



People Scrutiny Committee

Date: Tuesday, 10 September 2019
Time: 2.00 pm
Venue: Committee Room A/B, South Walks House,
South Walks Road, Dorchester, DT1 1EE

Membership: (Quorum 3)

Jane Somper (Chairman), Mary Penfold (Vice-Chairman), Toni Coombs, Stella Jones, Emma Parker, Molly Rennie, Mark Roberts, Maria Roe, Clare Sutton and Gill Taylor

Chief Executive: Matt Prosser, South Walks House, South Walks Road,
Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1UZ (Sat Nav DT1 1EE)

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A G E N D A

Page No.

1 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 MINUTES

5 - 8

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 2 July 2019.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To receive questions or statements on the business of the committee from town and parish councils and members of the public.

5 URGENT ITEMS

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

6 APPROVAL OF YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2019/20

9 - 40

To consider the Youth Justice Plan 2019/20 and to recommend its approval to Cabinet (and on to Full Council).

7 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND ABUSE SERVICES IN DORSET

41 - 84

The People Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the recommissioning approach set out in the report and recommend the approach to Cabinet for approval.

8 PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD PLAN

85 - 92

To review the People Scrutiny Committee Forward plan including a matrix for potential topics.

To review the Cabinet Forward Plan (to follow).

9 EXEMPT BUSINESS

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 4 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

10 BUILDING BETTER LIVES - PROGRAMME OVERVIEW AND APPROACH TO WAREHAM GATEWAY - EXEMPT

93 - 164

To consider a report of the Building Better Lives Programme Manager.

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DORSET COUNCIL - PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 2 JULY 2019

Present: Cllrs Jane Somper (Chairman), Mary Penfold (Vice-Chairman), Toni Coombs, Stella Jones, Emma Parker, Molly Rennie, Mark Roberts, Maria Roe, Clare Sutton and Gill Taylor

Apologies: None

Also present: Cllr Tony Alford

Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):

Sarah Parker (Executive Director of People - Children), Mathew Kendall (Executive Director of People - Adults), Lee Ellis (Scrutiny Officer) and Lindsey Watson (Senior Democratic Services Officer)

1. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Mark Roberts declared an interest as a provider of adult services to the local authority.

2. Welcome from Chairman

The Chairman welcomed all present to the meeting and everyone introduced themselves.

The Executive Director for Children and the Executive Director for Adults both attended the meeting and provided an overview of their areas. They noted the challenges faced by both service areas and welcomed the involvement of the committee in reviewing the services. The links to the health area was also recognised.

A point was raised with regard to the involvement of the committee in the area of mental health and it was recognised that this should be linked into the committee's work programme moving forward.

3. Overview and Scrutiny Committees - Terms of Reference

Members noted the Overview and Scrutiny Committees' Terms of Reference, as set out in the Dorset Council Constitution (Part 1, Article 7 – Overview and Scrutiny Committees).

Members considered the Terms of Reference document and during discussion the following points were raised:

- It was noted that in relation to the exercise of overview and scrutiny functions relating to education matters, the membership of the People Scrutiny Committee was required to include four co-opted members representing particular diocese and parent governors in addition to the 10 councillors. The committee discussed where the additional persons could be drawn from and how they were chosen? In response, the Scrutiny Officer confirmed that further information would be sought to clarify the process and that information would be provided to councillors
- Councillors noted that 7.1 (g) (iii) (Role/Terms of Reference) stated that “people” shall be solely responsible for the performance of overview and scrutiny functions relating to education matters. A comment was made that the phrasing of this section could leave the impression that the committee would only be looking at education issues, which was not the case. The wording was contained to indicate that the People Scrutiny Committee was the only committee to review education issues. Differing views were expressed but there was an overall view that this wording should be reviewed in order to make the position clear to anyone reading the terms of reference. It was noted that there was to be a review of the Constitution and that the minute of the discussion could be carried forward to this in order to represent the view of the committee
- The use of committee pre-meetings in preparation for particular meetings was discussed and a concern raised with regard to the public perception of this and the need to ensure the committee was making the best use of its time. The Chairman noted that a pre-meeting could be useful in advance of particular agenda items in order to plan questioning and suggested that the committee tried it out as a method and reviewed its usefulness. It was agreed that the issue should be considered further at the committee’s work programme session to follow the meeting.

4. **Public Participation**

There were no representations from town or parish councils or from members of the public.

5. **Urgent items**

There were no urgent items.

6. **People Scrutiny Committee Work Programme**

The Scrutiny Officer noted that there would be a session for councillors to discuss the committee’s work programme after the meeting. In addition to the dates scheduled in the Calendar of Meetings, an additional meeting of the committee would be held on 10 September 2019.

Councillors considered the work programme for the committee and during discussion, the following points were raised:

- A number of potential items had been brought forward from the scrutiny committees of the former sovereign councils and these would be considered by the Dorset Council scrutiny committees for inclusion in their work programmes moving forward
- A review of the Emergency Assistance Fund was suggested as a potential review for the committee
- A point was noted that the committee needed to be a critical friend when reviewing areas and that officers and councillors were working together for the benefit of residents
- Reference was made to the role of all councillors as corporate parents and whether there was any cross over of work that needed to be undertaken by the committee? Possible areas for review could be a look at how the Council was meeting its targets for education health and care plans and the transition of young people into adult social care
- In response to a question as to how items were submitted to the work programme, the Scrutiny Officer noted that a pro-forma was available for councillors and members of the public to complete if they wished an item to be considered by the committee. In the future it was hoped to develop an area on the Council's website for the scrutiny function
- The work programme would be developed with the committee and brought to the meeting in September
- The committee would need to prioritise items for inclusion on the work programme
- Items on the Cabinet Forward Plan could be reviewed by the committee before a decision was taken by Cabinet
- A point was made that the committee should be looking at Adult Social Care – Direct Payments, which was to be considered by Cabinet on 1 October 2019

7. Cabinet Forward Plan

This was noted during the previous agenda item.

8. Exempt Business

There was no exempt business.

Duration of meeting: 10.00 - 10.35 am

Chairman

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Date of Meeting: 10 September 2019

Lead Member: Cllr Andrew Parry, Lead Member for Children, Education and Early Help

Lead Officer: Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children

Executive Summary:

There is a statutory requirement to publish an annual Youth Justice Plan which must provide specified information about the local provision of youth justice services. This report summarises the Youth Justice Plan for 2019/20, with a copy of the Plan appended. The Youth Justice Plan needs to be approved by the full Council.

Equalities Impact Assessment:

The Youth Justice Plan does not relate to a new strategy, policy or function so an Equalities Impact Assessment has not been undertaken. Some information about equalities issues is included in the report. No adverse equalities impacts have been identified.

Budget:

Dorset County Council's contribution to the YOS Partnership Budget had been frozen at the same level since 2014/15. A cost of living increase was agreed for the Dorset Council contribution in 2018/19, along with a redistribution of funding contributions between the new local authorities to reflect Local Government Reorganisation.

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:
Current Risk: LOW
Residual Risk LOW

Other Implications:

Evidence shows that children in care are over-represented in the youth justice system. The Youth Justice Plan reports on actions taken to address this issue.

Recommendation:

For the Scrutiny Committee to endorse the Youth Justice Plan so that Cabinet can recommend its approval to Full Council

Reason for Recommendation:

Youth Offending Teams are required to publish an annual Youth Justice Plan which should be approved by the Local Authority for that Youth Offending Team and by the Youth Justice Board. Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service works across both Dorset Council and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. Approval has been obtained from Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, as well as being sought from Dorset

Council. The Youth Justice Board has also indicated its approval for this Youth Justice Plan.
The draft Youth Justice Plan has been approved by the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service Partnership Board.

Appendices:
Appendix One – Youth Justice Plan 2019/20

Background Papers:
None

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1. Background

1.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 Youth Offending Teams are required to publish an annual youth justice plan. The Youth Justice Board provides guidance about what must be included in the plan and recommends a structure for the plan. The draft Youth Justice Plan for the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service is attached at Appendix One. A brief summary of the Youth Justice Plan is provided in this report.

2. Summary of Youth Justice Plan Contents

2.1 The Youth Justice Plan provides information on the resourcing, structure, governance, partnership arrangements and performance of the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service. The Plan also describes the national and local youth justice context for 2019/20, identifies risks to the delivery of youth justice outcomes and sets out priorities for this year.

2.2 There are three national 'key performance indicators' for youth justice. The first indicator relates to the rate of young people entering the justice system for the first time. Local performance in this area has declined, with young people in Dorset now more likely to enter the justice system than young people in other areas. Plans to develop alternative 'diversion' options are being taken forward with Dorset Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

2.3 Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service is performing well against the other two national indicators, for reducing reoffending and for minimising the use of custodial sentences.

3. Summary of legal implications

3.1 Local authorities are legally required to form a youth offending team with the statutory partners named in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Act also stipulates that youth offending partnerships must submit an annual youth justice plan setting out how youth justice services in their area will be provided

and funded; and how the youth offending team will be composed and funded, how it will operate and what functions it will carry out. The Youth Justice Plan for 2019-20 meets these legal obligations.

4. Summary of financial implications

- 4.1. The Youth Justice Plan reports on the resourcing of the Youth Offending Service (YOS). Local authority and other partner contributions had remained static since 2014/15. A cost of living increase to local authority contributions was agreed for 2018/19, along with a redistribution of the funding proportions to reflect Local Government Reorganisation. The annual Youth Justice Grant has reduced from £790,000 in 2014/15 to £588,708 in 2019/20.
- 4.2. The creation of the pan-Dorset Youth Offending Service in 2015 increased the service's resilience and ability to adapt to reduced funding and increased costs. The management of vacancies, and the deletion of some posts, has enabled a balanced budget to be achieved.

5. Summary of Human Resources implications

- 5.1 Local Authority YOS staff members who were previously employed by Dorset County Council transferred to become employees of Bournemouth Borough Council in 2015. Local Government Reorganisation in April 2019 led to a further TUPE transfer of local authority employees to the new Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole council. The YOS also includes employees of the partner agencies who have been seconded to work in the team and who remain employed by the partner agency.

6. Summary of Health and Well-Being implications

- 6.1 Young people in contact with youth justice services are known to be more likely than other young people to have unmet or unidentified health needs. The Youth Offending Service includes seconded health workers who work directly with young people and who facilitate their engagement with community health services.
- 6.2 In 2018 funding was obtained for a YOS Speech and Language Therapist. Evidence shows that the majority of young people in contact with youth justice services have speech, language or communication needs. The YOS Speech and Language Therapist is able to assess these needs and provide advice to YOS colleagues, other professionals and family members about how to understand the young person's behaviour and how to communicate more effectively with them.

7. Summary of Equalities implications

- 7.1 The Youth Justice Plan contains information about the gender and ethnic composition of the YOS staff and volunteer groups. The Plan does not identify any adverse impact on staff or volunteers with protected characteristics. The Plan does show that the YOS staff and volunteer group does not fully reflect

the diversity of its service user group. A YOS Staffing Plan has now been completed with actions identified to address this issue.

- 7.2 It is recognised nationally that young people from minority ethnic groups, and young people in the care of the local authority, are over-represented in the youth justice system and in the youth custodial population. It is also recognised that young people known to the YOS may experience learning difficulties or disabilities, including in respect of speech, language and communication needs. Actions have been identified in the Youth Justice Plan to address these issues.

8. Risk implications

- 8.1 Risks that have been identified to the achievement of youth justice outcomes include limited access to suitable education provision for young people known to the YOS; lack of suitable local care placements for children with complex risks and needs; increased incidence of child exploitation and associated increased risks of violent behaviour; pressure on resources and uncertainty and delay on Youth Justice Board.
- 8.2 The Youth Justice Plan includes actions to mitigate these risks.

DORSET COMBINED YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE



Version	Superseded Version(s)	Date	Author	Changes made
V0.2				

Youth Justice Plan

2019/20

V0.1		24.05.19	David Webb	
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Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service Statement of Purpose

Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service works with young people in the local youth justice system. Our purpose is to help those young people to make positive changes, to keep them safe, to keep other people safe, and to repair the harm caused to victims.

This means we can support the national Youth Justice Board Vision that:

‘Every child should live a safe and crime-free life and make a positive contribution to society’.

Who We Are and What We Do

Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service (DCYOS) is a statutory partnership between Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, Dorset Council, Dorset Police, National Probation Service Dorset and NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group.

We are a multi-disciplinary team which includes youth justice officers, restorative justice specialists, parenting workers, education and employment workers, police officers, probation officers, nurses, speech and language therapists and a psychologist.

More information about the YOS partnership and the members of the YOS team is provided later in this document.

The team works directly with young people who have committed criminal offences to help them make positive changes and to reduce the risks to them and to other people. We also work directly with parents and carers to help them support their children to make changes.

We make contact with all victims of crimes committed by the young people we work with. We offer those victims the chance to take part in restorative justice processes so we can help to repair the harm they have experienced.

The organisations in the YOS partnership also work together to improve the quality of our local youth justice system, and to ensure that young people who work with the YOS can access the specialist support they need for their care, health and education.

The combination of work to improve our local youth justice and children’s services systems, and direct work with young people, parents and victims, enables us to meet the Youth Justice Board’s ‘System Aims’:

- Reduce the number of children in the youth justice system
- Reduce reoffending by children in the youth justice system
- Improve the safety and well-being of children in the youth justice system
- Improve outcomes for children in the youth justice system.

Introduction

This document is the Youth Justice Strategic Plan for the Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service (YOS) for 2019/20. It sets out the key priorities and targets for the service for the next 12 months as required by the Crime & Disorder Act 1998. This Plan has been developed under the direction of the YOS Partnership Board after consultation with YOS staff and taking into account feedback from YOS service users.

The Youth Justice Strategic Plan:

- summarises the YOS structure, governance and partnership arrangements
- outlines the resources available to the YOS, the planned use of the Youth Justice Grant and the plan for ensuring value for money
- reviews achievements and developments during 2018/19
- identifies emerging issues and describes the partnership's priorities
- summarises the risks to achieving agreed youth justice outcomes
- sets out our priorities and actions for improving youth justice outcomes this year.

This document sets out the YOS's strategic plan. A delivery plan underpins this document.

Service Targets

The Dorset Combined YOS target for 2019/20 is to outperform regional and national averages for the three national performance indicators for youth offending which are:

- The number of young people entering the youth justice system for the first time ('First Time Entrants')
- The rate of proven re-offending by young people in the youth justice system
- The use of custodial sentences for young people.

Headline Strategic Priorities for 2019/20

- Develop an additional diversion scheme to reduce the number of young people entering the justice system
- Become a 'Trauma-Informed' Service to improve outcomes for children, young people and families
- Take a leading role in the local multi-agency response to child exploitation and knife crime

Actions to achieve these priorities can be found later in this document, on pages 24-25.

Structure and Governance: The YOS Partnership Board

The work of the Dorset Combined YOS is managed strategically by a Partnership Board. The Partnership Board consists of senior representatives of the statutory partner organisations, together with other relevant local partners.

Membership:

- Dorset Council (current chair)
- Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (current vice-chair)
- Dorset Police
- Dorset Local Delivery Unit Cluster, National Probation Service
- NHS Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group
- Public Health Dorset
- Dorset Healthcare University Foundation Trust
- Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal service
- Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
- Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner
- Ansbury (Connexions Provider)

The Partnership Board oversees the development of the Youth Justice Plan, ensuring its links with other local plans.

The YOS Manager reports quarterly to the Partnership Board on progress against agreed performance targets, leading to clear plans for performance improvement. The Board also requests information in response to specific developments and agendas, and monitors the YOS's compliance with data reporting requirements and grant conditions.

Representation by senior leaders from the key partners enables the YOS Manager to resolve any difficulties in multi-agency working at a senior level, and supports effective links at managerial and operational levels.

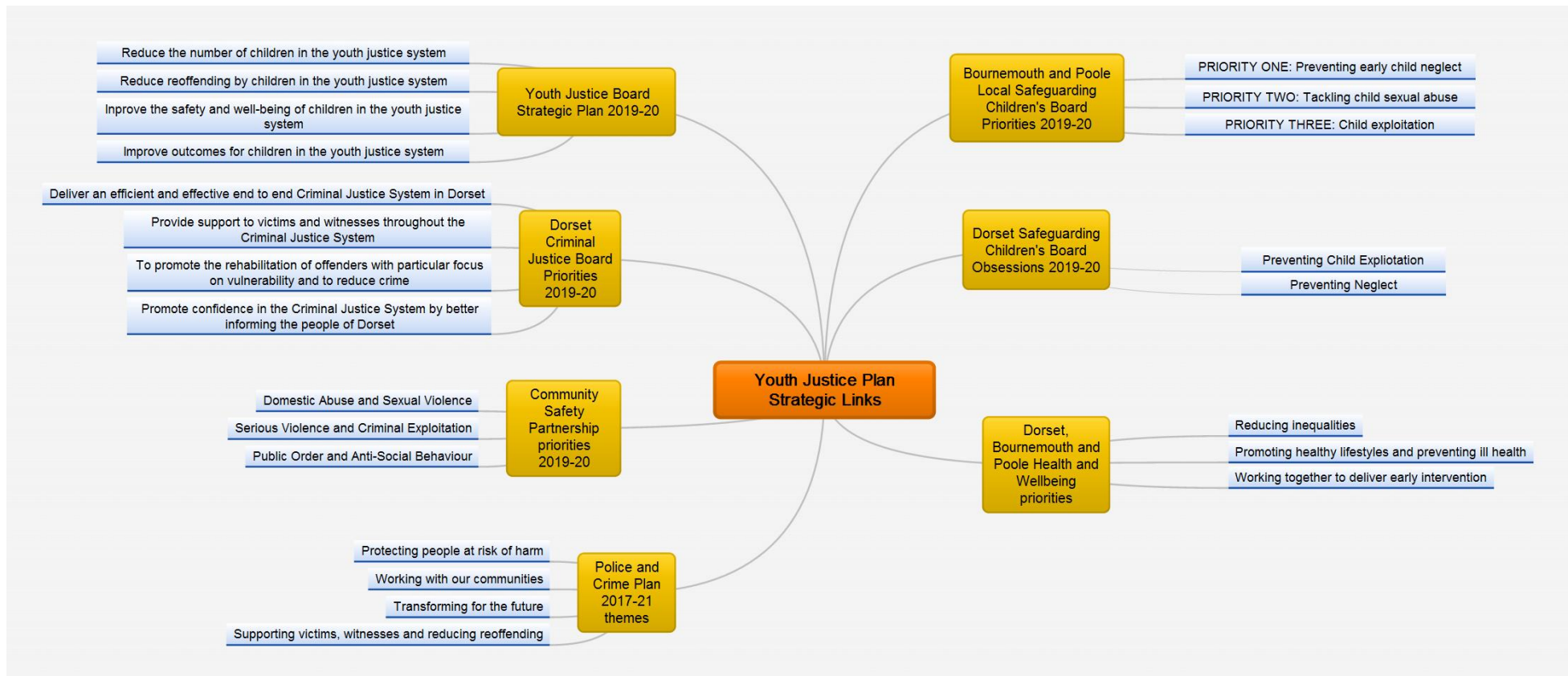
The YOS participates in local multi-agency agreements for information sharing, for safeguarding and for the escalation of concerns.

