

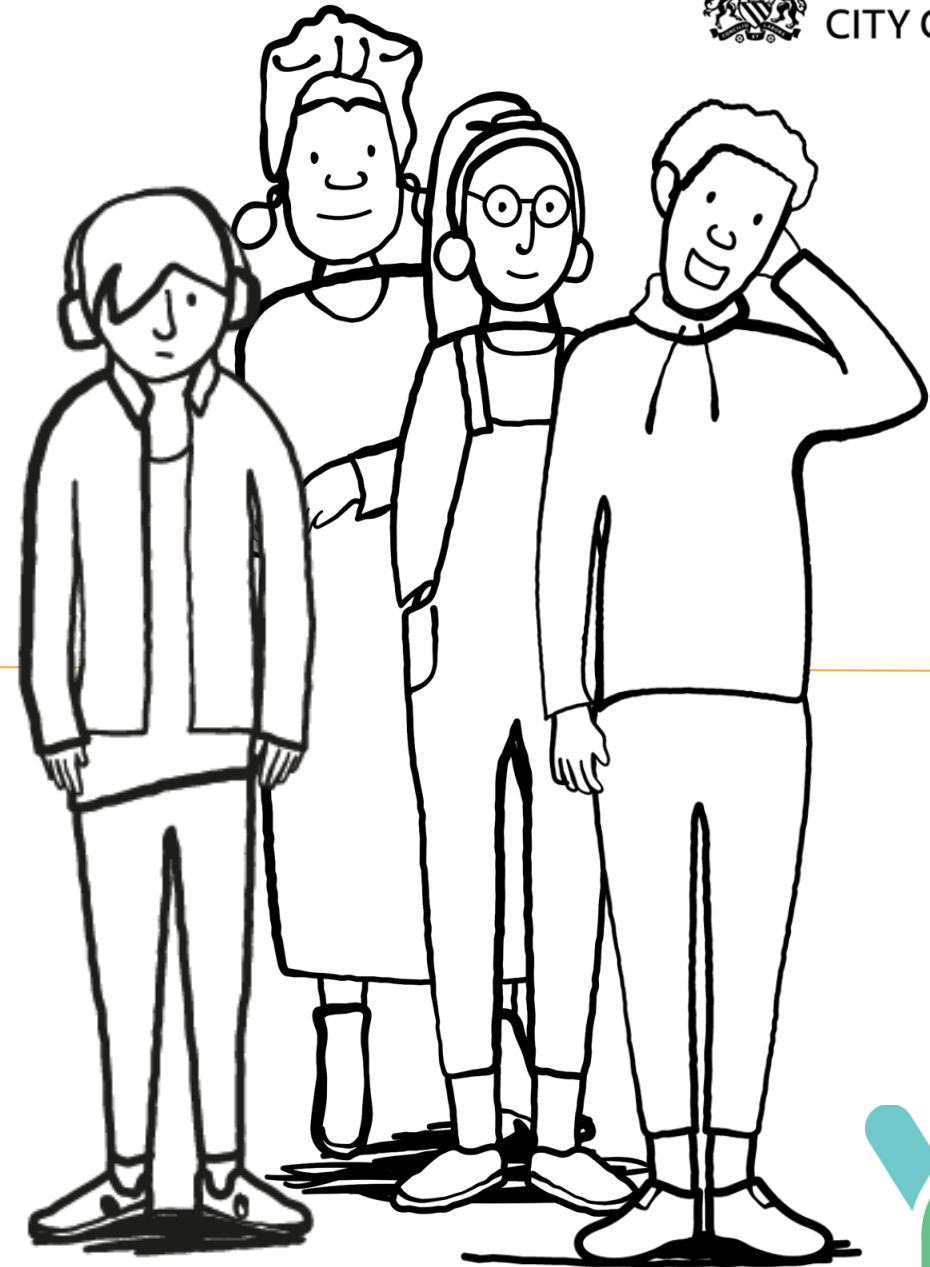
Youth Justice Business Plan 2023/24: Preventing and Diverting Children and Young People from the Criminal Justice System

