

# IOM and Youth Justice

**John Drew**

**Chief Executive, Youth Justice Board**



# Overview

- Overview of the YJB and youth justice system
- Youth justice and the IOM model
  - » Prevention
    - » Working together to reduce offending and reoffending
    - » Transitions into the adult justice system
- Challenges on the horizon

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## The role of the Youth Justice Board

The Youth Justice Board was established in 1998 to advise the Secretary of State on the youth justice system:

- oversee the youth justice system in England and Wales;
- prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people;
- commission secure establishments and place young people in custody;
- ensure that all young people in custody are kept safe and secure; and
- identify and share effective practice.

# YOTS & the secure estate

## Youth Offending Teams (YOTS)

- 160 YOTS
- within each local authority

## Secure Estate

- 11 Youth Offender Institutions
- 4 Secure Training Centres
- 10 Secure Children's Homes

1898 young people in custody



### Key

- Young offender institution
- Secure training centre
- Secure children's home

## YOTs as multi-agency bodies

The idea of multi-agency working is not new to youth justice:

- Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, local authorities must establish YOTs with responsibility for co-ordinating provision of youth justice services for all those in the local area;

*The YOT is overseen by a non-statutory management board made up of senior officers from the local authority and its partners ... membership of a YOT must include at least one of the following:*

- *probation board/services officer;*
- *a local authority social worker;*
- *a police officer;*
- *a representative from the Primary Care Trust or a Local Health Board;*
- *an education expert;*

*A YOT may also include such other persons as the local authority thinks appropriate after consulting the partner agencies.*

- This multi-agency approach has become widely recognised as a good model of public service delivery and for having a positive impact on outcomes.

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## Youth Justice & IOM

- YOTs are involved in IOM across England and Wales & three key areas of benefit:
  - prevention of youth crime and reducing number of first-time entrants;
  - working together to reduce offending and reoffending; and
  - transitions into the adult justice system.

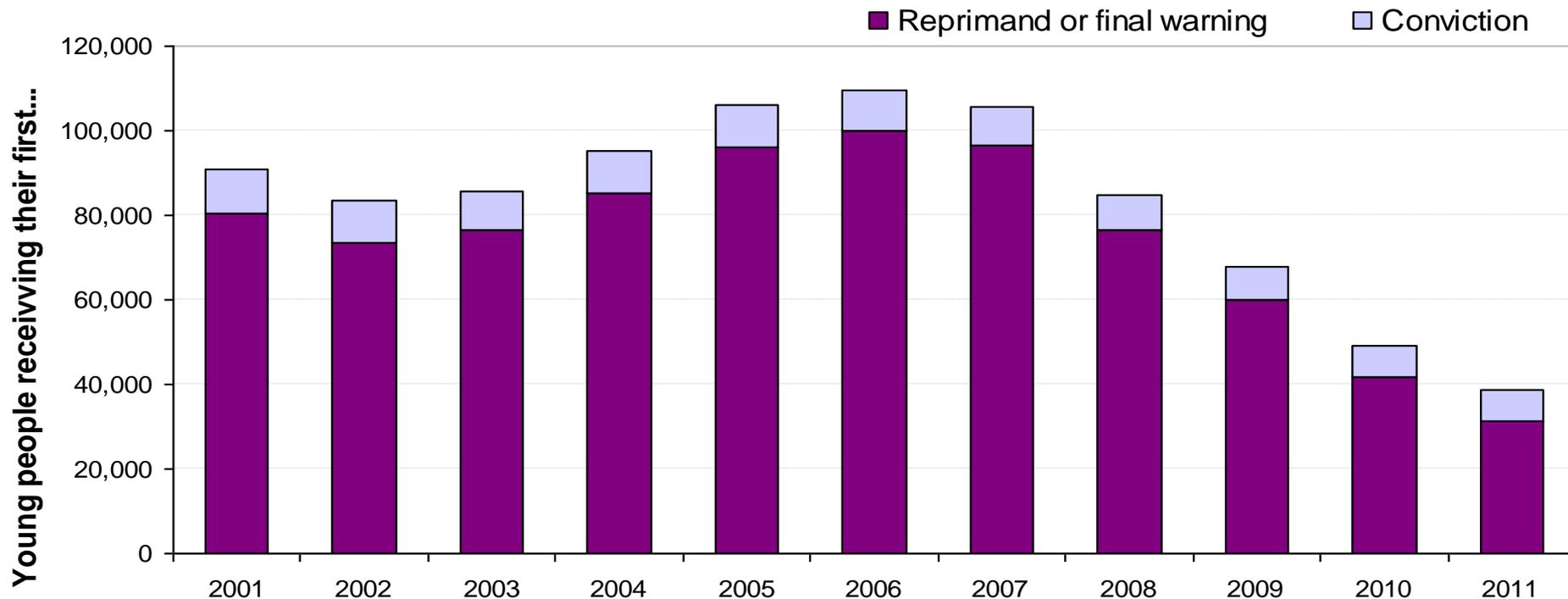
*“Integrated Offender Management [in Cheshire North Division] via the Navigate scheme has been a significant success locally...there are clear benefits to involving YOTs in this process as ... targeting of collective resources allows for an effective impact on both youth and adult offenders. YOT staff contribute knowledge .. which adds to the overall knowledge base... We have seen better information sharing for those young people, some of whom will unfortunately progress into the 'adult' system and this also is a major benefit to how ... partners address the individual needs and issues of those young people in the future.”*

