Reading Youth Offending Team

Public Protection and Risk Policy
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1 **Aim of the Policy**

1.1 The aim of this policy and accompanying procedures is to ensure that all YOS practitioners, managers and the Youth Justice Management Board are clear as to how risk and vulnerability are managed with young people who offend in Reading.

1.2 This policy should be seen within a context of providing services that take account of diversity; are accessible to all relevant groups and promote the welfare of young people and families. Effective risk management, as part of the overall provision of services, can contribute to:

1.3 This policy will be kept under review and its development informed by reviews of practice, analysis of staff training needs, and national and local developments in relation to managing risk.

1.4 Reference should be made as appropriate to the following more detailed guidance:

- “National Standards for Youth Justice” Youth Justice Board
- “Working Together To Safeguard Children” - DOH 2006
- “Serious Incidents” [Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents (CSPPI) – Notification and Learning, standard operating procedures for youth offending teams](http://berks.proceduresonline.com/index.htm) 2013
- “Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements- Guidance for YOTs” YJB 2010
- National MAPPA guidance (Updated 2014)
- “Assessment, Planning Interventions and Supervision”- Effective Practice Reader Youth Justice Board
- Section 4 Case Management guidance Assessing young offenders
- “ASSET-A structured clinical assessment for young people involved in the youth justice system” Youth Justice Board
- Learning from Serious Incidents in the Community (January 2011 - March 2012) Information for Youth Offending Teams. YJB 2013
2 Policy

2.1 Effective risk and vulnerability management is the cornerstone of YOS work.

2.2 The Youth Justice Management Board will ensure that the YOS is resourced and staff trained to effectively manage risks presented by and to young people known to the YOS.

2.3 Managers within the YOS will ensure through training, supervision and appraisal that team members are equipped to effectively manage risk and vulnerability, and ensure that YOS and inter-agency protocols are followed in a systematic way.

2.4 Risk assessment and planning will assess and address risk of re-offending, risk of harm to self (vulnerability) as well as risk of serious harm to others. Full written details will be kept of any concerns, using ASSET and case records. Information will be shared with other agencies to minimise risk, and ensure effective action planning, within agreed information-sharing protocols.

2.5 Risk assessment processes will take account of protective as well as risk factors to ensure balanced and well-informed risk management plans are in place.

3 Principles

3.1 The focus of engagement with a young person should be the reduction of risk, whilst recognising that eradication may not be possible;

3.2 Practice should be risk-led, and young people’s needs which are most closely connected with increasing risk—of whatever type—should be given priority. This also involves balancing the rights and freedoms of individual young people against the risks they may pose to others as well as themselves.

3.3 It is important, wherever possible, to actively involve young people and their families in risk assessment and risk management. This requires practitioners to pay attention to diversity; of young people, their circumstances, their patterns of behaviour, in order to deliver a service.

3.4 Risk-led practice should be based on specific descriptions of risk and protective factors, and clearly identified potential outcomes, rather than generalised labelling of young people;

3.5 ASSET is at the heart of risk assessment and risk management, which are a linked and ongoing processes. ASSET should be used in all cases to ensure that risk decision-making is evidence-based, that decisions are properly recorded and reviewed, and that they lead to appropriate action;

3.6 Responses to risk should always reflect effective practice in ways of working with children and young people.

3.7 Risk needs to be under constant review as risk levels can quickly change, and intervention levels may need to change accordingly;

3.8 Risk assessment and management are the responsibility of the organisation as a whole, with other agencies as appropriate. However, each individual member of staff must also take personal responsibility for their own actions.
4 Essential Training

4.1 All staff within the YOS should possess the knowledge, skills and experience appropriate to their duties. The following is the minimum training normally required for assessing risk:

- YJB APIS (Assessment, Planning Interventions and Supervision)
- YJB training on Risk Assessment and Risk Management
- Introduction to Child Protection
- For those undertaking assessments of young people who sexually harm 2 days AIM training.
- For those undertaking interventions with those who sexually harm a further 2 days training in AIM interventions

4.2 In addition staff will attend MAPPA as an observer as part of their induction

4.3 Ongoing training requirements are identified as part of each individual’s annual appraisal process and this information will inform the development of the annual training plan.

5 Allocation and Supervision

5.1 Cases will be allocated according to risk factors identified, according to the skills, experience and training of team members, with the reason for allocation recorded. Attempts will be made to ensure case loads are balanced in terms of level of risk of young people. Supervision will be monthly in accordance with the RBC Supervision and Appraisal Policy, with high risk cases prioritised for discussion and file reading/signing. Managers will be available on a day-to-day basis to offer guidance and support in the management of high risk cases.