The Partnership Board oversees activities by partner agencies which contribute to the key youth justice outcomes, particularly in respect of the prevention of offending.

The YOS Partnership Board also provides oversight and governance for local multi-agency protocols in respect of the criminalisation of children in care and the detention of young people in police custody. The YOS Manager chairs multi-agency operational groups for each protocol and reports on progress to the YOS Partnership Board.

The YOS is a statutory partnership working with children and young people in the criminal justice system and the community safety arena. The map on the next page gives an overview of how the YOS fits with other strategic partnerships and plans.

Linking the Youth Justice System to other Plans and Structures



The membership of the YOS Partnership Board enables the work of the Dorset Combined YOS to be integrated into strategic planning for Safeguarding, Public Protection, Criminal Justice, Community Safety and Health & Well-Being. The YOS Manager sits on the two local Safeguarding Children’s Boards, the Dorset Criminal Justice Board, the two Community Safety Partnerships, the pan-Dorset Community Safety and Criminal Justice Board and on the local MAPPA Strategic Management Board.

Partnership Arrangements

The previous section outlined the strategic links between the YOS and the other strategic groups and partnerships. Similar links exist at operational levels, enabling the YOS to integrate and coordinate its work with the work done by partners such as the two local children's social care services, Special Educational Needs services, other criminal justice agencies, and the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services across Dorset.

Safeguarding and Public Protection

As well as participating in Child Protection Conferences and Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) meetings in respect of specific individuals and families, YOS managers also attend MARAC meetings, local Community Safety Partnership operational meetings, local complex needs panel meetings and meetings in respect of early help and Troubled Families activities in the two local authorities.

Child Exploitation

Young people known to the YOS can also be at risk of child exploitation. The YOS Manager co-chairs the multi-agency Children at Risk of or Linked to Exploitation (CAROLE) Tactical Group. A YOS Team Manager has lead responsibility for the team's operational work on child exploitation, supported by a designated Youth Justice Officer in our Dorchester office. The YOS participates in local multi-agency information sharing arrangements and meetings to identify and protect children at risk of exploitation. A seconded YOS Police Officer attends weekly meetings with the Police 'Impact' team to enable effective joint work for children at risk of exploitation.

Reducing Re-Offending

The YOS Manager chairs the pan-Dorset Reducing Reoffending Strategy Group, reporting to the Dorset Community Safety and Criminal Justice Board. Although the group's main focus is on adult offenders, attention is also paid to the youth perspective, particularly for those young people about to transition to adult services, and for the children of adult offenders.

Risk Assessment Panels

The YOS instigates a Risk Assessment Panel process for young people under YOS supervision who have been identified as being at high risk of causing serious harm to others, or of experiencing significant harm themselves. These meetings are attended by workers and managers from the other agencies who are working with the young person. The aim is to agree the risk assessment and devise, implement and review plans to reduce the risks posed by and to the young person.

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

The YOS works with the two local authorities, and with the Police, to agree the best way to respond to young people who have committed harmful sexual behaviour. Some of these young people are also known to the local authority social care service so it is important that we coordinate our work and, where possible, take a joint approach. The YOS and the local authorities use recognised assessment and intervention approaches for young people who commit harmful sexual behaviour.

Preventing Violent Extremism

All relevant YOS staff have received training in raising awareness of 'Prevent'. A YOS Team Manager has lead responsibility for this area of work and attends the pan-Dorset Prevent Group to ensure that our work is aligned with local initiatives. The YOS has sight of the local assessment of extremism risks. The seconded YOS police officers act as a link to local police processes for sharing intelligence in respect of possible violent extremism.

Young people convicted of extremism related offences will be managed robustly in line with the YOS Risk Policy, with appropriate referral to the local MAPPA process and clear risk management plans, including paired working arrangements and support from the seconded YOS police officers.

Safe Schools and Communities Team

The Safe Schools and Communities Team (SSCT) is a partnership between Dorset Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and Dorset Combined YOS. The SSCT plays an important role in preventing offending by young people across Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole. The team provide education, awareness and advice to students, schools and parents. The work of the team is reported to the YOS Partnership Board as an important element of the YOS Partnership's work to prevent youth offending. The SSCT's School Incidents Policy is an important part of local work to reduce the number of youths entering the justice system, helping schools to manage incidents without the need for a criminal outcome.

Restorative Justice and Support for Victims

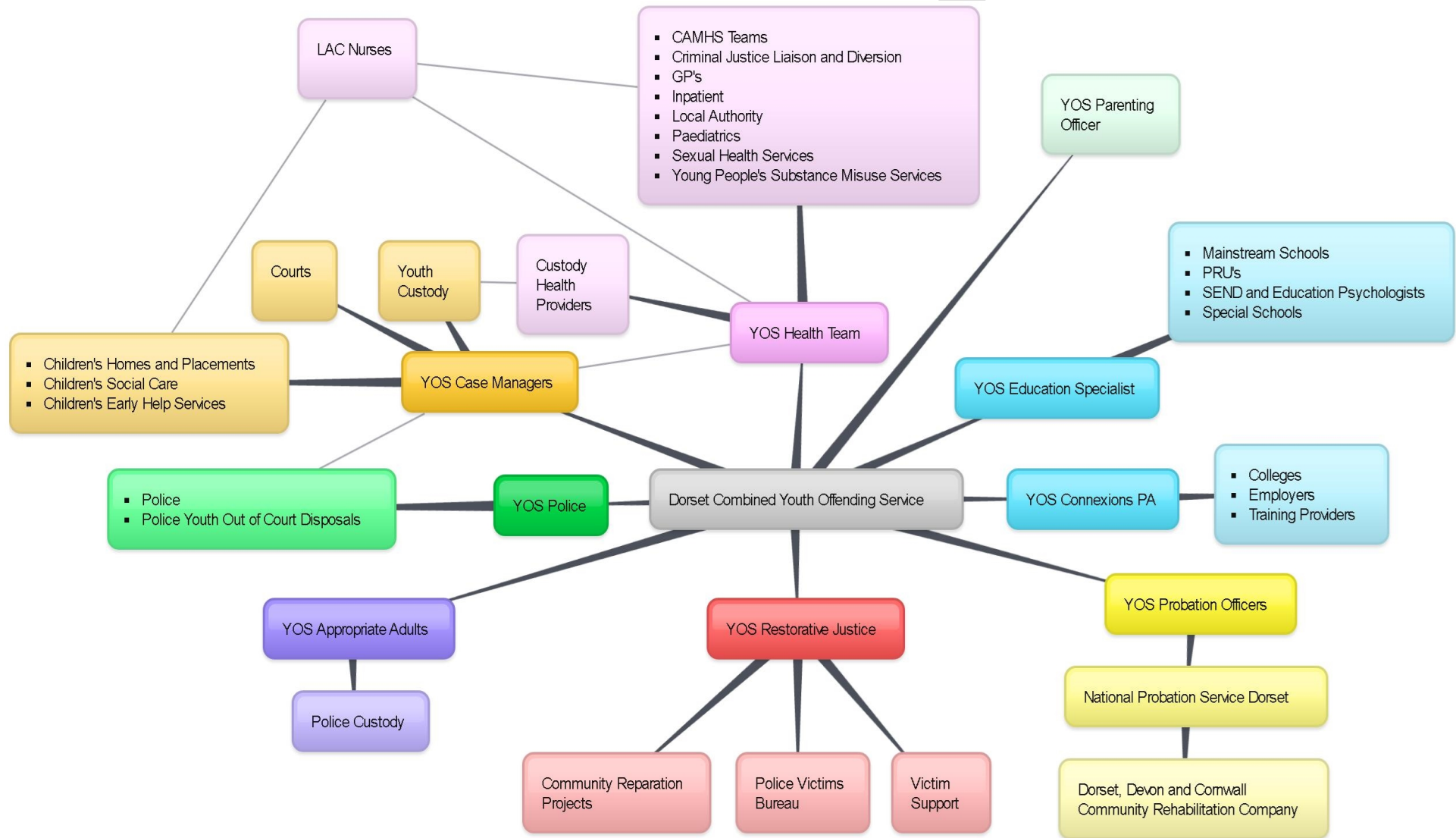
The YOS Restorative Justice Practitioners provide Restorative Justice activities and support for victims of offences committed by young people. The YOS also links with other agencies through the Victims and Witnesses Sub-Group of the Dorset Criminal Justice Board. The YOS plays an important part in delivering the Police and Crime Commissioner's Restorative Justice Strategy for Dorset, taking the lead on offences committed by young people and supporting the development of good practice with other Restorative Justice providers.

Reducing Youth Detentions in Police Custody

The YOS Manager chairs a multi-agency group, reporting to the YOS Partnership Board, which works to ensure that as few young people as possible are detained in police custody and to limit the duration of youth custody detentions.

In addition to the team's involvement in these different partnership groups, there is ongoing daily interaction with other local services. These links are illustrated on the following page:

Operational Links between YOS and Partner Agencies



Resources and value for money

The YOS is funded by the statutory partners, by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner and a grant from the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. Local authority staff are employed by Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council. Other staff are seconded from Dorset Police, the National Probation Service Dorset and Dorset HealthCare University NHS Foundation Trust. Revenue contributions and the YJB Grant form a Partnership budget.

Like all public services, the YOS operates in a context of reducing resources. Ensuring value for money and making best use of resources is a high priority for the service.

Partner Agency	19/20 Revenue excluding recharges	Movement 14/15 to 19/20 – including disaggregation movements between DC and BCP Councils	Staff
Dorset Council	£492,800	-£39,100	
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council	£577,700	£26,670	
Police and Crime Commissioner for Dorset	£75,301	-£78,149	2.0 Police Officers. Funding reduction from 14/15 to 15/16 reflects funding of SSCT directly by the OPCC to the Police, no longer via the YOS
National Probation Service Dorset	£10,000	£6,826	1.5 Probation Officers (reduction from 2.6 up to March 2015, and from 2.0 up to March 2018, with adjusted funding contribution, after national review)
Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group	£22,487	£0	2.8 FTE Nurses
Youth Justice Board Good Practice Grant	£588,708	-£201,706	
Total	£1,766,996	-£285,459	

The YOS has also obtained funding from the NHS England Health and Justice funding stream to support the appointment of 1.0 Speech and Language Therapist, 0.2 Psychologist and 0.4 YOS Nurse. The funding for these posts is routed through the NHS Dorset CCG to Dorset HealthCare University Foundation Trust, which is the employer for these post holders.

NHS England funding has also been secured for 2019/20 to support DCYOS becoming a 'trauma-informed service'. This funding will be used to increase psychology and case-holder capacity during the implementation period.

Use of the Annual Youth Justice Grant 2019/20

The annual Youth Justice Board grant to Youth Offending Teams is provided for 'the delivery of youth justice services'. A number of conditions are attached to the grant. The YOS Partnership Board receives quarterly finance reports from the senior accountant in Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council who oversees the YOS budget. These reports enable the Board to be satisfied that YOS resources are being used for their intended purpose and achieving value for money. This reporting mechanism also enables the Board to be assured that the YOS complies with the YJB Conditions of Grant.

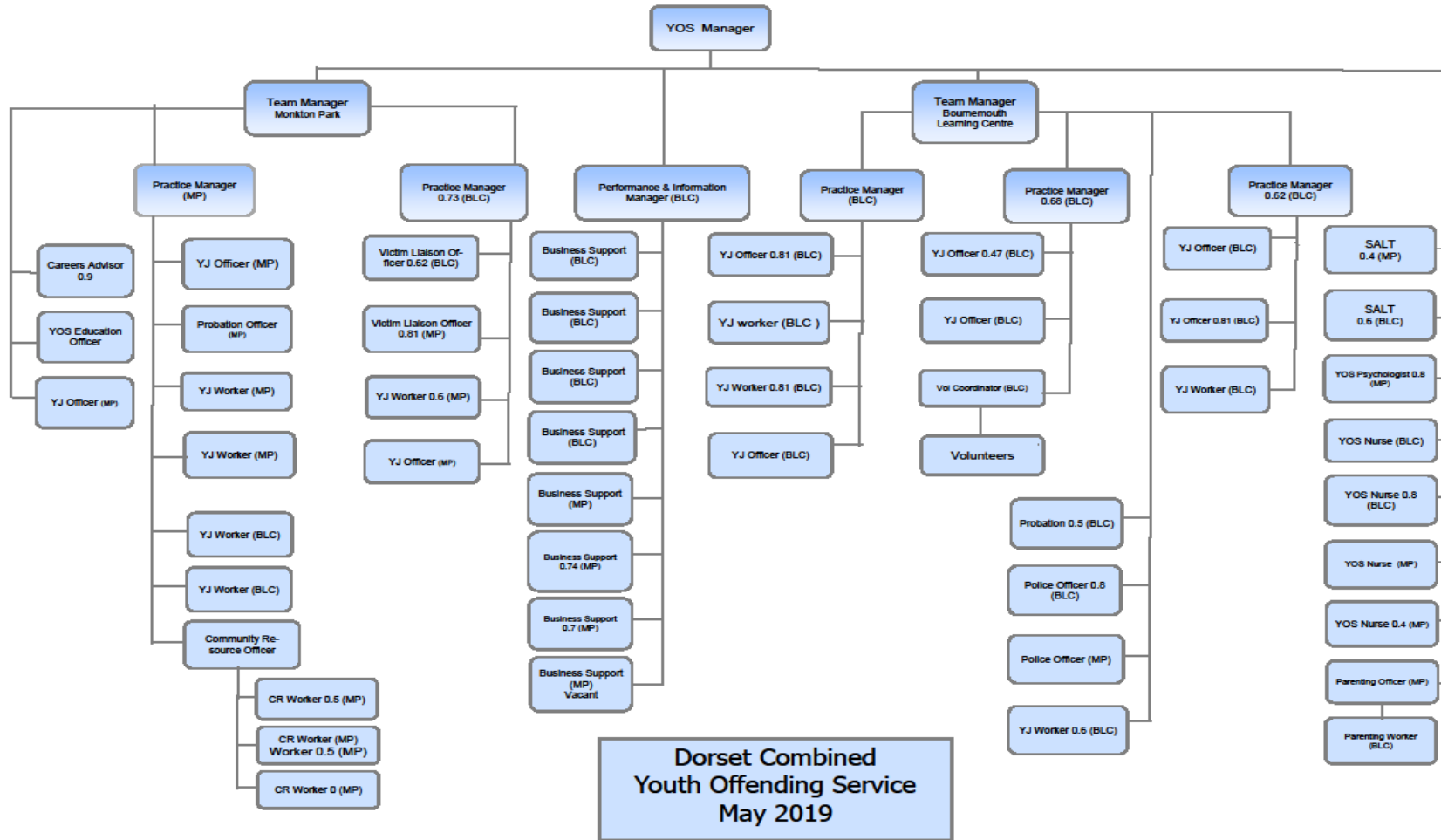
The following table sets out how the YOS uses the Youth Justice Board grant for the delivery of youth justice services:

Activity	Cost
Staff training	£10,200
Appropriate Adult provision and Referral Order panel members	£40,000
ICT licences and maintenance	£26,500
Interpreter Fees	£2,000
Restorative Justice activities	£106,152
Performance and Information Management	£65,000
Court work, Pre-Sentence Reports and Supervision of statutory youth justice outcomes	£263,856
Intensive Surveillance and Supervision	£75,000
Total	£588,708

Staffing information

This chart shows the YOS structure in May 2019. DCYOS meets the minimum staffing requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service - YOS Structure



The table below shows the number of staff and volunteers in the service, by gender and ethnicity.

YOS Staff

	Male	Female
White British	12	42
White Irish	1	0
White Other	0	1
	13	43

YOS Volunteers

	Male	Female
White British	7	20
Black	0	1
	7	21

DCYOS has a stable workforce with high levels of staff retention despite the challenging nature of our work. The stability of our workforce enables the team to develop valuable skills, knowledge and experience.

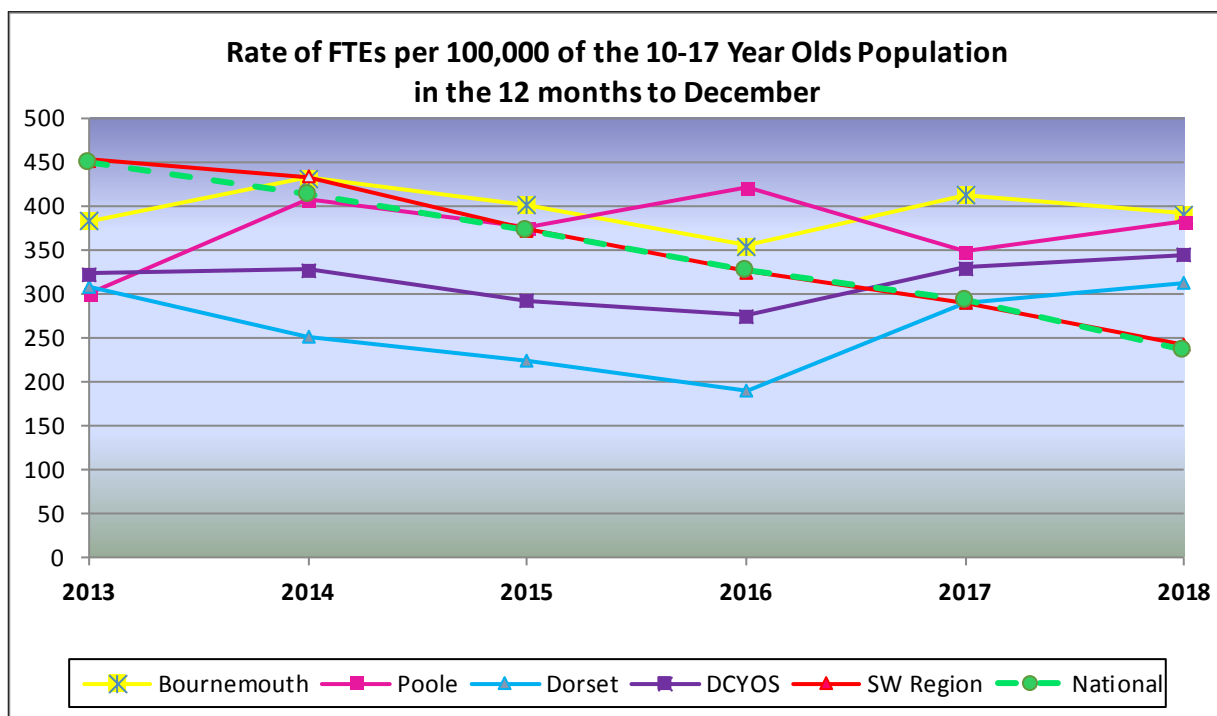
The YOS has had to undertake relatively little recruitment activity, giving few opportunities to change the diversity characteristics of our team, which we recognise is predominantly white and female. When permanent vacancies do arise, external recruitment will be prioritised.

