

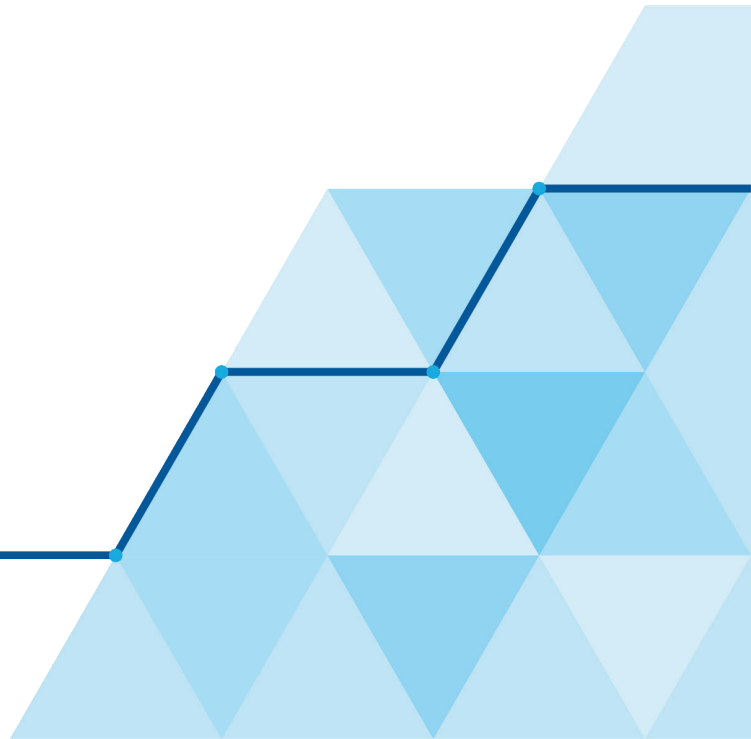


Ministry
of Justice

Turnaround Programme Guidance

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Abbreviations

ASB	Anti-social Behaviour
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media, and Sport
DfE	Department for Education
DHSC	Department of Health and Social Care
EIF	Early Intervention Foundation
FTE	First-time entrant
HMIP	His Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation
MoJ	Ministry of Justice
NFA	No Further Action
OOCR	Out of Court Resolution (previously Out of Court Disposals)
PCB	Pre-charge Bail
RUI	Released Under Investigation
YEF	Youth Endowment Fund
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YJS	Youth Justice Service (previously Youth Offending Team)

1. Introduction and objectives

Since December 2022, Turnaround has provided multi-year grant funding to Youth Justice Services (YJSs) across England and Wales, supporting them to intervene earlier and improve outcomes for children on the cusp of entering the youth justice system. This additional funding has enabled YYSs to consistently support a cohort of children not on their statutory caseload. Following the success of the programme, in February 2026 the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) announced a further 3 years of funding until March 2029. The overall aims of the Turnaround programme are to:

- achieve positive outcomes for children with the ultimate aim of preventing them going on to offend;
- build on work already done to ensure all children on the cusp of the youth justice system are consistently offered a needs assessment and the opportunity for support;
- improve the socio-emotional, mental health and wellbeing of children; and
- improve the integration and partnership working between YYSs and other services to support children.

Turnaround, developed by the MoJ, is based on similar principles to those underlying the Supporting Families programme in England and equivalent programmes in Wales such as the Youth Justice Blueprint, including the view that children on the cusp of offending often have complex needs. Turnaround funding supports YYSs, and their local strategic partners, to expand best practice in early intervention.

The programme is deliberately not prescriptive about what interventions should be used, recognising that YYSs best understand the needs of children in their locality. Turnaround funding should be used to deliver evidence-based interventions, building upon current service delivery, and developing new approaches, where required.

The MoJ Programme Team will support YYSs to successfully deliver programmes in their local area and will continue to build up a robust evidence base of what works to support effective delivery of the programme. Funding of around £3,166.77 per child will be granted to YYSs. As in year 4 of Turnaround delivery, YYSs with smaller grant values will not have targets attached them, whereas YYSs with a larger grant will have a minimum target of children to work with. YYSs will then have the freedom to design a programme of interventions that are most suited to the needs of the child.

This Guidance outlines the target cohort of children, sets out the framework for delivering Turnaround and explains the target funding model, as well as expectations around reporting. It also outlines the findings from the National Centre for Social Research's evaluation of the first 2 years of the Turnaround programme, and the approach to future

evaluation. It does not replace the specific terms and conditions attached to Grant Funding Agreements, which should be read alongside this document.

1.1 The case for change

As a well-established national programme, Turnaround uses early intervention and prevention to support Government commitments to halve knife crime in a decade and to intervene earlier to stop young people being drawn into crime, as well as tackling anti-social behaviour (ASB). Turnaround principles acknowledge the complex needs of children on the cusp of the justice system, focusing on addressing the root causes of offending through offering a structured, whole family approach delivered by YJSs.

The number of children in the youth justice system has fallen in recent years, with the latest Youth Justice Statistics (2024–2025) highlighting a decrease by 4% for first-time entrants (FTEs) into the system for the year ending December 2024, compared with the previous year.¹ Additionally, in the year ending March 2025, there was an average of 420 children in custody at any one time during the year, a fall of 3% against the previous year and the lowest number on record.

However, children entering the system may have unmet needs which act as a barrier to them achieving positive outcomes, which will increase the likelihood of them offending and causing harm to victims and communities in the future. In the case of children sentenced by the courts in 2019/20, 76% presented issues related to substance misuse; 72% had mental health needs; and 71% reported speech, language, and communication challenges.² Over half were a current or previous child in need.³

Failure to meet underlying need, and lack of support for children to develop a pro-social identity, may result in more serious and habitual offending. For the past four years, Turnaround has provided an opportunity for these children to have their needs assessed and be offered additional support. The National Centre for Social Research evaluation of Turnaround (covering December 2022 to March 2025) highlights successes of the programme, including that by December 2024 only 7% of children had received a conviction or caution within one year of completing Turnaround.⁴ Furthermore, the evaluation reported converging evidence from children, parents and carers, and practitioners that Turnaround is achieving its primary objectives of improving outcomes for at risk children, including pro-social behaviour, mental health outcomes and offending

¹ [Youth Justice Statistics: 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

² [Assessing the needs of sentenced children in the youth justice system 2019-20](#)

³ A child in need is defined under the [Children Act 1989](#) as a child who is unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable level of health or development, or whose health and development is likely to be significantly or further impaired, without the provision of services; or a child who is disabled.

⁴ [Turnaround Programme – Independent process and implementation evaluation - Final Report](#)

behaviours, with a low offending rate shown across children who completed the programme.

1.2 The economic case

The social and economic cost of reoffending by children has been estimated to cost £1.5bn per year, based on a 2016 cohort of offenders who went on to reoffend within 12 months.⁵

Turnaround is based on effective outcomes from the 2011 Supporting Families programme (previously known as Troubled Families) in England which aimed to support some of the most vulnerable families in society. An impact analysis of the Supporting Families programme carried out between 2015 and 2021 showed a national economic benefit of £2.28 for every £1 invested for the 2017/18 cohort.⁶ Additionally, that programme showed a 38% reduction in the proportion of young people receiving custodial sentences and 15% reduction in the proportion receiving youth convictions in the 24 months after joining the programme.

1.3 Addressing racial disproportionality

Children from Ethnic Minority backgrounds (especially Black children aged 10–17) are over-represented throughout the youth justice system compared to the general population.⁷ For example, 9% of children arrested in the year ending March 2025, and 18% of FTEs to the youth justice system in the year ending December 2024, were Black, whilst Black children only made up 6% of the population according to the 2021 census.^{8 9} While there were overall decreases in the number of arrests (2%) and FTEs (4%) for Black children specifically, arrests rose by 7% and FTEs by 8%.¹⁰

The 2017 Lammy Review highlighted that some Ethnic Minority groups have less trust in the police and/or the criminal justice system, and emphasised the significant role this has in driving their over-representation later in the system.¹¹ The Youth Endowment Fund also emphasise this trend in their report into racial disparity, published in February 2025.¹² HM Inspectorate of Probation's (HMIP) October 2021 thematic report on the experiences of

⁵ [Economic and social costs of reoffending](#)

⁶ [National Evaluation of the Troubled Families Programme](#)

⁷ [Ethnic disproportionality in remand and sentencing in the youth justice system - GOV.UK](#)

⁸ [Youth Justice Statistics: 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK](#)

⁹ Calculated from [Census population data by age groups \(National\)](#) dataset.

