



Youth Justice Plan

A briefing on the Harrow Youth Justice Plan 2023-24

2 Oct 2023



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The plan on a page



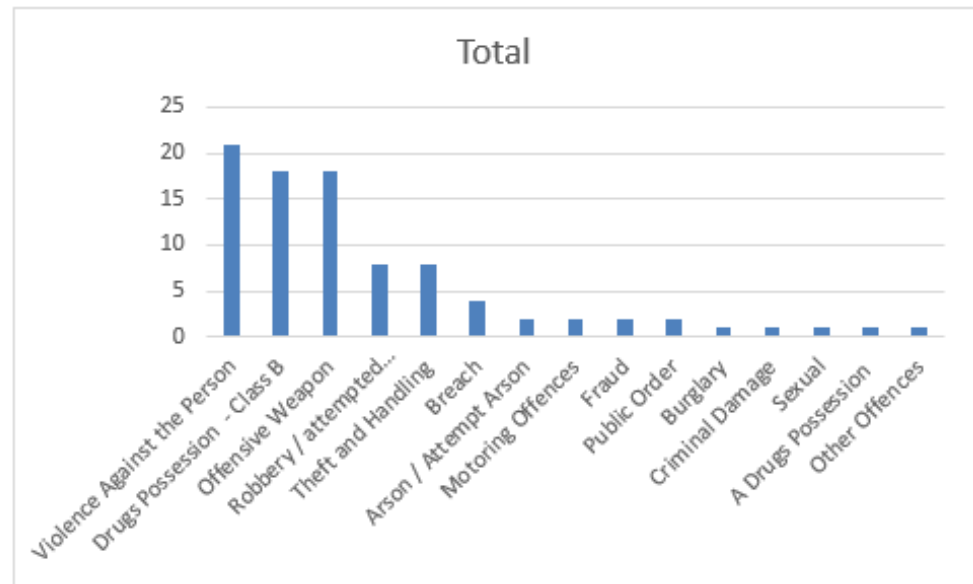
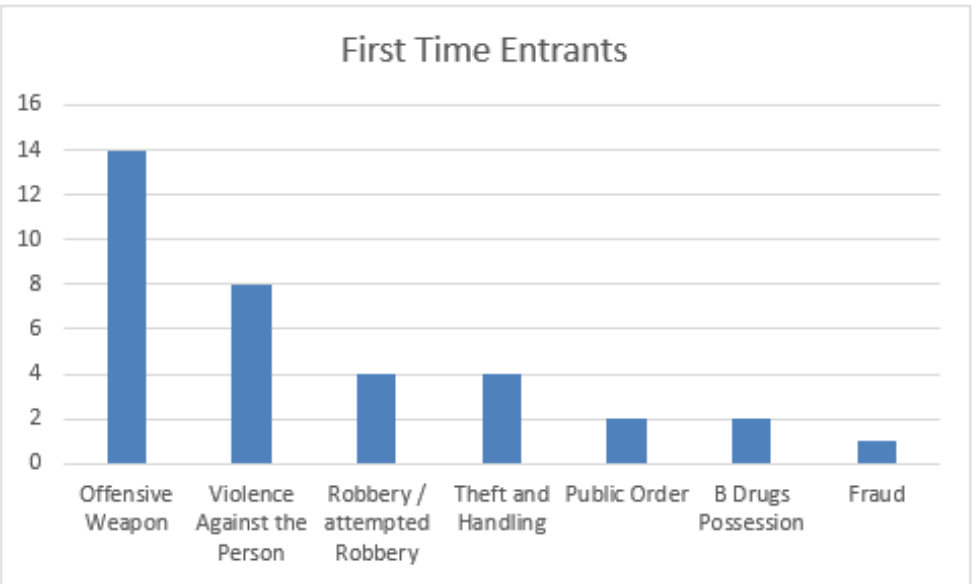
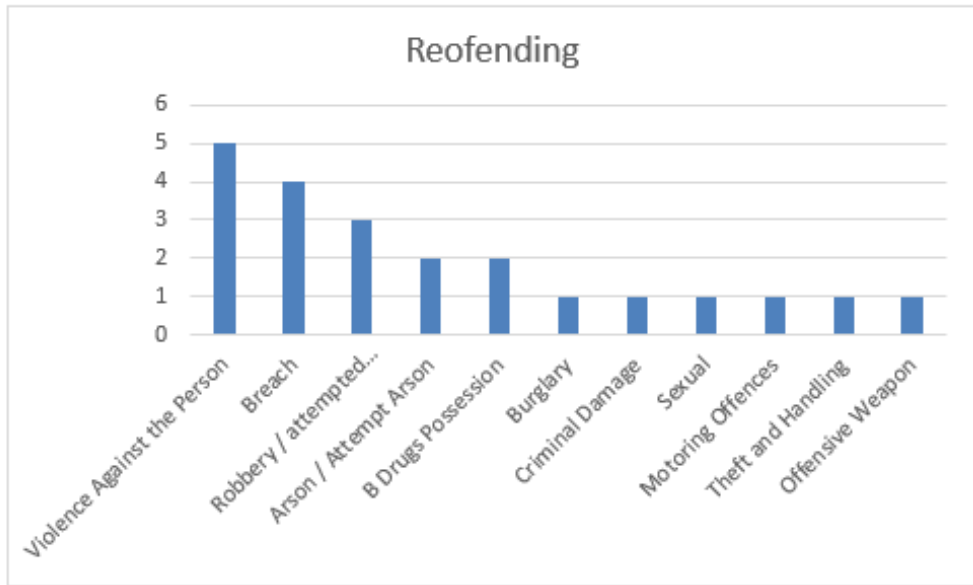
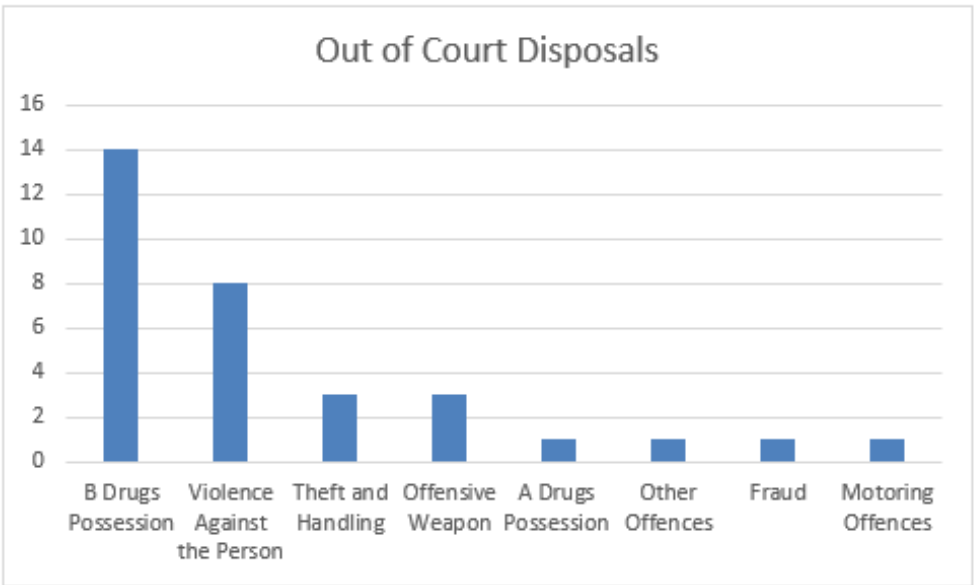
A Child First Approach