Key Performance Information

Youth Offending Teams continue to be judged against 3 key performance indicators:

- Reducing First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System;
- Reducing Re-Offending by young people in the Youth Justice System;
- Appropriately Minimising the use of Custodial Sentences.

First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System



Over the last two years there has been an increase in the local rate of young people entering the youth justice system. This has been particularly marked in the former Dorset County Council area, which had previously had very low rates of first time entrants. At the same time the national and regional averages for first time entrants have continued to decline.

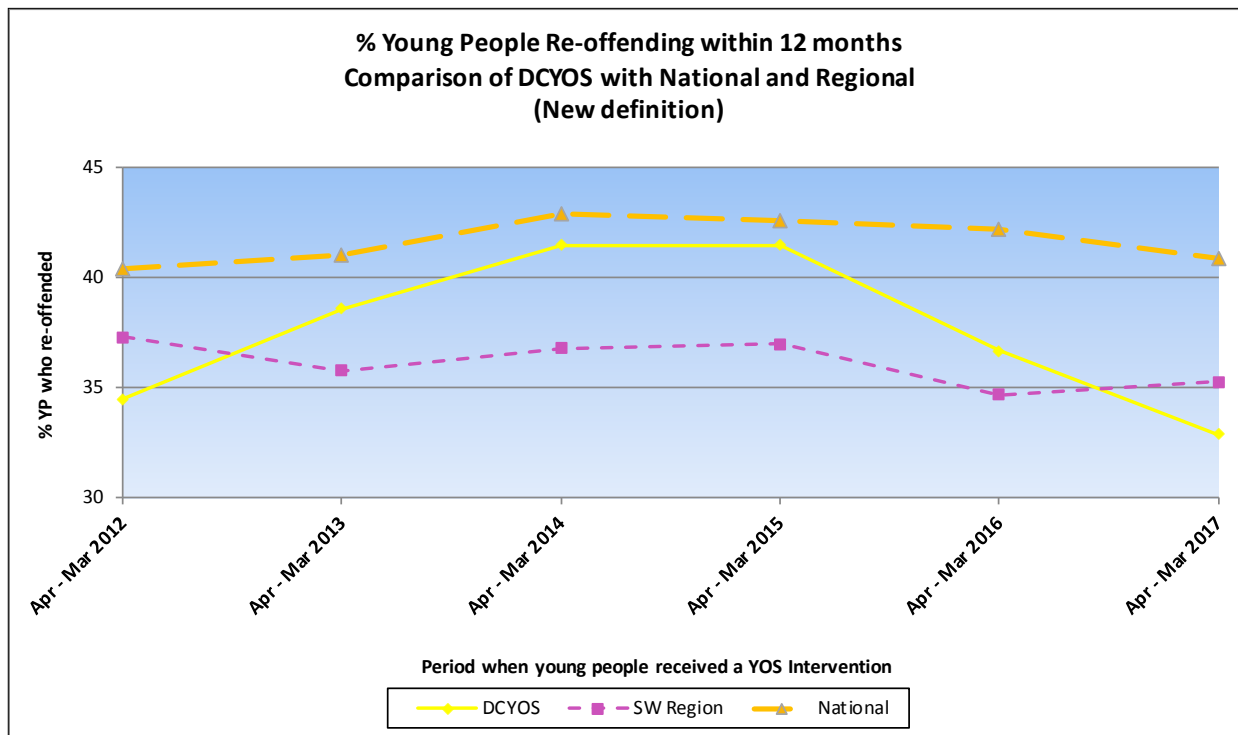
Although fluctuations in the stated rate per 100,000 young people can overstate the actual changes, in terms of numbers of individual young people, it remains a concern that children in Dorset now seem more likely to enter the justice system than children elsewhere.

When a young person commits an offence, Dorset Police work closely with Dorset Combined YOS to identify the best way to respond. Low level offending is assessed so that suitable cases can be dealt with through restorative justice approaches, avoiding the need for a formal outcome. More serious offences, or repeat offending, leads to a formal disposal and therefore to the young person entering the youth justice system.

Analysis of the local first time entrants in 2018/19 shows that 55% received a Youth Caution, which is the lowest level of formal justice outcome. 70% of those receiving a Youth Caution had not previously received a Youth Restorative Disposal. This suggests

that there is scope to increase our use of diversion options such as restorative disposals. DCYOS, Dorset Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner submitted an unsuccessful funding bid in 2018 to support a new diversion option. We are now looking at alternative funding options to ensure that a new diversion scheme can go ahead.

Reducing Re-Offending



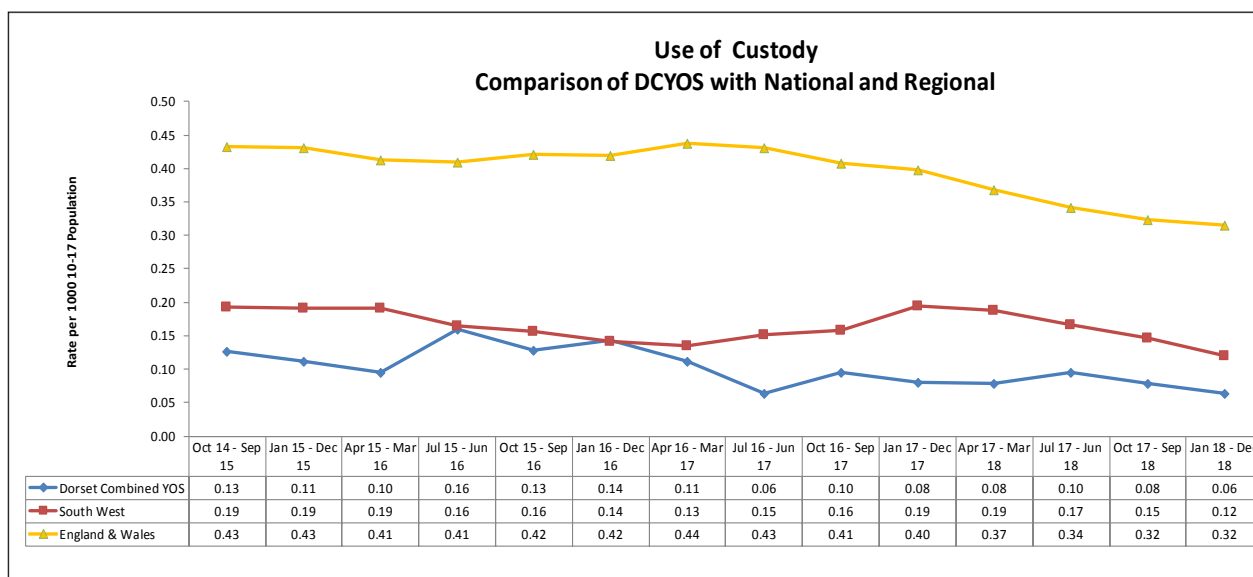
The information on re-offending relates to young people known to the YOS two years ago. This is because time needs to elapse to see whether young people go on to re-offend, after their contact with us, and for the new offending to be processed and recorded.

A change to the reporting arrangements for re-offending, tracking quarterly cohorts of young people instead of annual cohorts, has led to more fluctuation in the figures. It is encouraging that the overall performance of the Dorset Combined YOS areas is better than the national average. Our local reoffending rates at times exceeded the south-west regional performance, although the latest report showed DCYOS outperforming the regional average.

The national performance data provides a total figure for the whole YOS cohort from two years ago. During 2018/19 DCYOS has developed its ability to provide local reporting on reoffending, tracking more recent cohorts and differentiating the data by characteristics like age, gender and care status.

Our local data showed that 10-13 year olds were most likely to re-offend, followed by 15 year-olds. 27% of boys reoffended compared to 18% of girls; but the girls who did re-offend tended to commit a higher number of offences. Children who were in care currently or previously were more likely to re-offend than children who had never been in care.

Custodial Sentences



DCYOS continues to see very low numbers of custodial sentences. Our performance exceeds both regional and national averages and has remained good for a number of years.

A review of the nine young people who received a custodial sentence over the last two years showed that five of them were children in care, three of them were Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic (BAME) and two of them were female. National data shows that children in care and BAME children are more likely to enter custody than other children. Although the numbers are low, and each individual young person has their own specific history, the data suggests the need for further targeted work for these groups.

Like other youth justice services in the south-west, we face a problem with the distance to the secure establishments where young people are held in custody. Young people from our area have been detained this year at Parc, near Bridgend, at Feltham in north-west London, at Medway in Kent and at Oakhill, in Milton Keynes. The YOS assists family members to visit when possible, but the long distances present a challenge for family contacts, for YOS resources and for planning effective resettlement on release.

Achievements and Developments during 2018/19:

Our Youth Justice Plan for 2018/19 set out our strategic priorities, which were designed to address the three main performance measures for youth justice, to respond to national initiatives and to align with other local strategic priorities.

Preventing Offending

Children in Care: in January 2017 we implemented a new multi-agency protocol to reduce the criminalisation of children in care. The protocol continues to be monitored and developed. In the year before the protocol there were 121 police call outs to children's homes across our area. During the first year of the protocol, in 2017/18, there were 51 call-outs. During 2018/19 there were only 21 police call-outs to respond to behaviour in a local children's home, and most of those incidents did not lead to a justice outcome.

Diversion scheme: DCYOS, Dorset Police and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner joined together to make a bid to the Early Intervention Youth Fund to support a local diversion scheme, in late 2018. The bid was unsuccessful but plans continue to be developed and alternative funding is being sought. The need for this scheme is demonstrated by the increased rate of local young people entering the justice system for the first time.

Out of Court Disposals Protocol: a written protocol was agreed between DCYOS and Dorset Police in 2018 to set out the local arrangements for youth Out of Court Disposals. Practice changes have been made to establish weekly meetings between YOS Team Managers and the police sergeant from Dorset Police's Youth Out of Court Disposal team to ensure prompt decision-making and to improve case progression.

Improving the Quality and Impact of YOS practice

Speech and Language: in March 2018 a new post of YOS Speech and Language Therapist commenced, using funding from NHS England. Work has been done during 2018/19 to train team members in speech, language and communication needs for YOS young people and to overhaul all written communications from the YOS to young people. The job share Speech and Language Therapists have also undertaken assessments of children with the most complex communication needs, provided consultation to other team members, and strengthened links with community speech and language services. In February 2019 a pilot scheme was launched for the Speech and Language Therapists to screen all new YOS cases so that needs can be identified and met, and YOS work can be adapted to the child's communication needs. Early results indicate that 80% of young people known to DCYOS have speech, language or communication needs (compared to 10% in the general population).

Education, Training and Employment: the arrival of a YOS Speech and Language Therapist has also strengthened the YOS Education Officer's requests for more flexible or targeted education provision. The Education Officer has developed links with local authority colleagues in 2018/19, particularly in Poole, to support and integrate work to improve provision for and attendance by young people in education.

Building on strengths: team members have been encouraged to prioritise the young person's strengths, making links with positive activities in the community. Some progress has been made in this area but more work is still required.

Child Exploitation: team members have attended training and shared their knowledge to improve our understanding and response to child criminal exploitation, building on previous work with child sexual exploitation. Young people known to the YOS have been identified as being at risk of exploitation, and the YOS has also provided Appropriate Adults for children from other areas who have been arrested in Dorset for 'County Lines' offences. A YOS Police Officer meets weekly with the specialist police team for children at risk of exploitation and the YOS Education Officer is part of the new Children Missing Education group in Dorset.

Parenting support: our parenting workers have increased the engagement of absent parents by allocating a separate worker to each parent. They have also started attending the youth court to support parents and to use the court appearance as an opportunity to build relationships with parents.

YOS Health Team: the YOS Health team now reviews all new YOS allocations to identify young people who have previously been known to the YOS to consider the need for a

health assessment. New liaison processes have been established with the Looked After Children health team to improve joint work for the health of children in care. YOS Nurses have also built stronger links with the four local Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service teams.

Work with police, courts and other services to improve our local youth justice system

Timeliness in local youth justice: the YOS has worked actively with local partners, through the Dorset Criminal Justice Board, to speed up our local youth justice system. Dorset Police reviewed their processes and took actions to reduce delays in case progression, and Her Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service scheduled additional youth courts. DCYOS worked with the Police Youth Out of Court Disposal Team to speed up decision-making and delivery of youth Out of Court Disposals. Dorset Police created a new performance report, in conjunction with DCYOS, to show timeliness at each stage of the youth Out of Court Disposal process so that delays can be better identified and addressed.

Youth detentions in police custody: the number of youths detained overnight in police custody remained similar to the previous year but there was a significant reduction in the numbers remanded (ie charged with an offence, refused bail and detained until the next court sitting). The new remand foster scheme provided an alternative accommodation option for those young people who were remanded.

Speech and Language: the YOS Speech and Language Therapists briefed magistrates on how young people's speech and language needs can affect their behaviour and understanding in court. Speech and language assessments have also helped the YOS to provide advice to courts and police when making decisions about individual young people.

Service User Feedback: a new cross-grade YOS group has worked on improving service user participation, seeking the views of young people, parents and victims to help us improve our service.

Making best use of resources

Assessments: a decision was taken to use our local assessment tool, the DCYOS Brief Assessment, for Out of Court Disposal cases. AssetPlus remains the assessment we use for court orders, and for Out of Court Disposals where there are notable risk indications, such as for sexual offences. The DCYOS Brief Assessment is based on the AssetPlus tool and is proportionate to the short duration interventions which are undertaken for Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions (usually 12 weeks).

Staffing Plan: a staffing plan has been completed which shows current staffing patterns and identifies likely changes and challenges for our service. The plan shows that we have a stable workforce, with good levels of staff retention, but the age profile of the YOS workforce suggests some turnover is likely in the next few years. Succession planning is therefore being developed.

Information reporting: we have developed information reports from our case management system to enable us to identify patterns of reoffending so that we can target our work as effectively as possible.

Out of Court Disposals: a YOS Team Manager led a review of our internal processes for managing Out of Court Disposals to ensure that our work is streamlined and makes best use of our resources.

Learning Review process: in May 2018 the Youth Justice Board withdrew their previous serious incidents reporting and review procedures. DCYOS has developed its own local procedures for serious incident reviews. The new procedures focus on learning for the YOS, with a briefer reporting requirement and a practitioners review meeting to identify learning. Where a multi-agency review is required the YOS Manager will request this via the Local Safeguarding Children's Board or other relevant body.

Inspection reports and learning reviews in 2017/18

HMI Probation implemented a new inspection framework for youth offending teams in June 2018. DCYOS has not yet been inspected in the new framework but we have completed a self-assessment which identified some areas for improvement, as well as applying a new quality assurance procedure for our casework using the new inspection criteria. Actions arising from our self-assessment and from our quality assurance exercises have been added to the YOS team action plan and have informed planning for this coming year.

HMI Probation did not publish any thematic inspection reports relating to youth justice during the last year.

Joint Targeted Area Inspection

In May 2018 there was a Joint Targeted Area Inspection of the multi-agency response to child sexual exploitation, children associated with gangs and at risk of exploitation and children missing from home, care or education in Dorset. The findings from this inspection were published in July 2018, raising concerns about the effectiveness of multi-agency working to identify and safeguard children at risk of exploitation.

The inspectors identified the work of the YOS as one of the 'strengths' of the local multi-agency system, with good systems in place at the point of referral, a good understanding of child protection procedures, well trained staff and effective management oversight. The inspectors commented that 'young people known to the YOS experience good engagement and positive relationships with the YOS staff'.

DCYOS has been actively involved in the development of new local multi-arrangements for Children at Risk or Linked to Exploitation (CAROLE). The YOS Manager co-chairs the 'Tactical Group' which identifies and responds to local issues related to child exploitation.

Learning Reviews

The YOS has participated in two local multi-agency Serious Case Reviews and a multi-agency case audit during 2018/19. Adolescent risk was a common theme in these three cases, involving teenage males who put their own safety and other people's safety at risk. These case reviews showed missed opportunities for intervention before the child reached adolescence; problems with coordination of multi-agency activity and the effectiveness of the lead professional role; and a lack of strategic reviews of the plan for each young person. Learning from these reviews informs the DCYOS priorities for 2019/20, particularly in relation to trauma-informed responses to adolescent risk and more effective multi-agency working.

Service User Feedback

Feedback from the young people working with DCYOS has been positive. 27 young people have completed the feedback questionnaire. All 27 said they felt listened to, and they understood what was required of them for their Out of Court Disposals or Court Orders.

100% answered Yes to the question about being helped to realise that they could make changes in their lives.

22 of the respondents rated the YOS service as 'Good', with the other 5 rating it as 'OK'.

Some of the young people wrote comments about their contact with their YOS workers, such as "gives me advice and helps", "being honest and talking to me", "getting me to explain myself and try to encourage me to not do it again".

The young people were also asked about the aspects of the YOS work which they did or did not like. There was a mixed response to the use of worksheets, with young people tending to prefer talking or watching clips to writing, and some preferences for activities such as cooking or woodwork. These responses help us to design and target our work more effectively.

DCYOS also seeks feedback for our work with victims and our direct work with parents. The response levels have been relatively low, making it harder to draw firm conclusions, though the tone of the responses has been positive.

During 2018/19 we set up a mixed group of YOS staff to review the way we seek service user feedback, using advice from our new speech and language therapist. As well as re-designed feedback procedures we are also piloting focus groups to seek feedback on specific issues.

Emerging issues, and risks to achievement of YOS priorities in 2019-20

National Context

The Youth Justice Board published a new set of national standards for youth justice which took effect in April 2019. The emphasis of the new document, 'Standards for Children in Youth Justice 2019', is on services responding to the young person as a 'child first, offender second'. The new standards were subject to consultation during 2018. There is a greater emphasis on outcomes, with more scope for local flexibility and less prescription about procedural requirements. The standards are accompanied by revised 'Case Management Guidance' documents which do provide more detail and direction.

The Youth Justice Board has also announced a plan for monitoring implementation of the new standards. Youth offending services are required to undertake a self-assessment during 2019/20 to show their compliance with the new standards, and to develop plans next year to address any areas of non-compliance.

Local Context

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) was completed in April 2019. Our three previous 'top-tier' local authorities were replaced by two new unitary authorities – Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council and Dorset Council. DCYOS was established as a 'pan-Dorset' service in 2015 and continues to operate across both new local authority areas.

LGR means that changes are underway in the structures for children's services in the new local authorities, giving a new context for the work of the YOS. All local authority staff in the YOS were previously employed by Bournemouth Borough Council, which ceased to exist at the end of March 2019, leading to a 'TUPE' transfer of YOS and other local authority staff to Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

The current context for youth justice work across Dorset includes an increase in young people entering the justice system, pressure on YOS resources and pressure on other public services. In recent years the young people in the justice system appear to have increasing levels of risk and need which require skilled and intensive responses.

Concerns were identified last year about delays in our local youth justice system. Some progress has been made, working with police and court service colleagues, with process changes agreed and some additional courts scheduled. More work is still needed to achieve a timely youth justice system which sees young people's behaviour receiving a prompt response with a better chance of engaging victims in restorative activities.