¹⁰ Data breakdowns for FTEs do not include a 'mixed ethnicity' category.

¹¹ [The Lammy Review](#)

¹² [YEF Racial Disproportionality in violence 2025](#)

Black and Mixed Heritage boys in the youth justice system stated that “[YJSs] must be careful to ensure that concerns about building trust with Black and Mixed Heritage boys do not become a barrier or an explanation for engagement difficulties.”¹³

Turnaround does not require children to admit guilt and joining the programme is voluntary, which supports YJSs to reach children who might have come to distrust the system.¹⁴ Taking a strengths-based approach and building on individual capabilities to develop a pro-social identity supports voluntary engagement.

Some YJSs engage with local voluntary and community groups, who are trusted by diverse communities, to help with programme delivery. This can include encouraging children, and their parents or care givers, to engage with the programme. Turnaround funding can be used to direct children in the scheme to these groups.

YJSs could also use the YJB’s anti-racism resources, including the YJB disproportionality toolkit which uses local data to enable YJSs to identify whether the over-representation of particular groups is an issue in their area.¹⁵ Where over-representation issues are identified, YJSs should consider how Turnaround could help to address it.

1.4 A modern youth justice system

The youth justice system in England and Wales has recorded major improvements over the past two decades, including substantial reductions in proven offences, FTEs, and the number of children in custody. However, the profile of children now entering the system has changed – they present with more complex needs, higher levels of vulnerability, and greater barriers to rehabilitation. In February 2026, the MoJ published a policy statement – *A Modern Youth Justice System: Foundations Fit for the Future*¹⁶ – setting out the first phase of reforms to modernise the system so it remains effective, fair, and fit for the future:

- **System successes but changing needs:** Youth offending and the number of first-time entrants, and children in custody have fallen significantly, but children entering the system have more complex needs, requiring a modernised approach
- **Focus on early intervention:** Government plans emphasise strengthened early help to tackle underlying causes and prevent escalation
- **Dependable, multi-year funding:** MoJ has confirmed a multi-year settlement for the Youth Justice Core Grant of £93.6m per annum for three years (2026/27 – 2028/29) giving services stability to plan effectively.

¹³ [The experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system](#)

¹⁴ [YEF Racial Disproportionality in violence 2025](#)

¹⁵ [YJB’s anti-racism resources](#)

¹⁶ [A Modern Youth Justice System](#)

- **Stronger governance and support:** Central government will take a more direct role in funding, oversight and accountability, with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) focusing on frontline improvement
- **Turnaround Programme extended:** Positive evaluation results support continued funding for Turnaround for three more years, at £15.4m per year
- **Custody as a last resort:** Children should be supported in the community wherever possible, with custody reserved for the most serious cases
- **Commitment to launch consultation on:** performance oversight arrangements, streamlining core grant terms and conditions and longer-term funding arrangements with statutory partners
- **Providing and incentivising investment:** community alternatives to custodial remand

The MoJ will set out more detailed youth justice reform plan in the Spring.

<https://www.gov.uk/>. The MoJ Programme Team will work closely with YJSs over the coming year to ensure that Turnaround continues to improve outcomes for children, while remaining aligned with the wider youth justice system as reforms are developed.

2. Identifying and working with children

As in previous years, the approach to programme delivery is flexible, to allow for variation across local areas. This level of flexibility has helped ensure funding is directed to those children who need it most, based on the professional judgements of local teams.

The programme should continue to assess and address the underlying needs which may have brought children into contact with the justice system, aiming to both promote positive development and prevent further interaction with the system.

The only mandated elements of the programme remain that children must meet the eligibility criteria in Section 2.1 below, and that YJSs follow the screening and three-stage process in Section 2.4.

2.1 Eligibility criteria

Children aged 10–17¹⁷ who fit one or more of the following criteria are eligible for Turnaround:

- those who have come to notice of agencies with enforcement powers for **repeated** involvement in anti-social behaviour (ASB)
- those involved in ASB who have received:
 - Community Protection Warning/Notice (CPW/N)
 - Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC)
 - Civil Order for ASB
- those who are interviewed under caution following arrest or subject to a criminal investigation attending a voluntary interview
- those who are subject to No Further Action (NFA) decision*
- those who are subject to a Community Resolution*
- those receiving a first-time youth caution, not including conditional caution*
- those released under investigation (RUI) or those subject to pre-charge bail (PCB)
- those discharged by a court (including conditional discharge)
- those acquitted at court and/or
- those fined by a court.

* The criteria marked with an asterisk relate to children subject to OOCs and we request that YJSs have reference to the paragraph below when considering these cases.

¹⁷ The child should be 17 or under at the point of referral onto the Programme.

In addition, the following criteria apply:

- To ensure Turnaround meets its aim of early intervention, referrals must be made within **three months** of a child meeting the eligibility criteria.
- Once a child has received support through the Turnaround programme, they **are not eligible for support funded through the programme again**. The YJS may choose to continue to support a child following completion of a Turnaround intervention, however if re-referred, the child cannot be supported twice under Turnaround funding.
- It is for YJSs and their strategic partners to determine which groups within the eligibility criteria they choose to focus on when providing Turnaround support. This should be decided based on what best meets local need, and where gaps in current provision have been identified. It is not mandated that Turnaround support is offered to children meeting each of the eligibility criteria.
- Children referred to Turnaround are not eligible **if they have previously been on the YJS statutory caseload**, regardless of the length of time since the case was open or if they have won an appeal against a conviction or sentence.

Please note the following on ASB:

- The legal definition of ASB is: a) conduct that has caused, or is likely to cause, harassment, alarm or distress to any person; b) conduct capable of causing nuisance or annoyance to a person in relation to that person's occupation of residential premises, or c) conduct capable of causing housing-related nuisance or annoyance to any person.¹⁸
- Children who have received their first verbal or written warning for involvement in ASB are not eligible for Turnaround. Not all children will go on to offend or perpetrate further ASB after receiving the initial warning. By not intervening in the first instance, this allows the opportunity for change, and for issues to be addressed through parenting and other forms of support, before Turnaround is offered.
- We understand that local practice varies, and children involved in ASB could receive a generic outcome such as a Community Resolution or Youth Caution. Therefore, even if this is a first ASB outcome, as these are eligible criteria for Turnaround, YJSs can offer Turnaround support to children in receipt of these outcomes for ASB, as well as the other ASB-specific outcomes included in the eligibility criteria.

Out of court resolutions (OOCRs)

OOCRs are included in the eligibility criteria in recognition that there can be gaps in the support that children subject to OOCRs can access. When considering Turnaround interventions for children who have received OOCRs, YJSs should ensure that the programme offers genuine additionality to the local offer and that existing provision is not duplicated.

¹⁸ [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014](#)

Where children subject to an OOCR could potentially benefit from a more in-depth assessment, there must be a clear case that there are additional support needs that are not and cannot be met through existing channels.

Child knife possession guidance

The Government guidance on child knife possession offences requires that the police refer every child knife possession offence case to YJSs.¹⁹ It is for the YJS to develop and oversee the delivery of mandatory plans in response to knife possession offences.

The government expects all police forces and YJSs to establish a Deferred Prosecution scheme as an option to respond to appropriate child knife possession offences where it is not in the public interest to charge the child and where mitigating factors are present, which mean it will be appropriate to offer the child a non-criminal outcome.

YJSs should work closely with appropriate services in their area to ensure that the right referrals are made to avoid duplication of the support made available to the child.

Summary of eligibility criteria – the following must be met:

Has received one of the following: - those who have come to notice of agencies with enforcement powers for repeated involvement in anti-social behaviour (ASB); - those involved in ASB who have received: - Community Protection Warning/Notice (CPW/N); - Acceptable Behaviour Contract (ABC); - Civil Order for ASB; - those who are interviewed under caution following arrest or subject to a criminal investigation attending a voluntary interview; - those who are subject to NFA decision*; - those who are subject to a Community Resolution*; - those receiving a first-time youth caution, not including conditional caution*; - those released under investigation (RUI) or those subject to pre-charge bail (PCB); - those discharged by a court; - those acquitted at court; and/or - those fined by a court	Yes
Referral received within three months of the above	Yes
Not received Turnaround support previously	Yes
Open to the specified Children's Services but with a clear unmet need, that Turnaround can meet as part of a co-ordinated plan	Yes

¹⁹ [Government guidance on child knife possession offences](#)

Not previously on YJS statutory caseload and 17 or under at point of referral	Yes
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* The criteria marked with an asterisk relate to children subject to OOCRs and we request that YJSs have reference to the paragraph below when considering these cases.

