

Hull Youth Justice Plan

An update for 2025-26
on the 2024-27 plan



Hull
City Council



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Introduction

As the board has been reflecting on the achievements and challenges across our youth justice partnership in 2024-25, I have been struck by the tenacity, commitment and child first values of all our partners in what at times was a very challenging year.

I cannot avoid referring to the August 2024 disturbances in Hull following the tragic incident in Southport last summer and would like to congratulate the youth justice team and social care and police partners for their timely and proactive response to those children who were unfortunately caught up in the disturbances. Coupled with this, the response from our education partners in supporting the young people involved back into their education settings safely.

The impact of neurodiversity and special educational needs on children becoming involved in the youth justice system

continues to grow and become more visible despite a significant proportion being undiagnosed on initial referral. The impact of our fantastic Speech and Language Therapist cannot be underestimated, supporting our understanding of children we work with and sharing experience, knowledge and skills across the partnership to ensure better outcomes for our children.

Our board continues to go from strength to strength, demonstrating a real commitment to ensuring we do our very best to divert children away from entering the youth justice world and, for those who do, ensuring we have the right support plan in place to reduce risk and improve outcomes as a partnership.

Thanks to all the team and to our partners and we look forward to continuing our great work in 2025-26.

Pauline Turner,

Chair of Hull Youth Justice Partnership Board
and Director of Children's Services,
Hull City Council

Welcome

This update should be read in conjunction with the three-year plan produced by the Hull Youth Justice Partnership for 2024-27 in June 2024. This publication is an update on the plan for years 2025-26 including achievements thus far alongside priorities and targets for the coming 12 months and beyond. This plan will only update any changes from the previous 2024-27 plan as required. With the vision and strategy, including city-wide strategies, remaining the same, as a service we continue to focus on:

- Prevention and diverting children from the criminal justice system
- As a partnership do everything possible to ensure co-ordinated support around the child and family to keep them safe from harm and enable them to realise their full potential
- Have a bespoke response to the needs of victims

Local context

The local context, population profile, deprivation and poverty remain the same with children in Hull particularly impacted by deprivation and poverty as we continue to use the census information from 2021. The percentage of children in low-income families increase year on year, as does the number of children in Hull requiring free school meals in secondary schools. This offers insight that perhaps the challenge of deprivation and poverty has not yet seen an improvement.

Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements

Governance, leadership and partnership arrangements remain stable with good representation on the partnership board from statutory and non-statutory partners. More recently, we have welcomed the Operational Manager of Victim Support onto our management board alongside a second Head of Alternative Provision, which offers a rich and diverse mix of representation.

Risk Management

In terms of an update to Risk Management in Hull Youth Justice Service (HYJS), the Multi Agency Youth Violence and Exploitation (MAYVE) panel is now well-established and has been overseeing the management of risk of children who have committed, or alleged to have committed, Serious Youth Violence and/or supporting with disruption of the exploitation of children who have been criminally or sexually exploited.

Chaired alternative months by the Youth Justice Manager and the Group Manager - with responsibility for the Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) team in partnership with the police, probation, children's social care, health, education, voluntary and community-based organisations - the child's welfare, vulnerability and safety plans are reviewed and actions identified to disrupt exploitation. The feedback from the pilot has been positive, with practitioners and partnerships fully realising the potential of partnership approaches, the prevention of duplication, and all stakeholders discussing the same issues in the appropriate arena.

The Diversion of children in Hull

The Diversion Panel continues to be held weekly and is the process by which the police refer children and young people who have come to their attention for offences of gravity score 4 and under. The panel is made up of a range of key partners who can contribute to planning and delivering support for young people (such as police, probation, social care, youth services, substance misuse services, liaison and diversion and voluntary charitable sector (VCS) partners) with health and justice projects such as the Flipside Project.

A holistic (desktop) assessment is undertaken which includes access to school attendance, children's social care records, patterns and previous offending, alongside any concerning associations and information which informs the decision-making and outcome. Where possible, children are diverted out to partner agencies to offer the lowest appropriate level of intervention, including Restorative Justice intervention by the Victim Liaison Officer (VLO) or pieces of work by partner agencies.

Consideration is given to children where more intervention or specific targeted intervention is needed from HYJS and the child is accepted into the Early Intervention Team for a full assessment. The Diversion Panel has been very successful in changing the overall landscape of work within the service, with approximately two-thirds of the workload now amounting to out of court intervention.

The introduction of Turnaround has strengthened our offer to children and we now have two full-time permanent staff following the much-welcomed announcement from the Ministry of Justice about the extension of the funding. Our development in the area of diversion relates to those children who are care-experienced, and/or have a disability/specific learning need and how we best meet their needs to prevent criminalisation. Humberside Police has recently increased the police resource into HYJS by one third and the introduction of a PC dedicated to Diversion in April 25, with another PC dedicated to post-court support, is already proving more efficient.



Working with Humberside Police

The working relationship with Humberside Police continues to build in effectiveness, with increased resource, and the development and implementation of efficient diversion processes which has streamlined investigations and developed data analysis reporting, ensuring both services are held to account and children are being dealt with at the earliest opportunity. Children are discussed in a timelier manner - often at first offence, with little or no previous occurrences - and assessment and intervention is swift and proportionate.

In the last 12 months the percentage of children having had the opportunity to engage with diversionary activity before they reach the formal court arena has also increased significantly. In 2022-23 as many as 68% of children had never engaged with HYJS, reducing to 37% (24 children out of 65) in 2024-25. Hull has, however, seen a 62.5% increase in first time entrants (FTEs) in the last 12 months.

The city endured a large-scale disorder in August 2024, which was replicated in several cities around the country. 28 children were involved in the disorder, of which 53% had never been known to the YJS. Swift partnership working was undertaken to divert as many children from court as possible and this was successfully achieved with 21% of children. However, 50% were FTEs based on the seriousness of the charge of violent disorder, which is a gravity 5 offence. In addition, and something that remains a concern, is the national variation in the use of referral back to Diversion from court and a YCC being the only option, when a child is eligible for an out of court disposal. To prevent this Humberside Police has developed strategies to ensure that police officers consult with the YJS on all children who offend, to ensure equity of opportunity.