Children and Young People Scrutiny
Committee

19th July 2023

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Children's Services

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Justice



Overview

- Vision and Strategy
- Governance and Leadership Arrangements
- Youth Justice Service Model
- Progress against priorities from 2022/23
- Impact and Feedback
- Priorities for 2023/24
- Innovation and Developments
- Summary

Vision and Strategy

- YJ is a forward thinking, relationship focused service enshrined in Participatory Youth Practice and Child First approach
- Supporting young people to develop a positive self – identity through building trusted relationships
- Investment in early intervention and partnerships with effective interventions to divert away from the criminal justice system
- Aligns with Child Centred Policing Strategy
- UNICEF Child Friendly City
- Delivering Greater Manchester Transforming Youth Justice Plan

Governance and Accountability Arrangements

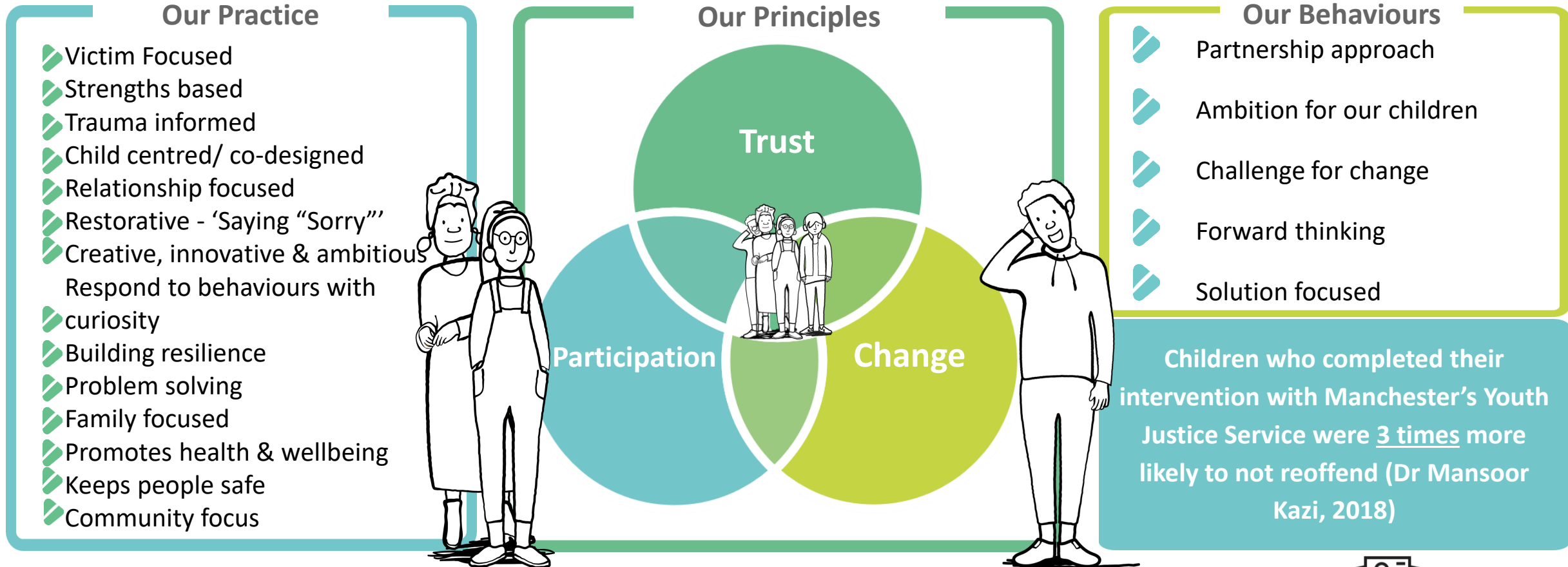
- YJ Management Board chaired by Director of Children's Services
- Senior representation from statutory services plus education, work and skills, early help, community safety, social work, youth court and elected member.
- Dynamic board that drives the priorities and performance via thematic leads and connectivity with frontline practice
- YJ Business plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Sets out the priorities and the arrangements for the local delivery of services

YJ Service Overview

- Multi – agency co-located partnership arrangements – SALT, Police, Probation, Drama therapists, Virtual School, CAMHs, Substance Misuse and Social Workers
- Three Locality based Teams
- Court Team
- Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Team (ISS)
- Prevention and Diversion Team
- Restorative Justice Team (Remedi)
- Business Hub overseeing quality assurance, data, business and financial management