Whilst we acknowledge that some eligibility criteria may require recognition of responsibility (or guilt in a conditional discharge from court) for an offence from the child, **Turnaround does not require any admission of guilt for a child to be eligible for support by the programme.**

2.2 Turnaround alongside other services

During 2026/27 we will work with YJSs and other key partners to consider eligibility criteria and share good practice, with a view to ensuring Turnaround continues to operate effectively and complements wider prevention and diversion activity in 2027/28 and 2028/29.

The Young Futures Programme

The Young Futures Programme is a key part of the delivery of the Safer Streets Mission. Under this programme the Government is intervening earlier to ensure children and young people who are facing poorer outcomes and are vulnerable to being drawn into crime are identified and offered support in a more systematic way. The programme also aims to create more support and opportunities for them in their communities. The Young Futures Programme's key components are:

- **Young Futures Prevention Partnerships**, which will be responsible for proactively identifying and intervening earlier with those young people at risk of being drawn into violence and crime – led by the Home Office.
- **Young Futures Hubs** which will provide more opportunities and support in local communities – led by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Both elements of the Young Futures Programme are being developed in parallel. Areas have the flexibility to organise their Turnaround programme alongside Young Futures Panels in whatever way best reflects local service configuration. Examples of effective practice are in the Young Futures Panels Practice Guidance. Where challenges or duplication arise, YJS managers, VRUs (where applicable), Children's Services and the police should come together to align their arrangements and ensure a coherent local approach.

Working with Children's Services

YJSs can continue to use their discretion to work with children who are part of an open family plan. This includes:

- Early/Family Help /Families Prevention Plans
- Children in Need/Children with a Care and Support Plan
- Child Protection/Care and Support Protection Plans
- Children who are Looked After

Where a child is supported by Children's Services, Turnaround practitioners should ensure the wider family network (kinship carers, extended family) is part of the intervention planning wherever appropriate.

Other related initiatives

YJS Management Boards should ensure that they are aware of local or regional services offering support, as well as government funded initiatives that are operating in their locality. It is imperative that siloed working and duplication of services or support are avoided.

The MoJ Turnaround Programme Team will continue to update YJSs when any new central government funded initiatives are planned, to facilitate the development of strategic links.

The programmes below are UK Government funded, there are additional Welsh Government programmes that YJSs in Wales are encouraged to align with. An accompanying overview for each initiative can be found in **Annex B**.

Initiative	Funded by	Theme
Family Help (Families First Partnership programme from April 2025)	DfE	Family Support
Families First for Children Pathfinders	DfE	Family Support
Best Start Family HUBS (successor and expansion of Family Hubs/ Start for Life)	DfE/DHSC	Family Support
Early Support Hubs	DHSC	Mental Health Support
Better Youth Spaces (BYS)	DCMS	Preventing Youth Violence
NHS Vanguard – Children with complex needs in the community	NHS England	Delivering integrated care for children with complex needs
Liaison and Diversion (L&D)	NHS England	Improving community healthcare

Initiative	Funded by	Theme
Violence Reduction Units	Home Office	Preventing Youth Violence
Serious Violence Duty	Home Office	Preventing serious violence
Your Choice	YEF and Home Office	Preventing Youth Violence and Harm
Engage	London Violence Reduction Unit	Preventing Youth Violence

2.3 Referrals

This section aims to encourage consistency by local partners in decision-making processes, and to ensure a planned and considered approach to making referrals to the programme.

This section should be read in concurrence with existing local or national guidance, for example:

- [YJB OOCR Guidance](#)
- [NPCC Children and Young Persons Policing Strategy 2024 - 2027](#)
- [Home Office - Serious Violence Duty](#)
- Local safeguarding children partnerships published arrangements
- [DfE Children's Social Care National Framework](#)
- [DfE Working together to safeguard children](#)

For referrals following attendance at court, and the outcome being one outlined in the eligibility criteria, (identified in the court outcome lists YJSs receive) it is the responsibility of YJSs to refer children to Turnaround. This enables children who would usually not receive YJS support following court appearances to access support and intervention to prevent them from future interaction with the justice system. The eligibility criteria include children who receive a conditional discharge from a court, which does require an admission of guilt, **but this does not prevent them from being eligible for Turnaround support.**

Referral pathways

YJSs should continue working with strategic partners to ensure services encountering the child at the point of their eligibility trigger are aware of the programme. Referrals can be received from:

- Local joint-decision-making arrangements between YJSs and statutory partners – such as out of court resolution panels and prevention partnership panels

- Any frontline practitioner who may encounter the eligible cohort, primarily police, Community Safety Teams and YJSs
- Local authorities receiving referrals through the Children's Services Front Door Service, MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub), Single Point of Access or Initial Contact Team
- Local Family Help (England) or Families Prevention (Wales) services, including self-referrals from families

The model remains non-prescriptive about how referral pathways for Turnaround should operate. Local areas should continue to determine how Turnaround sits alongside existing arrangements and have implementation plans articulating how to mitigate demand for the service exceeding its capacity.

2.4 Screening

As in previous years, **all referrals must be screened by the YJS** before a child can progress onto the programme. YJSs should decline to accept cases referred to them which do not meet the eligibility criteria.

Stage 1 – Triage: a referral in and initial screening to assess a child's eligibility for the programme.

- The referral is screened by YJSs to determine eligibility. It is for local areas to determine how this occurs based on current partnership arrangements/referral mechanisms.
- Triage should be a light-touch screening to review existing data, including reason for referral, any relevant data received from referral partners
- Where a child is subject to an OOCR, the YJS should ensure that Turnaround would not duplicate existing support arrangements and would offer clear additionality.
- Where a child is open to Children's Services, the YJS should ensure that Turnaround does not duplicate support, would offer clear additionality and work closely with colleagues locally to ensure interventions are coordinated and joined up.
- Children nearing their 18th birthday would still be considered eligible for the programme, however at the point of screening it will be up to the YJS practitioner to decide whether the child should proceed to Turnaround support or if it would be best for them to be referred into the appropriate adult services.

For those children that meet the eligibility criteria and are to receive an in-depth Turnaround assessment, **one Lead Practitioner** must co-ordinate the assessment of the child and any subsequent interventions in the programme to avoid a child having to navigate different services directly.

Where multiple services are required, these should “wrap around” the child and family through joint-planning and implementation.

The Lead Practitioner who oversees and co-ordinates the intervention may be any professional with the appropriate skillset and experience to meet the child’s needs. If they are not part of the YJS, it is essential that they work in partnership with the YJS.

Stage 2 – Completing assessments: an in-depth holistic assessment of the needs of a child, including family context.

- Engagement and informed consent from the child and parent or care givers must be obtained before the assessment commences, including clearly specifying how personal data will be used.
- Practitioners should follow these key principles:
 - Family circumstances as well as those of the child should be reflected in the assessment.
 - A strengths-based approach is taken to assessing needs and risk.
 - The child’s environment should be considered, including engaging and involving the support network around a child, including the family, parents or care givers, and school.
 - The assessment should include the voice of the child and involve them in the design of their plan and the interventions they are offered.
- Local safeguarding procedures should be followed where concerns or a risk of harm are identified.
- For cases where the YJB Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool is not mandated, we encourage YJSs to use the Local Authority’s Early Help (Families First in Wales) assessment. Turnaround has been developed using the Supporting Families Early Help model and aligning to Early Help meets a key aim of the programme, which is to improve integration between YJSs and Children’s Services. However, YJSs have the discretion to divert from this – provided that they still follow the key principles behind Early Help-style assessments.
- The AssetPlus assessment does not meet the Turnaround principles, as outlined above. Whilst the AssetPlus assessment collects information on whole family working, the framework is not set up for a whole family approach. The length and complexity of the assessment is not suitable for the Turnaround cohort of children, and it is not designed to be shared with other professionals and children and their families.

YJB Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool (PDAT)

- The Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool is a national assessment designed by the YJB for all children subject to prevention and diversion disposals. The assessment tool uses a child focused approach.
- The PDAT must be completed when a child is being considered for, or has received, a diversion disposal. This includes Community Resolutions, Outcome 22, formal OOCR

cases and receiving a first-time Youth Caution. For full definitions of diversion please refer to the YJB guidance.²⁰ Local processes will vary as to when the assessment is completed and the timescales for completion.