5.2 Work with young people who sexually harm will be allocated to team members who have undertaken relevant training, and a co-worker will be allocated. This will be supervised on a case by case basis by a manager trained to provide support for the specific type of work, and efforts will be made of staff to receive additional support through a quarterly consultancy service.

6 Definitions of Risk

6.1 Youth Justice Board guidance “Managing Risk in the Community” uses the following definition of risk:

“the probability that an event or behaviour carrying the possibility of an adverse or negative outcome will occur.” (Kelmshall 1998)

6.2 The above definition, based on probability, acknowledges that all risk can not be eliminated, but that effective practices can be used to assess and minimise risk, based on ensuring all appropriate information from both the YOS and partners informs the assessment, and appropriate single or multi-agency plans are put in place to minimise the risk. The assessment will take full account of protective as well as risk factors.

6.3 These procedures relate to three distinct types of risk outcome:

- Likelihood of Re-offending
- Public Protection - Risk of serious harm
- Vulnerability of risk of harm to self; young people can be vulnerable because of the behaviour of others, their own behaviour, or specific events and circumstances. This is specifically dealt with in the YOS Safeguarding Policy and Procedure
6.4 It is important to be aware that young people can represent more than one type of risk. Research and local information suggest that some young people feature across domains of risk. The separate risks each need managing and addressing.

6.5 It is also important to consider the level of risk.

- How likely is it that problem behaviour will occur?
- How soon is it likely to happen?
- What would be the consequences?
- How serious would the impact be?

7 Likelihood of Offending

7.1 Preventing offending by young people is the primary aim of Youth Offending Services. The central tool for assessing the risk factors associated with offending is the ASSET structured clinical assessment, and a key goal for all practitioners must be using the assessment to ensure interventions address risk factors identified, and are of a duration and intensity to make an impact.

7.2 The above is crucial to ensuring the best use of resources to address offending behaviour. However, it is important to note that a young person may have a low overall ASSET score, but a high score in one area, such as Mental Health, which would need targeted intervention.

7.3 In view of the above, each practitioner, using available guidance and supervision, needs to ensure that ASSETs are completed within national standards using information, with consent, from relevant other professionals and agencies, plus the young person and parent through self assessments and parenting assessment. Additional assessments will be requested or carried out as appropriate such as SqiFA (additional mental health assessment), specialist substance misuse assessment and assessments for literacy.

7.4 Where a young person is considered likely to either suffer or commit harm, further assessment and action planning needs to occur in line with guidance.

7.5 On completion of ASSET the following standards guide levels of intervention (Appendix A):

Low likelihood of re-offending: ASSET score less than 14 - contact at Standard level of National Standards. For Final Warnings one post-assessment contact, focused on victim impact if there is a victim, should take place. At periods of high work pressure, such cases may be exempted from contact in line with national standards.

Medium likelihood of re-offending: ASSET score 15-32 - contact at the Enhanced level of National Standards, focused on areas of risk, monitored through supervision:

High likelihood of re-offending: ASSET score 33-64 Levels of contact should be agreed with supervisor, but should address risk areas, and is likely to be at the Intensive level National Standards. These are likely to be young people who require a multi-agency response, review by more than one agency, and identification of a ‘lead professional’. Neighbourhood Policing Teams should be invited to take part in planning meetings for these young people. Multi-agency meetings should take place with the young person and parents to agree an action plan to address the risk. They will also be prioritised for discussion in supervision on a monthly basis, and for sign off of plans and reading of files by supervisors. Where enforcement action is being considered urgent review by the Operational Manager will occur. High risk cases should be considered for the Integrated Offender Management (IOM) scheme on exit from YOS under Prevent and Deter, with consideration of the ASSET score plus known present offending and responses to supervision.
8 Risk of Serious Harm to Others

8.1 The number of young people who present a risk of serious harm to others is small, but the impact they can have on individuals and communities can be great. Intense media and professional interest is likely to emerge from incidents involving young people under YOS supervision causing serious harm to others, so practitioners need to ensure their work stands up to scrutiny.

8.2 The definition of serious harm (from ASSET) is as follows: “Serious harm means death or injury (either physical or psychological) which is life threatening and/or traumatic and from which recovery is expected to be difficult, incomplete or impossible.”

8.3 If there is a ‘Yes’ response to any of the questions in the “Indicators of Serious Harm to Others” section of the Core ASSET, a “Risk of Serious Harm Assessment” (ROSH) should be completed.