Youth Justice Service Model

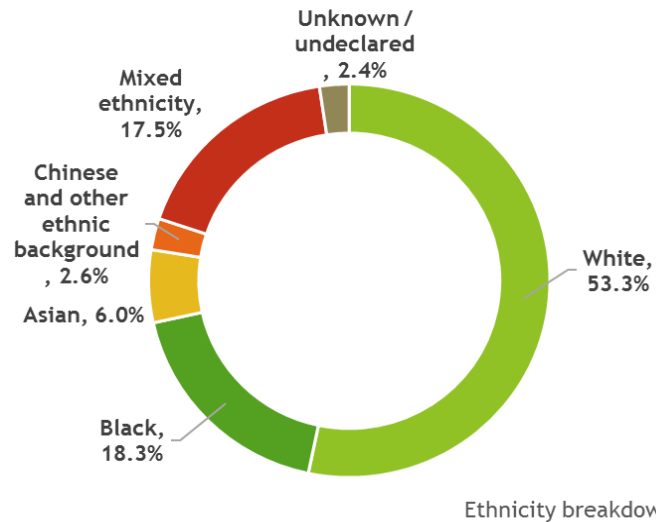
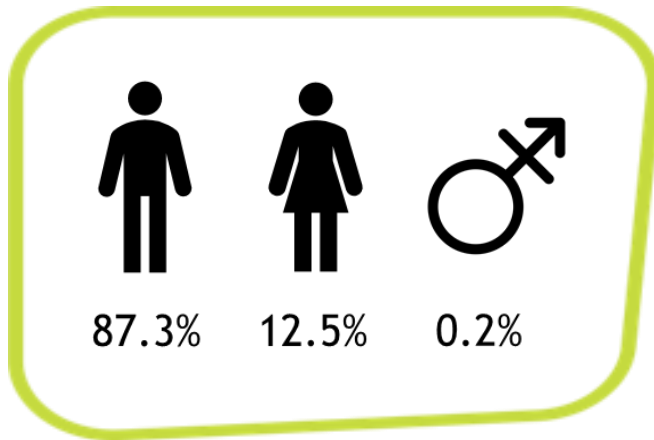
Building a safe, happy, healthy & successful future for our children and young people



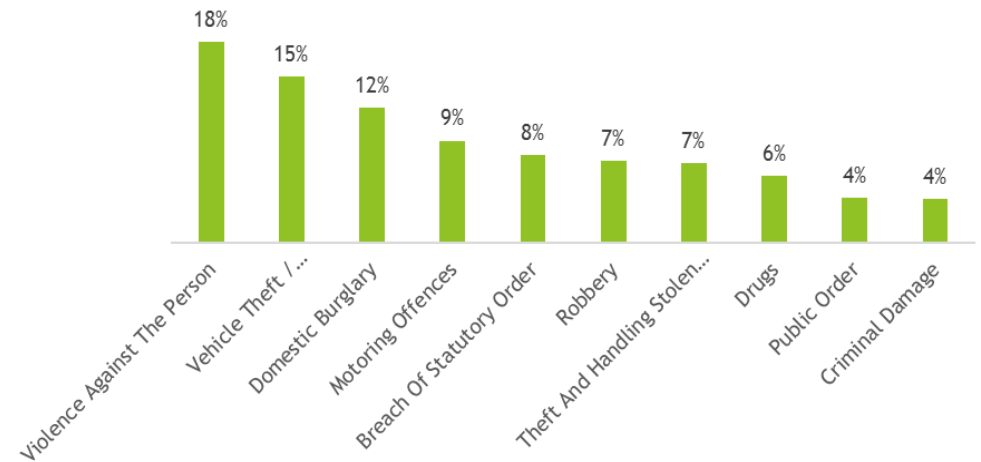
Inspiring positive, successful and happy futures through Education, Training & Employment 

Service Overview: April 2022 – March 2023

- ➡ Total number of YP open to the service: **503**
- ➡ Total number of interventions carried out: **780**
- ➡ Average age : 16.5
- ➡ 149 YP are considered SEN or 29.6%
- ➡ Total of 10941 offences