- Asset Plus may be appropriate in some circumstances for other funding streams, but it must not be used for Turnaround cases to remain consistent with Turnaround principles.
- For all other Turnaround cases that involve prevention, the tool is optional. This includes, RUI, on PCB or involvement in ASB where there is no specific OOCR. If you do use the PDAT for prevention work, the section that relates to the child's behaviour is optional, and dependant on your case management provider, may not appear
- All relevant sections of the PDAT should be completed for children who have a diversion disposal, this includes children where assessments have already been completed by Children's Services. The PDAT guidance issued by the YJB should be followed, which includes considering all existing information, including assessments completed for children open to Family Help/Family Prevention/Child Protection/Care and Support Protection Plan. Practitioners should avoid asking children/families to repeat their stories, questions that have been covered in other assessments should only be asked where there is clear additionality from a youth justice perspective.
- For more information on the Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool, please visit the YJB Youth Justice Resource Hub: <https://yjresourcehub.uk/>. Alternatively, please contact your Single Point of Contact (SPOC) or the YJB.

HMIP Inspection framework

- HMIP has confirmed that any Turnaround children without an OOCR would not be included in an inspection sample. Street CRs would not be included within an inspection sample.
- When undertaking inspections of YJSs, HMIP reviews how the local area undertakes casework with children subject to OOCRs. Therefore, as part of the sample selected, the Inspectorate may examine OOCR cases where the child is receiving support through the Turnaround programme.
- Turnaround cases that involve children in receipt of a Community Resolution, Outcome 21, Outcome 22 or first-time youth caution, are in scope to be examined as part of a sample under HMIP's Inspection framework.
- The inspection requirements align with the Turnaround programme in terms of a whole family, co-ordinated multi agency approach. HMIP does not mandate any specific tool in the assessing of OOCRs, but please be aware that, as part of this assessing activity, the YJB assessment tool must be used if there is a diversion outcome, as outlined in the YJB Prevention and Diversion section. The focus is on the quality of assessing activity, alongside the quality of planning activity and implementation and delivery. YJSs should ensure that for OOCR cases, this also includes the assessing of safety to

²⁰ [Definitions for Prevention and Diversion - Youth Justice Board \(2021\)](#)

the child and the assessing of safety to others– this aligns with our inspection standards.

- Turnaround cases that are in-scope for HMIP inspection should have a linked offence and have had intervention work delivered by a YJS, a commissioned service, YJS staff embedded, or other social care/ education/ health/ police teams. HMIP expect these cases to be recorded on the YJS case management system.
- If the YJS is working with the child under an OOCR that is in-scope for inspection (even if that child is receiving support from the Turnaround programme) then we expect case recording to be evident on the YJS case management system. In relevant cases, if there is information held on children's services case management systems, for those Turnaround cases that are in-scope for inspection, HMIP would expect to see any relevant information attached or copied over to the child's record in the YJS case management system (such as social work/ EH assessments, CIN plans, CLA plans, CP assessments and plans etc) or indeed any evidence of work undertaken by education or health where relevant to the child's circumstances.

Stage 3 – Delivery of interventions: interventions can be delivered by the YJS or other agencies or partners (whether public, voluntary, or other sector) involved in the support a child is receiving.

- As part of a child's support plan, interventions to meet the need identified through the assessment process should be delivered, mindful of the average funding of £3,166.77 per child (more information can be found in Section 4 (Funding)).

2.4.1 Ensuring a holistic, non-punitive approach

Consideration should be given to the wider context which could create vulnerabilities including physical and social/ emotional/ mental health needs, family, school, peer, and community issues. Taking a whole family approach, interventions could meet the needs of siblings and parents, or care givers as identified through assessment.

The programme aims to avoid labelling children as 'offenders' and encourages practitioners to take reasonable steps to avoid stigmatising the children with which they work. Children will not necessarily have a formal criminal charge or conviction (nor admitted guilt). The focus of these interventions should be on strengths and building a pro-social identity to address the underlying need. This aims to prevent the escalation of offending behaviour. Engagement on the programme from the children and their family is voluntary and needs to be clearly communicated as such.

The length of intervention is dependent on the needs of the child and the local authority's processes.

Support can be sourced from local partners such as statutory local services, as well as voluntary and charitable organisations. YJSs in Wales may want to draw on the National Trauma Practice Framework developed by ACE Hub Wales and Traumatic Stress Wales.

Escalating cases

If a child commits an offence or there are further instances of ASB while receiving Turnaround support, a reassessment of the child and family's needs should be completed by the YJS to ensure that Turnaround remains the most appropriate programme to meet their needs.

If the child's additional offence outcome is not listed as part of the Turnaround criteria, it is probable the child will enter the YJSs statutory caseload. **This would result in them no longer being eligible for Turnaround. The child should then be transitioned onto the YJS statutory caseload.**

2.5 Closing a Turnaround case

As in years 1–4 of the programme, there is no mandatory duration for the length of time a Turnaround case should be open from assessment to the end of interventions. Adopting a child focused approach, YJSs should ensure needs are met within a specific plan before closing a case, but this does not need to be a 12-week period of intervention.

However, we advise that the package of support should take place within a 12-month period, starting from the first assessment until the lead practitioner and the family feel the case is ready to be closed.

It is up to the discretion of local areas to determine the length of time cases should be open for, ensuring that they are mindful of the average funding allocation of £3,166.77.

RUI/PCB cases

If a child has received a guilty outcome as a result of being on RUI/PCB whilst on Turnaround, the case can be counted as “closed” rather than withdrawn under the following criteria:

- The child must have had a completed Turnaround assessment
- There has been a minimum of 4 weeks intervention carried out before the child becomes ineligible

2.6 Children on Turnaround moving to another YJS in a new authority

If a child moves to another Local Authority whilst open to Turnaround, they can be transferred as an open case to the YJS in the new area. The original YJS should contact the YJS in the new authority to check capacity and to arrange handover of the case.

If the YJS in the new authority does not have capacity to take the child then alternate avenues of support, including through Family Help/Families First (Wales), should be explored.

Recording children who have moved to another YJS in a new authority

The YJS in the original authority should record the child as withdrawn and close the case. They should make their SPOC aware if the child has completed more than 4 weeks of support, as the MoJ can adjust expectations around targets.

The new YJS in the authority should record the child as a new referral but they don't need to complete a new assessment and plan – the original assessment and plan can be transferred from the initial Local Authority with the new YJS. A review of need and progress should be carried out by the new YJS to ensure the support is tailored once the case has been transferred to the new area.

Working with children who are looked after by a different Local Authority

In accordance with the child focused approach, YJSs have the discretion to work with children who are looked after by a different Local Authority if they are placed under their borough. As an example, if the child is placed a relatively short distance away, YJSs may choose to continue supporting the child.

3. Delivering interventions

Turnaround was designed to enable YJSs to work flexibly to build on existing arrangements and funding for youth early intervention in their locality, including the local Family Help system (England) or Family Prevention system (Wales). Whilst delivery models should be adapted to fit local need, there remains a set of core, long-standing programme design features that all Turnaround delivery arrangements must continue to be based upon, which are:

3.1 Target a clear cohort

Turnaround targets children on the cusp of entering the justice system.

The cohort of children will have had some early contact with the justice system, but not have fully entered the youth justice system. There is a clear criterion of children who would be eligible for Turnaround support, following interaction with the police and other services.

Interventions should be agreed with the child and their parents or care givers and personalised to their needs, to enable the best outcome for the child.

The length of an intervention differs dependent on each individual child.

3.2 Use a Family Help-style approach

Turnaround seeks to build on the successful Supporting Families model of early intervention in England,²¹ and the Families First programme in Wales,²² using the core principles of the model which were instrumental to its success. More information on the approach to children and families in Wales can be found in the Welsh Government Children and Young People's Plan²³ and the Youth Justice Blueprint²⁴ which has been jointly agreed by the Welsh Government, MoJ, Policing in Wales and YJB Cymru.

²¹ [Supporting Families](#)

²² [Families First](#)

²³ [Children and young people's plan | GOV.WALES](#)

²⁴ [Youth justice blueprint: prevention framework | GOV.WALES](#)

Although there is no single path to youth offending, there are certain vulnerabilities associated with an increased likelihood of being involved in offending behaviour.

These include:

- mental health concerns
- substance misuse
- care history/being a child in need
- being a victim of crime/abuse
- unstable family setting
- school absence and exclusions, and/or
- undiagnosed educational/learning support needs.

It is recognised that children in this cohort most likely have a mixture of complex needs, which is why Turnaround is flexible, empowering YJSs to design interventions that work for each child individually.