8.4 If the offence or a previous offence is a trigger offence a ROSH should also be completed. Trigger offences are such that the nature of the offence itself could lead to serious harm, even if inadvertently. Trigger offences are:

- All violent offences
- All sexual offences
- Possession of a weapon, firearm or bladed article
- Dwelling burglary
- Offences involving:
  - Driving whilst disqualified or unqualified
  - Driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or substances
  - Dangerous driving
  - Threats to kill
  - Arson

8.5 Where a young person is convicted of a ‘trigger offence’ but the risk of harm is believed to be minimal, Case Managers may ask the Operational Manager to sign off and evidence on the Risk of Serious Harm tab of the main Asset that a full RoSH assessment has been considered and exempted.

8.6 Best practice in assessment needs to occur for assessment of serious harm, including consideration of the interplay between static and dynamic factors. (‘Managing Risk in the Community’ - Youth Justice Board).

8.7 When completing RoSH assessments, case managers should frame the “Danger/Concern” statement in the conclusion answering the questions below specifically and in terms that the child and parent will understand as this will be shared with them during the Case Planning Forum process:

- What are we worried will happen (in terms of serious harm) if nothing else changes?
- How likely is this event to occur?
- How bad would it be?
- How soon would it happen?
- What might be the triggers for the event?

8.8 Where the assessment outcome is Medium Risk or above, a Risk Management Plan should be completed – See Sections 10 and 11.

8.9 The following outlines categories for those presenting a risk of serious harm to others:
- Low risk of serious harm - no evidence at present to indicate likelihood of serious harmful behaviour in future. No specific risk management work needed.

- Medium risk of serious harm - some risk identified, but the young person is unlikely to cause serious harm unless circumstances change. Relevant issues can be addressed as part of the normal supervision process.

- High Risk of Serious Harm - risk of harm identified. The potential event could happen any time and the impact would be serious. Action should be taken in the near future and the case will need additional supervision and monitoring (e.g. management oversight.)

- Very high risk of serious harm - imminent risk of harm identified. The young person will commit the behaviour in question as soon as they are able to, or as soon as the opportunity arises, and the impact would be serious, immediate action is required, and is likely to involve multi-agency support and surveillance.

9. Police involvement with the YOS

9.1 There will be occasions when the police are actively involved with young people at the YOS. The YOS should support a pro-social view of actively discouraging offending. We would also want to support the police developing positive relationships with young people who access the YOS.

9.2 The YOS police officer will retain the details of the current high risk young people in terms of harm and risk of Reoffending. They will make police colleagues aware of these young people and what the current YOS involvement is. This will be done through Area and Neighbourhood taking meetings, which they will attend.

9.3 The YOS Police Officer will try to identify a specific Officer/ PCSO in the local area that can have more detail about specific young people that the YOS are working with and concerns and risks that the YOS are aware of.

9.4 Where it will be felt to be beneficial to a young person, whether high risk or not, to have a positive contact with the police with the aim of the young person having a broader understanding of the police’s role, this will be arranged through the YOS Police officer. Such intervention work may give a more rounded perception of the role of the police and may increase the young person’s confidence in the criminal justice system.

9.5 Staff may receive intelligence from contact with Service Users in relation to possible offending concerns. It is expected that this will be sent securely to Police Intelligence (AIT) and copied to the YOS police at AITReaderReading@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Guidance can be found at ../../\Agencies\Police\Intelligence sharing with Thames Valley Police.docx. For assistance with the intelligence submission then please contact the Intelligence team at Reading on FIHBerksWest@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. The form can be found at ../../\Agencies\Police\Submission of intelligence by partners.docx. A record should be made on CV by the person submitting the intelligence that it has been done.
9.6 YOS staff may be witnesses to offences that service users may be involved in as part of their regular work. Staff will be supported to make statements to the police in such circumstances and if the young person is case-managed by the member of staff, consideration will be given to the appropriate future case management of the young person.

9.7 On occasion there may be a warrant issued for young people, or the young people may have not complied with police or court bail conditions. Young people should be encouraged to attend the police station and support should be offered in terms of transporting young people or accompanying them to the police station so that the matters can be addressed.

9.8 There will be rare occasions when the police are requesting our assistance in effecting an arrest of a young person. It would be expected that this initial discussion will take place between a supervising police officer and a manager at the YOS. Considerations will include:

- The level of assessed risk that the young person presents (ROSH and RoR)
- The police concerns about the nature of the alleged offence
- The YOS concerns about the impact of arrest close to the YOS on the young person’s ongoing relationship with staff
- The possible risks to other service users and staff of an arrest on the premises of the YOS
- What attempts have already been made to arrest the young person at home or other locations, and whether the young person would voluntarily attend the police station

9.9 Following discussions between police and YOS manager/ATM, arrangements may be made to arrest a young person as a part of their contact with the YOS. This should happen after their session at the YOS, unless circumstances necessitate an immediate arrest. In this case, it would be hoped that the police would be stationed close to the YOS and would arrest the young person before they arrive at the YOS.

