

**REPORT TO:** Children, Young People and Families Policy and Performance Board

**DATE:** 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2011

**REPORTING OFFICER:** Strategic Director – Children and Enterprise

**SUBJECT:** Compass Steering Group Update on the Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP)

## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- To present an overview of the findings and performance impact that projects under the management of the COMPASS Steering group have had since commencement of Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) funding in June 2009.

## **2. RECOMMENDATION: That**

- The content of the report is discussed and comments invited

## **3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

During July 2008 the Government published the Youth Crime Action Plan. The plan set out a comprehensive package of measures to prevent and tackle youth crime through a triple-track approach of tough enforcement, non negotiable support and prevention.

Under the YCAP proposal £700,000 was made available to Halton over two years (2009-11). Following on from this the Compass Steering Group was set up. Joint Planning and Commissioning Framework was essential in order to progress with these projects. The Governance process for these approaches was through the Halton Compass Strategic Group which included Community Safety, Children's Trust representatives, Health and is chaired by the YOT Head of Service. This was to ensure that the services being provided were in accordance with the wider Children's Trust commissioning and CDRP arrangements.

The Compass Steering Group monitored performance on the following:

- Operation Stay Safe
- Reparation Project
- Diversion Project
- Street Based Teams
- After School Patrols
- Youth Crime Prevention and ASB Family Intervention Project

Under ASB / Partnership Projects

- Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP)
- Missing From Home
- ASB Victim and Witness Support Service
- Anti-social Behaviour Enforcement Officer

A performance framework was set up for each of these projects with an overarching aim to reduce the impact of youth crime (ASB) on individuals, their families and communities. Exceptions were reported each quarter to the COMPASS Steering

group who actively managed the delivery of this aim. As a direct result of these projects the Steering group can report upon some significant reductions in Youth related Anti Social Behaviour.

#### 4. PERFORMANCE

Police recorded incidents relating to Youth ASB have **reduced** by a staggering 48%<sup>3</sup> when comparing the period during YCAP projects with the same time period before the projects began.

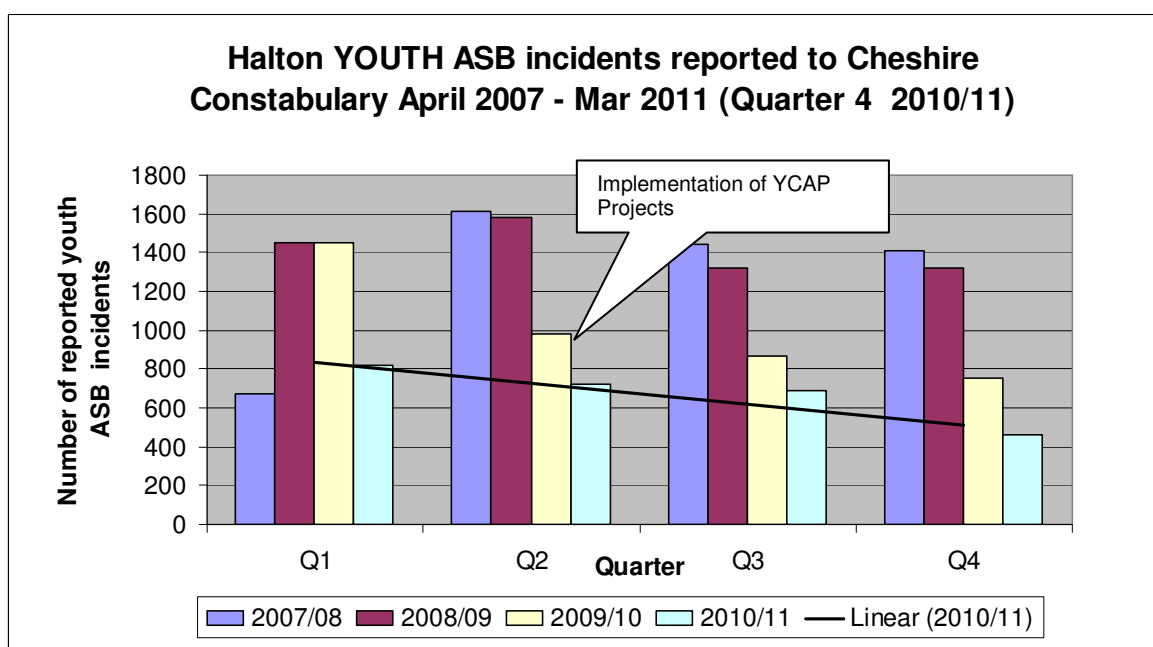
<sup>1</sup>Pre YCAP: July 2007 – Mar 2009: 10146 incidents recorded 58% of total ASB

<sup>2</sup>Post YCAP: July 2009 – Mar 2011: 5296 incidents recorded 34% of total ASB

**<sup>3</sup>Resulting in 4850 less victims / Police calls for service over a period of 21 months, and a reduction to the percentage of ASB that is youth related in Halton.**

The following chart shows pictorially the numbers of youth related ASB pre and during YCAP projects where the downward trend in youth related ASB is clear:

#### Youth related ASB



Halton Youth ASB	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
2007/08	672	1611	1444	1414	5141
2008/09	1449	1584	1323	1321	5677
2009/10	1455	980	867	754	4056
2010/11	817	723	690	465	2695
% difference to previous year (2010 / 11 compared to 2009/10)	43.85%	26.22%	20.42%	38.33%	33.56%

Please consider footnotes 1, 2 and 3 when referring to this table.

