



HM Prison &
Probation Service

Action Plan Submitted: 8th January 2020

Action Plan Update Submitted: 7th December 2020

A Response to: A thematic inspection of Youth Resettlement Work in the Community
Report Published: 8th October 2019

INTRODUCTION

Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation is the independent inspector of youth offending and probation services in England and Wales. It reports on the effectiveness of probation and youth offending service work with adults and children.

In response to the report, HMPPS/MoJ are required to draft a robust and timely action plan to address the recommendations. The action plan confirms whether recommendations are agreed, partly agreed or not agreed (see categorisations below). Where a recommendation is agreed or partly agreed, the action plan provides specific steps and actions to address these. Actions are clear, measurable, achievable and relevant with the owner and timescale of each step clearly identified. Action plans are published on the HMI Probation website. Progress against the implementation and delivery of the action plans will be monitored by HMPPS/MoJ and reviewed annually by HMI Probation.

Term	Definition	Additional comment
Agreed	All of the recommendation is agreed with, can be achieved and is affordable.	The response should clearly explain how the recommendation will be achieved along with timescales. Actions should be as SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound) as possible. Actions should be specific enough to be tracked for progress.
Partly Agreed	Only part of the recommendation is agreed with, is achievable, affordable and will be implemented. This might be because we cannot implement the whole recommendation because of commissioning, policy, operational or affordability reasons.	The response must state clearly which part of the recommendation will be implemented along with SMART actions and tracked for progress. There must be an explanation of why we cannot fully agree the recommendation - this must state clearly whether this is due to commissioning, policy, operational or affordability reasons.
Not Agreed	The recommendation is not agreed and will not be implemented. This might be because of commissioning, policy, operational or affordability reasons.	The response must clearly state the reasons why we have chosen this option. There must be an explanation of why we cannot agree the recommendation - this must state clearly whether this is due to commissioning, policy, operational or affordability reasons.

ACTION PLAN: A thematic inspection of youth resettlement work in the community

1. Rec No	2. Recommendation	3. Agreed/ Partly Agreed/ Not Agreed	4. Response Action Taken/Planned	5. Responsible Owner (including named individuals and their functional role or department)	6. Target Date
	The Ministry of Justice, Department for Education and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government should:				
1	Provide central payment of accommodation retainers where necessary, to ensure that children have suitable accommodation in place, a minimum of one month prior to the earliest date of release.	Partly Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed because Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service (HMPPS) and the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) have no direct control over the agenda taken forward by the Department for Education (DfE) or the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG). The MoJ agrees that children should have accommodation in place before they leave custody. In too many cases accommodation is identified late in the day and/or it is unsuitable for the child.</p> <p>The MoJ is reviewing the provision of accommodation. The MoJ will work with DfE and MHCLG to consider how best to ensure children have suitable accommodation in place prior to their release, including whether a central payment system of accommodation retainers is the most effective means of achieving this goal.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Youth Justice Board (YJB), the MoJ hosted a roundtable event in December 2019 to draw together key stakeholders with the aim of building a coalition of responsible bodies and those with expertise to drive improvements to accommodation outcomes for children released from custody. The event was attended by stakeholders from across government both centrally and locally, the third sector and academia. The roundtable initiated future collaborative working to support work against several of the thematic inspection reports' recommendations and beyond. We have a good understanding of what the barriers are to accommodation and now need to act to overcome these.</p>	<p>Head of Youth Custody Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>Head of Youth Custody Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p>	<p>March 2020</p> <p>Completed</p>
			Action Plan Update (December 2020)		