9.10 Police staff are expected to station themselves close to the YOS and will apprehend the young person after they leave the premises.

9.11 In the rare event of an arrest needing to be made on site, staff will ensure that where possible, visitors will vacate the premises. Business support should close the reception shutter. Caseworkers should offer support to young people involved in the arrest and other young people who may have witnessed it. It may also be necessary for the YOS police officer to explain the police position to the young people.

10. Risk to staff

10.1 This section should be read in conjunction with the RBC and YOS Lone Working Policies which set out reasonable precautions for staff working alone.

10.2 If a young person represents a risk to any member of the YOS or its agents a characteristic should be added to Childview. (risk to staff) Duty Officers dealing with enquiries should always check YOIS for any case notes before starting any work with the young person. Where a worker has concerns over the behaviour of a service user that has not previously been identified, they should discuss these with their line manager. The manager should help draw up a risk management plan. The assessment should be updated, details recorded in characteristics and other agencies informed.
10.3 In addition, an e mail, flagged as high priority, will be circulated to the YOS highlighting the risk, with any precautionary measures to be taken.

10.4 It should be ensured that a Risk of Serious Harm assessment has been completed, and the young person should be added to the Risk Register and taken to Case Planning Forum for high and very high risk cases. Administrative staff should be specifically alerted to what precautions/action should be taken when the young person calls at the YOS.

10.5 Measures to manage such risk may include:

- Joint visits with another member of staff.
- Office appointments only, other staff alerted when in the building
- Suspension of order and return to court.

10.6 Staff should be aware of their own safety in seeing service users at the YOS. The risk is more difficult to assess where staff are meeting with service users where there is not an established relationship or where there has been previous concerns regarding risk. In these cases, Staff should ensure that rooms are prepared so that they can exit swiftly if necessary and use a two exit room. The YOS is equipped with Panic alarms in the interview rooms and regular tests and drills will be carried out.

10.7 In the event of the alarm being sounded, staff upstairs should be prepared to assist. The primary aim is to ensure staff safety and assist a member of staff to get to a safe place in the building. The shutters should be closed in reception. No more than three members of staff should go downstairs to investigate the alarm. If going into a room, the door should be kept open and at least one member of staff should remain outside the room, to maintain lines of communication. When safe to do so, the building should be evacuated and the police contacted. It may be safer to use the fire escape.

10.8 Where a young person threatens or carries out violence or is abusive to a member of the team or the public on YOS premises, the manager should follow the steps for reporting an aggressive incident on the Health & Safety Pod on IRIS. This must be completed and appropriate management action taken including consideration of issuing a warning or instigating breach proceedings. Staff will be supported in making police statements. Consideration will also be given to including the young person the InCheck Database on IRIS.

10.9 If a young person known to the YOS is charged or convicted of murder, manslaughter or rape whilst under the statutory supervision of the YOS the YJB Community Safeguarding and Public Protection Incidents (CSPPI) guidance will apply. If this occurs when the young person is being risk-managed at Levels 2 or 3 by MAPPA (see below) the initial notification and local management report must be given to the MAPPA Co-ordinator for internal review. There are discretionary incidents which may also prompt a CSPPI process.

10.10 Staff are expected to use Reliance devices when working on a task that may be a risk. This may include but not be limited to home visits, court contact, group activities.

- Staff should undertake the Reliance training
- The devices should remain on charge until they are needed
- Staff should use one of the devices that they are allocated to
- ID cards can be attached to the device
- Devices should be checked that there is sufficient battery, signal, and satellite coverage as this may affect how effective they can be.
- Locations should be given before arriving at destination and afterward
Staff will need to be familiar with the mechanism of recording emergency

Areas where signal is difficult should be notified to staff and attached to Child view case details

Contact Number for device administration is 0800 840 7121

11. Radicalisation

11.1 Radicalisation is defined as the process by which people come to support terrorism and violent extremism and, in some cases, to then participate in terrorist groups. These Procedures are supported by local LSCB and YJB guidance at:

- [http://berks.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_supporting_ch.html#local](http://berks.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_supporting_ch.html#local)

11.2 Staff have accessed training locally from the local Prevent Team and all staff should attend PREVENT training as part of induction.

11.3 There is no obvious profile of a person likely to become involved in extremism or a single indicator of when a person might move to adopt violence in support of extremist ideas. The process of radicalisation is different for every individual and can take place over an extended period or within a very short time frame.

11.4 Potential indicators include:

- Use of inappropriate language;
- Possession of violent extremist literature;
- Behavioural changes;
- The expression of extremist views;
- Advocating violent actions and means;
- Association with known extremists;
- Seeking to recruit others to an extremist ideology.