- Children involved in the criminal justice system must be seen firstly as Children.
- The offences that children are involved with do not create “offenders” requiring “offending management”
- Children become involved in the criminal justice system for a variety of reasons
- Harrow Youth Justice Service's approach is to assess the needs of children, including what has driven them to become involved in crime and what will help divert them away from such behaviour
- We consider Psychological approaches to understand behaviour and insights as a key to change
- We consider the impact of structural disadvantages, adversity and encountered trauma and offer a range of suitable supports to counter this
- Protecting the public is a profound duty which we take very seriously. Although there is a place for restricting the anti-social opportunities of children who cause serious harm, the most effective way to do this is to ensure that children grow into adults with a sense of civic pride and pro-social behavioural skills with good opportunities to put these into practice.
- We try to build meaningful positive and professional relationships which promote lifestyles pro-social lifestyles and prevent and divert children away from contact with the criminal justice system

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Harrow's local profile

- Numbers of active cases are decreasing while complexity increases (Around 50 active Young People at any time, average time of Order: around 3 – 6 months. Some up to 24 months, custodial up to 5+ Years)
- First Time Entrants to the YJS is decreasing and below the London and National Average
- Reoffending rates are below London & National Average
- Custody Rates are slightly above National rates at 2 per 10,000

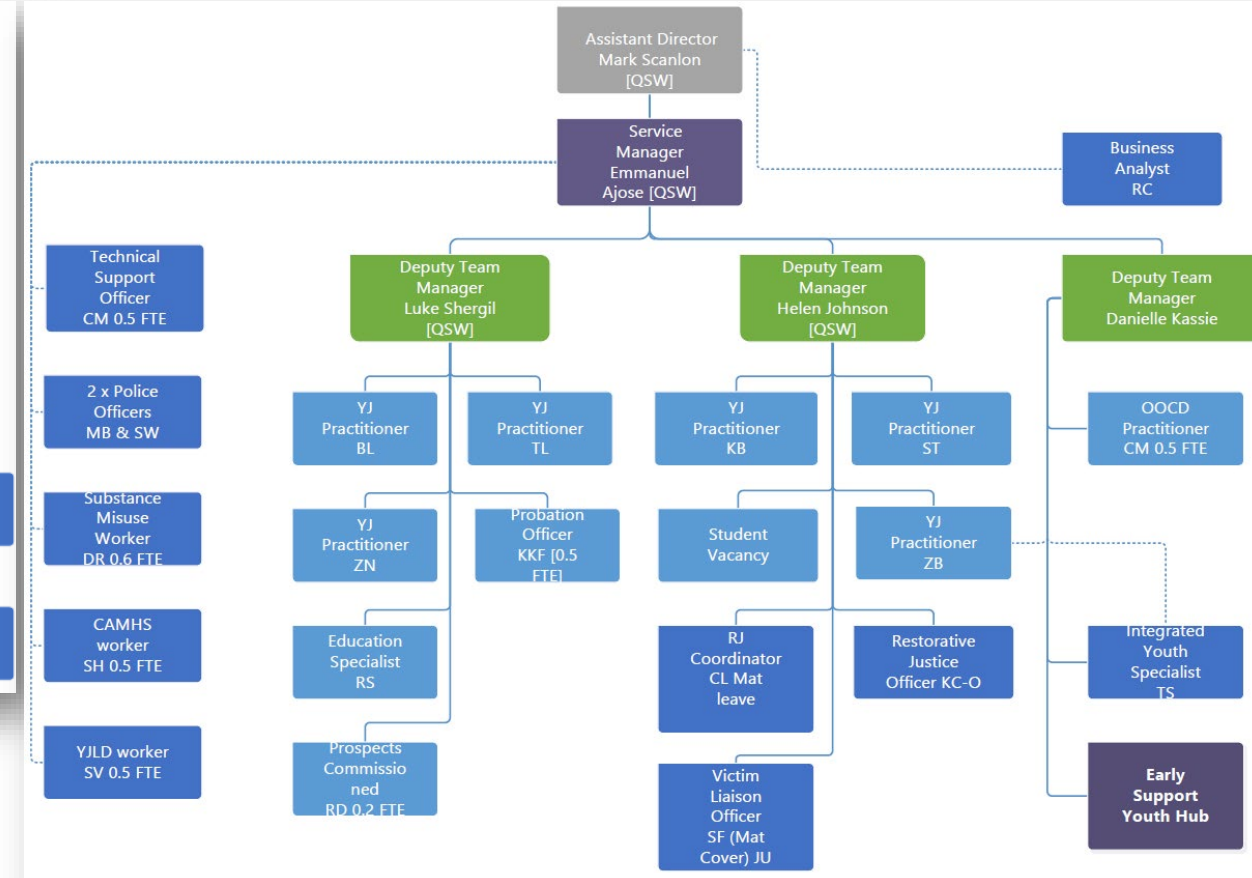
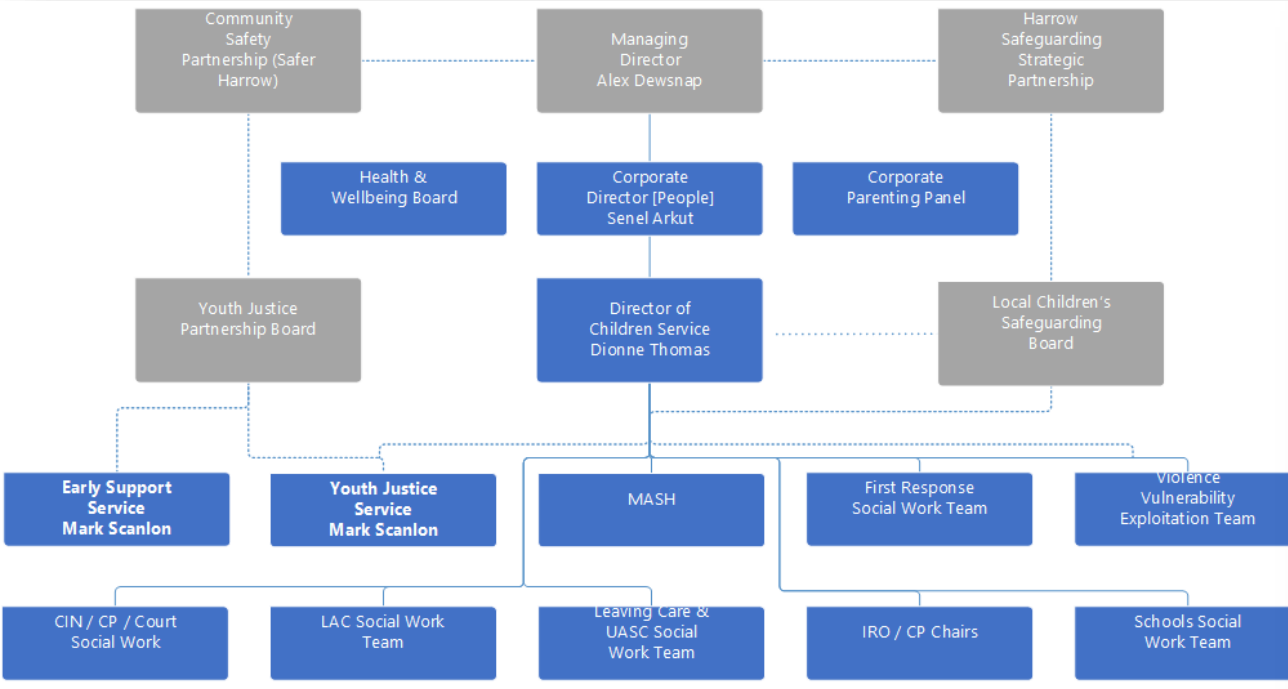