Within the last 12 to 18 months, we have seen a reduced number of PACE bed



requests by the police and the subsequent reduction of detention of children held overnight remains strong. In 2019-20 there was 1,261 bed nights amounting to 14 children, whilst numbers in 2024-25 amounted to 375 bed nights for nine children. This shows an increase from 2023-24, however the large-scale disorder impacted this quite significantly.

The 24-hour Appropriate Adult cover remains effective and a protective factor for children and, as a consequence of close scrutiny of detention times of children in custody, the length of detention time has reduced on average by around three hours, and Humberside Police on average achieves marginally less than the 12-hour custody clock target for children.

In the last 12 months the YJS managers have worked closely with Humberside Police to deliver training on anti-social behaviour and exploited children and have undertaken sessions to upskill police officers in the use of out of court disposals. Some innovative work was undertaken with local solicitors to ensure they fully understand the out of court disposal offer and the use of police outcomes such as Outcome 22, to prevent barriers for children who do not admit offences or offer some form of acceptance of responsibility. This is particularly relevant given the number of children with speech, language and communication needs and/or neurodiversity.

Working with the National Probation Service

Working with the National Probation Service Northeast, HYJS has a full-time seconded Probation Officer working as an integral part of the team who manages some of the high-risk cases and all transitions between HYJS and the Probation Service. There is a clear and well-understood local protocol in place and an agreement that we will only transfer cases where it is appropriate to do so, and this is not based on age alone. The Probation Officer will take the lead on cases or work alongside the existing case manager to prepare the child for transition, based on assessment of the most appropriate course of action. Transitions are timely, with the required work undertaken as part of “Next Steps Transition Resource Pack”.

Further work has been undertaken to reflect the reversed changes to 18-year-olds on remand until their 19th birthday in the youth estate. Cases considered for transfer take into account the needs, maturity and vulnerability of the young person and for

those cases suitable for transfer, case transfer meetings take place between the services well in advance of the child’s 18th birthday.

All cases for transfer have a current assessment in preparation and if a PSR is requested for a high-risk offender, then the YJS and the Probation Service liaise to ensure there is a robust risk management plan in place to manage the child. In the 2024-25 period we have transitioned 15 children to youth on probation concentrators in the NPS.

The YJS and NPS have a good working relationship in Hull, identified in the HMIP Thematic of Young Adults in March 2024, to ensure that the young person is managed by the appropriate service and receives an appropriate intervention which meets their specific needs. HMIP said: “It is positive that improving services for young adults is a strategic priority and the established, strong partnership relationships provide a strong foundation for this ambition to be achieved”.

Our focus in the latter part of 2025 is to complete a local national standards 5 audit of transition and resettlement work.

Working with victims

With the imposition of the new HMIP inspection criteria, in Hull a Victims, Reparation and Volunteer lead was appointed in April 2025. The work with victims has developed at pace and we are proud to be working hard to achieve the best service for victims.

The Hull YJS Victims, Reparation and Volunteer Lead developed a clear victim and reparation roadmap with detailed objectives and goals to ensure the Hull YJS victim service delivers an outstanding personalised service to all our victims. The ambition is to develop the Hull YJS to become the best in class when it comes to our service delivery to victims! This means ensuring all our victims receive an outstanding individualised service bespoke to their needs to improve their wellbeing and welfare. This will be





achieved by quality one-to-one direct work with a VLO along with many new and exciting external partners who will provide bespoke professional support to the victim. Recently, P.A.U.L for Brain (a local charitable organisation) agreed to provide one-to-one work with our victims who have suffered from a violent crime.

We aspire to establish a victim service that invests and values our victims by making them feel empowered and are given a voice. This will be achieved by working restoratively with all our victims, ensuring they are at the heart of every child's intervention plan and the victims are represented throughout their journey with the Hull YJS.

The development of reparation opportunities is also a priority, identifying new reparation community-based projects across the city for our children. The Hull YJS ambition is to provide quality reparation projects that help our children not only repair the harm they have caused by giving back to their local communities, but also to develop their skills and abilities by creating an environment in which the children feel safe and can enjoy.

One essential element in achieving our ambitions for the reparation provision is to create a cohort of Hull YJS reparation volunteers. The Hull YJS volunteers will help supervise the children at the new community-based projects. We currently have three exciting community-based projects for our children. They are as follows:

- **Paul Ingle Boxing Club** located in Bransholme – includes boxing, first aid training and general fitness
- **Rewilding Youth** located in Longhill – a horticultural, natural environment with a view to give the children an opportunity to develop their own life-long connections with the outdoor environment
- **KASTOR garden** – a reparation worker has secured funding for a professional gardener to help our children grow food and flowers in the KASTOR garden which will be given to the children or to a local food bank

To date, the work on victims has included:

- The creation of a victim supervisory quality assurance assessment and performance template
- Creating a new victim contact report template, including a victim safety matrix and safety plan
- Creating a KPI spreadsheet to provide management and the YJB key data to track our victim service delivery
- Organising and designing a bespoke five-day victim training package to ensure all VLOs are suitably trained, including Restorative Justice (RJ) complex and sensitive case support
- Creating electronic victim surveys to collate key victim data and their protected characteristics
- Creating RJ champions in the Hull YJS team (case managers) to improve our RJ work with victims and children
- Improving police victim contact - we are keen to improve our victim support contact with police officers and staff who have become a victim of crime whilst on duty by one of our children
- Improving IT systems to record victim contact and capture KPI data
- Continuing to develop and improve our direct reparation opportunities

Performance and progress on previous plan:

	Year One 2024//25 Target	24/25 Achievement	Year Two 2025/26 Target	Year Two 2025/26 Achievement	Year Three 2026/27 Target	Year Three 2026/27
Reduce First Time Entrants baseline 156	5% Decrease on baseline 140	49.30% 233	5% Decrease on previous years 133		5% Decrease on previous years 126	
Reduce Re-offending baseline (average in 2021) 48%	5% Decrease on baseline 45.0%	Average in 2022 45.6%	5% Decrease on previous years 43.3%		5% Decrease on previous years 40.0%	
Reduce use of Custody baseline 0.37	5% Decrease on baseline 0.35	22% improvement 0.29	5% Decrease on previous years achievement 0.27		5% Decrease on previous years 0.28	
Ensure suitable accommodation at end of court order 100%	Maintain baseline 100%	100%	Maintain baseline 100%		Maintain baseline 100%	
Increase % of children accessing ETE at closure 40%	Increase baseline by 10% 44%	20% improvement 48%	5% increase on previous years achievement 53.0%		5% increase on previous year 58%	
% of SEND in YJ System 14% SEN Support (17/130) 20% EHCP (26/130)	5% Decrease on baseline		5% decrease on previous years w		5% decrease on previous years target	
	SEN 13.5%	5% (6/116)	12.8%		12.1%	
	EHCP 19%	12% (14/116)	18%		17.1%	
Ensure all children screened or assessed for mental health/emotional wellbeing needs 100%	Maintain baseline 100%	100%	Maintain baseline 100%		Maintain baseline 100%	
Reduce % of children who are care experienced (intervention closed Jan - Mar24) 42%	5% Decrease on baseline 40.0%	5% Decrease 40.0%	5% decrease on previous years target 38%		5% decrease on previous years target 36.1%	
Board attendance 100%	Maintain baseline 100%	100%	Maintain baseline 100%		Maintain baseline 100%	
Disproportionality information provided to inform Action Plan	Ensure proportionality					
Ethnic minority % of caseload 22.2%		18.85%				
Reduce number of children cautioned or convicted of Serious Violence on the YJS caseload 8 children for 13 offences	Decrease number of children committing SYV and number of offences		Decrease on previous years target			
	8 Children	4				
	13 Offences	5				
Number of victims in YJS (Jan-May 25)	Baseline to be set	132	Decrease number of victims on baseline		Decrease number of victims from previous year	
Number of victims contacted	Baseline to be set	100%	Increase number of victims contacted on baseline		Increase number of victims contacted on previous year	
Number of victims engaged	Baseline to be set	76	Increase number of victims engaging on baseline		Increase number of victims engaging on previous year	
Feedback received from victims	Increase on Baseline	70.0%	Increase on previous year		Increase on previous year	

Addressing progress on the previous plan, overall the performance of the partnership in Hull is positive. However, it is disappointing to record an increase in FTEs. As mentioned earlier in this update, the city endured a large-scale disorder in August 2024, with a significant number of children being implicated and involved in the incident. 28 children from Hull were involved in the disorder, of which 15 had never been known to the YJS and due to the seriousness of the charge, the children were summoned immediately to court with a subsequent conviction.

Had these children not have been caught up in the disturbances, the FTE figure would be a rate of 179 - not as detailed above, 233. Furthermore, three children were summoned to court for driving offences after a recent change in policy which now requires endorsement of licence at court. Without these two issues we would have recorded the total number of FTE children from 65 to 47. This is still an increased rate of 168 compared to the baseline of 156, but less of a significant jump. Sadly these elements impact on FTEs figures substantially, but reassuringly we do understand why this has happened.



When considering re-offending rates, in order to offer accurate data, we are looking back at data from 2021 and 2022 where we have seen a positive reduction in re-offending by 2.4%. Whilst this is not achieving our target of a 5% reduction on the previous year, it is still a reduction in re-offending which is positive.

As a service, we are concerned about the initial data recorded in quarter four for 2022-23 which suggests an increase in re-offending. This could be explained in part by the backlog and unprecedented consequences caused by the COVID pandemic. However, it wasn't until late 2022/early 2023 that HYJS introduced the Integrated Offender Manager (IOM) model in partnership with the police to address prolific offending. This co-ordinated approach, alongside the additional High Harm Risk Reduction Officer implemented in April 2025 means we anticipate a positive impact on re-offending. The true benefit of these methods of working will take some time yet to realise positive impacts, but as a partnership we remain focused on re-offending which may well link directly to custody numbers.

To be discussed in more detail in the service development section, we expect a Forensic Child Mental Health Nurse to start in summer 2025. We anticipate that by meeting the physical and psychological challenges the children face in YJS with wrap-around support to staff and development of staff in thinking with psychological formulation, it will improve understanding and engagement with children and go some way to address re-offending.

Really positively, we have recently recorded a significant reduction of 22% in custody numbers. They remain stubbornly high when comparing ourselves to the England and Wales national average and family comparators, but it could be argued that the intensive work being completed with repeat offending children is having an impact on the reduction of children in custody.

Other positive areas to note include board attendance, which continues to be strong, and the increase of 20% on the baseline of children accessing ETE at closure. This is a positive step in the right direction, but much work is still to be done to improve the overall attendance of children in ETE at the closure.

We have achieved the plan's target of a 5% decrease in the number of children who are care-experienced - with 40% of our caseload having a social worker.

Disproportional representation of children who are care-experienced remains a priority to reduce the numbers, and the more recent changes in process around non-criminalisation of criminal damage in care homes and closer working relationships with social workers where children have a disability or specific learning need, to ensure we best meet their needs will work to prevent criminalisation and disproportionate representation.

In Hull, the current demographic of children aged 10-17 is 80.6% white British. In Hull Youth Justice the percentage of white British children aged 10-17 is 81%. This is a much closer representation of Hull than in previous years. The breakdown of the demographic of Hull and HYJS is below and as a partnership we remain committed to re-address disproportionality, which in our case relates to over-representation of white/black African children, other Asian children and Gypsy/Roma Romanian children who are 13.6 times higher represented in HYJS than in the population of Hull. As the original plan states, we must use these statistics with caution and be mindful of the validity of the census information when making these comparisons, as we are making the assumptions that the census data from 2021 is entirely accurate.

We know that some groups are much less likely to complete the census returns and therefore are underrepresented in the census data. Also, the numbers of each group in the Hull YJ cohort are so small the differences are unlikely to be statistically significant. That said, we are concerned that

we see disproportionate numbers of white/black African children, Asian children and Gypsy/Roma Romanian children.