11.5 Specifically in terms of risk factors for involvement in terrorism the following features have been identified through research:

- having an “emotional vulnerability” (feelings of anger, alienation or disenfranchisement), often linked to feelings of being culturally uprooted or displaced and searching for spiritual guidance
- dissatisfaction or disillusionment with mainstream political or social protest as a method to produce political change
- identification with the suffering of Muslim victims globally or experience of personal victimisation
- the conviction that violence against the state and its symbols can be morally justified (and this conviction can be ‘fine tuned’ by a religious figure)
- gaining rewards from membership of the group/movement (such as status, respect, and authority over other members)
- close social ties, having contact with people experiencing the same set of issues or having some involvement with terrorism through family or other associates.
11.6 Work should be targeted at young people who are most at risk of developing extremism.

11.7 Young people should not be referred for PVE interventions on the basis of background offending risk factors, but on a combination of specific PVE-related risk factors (for example, perception of injustice, hatred towards an out-group, frustration, persecution, identity confusion).

11.8 For young people who are in the secure estate work should be targeted and should continue both in custody and over the licence period.

11.9 Links with local community organisations who can deliver some prevention work in this area should be encouraged.

11.10 Risks of radicalisation should be assessed and included in risk management procedures, including planning for any young people in custody and for release.

11.11 It is vital that intelligence is shared by the YOS police Officer both locally and with the SECTU. (South East Counter Terrorism Unit)

11.12 There should be liaison with social Care if the case is open to them and if not a discussion with YOS supervisor and also with MASH about a referral to Social Care.

12. Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

12.1 MAPPA were introduced (Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000) to meet the public need for protection from offenders who present a risk of serious harm to others, with YOSs being included (Criminal Justice Act 2003) as another agency with a duty to co-operate with other authorities in MAPPA arrangements.

12.2 To be eligible for referral under MAPPA, an individual must fall into one of 3 categories:

- **Category 1** Registered Sex Offender

- **Category 2** Violent and other sexual offenders who have served a minimum of 12 months in custody

- **Category 3** Other offenders where serious concerns about risk and public protection have been identified, with a previous conviction for an offence that indicates that he/she is capable of causing serious harm to the public.

12.3 All eligible offenders will be referred to MAPPA, and detailed reference should be made to:

- Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements - Guidance for YOS - YJB 2010
- MAPPA Guidance for YOSs-Thames Valley Public Protection Manager

12.4 In the case of Category 1 above, the Public Protection Officer will complete the relevant form, but will ask for an up-dated ASSET, Risk Of Serious Harm assessment, plus a copy of the latest PSR, if applicable.

12.5 In the case of a Category 2 notification, young people receiving a custodial sentence of 12 months or more for a violent or sexual offence, the MAPPA referral form should
be completed, and should be submitted to Thames Valley Public Protection Officer at the address indicated on the form.

12.6 Referrals will be gatekept using MAPPA Q before sending through to Public Protection Unit.

12.7 The same applies to those young people identified by the YOS as needing referral to MAPPA under Category 3. These must be those who have a previous conviction which would indicate that they are capable of causing serious harm. All referrals should be accompanied by a full risk assessment, including a detailed ASSET- Core profile and ASSET-Risk of Serious Harm Assessment; key characteristics of the young person, including any local intelligence; information from the secure estate where a young person is in custody; any previous response to supervision and a full offending history.

12.8 Following receipt of information from the YOS the Thames Valley Public Protection Officer will take the case to the co-ordinator for verification of the process and then record the offender as a MAPPA Offender. If level 2 or 3 they will then arrange the agenda and invite the identified relevant agencies to the Multi-Agency Risk Management meeting (MARMM) The risk posed by the young person may be assessed as:

- **Level 1** Needing risk management by a single agency. Risk is managed through YOS supervision, and will involve CPFs, although there may be additional liaison and information exchange with other agencies.

- **Level 2** Local management through MARMM by more than 1 agency using local resources, with risk managed within a co-ordinated, planned approach.

- **Level 3** The critical few very high risk offenders, or those likely to attract negative media attention.

13. Risk Management Plans

13.1 The planning process should involve young people and families, unless the inclusion of them in the planning increase the risk of harm being caused. It is important that young people understand the perception of risk that the YOS hold of them and the measures that the YOS are taking to manage that risk. Young people should be involved in discussions about their risk, whether at Case Planning forum or as part of other processes.

13.2 Families should also be involved and understand the risk that the YOS perceive is presented. Families should be encouraged to be an active part of the risk planning process including actions that they can take to minimise the risk that the young person presents.