Local YJS Management Boards and their partners may arrange the delivery of services differently, however the following Family Help principles should be followed:

- **One Assessment** – a strengths-based assessment that considers the needs of the child and their family, parents or care givers.
- **One Plan** – a plan with [evidence-based interventions](#), developed with the views of the child and their parents or care givers.
- **One Lead Practitioner** – within or alongside the YJS, a lead practitioner is assigned to support the child and is recognised by the family and other professionals involved with the casework. Their role is to ensure that multi-agency interventions are co-ordinated.

The objectives in the child's family plan should be aligned with the objectives of Turnaround, which are focused on preventing future contact with the youth justice system by addressing unmet needs and improving positive outcomes.

This supports Turnaround to:



Achieve the best outcomes for children at risk of offending

- An in-depth holistic assessment that looks at the environment of the child and includes services for parents or care givers and family.
- Support and community services are wrapped around a child through a single assessment and point of contact.
- Addressing the root causes of the child and family's problems prevent them from escalating, builds resilience and makes outcomes sustainable.



Target support where it is needed most

- A screening identifies where existing services are meeting need, or where universal services could meet needs.
- This targets funding where it will have the biggest impact, benefit children most and avoids double funding.



Co-ordinate support and join up working

- Where a Turnaround intervention is needed, there is a lead professional co-ordinating support with other agencies. The 'one lead worker – one assessment – one plan' approach ensures the right support at the right time.
- Duplication of support is avoided, and information is shared in a safe way.
- This co-ordinated approach makes it easier to spot when needs and risks are escalating, and a child is at risk of harm.



Support Voluntary Engagement

- Family Help-style assessments are strength-based, building on what the child and their family do best. They reflect the views and experience of the child and family.
- The Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool (PDAT) is mandatory for diversion cases – but Turnaround requires family and children to agree to engage.
- Frontline experience shows that when families feel listened to and part of decisions, they are more likely to engage on a voluntary basis.



Achieve System Change

- Children on the cusp of the justice system have not consistently been the focus of Family Help, as there has been no way of identifying them.
- The programme aims to support children by using funding to improve integration and partnership working between YJSs and other statutory services, enabling consistency of approach and integration across system partnerships.

3.3 The importance of following, and building, the evidence base

Turnaround interventions should:

- promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for positive outcomes and sustainable desistance
- encourage children's active participation and engagement through meaningful collaboration with children and families
- minimise criminogenic stigma from contact with the criminal justice system or underlining any pro-offending identity
- add value to what is already being delivered locally, and
- ensure resources, including suitable trained practitioners, are available.

A key element of a YJSs role is ensuring that whoever delivers the service does so in line with these principles and to a high-quality standard.

Where possible, services for children should be evidence-based. Where the evidence base associated with specific interventions is less developed, or there is recognition that interventions should be delivered in combination to maximise impact, the Turnaround programme aims to develop a better understanding of 'what works' and strengthen the evidence base to aid future investments.

It is imperative that YJSs do not use interventions that the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) have classified as harmful. These can be found in the [YEF Toolkit](#).²⁵ Where there is confusion over these interventions, YJSs should speak to their SPOC.

Turnaround allows flexibility for each YJS to determine which evidence-based interventions builds upon local service delivery and achieve the best outcomes for children. Where there is a strong preference for choosing a different intervention or for a locally developed model, we expect YJSs to work with us to understand the proposal and to see how we can assess its impact for the evidence base in the future.

In considering alternative or unproven interventions, we would expect YJSs to either provide historical data which demonstrates clear evidence of the impact of the chosen intervention / adaptation / local model, or demonstrate that the following factors have been considered fully when adapting or developing the bespoke intervention:

- Does the proposed intervention have a clear theory of change which is rooted in scientifically verified observations of child development and family functioning?
- How will intervention be quality assured, to make sure that it is being delivered as intended and is likely to be effective?

²⁵ [YEF Toolkit](#)

- Does the intervention add sufficient value relative to what is currently available?
- What resources are needed to deliver the intervention, including the necessary skills and qualifications? (A lack of suitably trained practitioners is a primary reason why interventions fail)
- What are the interagency relationships which underpin the intervention?

If Knife Crime Education interventions are delivered, care should be taken to ensure they are comprised only of activities which are evidenced to reduce reoffending. These interventions must exclude any elements shown to contain harmful components, such as prison awareness or for which there is no evidence of efficacy, such as knife crime education or awareness courses. Careful consideration should also be given to components which some children have said encourage them to carry knives for protection against being attacked with a knife themselves, such as imagery of knife wounds.

3.4 Resources and best practice examples

The resources below are included for YJSs delivering Turnaround to use as a basis for finding evidence-based interventions:

Youth Endowment Fund Toolkit

The YEF Toolkit is a simple guide to which approaches best prevent children becoming involved in violence. It is based on the best available evidence, utilising a database of over 2,000 studies. YJSs are strongly encouraged to review the Toolkit to understand the evidence base when planning the support to offer children. YJSs are required by the MoJ not to use the approaches that the YEF Toolkit has found to be harmful – these are Bootcamps and Prison Awareness programmes. The Toolkit's recommended approaches to preventing youth crime and violence include:

- **Social skills training** – develops behaviour regulation and communication effectiveness
- **Focused deterrence** – combining communicating consequences of violence with developing positive routes away from it
- **Cognitive Behavioural Therapy** – talking therapy that helps children recognise and manage negative thought and behaviour
- **Informal pre-court diversion** – diversion from court and avoiding criminal records
- **Trauma Specific Therapies** – specialist therapies that support individual recovery from trauma
- **Restorative Justice** – a process which supports someone who has committed a crime to communicate with the victim, understand the impact of their actions, and find a positive way forward
- **Mentoring** – to match children with mentors who provide advice and support

Youth Endowment Fund: Diversion Practice Guidance

The YEF have published their Diversion Practice Guidance as part of their Whole Area Model, which closely aligns with Turnaround's ambitions. The guidance sets out seven core principles for effective diversion:

- **Pro-diversion culture** – Promote diversion as the default for low-level offences.
- **Fair, clear eligibility** – Consistent access without net-widening or bias.
- **Avoid custody** – Prefer voluntary engagement, custody only when necessary.
- **Strong joint decision-making** – Transparent, multi-agency processes.
- **Quick, evidence-based support** – Intervene rapidly with proven approaches.
- **Consistent reviews & closure** – Clear criteria for progress and endings.
- **High-quality delivery** – Training, QA and fidelity baked into every scheme.

Early Intervention Foundation (EIF)

The EIF evidence ratings distinguish five levels of strength of evidence. This is not a rating of the scale of impact but provides an indication of how confident we can be that there is evidence showing a particular programme **caused** a positive child outcome.

Early Intervention Foundation (EIF) Foundations Guidebook

The EIF Foundations Guidebook looks at specific programmes rather than general approaches. It is a good place to check whether any established programme that you plan to use has previously been evaluated. The Guidebook provides a summary of the existing evidence of whether a programme has been shown to have a positive, causal impact on specific child outcomes.²⁶

3.5 Examples of positive practice

As Turnaround is now an established national programme, there are many examples of positive practice. These examples are a snapshot.

3.5.1 Youth Justice Sport Fund

An example of an approach outlined by YEF is the use of 'secondary' sport programmes that uses sport as a 'hook' to engage children before delivering mentoring and other personal development activities. The [YEF Toolkit](#) outlines that appropriately designed secondary-level sport programmes could have a high impact in protecting children from involvement in crime or violence (though they note that more high-quality evidence in a UK context is required). A review of six studies highlights the desirable impacts on reducing aggression, promoting mental health and responding to other behavioural difficulties.²⁷

²⁶ [Foundations Guidebook - EIF](#)

²⁷ Information from the Youth Endowment Fund website: <https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/toolkit/sports-programmes/>

In recognition of this potential impact and the need to build further evidence, the MoJ funded 220 community sport organisations across England and Wales to deliver secondary-level prevention programmes in 2022/23. The [Youth Justice Sport Fund](#) (YJSF) recognised the role that sport can play in promoting a pro-social identity and supporting children within their communities. The YJSF saw organisations provide a near equal amount of this ‘sport-plus’ mentoring-style activity as actual sport delivery, highlighting the role that these providers can play in building the resilience of young people.

Many of the children in receipt of support through the YJSF were of a similar cohort worked with by YJSs as part of Turnaround. Though there wasn’t a requirement for participants on the YJSF to have had initial contact with the youth justice system, a proportion of this group would have done and shared vulnerabilities such as those outlined in Section 3.2, including school absences, unstable family settings or undiagnosed needs. Staff and youth workers who deliver secondary sport programmes are often trained to support the complex needs of those in the early stages of offending behaviours, providing a potential route for those children who may otherwise find it difficult to engage with statutory services.

