells Restorative Justice Officer, Leicestershire County Council

Tracy Green Deputy Head of Service, Leicestershire Youth Offending Service

Content

This presentation and discussion-based workshop is for those with a basic awareness of the care system. In Leicestershire, we are running a three-year pilot project to reduce offending by children in care through the introduction of restorative approaches in children's homes. The workshop will explore the processes involved in introducing a restorative approach, and the benefits and the challenges faced using our experience in Leicestershire as a case study. It will also explore who the restorative approach is for, what success is and how it works alongside traditional ideas and systems of justice.

20 Inpatient intervention for young offenders with mental health problems

Presenters

Dr Faeza Khan Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist, Young People's Psychiatric Intensive Care Service, Cheadle Royal Hospital, Manchester

Dr Mahadev Jasti Consultant Child and

Adolescent Psychiatrist, Young People's Acute Admissions Service, Cheadle Royal Hospital, Manchester

Aims of the workshop

- To help professionals look at various presentations in young people in order to identify a wide range of mental health problems, and explore the ways they can present in young offenders. It will also identify the links between mental health problems and offending behaviour.
- To highlight the importance of providing comprehensive inpatient assessments for early intervention and to divert trajectory away from the criminal justice system.
- To establish and promote clear care pathways, through working closely with various agencies in an integrated manner to facilitate comprehensive formulations and management of these young offenders through rehabilitative processes in the community.

Intended outcomes of the workshop

- A wider understanding of mental health problems in young offenders.
- The ability to identify these problems so an early intervention programme can be initiated.
- The ability to recognise the need for inpatient assessment in formulating an integrated multiple system management plan to help young offenders stay away from crime, thus maximising young people's future potential.

21 Functional family therapy

Presenters

Joanna Pearse Consultant Systemic Psychotherapist/Team Manager for the Functional Family Therapy Team

Lauren Herlitz Researcher, SAFE Project, King's College London

Content

Functional family therapy (FFT) is a family-based intervention with strong evidence from the US for reducing youth offending, reoffending and antisocial behaviour, both for those young people in the intervention

and their siblings. It can reduce the risk of family breakdown and is thus likely to reduce the risk of youth homelessness and of young people going into care. FFT is less intensive and expensive than other interventions and therefore suitable for rollout within statutory bodies such as youth offending services.

The first part of the workshop will provide an overview of the current evidence on family work and offending, including evaluations of FFT and its cost effectiveness. The Study of Adolescents' Family Experiences (SAFE) – the first UK evaluation of FFT – will also be described.

The second part of the workshop will start with a video of clinical work and small group discussions. It will focus more closely on the FFT model, particularly the techniques it uses to engage families. We will provide an overview of the professional make-up of functional family therapy teams, training, supervision requirements and site accreditation issues.

22 Behind the mask

Presenter

Andy Watson Artistic Director, Geese Theatre Company

Content

Behind the Mask is a workshop exploring theatre, drama and active group-work techniques for use with at-risk young people in the criminal justice system.

The session will include:

- Simple active exercises to build rapport and group cohesion and raise discussion around key issues of offending behaviour.
- An exploration of a 'one step removed' approach: the use of fictional characters in a group-work setting to safely look at issues for young people.
- A demonstration of the mask as a metaphor for presenting behaviour.
- Practical exploration of what might lie behind the mask and motivate the external behaviour, looking particularly at when,

where and why a young person may have developed a particular mask or behaviour.

23 Young custody leavers: the case for targeted resettlement interventions

Presenters

Jeremy Whittle Director, Smooth Stone UK CIC and Resettlement UK CIC

Martin Finegan Director, Ethos Consultancy UK Ltd

Content

Young custody leavers are arguably the most complex and costly young people in the youth justice system. Sixty per cent return to custody at least once; 6% return more than five times. As a group, they suffer acute disadvantages on their return to the community. Statistics suggest that as many as 40% have received looked-after services, yet their successful reintegration on release remains an under-developed area of youth justice and social care.