			<p>The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) has worked closely with the Department for Education (DfE) and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) to consider the best approach to ensure that children have suitable accommodation in place prior to their release. It has been concluded that the central payment of 'accommodation retainers' is not the best solution to the problem. The funding and commissioning of children's accommodation placements is the responsibility of Local Authorities, and the provision of central retainers to hold placements open for justice children could potentially exacerbate the lack of placements for other children. Instead, both the MoJ and DfE are developing proposals for the spending review, to work with Local Authorities to tackle sufficiency issues in the children's home sector and improve the provision of accommodation for children leaving custody.</p> <p>A key aspect of the MoJ's approach for reducing reoffending, working together with MHCLG, the Welsh Government and Other Government Departments, will be provision of accommodation for those with a history of offending. The full Action Plan in relation to accommodation and support for adult offenders in the community and on release from prison, can be found through the following link;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accomodation-hmip-action-plan 	<p>Head of Youth Justice Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>MoJ – Prisoner Outcomes, Resettlement and Reoffending</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>April 2021</p>
	Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service should:				
2	Ensure that staff supervising those transitioning to adult offending services are trained to deliver services that are appropriate for the individual's age and maturity.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>HMPPS and YCS are jointly considering transition into adult offending services, including the creation of a '<i>transition from youth to adult custody</i>' policy framework. This will require that appropriate staff from the adult estate are involved early in the transitions process, supporting the development of age specific competence amongst adult estate staff. Furthermore, the introduction of Offender Management in Custody (OMiC) model will assist staff support for this group through focussed key work and Offender Management support, including to facilitate the transition into community supervision.</p> <p>The Long Term High Secure Estate (LTHSE) is also developing processes to ensure that the transition of young adults from the youth estate is well supported and developed. A maturity screening tool and a <i>Choices and Changes</i> toolkit were launched in July 2019 to ensure appropriate support for young adults. This will ensure staff have access to relevant resources and engage young adults with age appropriate activity. <i>Choices and Changes</i> has been recently validated as an <i>Effective Regime Intervention</i> under Prison</p>	<p>Head of Operational Policy YCS</p> <p>Head of Operational Policy YCS</p>	<p>September 2020</p> <p>Completed</p>

		<p>Service Order 4350; as such, it is recognised as being an appropriate and quality assured product.</p> <p>A maturity guide called, Choice and Changes Resource Pack has now been uploaded to the Equip platform to help staff to support children transitioning to adult services.</p> <p>The Effective Probation Practice team have produced a video for staff demonstrating best practice regarding transition to adulthood. This is awaiting final approval before upload to the My learning platform for supervising staff to access and use. HMPPS will ensure that staff supervising those transitioning into adult services access the available training and resources.</p>	<p>Divisional Director (NPS Midlands)</p> <p>Divisional Director (NPS Midlands)</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>February 2020</p>
		<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The Youth Custody Service (YCS) have completed the engagement exercise on the 'Transitions from Youth to Adult Custody' policy framework. The policy framework will be published by April 2021 and will help clarify and formalise the current transition process for staff and young people within the secure estate, promoting consistency across custodial establishments in England and Wales.</p> <p>The YCS are also working to improve the transition of young people from the YCS into the adult estate by placing the needs of the young person at the heart of the process, incorporating positive resettlement. To achieve this focussed approach, a transitions project is underway and jointly led by YCS and the HMPPS Young Adult Lead. The project will include a strong focus on relevant research, draw on best practice, identify training needs in the Young Adult Estate and, where relevant, utilise evidence based practice to deliver the desired outcomes. The work will also align with HMPPS efforts to embed a Rehabilitative Culture and the Young Adults Strategy. Talent and Capability consultancy is in place for YCS, including to help address training needs identified through the YCS Resettlement Review and Diversity and Inclusion requirements.</p> <p>To support work in the adult estate, the maturity screening tool is now embedded within the Offender Assessment System (OASys) and an automatic marker will appear if the young adult is aged 18-25, has a full OASys and is assessed as having low psychosocial maturity. The Choices and Changes resource pack (launched July 2019) is suitable for use by Keyworkers, Prison Offender Managers and Community Offender Managers. The pack has been implemented in at least 28 prisons.</p>	<p>Head of Operational Policy, YCS</p> <p>Head of Operational Policy YCS and Young Adult Lead, HMPPS</p> <p>Head of Learning and Development, HMPPS</p>	<p>Completed and April 2021</p> <p>January 2021</p> <p>Completed</p>