Some delivery organisations of the YJSF may be familiar to YJSs already through existing local practice, including as potential referral partners or intervention providers in existing arrangements. YJSs are encouraged to think about the role these community sport organisations can play in delivering pro-social interventions, especially as local groups are often trusted by diverse communities and can act as advocates for children to engage with the programme.

Given that interventions can be delivered by third sector partners on behalf of the YJS and Turnaround funding can be used to direct children towards community schemes, secondary sport organisations may provide one route for YJSs to commission external provision for children referred into Turnaround. A list of organisations who delivered through the YJSF can be found on GOV.UK, though these providers represent only a small part of the wider sport for crime prevention landscape.²⁸

3.5.2 Milton Keynes YJS – Prevention and Diversion offer

Included below is an example of the Early Support Project that has been operating in Milton Keynes since 2017. The project introduced a Family Help alternative model to address the amount of First-time entrants receiving a formal OOCR. Akin to the methods of Turnaround, a child’s behaviour is addressed at the earliest opportunity once a Community Resolution is issued by the Police.

²⁸ [YJSF organisations - GOV.UK](#)

Arron – 16-year-old male (name has been changed)

A Community Resolution was issued for domestic-related violence against Arron's stepfather and sister as well as committing Criminal Damage within the home, with additional ASB offences in the community. In addition to this, there were considerable concerns around a sibling's mental health which was related to Arron's behaviour.

The worker completed family support work, anger management sessions and preparatory sessions to help Arron pass his CSCS (site health and safety card) as well as providing relationship interventions concerning his partner, as this relationship was identified as a trigger within Arron's aggressive behaviour. The worker also provided support to Arron in terms of managing his ADHD and associated impulsive behaviour.

Outcomes – Arron was able to successfully use techniques to avoid causing further damage in the home, along with taking his own initiative to repair the damage that he had already caused. Arron passed his CSCS test at the 2nd attempt and obtained paid work as a result. Relationships within the home have improved over the course of several months.

Arron had a positive relationship with his worker, and because of this, Arron was open to accepting advice and support, to move away from peers of concern and to manage his relationship with his partner differently to avoid key triggers for his anger.

The local offer has since expanded, and is now a Diversion and Prevention Service, offering support to children who have received an informal outcome for a proven offence, those being Community Resolutions, and now offers support to children between 10–18 years who are identified as being on the cusp of the justice system. The prevention offer reflects the need for an Family Help youth justice approach for children at risk of offending.

There's a strong health and education focus, and strengths-based approach and priority areas include Speech, Language and Communication Needs, addressing school absence/exclusions, home education, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or Additional Learning Needs (ALN) in Wales, and working to address social inequalities and structural barriers. Advocacy on behalf of children, families and care givers is central to ensure that education and health concerns are identified and addressed to ensure a proportionate support and intervention is delivered to address the wider structural barriers that can prevent children from thriving.

Milton Keynes YJS were inspected by HMIP in May 2021. In terms of OOCRs, the YJS received an Outstanding for Assessment, and Good for Implementation and Delivery and Joint Working. The Inspectorate commented that the Early Support Project "offered a structured support package." The Inspectorate commended the work of early intervention within the YJS. Ofsted SEND Inspection (2018) and NHS England have also recognised the Early Support Project as being a model of effective practice.

Turnaround builds on successful programmes such as this, forming an opportunity via funding to make this approach consistent across YJSs in England and Wales.

3.5.3 Barnsley YJS – Working with children involved in ASB

Barnsley have adopted a three-tiered systemic model for early intervention and have applied this to Turnaround:

1. Community work – being visible and accessible
2. Schools – raising awareness and co-ownership
3. Whole family working – creating sustainability.

Through this model, Barnsley have built on existing partnership work with the police, housing, youth services and education providers to work with their ASB cohort.

The case study surrounds three brothers, involved in ASB at a number of hotspots. Barnsley was made aware of the children following attendance at a Community Trigger meeting. The children were issued with ASB1 official warning letters from the local authority, due to repeated incidents on the same victim. The parents received Tenancy warning letters, related to the children's ASB. With the parents' consent, all three children were accepted onto Turnaround.

Barnsley focused on taking the wider family working approach. All 5 children had learning difficulties and suffered from significant trauma, as did the parents.

The Barnsley team worked closely with number 3 of their systemic model – whole family working. They stabilised the home environment through safety planning, problem solving and empowering the family as a unit. It was recognised that an increase of resilience and ownership was necessary to build this, so used Turnaround funding to offer Family Mediation support and to work with wider family networks.

The children took part in diversion sports activities, namely boxing to help channel any emotions.

In addition, Barnsley worked closely with key partners, including schools to get the children back into education, health and housing.

As a result, the children have been enrolled back into education, the family dynamic has improved, and the family have remained in the family home.

3.5.4 Devon YJS – Addressing harmful sexual behaviour

Devon have focused on tackling problematic and harmful sexual behaviour. The team have been proactive in establishing emerging themes on current influences on children and young people, such as messages promoting misogyny and what it means to be “masculine” on social media. To address these views, Devon promotes an idea of healthy

masculinity and remove influences of misogyny to reframe ideas of masculinity in young people.

During the course of a 6-week pilot, Devon offered interventions through Turnaround involving physical training, group therapies and local agency sign posting. This included:

- 6 x 2-hour sessions
- Maui Thai physical training
- 30+ mins looking at our behaviour and the impacts of these on the comments
- Open chat sessions and a safe space to talk or ask questions about: Challenging toxic myth/culture around masculinity and promoting a move away from street violence towards a productive safe combat sport.

The interventions listed above offered the potential to grade in Maui Thai, increased fitness stamina, encouragement of young people to feel like they could challenge peers in a safe space and better self-esteem.

Devon adopted the following approach to help young people understand the importance of consent with young people through:

- Normalising conversations about healthy relationships, including sexual relationships (where appropriate)
- An adapted assessment
- Encouraging non-intrusive conversations
- Making children aware of relevant legal frameworks and discussing this
- Creative activities

As a team, Devon have worked together to tackle harmful sexual behaviour by:

- Having a database of good resources around healthy relationships and safe sex
- Ensuring these topics are kept on the agenda
- Understanding this is a responsibility for YJSs if young people are facing these issues – sex and relationships are not for ‘experts’
- Working towards a pool of multiagency staff to be AIM 3 Assessment Trained
- Hosting monthly multi-discipline forum.

3.6 Interventions to meet wider family and underlying needs

Turnaround funding can be used to support a child with unmet, urgent needs for essential items (which may include items such as food, clothing, and bedding). Using Turnaround funding in this way should only be considered when these needs have been identified through a Family Help style assessment.

YJSs should ensure:

- A robust framework and process is in place, including a clear financial audit trail. Sign off for this provision should be at least at Head of Service level.
- Providing essential items is through vouchers, utility credit, or purchase of items.
Children/families should under no circumstances be given cash payments.
- Only providing items in 'one off' exceptional circumstances where there is a clear plan to address the root cause of the issue creating the hardship. The multi-agency plan should address longer term need, to avoid dependencies arising.
- When developing Turnaround, YJSs should have a thorough knowledge of funding available in their locality to meet hardship need. This includes statutory provision such as that provided through the Department for Work and Pensions in addition to other localised provision such as food and clothing banks. Turnaround funding should only be used where other alternatives to meet a need have been exhausted.

Turnaround funding can be used to meet parental and wider family need, when identified as part of a multi-agency plan.

When considering meeting such need, YJSs should ensure the following:

- The funding should exclude support which other agencies in the Family Help system (England), the Family Prevention system (Wales) or part of the multi-agency plan, can meet.
- As part of the Family Help/Families Prevention system to meet the needs of the wider family, there are existing services in each local area such as mental health and substance misuse. These services however may be oversubscribed with long waiting lists. In this instance where the multi-agency plan has identified this need for the child and wider family, YJSs can consider funding this type of support. For example, if access to a therapeutic intervention is an identified need during the Family Help style assessment, but the local service has an excessive waiting list, the YJS could choose to fund a package of therapeutic support, so the child and family can access this support sooner.
- Understanding of the average cost of c. £3,166.77 when considering funding interventions for wider family members. Turnaround funding should only be used to fund interventions for children and families who are part of the Turnaround cohort.

3.7 YJS Management Board oversight

Responsibility for local implementation, oversight and assurance of Turnaround sits within YJS Management Boards. YJS Management Boards should make strategic design decisions and have oversight, so they are assured on performance management and risk.