We will continue to take a partnership approach to this challenge and board members are required to present disproportionality data to the management board in order to understand the context well.

During 2024-25 Hull YJS has reached out to support services in the local community such as Humber All Nations Alliance (HANA) to seek support and advice about services in the local communities for minoritised groups. We have also sought support from specialist subject experts in the Gypsy/Roma Romanian communities in order to develop a working understanding of the challenges and experiences of such communities, but also minoritised communities delivered by Andrez Harriott who consulted with staff on knife crime, use of language, intergenerational trauma and the over-representation of black boys in custody and the criminal justice system.

Feedback from staff on the training included:

"It made me really think about my practice with ethnic minority children we may work with. The intergenerational trauma was really interesting and made so much sense. What has happened to those parents and grandparents with police or services was where that trust was lost for example."

"I can honestly say it was some of the best training that I have ever undertaken. I think that given this is considering marginalised individuals, and the city that we are in being a particularly white city, that families and children are already facing so much. Therefore, understanding a family's route into the county, what it is that they have faced in their histories, and how this could impact on engagement with services I think it is a really important part to consider particularly when we talk about engagement and considering barriers to this."

In terms of work at board level, in November 2024 - with more planned for the coming months - we welcomed "Andrez Harriott who

is a Criminologist, Sociologist and Organisational Consultant, trained within the Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, specialising in the use of Systemic and Psychodynamic approaches, helping organisations to engage beyond the accepted narrative and explore beneath the surface. With over 20 years of experience working with high-risk, highly complex, high-harm, and highly vulnerable children and young adults within custodial and community settings, Andrez Harriott brings a wealth of understanding and knowledge to consultancy and training.

As organisational consultants, The Liminality Group work very discreetly with leaders, staff, and organisations to support change across the National Health Service, Ministry of Justice, His Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, the Youth Justice Board, Youth Justice Services, Youth Justice Management Boards, and private and third-sector organisations.

The coming months will allow us as a partnership to develop further in terms of systemic changes which will continue to reduce over representation of some ethnic minority groups in Hull.

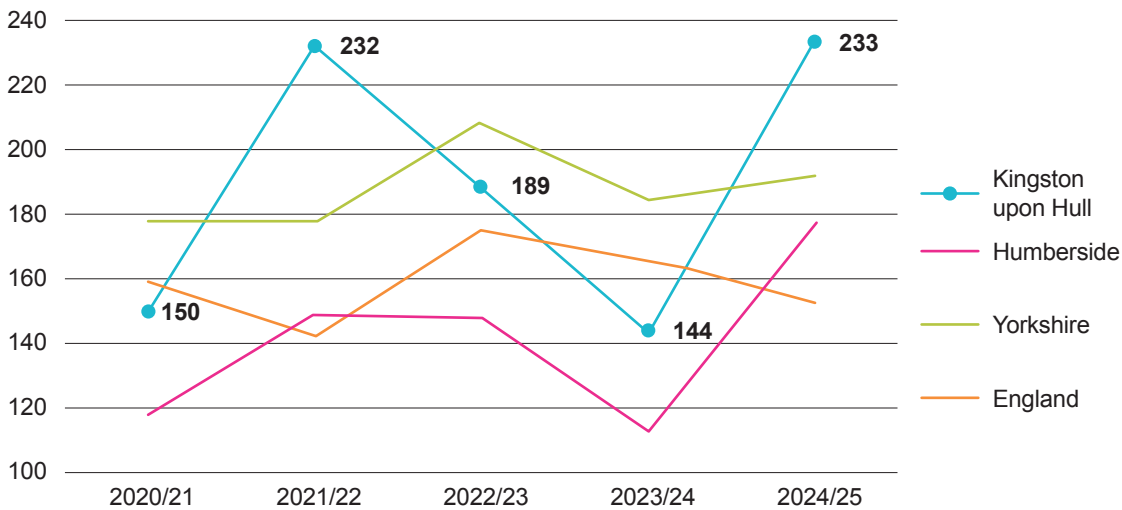
Ethnicity	Hull Census 2021 Age 10-17	Hull Census 2021 Age 10-17%	Actual Number of children in HYJS	%
White - British	20770	80.66%	99	81.15%
White Other	2105	8.17%	8	6.56%
Black - African	555	2.15%	2	1.64%
Any other ethnic group	370	1.44%	0	0.00%
White and Black African	250	0.97%	3	2.46%
Other Asian	245	0.95%	6	4.92%
Arab Other	225	0.87%	0	0.00%
White and Asian	225	0.87%	1	0.82%
Other Mixed Background	195	0.76%	1	0.82%
White and Black Caribbean	175	0.68%	0	0.00%
Bangladeshi	155	0.60%	1	0.82%
Pakistani	150	0.58%	0	0.00%
Chinese	120	0.47%	0	0.00%
Other Black	110	0.43%	0	0.00%
Indian	75	0.29%	0	0.00%
Gypsy / Roma	15	0.06%	1	0.82%
Caribbean	10	0.04%	0	0.00%
Information Not Yet Obtained	0	-	0	0.00%
White - Irish	0	-	0	0.00%
Total	25750	0.9999	122	100.00%

The target regarding children with SEND in the Criminal Justice System is to be reviewed. SEN remains an important indicator for the Hull Youth Justice management board but as a partnership, we have removed this target following a board discussion because it wasn't considered granular or meaningful enough. Going forward, we will monitor SEN and communication needs in more detail and are exploring best practice indicators from other areas to adopt and benchmark against.

Finally, in terms of performance and progress on the previous plan, you will see we have added some additional performance data around victims, including the number of victims in HYJS from Jan to May 2025, the number of victims contacted, how many engaged with the service for support and feedback received. These are new indicators for the services and developments in victims work, which is vital to meet the requirements of the updated HMIP inspection guidance.