13.3 A Risk Management Plan is required for all young people considered medium/high/or very high risk of serious harm to others. Please refer to Appendix A Risk Assessment and Planning Overview as to action to be taken in relation to various risk levels.

13.4 The Case Manager is responsible for completion of plans in relation to those assessed as medium risk/vulnerability, with assistance from the supervisor. All those assessed as high or very high risk should be discussed at Case Planning Forum (CPF) (See Section 12) and signed off by the CPF chair, with dates for review and re-assessment agreed. However, if risk factors significantly change at any time the Case Manager should consider the need to review and up-date the plan.

13.5 Plans should be solution focused and should make clear:

- what information needs to be shared and with whom
• what referrals need to be made or systems triggered
• whether monitoring is required and how this should be done
• how protective factors will be strengthened.
• named people with responsibility for carrying out actions;
• time-scales for completion;
• the involvement of young people and parents in the plans;
• contingencies in case of changed circumstances.

13.6 The plans should include details of both the external controls (e.g. tagging or monitoring) and the internal controls that need to be developed (e.g. working with young people to help control their anger.)

13.7 The conclusion summary of the ROSH should start with the Danger statement. This should be repeated in the Opening statement in the RMP (external controls) to frame the context of the concerns and assessment with regard to serious harm.

14 Management Oversight of High Risk Cases and Case Planning Forum

14.1 Management oversight includes, staff supervision, dealing with developing areas of concern in individual cases, facilitating improvements in practice and quality assurance. It is particularly focused on ensuring that actual or potential victims in individual cases and the young people or adult offenders themselves (including where appropriate other young people known to the offender) are sufficiently protected from harm.

14.2 There should be a proportionate level of oversight depending on the risk that the young person presents, including escalating developments and bearing in mind that risk levels can fluctuate swiftly.

14.3 To ensure an accurate Risk Register is maintained the YOS Performance Officer will run the ‘risk register’ fortnightly, highlighting any gaps in terms of planning or assessment, completion of records. Line managers will take responsibility for ensuring that actions identified from the Risk Register are followed up.

14.4 Management oversight includes:
  • Maintaining checks on cases that present increased risk
  • Discussions with case managers and at manager level to develop a rounded, consistent and effectively responsive approach to the case.
  • Reviewing and countersigning risk plans, and monitoring steps to enact the plan
  • Recording of case specific discussions in the Childview Case record

14.5 It is expected that Case Planning Forums will be arranged for all those presenting a high risk of harm, or for those who have a high likelihood of reoffending

14.6 Full details of the Case planning forum Procedure is in separate guidance at: ..\..\CPFs

14.7 Management oversight is also detailed in the Supervision policy. supervision policy for review. Mar 15.doc

15 Exit and Transfer

15.1 Where the risk reduces to medium or lower oversight of the case will return to normal supervisory processes.
15.2 End of YOS Intervention, where a young person completes an intervention but remains assessed as high or very high risk of serious harm or vulnerability, or high risk of re-offending, an exit strategy will be in place, with a plan to ensure that ongoing risks are addressed. This clearly needs to be with the agreement of and involvement of the young person and his/her family. Where the young person presents a high likelihood of re-offending exit arrangements should discussed with the Integrated Offender Management manager.

15.3 In such cases, as above, the exit strategy should be completed at a multi-agency meeting with the young person and parents whenever possible. All relevant services and agencies should be involved, and be advised of the cessation of YOS involvement. If the case is monitored by MAPPA they should be advised. Where further YOS input may be agreed on a voluntary basis the YOS Service Manager will be notified for consideration of the resource implication.

15.4 Transfer to another YOS/Probation Where the young person is transferred to Probation/another YOS where the young person is High or Very High Risk of Serious Harm or Vulnerability, a three way meeting will be held to transfer the case and the following information will be given:

- A copy of the relevant order or licence/notice of supervision
- The most recent PSR
- An up-to-date ASSET assessment, including a risk assessment and transfer summary, and Vulnerability Management Plan, plus Risk of Serious Harm Plan if appropriate
- Previous convictions
- CPS information regarding current/previous offences
- List of key people/contacts
- Relevant 3rd party information (with the third party’s consent)
- MAPPA minutes (where applicable)
- PPO status and relevant information (where applicable)
- Date of next/first appointment with probation offender manager/ YOS Officer

15.5 For those transferring to Probation, the supplementary Enhanced Transitions protocol should be followed

15.6 Where a case is risk-managed by MAPPA sufficient notice should be given to the receiving Probation area or YOS for the young person to be referred under local MAPPA arrangements

16 Dangerousness

16.1 The Criminal Justice Act 2003 sets out circumstances under which certain offenders may be considered to be ‘dangerous’ and to receive an extended sentence, or detention for life, as a result. Schedule 15 of the act consists of a list of offences, ‘specified offences’, violent or sexual offences which are covered by the provision. (see Appendix B for Schedule 15).