The local YJS Management Board should decide whether to provide interventions in-house or to commission additional support.

As YJSs have demonstrated, fostering a flexible and collaborative approach between organisations built on existing partnership arrangements has been key in the successful implementation of Turnaround. YJSs should continue to consider any changes to existing local governance structures and strategic needs assessments to avoid duplication of support.

4. Funding

The Turnaround Programme Team are here to help and support YJSs with the requirements of the Grant Funding Agreement which sets out the conditions of the grant.

4.1 Use of funding

YJSs who have a target are required to commit to working with a minimum number of eligible children. The Grant Funding Agreement details this and breaks down the minimum numbers of children per financial year. To deliver Turnaround, YJSs are required to follow the programme design features, as laid out in Section 3 (Delivering Interventions). Beyond this, the model then allows flexibility for YJS Management Boards to determine the design of the local programme.

For the financial year 26/27, the grant allocation includes a £20,000 portion that does not involve a target number of children to work with. To be eligible, activities should involve early intervention/prevention work related to the programme aim of achieving positive outcomes for children and preventing them from going on to offend/reoffend. Eligible activities could include but are not limited to; **Supporting children eligible for the programme; Commissioning interventions to directly support children** assessed for the programme or working with partners to map local provision (including in the voluntary and community sector) or **strengthening links between Turnaround and these other services**.

It may also include **strategic work to develop, analyse and embed learnings from the Turnaround programme to date**. This could include staff training programmes; developing and embedding relationships within local partnerships; improvements to systems to share data; undertaking analysis on the programme's operation in your area.

We expect YJSs to use their local knowledge of the cohort, the services, and opportunities in their local communities. Our light touch and non-prescriptive approach is designed to give YJSs as much flexibility as possible.

4.2 Turnaround unit costs

The average base unit cost is £3,166.77 per child; this is based on costings used for the Supporting Families Programme in 2015–2020, with an uplift to allow for increase in costs since then. This includes the following inflationary uplifts for each financial year of the programme:

Year	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Average Cost
Cost Per Child	£3,104	£3,166	£3,230	£3,166.77

Payments will be made in advance of expenditure in bi-annual instalments in April and November of each financial year. This costing reflects the expectation that it will be used to deliver the approach to service delivery set out in Section 2 (Identifying and working with children).

There is no requirement that the average £3,166.77 is allocated per child. You may choose to use some or all of the money to fund staff that will work with multiple children and/or to procure goods or services that will support them. The sum is only an indicative amount.

Where a sibling or siblings meet the eligibility criteria, each child should be recorded as separate cases, as this enables the MoJ Turnaround Team to track outcomes for each child. By recording siblings as separate cases, this ensures each child has an assessment that covers the need and risk to meet HMIP requirements, in scope for inspections. The YJS should ensure there is co-ordination in the plans for wider family needs, in scope with the Family Help-style assessment.

4.3 Arrangements for funding in Wales

For YJSs in Wales, delivering the Turnaround programme provides proportionate additional funding to that provided by the Welsh Government for early intervention work. This supports the scale up of existing YJS-led early intervention and prevention work in the country, while also engaging in Turnaround programme evaluation and insight. Turnaround does not duplicate or override existing work underway in Wales, but rather provides an uplift in YJS funding to support this activity. MoJ will deliver Turnaround funding for 26/27 and manage the Turnaround oversight processes.

5. Monitoring and evaluation

Turnaround presents an opportunity to develop the evidence base on the impact of interventions aiming to prevent children on the cusp of the youth justice system going on to offend.

Monitoring and evaluation is a critical part of the programme, to ensure that we understand the impact the programme has on children receiving support. To enable this, it is a requirement of funding that YJSs continue to provide regular data returns to the MoJ, which includes aggregated details of children they have supported as part of the Turnaround programme. We therefore **request that YJSs continue to keep individual level data** to allow accurate returns. See sections 5.1 and 5.2 for more details of requirements around record keeping, reporting and monitoring delivery. YJSs will also be expected to work closely with any appointed evaluation partners and with Turnaround Analytical Leads at the MoJ, as required.

Evaluation

In April 2024, the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) was commissioned by the MoJ to carry out a process and implementation evaluation. It concluded in May 2025 and underwent rigorous quality assurance, including two external peer reviews, in line with the Government Social Research (GSR) code. It is now published and accessible online.²⁹

The evaluation explored three core areas:

- **Programme delivery** – successes and challenges, based on surveys of 155 YJSs, interviews with delivery staff and stakeholders (including YJB, DfE, YEF), and analysis of programme data
- **Perceived impact on children and practice** – drawing on feedback from children, parents/carers, and delivery staff
- **Lessons for the future of early intervention** – identifying what works and what could be improved

²⁹ [Turnaround Programme independent process and implementation evaluation: final report - GOV.UK](#)

Key findings include:

- **Encouraging outcomes for children:** By December 2024, only 7% of children who completed Turnaround had received a judicial decision or caution within 12 months of completing Turnaround. While promising, this figure is indicative only, as there was no comparison group
- **Wider positive impacts:** parents and delivery leads reported improvements in children's behaviour, education, wellbeing, and outlook, with benefits also extending to families
- **Strengthened partnerships:** the programme helped build stronger collaboration between YJSs and partners such as police, schools, and health services. In some areas, police reported increased confidence in issuing proportionate outcomes
- **Effective engagement:** voluntary participation, no requirement to admit guilt, and trusted relationships with Turnaround workers were key to engaging children. Existing local partnerships were also vital for referrals and delivery
- **Delivery challenges:** included initial exclusion of children in contact with social services, rapid mobilisation pressures, and staff retention issues within YJSs, linked to time limited funding

A statistical release was published by the MoJ in October 2024, presenting a snapshot of year one management information data (January to December 2023).³⁰

In FY 2025/26, a selection of YJSs provided individual level data to MoJ Turnaround Analytical Leads to allow further analysis of Turnaround reporting data for the period January 2023 – March 2025. This will be analysed alongside routine management information data covering the same time period. The aim of this analysis is to provide robust evidence of the effectiveness of Turnaround by tracking the outcomes of different groups of children who completed the programme.

Plans for future evaluation are currently being developed. These will build on the evidence produced from earlier Turnaround analysis and evaluation work and the broader early intervention evidence base.

We are grateful to all those who have contributed to Turnaround evaluation and to the ongoing delivery of Turnaround. Evaluation helps MoJ gather valuable insight from those on the frontline and allows the opportunity for YJSs to share their challenges, successes and best practice. We ask that YJSs continue to engage with evaluation activities where possible. We are positive that these findings will help shape future early intervention approaches and strengthen support for children at risk of entering the youth justice system.

³⁰ [Turnaround programme year one management information - Ad hoc statistical release](#)

5.1 Record-keeping

YJSs are required to keep a record of children referred to them, in line with data protection laws and consent of the child and their parents or care givers. YYSs should ensure they are compliant with Section 14 of the Grant Funding Agreement related to 'Data Protection and Public Procurement'.

YJS access to Police National Computer (PNC) checks for over-18s:

We have received several queries from YYSs regarding whether they can access and report PNC outcomes data for individuals who have turned 18 within 12 months of completing a Turnaround intervention. The data sharing provisions in section 17A of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (and as amended in Crime and Disorder (Prescribed Information) Regulations 2007) is not limited to data sharing only when the person is under 18. This means that YYSs can lawfully check PNC data for Turnaround reporting purposes. This reporting would relate to an individual who was under 18 when they started the Turnaround intervention, even if they turn 18 during delivery or within 12 months of completing the intervention.

Reporting

YJSs are required to submit information on children who are assessed and eligible for the programme, including diversity data in performance reporting form. The reporting requirement will include information such as:

- numbers of children who are assessed and who have started interventions
- numbers of children who drop out of the programme
- when cases are closed
- the outcome of the intervention e.g. further offences, where known
- demographic and diversity-related data.

In alignment with current case management guidance, where appropriate, YYSs should share this information with local children's services as part of partnership working and to inform assessments.

5.2 Monitoring delivery

The MoJ Turnaround Programme Team works closely with local areas and their YJB counterparts to ensure YYSs are supported to deliver on their programme targets.

YJS Managers will be required to submit performance data to the turnaround@justice.gov.uk inbox using a standardised Excel form for consistency. This can be filled in manually or by connecting to information from the system data set.