			<p>Two videos have been made available to prison and probation staff through the <i>MyLearning</i> video platform. The first video introduces Offender Managers and Key Workers in HMPPS to the <i>Choices and Changes</i> resource pack, supporting one-to-one work with young adult males to develop psychosocial maturity. The second video covers the science, research and key areas of knowledge and understanding that staff in HMPPS need to be aware of in relation to psychosocial maturity. Communications to further promote the screening tool and resource pack were published in the Senior Leaders Bulletin and the Intranet in January 2020 and March 2020. Additional information to promote use of the resource pack during COVID-19 recovery was distributed via Prison Group Director offices and Regional Probation Directors in July 2020. A further stocktake of prisons using the screening tool and resource pack is planned in September 2020, future plans to accommodate probation stocktake are still to be confirmed.</p>	<p>Young Adult Lead, HMPPS and Regional Director, NPS North West</p>	<p>Completed</p>
	The Youth Justice Board should:				
3	<p>Ensure that reliable data on outcomes for children leaving custody is available to inform improvements in service provision.</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>Resettlement and transitions between services is a current priority for the YJB. As part of work to improve outcomes upon release from custody for children and their communities, the YJB is revising the data collected from Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) to accurately assess performance and drive improvements. Revised data reporting will require YOTs to report more in-depth information regarding resettlement activity, including ensuring suitable accommodation. This information will be used to support the YJB's statutory oversight function and advice to Ministers and cross government colleagues.</p>	<p>YJB Priority Lead for Resettlement and YJB Senior Information Analyst</p>	<p>April 2020</p>
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The Youth Justice Board (YJB) implemented numerous changes to reporting requirements in April 2020, to develop more nuanced and accurate data in preparation for and upon release.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offending rates for children released from custody each quarter are tracked through the Performance Oversight Board, on an individual YOT basis. Suitability for accommodation upon release is also tracked on an individual YOT basis. The accuracy of this latter data stream is dependent upon quality of YOT data. YOTs nationally have been reminded of the definition of 'suitable accommodation' drawn 	<p>YJB Priority Lead for Resettlement and YJB Senior Information Analyst</p>	<p>Completed</p>

			<p>from Care Leavers regulations relevant to England and Wales, both in writing and through Developing Practice forums to drive improvements in accuracy of data.</p> <p>Receipt of the new data-reports from YOTs commenced in July 2020. It will take time for the new reporting requirements to embed with all the YOTs and a complete national picture will develop throughout the current financial year. YJB will continue to work with YCS to ensure that resettlement data held by both organisations is complementary and together provides a full picture of issues and good practice, to inform improvements in service provision. A significant focus will remain on embedding data improvements, including upon temporary release, permanent release and transfer to adult estate.</p> <p>Further improvements, including the use of Assetplus (assessment and planning framework) self-assessment records and options regarding data collection are under consideration. The YCS Current Estate Project Board has agreed that YJB and YCS will share resources and data to develop a process for measuring "<i>Pro Social Identity Shift</i>" (a key concept in Constructive Resettlement, indicating a willingness to engage and participate in society) for children serving and leaving custody.</p>	<p>YJB Priority Lead for Resettlement and YJB Senior Information Analyst</p> <p>YJB Priority Lead for Resettlement and YJB Senior Information Analyst</p>	<p>Completed and quarterly</p> <p>Commencing April 2021</p>
	The Youth Custody Service should:				
4	Promote an understanding of effective resettlement work across all agencies and departments within YOIs.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>Transition is being considered with HMPPS, including the creation of a 'transition from youth to adult custody' policy framework to ensure a clear process is established that meets the needs of Children and Young People (CYP) transitioning from the Youth Secure Estate.</p> <p>The YCS has commenced a review of casework that considers the role and task of casework teams alongside the introduction of the youth justice specialist role and the joint behaviour management model. Under this review, the YJB's '<i>How to Make Resettlement Constructive</i>' report will be considered, including how YOIs can promote effective resettlement work across all agencies and departments that work or have responsibilities in this area. This will be looked at in addition to the findings from this thematic report.</p>	<p>Head of Operational Policy YCS</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p>	<p>September 2020</p> <p>August 2020</p>
			Action Plan Update (December 2020)		