<sup>1</sup> Numbers recorded through T&G datasets from Cheshire Constabulary – through key word searches public order incidents

<sup>2</sup> Numbers recorded through PIM datasets from Cheshire Constabulary – through QYH qualifiers – youth related text

<sup>3</sup> Numbers have been compared using differing datasets; however can be used as a reliable indicator. 2009/10 compared with 2010/11 (Comparable datasets) show a reduction of 34% numerically. %split youth related ASB against total dropped from 41% in 09/10 to 32% 10/11

In addition to the reductions seen in **Youth** related ASB, **Total** ASB has also dropped (by 12%). Further research will be completed to identify the areas that have increased whilst Youth ASB has dropped.

The reductions noted above have been achieved through the collective delivery of YCAP projects and Police targeting of youth related ASB. The following are examples of just some of the key outputs recorded during 2009/10 and 2010/11 that have resulted in these significant reductions in youth related ASB:

### **Operation Stay Safe**

- 22 operations have been completed, 5114 young people have been engaged with, 111 young people have been taken to a place of safety and 749 items of alcohol have been seized. As at Q3 of 2010/11 231 referrals had been completed to other agencies such as alcohol and substance misuse services, YISP, FIP and parenting programmes.

### **Reparation Project**

- Of the 177 young people who have undertaken reparation activities, 149 did not re offend during a 12 month period after intervention (84%)

### **Diversion Project**

- As at Q2 of 2010/11 25 young people had been diverted from the criminal justice processes as mental Health issues were identified and 106 individuals were referred into Divert project.

### **Street Based Teams and VRMZ outreach**

- The project is through engagement with young people on the streets of Halton have undertaken 71 visits to schools and colleges. 3883 under 19's accessed the bus, 3750 individuals have been provided with information around 'Young addiction' service, 3654 young people have received advice on substance misuse, 2298 advice around smoking and 1949 around sexual health and pregnancy. 13 Young people have undertaken Chlamydia testing, 216 C Card registrations, 2028 have received mental health advice, 468 have received support and advice around dietary and obesity, 2657 young people have been directed towards positive activities, 49 young people have received sun safety awareness, 3455 personal safety advice and 2123 have received advice around behaviour and citizenship.
- The impact that this service has had on Police ASB calls for service in the areas where the street based teams and the bus have attended on average has reduced by 15%.

### **After School Patrols**

- 532 After School Patrols were undertaken between July 2009 and August 2010. Incidents reported to the Police between January 2010 and March 2010 compared to the previous year reduced by 23% in the areas where patrols were undertaken. The patrols delivered effective engagement with Head teachers and youths in the areas around schools before and after at core school hours.

### **Youth Crime Prevention and Anti-Social Behaviour Family Intervention Projects**

- **ASB FIP** Since the commencement of funding from DoE 23 families have been supported. (2 families did not engage and 1 did not need support). Nine families, (17 adults and 21 young people) are currently receiving support.
- Seventeen of the ASB FIP cases have been closed to date (1 did not need support and has therefore not been included in the closed case analysis). Of

these closed cases a 20% reduction in Police calls for service can be seen. This reduction can be seen when comparing the incidents recorded 6 months prior to engagement, 6 months during engagement compared with post engagement. The percentage reductions in the following areas can be seen: Abandoned telephone calls (22%), assistance to other agencies (10%) Criminal damage (36%), Domestic / neighbour disputes (100%), Drugs (100%), Missing persons (6%), Neighbour disputes (92%), Rowdy / Loutish behaviour (7%) and violence against the person (27%).

- **Crime FIP** Since the commencement of funding from DoE 13 families have been supported. Eleven families, (19 adults and 45 young people) are currently receiving support.
- Two of the Crime FIP cases have been closed to date so incidents and complaints reported to the Police and Housing Associations can only be assessed in relation to those that have occurred prior and during engagement. Post assessments will be monitored as with ASB FIP upon closure in order to identify any increase.
- During 2008/09 and 2009/10 the FIP projects have saved other agencies a total of £1.6million
- During 2010/11 the FIP projects saved other agencies a total of £ 2.8 million
- Total savings since both FIP's began is £ 4.2million
- FIP have received 99 referrals since May 2008
- Since 2008 FIP have worked with 34 families
- **For every £1 spent on the FIP provision – other agencies save £13**

### **Youth Inclusion Support Panel (YISP)**

- 2009/10 saw a 40% reduction in first time entrants when compared with 2007/08 – equating to 100 less people entering the youth justice system. A 15.6% reduction in reoffending was also recorded - suggesting that in addition to less young people entering the youth justice system – those who do are offending less. 74% of young people did not re offend after YISP intervention.

