



Action Plan response to: A joint thematic inspection of work with children subject to remand in youth detention.

Action Plan Submitted: 19 February 2024

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ACTION PLAN: A joint thematic inspection of work with children subject to remand in youth detention.

CONTEXT

HM Inspectorate of Probation for England and Wales (HMIP) is an independent inspectorate which provides scrutiny of the conditions for, and treatment of offenders. HMIP report their findings on the effectiveness of the work of probation and youth offending services across England and Wales to the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and HM Prison and Probation Service. The inspection of work with children subject to remand in youth detention was a joint inspection with HMI Prisons and Ofsted.

The MoJ has, since 2022, taken on the role of leading and coordinating the creation and development of action plans in relation to HMIP's youth thematic inspections to address priorities and key concerns as raised in the thematic reports. Action plans provide specific steps and actions to address key concerns in an outcome focussed, measurable, achievable, and relevant way. The owner of each recommendation and timescale(s) of each step are identified in the plans. Action plans are sent to HMIP and published on the GOV.UK website. Following its publication, the MoJ will continue to lead cross-system groups to monitor the progress, implementation, and delivery of the action plan.

Youth justice services are delivered largely through a devolved model, with governance sitting locally through the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The model holds the Chief Executive of the relevant local authority ultimately responsible in collaboration with statutory partners such as the police, health and probation. HMIP's inspections and subsequent thematic reports relate to the operational delivery of youth justice services and therefore often make few recommendations directly to the MoJ or central government. Nevertheless, the MoJ accepts it has a critical system leadership role to champion and drive change to make the youth justice system more effective and efficient in preventing offending by children and young people. It is for this reason that the MoJ leads on coordinating the production of action plans for HMIP youth thematic inspections.

Youth Offending Teams (YOTs), also known as Youth Justice Services (YJS), are multi-agency partnerships which bring together agencies to deliver local youth justice services. The local, multi-agency and multi-disciplinary nature of YOTs mean that a collaborative approach must be taken amongst partners to drive improvement.

Where the MoJ and the Youth Justice Board (YJB) have been listed as the organisation with oversight and the recommendation is directed at individual YOTs or their management boards, this indicates acceptance or partial acceptance of the aim of the recommendation by the MoJ and the YJB. Where possible and appropriate, the MoJ and the YJB will take action to support local



partnerships in improvement. However, this cannot be taken as acceptance of responsibility for delivery as local services will continue to hold responsibility for implementation of the relevant recommendations. More information about the oversight role and responsibilities of the YJB in relation to HMIP can be found in the joint [Memorandum of Understanding](#). Where recommendations are for local authority (LA) children's services, the Department for Education (DfE) are similarly not responsible for delivery and there are already several relevant duties placed on LAs across these themes.



INTRODUCTION

This thematic inspection has raised important issues across the various stages of the youth remand process. It is of concern that the Inspectorates deemed that many children in their sample did not need to be subject to remand in youth detention accommodation (RYDA).

The MoJ has a clear leadership role; firstly, in relation to the legal provisions governing youth remand, which were changed in 2022 through the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act, and secondly in relation to the funding arrangements for youth remands – a process which was recently consulted on separately.

The thematic inspection also brings to light the challenges in local practices and partnership working in relation to youth remand. The MoJ is determined to play its part to ensure that guidance and duties are followed, and to support and enable the best practice in partnership working at a local and national level through shared endeavours and accountabilities.

The action plan below sets out actions to address key concerns, and with a listed responsible body for the oversight of these actions. However, given the system-wide shared challenges, in addition to the action plan, the MoJ will lead on work to develop a concordat to draw together in one place the existing guidance and statutory duties in relation to children subject to RYDA. The concordat will bring relevant bodies into a single shared commitment in working together to support children at risk of custodial remand and endorse the principles described in this concordat to meet the duties and standards which this inspection noted were not always adhered to. Further to this, the MoJ will strongly encourage local partnerships to sign up to the principles in the concordat. The MoJ aims for the concordat to be published in April 2024.