We are increasingly aware of the harm caused locally by child exploitation. This takes the form both of local interactions between adults and children, and of children being sent into this area by adults in metropolitan areas to commit offences such as the supply of drugs. When young people from other areas are arrested for 'county lines' offences in Dorset there are significant concerns for the young person's safety when they return to their home area. Colleagues in Dorset Police and our local children's social care services work hard to safeguard these children but are hindered by the lack of a nationally mandated approach to this issue.

Concerns about anti-social behaviour by young people, particularly in groups, have continued at specific locations across our area. These young people often have needs relating to social care, education, emotional health and substance use, which mean they

are also vulnerable to exploitation. Local authority work to safeguard these children and local authority work to control their anti-social behaviour can sometimes lack coordination.

Taking into account the national and local context, and issues identified by team members and partner agencies, the following risks to achieving YOS priorities have been identified:

- Limited access to suitable education provision and post-16 employment and training opportunities for young people working with the YOS
- Lack of suitable care placements for teenagers with significant needs and risks
- Increasing levels of child exploitation and associated violence and harm against young people in our area
- Possible lack of progress in work to speed up our local youth justice system
- Uncertainty over long-term resourcing of the YOS and late Youth Justice Grant allocation decisions which impair service planning
- Impact of the complexity and volume of work on the well-being of team members individually and as a group
- Disjointed local responses to children who are both vulnerable and cause harm or inconvenience to their local community

Strategic Priorities for 2019-20

The strategic priorities for the Dorset Combined YOS align with:

- our three main performance indicators
- the strategic priorities of other local partnerships (such as the Safeguarding Children's Boards, Community Safety Partnerships and the Criminal Justice Board)
- relevant local initiatives to reduce offending, protect the public and safeguard young people
- areas identified for YOS improvement, including feedback from YOS staff and service users
- the emerging issues and risks summarised on the previous page.

The following priority areas will be supported by a more detailed action plan used by the YOS team.

Service Development

- Agree and implement an additional youth justice diversion scheme to reduce the number of local young people entering the justice system for the first time
- Establish DCYOS as a trauma-informed service to improve our response to young people who are affected by their earlier childhood experiences
- Work with the court service and our local youth magistrates to implement a shared review process for young people sentenced to Youth Rehabilitation Orders
- Implement the new 'Standards for Children in Youth Justice 2019' and complete a self-assessment of how we meet these Standards
- Ensure the YOS Health Team is aligned with the new Forensic Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service and with the Clinical Commissioning Group's Local Transformation Plan

Work with police, courts and children's services to improve the way our local youth justice system works

- Enhance our local multi-agency work to reduce the number of young people detained in police custody and the duration of custody detentions by identifying and responding to patterns of young detainees and causes of delays in the custody processes
- Continue local work to improve the timeliness of the local youth justice system
- Work with children's services and criminal justice partners to improve the identification and response to children at risk of exploitation
- Develop pro-active responses to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic children in our justice system to address the increased risk of custodial sentences

- Share the specialist expertise of the YOS Speech and Language Therapist to help ensure improved communications with young people throughout our local youth justice system
- Extend the remit of our local Protocol to Reduce the Criminalisation of Children in Care to include 16 and 17 year-olds living in supported housing projects
- Join with social care and CAMHS colleagues to clarify and implement assessment and intervention pathways for children who show harmful sexual behaviour

Team Development

- Participate actively in changes following Local Government Reorganisation and changes to Local Safeguarding Children's Board arrangements to ensure best use of YOS expertise and resources in the new service structures
- Promote the use of restorative approaches within our organisation and with our service users to enhance team well-being and to increase the number of restorative justice conferences
- Implement actions identified in the YOS Staffing Plan, including measures to improve staff well-being and to strengthen succession planning
- Apply learning from DCYOS Quality Assurance exercises to improve our identification and response to young people's strengths, to prioritise the views of victims and to undertake more effective reviews of assessments and plans with young people on court orders
- Improve YOS Board's oversight of young people's education/training/employment status and of improvement actions taken when necessary
- Use information from the 'Reducing Reoffending Toolkit' to identify groups who are more likely to offend and target YOS resources accordingly
- Review the type of work done with young people to respond to their feedback and to reflect evidence of best practice
- Develop and use new methods of obtaining and responding to the views of service users and stakeholders
- Commission and complete whole service training in trauma-informed practice
- Train specialist YOS staff in the new 'AIM3' model of work with children who show harmful sexual behaviour
- Provide the new national Referral Order training for all current and new YOS case managers and volunteer panel members
- Support YOS managers to continue their learning and application of reflective supervision for team members

Approval

Signatures of YOS Board Chair and YOS Manager

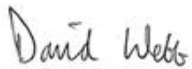
Sarah Parker (YOS Board Chair)
Executive Director People - Children
Dorset Council

Signed:

Date:

David Webb
Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service Manager
Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council

Signed:



Date:

Appendix A – Glossary of Terms

AssetPlus	Nationally Accredited Assessment Tool
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CJS	Criminal Justice System
CSP	Community Safety Partnership
ETE	Education Training and Employment
FTE	First Time Entrant into the Youth Justice System
ISS	Intensive Supervision and Surveillance
IT	Information Technology
LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children’s Board
MAPPA	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
OOCD	Out Of Court Disposals
PCC	Police & Crime Commissioner
RJ	Restorative Justice
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
SSCT	Safe Schools and Communities Team
VLO	Victim Liaison Officer
YJ	Youth Justice
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YOS/YOT	Youth Offending Service/Team
YRD	Youth Restorative Disposal
YRO	Youth Rehabilitation Order



Date of Meeting: 10th September 2019

Lead Member: Cllr Graham Carr-Jones

Local Member(s):

Lead Officer: Diana Balsom

Executive Summary:

The DMT of 27th August 2019 approved the recommissioning approach for Domestic Violence and Abuse support services within the Dorset Council area.

Dorset Council currently commissions both accommodation-based and outreach support to those experiencing DVA. The service ends in April 2020 and cannot be extended.

Previously developed by the Housing and Prevention team in partnership with the District and Borough Housing teams, recent strategic work within the Community Safety Partnership has established that a better response to those impacted by domestic abuse could be achieved by a whole system, Dorset-wide approach. This could possible include co-commissioning DVA services with BCP Council and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC).

However, there are challenges to taking this forward.

Locally BCP Council are currently establishing its DVA intentions and commissioning approach. This in turn impacts on the recommissioning plans for the OPCC high risk service –The Maple Project - an integral partner to Dorset Council's commissioned service.

In addition, nationally, the draft Domestic Abuse Bill sets out a range of commitments likely to have a future impact on the provision and delivery of local DVA services and consideration is being given to following:

- A statutory duty or guidance for local authorities,
- Reporting domestic abuse to statutory agencies
- A requirement for multi-agency working
- Supporting victims with specific or complex needs

Due to these challenges, a flexible recommissioning approach has been developed with stakeholders to address all these variables by responding to both short- and long-term factors.

In the short term the proposal is to recommission a safe and legal 'like for like' service with a number of innovative pilots within it to address the immediate tactical concerns arising from the current approach as follows:

- Work with the OPCC commissioned service (Maple Project) to provide transitional support for people moving between high and non-high-risk services

- Address low referral rates from key agencies
- Work with Children's Services to ensure support for children known to services
- Develop a revised outcomes approach that captures the longer-term success of interventions
- Pilot additional pattern changing interventions at differing stages of the service user journey through services

In order to address the longer-term challenges and in order to be able to flex to change – both nationally and locally – a break clause would be introduced after two years and annually thereafter (two years +one+one+ one-year contract) to allow sufficient break clauses within the contract to:

- align with wider partner's commissioning intentions
- align with revised statutory requirements, and
- allow continuous whole system development work to proceed whilst providing an effective service

Equalities Impact Assessment:

A full draft EQIA has been undertaken as an iterative document to both support this report as well as to inform the process for the development of the whole system work. The report will be submitted to DDAG on 12 September 2019

We are also awaiting confirmation from our Equality Lead on the approach to take for reduction in coverage as a result of LGR.

Budget:

£340k pa currently within the Housing and Prevention commissioning budget.

Total budget over a 5-year period is £1.7m

Risk Assessment:

Having considered the risks associated with this decision, the level of risk has been identified as:

Current Risk: LOW

Residual Risk: LOW

There is considerable member interest in DVA services, and this will be mitigated by taking the proposal to the relevant Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet

Climate implications:

Dispersed models of accommodation will allow staff to be based in a locality reducing some county-wide travel

Other Implications:

Ongoing work with Children's Services will inform the futures service's approach to identifying and referring - where appropriate children known to services.

Recommendation:

The committee is asked to consider the recommissioning approach and recommend Cabinet approve the approach.

Reason for Recommendation:

To allow Member scrutiny of the proposal to inform Cabinet before procurement commences in October 2019.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Stakeholder feedback
Appendix 2 DCC Commissioned DVA service provision report
Appendix 3 Equality Impact Assessment
Appendix 4 Demographic information

Background Papers:

Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) services DMT report Jan 29th, 2019
Domestic Violence and Abuse (DVA) services DMT report Aug 27th, 2019

Officer Contact:

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Email: d.balsom@dorsetcc.gov.uk

Recommissioning of DVA services in Dorset Council Area

1. Introduction

1.1 Dorset Council commissions an Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (Refuge, Outreach, SPOC, Survivor Courses) which is due to end in Jan 2020 and cannot be extended.

The current contract value is £385k pa includes Christchurch (funded via recharge) and the funding available for a Dorset Council area service would be reduced by 11.7% - £340k pa (excl. Christchurch).

1.2 DVA provision is facing considerable change over the next few years – both at a national and local level. This paper sets out how Dorset Council proposes to navigate both tactical and strategic drivers in the recommissioning of services

2. Background

2.1 The current service provides housing, practical, financial and emotional advice and support to any victims of domestic violence and abuse aged 16 and over living in the former Dorset County Council area. This service is provided within the community (outreach) or within specific safe accommodation. This includes male, female and transgender victims with or without children and those living with or separated from the perpetrator. The service is available to all victims regardless of geographical location or tenure and will meet the individual needs of any victims using it.

2.2 The service aim is to increase the safety and protection of victims of domestic violence and abuse in Dorset County and to prevent harm, escalation of abuse and risk. The overall objectives of the service are: -

- To promote and increase safe independent living in the community within various types of accommodation regardless of tenure for individuals and families affected by domestic abuse.
- To provide structured and outcome focused housing related support with goals set for the service user and support to work towards.
- To ensure that risk assessments, safety and support plans with clear outcomes are flexible and made on an individual case by case basis with regular progressive reviews.
- To work with other professionals and processes e.g. health, adult and children's social care, Probation, MARAC, police and legal services to support victims, meet identified needs and improve outcomes.

2.4 The service has previously been developed by the Housing and Prevention team within DCC, in partnership with the District and Borough Housing teams and with input from the Community Safety Partnership (CSP). It is anticipated that the Community Safety and Criminal Justice Group (CSCJB), a sub-group of the Dorset CSP – with a pan-Dorset responsibility - will take a greater strategic role as highlighted further within the report. The CSCJB area covers the Dorset CCG area and has an overview of other provision impacting on survivors and perpetrators of DVA.

2.5 The current provider has provided added value to the contract by:

- leveraging in additional funding for the successful Dragonfly project which provides an innovative support model to rural communities
- developing a refuge for groups traditionally excluded from refuge provision
- developing a dispersed accommodation model to make safe accommodation accessible to wider groups.

2.7 However, analysis of key indicators over the contract period have identified the following areas for development:

- Limitations in refuge as an accommodation solution – capacity issues, sex and gender identity issues, complexity of need
- Support for children within the service
- Referrals agencies and mechanisms – data cleaning vs awareness raising
- Efficacy and targeting of pattern changing

Full performance information is provided within Appendix 1.

3. Current system Issues impacting on the wider DVA picture

3.1 As part of the review of current DVA provision led by the Councils Community Safety Team the following pan-Dorset cross-system findings have been identified:

- The number of people reporting domestic abuse violent crimes locally is on the rise
- The current system centres on crisis support but there is a growing argument for greater focus on prevention and early help
- Some services are being overburdened which is creating blockages in the system and which may be leading to delays in people accessing support
- Risk in domestic abuse is fluid yet the system is largely rigid, responding to thresholds
- Whilst the system works for the majority, there are clearly cohorts of people who are struggling or choosing not to engage in local services
- There is a wide range of offers, however, they are difficult to understand and navigate, and to evidence whether they are meeting need
- The whole commissioning landscape is complex and often done in isolation
- The system hinges on one-off funding opportunities which doesn't facilitate a longer term, sustainable approach
- The number of children affected by domestic abuse is hard to quantify, however, it appears to be a significant issue locally
- Therapeutic support for children affected by domestic abuse is largely limited and often bolted on to provision rather than being at its core
- Locally partners have enjoyed success in creating and developing innovative programmes so learning and best practice needs to influence future delivery

3.2 To address these issues and provide a better response to those impacted by domestic abuse, a whole system approach needs to be developed which can in part be addressed through the recommissioning of this service.

3.3 However, there are a number of challenges which cannot be addresses through the service. It is hoped there will be an opportunity to co-commission services with other partners including BCP Council and the OPCC. BCP do not as yet have an agreed cross-council DVA offer and therefore it is unlikely that they will be in a position to agree next steps early enough to inform Dorset Council current commissioning timeline.

3.4 This delay will also impact on the recommissioning of the Maples Project, a police-based high-risk service (funded by the OPCC) that works across the whole of Dorset. The Maple Project works collaboratively with the current DC DVA service and would need to factor in changes to the DVA services in the BCP area before reconfiguring their high-risk response.

4. Additional national drivers impacting on the development of DVA services

4.1 DVA Bill 2019

The draft Domestic Abuse Bill sets out a range of commitments likely to have a future

impact on the provision and delivery of DVA services – particularly accommodation-based provision.

Consideration is being given to a statutory duty on lead authorities to convene a multi-agency Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board, which must perform certain specified functions, which will be outlined and explained in statutory guidance. These are to:

- Assess the need and demand for accommodation-based support for all victims and their children, including those who require cross-border support.
- Develop and publish strategies for the provision of support to cover the locality and diverse groups of victims.
- Make commissioning / de-commissioning decisions.
- Meet the support needs of victims and their children.
- Monitor and evaluate local delivery
- Report back to central Government

In addition, there is an expectation:

- To report domestic abuse to statutory agencies
- For multi-agency working
- To support victims with specific or complex needs

4.2 Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy

4.2.1 MHCLG committed within the VAWG Strategy to deliver a better response for victims of domestic abuse with complex needs and acknowledges the multiple barriers to accessing support experienced by some victims, including BAME and LGBT victims. The VAWG Strategy made a clear commitment to address violence against BAME, LGBTQ, women and girls and other marginalised groups. Future statutory guidance will make clear that local areas should ensure that the needs of isolated and marginalised communities are considered in assessing need and commissioning support for domestic abuse, including services that serve both a local and national need.

4.2.2 Learning at a national level from Local Authorities, Police and Crime Commissioners, specialist providers, and sector partners, and working across Government, indicates that the proposed approach will help local areas ensure that all victims and their children will be able to access and receive the support they need when they need it.

This includes:

- responding to the needs of diverse groups, including BAME, LGBT, disabled, male, young (aged 16-18) and older victims, offenders, people of faith, those presenting with complex needs (including those with mental health and/or substance misuse needs), those with no recourse to public funds, insecure immigration status, or from isolated and/or marginalised communities, as well as their children (including adolescent male children).
- helping ensure the provision of support in accommodation-based domestic abuse services that serve both local and national need. For example, we know that some services for victims from marginalised communities, people of faith, BAME, and LGBT victims provide critical support to victims from across the country.

- helping ensure that victims and their children who have no choice but to move away from their local areas, communities and friends to escape their perpetrator to stay safe receive the support they need.

4.3 Accommodation

In addition, MHCLG are currently consulting on a new delivery model for accommodation-based support that supports the DVA Bill. This includes the introduction of a statutory duty on local authorities to provide support that meets the diverse needs of victims of domestic abuse and their children, ensuring they have access to provision that is right for them. The consultation closes on 2nd August 2019.

4.3.1 *Whilst reference is made to additional funding, the amount and the timing is unclear.*

5. Engagement work

To support the development of the proposal, a number of engagement activities are currently underway.

5.1 Stakeholder Feedback

A recent multi -agency stakeholder event provided an opportunity to discuss barriers and solutions from both a contract and system perspective. Feedback from the event confirmed the original barriers and gave direction for future development work and support for the proposed contract approach, as listed further within the report. Full feedback is attached (appendix 2)

5.2 Service User feedback

A co-produced questionnaire has been distributed to current service users to gain feedback on their experiences of the current commissioned service, as well as their experiences of navigating the system.

Full feedback is expected in August 2019 and will help shape both spec development and future development work.

5.3 Member engagement

Member engagement is being directed by the portfolio holder for CSP. The report will go before Adults Scrutiny Committee on 10th September 2019 which will allow any recommendation to go forward to Cabinet on 1st October 2019.

Any changes to DVA services are potentially contentious and attracts public and press attention. It is essential to keep all members apprised of changes to allow them to respond to any constituent enquiries and a member briefing is being developed to provide key messages.

5.4 Provider Engagement

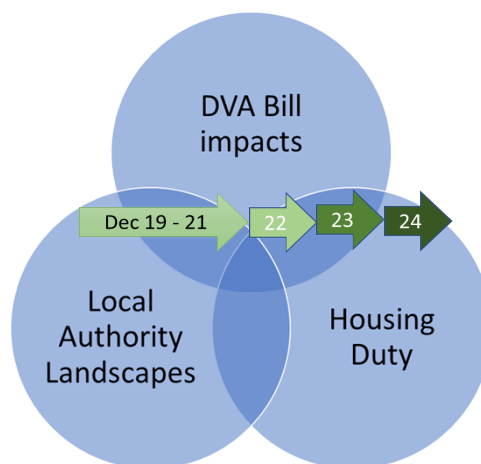
A provider engagement was held on 10th July and was been advertised to all those on Segment 2 of the DCF (Innovation segment) which is the procurement vehicle for adults and community services.

The event gave providers an indication of the direction of travel and the innovation we will expect to see in a recommissioned service.

It is essential that a wider provider base is recruited onto the framework to support the future whole system approach which will underpin future commissioning.

6. Proposal

- 6.1 The impact of the external changes on Dorset's DVA services is unprecedented. It is challenging to develop an approach that can address all these variables and we need to respond to both short- and long-term factors:



- 6.2 In conclusion, the long-term strategic factors partners will need to address are:

- Complex Commissioning Landscape including varying timescales
- Findings from strategic work on Whole Systems
- Additional duties and potential funding as a result DVA Bill becoming an Act

- 6.3 The shorter-term tactical priorities which can be addressed through the recommissioning of this service are to:

- Work with the OPCC commissioned Maple Project to develop an approach to supporting people caught between high and non-high-risk services
- Address poor referral rates from key agencies by increasing awareness of services as well as adapting the way referrals are reported.
- Work with Children's Services to ensure they are aware of those children known to services

- Develop a measurable outcomes approach that captures the longer-term success of interventions
- Pilot additional pattern changing interventions at differing stages of the service user journey through services

Whilst the above initiatives work will contribute to identified gaps in service provision, they will also contribute insight and evidence to support the wider development work.

