

## **Briefing for Police and Crime Commissioner**

### **Topic: Young People**

**Author:** Vicki Booth, Community Engagement Officer

### **Purpose of briefing**

To provide a briefing on young people's issues

### **Background**

#### Children and Young People's Mental Health

The C&YP Mental Health and Wellbeing Plan for County Durham exists to enable the public, partners and stakeholders to see the progress being made against the local five-year plan first launched in 2015. This area is predominantly the responsibility of the CCGs and the Local Authorities. A number of projects have been commissioned including parent support groups, mental health training in schools, eating disorder services, specialist suicide bereavement support, LGBT+ support services, learning disabilities/autism support groups, peer support groups, Young Adults Support Café Group and the one point service.

Durham and Darlington CAMHS Crisis, Liaison & Intensive Home Treatment Teams is in high demand. The Intensive home Treatment team continues to develop to provide support to young people who present with the greatest need, are at risk of admission to hospital and/or pose a risk to themselves or others. Development of a new IPBS (Intensive Positive Behaviour Support) Team has also started up.

The PCC's main role is ensuring that services continue to be commissioned by partner organisations and that appropriate referral pathways are in place between commissioned services.

#### County-Lines

This is the process by which young people and vulnerable adults are exploited into moving, storing and selling drugs by urban gangs supplying drugs to other parts of the UK using dedicated mobile phone lines. The force has already delivered awareness training to partners such as chemists, housing providers.

#### County Durham Youth Justice Service and Darlington Youth Offending Service

A significant contribution is made from the PCC and the police to the 2 youth offending teams. This funding is used to support young victims and to ensure that activities offered by the YOS address the root causes of offending and prevent further offending through supporting the effective rehabilitation of young people. Work has been undertaken to improve the response to children and young people who have been subject to sexual assault or abuse. There is now an additional consultant psychologist in the SARC.

#### Youth Crime and Sports

The office ran a 2 year sport and crime prevention programme. Whilst an initial 25 PCC bid, partners included Street Games as the lead project management agent, the Local Authority, YOS and sport sector, police and the fire service. The priority areas were Peterlee, Stanley, and Darlington. Following on from this, other areas have learnt from this and in 2019, a project in Newton Aycliffe won the Durham Constabulary problem solving award.

#### Young PCVC

Historically, most of the work by the YPCVC's has been campaign work, e.g male victims of domestic abuse awareness, mental health awareness, and drug education programmes in schools. In some years, they held a budget and allocated funds to some youth related projects.

### National Policy drivers

- The Department of Health and NHS England published the 'Future in Mind Promoting, protecting and improving our children and young people's mental health and wellbeing' 2015
- NHS England Five Year Strategic direction for sexual assault and abuse services Policy 2018
- Serious Violence Strategy 2019-references links between county lines and violence.
- Youth Justice Board for England and Wales Strategic Plan 2019-22

### Youth Council

We have recently made connections with the newly developed Durham Youth Council and are keen to progress a partnership in order to address some relevant youth related issues and ensure the voices of young people are heard. We have done the same with regards to the young MP in Darlington.

### **Current issues**

Areas of development for the CAMHS service-Within the next 12months the service will focus on the ongoing developments further developing Intensive Home Treatment and embedding the new IPBS service. Also, feedback rates are consistent but lower than we would like and this is an area of development within the next year. Partner feedback also includes long waiting lists, however this should improve with the service going 24/7.

Absence of sustainable funding to maintain specialist services (psychology for children and young people).

Development and implementation of referral pathway with "VCAS" for young victims of crime in County Durham so that they benefit from specialist support.

### **Decisions needed**

- A PCC decision needs to be made regarding the continuation of the Young PCVC post.
- Funding contributions to the 2 Youth Justice Services requires an annual decision by the PCVC.
- A number of grants are awarded by the PCC each year through the community safety grant for preventative, youth work provision. The PCC would need to decide whether this priority will be maintained.

### **Partnership involvement**

- Health and Justice Board
- Youth Offending Management Boards (Durham and Darlington separately)
- County Durham Children and Young People's Mental Health, Emotional Wellbeing and Resilience Transformation Group
- Local Safeguarding Children's Boards

### **Police involvement**

The Police are active members in partnership groups. They maintain police officers in the YOS and are responsible for out of court outcomes for young people who offend.

### **People to meet**

Dave Summers-Head of Youth Justice Service- Durham

Jo Benson-Head of Youth Offending Service-Darlington

Local Safeguarding Children's Boards leads

Mark Warcup – Victim Care & Advice Service