

Our vision

A youth justice system that sees children as children first, treats them fairly and helps them to build on their strengths so they can make a constructive contribution to society. This will prevent offending and create safer communities with fewer victims.

Our mission

The Youth Justice Board is the only statutory body to have oversight of the entire youth justice system. We provide independent, evidence-based advice and leadership to drive improvements that increase children's positive outcomes and prevent offending.

Our objectives



Objective 1: Supporting improvement of youth justice services in local communities

- Monitoring and supporting improvement of youth justice services
- · Providing youth justice services with stable and fair funding
- Supporting improvement in:
 - provision of diversion
 - preventing and reducing serious violence
 - support for victims
 - supporting for children in custody and when they leave
 - development of workforce



Objective 2: Focussing on addressing disparities across the youth justice system

- Using data and analysis to identify disparities
- Ensuring equitable outcomes and access to services for all children
- Enabling effective action, through activity like our Pathfinder projects
- Championing inclusion and becoming an anti-racist organisation



Objective 3: Advancing adoption of Child First by providing advice and support to influence policy and practice, with a focus on:

- Improving the court experience and outcomes for children who are defendants, witnesses or victims
- Creating a model of child custody which is care focussed and promotes pro social identities
- Recognising the role of education settings to identify and support children who are at risk of becoming involved with the youth justice system

How we will understand success:



Support improvement throughout the youth justice system and in the provision of local youth justice services.

- Inspections: improvement in the outcomes of independent assessments conducted by HM Inspectorate of Probation.
- 2. **Key Performance Indicators:** the data will show continuous improvement across KPIs.
- 3. **Outcome measures:** there will be reductions in youth justice outcome measures including first time entrants, custody rates and reoffending.
- 4. **Disproportionality:** data will show reduced disproportionality and inequality across youth justice processes and outcomes.
- 5. **Targeted funding:** independent audit will assess that targeted funding to support pilot activity offers value for money.



Inform the public, practitioners and policy makers about the operation of the youth justice system.

- 6. Oversight: Government
 Internal Audit Agency analysis
 of outcomes from oversight
 assessments, recommendations
 from HMIP inspection outcomes
 and self-assessments show that
 oversight is effective.
- 7. **Data and research:**commissioning formal survey and focus group feedback will ensure that our data, research and insight materials meet the needs of users.

Influence practitioners and policy makers to apply the Child First approach in delivering positive outcomes for children.

8. **Value for money:** ongoing evidence from the Government Internal Audit Agency and the National Audit Office identifies that we are effective in managing resources allocated by the core department, and that we are continuing to meet the outcomes that we have set out in this strategy.



- 9. **Risk:** our goal is for the Youth Justice Board to be assessed as 'low risk' to the work of the Ministry of Justice by the Public Bodies Centre of Expertise and to maintain that assessment.
- 10. **Quality of advice:** independent audit of the provision of advice shows that this is effective, and case studies illustrate how advice translates into impact on the youth justice system.