- 6.4 The proposal is therefore to recommission a safe and legal 'like for like' service with a number of innovative pilots within it to address the tactical concerns arising from the current approach.
- 6.5 The new service will cover the Dorset Council area only so will no longer receive the Christchurch recharge. Applying the 11.7% funding reduction onto the accommodation required by the new service, the numbers of units required will reduce by 2 – leaving a total requirement of 16.
- 6.6 15 of these 16 required units are currently provided in Refuge provision via a service level agreement with two registered social landlords. The service level agreement can be transferred to any new provider if required. There would be an expectation that any new provider would grow the number of units via a dispersed model of accommodation.
- 6.7 In order to be able to flex to change – both nationally and locally – we propose to commission the new service for two years + one + one + one-year contract.
- 6.8 This will allow sufficient break clauses within the contract to address the long-term strategic factors to:
- align with wider partner's commissioning intentions
 - align with revised statutory requirements, and
 - allow continuous whole system development work to proceed whilst providing an effective service

7. Indicative Timeline

- Feedback from people who use services August 2019
- Report to DMT - 27th August 2019
- People Scrutiny Committee – 10th September 2019
- Cabinet – 1st October 2019
- Tender live – November 2019
- Formal award – January 2020

Domestic Violence and Abuse service in Dorset

- Service commences April 2020
- On-going future pan- Dorset system development work led by CSP for the duration.

DVA Stakeholder Event - Summary Feedback July 2019

Barriers previously identified	contract solutions	System solutions
<p>Limitations in refuge as an accommodation solution – capacity issues, sex and gender identity issues, complexity of need</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of outreach/joined up working for people with complex needs (mental health and addiction) • Introduce dispersed model of accommodation (already underway) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction of DVA Bill will introduce a national data set to evidence best practice re: accommodation -based solutions
<p>Support for Children –</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop outcomes for Children within DVA services • Awareness building on healthy relationships, DVA etc • Trauma and emotional support made available to children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint working – strategic and operational – CS, ASC and Health • Jt commissioning between CS and ASC • Sustainable funding for children’s support – not one- off grants – a consistent offer • Shared assessment process for children • Include children’s outcomes in system work • Development of key flags for educational staff
<p>Referrals agencies and mechanisms</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplify referral process and improve awareness of the referral process • Data cleaning to understand real picture of referrals – how many agencies encourage self -referral? • Understand DPOC referrals to other supporting agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simplified pathway including referral process
<p>Key information sharing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve feedback to referrals • Improved offer to children in DVA services – CYP unlikely to refer into services where there is limited support for the child/children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Automatic referrals from agencies CRM processes i.e. MOSAIC • Online referral process • Single integrated referral process • One stop shop for victims

Efficacy and targeting of pattern changing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistent offer of pattern changing programmes as well as earlier interventions such as Freedom Programme • available across Dorset • Should be available more than once – behaviour change needs consistent input • Improved follow up of attendees • Currently only available for people who have left an abusive relationship – need to introduce courses for those still in relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interventions should be made available at schools • Differing organisations and outcomes measurement – needs lead organisation to pull together • Offers for perpetrators – anger management classes • Shared intervention with D&A treatment
Duties and expectations of DVA Bill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop improved accessibility for people with LD, MH and OP • Data cleaning, understanding demand and need • Links with safeguarding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to understand what is included • Improve understanding of Bill for MH and LD health services – needs development and planning • Other interventions for perpetrators • Develop understanding of multiple and complex relationship circles
Responding to VAWG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer assertiveness and self-esteem within prevention work • Safeguarding issues vs DVA response – not seeing males as victims of DVA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure links to workstreams focussing on sexual exploitation and modern slavery
Impacts of housing consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing awareness of DVA in housing work 	
New barriers id'd		
Measuring outcomes/success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing an outcomes response 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links to DVA Bill national picture
Schools and Education		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DVA awareness offer within schools – not just one-off events

System issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved handoffs between differing parts of the system Transitional support for those in-between Maple and DVA services Links with MARAC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responding to changing risk in a manageable way
Determine need/demand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently demand-led 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links to DVA bill national work Understanding Dorset's picture
Support for children as perpetrators		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop picture of need in Dorset and evidenced base responses
Understanding Early Help and Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links between Adverse Childhood Experience and poor outcomes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Links to wider objectives of DVA Bill Links to parental conflict work
Reluctance to report to police / association of agencies as a risk to escalation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole system work – partnership working with agencies to develop a positive picture of intervention
Can service provision respond to increased demand from improved referral approach?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data development for Dorset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aligns with DVA Bill national picture

Full notes from event:

Problem Statements Workshop - Problems & Barriers:

1. Limitations in refuge as an accommodation solution – capacity issues, sex and gender identity issues, complexity of need

- Outreach services can work effectively with people with complex need (mental health/addiction) but it needs more time to develop relationship
- Have one consistent offer by one organisation for all DVA services and leads on DVA across victims/perpetrators/children – Co-commissioning
- Refuge only meets limited number of victims needs
- If people could agree to engage in substance misuse treatment (and the REACH service did outreach) could we make it easier for them to access mainstream provision, or do we need something separate?
- Include family intervention service as part of the DPOC

2. Support for Children

- Trauma/emotional support needs to be available to children of all ages
- Support around children needs better 2-way communication/joint working between DVA services & CS (Social care & FPZ)
- Support for children often grant funded e.g. BBC Children in Need, lottery funded. Data may be available from providers regarding outcomes
- Outreach in schools: awareness raising of DVA to both staff & pupils
- Children & adults to commission together
- Increasingly seeing children becoming perpetrators of DVA – big gap in support (needs to fit in with APVA strategy)
- Better partnership working between services to support DVA victims & children, e.g. liaison between DVA worker, HV/SU & FPZ when a family comes to a refuge
- Joint Commissioning – wide ranging service to support victims, perpetrators and children – Joined up working
- Share assessments with children’s services
- CYP services are unlikely to refer into a service where there is limited support for the child

3. Referrals agencies and mechanisms

- Need to ensure that key partners are not only aware of referral pathways but are actively using these
- Simplified referral process
- Could there be referral mechanisms in other services' case management systems, e.g. being able to do this direct from MOSAIC?
- Lack of feedback to referring officer/individual
- Referrals – Needs to be clearer pathway for agencies
- Attend team meetings & promote the service
- Better understand of Early Help and Early Intervention
- Online referral with P&S consent, name & tel no, look at Live Well Dorset Approach
- Due to complex childhood trauma experiences victims reporting abuse have issues responding to services (especially police) and though response become seen as the risk and the perpetrator – See DHR
- How many people/services ask people if they are experiencing DVA to start the process of referral? GP/Doctor/Work/Sexual Health Clinics/Counsellors?
- Can we make referral much simpler for professionals? Online referral meeting with patient consent
- Single integrated approach, ongoing CPD, Police – single pathway across Dorset
- Single Pathway aligned Strategic direction, BCP/Dorset, learning culture
- Raising Awareness – can capacity cope?
- Promotion of new services with key agencies so they know how to refer
- Need to have simple one stop for victims to understand
- Many agencies encourage self-referral – maybe ask the question 'how did you find out about this service?' to make the link to support more accurate data

4. Efficacy and targeting of pattern changing

- People may need to attend more than once (research suggests it takes several attempts to change behaviour) Needs to be available at several points
- Consistent offer of pattern changing programmes
- Share intervention with schools key – consent should not get in the way
- Robust assessments from the offset, Information its often not what it seems
- Freedom programme and pattern changing (freedom programme precedes pattern programme as a programme that assists clients with identifying abuse and unhealthy relationships
- Better follow up of referrals & linking in with CSC re outcome, e.g. engaged or not engaged!
- Can we provide some form of treatment/support that looks at both substance use and DVA at the same time?
- Need consistent offers across county
- Delivery of course is Pan Dorset but by different organisations needs/organisation responsible for organising the delivery and measuring outcomes
- PC it only for people who have left the relationship. Awareness programmes also required for others
- Fairness to access for all courses is required across county for victims and perpetrators

5. Duties and expectations of DVA Bill

- Include anger management courses for perpetrators
- Improve accessibility for people with LD, mental health issues and older people
- Long term commitment to DVA perpetrator programme on part of a universal offer – VPLU
- MH & LD health services understanding if role includes new DVA Act responsibilities. Need joined up development and planning.
- DVA from people not living with the victim including complex and multiple relationship circles

6. Responding to VAWG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure links establish with workstreams focussing on sexual exploitation and modern slavery • Offer assertiveness and self-esteem sessions within prevention work • DSAB – into DVA & LD (draft) identified issue with overuse of safeguarding response vs. DVA response and not seeing male victims as DVA
7. Impacts of housing consultation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are they trained enough to potentially identify and ask questions for DVA
8. Additional Queries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and education • Links with MARAC? • Positive recently at system within the Dorset Care Record • One lead integrated team skill link with DVA as a key process – would tick the box, look at the Doncaster model • Victim & perpetrator, e.g. inappropriate relationships including with children related to victimisation and abuse • Capacity vs coercive, control – key issue in LD • Mate crime and Friday night friends (friend abuse) in LD population including those assessed as having capacity • What are your outcome qualitative objectives? Outcome star model. In Poole the outcome model is used in refuge, pattern changing and family intervention • Limitations of system based on scores on a risk assessment when we know risk is fluid and can change quickly • How will we measure success? Value? Value for Money? • How do number of referrals equate to estimated need? What is the capacity of this service?

Strategic and Tactical Solutions Workshop

We have identified the follow key tactical areas to address in the service going forward. How can we address these?

1. Improving referrals from key agencies

- Easier referral process that reflects time constraints/skills/priorities of agencies and the commissioned service completes the risk assessment (Safe Lives) and appropriate next steps. Professional don't know where to go for information (DFY is not easy to navigate and most outside of FC don't think to look here)
- Make it simpler – raise aware of how to do
- Number of self referrals probably reflects the fact that services are giving clients choice about accessing services
- Training for front-line staff
- Standardised information self-referral form
- Simpler pathway for referrals
- Sharing of key information regarding risk, can be confusing as to how this can be shared and collated, MARM, MARAC, MASH etc.
- Awareness raising with housing providers, shared training events, not just once – needs to be ongoing programme

2. Improved links for children identified within services

- Regular link discussion meetings between DVA service workers and FPZ and health & education etc (e.g. low-level local MARAC approach)
- GP monthly safeguarding children meetings – link FPZ in, and 'frail' adults – link Adults services in
- Specialist services to do dash risk assessment
- Co-locate a team of adult and children workers.
- Ensure work with children is stored with those working with adults and vice versa
- What links are we wanting to improve – links to FPZ's/CSC or community links
- How are outcomes for children monitored?
- Multi-disciplinary, school-education nurses and children's services and any other relevant organisations
- Earlier identifications of signs by key staff
- Healthy relationships training jointly delivered

3. Developing an evidence base for pattern changing interventions

- Bournemouth university to lead on a research project
- Also need an agreed approach to measuring outcomes for all services delivering programmes and a central point for collating these and reporting on impact.
- Potential funding from a university
- Commission a partner to collate information at beginning, through and at the end
- Need standard IT system
- Local evidence base? Needs analytical support
- Need to be able to keep in touch with clients for a period after closing cases to track outcomes
- Use current research and see what works and use this
- Wellbeing rating sales – pre and post intervention and follow up 6 months or longer
- Track cases over a longer period. Feedback as part of contract monitoring

4. What are we missing?

- National and local data sets required
- Information sharing agreement across statutory and voluntary services needs promoting so people are aware they can share in relation to DVA
- Whole family approach
- Standardised IT system
- MARAC is it working? this needs to be looked at alongside this piece of work
- PPN, a process, needs to be appropriate, sent to relevant agencies

Approaches to development work to support a future contract model:

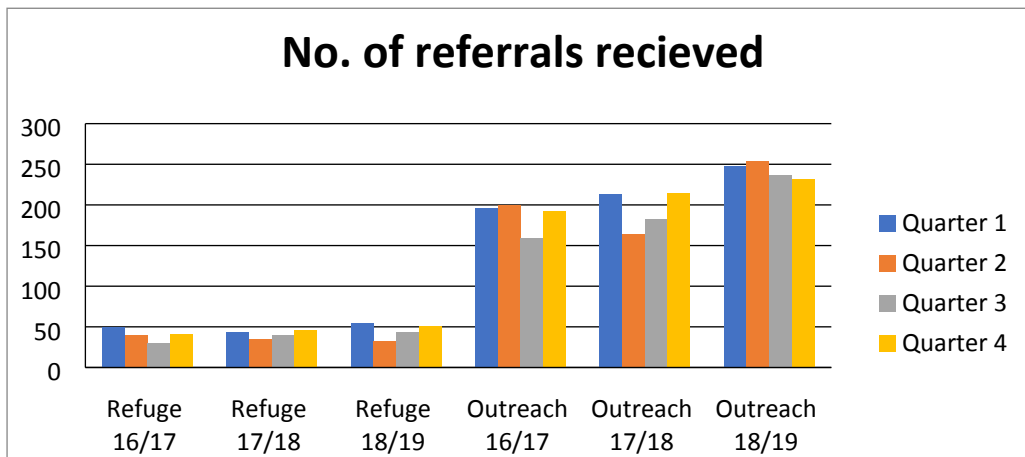
1. Who should be involved?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• CMHT• Hospitals• Drug & alcohol services• Need to re-procure new contract. as soon as contract is procured need to start looking at longer term. Jointly commissioned (needs to be part of current project plan.• Frontline provider staff to get clear picture of how things work on the ground. Coproduced.
2. How do we link up?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Single IT system/central database
3. How do we integrate approaches?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that agencies are aware of overall aim but also clear on how their workstream fits the whole• Single service regardless of risk scoring
4. Funding and commission collaboratively
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint commissioning of services
1. Giving survivors a voice in development?

DCC DVA commissioned provision Performance Highlights 2018-19

Referrals Received

The number of referrals received during the reporting period of 01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 was **1154**.

The graph below shows total referrals received per quarter since the service began:



Of the **1154** referrals received:

- 183 were referred for refuge - the service had 81 refuge spaces available.
- 102 referrals were either not suitable for the service, they declined support, or they failed to arrive.

All agencies involved with the client were contacted to ensure an alternative support package could be offered.

There were 971 were referrals for outreach support.

95% of all outreach referrals received some form of outreach support within community enabling those people to stay in their homes.

There was a significant spike in refuge referrals for June 2018, this may have been due to the Football World Cup which was on during the same month

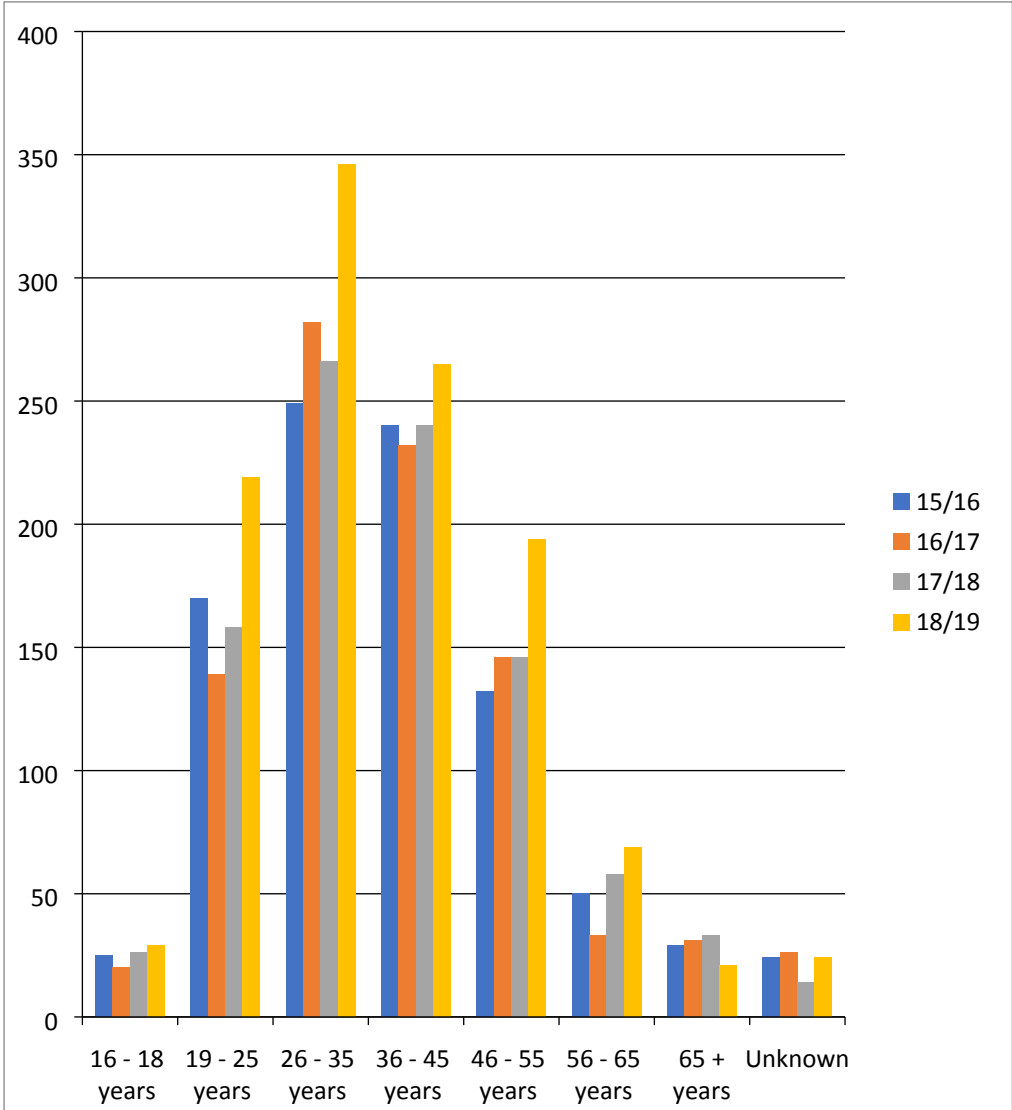
- 1028 were female (89% of referrals)
- 126 were male (11% of referrals)
- 2 were transgender.