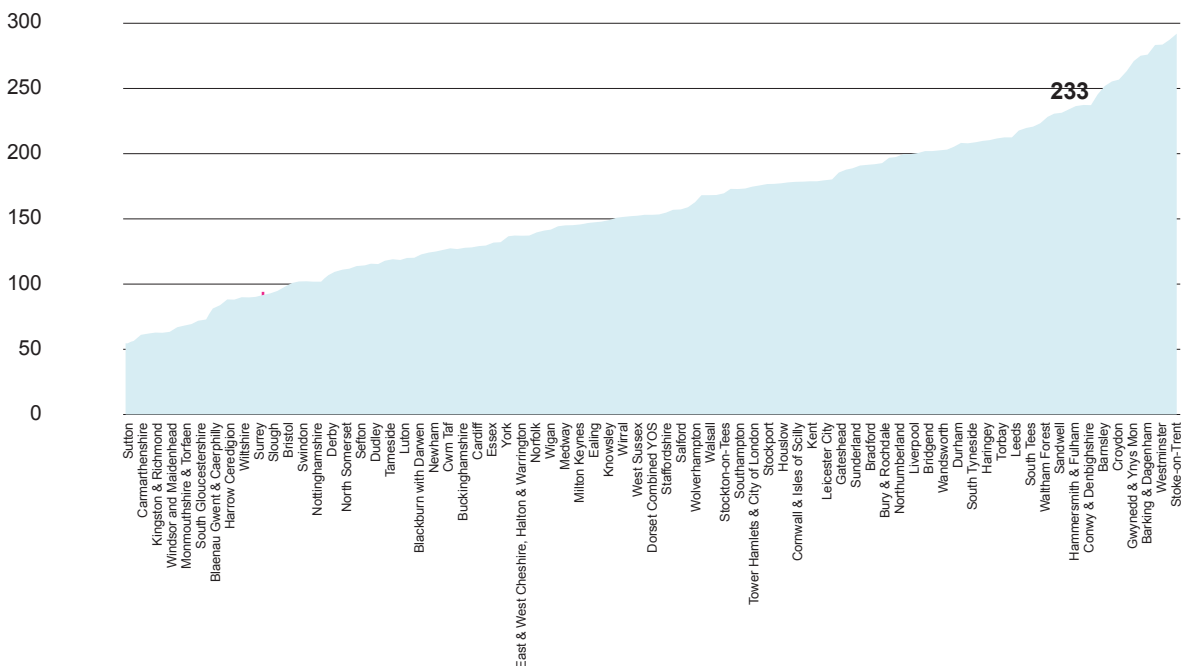
Below are snapshots of performance and where we are currently sitting:

Kingston upon Hull & comparator FTE rates: 2020/21 - 2024/25

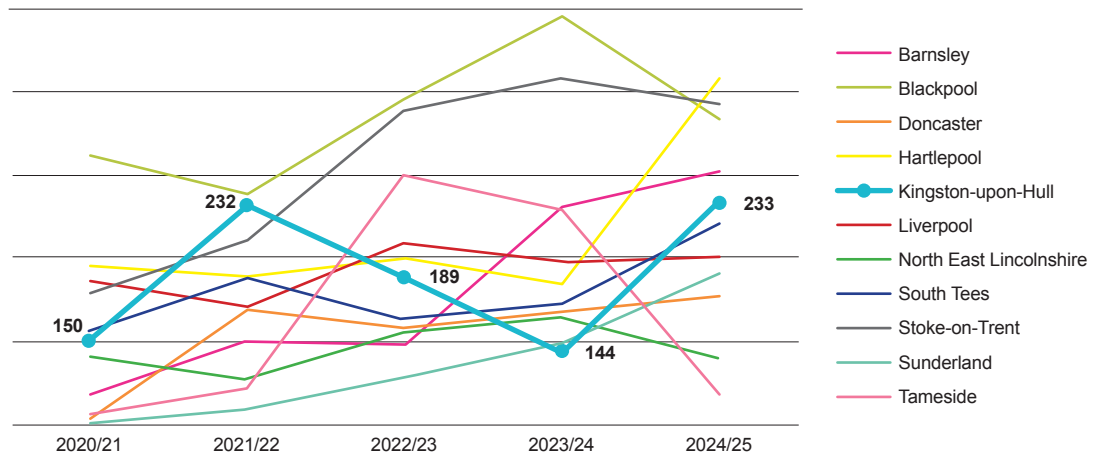


The rate of 233 for FTEs places Hull 132nd out of a 152 Youth Justice Services nationally which is something we are sighted on and working to address. (156 YJS in total)