This workshop will highlight the parallels that exist between care leavers and custody leavers; identify the efforts that have been made in recent times to improve the long-term outcomes of the first group; and argue that local authorities may have to approach young custody leavers' needs in a similar way to those of care leavers.

The interactive workshop will offer participants statistical information, research evidence and a planned model of post-custodial integrated support – The Smooth Stone Programme – which will then lead to open discussion where practitioners are given the opportunity to share their own experiences of best practice in resettlement. Presenters will therefore use the medium of PowerPoint and open discussion.

It would be useful but not essential if those participating in the workshop have a particular interest in post-custodial resettlement support services and come ready to share their positive (and negative) experiences.

24 How to build good YOT/court relationships

Presenter

Chris Stanley Chair of East Kent Youth Court Panel and member of the Youth Courts Committee of the Magistrates' Association

Content

The importance of a youth offending team's (YOT) relationship with the youth court cannot be over-emphasised. Establishing a good relationship is essential if the court is to have confidence and trust in their local YOT. The workshop will cover the issues that will help build and maintain good relationships between the two. Research has shown, for example, that sentencers' attitudes to community alternatives to custody depend to a large extent on the perceptions that the court has of the effectiveness of the YOT to produce quality pre-sentence reports and programmes.

The publication by the Youth Justice Board and Her Majesty's Court Services of *Making it Count in Court* demonstrated how effective and efficient practice in the youth court can be achieved with good partnership working. The workshop will explore a range of approaches that will improve relationships.

25 Working with young women who are both perpetrators and victims in the context of serious youth violence: challenges and issues

Presenter

Abi Billingham Safe Choices Project Manager, the nia project

Content

This workshop will draw on the presenter's specialist knowledge and experience of working with young women involved in serious youth violence and gang/group offending, as well as drawing on the views of young women she has worked with. Through participative and interactive exercises the workshop will explore the following:

- Young women's involvement in serious youth violence – how serious is it?
- How young women might experience

sexual violence in the context of gang/group offending and serious youth violence.

- How we respond to young women as both victim and perpetrator to ensure that vulnerable and at-risk young women access the support and services they need.

26 Restoring the balance: using restorative justice in communities with young people and adults to maintain positive relationships and find local solutions to antisocial behaviour

Presenter

Claire James Core Development Worker, Children's Society project in BANES

Content

This workshop will bring the voices of children, young people and adults in communities to you through audio and video material to consider the following:

- How restorative justice has been used as an effective tool to restore day-to-day relationships – both individual ones and at a wider community level.
- How positive relationships in the community can have an impact on reducing the number of young people subject to out-of-court disposal processes (ABCs etc).
- How agencies such as the police and local authorities have found local solutions to address fears and concerns about young people's behaviour with the support of The Children's Society, whilst at the same time meeting their own national indicator outcomes.
- The menu of early-prevention work used to ensure that young people who need support the most receive it.

The workshop will be an interactive opportunity for professionals and young people to explore themes in the context of their own practice or day-to-day experience, and to consider our individual responses outside of our professional roles.

27 Taking specific learning difficulties into account in youth justice settings

Presenter

Melanie Jameson Consultant on Specific Learning Difficulties, Special Adviser to DANDA

Content

The workshop will be useful both to those who lack information in this area and to those with some knowledge of specific learning difficulties (SLDs). The following areas will be covered:

- The characteristics of dyslexia and related conditions in young people.
- Possible relationships between these conditions and offending behaviour.
- The vulnerability of young people with SLDs in justice settings.
- The implications of disability legislation.
- Supporting young people in justice settings: an overview of good practice and current initiatives.
- Promoting SLD-friendly procedures.
- Signposting, referrals and information on appropriate networks.
- Opportunities to discuss issues of concern.

28 When gut feelings are not enough: building a cultural and ethnically sensitive assessment for young gypsies and travellers

Presenter

Peter Jeffries Social Worker, Kent Youth Offending Service

Content

Not much is written about young gypsies and travellers in the youth justice system. There are no specific policies; there is no readily available guidance. Too often practitioners have to draw on 'gut feelings' and 'practice wisdom' in the absence of a codified corpus of knowledge.