16.2 Where a young person is convicted of a ‘specified offence’ the Youth Court will consider the question of dangerousness.

16.3 The Youth Court only takes a view in terms of dangerousness. If the Court’s view is that the young person is ‘dangerous’ then the case must be transferred to the Crown Court, where a decision as to dangerousness will be made.

16.4 If the Crown Court decides that the young person is ‘dangerous' then the sentence imposed will be:
• For ‘specified offences’ which also constitute ‘grave crimes’*, where the court is of the opinion that there is a significant risk to members of the public of serious harm from the young person through the commission of further specified offences, and court considers that the seriousness of the offence, or of the offence and other offences associated with it, justifies the imposition of a sentence of detention for life then a sentence of detention for life must be imposed. These offences are listed at:
  http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2003/44/schedule/15A

• For ‘specified offences’ where the court considers that there is a significant risk to members of the public of serious harm from the young person through the commission of further specified offences, but the offence for which the young person is convicted does not constitute a ‘grave crime’, an extended sentence of detention is possible. An extended sentence must include imprisonment of at least 12 months but must not exceed the maximum term of imprisonment for the relevant offence. The period of licence is then extended, as set by the court, but must not exceed a maximum of five years for a specified violent offence, or eight years for a specified sexual offence.

17 Assessment of ‘Dangerousness - YOS Contribution’

17.1 The Youth Court in the first instance will take a view as to ‘dangerousness’ on conviction. In forming this view the court must take into account:

• All such information as is available to it about the nature and circumstances of the offence
• Any information which is before it about any pattern of behaviour of which the offence forms part
• Any information about the offender which is before it

17.2 There is no presumption of ‘dangerousness’ for young people convicted of specified offences, as there is for an adult. However, if the Youth Court takes the view that the young person meets the ‘dangerousness’ criteria, it must send the case to the Crown Court for a decision to be made as to ‘dangerousness’.

17.3 The YOS contributes to the assessment made by the court via the Pre-Sentence Report. This is written in the usual way, regardless of whether a view regarding ‘dangerousness’ is being considered. The following may be helpful, however, for PSR authors to consider when writing reports where ‘dangerousness’ is being considered.

17.4 The Offence Analysis section should present a balanced picture of the nature and circumstances of the offence, taking into account information from both the Crown Prosecution Service and the young person’s perspective. Where there are significant differences between these two views, these should be challenged and continued differences highlighted and analysed in this section of the report.

17.5 Relevant Information about the Young Person/Young Person Assessment section should outline the extent to which the offence does or does not form a pattern of behaviour.

17.6 The analysis of Risk to the Public of Re-Offending is the key section in terms of contribution to the court’s view/assessment regarding ‘dangerousness’. This section should outline the assessed level of risk regarding re-offending and risk of serious harm. The sections should outline the risk factors for the young person, explaining where possible how these might appropriately be addressed.
# APPENDIX A - Reading YOS RISK ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING OVERVIEW