			<p>Effective resettlement, both within a young person's new secure setting and upon their eventual release, will form a key part of the transition from Youth to Adult Custody policy framework, ensuring engagement with all stakeholders including Youth Offending Teams and the probation service.</p> <p>The YCS internal casework review has been completed and all 16 recommendations were accepted. To oversee the implementation of resulting actions, a joint YCS and YJB Resettlement Board has been created. In addition to this, and following the casework review, a Resettlement Working Group, with representation both from custody and community, will review resettlement proposals and conclude by the end of the year.</p>	<p>Head of Operational Policy YCS</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p>	<p>April 2021</p> <p>December 2020</p>
5	Require all agencies and departments in YOIs to demonstrate effective and coordinated resettlement work.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>The YCS have a vision for 2020, to develop a cross government approach to support and oversight of CYP across all sectors (Justice, Welfare, Health and Community YOS). The YCS intend to look at the effectiveness of both our interventions and resettlement planning in collaboration with our stakeholders. This will allow all of us to focus resources appropriately.</p> <p>Furthermore, we are working with NHS England to deliver SECURE STAIRS an integrated framework of care encompassing education, health and behavioural support to ensure children receive full needs assessments and tailored care and support plans. These services will be provided by multi-disciplinary teams that will join with community provision and develop single clear care plans to ensure a consistent level of care.</p> <p>An evidenced based Custody Support Plan (CuSP) is being rolled out in Young Offender Institutions (YOI). It provides every child with an allocated support officer who they will work with on a weekly basis to build trust and consistency. Sites will be given additional staff to ensure the care plan is being delivered and the provision will be monitored on a database and the YCS will be releasing officers to focus on resettlement.</p> <p>As mentioned in recommendation 4, the YCS will continue to improve resettlement outcomes through the Youth Justice Reform programme which will review casework in line with the separate resettlement reports produced by HMIP and the YJB.</p>	<p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p> <p>YCS NHS England & Implementation</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p>	<p>March 2021</p> <p>March 2021</p> <p>May 2020</p> <p>August 2020</p>

			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The SECURE STAIRS Framework for Integrated Care has continued to be implemented and rolled out across Secure Children Homes, Rainsbrook Secure Training Centre and Youth Offending Institutions in England. Public sector YOIs have also implemented the Custody Support Planning (CuSP) delivery framework.</p> <p>Following COVID-19 related disruption to mobilisation and delivery planning for the above, delivery has been adapted to ensure an evidence-based approach to identifying and meeting children's needs, taking into consideration how resettlement work will be affected by regime restrictions and physical distancing.</p> <p>The YCS internal casework review has been completed and all 16 recommendations were accepted. To oversee the implementation of resulting actions, a joint YCS and YJB Resettlement Board has been created. In addition to this, and following the casework review, a Resettlement Working Group, with representation both from custody and community, will review resettlement proposals and conclude by the end of the year.</p>	<p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p>	<p>December 2023</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>December 2020</p>
6	Increase the range and availability of intervention programmes to meet the resettlement needs of the young people.	Partly Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed. The evidence base points away from a programme based approach to resettlement work (see Beyond Youth Custody) and instead points to strengths based desistance approaches with an emphasis on the quality of relationships with children as being effective in supporting a child in their journey towards a positive future and desistance from offending. This approach is exemplified by Constructive Resettlement, which facilitates a child's identity shift from a pro offending identity to a pro social identity through individualised personal support and individualised structural support. This approach will enable long term desistance from offending. To initiate this change, every contact with the child matters, rather than a reliance on formal programmes, as they are opportunities to build on the child's strengths, including through sport, education and hobbies.</p> <p>The YCS has commenced reform of its education services and is developing a vision for learning. The vision for learning is expected to bring about flexibility which is tailored to the needs of children within the secure estate. We are working with our education providers to increase the flexibility of the core day and curriculum to allow for more space, time and resources to provide children with the activities that are tailored to their needs.</p>	YCS	October 2020