This workshop seeks to build on last year's gypsy and traveller workshop, which focused on raising awareness of issues

by looking at practical ways to improve assessment from that intervention. Although the workshop will use Youth Justice Board-specific materials, the issues raised will apply to assessment processes across the board and so this workshop would like to attract a range of youth justice practitioners. Participants should have a baseline experience of undertaking assessments. The two sections of the workshop will look at:

- What knowledge and understandings do youth justice practitioners draw on in their work with these young people?
- What does a culturally and ethnically sensitive assessment look like?

29 Addressing the weapon and gang culture in young people

Presenters

Nik Loveday Programme Officer, HMYOI Werrington

John Wilson Programme Officer, HMYOI Werrington

The workshop is a direct, fast-moving and interactive platform where we challenge perceptions of young people concerning the carrying of weapons, the consequences of using weapons and involvement in gang culture. Methods of teaching include talk and discussion; photographs; the use of DVD footage; and the 'tomato test'.

The workshop assumes no prior knowledge and will require the attendees to be fully participative. The attendees will be treated as young people during the workshop to simulate our work accurately.

30 Breaking barriers in communication

Presenter

Tony Cealy Director, Noh Budget films

Content

The aims of the workshop are as follows:

- To use effective questioning techniques for processing creative action-based work.
- To analyse and challenge behaviour so as to help the participant evaluate the difficulties they face.

- To provide an experiential learning environment that is creative, challenging and memorable.
- To overcome the difficulties they face and explore with the participant their experience of the world.

This highly practical workshop is particularly suited to people who want to experience and practise a variety of creative action methods in group work as a way of exploring issues with young people. No creative experience is necessary, but participants must be willing to actively explore new methods of working. Participants will learn practical, effective questioning techniques which open up discussion for prisoners and help offenders describe their thoughts, feelings and behaviour for the purposes of personal learning and greater group cohesion and trust.

31 Early intervention initiatives in Northern Ireland

Presenter

Tony Martin Service Manager, NIACRO

Content

The Child and Parent Support programme (CAPS) is one of three models of early intervention providing intensive support services to families whose children (aged 8-13 years) are at risk of engaging in antisocial and offending behaviour.

CAPS provides a tailored and holistic programme of intervention on an individual, family and group work basis. It depends on identified support needs at the point of assessment. CAPS involves a combination of therapeutic, specialist and activity-based approaches. For example, some of the work undertaken involves family therapy, one-to-one parenting support programmes, social education and group work. Activities also form part of the work. The voluntary nature of the programme distinguishes it from more formal interventions by statutory agencies involved in preventative work with young people.

Delegates will have an opportunity to hear a practitioner's account of the day-to-day working of this effective method of early intervention with young people. The workshop will deal with all aspects of the project, including methods of referral, engagement, recording of outcomes and the programme variations. The session will outline the programme structure and encourage the engagement of all participants. This programme achieved a criminal justice award presented by the Northern Ireland Office for an 'outstanding contribution to tackling youth crime'.

32 The Young Witness Service, managed by Victim Support

Presenter

Sue Younger Victim Support

Content

The presentation will take the form of an in-depth look at the Young Witness Service, managed by Victim Support, which has been operational for the past six years in Nottinghamshire.

The service process works by giving the young victims and witnesses a positive message about the criminal justice system. Recent research by Victim Support in the form of the report *Hoodie or Goodie?* also shows us that positive early intervention of this kind can help to prevent young people who have suffered as a result of violent crime from becoming young offenders in the future. The workshop will cover the following:

- The reasoning behind setting up the service
- The underpinning principles
- The Service Delivery Model
- The recruitment, training and support of the volunteer supporters
- Multi-agency working and service growth
- Funding and sustainability
- Achievements
- Client service evaluation and comment

● The seminars

● Day seminars

The future of the secure estate

Presenters

Rod Morgan Professor Emeritus, University of Bristol and Visiting Professor at UPSI, Cardiff University and the London School of Economics

Malcolm Steven Director of JusticeCare Solutions and independent adviser/consultant

Content

This workshop will consider the following issues. How large is the secure estate for children and young people and how large should it be? How is the estate configured and is it fit for purpose? Who should provide it, what does it cost and who should be paying for it? Contrary to the trend for adults, the number of children and young people in custody has fallen significantly in the last two years. This makes it possible to seriously review the scope for further change.