Harrow's priorities (YJS and Safer Harrow)

- **Reduce proportion of over-represented (young Black male) children**
 - 3 prong strategy in place
- **Prevention and Diversion**
 - Early Help through multi agency working
 - Turnaround and Your Choice programmes (externally grant funded)
 - Triage and Engage and NHS Diversion Programmes
 - Education (EET) Programmes and Partnerships
- **Restorative Justice**
 - Reparation programmes
 - Victim support, direct and indirect mediation
- **Partnership Approach to reducing Serious Youth Violence**
 - A "Safer Harrow" priority programme / partnership approach
- **Constructive resettlement from custody and remand**

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Harrow YJS arrangements and resources



EXPENDITURE	Youth Justice Board	Local Authority	Police	Probation	Health	Total
	Salaries	£219,394	£686,692	£100,134	£31,709	£33,272
Activity costs	£6,031	£13,877		£5,000		£24,908
Accommodation	£0	£0				£0
Overheads	£32,211	£100,818				£133,029
Equipment	£0	£0				£0
Total expenditure	£257,636	£801,387	£100,134	£36,709	£33,272	£1,229,138

INCOME	Youth Justice Board	Local Authority	Police	Probation	Health	Total
	Cash	£257,636	£801,387		£5,000	
In-kind			£100,134	£31,709	£33,272	£165,115
Total income	£257,636	£801,387	£100,134	£36,709	£33,272	£1,229,138

Harrow YJS – Key risks and issues

- Although a small cohort of Young People, the public protection risk is the highest of all cohorts within Children's Services. They require an intensive management overhead.
- There is no dedicated secure space for regulated visits since the Civic Centre closed. There is a risk associated with using shared (universal access) spaces, such as the Wealdstone Youth Centre
- The management re-structure reduces the management capacity from 2.5 to 1.5 dedicated managers which has led to some anxiety yet to be resolved particularly for managers covering Court and Weekend Duty
- The National Youth Justice Board has added 10 new Performance Indicators from Q3 of 2023-24 meaning there is new processes for gathering relevant data
- A Self evaluation exercise is currently planned for Q3 2023-24 which will provide recommendations for additional improvements to the service

Harrow YJS Plan next steps

- Next year's Youth Justice plan to include data about crime profiles for each of the Harrow Wards
 - This year's cabinet report to include Ward level Data if possible – this will only be shown in the council report as the main YJ plan cannot be updated for 2023-24 at this stage.
- Cabinet 26 October 2023
- Full Council November 2023
- Ongoing, the Youth Justice Plan is an annual requirement – each year the draft plan to be presented and consulted on with the Safer Harrow Community Safety Partnership Board around April each year in readiness for submission to the Youth Justice Board in June each year.
- In the years that there is an update of the Community Safety Plan, for consultation events to also include consultation on the annually updated YJ Plan and for the timing of council reports to align.



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