Top 10 offence types for cases opened in the reporting period



Key Areas of Focus

2022/23

- ➔ Custody and Resettlement
- ➔ Early Intervention and Prevention
- ➔ Restorative Justice: Victim Services
- ➔ Practice Improvement Priorities
- ➔ Equality and Inclusivity
- ➔ Quality of Practice



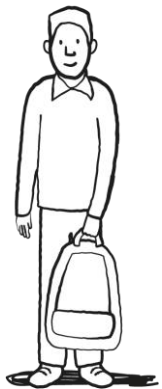
2022/23 Progress Update on Priorities

Custody and Resettlement

- Multi Agency Task and Finish Group to improve the offer
- Resettlement Practice improved (QAF)
- ISS Bail & Orders offering viable alternative to Youth Custody
- Established Mentoring and Health Support for CYP & Families
- Revised Policy & Practice Guidance and Training
- GM Transforming YJ Delivery Plan launched
- GM Resettlement Consortium
- ePEP for Children in Custody

Early Intervention & Prevention

- Established a dedicated YJ Prevention & Diversion Team
- Locality Engage Panels delivered across the city
- YJ Practitioners: Restorative Justice, Culture and Identity specialist, Psychotherapists and Substance Misuse linked to Engage Panels.
- Artist and Musician within the Service
- SAFE Mentoring launched in high schools

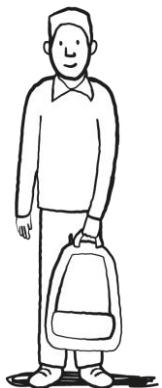


2022/23 Progress Update on Priorities

Restorative Justice: Victim Service

- ➔ 255 victims contacted
- ➔ 85% engaged in RJ (n216)
- ➔ 202 Indirect Mediation Sessions
- ➔ 49 Direct Mediation Sessions
- ➔ 100% of victims that took part in RJ said they were **satisfied** with the process.
- ➔ 100% of victims said RJ helped them to **cope/recover**.
- ➔ 99% of victims said RJ helped

- ➔ 1304 hours of community reparation completed
- ➔ 100% of children said that RJ helped them to **understand the impact** of their offence.
- ➔ 100% of children said that RJ increased their **motivation to NOT reoffend**.
- ➔ 96% of children said they enjoyed reparation
- ➔ 78% said they learned new skills
- ➔ 87% felt like they had given something back to their community