1. Rec No	2. Recommendations	3. Response Action Taken/Planned	4. Responsible Owner	5. Target Date
	The Department for Education should:			
1	Develop specific guidance on how 'child in care' status should operate during periods of RYDA, which sets standards of support for children, avoids duplication of activities, and focuses on the child's needs.	<p>Partially Accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation is partly accepted as although no new guidance will be created, the concordat from the MoJ will bring together all relevant existing guidance to provide clarity on the standards of support for children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The MoJ will lead the creation of a concordat (see introduction). This will also consider the legal provisions in Wales. This will not be new guidance but a collation of existing guidance that covers how child in care status operates for children subject to RYDA. b. In the Government's 2023 publication Stable Homes, Built on Love (SHBOL), the DfE set out its plans to transform children's social care. Over the first two years of implementation, the DfE will address urgent issues and lay the foundations for wider reaching reform across the whole system. <p>As set out in SHBOL, the DfE is proposing to develop new overarching universal Standards of Care for all children who live away from home, regardless of the type of setting they live in.</p> <p>The DfE is working closely with sector experts to review existing legislation, regulations and standards of care and will consider how looked after status should operate during periods of RYDA as part of this work.</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Looked After Children Placements, Department for Education.</p>	Concordat to be published by April 2024.



		In the meantime, LAs in England should have regard to their responsibilities towards this cohort as outlined in the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations which sets out care planning arrangements requirements for LAs. These regulations describe how LAs should carry out their responsibilities in relation to care planning for looked after children, including those who are RYDA who were not already looked after children. The recently revised Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance includes direction for LAs when a child becomes looked after as a result of being RYDA.		Working Together guidance was published December 2023.
	The Department for Education and Youth Custody Service should:			
2	Work with relevant bodies representing children's services and youth justice services to streamline planning and review processes for children who are RYDA.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The Youth Custody Service (YCS) will work to streamline planning and review processes for children subject to RYDA by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing current practice/planning by resettlement teams within the children and young people secure estate (CYPSE) via meetings with Youth Offender Institutions (YOIs) /Secure Training Centres (STCs) /Secure Children's Homes (SCHs). • Reviewing current paperwork used for remanded children to determine what plans are made, what the timelines are, who is engaged and how. • Developing standardised paperwork/planning to be used across the CYPSE. • Reviewing meetings that children and young people are engaged in across the sites to assess whether these can be streamlined to prevent confusion for the children. • Reviewing contact, input and planning by external agencies. 	Deputy Director, Business Delivery & Improvement, Youth Custody Service.	<p>March 2024.</p> <p>March 2024.</p> <p>August 2024.</p> <p>June 2024.</p> <p>August 2024.</p>



		<p>b. The DfE accepts this recommendation in principle. LAs should have regard to their responsibilities towards children who are subject to RYDA as set out in legislation and guidance.</p> <p>In addition, the DfE set out its plans to transform children’s social care through SHBOL. As part of this, the DfE is proposing to develop new overarching universal Standards of Care for all children who live away from home, regardless of the type of setting they live in. Over the first two years of implementation, the DfE will address urgent issues and lay the foundations for wider-reaching reform across the whole system.</p> <p>The DfE will continue to work with respective government departments to understand the needs of children who are placed in all secure settings whether that is via a welfare, justice, or in-patient mental health pathway, and how it can best address their needs by working together.</p>	Deputy Director, Looked After Children Placements, Department for Education.	
	The Youth Custody Service should work with the Youth Justice Board to:			
3	Improve systems for information exchange between YJSs and the secure estate and improve performance of the Youth Justice Application Framework (YJAF).	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The YCS and the secure estate will improve effective systems for information exchange and performance by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a Case Management Triage Group to explore ways to improve information sharing and performance. The first meeting on this has taken place with further meetings initially scheduled monthly which will be reviewed as the meetings become established and work to address the recommendation progress. • Updating the Joint Working Protocol to align to the YCS’s integrated care model. 	Deputy Director, Business Delivery & Improvement, Youth Custody Service.	<p>Complete.</p> <p>January 2024. March 2024.</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a suite of YJAF training to upskill new staff to the sector and supplement all staff's knowledge. Pragmatically looking across the systems in place (AssetPlus, YJAF and NOMIS (YOI only)) and creating a base line of engagement that will be achievable for the estate to deliver to assure the YCS is utilising the systems in place. The YCS will remove duplication where possible and provide clear expectations for guidance to support the operational delivery of these minimum expectations, inclusive of departmental responsibility. The YCS have circulated the first draft for feedback and will make amendments as required. Once agreed, the next phase will be to support the operationalising of these expectations. <p>b. The YJB has informed and supported the development of the systems for information exchange and funded the development of Asset Plus. The implementation and driving the use of AssetPlus should be led solely by the YCS. However, the YJB accepts the requirement to work with the YCS on improving the performance of YJAF. The YJB have identified that the AssetPlus stage functionality in YJAF needs to be reviewed and this will form part of an ongoing programme of work under a new YJAF contract which will be completed in 2025.</p>	Director of Business Intelligence and Insights, Youth Justice Board.	<p>October 2024.</p> <p>Publication of the YJB's Digital and Data Strategy is April 2024.</p> <p>March 2025.</p>
	The Youth Custody Service should:			
4	Make sure that children on remand do not have to pay to telephone or email their family/carers and social worker.	<p>Partially accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation is partly agreed as the YCS cannot provide free access to emails due to financial and contractual implications. However, the YCS will support children to maintain family contact and other relationships while in custody by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing an additional £5 of PIN phone credit each week for every child in all YOIs to allow them to maintain family contact. Undertaking work to provide professional phone calls to solicitors, social workers and YOT workers free of charge to young people. 	Deputy Director, Business Delivery & Improvement, Youth	<p>Complete.</p> <p>January 2024.</p>