### **Missing From Home**

- Barnardo's intervention began during September 2008. Numbers of YP reported missing to Cheshire Constabulary reduced during the first 6 months of intervention (Sept 08 – Feb 09: 340) by 36% when compared to the same period the year before (Sept 07 – Feb 08: 530). However since this point, numbers have risen most months (14 months out of 18 months) that the service has been delivered resulting in an overall increase of 21.28% (Sept 08 – Aug 09: 827 compared with Sept 09 – August 10: 1003).
- There have been some recording issues between Barnardo's and changes to Cheshire Police recording systems during this time period and Barnardo's has worked hard with the Commissioning Manager during the last 9 months to have a much more targeted approach about understanding the young people that are going missing.
- 456 separate incidents were reported in total for those missing from LAC by Barnados during 2009/10. Of these, 210 were linked to those from Halton care homes, 15 were blank and 231 were recorded for other authority LACs. (50%).
- The percentage split between those persons recorded missing from home and those missing from care have changed over the last two years:
  - 2009/10 62% Missing from Care / 38% Missing from Home
  - 2010/11 55% Missing from Care / 45% Missing from Home.
- Those young people missing from care (529) during 2010/11, 54% of those were from out of the Halton area (284). Essex, Lincoln, St Helens, Westminster and Brent account for 56% (159) of these episodes.

## **ASB Victim and Witness Support Service**

- The service has supported 299 individuals since it began in June 2008, 55 cases remain open at present. Calls for service made to the Police around ASB have dropped from the addresses of those supported by an outstanding 93% in the areas of neighbour disputes and rowdy loutish behaviour. Service user feedback has included:

***“Thank you for all you have done for me to make my life more peaceful for me in my own home”***

***“Thank you very much for the excellent support and service provided”***

***“It has taken a long 4 years to get to your support services; other people were involved at first..... you helped a lot”***

## **Anti-social Behaviour Enforcement Officer**

- A total of 116 referrals have been received to date from Resident Social Landlords, schools, the general public, Halton Direct Link, the Local Authority and the Police resulting in 91 Antisocial Behaviour Contracts (ABC's), 6 Antisocial Behaviour Orders (ASBO's), 2 CRASBO's, 5 Parenting Control Agreements, 9 Notice Seeking Possessions served, 1 Crack House closure and 1 dispersal order.
- The Partnership Tasking Vehicle has also visited 611 locations and liaised with 97 perpetrators of Anti Social Behaviour since July 2010. Of the 14 repeat callers to the Police (as at Q3 2010/11) who were responsible for 60 separate repeat calls all ceased to call back resulting in a 100% reduction in calls for service from these individuals.

## **5. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The YCAP funding came to an end in March 2011, however due to commitment and input from steering group members and the dedication of all staff connected to the projects we have been able to continue on with the projects.

- **Operation Stay Safe:** This will continue until March 2012 on a scaled down form and post March 2012 it is hope that it will be mainstreamed by the police and the LA
- **Reparation:** This project will continue until March 2012 and the YOT will look over the next 12 months for reparation to become mainstreamed.
- **Divert:** The Sainsbury's Centre is continuing to fund this project until March 2012 and hopefully beyond this.
- **Street Based Team:** This has been funded by Children and Enterprise for the next 12 months with support from Cheshire Fire and Rescue.
- **ASB /Youth Crime FIP:** The staff has been mainstreamed into the council's Team around the Family structure for support with families with complex needs.
- **YISP:** This has been re configured into a Prevention Team by Children and Enterprise, YOT and Cheshire Fire and Rescue for a 12 moth pilot. They will be looking at the whole family approach and referrals will be via IWST.
- **Missing From Home:** This service will continue with Barnardo's for a further 12 months by Children and Enterprise.
- **Victim and Witness Support Service:** This service will continue until March 2012 through Safer Halton Partnership funding.
- **ASB Enforcement Officer:** The funding is secured until March 2012 through Safer Halton Partnership funding

The Compass Steering group has been a successful extended task and finish group and it was agreed in April 2011 to end and for the projects to be monitored via the new Partnership Commissioning Group which will commence via Children and Enterprise. The Partnership Commissioning Group will ensure that there continues to be robust joint commissioning arrangements in place between HBC adults and young people as well as external partners to clearly show impact of projects on individuals, families and communities and to highlight cost avoidance /cost saving to services.