		<p>In November 2019, we commenced the trialling of flexibility of the core regime at Wetherby and Werrington. This approach enables governors to tailor activities to the needs of children, eventually ensuring a consistent approach across establishments.</p> <p>We have also devolved additional funds to YOI governors to commission additional educational, vocational and enrichment activities that best engage and meet the needs of the children in their establishments. This amounts to £0.3m in 18/19 and £1.8m in 19/20 across the four public YOI sites.</p> <p>The YCS has also sought to increase interventions available through the development of SECURE STAIRS with NHS England and NHS Improvement leading the project.</p> <p>Delivered alongside the behaviour management strategy, this intervention has a vision of integrated care to provide stable, integrated, therapeutic care for children across the secure estate. The framework is based on the idea that “every interaction matters” and input from every member of staff is fundamental. Implementation of SECURE STAIRS also includes improved training for staff to help them understand the needs of and appropriate interventions for these children.</p> <p>The YCS will also continue to work with the YJB to improve our understanding and implementation of constructive resettlement.</p>		
		<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>Successful educational delivery continues to be a priority for the YCS, however in light of the ongoing pandemic establishments are working to produce education more innovatively and flexibly where public health guidance permits. In addition, and as a response to the pandemic, YCS have paused the education pilots, with sites using the initial learning and building in the benefits, such as smaller working groups to aid recovery and future planning work.</p> <p>The development and implementation of SECURE STAIRS within the Behaviour Management Strategy has been accelerated due to COVID-19 to ensure a collaborative and integrated approach is applied when identifying and meeting the needs of the children within the Children and Young People Secure Estate.</p> <p>An Enhanced SECURE STAIRS Team, comprising of colleagues from across YCS, psychology and NHS England and NHS Improvement were mobilised at</p>	<p>YCS</p> <p>YCS</p> <p>YCS</p>	<p>Completed and ongoing</p> <p>Completed and ongoing</p> <p>Completed and ongoing</p>

			pace at the start of the pandemic to provide a blanket of support and advice for both staff and children. This took account of the vulnerabilities of children with complex needs and the vital role of social interaction, at a physical distance.		
7	Define the role and tasks of casework teams and train casework staff accordingly.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>The YCS is conducting a review of casework that will consider the role and task of casework teams alongside the introduction of the youth justice specialist role and the joint behaviour management model.</p>	Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change	August 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The YCS internal casework review has been completed and all 16 recommendations were accepted. To oversee the implementation of resulting actions, a joint YCS and YJB Resettlement Board has been created. In addition to this, and following the casework review, a Resettlement Working Group, with representation from both custody and community, will review resettlement proposals and conclude by the end of the year.</p> <p>Further, establishments are taking a more active role in resettlement with their local YOTs and Children Services and reviewing this regularly. Accordingly, the casework department is now known as the Resettlement department and caseworkers now called resettlement practitioners which helps to emphasise their focus and change their profile with in the Establishment. The YCS are also working with the South and West Yorkshire Resettlement Pathfinder to develop joint training for YOT's and Establishment staff to promote an understanding of "Constructive Resettlement".</p> <p>A training needs analysis has commenced for resettlement specific training. Funding is being sought for resettlement practitioners in custody to undertake the Unitas Youth Justice Professional Qualification.</p>	<p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p> <p>Deputy Director for Quality, Information & Performance, Casework, Partnerships & Business Change</p>	<p>December 2020</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>October 2020</p>
8	Develop provision to enable children and young people to apply on-line for course and employment whilst still in custody.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>Provisions to allow children access to online courses is being developed and the YCS now has a Virtual Campus. Currently, use is limited, but is due to be expanded and improved with the advent of VC2.0. The availability of EMSI Career Coach is also available on the Virtual Campus where children can use this resource to find employment data and job opportunities. Establishments</p>	YCS Skills & Learning	April 2020

			<p>have also provided their curriculum to populate EMSI so the content is relevant and updated. Providers can then map their provision to identify available courses and careers for children in establishments.</p> <p>Furthermore, we have contractual agreements in place where staff are obliged to support children in their search for education, training and employment. If there is a barrier to accessing information online, staff can find and access the information and support the child in their application.</p>		
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The YCS continue to develop VC2.0 which will enable children to access online courses and expand the current delivery. This is a long-term project with progress and development likely to continue through until 2022-2023. In addition to this and taking into consideration the current implications of COVID-19, a digital proof of concept is due to commence at HMYOI Cookham Wood in December 2020. This will provide greater opportunities for children and young people to engage with a range of digital services, including an in room personal device for children. Extension of in-room digital technology for children to the other public sector YOIs will start in the first quarter of 2021.</p> <p>Alongside this, the YCS is currently recruiting for a new Head of Learning and Skills to lead on the further development of VC2.0 and the provision for children.</p>	YCS	<p>December 2023</p> <p>March 2021</p>
	The National Probation Service and the Youth Justice Board should:				