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MoJ will explore options to minimise costs for maintaining contact via e-mail platforms. 	Custody Service.	April 2024.
	Local authority children's services departments should:			
5	Review their provision of support to children in police custody so that as many children as possible are released on police bail and into the care of local authority children's services.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The MoJ will lead the creation of a concordat (see recommendation 1), which will reiterate the guidance around placement provision and will share best practice identified by the inspection, by the YJB and by YOTs.</p> <p>b. LAs should have regard to their responsibilities towards this cohort as set out in existing legislation and guidance. LAs have statutory duties to ensure sufficient, appropriate accommodation for children in their area (section 22G of the Children Act 1989).</p> <p>There are also specific duties on LAs under section 21 of the Children Act 1989 to provide accommodation to children who cannot be released on bail by the police following charge, and further duties under section 10 and section 11 of the Children Act 2004:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 10 requires LAs to make arrangements with partners e.g., police, probation, YOTs to promote cooperation between the LA and those partners, and with other persons, bodies as the authority considers appropriate. Section 11 requires LAs and others listed in that section including policing bodies/chief officers of police and YOTs to exercise their functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. 	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Looked After Children Placements, Department for Education.</p>	April 2024.



		<p>Furthermore, LAs, working with partners, also have general duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area. Under the Children Act 1989, LAs are required to provide services for children in need for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting their welfare. For instance, section 47 of the 1989 Act requires LAs to undertake enquiries if they believe a child has suffered or is likely to suffer harm.</p> <p>However, the DfE recognises that LAs sometimes find it difficult accessing the most appropriate accommodation, particularly for children with the most complex needs. As part of the significant steps to address this, the DfE is supporting LAs to fulfil their statutory duties. For example, £259 million of capital funding was allocated at Spending Review 2021 to invest in both open residential and SCHs, allowing LAs to create over 400 further placements. This will help to maintain provision, to establish innovative approaches, to ensure sufficient provision for children with more complex needs; and to address current shortfalls, including in geographic areas with fewer children’s homes.</p> <p>Alongside the capital investment, further initiatives are in place which will help ensure more suitable accommodation is available for those who need it. This includes registration for supported accommodation for looked after children and care leavers aged 16-17 being mandatory from October 2023. This will drive up the quality and consistency of accommodation for this cohort.</p> <p>As set out in SHBOL, the DfE plans to transform children’s social care. These reforms will address urgent issues and lay the foundations for wider-reaching reform across the whole system. As part of this, the DfE is proposing to develop new overarching universal Standards of Care for all children who live away from home, regardless of the type of setting they live in.</p> <p>The DfE is also working closely with sector experts to review existing legislation, regulations and Standards of Care and will consider these recommendations as part of this work.</p>		
6	Work closely with YJSs and others to	Accepted.		