2022/23 Progress Update on Priorities

Equality and Inclusivity

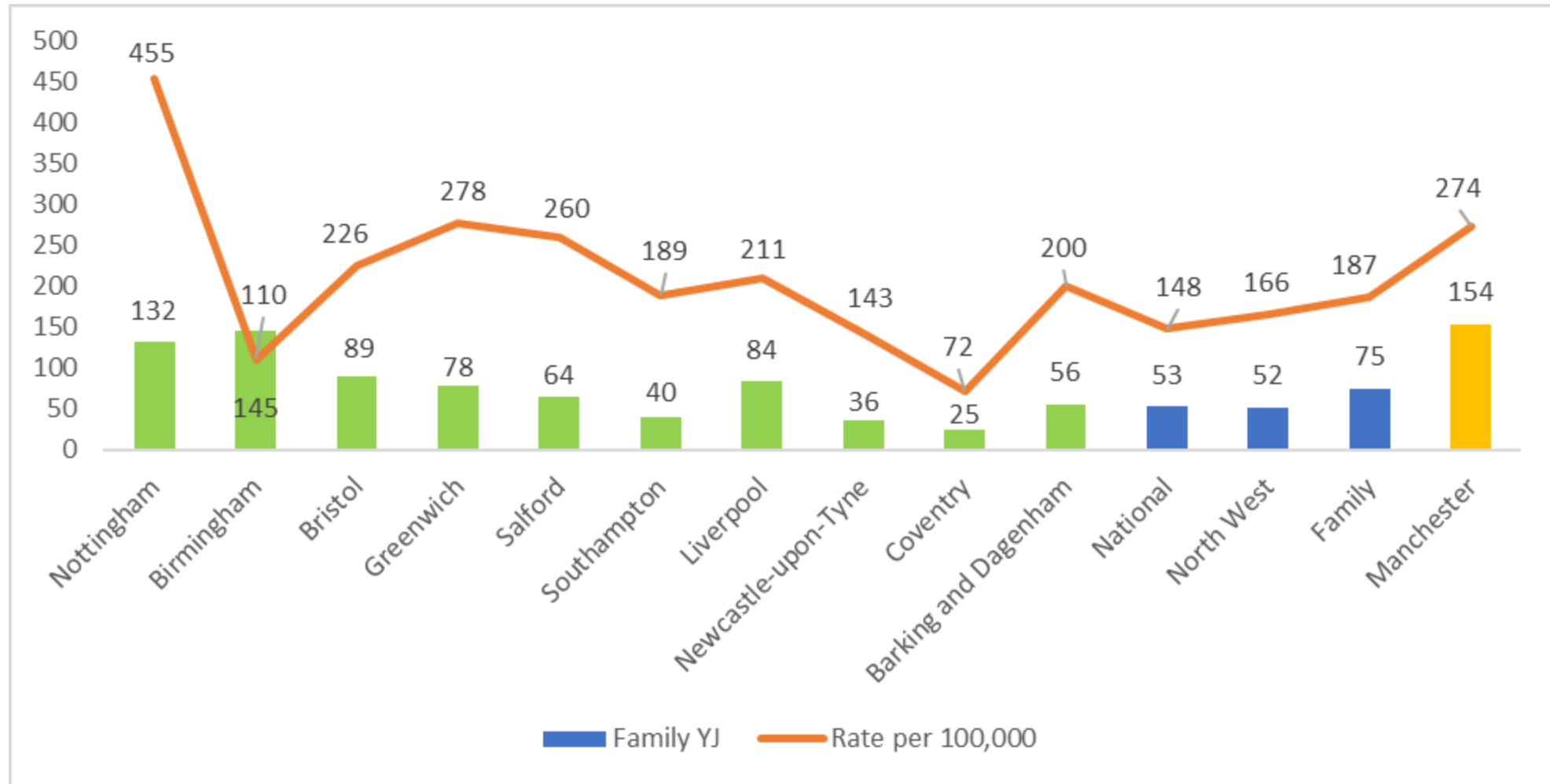
- ➔ Race Equality Action Plan
- ➔ Training- Anti Racist & inclusive Practice, LGVTQ+, CAMHS & Trauma
- ➔ Learning from analysing serious incidents, children sentenced to custody, remanded into youth detention and those not in Education or Training.
- ➔ CSP Disproportionality Action Plan
- ➔ LeaderHERship Graduates
- ➔ Access to specific community support