9	Negotiate and implement access to adult offending provision alongside the continuation of supervision by YOTs.	Partly agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed as where it is agreed that children continue to be supervised by YOTs, it is generally considered unlikely that adult offending provision will be suitable. However, we accept that in managing cases that fall into the remit of transition from youth to adult services, there may be occasions that access to adult services (whilst a child is under YOT supervision) may be appropriate.</p> <p>There are some operational barriers to enabling YOTs to purchase adult offending provision services in the way that NPS can. We are currently exploring the options that may be available to allow for this activity to take place.</p> <p>The Joint National Protocol for Transitions in England and corresponding Protocol in Wales do, however, provide guidance for managing transitions and as part of their review, we will consider how they may further encourage a flexible approach to transition between youth and adult services.</p> <p>YJB Cymru and NPS have already revised the Y2A transitions guidance for Wales. This is currently being scrutinised before final publication early next year when the restructure of the Probation Service has been completed.</p>	<p>Director of Innovation and Engagement YJB Divisional Director (Midlands) NPS</p> <p>YJB Cymru/NPS</p>	<p>April 2020</p> <p>March 2020</p>
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The Youth Justice and Probation Joint National Protocol for Transition and Guidance was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is now expected to be published in the first quarter of the new year.</p> <p>The joint national protocol for transitions in Wales has now been published https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-to-adult-transition-principles-and-guidance-for-wales</p>	<p>National Probation Service/Welsh Government</p>	<p>March 2021</p> <p>Completed</p>
	We make the additional further recommendations:				
	The Ministry of Justice, Department for Education and Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and the Welsh Government should:				

1	Develop a national network of community based accommodation suitable for children who pose the highest risk of harm to the public, and provide this accommodation on a regional basis.	Partly agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed because HMPPS and the MoJ have no direct control over the agenda taken forward by the DfE or the MHCLG or the Welsh Government. The MoJ agrees that more needs to be done to ensure suitable accommodation provision for all children leaving custody – including those who pose the highest risk of harm to the public.</p> <p>The MoJ is reviewing the provision of accommodation. The MoJ will work with the DfE, MHCLG and the Welsh Government to consider how to ensure high risk children have suitable accommodation at release – including whether a national network of community based accommodation will be the best approach.</p> <p>The Crime and Justice Team, Welsh Government are pursuing conversations with policy colleagues to determine how this recommendation can be progressed. While this recommendation does not specifically feature within the Youth Justice (YJ) Blueprint, https://gov.wales/supporting-young-offenders the Blueprint and associated implementation plan, published in May, sets out how the Welsh Government and partners will work together to improve resettlement outcomes for children. This will align to existing and developing policy considerations.</p>	<p>Head of Youth Custody Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>Crime & Justice Team Welsh Government</p>	July 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The MoJ and DfE are developing proposals for the spending review, to work with Local Authorities to tackle sufficiency issues in the children’s home sector and improve the provision of accommodation for children leaving custody.</p> <p>The joint MOJ and Welsh Government Blueprint was formally paused April to June 2020 due to COVID-19 and was given the go-ahead by the Welsh Government Deputy Minister on the 1st July. The Welsh Government and Ministry of Justice has an agreed approach set out in the Youth Justice Blueprint and implementation plan. As part of the work consideration will be given to the future of secure provision for Welsh Children taking account of the broad principles of small trauma-based units housing children, where appropriate, as close to their home communities as possible. Due to the changing nature and circumstances of the pandemic and sector impact it was agreed that three areas of the Blueprint would be prioritised in the short-term rather than re-starting all areas simultaneously. The priorities are prevention, community (trauma-informed practice) and secure. The project is taking a longer-term view on resettlement with the aim of developing a detailed</p>	<p>Head of Youth Custody Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>MoJ/Welsh Government</p>	<p>January 2021</p> <p>March 2021</p>