	<p>make sure that they have an appropriate range of support and accommodation options, including bail and remand to local authority accommodation for children where there is a risk of RYDA.</p>	<p>LAs should have regard to their responsibilities towards this cohort as set out in existing legislation and guidance. LAs have statutory duties to ensure sufficient, appropriate accommodation for children in their area. This is set out in section 22G of the Children Act 1989. See detail in recommendation 5.</p> <p>The planned concordat led by the MoJ will support sharing best practice in working together.</p> <p>The MoJ is sponsoring a pilot in Greater Manchester to explore joint working across local authorities building on best practice in partnership working to support children accessing alternatives to custodial remand.</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice.</p>	<p>April 2024.</p> <p>October 2023 to March 2025.</p>
7	<p>Work across safeguarding partnerships to develop a shared understanding of and response to child exploitation (in particular criminal exploitation) that is accepted throughout their organisations.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The Government is supportive of the aims of this recommendation, and would encourage local areas to consider it carefully; the DfE recognises that the recommendation is ultimately for local areas to deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAs, police and Integrated Care Boards have a joint and equal duty to make arrangements to work together as a team to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, this includes how children are protected from abuse, neglect and exploitation. • In 2023, the DfE consulted on, and has now published, the revised Working Together to Safeguard Children statutory guidance, which clarifies that children at risk of, or experiencing harm from outside their home, including online, should receive a multi-agency safeguarding response. The DfE has also published a Children's Social Care National Framework, which sets out the purpose of children's social care, the outcomes that should be achieved, including 'keeping children safe in and out of their homes' and the principles and system enablers that should underpin these outcomes. • In 2022-23, the DfE funded the Tackling Child Exploitation Support Programme to work with the sector and across government to develop a set of multi-agency practice principles and supporting resources (published in March 2023) to guide professionals across local partnerships in their response to keeping children and young people safe 	<p>Deputy Director, Child Protection and Safeguarding Division, Department for Education.</p>	<p>Working Together guidance was published in December 2023.</p>



		<p>from child exploitation. The principles bring together the best available evidence in this area and draw on the views of professionals working in a range of different roles and organisations, as well as children, young people, parents and carers with lived experience of harm.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Home Office (HO) published updated criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance for frontline professionals that aims to aid the identification of potential victims of county lines exploitation and appropriate safeguarding referral routes, and ensure those who are in need receive help. This guidance is intended to explain the nature of criminal exploitation to enable practitioners to recognise its signs and respond appropriately so that victims and potential victims get the protection and support they need. 		Home Office guidance was published in October 2023.
8	<p>Make sure that the child in care status of remanded children is recognised and appropriate financial assistance to children subject to RYDA is in place and family contact is supported.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation is accepted however, although the Government is supportive of the aims of this recommendation, the Government recognises that the recommendation is ultimately for local areas to deliver.</p> <p>LAs in England should have regard to their responsibilities towards this cohort as outlined in the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations which sets out care planning arrangements requirements for LAs. These regulations describe how LAs should carry out their responsibilities in relation to care planning for looked after children, including those who are subject to RYDA who were not already looked after children. The recently revised Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance includes direction for LAs when a child becomes looked after as a result of being subject to RYDA.</p> <p>As set out in SHBOL, the DfE plans to transform children’s social care. These reforms will address urgent issues and lay the foundations for wider-reaching reform across the whole system. As part of this, the DfE is proposing to develop new overarching universal Standards of Care for all children who live away from home, regardless of the type of setting they live in.</p> <p>The DfE is also working closely with sector experts to review existing legislation, regulations and standards of care and will consider these recommendations as part of this work.</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Looked After Children Placements, Department for Education.</p>	<p>Working Together guidance was published in December 2023.</p>