Quality of Practice

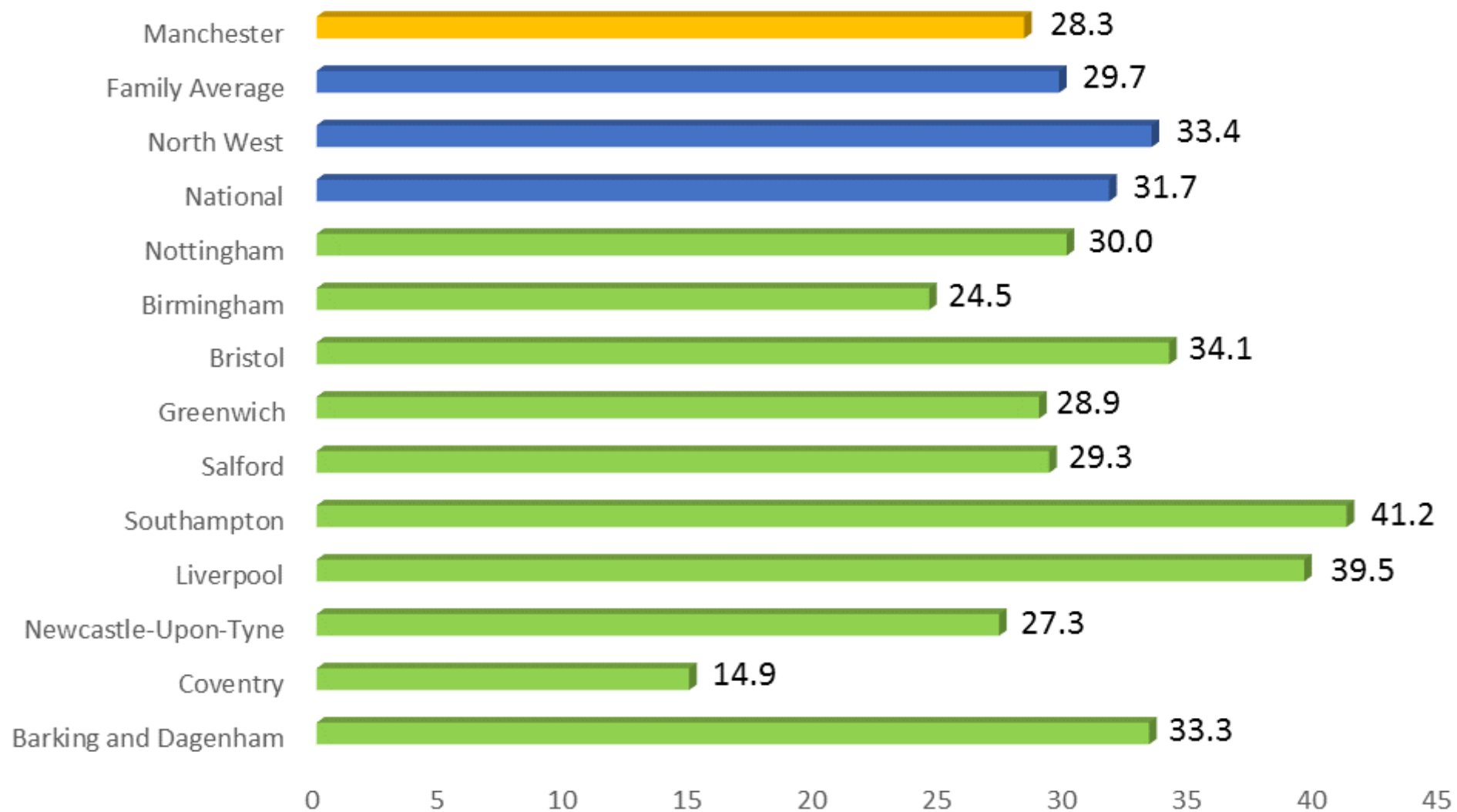
- ➔ Staffing Stability and Growth
- ➔ Service Improvement Plan and monthly practice accountability sessions
- ➔ Specific YJ Training Designed
- ➔ Quality assurance Framework evidences improvements
- ➔ Performance Dashboards
- ➔ New supervision policy
- ➔ Harmful Sexual Behaviour and Vicarious Trauma Clinical Supervision commissioned



Count and Rate per 100,000 10-17 Year Old Population for First Time Entrants: Jan 22 – Dec 22