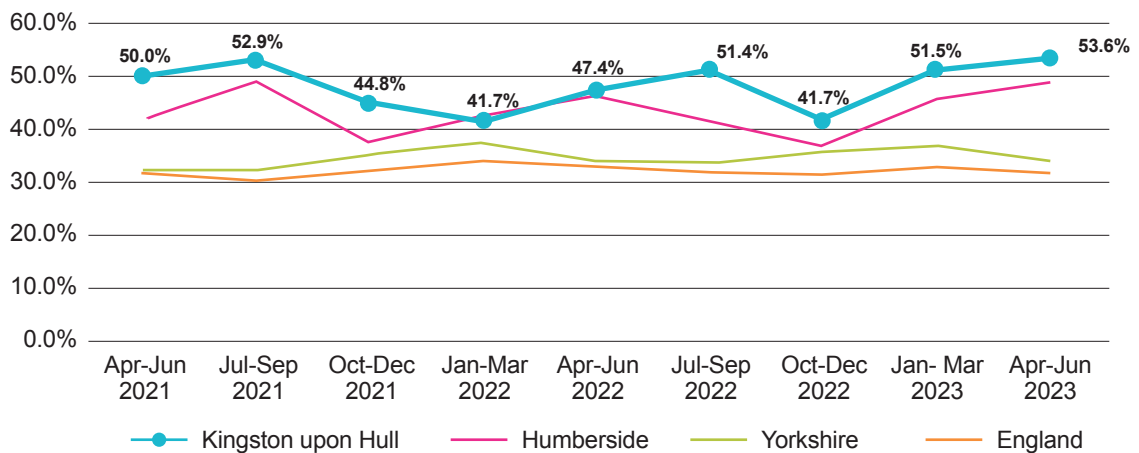
All YOTs: FTE rates 2024/25



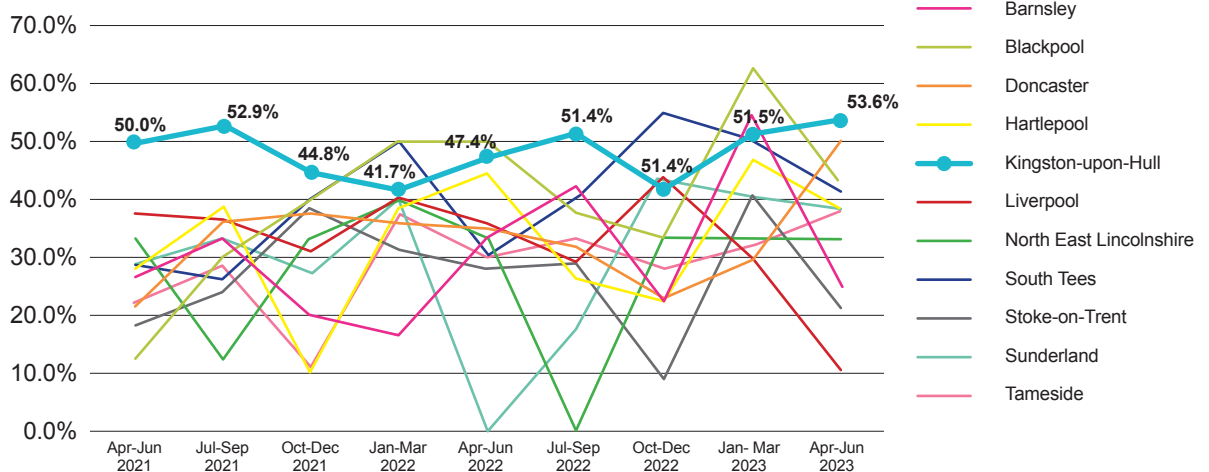
Kingston upon Hull & comparator YOTs: FTE rates 2020/21 - 2024/25



Reoffending Binary rates, Apr-Jun 2021 to Apr-Jun 2023 Kingston upon Hull v PCC area, Region and England

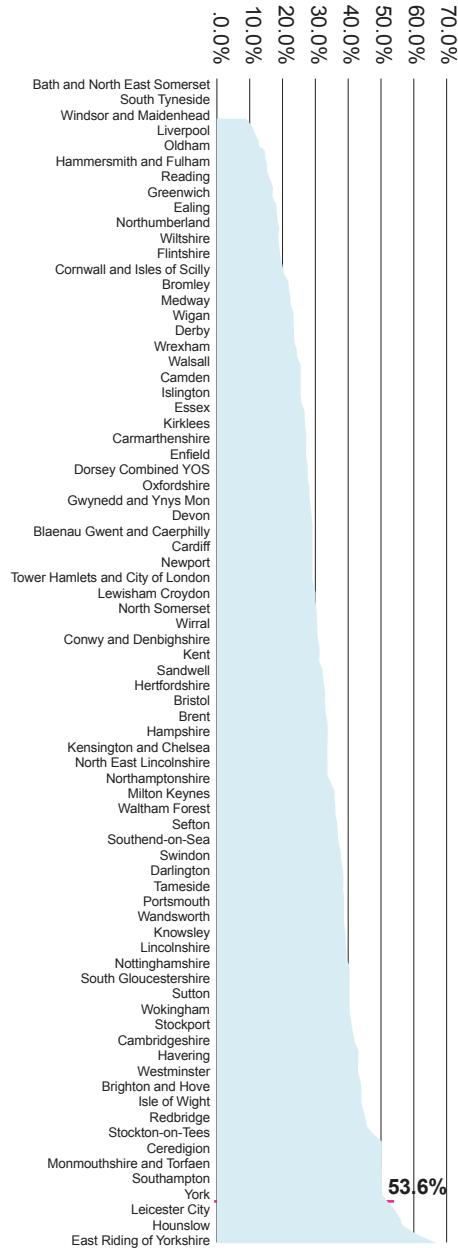


Kingston upon Hull & comparator YOTs: Binary rates, Apr-Jun 2021 to Apr-Jun 2023

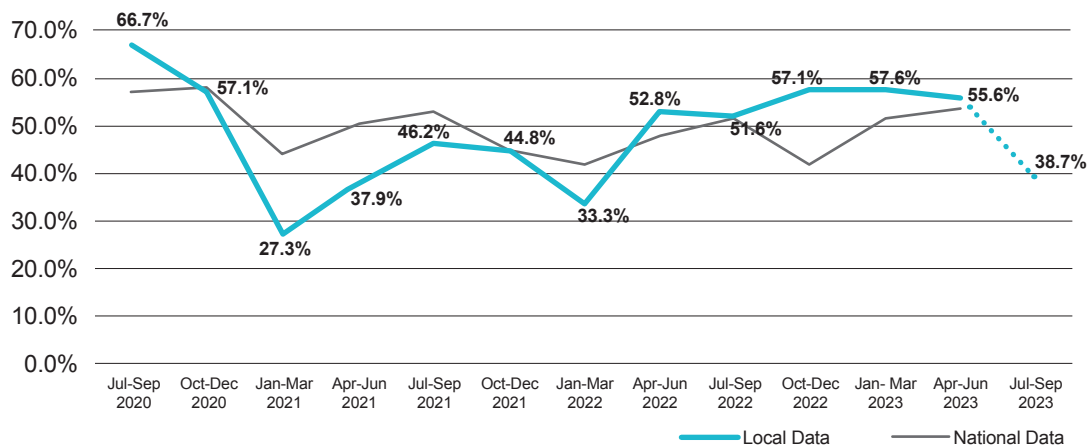


The re-offending rate of 51.5% places Hull 148th out of a 155 Youth Justice Services nationally, which is something we are sighted on and working to address.