The art of the possible: making restorative justice work in a justice culture

Presenter

Alice Chapman Director, Youth Conference Service of Northern Ireland

Content

Securing confidence for a restorative justice model in an adversarial retributive justice system is a significant challenge for all professionals, as well as offenders and victims. Delivering a restorative intervention where the victim and offender are empowered to sort out fair reparation for the crime is the challenge for the traditional justice supporters. Imagine you, the professional, are asked to enable the main players in the crime scene to sort it out with the assistance of a trained facilitator (ie, the Youth Conference Co-ordinator).

The seminar will explain the Northern Ireland youth conferencing process which

is now the main statutory disposal of the youth court, with high numbers of victims participating and high levels of satisfaction. To date we have facilitated over 700 youth conferences. A youth conference is available for any offender aged 10-17 for any offence (including serious offences) where that offender admits guilt and consents to attend a statutory youth conference. The youth conference brings together the young person, the family and the victim face to face to reach an agreement on what should be done to put right the harm caused by the crime and to make amends to the victim.

The seminar will outline the challenges for the courts, the prosecutors, the media and the public. The presentation will address the actions which we have in place to win the confidence of victims, the media and those who continue to say the punishment should fit the crime.

How to improve engagement with young people who offend by addressing their communication difficulties

Presenters

Paul O'Hara Youth Offending Team Manager, Bradford Youth Offending Team

Jane Mackenzie England Policy Officer, Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists

Marnie Crew Speech and Language Therapist

Content

There is compelling evidence of the clear link between communication disability and offending behaviour. In this workshop we will seek to highlight recent research which demonstrates this link and explain the impact this disability has on the young person's experience of custody and the community. We will showcase the innovative work being carried out by Bradford Youth Offending Team to address the communication needs of young people in order to improve engagement and reduce reoffending.

Resettlement and accommodation

Presenters

John Drew Chief Executive, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales

Bob Ashford Head of Youth Justice Strategy, Youth Justice Board for England and Wales

Content

The Youth Justice Board has been leading developments to improve resettlement services for young people leaving custody. Key issues to ensure success are the provision of suitable accommodation and of education, training and employment. The workshop will focus on examining the impact of recent legislation, the development of regional resettlement consortia and the new integrated resettlement support service.

● Evening seminars

Like it is/like it was/like it might have been

Presenters

Saul Hewish Co-Director, Rideout

Chris Johnston Co-Director, Rideout

Content

This workshop is about how making film dramas can both reflect and change the lives of young people. Led by Rideout (Creative Arts for Rehabilitation) the session looks at how the company makes films with young people in closed institutions. We will show two films in particular – ‘In the Frame’ – made at HMP and YOI Brinsford, and ‘Run Out’ – made at HMPYOI Werrington. Each film runs for about 25 minutes. During the workshop we will also hold discussions on the methodology of creating a film drama with young people in custody over a short period (one week) and the technique of chromakey which allows us to use one-colour backdrops, allowing scenes and locations to be inserted during editing.

Just youth: the denigration, denial and dignity of youth offending (a psychoanalytic contribution to the debate on delinquency)

Presenter

David Millar Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychotherapist, North Essex Partnership Foundation Trust

Content

Some say that the best answers are the best questions. In this session, I would like to raise a few questions around some aspects of adolescent criminal behaviour that speak to its manifestation, motivation and maintenance. Coming from a psychoanalytic standpoint, I will try to elicit some of the unconscious factors that play into and play around with, the delinquent parts of ourselves. Such a questioning approach can, hopefully, inform us – perhaps uniquely – of ways of understanding, intervening and modulating our particularly human and felonious nature. The seminar-style session will involve writing and interactive discussion.