9	<p>Make sure that children who have acquired eligibility for care leaver support services as a result of a remand period have access to that support, and that they understand what it means for them.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The concordat, led by the MoJ, will amplify best practice on supporting care leavers who were remanded into care to access their legal entitlement as summarised below.</p> <p>b. All young people who have been in LA care for a minimum of 13 weeks, some of which was after they reached age 16 – including young people who have been remanded into care – are entitled to support from their LA.</p> <p>LAs are required to appoint a Personal Adviser (PA) to support the young person to transition from care to living independently. Since 2018, care leavers can request support from their PA up to age 25. The PA must work with the young person to develop a (mandatory) Pathway Plan, setting out how the LA will support the young person across seven domains, including accommodation, health and engagement in education, employment or training. The Pathway Plan must be reviewed at least every six months. The PA also acts as an advocate for the young person and provides practical and emotional support to help the young person deal with the challenges of living independently.</p> <p>All LAs are required to publish their 'local offer' to care leavers, which sets out care leavers' legal entitlements, as well as any discretionary support they provide, such as Council Tax exemptions and free leisure passes. Ofsted inspects the quality of LA leaving care services and its guidance to inspectors makes clear that 'Good' LAs will ensure that <i>'The local offer is clear about the help provided to young people with specific needs, such as unaccompanied asylum-seeking children, young parents and young people who have had contact with the criminal justice system.'</i></p>	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Children's Social Care Department for Education.</p>	<p>April 2024.</p>
10	<p>Make sure that heads of virtual schools include children on remand</p>	<p>Accepted.</p>	<p>Deputy Director,</p>	<p>June 2024.</p>



	<p>in local authority accommodation and youth detention in their remit to support children in care and improve their educational progress and attainment.</p>	<p>The DfE will highlight the HMIP inspection and relevant recommendation to the National Association of Virtual School Heads and work with them to remind Virtual School Heads of their responsibilities to this cohort.</p> <p>This recommendation currently falls within the existing Virtual School Head remit as under annex 7 of the Children Act 1989 guidance and regulations; children who are under a care order (section 31 of the Act), or who are voluntarily accommodated by a local authority (section 20), and who are on remand to local authority accommodation or youth detention accommodation continue to be looked after. This means that the LA continues to have a duty for care planning and review in the same way as they have for all other looked after children.</p> <p>Where a child is not currently looked after, in instances where a child is remanded to LA accommodation, they become looked after under section 21 of the Children Act 1989. If a child not currently looked after is subject to RYDA, they are treated as being looked after whilst they are on remand.</p>	<p>Children’s Social Care Department for Education.</p>	
11	<p>Improve the quality of care planning for children on remand, by ensuring that it includes edge of care support, visiting that is responsive to children’s needs and circumstances, direct work, and looked after reviews that fully consider children’s circumstances during the period of remand and beyond so that children’s</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. This will be considered as part of the planned concordat, led by the MoJ, which will amplify support in sharing best practice in working together. b. The Government is supportive of the aims of this recommendation and would encourage local areas to consider it carefully, however the DfE recognises that the recommendation is ultimately for local areas to deliver. 	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy Unit, Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Children’s Social Care Department for Education.</p>	<p>April 2024.</p>



	holistic needs will be met.			
	YJS management boards should:			
12	Require detailed audit information on children who are subject to RYDA and on wider remand decision-making, including information on potential ethnic disparities at every stage of the youth justice system.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS management boards in achieving this. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS management boards) at an operational level.</p> <p>Management boards should have a plan in place to address any identified inequalities. The Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System make clear that management boards should have the mechanisms in place to provide assurance that analysis and action planning is in place to tackle any disproportionality. The YJB is strengthening their oversight approach in local areas, including on this issue.</p> <p>The YJB leads will support YJS management boards to explain exactly what these thematic inspection recommendations mean for them in relation to remands and how management boards can benchmark their performance in a multi-agency context and against existing Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their Youth Justice (YJ) plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, the YJB track progress against recommendations and will report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p> <p>The YJB will share a summary of their intelligence over a given period and any particularly good or poor practice they may be aware of.</p>	Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.	June 2024.
13	Initiate a multi-agency review	Accepted.		



	when a child is RYDA, which identifies reasons for the offending and missed opportunities to intervene.	<p>The YJB accept this recommendation as a multi-agency review is referenced in revised Case Management Guidance issued to YJS management boards by the YJB and is recognised best practice. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS management boards) at an operational level.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, we track progress against recommendations and will report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p>	Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.	June 2024.
14	Address gaps in specialist provision for black and mixed heritage boys and their parents/ carers to reduce their likelihood of being subject to RYDA.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS management boards in achieving this. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS management boards) at an operational level.</p> <p>The commission of relevant services is localised and based on need. The YJB identifies good practice and shares this via the YJ resource hub. Further to this, the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership that involves peer-to-peer support and review between YJSs enables learning across services to identify best practice. The YJB will report into roundtables on any emerging examples of good practice.</p> <p>The YJB continues to work with partners in developing and addressing over-representation within the Youth Justice System, developing projects such as: research into disproportionality and reoffending, and a pathfinder project intended to reduce remand in custody.</p> <p>The YJB has published research to enhance the evidence base and increase awareness of the issues. Further research is presently underway.</p>	Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.	June 2024.
15	Where they share a youth court area, in consultation with the court, conduct annual reviews of	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS management boards in achieving this. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS management boards) at an operational level.</p>	Director of Operations,	