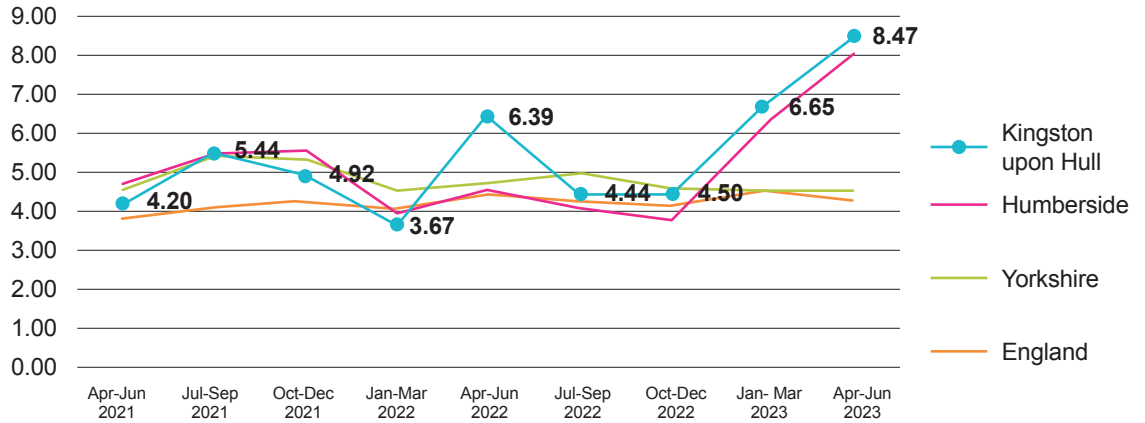
**All YOTs: Binary reoffending rate,
Apr-Jun 2023 cohort**



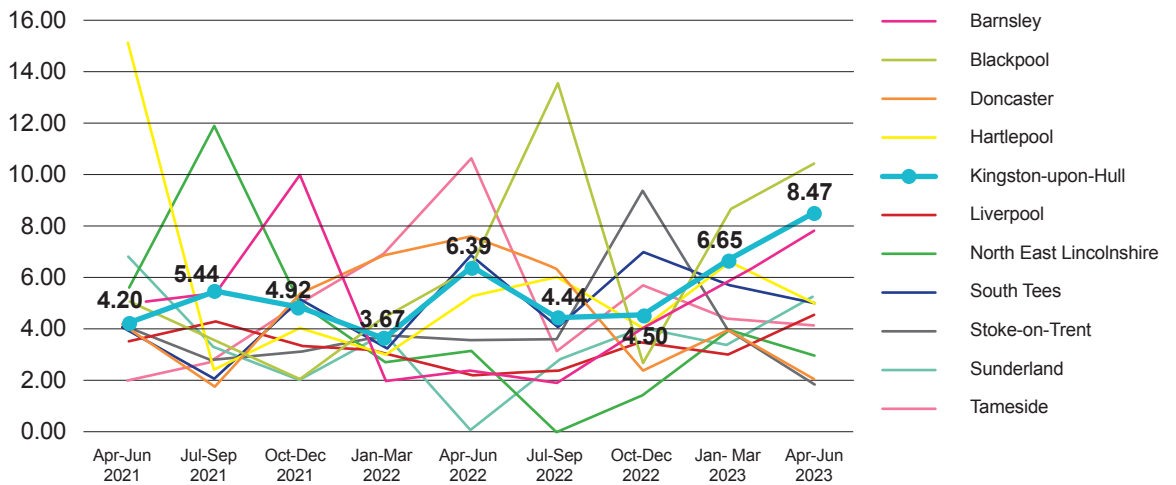
Live Tracker Reoffending (completed cohorts)



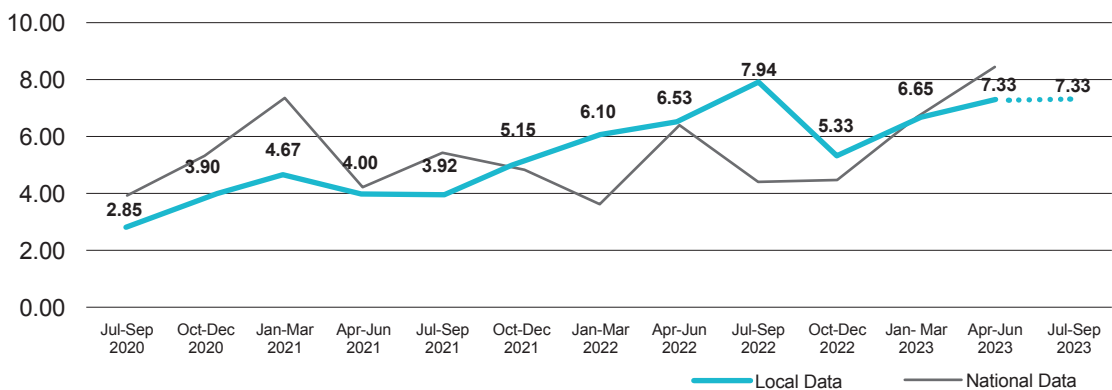
Reoffending Frequency rates, Apr-Jun 2021 to Apr-Jun 2023. Kingston upon Hull v PCC area, Region and England



Kingston upon Hull & comparator YOTs: Frequency rates, Apr-Jun 2021 to Apr-Jun 2023



Live Tracker Reoffending (completed cohorts)



Risks and issues

The extension to Turnaround funding allowed ongoing prevention work to continue with children who we may not have otherwise been able to reach. We see benefits of intervening early with reduced re-offending rates and increased self-esteem for children, however we are unsure of the funding formula going forward as the grant is issued annually, making long-term planning a challenge.

We also face the uncertainty around the changes and cuts within the NHS, which means there is again significant uncertainty around the future of teams and areas of work that are crucial to our service, including SEND and safeguarding support.

We note and remain concerned about the national variation in the use of referral back to Diversion from court and a YCC being the only option, when a child is eligible for an out of court disposal. Whilst we have processes in place to prevent the unnecessary criminalisation of children, it is felt that the idealistic processes could negatively impact on outcomes for children in Hull and unequal sanctions for similar behaviours nationally is a concern. This has been escalated to YJB and we wait for instruction on how this might be addressed more equitably in the future.