% of Cohort who were Re-offenders: Jul 20 – Jun 21



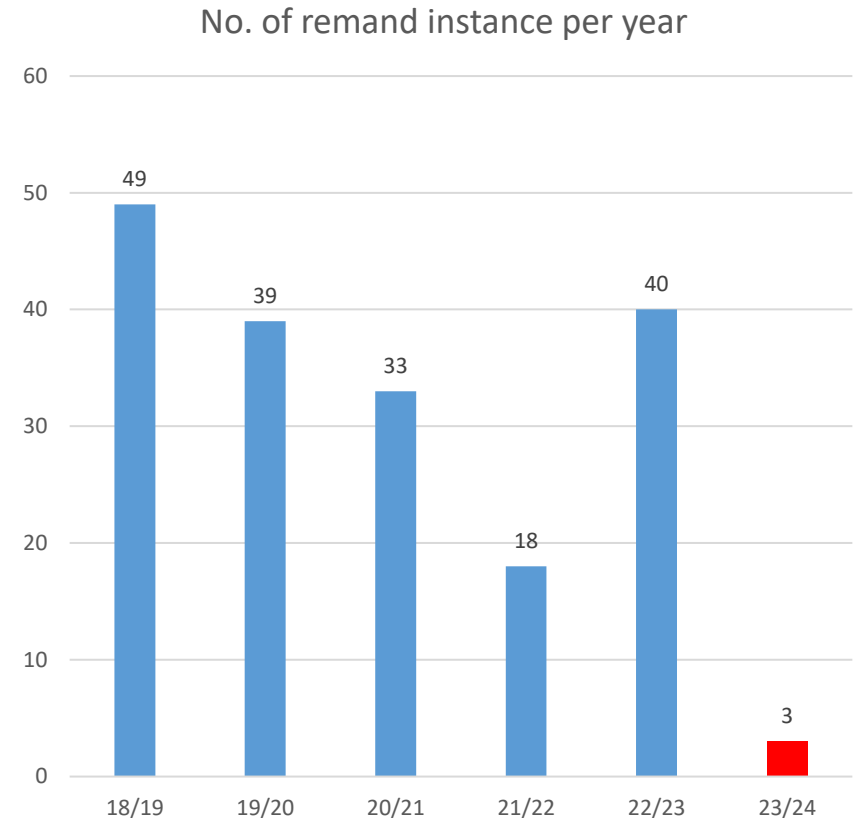
What the Data is Telling Us : Remands

- Volume of remands is high and fluctuates each quarter
- In 22/23 there were 40 remands
- Delayed Court hearings and gravity of offences were key factors
- County Lines and exploitation were a feature in 40% of remands
- Overrepresentation reflected in the deep dive with 43% of remands from minoritized communities

Slowdown of remands in Q1 23/24 with 3 new remands

10 young people currently on remand

Longest remand is 55 weeks



What the Data is Telling Us : Custody

- In 22/23 45 young people received a custodial sentence
- This is a rate of 0.8 which slightly exceeded the target of 0.7
- Currently, there are currently 21 young people in custody.
- There are currently 14 young people in custody on DTO's ; 5 are cared for young people and 3 young people were cared for on a long - term basis prior to receiving a custodial sentence.
- Analysis of sentences highlighted 40% of remands convert into a custodial sentence ; 39% receive a community outcome and the remainder (21%) were dismissed/withdrawn



Serious Youth Violence

- Multi – agency response steered via Serious Violence Strategy Board
- Young People are victims of serious youth violence
- Investing in earlier intervention, promoting inclusion and reducing vulnerability to exploitation as they increase risk factors
- Young People's voices and feedback informing the response and service delivery
- Public protection with mapping and partnership response to hotspots
- Learning from critical incidents

Overall Impact

June 2023



Stable Staffing with one vacancy



Reduced Case Loads with average of 8.3 young people



Improved attendance with low sickness absence



High compliance with orders resulting in reduced breaches reflecting effective relationships of trust with young people. 167 Interventions completed since Sept 22



Investment in prevention has led to high volume of referrals with 70 young people receiving support and is the busiest service (75% Engagement Rate)



Effective Bail Support and ISS Programme achieving reduced remands in Q1. 23 ISS Bail Order since Sept 22



Audits confirm resettlement planning has improved

Joint supervision with children's social workers has improved planning, communication and information sharing



Feedback from Children & Parents

Parent: "A's attitude change towards school since starting the session has been amazing. There has been such a huge difference."

Parent: "I have definitely noticed a change in his attitude towards school, he is much more settled where he is now and even at home and out on the streets he has been getting into much less trouble."

Child: "These sessions have made me see crimes in another way. I will think differently about trusting people."



Child: "I have enjoyed these sessions and feel as though they have really helped me understand the consequences."

Child: "I have been able to understand things more and understand myself more. I think I lost myself a little bit now I feel like I have settled and know who I am and what I want to do with my life."

Child: "Because of you and hearing from those other young people in the group work, this is it for me, I'm not about that life anymore. I went out with my friends the other day and they tried to rob a phone from someone, I took the phone off them and told them to stop it and gave it back to the victim"

Feedback: Community Reparation Projects

“I really enjoyed making the Black History Month collage and I think I contributed a lot during my whole reparation”



“I have never done gardening before but I really enjoyed working at Platt Fields and learnt new skills , I have volunteered to stay on for some more sessions where possible”

“I didn’t realise how much I would enjoy gardening and I’ve learnt a lot of new skills ,both gardening and creative work , thank you for all the support”

Case Study:



"Just because I'm black people think I'm a bad person. What I really want them to know is I'm not a bad person, I've just made mistakes."