Mind the gap! A European perspective on the prevention of youth reoffending

Presenters

Roxana Calfa Project Manager, European Forum for Urban Safety

Siegfried Löprick Director of the main NGO working in Goettingen Open Prison

Content

This seminar, led by the European Forum for Urban Safety (EFUS), will give participants a fresh insight on how best to bring young reoffenders back into the community, bridging the gap between prison and the city. One of the groundbreaking initiatives looked into by the European programme's innovative strategies for the prevention of reoffending (led by EFUS from 2007 to 2009) is the experience of the open prison in the city of Goettingen, Germany.

Using film making as a means of delivering basic skills to offenders

Presenters

Simon Bounds Training Manager, Kent Youth Offending Team

Paul Anderson Skills for Life Tutor, Nacro (Chatham)

Elaine Wickham Producer, Medb Films

Stephanie Dennis former youth offending team client

Content

The workshop will offer a presentation on three projects involving Medb Films and Kent Youth Offending Team which used film making to deliver a variety of outcomes for socially disadvantaged young people from Thanet, the most economically deprived area of Kent. All the young people involved had been, or were involved, with the criminal justice system, and had been excluded from their educational provision.

The objectives of the project were to use film making to re-engage them with education, deliver basic skills, and produce films which could be used to deliver their thoughts to others, for example in staff training events or presentations for local children's social services teams. Some of the students learned technically advanced film-making skills and have progressed on to college courses and work experience in the industry.

Youth substance use in Swansea: promoting prevention by improving policy and practice through research-based approaches

Presenters

Dr Kevin Haines Director, Centre for Criminal Justice and Criminology, Swansea University

Dr S Cas Lecturer in Criminology, Centre for Criminal Justice and Criminology, Swansea University

Anthony Charles Research Officer, Centre

for Criminal Justice and Criminology, Swansea University

Rachel Evans Research Student, Centre for Criminal Justice and Criminology, Swansea University

Content

In this workshop the way in which a local, long-term youth-focused substance use research project has been developed and operationalised will be discussed. Additionally, an overview of initial findings will be presented, together with a discussion concerning the various implications that this research poses locally and more broadly. The session will take the form of an initial presentation, followed by a structured debate centring on how research can be used in the area of youth substance use to promote and augment linkage between enquiry, policy and practice.

Why do young people join gangs? A psychologist's view

Presenter

Dr Ian Millward Principal Educational Psychologist, London Borough of Newham

Content

The aims of the workshop are:

- To explore six essential psychological needs for optimal adolescent learning and development.
- To examine if these needs are relevant to understanding why adolescents join gangs, by analysing Michael Lee's story in *The Wire*.
- To consider additional risk factors associated with adolescents joining gangs.
- To consider a method of assessing these psychological needs and risk factors as an aid to identifying adolescents at risk of joining gangs.

● General information

The venue

The conference will be held at the University of Nottingham. Full venue details and travel directions will be sent to you on receipt of a delegate registration form.

Three ways to book

- 1 Book and register online at www.regonline.com/youthcrime. Invoices can be issued for online bookings.
- 2 Complete the attached booking form and return to:
Caroline Fuller
Events Manager
Nacro
Park Place
10-12 Lawn Lane
London, SW8 1UD
An email confirming your place will be sent to you.
- 3 Fax the completed form to Caroline Fuller on 020 8181 6662.

Conference dinner

A self-service buffet dinner will be available for delegates on 20 April. The conference dinner, preceded by a drinks reception, will take place on 21 April. Dress is smart casual.

Accommodation

For residential delegates, please note that accommodation is provided with a private toilet and shower and will be in the student halls of residence on campus at the University of Nottingham within very close walking distance of the conference.

Cancellations

Cancellations received before 5 March 2010 will be refunded minus a 20% administration fee. Regrettably, no refunds can be processed after that date. Transfer of places can be made, in writing, at any time.

Conference enquiries

Please contact Caroline Fuller, Events Manager, Nacro.