	<p>their joint working arrangements with those neighbouring YJSs.</p>	<p>The YJB and the MoJ meet regularly with HM Courts and Tribunal Services (HMCTS) and are seeking to facilitate greater use of court user groups and other forums which will support the needed conversations to take place.</p> <p>The MoJ's planned concordat will further support with engagement with courts through creating a single, shared commitment on working together.</p> <p>The YJB leads will support YJS management boards to explain exactly what these recommendations mean for them in relation to remand.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, the YJB track progress against recommendations and can report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p>	<p>Youth Justice Board.</p>	<p>April 2024.</p> <p>June 2024.</p>
	<p>Police forces should:</p>			
16	<p>Properly apply the guidance and legislation when considering a child's release from police custody under section 38(6) of PACE, and undertake regular joint audits with the YJSs and children's services to assess the outcomes</p>	<p>Partially accepted.</p> <p>This recommendation is partially accepted because although the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC) are supportive of the principals of what HMIP are trying to achieve they are not supportive of this recommendation as currently listed. The NPCC will further discuss this recommendation and ensure alignment with other work across policing relevant to children in custody.</p> <p>The NPCC support any initiative towards safeguarding children and young people (CYP) and will share any identified good practice across policing, linked around decision making when considering remanding a CYP.</p>	<p>Portfolio Lead for Police Custody and Movement of Prisoners, National Police Chiefs' Council.</p>	<p>June 2024.</p>



	achieved for these children.			
17	Make sure that operational officers dealing with children recognise and understand how they can be victims of criminal or other types of exploitation and its impact on them.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The national police facilitator for safeguarding reform represented NPCC on the rewrite of the Working Together to Safeguard Children Guidance.</p> <p>There may be opportunity to be specific in what this inspection would like to see in legislation and guidance for future revisions.</p> <p>NPCC work with senior leaders in policing to support with local safeguarding arrangements – including the voice of the child and understandings of risk are considered across all thematic delivery areas.</p> <p>There is a child protection and abuse investigations working group which sees representation from senior leaders across forces in England, Wales and Police Scotland. This group serves to share promising and good practice, highlight shared risks and provide updates on thematic issues. Separately to this there is a six weekly CPD session for senior leaders in safeguarding.</p> <p>b. In 2023, the HO published updated criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: county lines guidance for frontline professionals to aid the identification of potential victims of county lines exploitation and appropriate safeguarding referral routes. This guidance enables practitioners to recognise the signs of exploitation and respond appropriately.</p> <p>The HO is investing in programmes to promote better safeguarding and support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tackling Organised Exploitation Programme aims to increase law enforcements capability to respond to organised exploitation. • The Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme are working with forces to improve the understanding of and the operational response to capturing the voice of the child. 	<p>Portfolio Lead for Child Protection, National Police Chiefs' Council.</p> <p>Director, Vulnerability Knowledge and Practice Programme.</p>	<p>Working Together guidance was published December 2023.</p> <p>The next working group will be held April 2024.</p> <p>Home Office guidance was published in October 2023.</p>



		The NPCC and HO will continue to work closely with third sector partners on communications campaigns, and to review and continue the offer of resources, training, and support.		
	YJS managers should:			
18	Make sure that YJS practitioners and social workers have access to and use guidance and training that sets out how bail and remand processes work.	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS managers in achieving this. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS managers) at an operational level.</p> <p>The YJB's revised Case Management Guidance outlines the importance of managers effectively inducting, supporting, and training YJS staff on how bail and remand processes work. Case Management Guidance underpins and supports the Standards for Children in the Youth Justice System, agreed by Ministers.</p> <p>The YJB uses their YJ resource hub, which YJS staff and managers can also access, to highlight when new guidance is produced as well as opportunities for additional training. Further to this, the Youth Justice Sector Improvement Partnership that involves peer-to-peer support and review between YJSs enables learning across services to identify best practice.</p> <p>The YJB have also supported the development of training packages with direct relevance to bail and remand and have part funded places for YJS to support workforce development.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. The YJB will report into roundtables on any emerging examples of good practice.</p>	Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.	June 2024.
19	Collaborate with their local police force to be able to contribute to police	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS managers in achieving this recommendation. The responsibility of putting</p>	Director of Operations,	