When we first met Jon, he had low self-esteem and expressed a negative perception of what other people thought of him. He told me that children and adults would often cross the road rather than walk past him, and he believed this was because of the way he looked. Jon said *"If everyone thinks I'm going to go out and rob someone, because of the way I look, inevitably I'm going to end up getting into trouble."*

What Jon needed was someone to **celebrate his considerable strengths**, help him to understand his identity, improve his self-esteem and believe that **he can achieve his ambitions**. We supported him to draft his CV, spoke about the strengths that we recognised and **inspired him** to shift his perspective. Jon then had the courage to apply for a part-time job in a super-market – and was **successful!** In this role he felt like an accepted member of the community. During lockdown and home-studying, we supported Jon to maintain his business course and complete it successfully. **His Order was revoked early for exceptional progress and he is now progressing towards his ambition to go to University.**

Case Study:

- **Referral received from the Police to the YJ Diversion Triage Panel**

Presenting issue:

- Section 47 Assault against a peer at school
- Open to Children's Services for emotional abuse and domestic violence.
- Special Educational Needs identified in 2021
- Family relationships are strained
- Self Esteem and Identity issues impacting on behaviour and perception of themselves.
- Lack of positive role model and trusted relationship

• **Action Taken:**

- When completing the parent and self-assessment their mother mentioned that J wanted to play the guitar as a child but could not afford lessons.
- J was encouraged to express themselves, they were listened to, advised and challenged and a trusted relationship was formed.
- J agreed to meet the Musician In Residence at YJ
- From moment when J picked up the electric guitar and was taught how to play a few chords they were hooked and started to attend weekly.
- J also participated in the Rock-UP weeklong program, performed on Unity Radio and at a Greater Manchester Event, closing the event with confidence.

• **Outcomes:**

- J completed the Bronze Arts Award and started the Silver. Wrote a song and performed it live. They are still attending MIR session and mentoring others
- J applied for a college place and had to audition. YJ supported them to apply to the Love Manchester Charity and was awarded with the funds to buy their own electric guitar.
- J is now studying music production in further education. J wants to support other children in YJ to access music and promote gender identity discussions.

2023/24 Priority Areas

Priorities
designed by YJ
Staff and the
Board

➔ **Education & Employment**

➔ **Equality & Inclusivity**

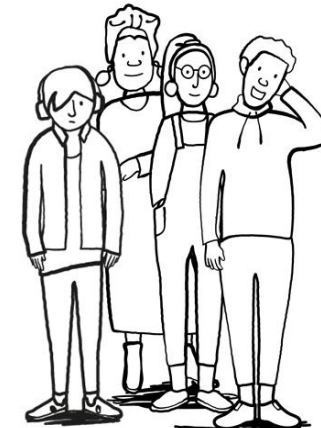
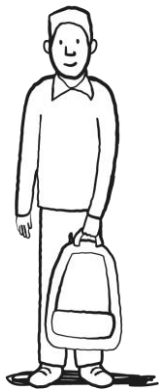
➔ **Quality of Practice**

➔ **Prevention & Diversion**

➔ **Custody, Remand &
Resettlement**

➔ **Victim Services**

➔ Co- Production, Participation, SYV,
CCE, CSE, Reoffending, Public
Protection and Strength Based
Assessments and interventions and
transitions run through everything we
do!



Innovation and Developments 2023/24

- Prevention and Diversion Team
- Partnership with creative arts – TiPP, Unity Radio
- Engage Panels
- Turnaround
- Specialist Alternative Provision Task Force
- SHIFT
- STEER
- GM Remand Project

Summary

- YJ service is changing with a clear shift in focus to earlier prevention and support
- Young People on remand and custody are the most vulnerable and require effective resettlement planning and support
- Securing education, employment and training is essential to prevent and divert young people away from the criminal justice system
- We will reduce remands through our prevention and by providing credible alternatives . Engagement with the Youth Court and partners is key to our success
- Victim of crimes report positively following involvement with restorative services
- We are creative, utilise research and evidence based interventions to innovate and through leading programmes such as the new GM Remand Programme we can influence and change national policy