126 referrals for men were received, an increase from 54 referrals in 17/18 which only equated to 6% of referrals. The figure for 18/19 is slightly below the national average that is 13.2% (Mankind)

- 1000 x White British
- 61 x Unknown *
- 38 x White Other / European / Irish
- 28 x Mixed Other
- 13 x Asian British / Indian
- 7 x Black British / African
- 7 x Gypsy / Traveller

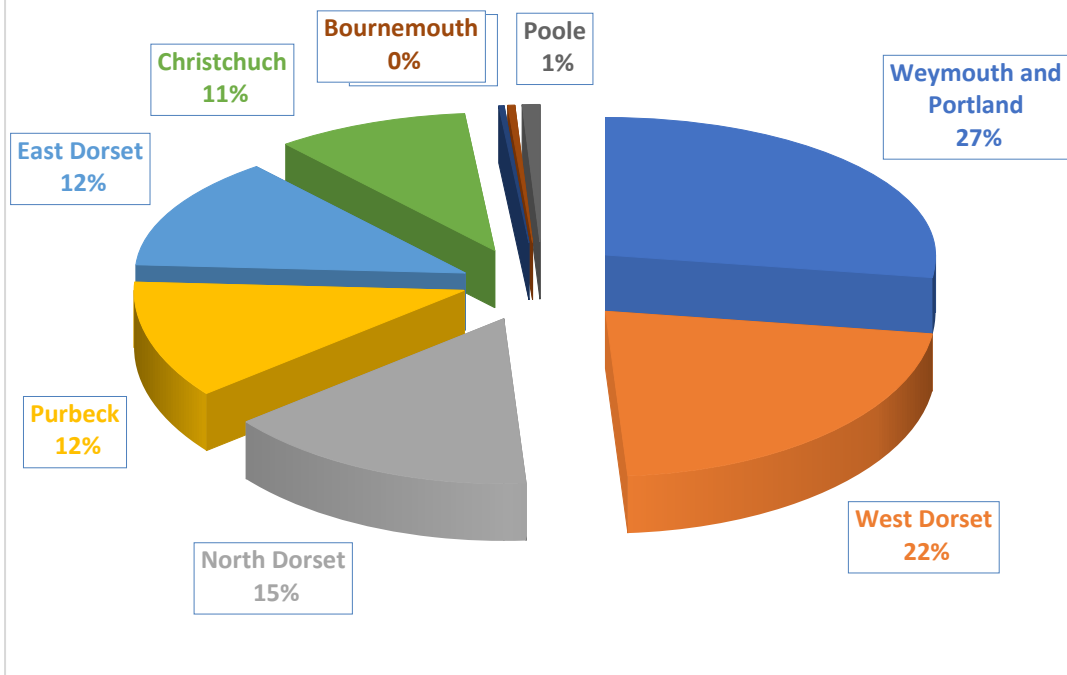
- 973 identified themselves as heterosexual
- 163 unknown or refused to answer
- 16 identified themselves as lesbian / gay
- 2 identified themselves as bi-sexual

Age ranges of clients referred for the total number of referrals for this reporting period

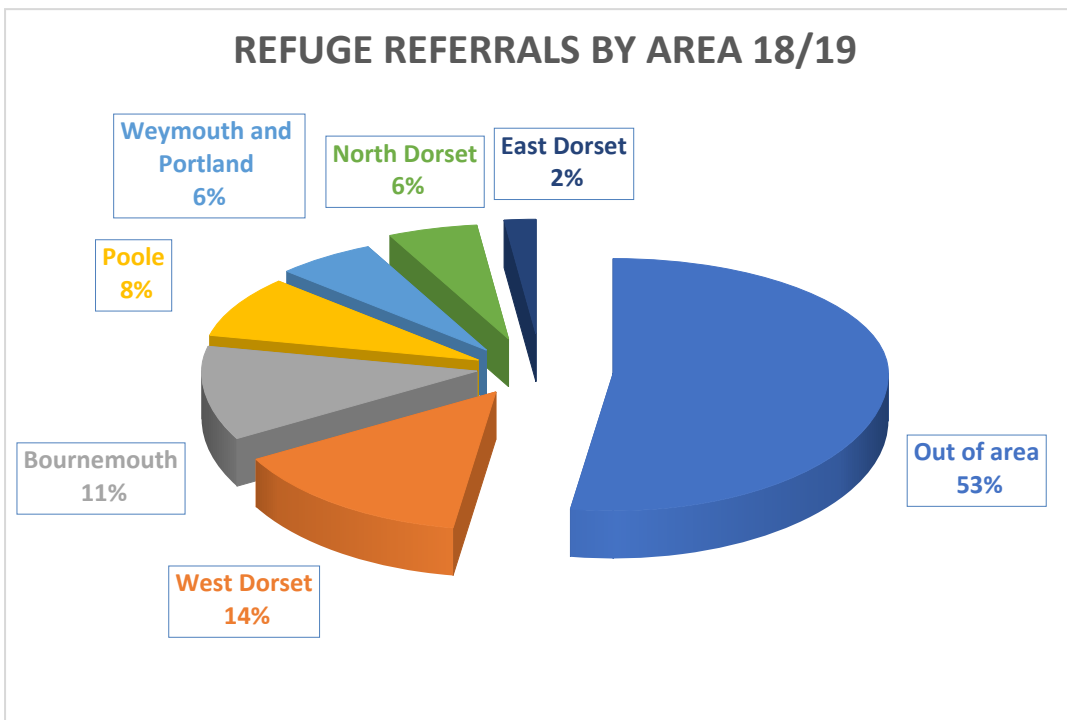


The table shows a breakdown of figures to **outreach** per area for the year.

OUTREACH REFERRALS BY AREA 18/19



REFUGE REFERRALS BY AREA 18/19



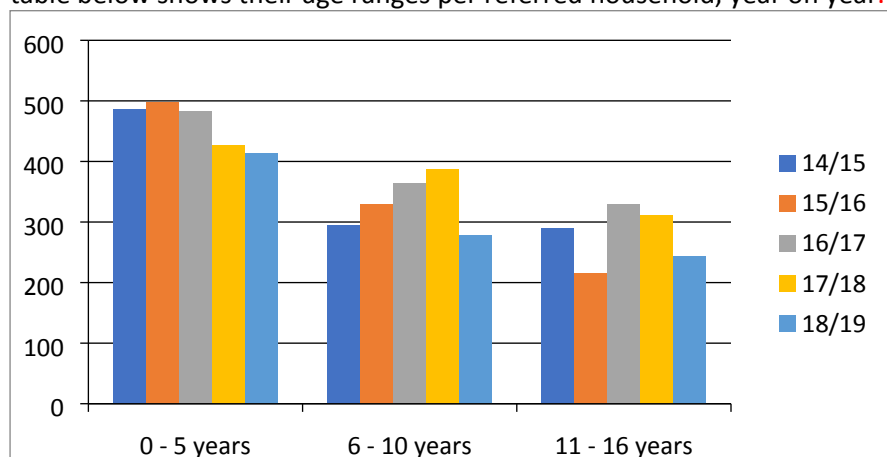
53% of referrals for refuge were from out of area, whereas in 17/18 referrals from out of area was 63%.

The table below shows the hotspots by individual postcodes of where the clients live within Dorset for this reporting period. We have highlighted those areas where there is an increase of more than 10% in green and a decrease of 10% in amber.

Postcode	Referrals 17/18	Referrals 18/19
DT4 - Weymouth	116	162
BH23 - Christchurch	66	113
Out of Area	80	97
DT1 - Dorchester	43	83
DT11 - Blandford	67	63
BH20 - Wareham	48	62
DT3 - Surrounding villages of Weymouth	61	62
BH21 - Wimborne	50	57
DT6 - Bridport	43	49
BH1- BH15 - Bournemouth & Poole	35	48
DT5 - Portland	36	43
BH16 - Purbeck	19	41
DT2 - Surrounding villages of Dorchester	28	39
BH19 - Swanage	21	39
BH22 - Ferndown	29	31
Not known	62	29
SP7 - Shaftesbury	31	29
DT10 - Sturminster Newton	15	25
SP8 - Surrounding villages of Shaftesbury	20	25
DT9 - Sherborne	34	22
BH31 - Verwood	12	14
DT7 - Lyme Regis	10	7
DT8 - Bedminster	9	7
BH24 - Ringwood	6	5
BH17 & BH18 - Broadstone	0	2
TOTAL	941	1154

Children

The total number of children (excluding pregnancies) currently known to the service is **937** and the table below shows their age ranges per referred household, year on year.

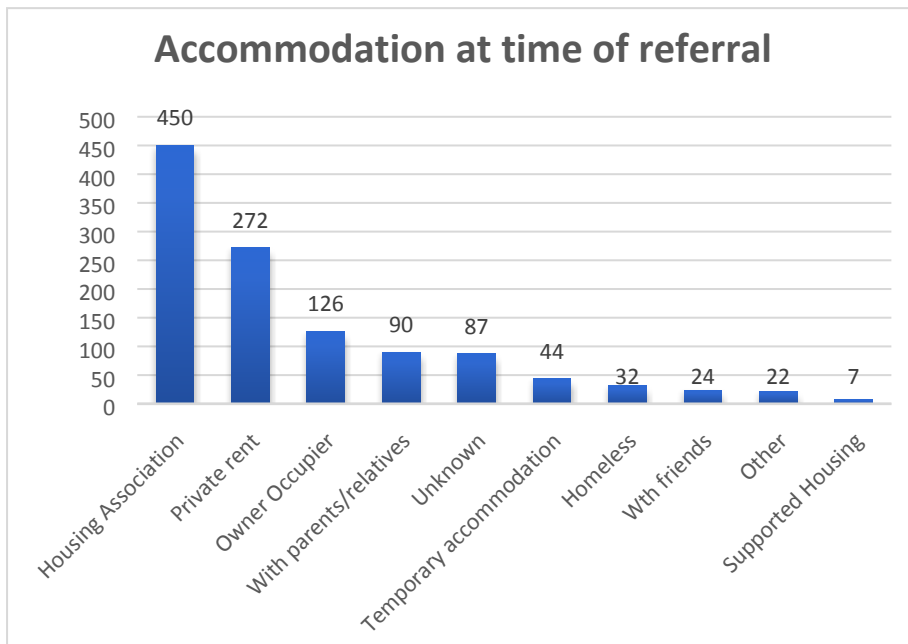


Children between the ages of 0 - 5 years continue to be the highest age range known to the service. There has been a decrease of children across all ages this year, a decrease of 16%.

There continues to be little referrals from agencies who work directly with children and their families equating to only 7% of all of our referrals into the service.

These figures do not include all the children referred to the CYPDAA and are just those reflected within the **1154** clients referred to the Integrated Services.

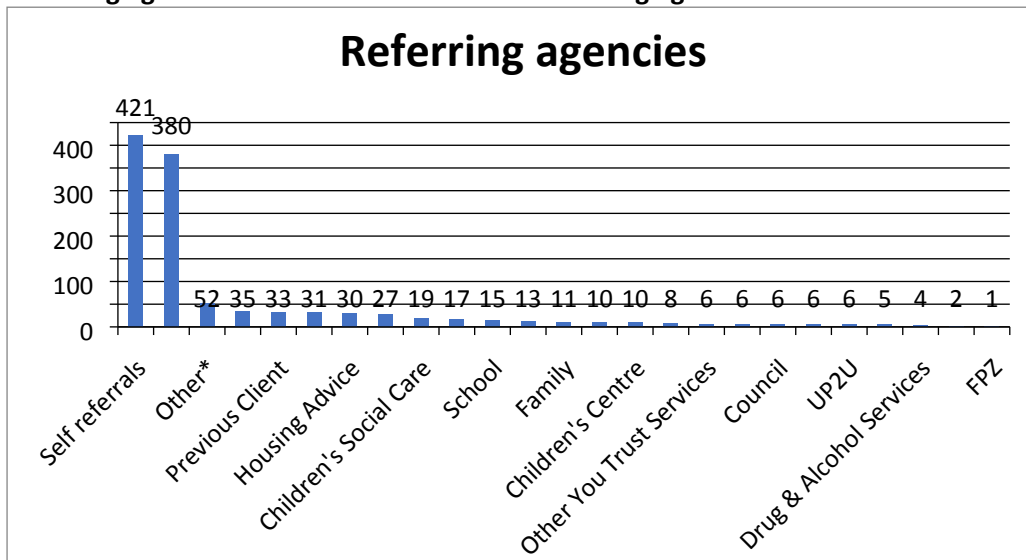
Accommodation at time of referral



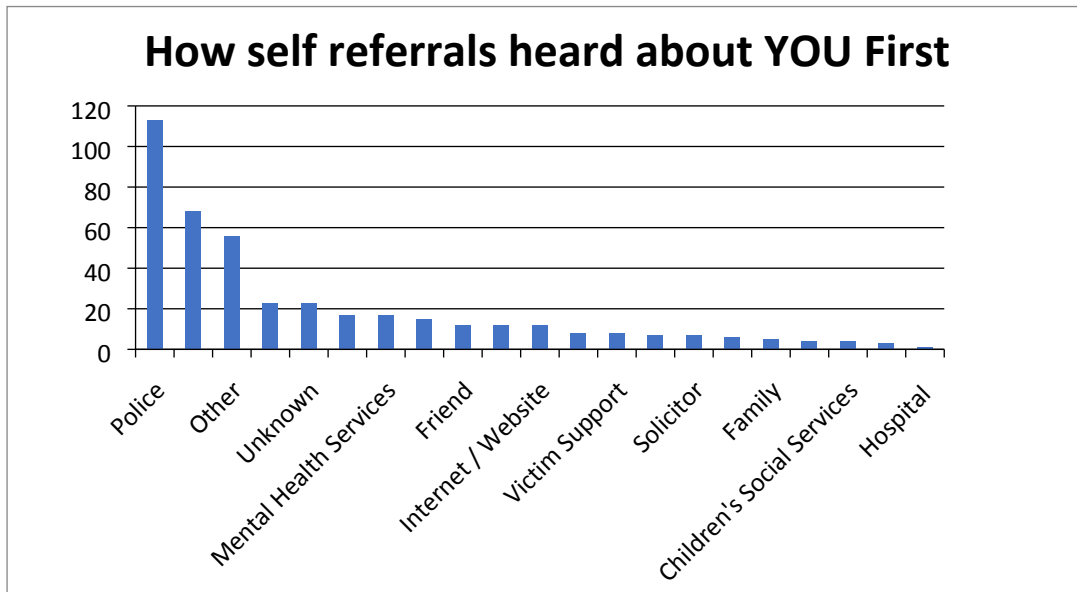
* Other = Prison, Hotel, Army, Shared Accommodation, Hostel, Refuge, Caravan and Sofa Surfing

39% of referrals were residing in a Housing Association property when referred to the service and only 6 referrals were from a housing association.

Referring agencies for all referrals received



**The majority of 'Other' referrals come from Domestic Abuse services out of area, predominantly looking for refuge space.*



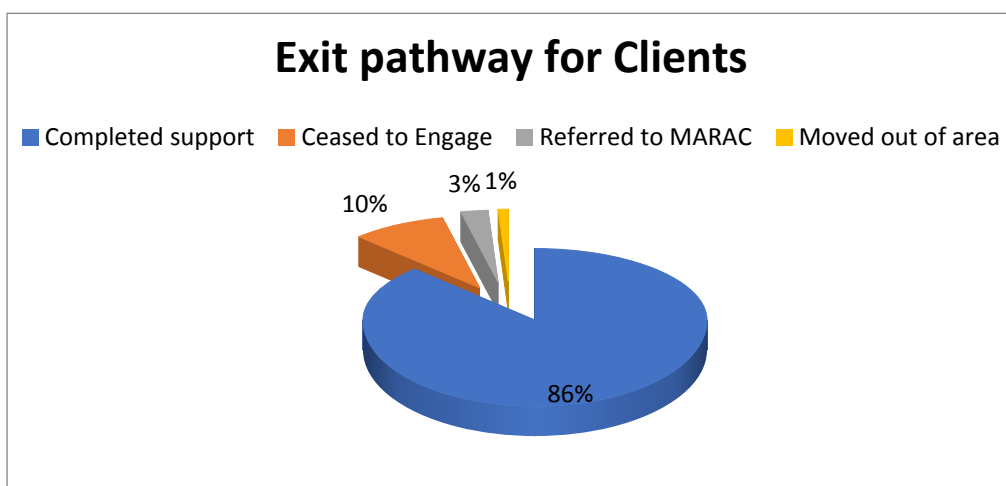
Safeguarding, MARAC and MARMM

There were **0** Adult Safeguarding referrals and **7** Children Safeguarding referrals made within the last year. (This does not include when the service contacts the MASH for support and guidance) during this year.

The service raised 5 adult and 7 child incident reports where safeguarding was not necessary.

35 MARAC referrals were made by You First during the reporting period.

3 MARMM meetings were organised where You First chaired the meeting.



Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Before completing this EqIA please ensure you have read the EqIA Guidance Notes

Title	Recommissioning Domestic Violence and Abuse services in Dorset		
Date assessment started:	09.08.19	Version No:	2nd Draft
		Date of completion:	

Type of Strategy, Policy, Project or Service:

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Existing:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Changing, update or revision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New or proposed:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please explain):	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is this Equality Impact Assessment (please put a cross in the relevant box)

Internal:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	External:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Both:	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Members of the assessment team:	Ian Grant, Kay Wilson- White, Lucy Johns (tbc)

Step 1: Aims

<p>What are the aims of your strategy, policy, project or service?</p> <p>Dorset Council commissions an Integrated Domestic Abuse Service (Refuge, Outreach, SPOC, Survivor Courses) which is due to end in April 2020 and cannot be extended. The current contract value is £385k pa (incl Christchurch), £342.7k pa (excl. Christchurch)</p> <p>The service ends in April 2020 and cannot be extended so needs to be recommissioned.</p> <p>The current service provides housing, practical, financial and emotional advice and support to any victims of domestic violence and abuse aged 16 and over living in Dorset County. This service is provided within the community (outreach) or within specific safe accommodation.</p> <p>This includes male, female and transgender victims with or without children and those living with or separated from the perpetrator. The service is available to all victims regardless of geographical location or tenure and will meet the individual needs of any victims using it.</p> <p>The overall objectives of the service are: -</p>

- To promote and increase safe independent living in the community within various types of accommodation regardless of tenure for individuals and families affected by domestic abuse.
- To provide structured and outcome focused housing related support with goals set for the service user and support to work towards independence.
- To ensure that risk assessments, safety and support plans with clear outcomes are flexible and made on an individual case by case basis with regular progressive reviews.
- To work with other professionals and processes e.g. health, adult and children's social care, Probation, MARAC, police and legal services to support victims, meet identified needs and improve outcomes.

In addition to the above, the recommissioned service will be tasked with some innovation pilots to:

- identify how best to support children known to the service but not to Children's Service
- develop pattern breaking workshop at different stages of a service users' journey through services
- ensure a seamless handover between high and less high-risk services

What is the background or context to the proposal?

Dorset Council needs to recommission the integrated domestic abuse service with a view to starting the new contract in April 2020.

The Council's intention is to commission a like-for-like service which is safe and legal whilst development work is undertaken to respond to the external drivers. These are the DVA Bill and whole systems work.

The recent DVA Bill is likely to introduce changes to how we develop services in the future and is likely to add a statutory duty for local authorities. In addition, the ongoing whole systems work is seeking to improve outcomes for people experiencing / affected by domestic abuse by working across partners to create a seamless approach which ensures people get the right support at the time they need it.