Tel 07974 406 673 **Fax** 020 8181 6662

Email caroline.fuller@nacro.org.uk

Sponsorship and exhibition opportunities

Nacro's youth crime conference attracts professionals working across the youth crime and youth justice sector. The conference provides an excellent opportunity to promote your services or products to this audience. For details on exhibiting or including promotional material in the delegate pack, please contact Caroline Fuller (see 'Conference enquiries' for details).

Current sponsor and exhibitors include:

Sponsor



solutions is a specialist training company with a unique, inspirational approach to autistic spectrum conditions (ASC) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Our training is designed to make a real difference and has been proven to transform lives and produce substantial savings to services. It also has a profound effect on the way people with ASC and ADHD are supported. Our aim is to deliver training which enables a wider domain of people to become more caring, knowledgeable and understanding when faced with ASC and ADHD in their everyday lives.

Exhibitors



Nacro actively welcomes all sections of the community to its events. If you have any equality needs please inform us when you return your delegate registration form and we will try to meet your requirements.

Please select one workshop you would like to attend per session.

Tuesday
20 April

Workshop 1

- 1 The callous-unemotional subtype of conduct problems: implications for a school-based intervention
- 2 Fire Service targeted youth work
- 3 Innovative approaches to prevent and deter offending
- 4 Building a circle of support and accountability around a young person
- 5 Young offenders: what can't they tell us? What can't we hear?
- 6 Prison? Me? No Way!
- 7 Creative writing with young people in the justice system
- 8 Voice and influence in the youth justice system

Wednesday
21 April

Workshop 2

- 9 Transition to adulthood
- 10 Working with young offenders who are parents
- 11 The Safer Streets Initiative
- 12 Using cultural narratives with African Caribbean and Afghan youths: a new approach to intervention
- 13 Healthy youth offending services, safer communities: a north-west approach
- 14 Young people and money
- 15 The Intensive Fostering Programme
- 16 Early intervention: the answer to effective targeting? A district council's perspective

Workshop 3

- 17 Early Intervention Programme
- 18 The mutual benefits of linking reparation activities with local charities
- 19 Using restorative approaches to reduce the criminalisation of children in care
- 20 Inpatient intervention for young offenders with mental health problems
- 21 Functional family therapy
- 22 Behind the mask
- 23 Young custody leavers: the case for targeted resettlement interventions
- 24 How to build good YOT/court relationships

Thursday
22 April

Workshop 4

- 25 Working with young women who are both perpetrators and victims in the context of serious youth violence
- 26 Restoring the balance: using restorative justice in communities with young people and adults
- 27 Taking specific learning difficulties into account in youth justice settings
- 28 When gut feelings are not enough: building a cultural and ethnically sensitive assessment for young gypsies and travellers
- 29 Addressing the weapon and gang culture in young people
- 30 Breaking barriers in communication
- 31 Early intervention initiatives in Northern Ireland
- 32 The Young Witness Service, managed by Victim Support

Youth justice: Targeting interventions effectively

20-22 April 2010 University of Nottingham

Photocopied or faxed forms accepted

Details as you wish them to appear on your badge

First name Family name

Title (Ms/Mr/Prof/Dr etc) Job title

Organisation

Address for correspondence

Postcode

Email

Tel Fax

Dietary and/or access requirements

Delegate fees *(to book a place please tick the appropriate boxes)*

Residential fees (includes access to all conference sessions, all refreshments, conference dinner and ensuite bed and breakfast accommodation on 20 and 21 April 2010) **£470**

Non-residential fees (includes three-day conference as above but does **not** include accommodation or conference dinner) **£285**

Daily registration **per day £165**

Please tick Tuesday Wednesday Thursday

Conference dinner (on 21 April 2010) Extra tickets can be purchased for £35 each.

Payment by cheque

I enclose a cheque made payable to Nacro for the sum of £

Payment by credit card

I authorise you to debit my Mastercard/Visa by the sum of £

Card number Expiry date

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Return to: Caroline Fuller, Events Manager, Nacro, Park Place, 10-12 Lawn Lane, London SW8 1UD

Fax 020 8181 6662 Email caroline.fuller@nacro.org.uk

Nacro is a registered charity, no. 226171.

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive any information from Nacro other than that related to this event.