We are concerned about waiting delays for assessments for neurodiversity and SEN assessments. We have fast track processes in place for such assessments, but sadly, this still equates to months of waiting, if not longer, for assessments and at times delays in possible prescription medications if necessary and appropriate.

Service development

Whilst we have seen significant development in the service with regards to the service victims will receive from HYJS, detailed earlier in this update, we continue to be on an ever-evolving journey of improvement.

Significantly, in the latter part of 2024-25 as a partnership we developed and implemented a robust internal auditing process to ensure quality work with children and families and measured adherence to policy and procedures. The process offers evidence - both quantitative and qualitative data - to the partnership board and allows the strategic and operational oversight of cases in Hull to identify themes and areas for development. The progressive mindset and learning loop deployed to ensure quality assurance supports staff in development of practice without blame being apportioned, but enthusiasm and drive for better service for children and families. Staff are engaged in the evaluation of work as you would expect in any inspection to ensure their thinking is heard, understood and reflected upon.

It is also exciting to note that we are currently in the process of recruitment for a Forensic Child Adolescent Mental Health (F-CAMHs) Nurse to specifically support the children in HYJS. This has been a long time in the making and this post will finally be in place from summer 2025. The F-CAMHs Nurse will complement the Specialist Public Health Nurse, Speech and Language Therapist, MIND Counsellor and Substance Misuse Prevention Worker to address all aspects of a child's physical and emotionally wellbeing.

Feedback

Ensuring the voice of the child and parent/ carer is crucial to ensure effective intervention and change work. Children and families shape our service to ensure we meet their needs. The following are some examples of what children and families said about working with HYJS.

When we asked children, what things in your life have got better since working with HYJS? They said:

MY EDUCATION PACK IS GETTING SORTED

I HAVE STOPPED WORRYING SO MUCH ABOUT THINGS NOW I HAVE COMPLETED MY WORK WITH HYJS

I'M MORE ACTIVE

BEING ABLE TO CONTROL MY ANGER A LOT MORE

IT MADE ME GO TO COURT AND I'M A LOT BETTER BEHAVED



IT HAS GOT BETTER YET IT WILL EVEN MORE ONCE I GET MY APPLICATION DECISION FOR MY REMAIN STATUS

I GOT THROUGH MY LICENCE! I GET ON BETTER WITH MY DAD, DON'T SMOKE AS MUCH CANNABIS, I'VE DONE MAJORITY OF MY CSCS CARD, I KEEP AWAY FROM IDIOTS

I AM GOING TO SCHOOL NOW I AM GOING HOPING TO GET AN APPRENTICESHIP

I HAVE MY SON I NEED TO PROVIDE FOR

I'VE GOT MY OWN PLACE NOW, I'VE GOT SUPPORT FROM SOCIAL CARE AN I'VE GOT MONEY

When we asked children, what's been good about coming to the HYJS? They said:

**Meeting the staff and recognising
my actions do have consequences**

I understand a lot more about law

It gives me a break from things

**Having people to talk to and to help
me because no-one else does**

**Talking to my worker and the artist, doing
my art. This time was better than last time,
I feel I am older so get it more now**

**Having someone to talk to about all sorts, being
supported with my complaint to get section 20**

**The staff are nice, and we try to
sort things out and listen to me**

Nothing I shouldn't have had to do it anyway

**I have learnt a lot about what can
get you into trouble and how to
stay out of trouble in the future**

Learning to cook and eating the free food

When we asked children to think about the things you have been doing at HYJS and what helped you sort any problems out in your life? They said:

It has helped me to know when I am getting angry and recognise when I need to calm down and come back to talk about the situation

Just having someone to help me with things

Getting my section 20 means I've got a place of my own, and money and I feel better about myself

Nothing has helped me, I had already done the work

Go to The Warren and do boxing and they've given me a gym pass so I'm less bored in the day

I've spoken about my family with my worker and this has helped. I don't get as angry now, I feel better about myself, she encouraged me to go to school more which is better

It showed me the danger of driving and that offending is not for me

It has made me think about things more before acting and I now sometimes go to the boxing gym which gives me more things to do

It has taught me the road law

When we asked children, who will help you with any problems you have after you leave here? They said:

Myself, carers
and family

My mum or grandma and if
I need to I will speak to my
teachers at school

Mam and dad

I can still phone my
worker if need any
help. My mum and dad,
teachers at school

I know my mum
will if I need her

My family and
my social worker

Placement staff
or social worker

Mam, The Warren

When we asked children, what other help do you think you will need?
How can we help you get this? They said:

Social worker of son
who knows I can be
trusted to have him

None. It helped me a lot

CV

None

Therapy

I need help with
getting my ID and
biometrics sorted out

I can't think of any other
help that i will need

I can call my worker

When we asked parents what do you feel has helped your
child the most during their time with the HYJS? They said:

I do think that my daughter does
think about being in trouble and
the work does make her think at
the time she is doing it but then
she struggles all the other time to
put anything into practice

Doing his art, he was
very proud of it

Having the option
to talk to someone

Priorities

Our priorities for 2025/2026 remain the same:

1. Reduction in First Time Entrants by Early Identification and multi-agency Diversion.
2. Reduce Re-Offending Rate.
3. Reducing Custody Rates.
4. Ensure the Voice of the Child is central to the work completed by HYJS and its partnerships.
5. Reduce the number of young people in the youth justice system who are involved with wider services, CIN, CP, CLA.
6. Ensure more children are in ETE and are attending as expected.
7. Victims receive an outstanding personalised service to all victims by maximising restorative justice and reparation.
8. Ensure children receive or are on the correct pathway for specialist health assessments.
9. That children are in appropriate accommodation on release from custody.
10. Work to reduce disproportionate representation in Youth Justice Services.
11. Maintain a strong management board with aligned principles.
12. Work to reducing serious youth violence and exploitation.



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