	<p>bail conditions to reduce the need for children to be brought before the court.</p>	<p>practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS managers) at an operational level.</p> <p>The YJB will support YJS Mangers to understand how they can collaborate with their local police force and how this collaboration can exist within current KPIs such as KPI 1 (accommodation) and KPI 7 (wider services).</p> <p>The YJB and NPCC published revised role of the YJS police officer guidance in December 2023 which includes the role they can play in preventing custodial remands.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, we track progress against recommendations and can report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p> <p>b. The planned concordat, led by the MoJ, will further support with engagement with YJS managers and their local police force through creating a single, shared commitment on working together in a multi-agency approach.</p>	<p>Youth Justice Board.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy, Ministry of Justice.</p>	<p>December 2023.</p> <p>June 2024.</p> <p>April 2024.</p>
20	<p>In collaboration with children services, identify accommodation options for children at their first court appearance where there is a risk of RYDA including bail and remand in local</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS managers in achieving this recommendation. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS managers) at an operational level.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, the YJB track progress against recommendations and will report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice. The YJB will encourage joint working between YJS and Local Criminal Justice Boards to engage with solicitors in meeting this recommendation.</p>	<p>Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.</p>	



	authority accommodation.	<p>b. The planned concordat, led by the MoJ, will further support engagement with YJS managers and children’s services through creating a single, shared commitment on working together in a multi-agency approach and encouraging early information sharing.</p>	<p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy, Ministry of Justice.</p>	<p>April 2024.</p>
21	<p>Work with local defence solicitors to make sure that they are aware of data on outcomes for children in police custody and particularly the potential impact of ‘no comment’ interviews.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>a. The YJB accept the principle of this recommendation and will carry out work to support YJS managers in achieving this recommendation. The responsibility of putting practices in place to meet this recommendation falls to local partners (YJS managers) at an operational level.</p> <p>The YJB will support YJS managers to understand how they can collaborate with their local defence solicitors such as through Local Criminal Justice Boards and how this collaboration can exist within current KPIs such as KPI 6 out of court disposals.</p> <p>The YJB and the MoJ meet regularly with HMCTS and are seeking to facilitate greater use of court user groups and other fora which will support the needed conversations to take place.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, the YJB track progress against recommendations and can report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p> <p>b. The MoJ will engage with the relevant national youth justice judicial and courts forums to discuss. The planned concordat will also support engagement with YJS managers and local defence solicitors through creating a single, shared commitment on working together in a multi-agency approach.</p>	<p>Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.</p> <p>Deputy Director, Youth Justice Policy,</p>	<p>June 2024.</p> <p>April 2024.</p>



		The MoJ is funding additional training through the Youth Justice Legal Centre for solicitors working with children in the police station and at court to ensure children are accessing a high standard of legal advice.	Ministry of Justice.	April 2024.
22	Offer voluntary support to children who have been acquitted following a period of RYDA, including when they have reached the age of 18.	<p>Partially Accepted.</p> <p>The YJB partially accepts this recommendation as this is outside of the statutory duties of YJS, so whilst the principle of the recommendation is agreed, lack of funding and capacity within YJSs is, at current, likely to prevent this recommendation being actioned.</p> <p>It is likely that ensuring appropriate links with mainstream services are in place to support a step-down plan for children. However, the YJB are concerned that continued contact (unless absolutely necessary) between young people and the criminal justice system should be avoided to reduce the potential of a young person developing a pro-criminal identity which would increase the likelihood of further offending.</p> <p>If services can be offered, engagement skills will be crucial in securing take up of such services. The YJB is seeking to support services improve engagement, through research and identification and dissemination of good practice.</p> <p>The YJB asks YJSs to report annually via their YJ plans on activity against thematic inspection recommendations to them as local services. As part of the oversight framework, the YJB track progress against recommendations and will report into roundtables on any emerging concerns or examples of good practice.</p>	Director of Operations, Youth Justice Board.	June 2024.