			workstream plan by March 2021. This plan will be informed, but not exclusively by the HMIP Resettlement thematic, YJB Pathfinder on Constructive Resettlement and Welsh YOT self-assessment of National Standards. It will also align and determine interdependencies with Welsh Government policy. While this area of the Blueprint is being approached in slower time, a key commitment to produce joint NPS / YJB Transitions Guidance is due to be published in the first quarter of the new year.		
2	Develop a national accommodation strategy for children released from custody.	Partly agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed because HMPPS and the MoJ have no direct control over the agenda taken forward by the DfE or the MHCLG or the Welsh Government. The MoJ agrees that more needs to be done to ensure that children leaving custody have suitable accommodation in place in good time before leaving.</p> <p>The MoJ will work with the DfE, MHCLG and the Welsh Government to improve the provision of accommodation for children released from custody.</p> <p>The Crime and Justice Team, Welsh Government are pursuing conversations with policy colleagues to determine how this recommendation can be progressed. While this recommendation does not specifically feature within the YJ Blueprint, the Blueprint and associated implementation plan, published in May, sets out how the Welsh Government and partners will work together to improve resettlement outcomes for children. This will align to existing and developing policy considerations.</p>	<p>Head of Youth Justice Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>Crime & Justice Team Welsh Government</p>	July 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The MoJ and DfE are developing proposals for the spending review, to work with Local Authorities to tackle sufficiency issues in the children's home sector and improve the provision of accommodation for children leaving custody.</p> <p>The joint MOJ and Welsh Government Blueprint was formally paused April to June due to COVID-19 and was given the go-ahead by the Welsh Government Deputy Minister on the 1st July. The Welsh Government and Ministry of Justice has an agreed approach set out in the Youth Justice Blueprint and implementation plan. As part of the work consideration will be given to the future of secure provision for Welsh Children taking account of the broad principles of small trauma-based units housing children, where appropriate, as close to their home communities as possible. In planning the restart against a back drop of the changing nature and circumstances of the pandemic and sector impact it was agreed that three areas of the Blueprint would be</p>	<p>Head of Youth Custody Policy and Senior Youth Custody Policy Advisor, MoJ</p> <p>MoJ/Welsh Government</p>	<p>January 2021</p> <p>March 2021</p>

			<p>prioritised in the short-term rather than re-starting all areas simultaneously. The priorities are prevention, community (trauma-informed practice) and secure. The project is taking a longer-term view on resettlement with the aim of developing a detailed workstream plan by March 2021. This plan will be informed, but not exclusively by the HMIP Resettlement thematic, YJB Pathfinder on Constructive Resettlement and Welsh YOT self-assessment of National Standards. It will also align and determine interdependencies with Welsh Government policy. While this area of the Blueprint is being approached in slower time, a key commitment to produce joint NPS / YJB Transitions Guidance is complete and awaiting translation and publication.</p>		
	The Home Office should:				
3	Review the 'released under investigation' processes.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>The Government's review of pre-charge bail legislation, as announced by the Home Secretary on 5 November, will also look at the use of "released under investigation" (RUI) and whether any changes are required to ensure victims and witnesses are properly safeguarded, and investigations are expeditious.</p>	Police Powers Unit Crime, Policing and Fire Group Home Office	June 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>A consultation to review the pre-charge bail system ran from 5th February - 29 May 2020. The Consultation found that since 2017, it has become increasingly clear that the provisions introduced then, have given rise to unintended consequences, with bail use in decline and a rise in the use of Released Under Investigation (RUI) as an alternative, created by forces in the absence of pre-charge bail. This gives rise to several issues since police officers using RUI are not subject to the same level of accountability around decision-making, timescales, notification to the suspect and the victim (as under bail) and no conditions can be given. There is also evidence that bail is not being used where necessary and proportionate, despite this being the current legislative position.</p> <p>As a result, it is intended (subject to current legal process) to introduce a number of changes to Pre-Charge Bail which are intended to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure that bail is being used properly to protect witnesses and victims, and supports the integrity of the investigation, support the police in the timely management of investigations within a realistic system, 	Police Powers Unit Crime, Policing and Fire Group Home Office	January 2021