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain of Risk</th>
<th>Low Score 0-14</th>
<th>Medium Score 15-32</th>
<th>High Score 33-54</th>
<th>Very High Score 55+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Likelihood of re-offending</strong></td>
<td>Monitored through supervision. Contact at NS standard level. This may be exempted with YOT Manager’s approval in writing at workload peaks. Asset review quarterly. Address any risk areas where the ASSET score is 3 or more.</td>
<td>Monitored through supervision. Contact at National Standards Enhanced level.</td>
<td>Prioritised for discussion at supervision, and file reading. Frequency of contact and review will be Intensive level. Multi-agency reviews with young person and parent/carer wherever possible Considered for IOM referral where appropriate Identify lead professional Case Planning Forum every 6 weeks or as agreed</td>
<td>Discussed during every supervision, at a minimum monthly. Prioritised for file reading and sign off by managers. Frequency of contact Intensive level or above. Multi agency planning via CPF and reviewed monthly Information-sharing with Area Intelligence. Lead professional identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public Protection/Risk of Serious Harm</strong></td>
<td>As above but record on Risk of Serious Harm Assessment and reassess at ASSET reassessment points, at least 3 monthly or in light of new information. YOIS message supervisor for sign off, copy for file.</td>
<td>As above but record on Risk of Serious Harm Assessment, and complete Risk Management Plan. Review at least 3 monthly in supervision or in the light of new information. YOIS message supervisor for sign off, copies for file. Assessment should identify triggers and plan should address these</td>
<td>As above Risk of Serious Harm Assessments and Risk Management Plans agreed at Case Planning Forum and reviewed monthly, or in the light of change of circumstances/new information. Consider MAPPA referral and record decision. Identify triggers and address</td>
<td>As above Risk of Serious Harm Assessments and Risk Management Plans reviewed at risk panel at least monthly, or in the light of new information. All notified to MAPPA for consideration of monitoring through MAPPA Identify potential triggers and plan to address</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Safeguarding/vulnerability</strong></td>
<td>As above but record on Indicators of Vulnerability and re-assess at ASSET reassessment points, at least 3 monthly or in light of new information. YOIS message supervisor for sign off, copy for file.</td>
<td>Continue as per Medium Risk of re-offending above. Complete Vulnerability Management Plan YOIS message supervisor for countersignature Assessment and Vulnerability Plan to be reviewed in supervision every 3 months or in light of new information/change of circumstances. Assessment should identify possible triggers and plan should address</td>
<td>As above, subject to Vulnerability Management Plan via monthly CPF meetings. Assessment reviewed monthly Assessment should identify potential triggers and plan to address</td>
<td>Continue as very high risk above, although not consideration of MAPPA. Likely to necessitate statutory intervention and urgent referral to Children’s Services or CAMHS. Where a Child Protection Plan/Signs of Safety Plan in place, the YOS Vulnerability Plan would contribute. Specific YOS Vulnerability Management Plan to be reviewed at risk panel at least monthly. Plans should identify potential triggers and how they will be addressed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CAMHS: 0118 931 5800
Vulnerability - Risk Levels

- **Low vulnerability** - no specific behaviours, events or people currently indicating risk.
- **Medium vulnerability** - some specific vulnerability which can be addressed as part of the normal supervision process.
- **High vulnerability** - clear indicators of specific vulnerability requiring attention in the near future, and which may require involvement by other agencies or people. The case may need additional supervision and monitoring in terms of management oversight.

Serious Harm - Definition

- “Serious harm means death or injury (either physical or psychological) which is life threatening and/or traumatic and from which recovery is expected to be difficult, incomplete or impossible.”

Serious Harm - Risk Levels

- **Low risk of serious harm** - no evidence at present to indicate likelihood of serious harmful behaviour in future. No specific risk management work needed.
- **Medium risk of serious harm** - some risk identified, but the young person is unlikely to cause serious harm unless circumstances change. Relevant issues can be addressed as part of the normal supervision process.
- **High Risk of Serious Harm** - risk of harm identified. The potential event could happen any time and the impact would be serious. Action should be taken in the near future and the case will need additional supervision and monitoring (e.g. management oversight.)
- **Very high risk of serious harm** - imminent risk of harm identified. The young person will commit the behaviour in question as soon as they are able to, or as soon as the opportunity arises, and the impact would be serious, immediate action is required, and is likely to involve multi-agency support and surveillance.

**APPENDIX B - MAPPA Categories and Levels**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 3</th>
<th>MAPPA For very high risk of causing serious harm, requires close cooperation at senior level. May need additional resources or risk of media attention. For critical few only.</th>
<th>Public Protection Officer will complete PP1, but will ask for additional assessment information from the YOS, which will go to MAPPA co-ordinator.</th>
<th>YOS referral to MAPPA with PP1, as below. YOS to attend when on agenda.</th>
<th>YOS referral to MAPPA with PP1, as below. YOS to attend when on agenda.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Cases where the active involvement of more than 1 agency is required in order to produce a co-ordinated plan to manage the risk of serious harm</td>
<td>Medium/High risk of serious harm. As above. YOS to attend when on MARM agenda.</td>
<td>Medium/High risk of serious harm. Referral to MAPPA with PP1, as below. YOS to attend when on agenda.</td>
<td>High/Very High risk of serious harm. Referral to MARM using PP1 Ops Manager to discuss all High/Very High with PPOfficer when submitting PP1 to discuss whether YOS Risk management Procedures offer sufficient protection, whether PPO should attend risk management meetings or whether the case should be referred to MARM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 1</td>
<td>Can be managed through YOS through normal supervision procedures</td>
<td>Low/Medium Risk. As above.</td>
<td>Low/Medium Risk. As above</td>
<td>Low/Medium Risk of SH. Do not need referral, as not high risk. Managed within the YOS.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Category 1 Registered Sex Offenders- Part 3 of Sexual Offences Act 2003</td>
<td>Category 2 Relevant Sexual Offenders or Violent Offenders and received a custodial sentence of 12 months or more.</td>
<td>Category 3 Others who may cause serious harm to the public must have a conviction for an offence that indicates that he/she is capable of causing serious harm to the public. NOT Final Warnings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>