However, the timing of both the Bill and the whole systems work does not allow us to alter the current model of support hence the need to recommission a 'like for like' service that is safe and legal whilst we develop our response to both.

The current service provides support to the former Dorset County Council area under an 11.7% recharge arrangement. The new service will cover the Dorset Council area only and the funding is therefore reduced by 11.7%, from £385k to £340k.

The current contract requires 18 units of accommodation. Using the 11.7% guide, this will reduce the number of units required for the new service by 2 – to 16 units.

15 units are currently provided via a service level agreement between two registered social landlords and the current provider. These SLAs are able to transfer to a new provider if required.

We will require a new provider to increase the number of units by at least one to provide an equal per capita number of units of accommodation. The preference will be for a

dispersed model of accommodation, in line with the guidance provided to support the new DVA Bill.

Step 2: Intelligence and Communication

What data, information, evidence and research was used in this EqIA and how has it been used to inform the decision-making process?

- Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse Consultation and Draft Bill – January 2019
- 'Thinking Whole System' Domestic Abuse Services in Dorset - October 2018
- DVA commissioned services monitoring reports

What data do you already have about your service users, or the people your proposal will have an impact on?

Please see app 1 for demographic information on people accessing the current service in 2018/19.

What engagement or consultation has taken place as part of this EqIA?

- Service user consultation is underway to inform the service specification
- Wide stakeholder consultation has been undertaken including Children's Services, Health, Public Health, Police, OPCC, Housing and safeguarding
- Children's pathway work is scheduled for September and will inform the spec/ service development
- Provider consultation has been undertaken which has included a range of provider from small to large VCSE organisations

Is further information needed to help inform this proposal?

The information below will be necessary to support a wider EQIA on a whole system approach allowing some baseline indicators

- further demographic information from the OPCC high risk services for those accessing support who are not referred to the DC commissioned service or who were unaware of the service
- national indicators for uptake of DVA services by trans, gender fluid and gender non-binary groups
- national indicators on impact of DVA on disability groups
- demographic information on the make-up of national Refuge population
- impact on DVA on different religious groups nationally to identify particular 'at risk' groups
- National indicators of DVA prevalence in LGBTQ groups
- National evidence of impact and prevalence of DVA in uniformed services

How will the outcome of consultation be fed back to those who you consulted with?

Results of consultation and engagement are routinely shared with consultees. The primary role of the feedback is to inform service specification development to ensure that feedback results in tangible change and impact.

Step 3: Assessment

Who does the service, strategy, policy, project or change impact?

- If your strategy, policy, project or service contains options you may wish to consider providing an assessment for each option. Please cut and paste the template accordingly.

For each protected characteristic please choose from the following options:

- Please note in some cases more than one impact may apply – in this case please state all relevant options and explain in the ‘Please provide details’ box.

Positive Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups • Significant positive impact on a small proportion of protect characteristics group
Negative Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disproportionate impact on a large proportion of protected characteristic groups • Significant disproportionate impact on a small proportion of protected characteristic groups.
Neutral Impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change/ no assessed significant impact of protected characteristic groups
Unclear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough data/evidence has been collected to make an informed decision.

Age:	<i>Positive impact</i>
What age bracket does this affect?	<p>All ages are impacted by DVA. However, the current service sees peak referrals from the 26-35-year-old women followed closely by the 36 -45 age range.</p> <p><u>National Evidence</u></p> <p>http://www.safelives.org.uk/spotlight-1-older-people-and-domestic-abuse</p>
Please provide details:	<p>From the outset, providers are expected to provide a service to all people with protected characteristics including those experiencing domestic abuse at all ages.</p> <p>Older people (aged 65+) affected by domestic abuse are much less likely to seek support. According to population data Dorset has an older population of between 18% and 29%. Domestic abuse doesn't stop once someone reaches the age of 65, yet only 3% of older people are accessing local outreach support services.</p> <p>The Isolated Communities Engagement Project (ICEP) project was developed in response to the findings in Dorset that referrals to the current service were not representative of the demographics across the county.</p> <p>The purpose of this project (which is now well established) was to improve engagement from harder to reach communities to ensure all people affected by domestic abuse have access to the same help and support. Early findings from this project include;</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in awareness of domestic abuse within organisations i.e. over 450 champions; • an increase awareness of domestic abuse within communities through ‘befrienders’ • an increase in the number of referrals to the current service from people living in rural locations; • An increase in the number of men referring into the current service. <p>The revised service will have an emphasis on improving referral rates for older people and this will be tracked through performance monitoring.</p>
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Disability:	Positive impact
<p>Does this affect a specific disability group?</p>	<p>Disabled women are twice as likely to be victims of DVA and people with disabilities are likely to endure DVA for a longer period of time before seeking support.</p> <p><u>Link to national evidence</u></p> <p>http://www.safelives.org.uk/knowledge-hub/spotlights/spotlight-2-disabled-people-and-domestic-abuse</p>
<p>Please provide details:</p>	<p>From the outset, providers are expected to provide a service to all people with protected characteristics including those experiencing domestic abuse how live with a disability.</p> <p>The Isolated Communities Engagement Project (ICEP) project was developed in response to the findings in Dorset that referrals to the current service were not representative of the demographics across the county.</p> <p>The purpose of this project (which is now well established) was to improve engagement from harder to reach communities to ensure all people affected by domestic abuse have access to the same help and support. Early findings from this project include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in awareness of domestic abuse within organisations i.e. over 450 champions; • an increase awareness of domestic abuse within communities through ‘befrienders’ • an increase in the number of referrals to the current service from people living in rural locations; • An increase in the number of men referring into the current service. <p>Wheelchair accessible refuge is available and outreach provision is available to all groups regardless of disability.</p> <p>Information regarding the service is available in easy read and work has been undertaken by People First Dorset to promote awareness to people with learning disabilities.</p>

Gender Reassignment & Gender Identity:	Positive impact
Please provide details:	<p>The service has an innovative approach to working positively with gender issues, including the use of non-binary language. Two referrals identified as transsexual in 2018/19. We do not have national data against which to compare this.</p> <p><u>Link to national evidence</u></p> <p><u>http://www.safelives.org.uk/knowledge-hub/spotlights/spotlight-6-lgbt-people-and-domestic-abuse</u></p>
Pregnancy and maternity:	<i>Positive impact</i>
Please provide details:	<p>Pregnancy can sometimes be a trigger for the start of DVA or an increase in severity. Both refuge and outreach provision provide support to women who are pregnant as well as those who are mothers with accommodation tailored fit the needs of parents with children. The service is linked into local Health Workers, Children's Services, GP services and schools.</p> <p>Around half of the children known to the service are between 0 and 5 years old.</p> <p>The new service will be promoted more widely to agencies working with under 5s in response to low referrals rates.</p>
Race and Ethnicity:	Positive Impact
Please provide details:	<p>People from a BAME community accessing outreach varies in different parts of Dorset. For example; 8% of all referrals to outreach in Dorset county (above local average) are classified as BAME whereas, only 1% in Poole (below local average).</p> <p>Referrals for 2018/19 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1000 x White British • 61 x Unknown • 38 x White Other / European / Irish • 28 x Mixed Other • 13 x Asian British / Indian • 7 x Black British / African • 7 x Gypsy / Traveller <p>As the Refuge population is mainly from out of county, it will not reflect the demography of Dorset.</p> <p><u>Link to national evidence</u></p> <p><u>http://www.safelives.org.uk/spotlight-4-honour-based-violence-and-forced-marriage</u></p>

Religion or belief:	Positive
Please provide details:	<p>From the outset, providers are expected to provide a service to all people with protected characteristics including those experiencing domestic abuse from all backgrounds.</p> <p>The Isolated Communities Engagement Project (ICEP) project was developed in response to the findings in Dorset that referrals to the current service were not representative of the demographics across the county.</p> <p>The purpose of this project (which is now well established) was to improve engagement from harder to reach communities to ensure all people affected by domestic abuse have access to the same help and support. Early findings from this project include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in awareness of domestic abuse within organisations i.e. over 450 champions; • an increase awareness of domestic abuse within communities through 'befrienders' • an increase in the number of referrals to the current service from people living in rural locations; • An increase in the number of men referring into the current service.
Sexual orientation:	Positive
Please provide details:	<p>There is currently little or no evidence to draw out any conclusions regarding the prevalence of people affected by domestic abuse who identify as LGBT in Dorset.</p> <p>However, an independent refuge (run by the current service provider) is providing support to people in same sex relationships impacted by DVA.</p> <p><u>Link to national evidence</u></p> <p>http://www.safelives.org.uk/knowledge-hub/spotlights/spotlight-6-lgbt-people-and-domestic-abuse</p>
Sex:	Positive Impact
Please provide details:	<p>Whilst women are far more likely to be victims of DVA than men, there is a growing proportion of men seeking support.</p> <p>Men in Dorset are much less likely to seek support. According to the ONS CSEW, between 2013 and 2016, 65% of domestic abuse victims in Dorset were female, with 35% being male.</p> <p>Dorset populations indicate a 49% / 51% split in demographic, yet, only 11% of referrals into specialist domestic abuse outreach services are from men. slightly below the national average that is 13.2% (Mankind)</p>

	<p>This is a 5% increase from 2017/18 indicating that the service has been successful in increasing awareness (via the ICEP) and making the service more accessible to men, and is</p> <p>The number of referrals rec'd by the service in 2018/19 are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1028 were female (89% of referrals) • 126 were male (11% of referrals) • 2 were transgender. <p>Information from the Maple Project will be an important indicator of whether this % split is evidenced in the local high-risk service.</p>
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Marriage or civil partnership:	Positive impact
Please provide details:	The service is available to all people regardless of their relationship status

Carers:	Unclear
Please provide details:	<p>Further work is required to understand the impact of caring on relationships, especially where cognitive deterioration can produce violent responses to interventions.</p> <p>There is anecdotal evidence of carers enduring abuse because the cared for person lacks the capacity to understand the impact of their behaviour, and the carers see the behaviour as a consequence of the loved one's condition, and do not recognise this as abuse.</p> <p>There are currently strong links with safeguarding but require greater exploration of the themes highlighted above.</p>

Rural isolation:	Positive Impact
Please provide details:	<p>Recent research has highlighted the gaps in support experienced by those living in rural areas. Whilst positive work is underway, further developments are required to ensure those in rural areas cannot access support easily.</p> <p>The Isolated Communities Engagement Project (ICEP) project was developed in response to the findings in Dorset that referrals to the current service were not representative of the demographics across the county.</p> <p>The purpose of this project (which is now well established) was to improve engagement from harder to reach communities to ensure all people affected by domestic abuse have access to the same help and support. Early findings from this project include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in awareness of domestic abuse within organisations i.e. over 450 champions; • an increase awareness of domestic abuse within communities through 'befrienders'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in the number of referrals to the current service from people living in rural locations; • An increase in the number of men referring into the current service. <p><u>Link to national evidence</u></p> <p>https://www.nationalruralcrimenetwork.net/news/captivecontrolled/</p>
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Single parent families:	Positive impact
Please provide details:	The service is available to all regardless of relationship status and provides support to parents setting up as single-family units – such as housing, tenancy-related support, life skills, welfare benefits, training and return to work.

Poverty (social & economic deprivation):	Positive impact
Please provide details:	<p>Whilst victims and perpetrators are not confined to a single socio-economic grouping, certain stressors such as debt and poverty can escalate DVA.</p> <p>The current service provides postcode information that is used to identify areas that marry areas of social deprivation.</p> <p>The service offers drop-in's at services working with excluded groups.</p>

Military families/veterans:	Positive impact
Please provide details:	<p>From the outset, providers are expected to provide a service to all people with protected characteristics including those experiencing domestic abuse from all locations.</p> <p>The Isolated Communities Engagement Project (ICEP) project was developed in response to the findings in Dorset that referrals to the current service were not representative of the demographics across the county.</p> <p>The purpose of this project (which is now well established) was to improve engagement from harder to reach communities to ensure all people affected by domestic abuse have access to the same help and support. Early findings from this project include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an increase in awareness of domestic abuse within organisations i.e. over 450 champions; • an increase awareness of domestic abuse within communities through 'befrienders'

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• an increase in the number of referrals to the current service from people living in rural locations;• An increase in the number of men referring into the current service. <p>The service is linked into Forces welfare officers in Blandford and Bovington. However, very few referrals are received so further work is required to understand barriers and to compare national data.</p>
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Step 4: Acton Plan

Provide actions for **positive**, **negative** and **unclear** impacts.

If you have identified any **negative** or **unclear** impacts, describe what adjustments will be made to remove or reduce the impacts, or if this is not possible provide justification for continuing with the proposal.

Issue	Action	Person(s) responsible	Deadline	How will it be monitored?
Greater clarity required to understand differences between carer breakdown and DVA	Requirement to understand the dynamics of carer/cared for person relationships working closely with ASC ops colleagues and adults safeguarding.	DB IG	Dec 19	Will inform the eqia for whole system development work

Step 5: EqIA Sign Off

Officer completing this EqIA:	Diana Balsom	Date:	30.08.19
Equality Lead:		Date:	
Relevant Focus Groups*:		Date:	
Directorate Board Chair:		Date:	

* To include Diversity Action Groups

Please send this completed EqIA to Equality Leads:

Equality Leads:

Susan Ward-Rice

susan.ward-rice@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Jane Nicklen

jane.nicklen@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Kathy Boston-Mammah

kathleen.boston-mammah@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Sharon Attwater

sharon.attwater@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

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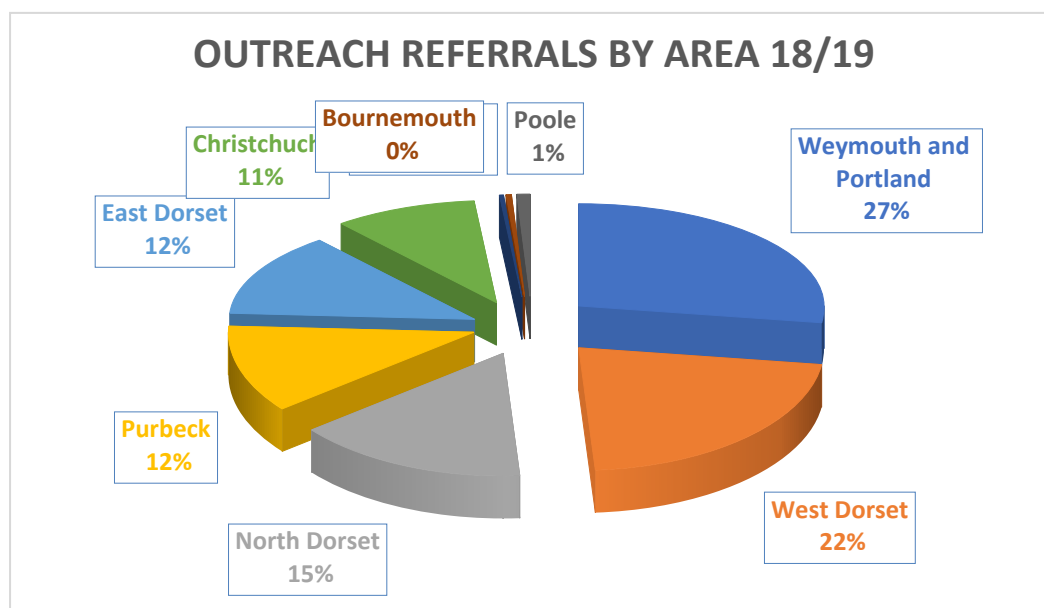
DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics

Referrals received

The number of referrals received during the reporting period of 01 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 was **1154**. Of those, 183 were referred for refuge, during this year there were 81 refuge spaces available. 102 referrals were either not suitable for the service, they declined support, or they failed to arrive. All agencies involved with the client were contacted to ensure an alternative support package could be offered.

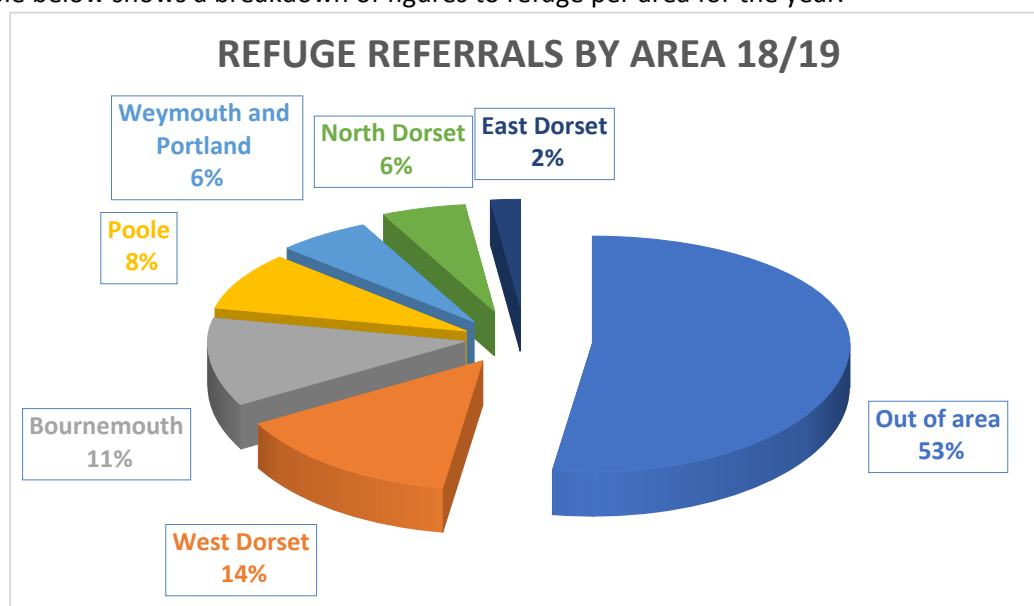
There were 971 were referrals for outreach support.

95% of all outreach referrals received some form of outreach support within community enabling those people to stay in their homes.



Weymouth & Portland consistently has the highest number of referrals to You First (27% of referrals), this is an increase of 4% from 17/18.

The table below shows a breakdown of figures to refuge per area for the year.



DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics

The table below shows the hotspots by individual postcodes of where the clients live within Dorset for this reporting period. We have highlighted those areas where there is an increase of more than 10% in green and a decrease of 10% in amber. (Some areas where there is a rural location may indicate a dip in referrals, but these are included within the ICEP figures)

Postcode	Referrals 17/18	Referrals 18/19
DT4 - Weymouth	116	162
BH23 - Christchurch	66	113
Out of Area	80	97
DT1 - Dorchester	43	83
DT11 - Blandford	67	63
BH20 - Wareham	48	62
DT3 - Surrounding villages of Weymouth	61	62
BH21 - Wimborne	50	57
DT6 - Bridport	43	49
BH1- BH15 - Bournemouth & Poole	35	48
DT5 - Portland	36	43
BH16 - Purbeck	19	41
DT2 - Surrounding villages of Dorchester	28	39
BH19 - Swanage	21	39
BH22 - Ferndown	29	31
Not known	62	29
SP7 - Shaftesbury	31	29
DT10 - Sturminster Newton	15	25
SP8 - Surrounding villages of Shaftesbury	20	25
DT9 - Sherborne	34	22
BH31 - Verwood	12	14
DT7 - Lyme Regis	10	7
DT8 - Bournemouth	9	7
BH24 - Ringwood	6	5
BH17 & BH18 - Broadstone	0	2
TOTAL	941	1154

Diversity

Of the 1154 referrals received: -

1028 were female (89% of referrals)

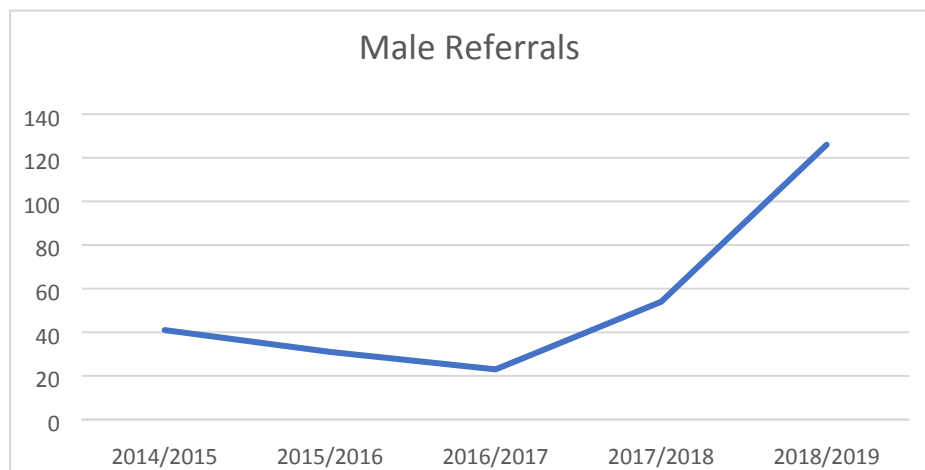
126 were male (11% of referrals)

2 were transgender.

126 referrals for men were received, this is an increase from 54 referrals in 17/18 which only equated to 6% of referrals. The figure for 18/19 is slightly below the national average that is 13.2% (Mankind)

This graph below demonstrates the steady rise in male referrals to the service since 2016/17. We believe ICEP has helped gain access to hard to reach parts of the community, including male clients.

DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics



Ethnic origin of referrals

Of the 1154 referrals received,

- 1000 x White British
- 61 x Unknown *
- 38 x White Other / European / Irish
- 28 x Mixed Other
- 13 x Asian British / Indian
- 7 x Black British / African
- 7 x Gypsy / Traveller

* If information is not passed on at referral by an agency and the client does not engage with the service there are times that we are unable to obtain this information.

86% of referrals identified themselves as White British. When comparing outreach and refuge it is evident that we receive far more diverse referrals with regards to the client's ethnic origin when being referred from out of area into refuge.

White British referral figures are in line with the ethnic origin of the residents living in Dorset.

LGBTQ

Of the 1154 referrals:

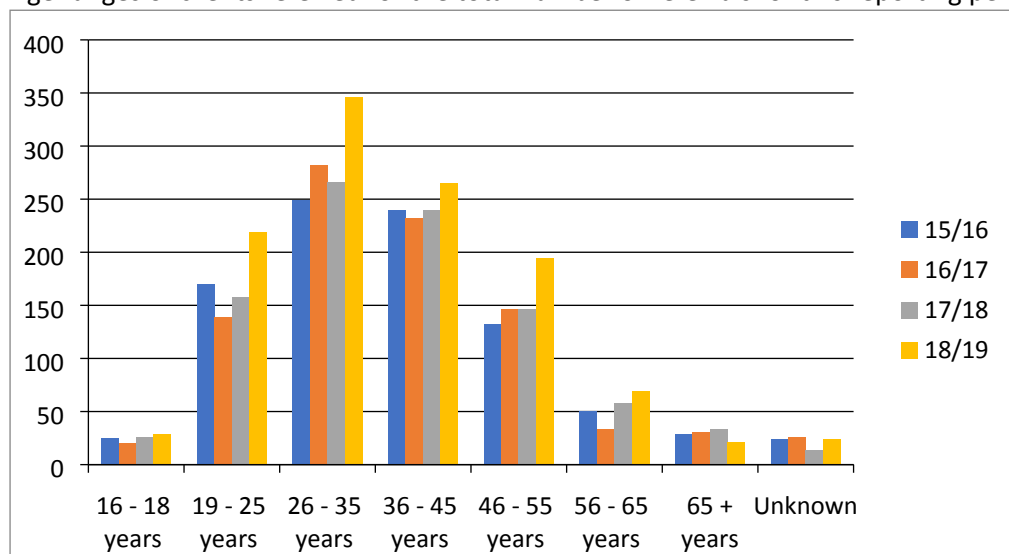
- 973 identified themselves as heterosexual
- 163 unknown or refused to answer
- 16 identified themselves as lesbian / gay
- 2 identified themselves as bi-sexual

There has been an increase of 'unknown' as this information has not been given at referral and we have been unable to ascertain the information.

DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics

Age

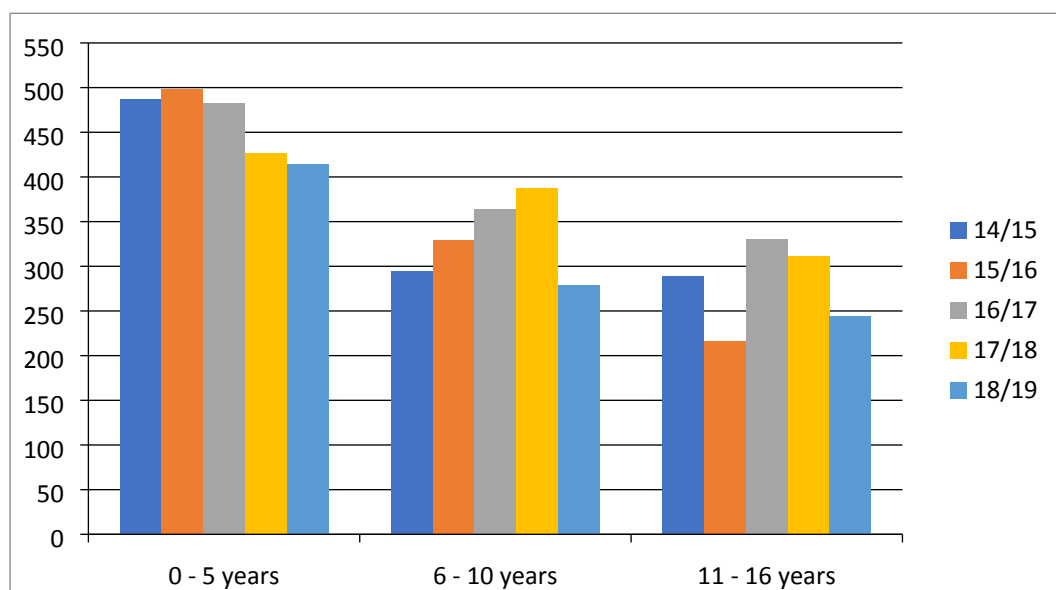
Age ranges of clients referred for the total number of referrals for this reporting period.



The majority of our referrals are within the age brackets between 26 - 45 years. This year has seen large increases in these age ranges, especially 26 – 35 years. There has been a drop within the 65+ years that we saw last year, some of these referrals are working within the ICEP team and not recorded within this report.

Children

The total number of children (excluding pregnancies) currently known to the service is **937** and the table below shows their age ranges per referred household, year on year.



Children between the ages of 0 - 5 years continue to be the highest age range known to the service. There has been a decrease of children across all ages this year, a decrease of 16%. It should be noted that last year we recorded pregnancies which we are now unable to capture, and this would show a

DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics

higher number of children known to the service. The dip in children known to the service may also be due to us advertising more single rooms in refuge rather than family rooms.

There was a total of **34** young people aged 17 -18 living within the same household as the client but whom, following discussions, chose not to receive individual support from You First. All were offered other services and signposted where appropriate.

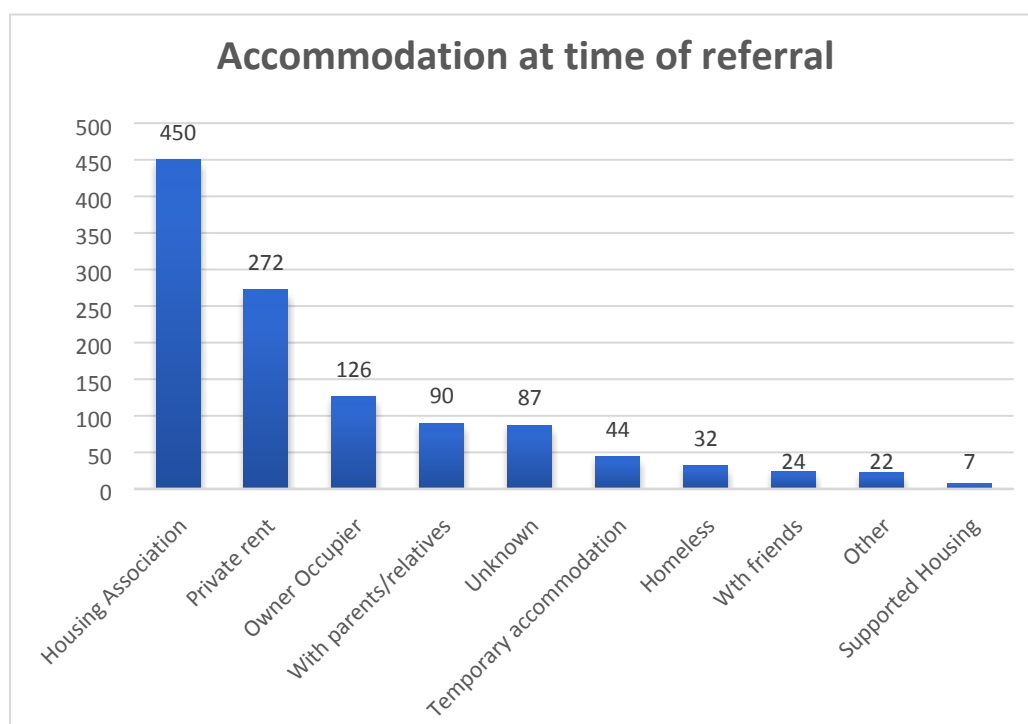
Overall, the total number of children and young people under the age of 18 years (excluding pregnancies) living with domestic abuse, and who are known to the service, is **971**.

There continues to be little referrals from agencies who work directly with children and their families equating to only 7% of all of our referrals into the service.

These figures do not include all the children referred to the CYPDAA and are just those reflected within the **1154** clients referred to the Integrated Services.

Accommodation at time of referral

The graph below shows the clients current accommodation at time of referral.



* Other = Prison, Hotel, Army, Shared Accommodation, Hostel, Refuge, Caravan and Sofa Surfing

39% of referrals were residing in in a Housing Association property when referred and only 6 referrals were from a housing association.

The service has seen a 62% decrease in 'unknown' accommodation details for this year due to changes in how this is recorded on the case management system, this has shown increases in both Housing Association (93% increase), Private Rented (80% increase).

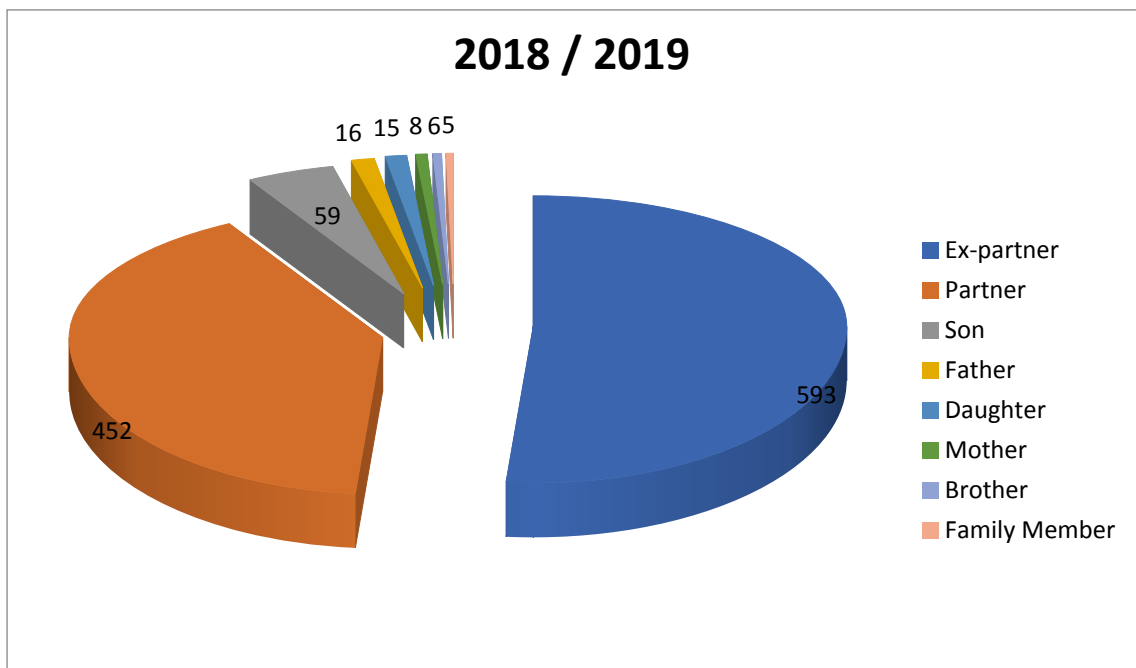
DVA EQIA Appendix 1 – service user demographics

Referrals for 'Homeless' clients has remained the same as last year.

The service makes every attempt to record the housing situation of the client. Some referrals such as the police PPN's do not include accommodation details and where caseworkers may be unable to contact, we have been unable to ascertain this information.

Perpetrator report

The graph below shows the perpetrators relationship with the client.



Although ex- partners remain the highest, we have seen a 136% increase of referrals for clients who are still in the relationship with the perpetrator. In addition, there has also been a large increase of referrals to the service where the son has been the perpetrator to the client.

People Scrutiny Committee – Forward Plan

Subject/Decision	Decision Maker	Decision Due	Consultation	Background Docs	Member/Officer Contacts
Youth Justice Plan	Cabinet /Council	10 September 2019			Lead Member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Planning for Recommissioning Domestic Violence and Abuse advice	Cabinet	10 September 2019			Lead Member – Cabinet Member for Housing Lead Officer – Diana Balsom Strategic Commissioning Lead
Building Better Lives Programme – Wareham Gateway	Cabinet	10 September 2019	Consultees: Regular Engagement with Wareham Town Council. Through a wider event, key stakeholder engaged: Dorset Council Cabinet and Ward Members, Adult Social Care staff, Dorset Healthcare, CCG, Friends of	Report and appendices	Lead Member - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Lead officer - Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults mathew.kendall@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

			<p>Wareham Hospital, Focus nursery, GP practice, Purbeck School, Wareham Neighbourhood plan steering group, select residents Through consultation on the Relocatable in Wareham, the public were engaged with about future Wareham gateway plans. Further engagement events to be planned ahead of drafting of the business case. Means of Consultation: Workshops, and project group meetings</p>		
Forward Plan/Cabinet Forward Plan		10 September 2019			Lead Member – Chairman of People Scrutiny Committee

					Lead Officer – Lee Ellis, Scrutiny Officer
Local Government Ombudsmen Improvement Plan on SEND		8 October 2019			Lead Member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help Lead Officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil .gov.uk
School Admissions Policy		8 October 2019			Lead Member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help Lead Officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil .gov.uk
Forward Plan/Cabinet Forward Plan		8 October 2019			Lead Member – Chairman of People Scrutiny Committee Lead Officer – Lee Ellis, Scrutiny Officer
Budget - TBC					
Ofsted Reports – dependent on Education Co-optees		7 January 2020			Lead member - Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Early Help

being in place TBC					Lead officer - Sarah Parker, Executive Director of People - Children sarah.parker@dorsetcouncil .gov.uk
Designating an area of the Melcombe Regis for Selective Licensing - Housing Act 2004 - TBC		7 January 2020			Lead Member - Cabinet Member for Housing Lead Officer - John Sellgren, Executive Director, Place jsellgren@dorset.gov.uk
Forward Plan/Cabinet Forward Plan		7 January 2020			Lead Member – Chairman of People Scrutiny Committee Lead Officer – Lee Ellis, Scrutiny Officer
Forward Plan/Cabinet Forward Plan		21 April 2020			Lead Member – Chairman of People Scrutiny Committee Lead Officer – Lee Ellis, Scrutiny Officer
Task and Finish Groups/One Off Reports					
Topic 1 Domestic Abuse Contract			Report to Committee on 10 September 2019		
Topic 3 Poverty in Weymouth, Portland and Rural Areas			At the last meeting of the Full Council, a motion was raised on social mobility and subsequently, it was agreed that the Notice of Motion be referred to the Economic Development Executive Advisory Panel (EPA) for consideration and report back to Full Council.		

	The Chairman of the People Scrutiny Committee will be requesting that prior to the reporting of the Executive Advisory Panel to Full Council that the People Scrutiny see the response first.
Topic 5 First Time Entrants Into The Justice System	Pro Forma Previously Circulated
Topic 7 Review of the effect of the Homeless Reduction Act 2017 on Housing services and residents of rural Dorset	Pro Forma Previously Circulated
Topic 2 Withdrawal of Youth Clubs Funding	Pro Forma Previously Circulated
Topic 4 Impact of Family Partnership Zones	Pro Forma Previously Circulated
Topic 6 Transition of Young People with SEND into Adult Services	Pro Forma Previously Circulated
Topic 8 Homelessness and Emergency Assistance Fund	
Topic 9 SEND (Travel needs/higher needs block deficit/forecasting models/data	

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Scrutiny Matrix – People

	How high a priority the topic within the Corporate Plan?	How available are measures and information?			How much influence is the scrutiny review likely to have?			Overall, what is the likely value of the review?		
		Very	Reasonably	Scarce	High	Medium	Low	High	Medium	Low
Topic 1 Domestic Abuse Contract	Not applicable at present	3	1		3	1		1	2	1
Topic 2 Withdrawal of Youth Clubs Funding	Not applicable at present		1	1		2	1	1		1
Topic 3 Poverty in Weymouth, Portland and Rural Areas	Not applicable at present	3	1		2	1	1	2	1	
Topic 4 Impact of Family Partnership Zones	Not applicable at present	2		1	2	2		2	1	
Topic 5 First Time Entrants Into The Justice System	Not applicable at present	3	1		2	1	1	3		1

Topic 6 Transition of Young People with SEND into Adult Services	Not applicable at present	1	2		2	2		2	1	
Topic 7 Homelessness	Not applicable at present	1	2		1	3		2	1	
Topic 8 Homelessness and Emergency Assistance Fund	Not applicable at present					2			1	
Topic 9 SEND (Travel needs/higher needs block deficit/forecasting models/data)	Not applicable at present	1				2			1	

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