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> respect the rights of suspects, witnesses and victims to timely decisions and updates, ensure that those who breach their bail conditions face consequences give victims a greater role within the system to ensure that they feel protected, supported and understood. <p>Part of this will include the removal the presumption against using pre-charge bail. One of the resulting effects is that it is likely this will substantially reduce the need for RUI in the future.</p> <p>These measures are currently being considered as part of the Protection of Police and Public Bill for introduction in January 2021.</p>		
	The Youth Justice Board and Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service should:				
5	Review and strengthen the national transitions protocol to ensure that children are only transferred to adult services when it is demonstrably in their interests to do so.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>The NPS and the YJB (through the NPS led Young Offender's Governance Board) are reviewing the current Joint National Protocol for Transitions in England.</p> <p>A 12-month secondment, funded by Barrow Cadbury Trust, has resourced a project manager to assist HMPPS in embedding good practice with young adults and will support this work and reinforce that children are transferred to adult services only when it is demonstrably in their interests to do so.</p> <p>Alongside this, the YJB and the NPS have revised the Y2A transitions guidance for Wales. The final version will be published in early 2020 when the restructure of the Probation Service has been completed.</p>	<p>Director of Innovation and Engagement YJB Divisional Director (Midlands) NPS</p>	<p>April 2020</p> <p>December 2020</p> <p>March 2020</p>
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>The joint national protocol for transition and guidance was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is now expected to be published in the first quarter of the new year</p>	National Probation Service/Welsh Government	March 2021

			<p>A new in custody framework for transitions is being developed by YCS and we have engaged with them to provide feedback on their plans and ensure they align with our Child First and Constructive Resettlement principals. This work was paused in response to COVID-19 but it is expected to resume. This framework at present supports transition at 18 and does not make explicit allowance for discretion on an individual basis. Such as where a child has a short period to serve after turning 18 remaining in a YOI.</p> <p>The Ministry of Justice (MoJ) in partnership with the Mayor for London's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) and other relevant Government Departments and agencies are running a 3-year pilot (2020-23) to meet the needs of young adults (18-25) and 17-year olds due to transition from youth offending services into adult probation services in London. The aim of the pilot is to create smoother transitions from youth to adult probation services and will focus on maturity throughout young adults' journey.</p>	<p>Head of Operational Policy - Youth Custody Service</p> <p>Ministry of Justice Vulnerable Offenders Policy Unit</p>	<p>March 2021</p> <p>December 2023</p>
	YOTs should:				
6	Deliver their statutory responsibilities and ensure that they are actively and fully involved in resettlement cases throughout the sentence.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>Governance of individual youth offending services sits with local authority Chief Executives. YOTs are, however, required to comply with Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System 2019, issued by the Justice Secretary upon advice from the YJB. Compliance with the Standards is overseen by the YJB via annual audits. The next Audit is due for submission in April 2020. As a statutory duty required of YOTs, the YJB will take the review of audit performance of resettlement outcomes for children as an opportunity to judge performance by YOTs and challenge any poor performance in this area.</p>	YJB	July 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>Due to pressures on YOTs as a result of Covid 19 the YJB extended the deadline for submissions to the National Standard Audit to 30th June 2020. With the audit now closed for submissions, moderation and validation is currently taking place and is expected to be finalised in the early part of next year.</p>	YJB	March 2021
7	Advocate persistently and strongly on behalf of their cases in custody to ensure their needs are met.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>Through the annual audit process, the YJB will quality assure the advocacy services provided by individual YOTs to children in custody. The YJB will help</p>	YJB	July 2020

			YOTs to address any areas where performance falls below the required standard.		
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>Due to pressures on YOTs as a result of Covid 19 the YJB extended the deadline for submissions to the National Standard Audit to 30th June 2020. With the audit now closed for submissions, moderation and validation is currently taking place and is expected to be finalised in the early part of next year.</p>	YJB	March 2021
8	Inform and involve young people in custody as soon as possible about the conditions they will be including on the young person's licence.	Agreed	<p>Action Plan (January 2020)</p> <p>The YJB will review the timeliness of notification and appropriateness of release licence conditions by YOTs to children as part of the annual audit process. Where expected standards or duties have not been delivered promptly by the YOTs, the YJB will highlight these points to improve notification timeframes in the future.</p>	YJB	July 2020
			<p>Action Plan Update (December 2020)</p> <p>Due to pressures on YOTs as a result of Covid 19 the YJB extended the deadline for submissions to the National Standard Audit to 30th June 2020. With the audit now closed for submissions, moderation and validation is currently taking place and is expected to be finalised in the early part of next year.</p>	YJB	March 2021

Note Additional recommendations appear from 1-3 then 5-8. Additional recommendation 4 was removed as it was a duplicate of main recommendation 6.