John Davidson,  
Assistant Chief Exec of Cheshire Probation Trust & HWYOT Management Board Member

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# First-time entrants to the youth justice system



## Prevention

Range of initiatives to encourage reduction of first-time entrants:

- Working with partners on the troubled families agenda
- Tackling serious youth crime & violence
- Encouraging restorative justice approaches
- Gathering & disseminating effective practice
- Other schemes for early intervention with children & the building of desistance

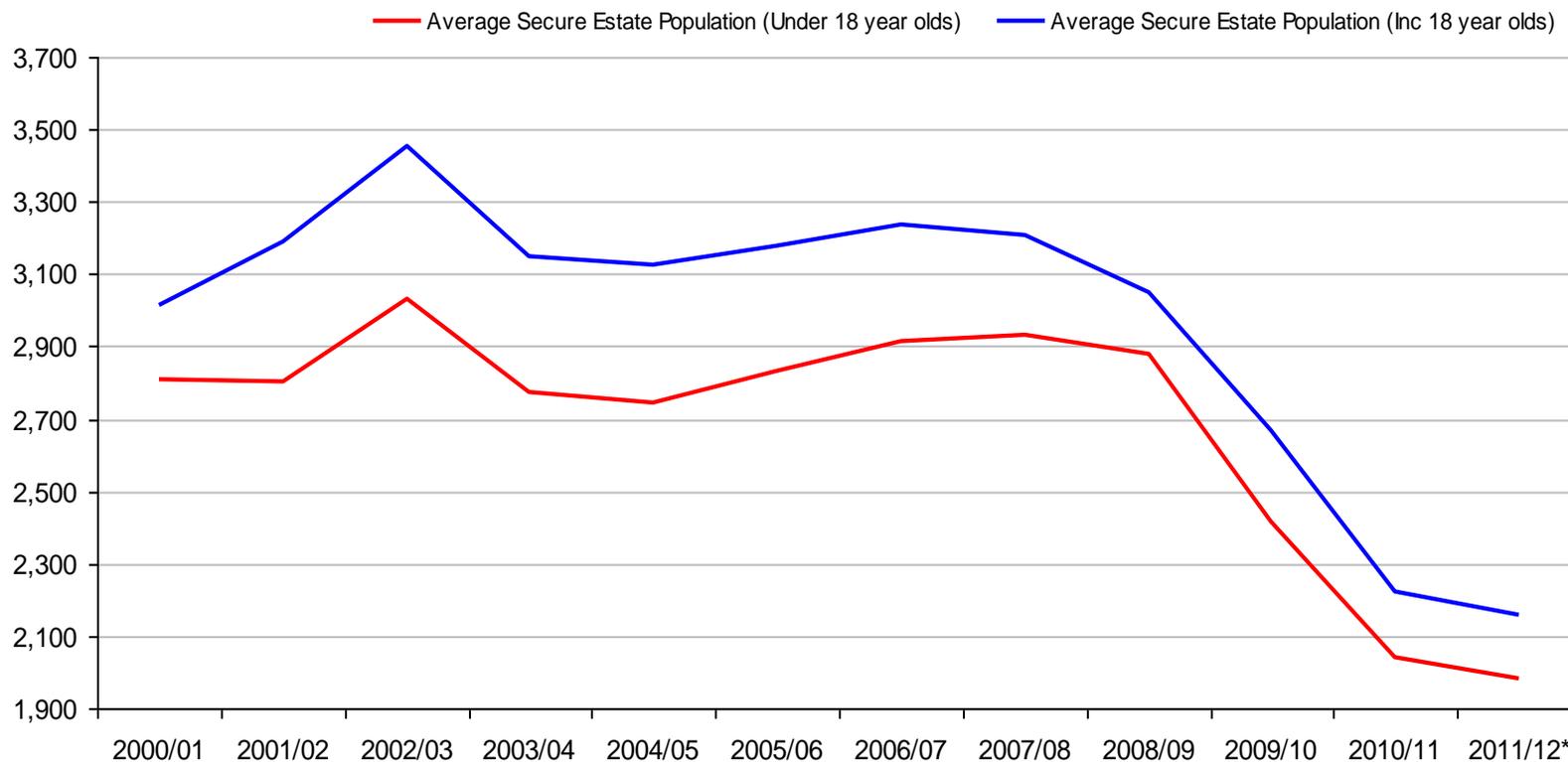
### Walsall IOM & Walsall YOT:

- *Walsall YOT operational team manager seconded to be Walsall IOM co-ordinator*
- *Exploring innovative ways to work together to tackle youth & adult offending*
- *Aligning with 'troubled families' agenda to help prevent youth crime*

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# Average custody population (under 18)



## Reducing offending & reoffending

- Initiatives across England & Wales to help reduce re/offending:
  - Partnership engagement → resettlement consortia
  - Localised accountability → Youth Justice Reinvestment Pathfinder
  - Improving understanding of needs/risks → revised Assessment tools

### Kent & Medway IOM:

- *IOM cohort includes adults and DYOs and look at best way of sharing resources to minimise offending & reoffending by both young people and adults:*
- *Share intelligence eg. police & YOT work together to jointly agree DYO list with 41 young people selected in March;*
- *Share resources eg. IOM provide YOT with additional police support; and*
- *Shared focus eg. thematic reviews on offending health & transitions.*

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## Transitions

- YJB led Youth to Adult Transitions Framework
- NOMS led protocol for transitions within custody
- Youth to Adult (Y2A) Portal
- Youth to Adult Transitions Forum

### Cardiff IOM & Cardiff YOT:

- *Focus on using IOM approach to dealing with transitions from YJS to adult system*
- *Seconded probation officer working with both YOT and IOM teams focusing on all +17 year olds to ensure smooth transition into adult system & address risks*

### Luton

- *Luton YOS refer all DYOs aged 17½ to PPO selection panel*
- *If selected, Probation & YOT work together for up to a month post-18*
- *Provides time for gradual transition and handover of all relevant info*

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# Challenges on the horizon

- **Transitions**
- **Significantly fewer resources;**
  - impacting on YOT's ability to deliver effective interventions
  - affecting structure of YOTs and place within Local Authority
- **LASPO Act**
  - creation of single remand framework and associated changes
  - sentencing changes
- **Introduction of Police & Crime Commissioners**
  - transfer of community safety budget
  - keen to ensure that YOTs are linked into decision-making processes