Where YJSs are experiencing barriers that are affecting delivery of the performance targets detailed in Annex 2 (The Funded Activities) of the Grant Funding Agreement, these must be discussed at the earliest opportunity with the Programme Team. The Turnaround Programme team will provide support and facilitate the sharing of best practice when required.

6. Turnaround in Wales

Variances for Welsh YJSs

A range of policy areas which impact the wellbeing of children are devolved to the Welsh Government. This includes health, education and social care. The support of devolved services in Wales is essential to enable YJSs in Wales to function, and to provide support to children who come into contact with the criminal justice system.

The [Youth Justice Blueprint for Wales](#) published in July 2019, sets out the Welsh Government's vision for youth justice in Wales, taking a 'child first' rights-based approach. This means ensuring a child-centred rather than service focused approach, responding in a way that recognises the best interests of the child to best meet individual needs. The Blueprint takes a whole system approach, with focus on early intervention and prevention and how devolved and non-devolved services can work together to prevent children from offending to enable them to lead safe, happy, and healthy lives.

The [Social Services and Well-being \(Wales\) Act 2014](#) and the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#) set out requirements to ensure local services are provided to prevent children from offending and to promote their future welfare. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) can have a significant effect on mental well-being throughout life, leading to negative outcomes such as involvement in crime. The Welsh Government is committed to providing the support needed for every child and young person to thrive and flourish.

The [Welsh Government's Children and Communities Grant](#) (CCG) seeks to address the support needs of the most vulnerable children and adults in our communities through a range of early intervention, prevention, and support mechanisms. The funding is provided to local authorities, which determine how the grant is apportioned within each local area. The CCG aims to mitigate or remove disadvantage to vulnerable people to enable them to have the same life chances as others. Seven programmes sit within the CCG, including the Promoting Positive Engagement for Young People at Risk of Offending (PPE). The aim of the funding for PPE is to support projects and activities that are aimed at the reduction and prevention of youth crime and disorder.

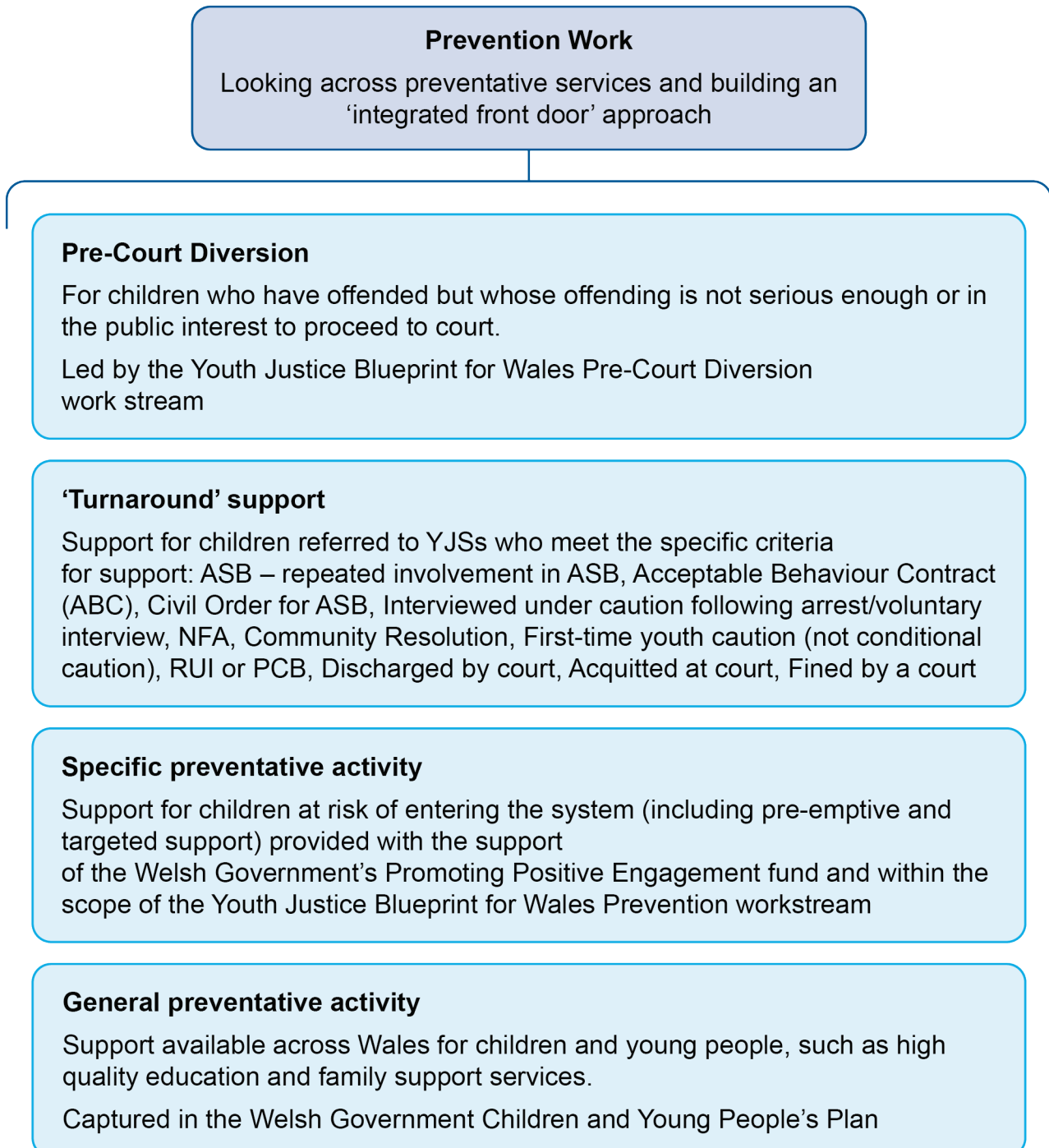
The Turnaround programme complements the current prevention activities in Wales and supports the prevention element of the Youth Justice Blueprint. [Refer to section 4.3 for funding in Wales].

Monitoring and Reporting

MoJ Turnaround programme officials work closely with the YJSs, YJB and Welsh Government to ensure YJSs are supported to deliver on their programme targets.

YJSs are required to submit performance data to the MoJ via a reporting form – this will be shared with the Welsh Government for information. This enables the Welsh Government to understand the collective use and impact of prevention funding across Turnaround and the CCG, allowing for system-wide learning and analysis.

This diagram explains how Turnaround works in Wales and should not duplicate existing work completed through the CCG and PPE.



Annex A – Supporting children on Turnaround alongside Children's Services

Following feedback from YJSs that some children open to Children's Services would also benefit from the specialised support which Turnaround practitioners can provide, the criteria was reviewed and changed for 2025/26. This change continues to provide YJSs with more flexibility to decide which children to support.

Children open to Children's Services often have complex family and contextual needs. Turnaround practitioners should work to complement, not duplicate Children's Services by addressing unmet needs and by contributing to a single-family plan.

Where unmet need is identified that cannot be met by the team around the family (TAF), YJSs now have the discretion to work with children on Turnaround if they fall into these groups:

- Referred to/open to Family Help or Family Prevention at Targeted Early Help level
- Children in Need (CIN) or Children who have Care and Support Plan (CSP)
- Children who have a Child Protection Plan (CPP) or a Care and Support Protection Plan (CSPP)
- Children Looked After (CLA)

Before accepting a child onto Turnaround, practitioners should clearly identify the additionality that Turnaround can offer and ensure this is distinct and different from the existing support being provided. This may be bespoke interventions funded through Turnaround and planned activity delivered using the skills of Turnaround practitioners. The role of the Turnaround practitioner should be clearly defined, substantive and reviewed regularly.

YJSs are not mandated to work with these children but have increased flexibility in deciding which children/families to support on Turnaround, since 2025/26.

If YJSs do provide support to the children in the expanded eligibility, the following guiding principles should be met:

1. Families and children should not be asked to tell their story multiple times – where supplementary assessment is required, practitioners should sensitively manage this with the family/child to ensure they aren't asked the same questions on different assessments. There should be no duplication of support with co-ordination between practitioners and clarity of the role of Turnaround central to plans. Please see section

2.4 for detailed guidance on when the Prevention & Diversion Assessment Tool (PDAT) is mandated. Where appropriate, PDATs should be considered alongside other assessment that might be ongoing or completed – including Education Health and Care Plans, and Family Help Assessments.

2. Turnaround and Children's Service's should be joined up – teams should work together closely to enable a seamless journey and offer of support which considers the needs of the child and their wider family members where appropriate, whilst being coordinated by a lead practitioner. Please refer to the [Families First Partnership Programme Guidance](#) that was published (20th March 2025) for more detail on Family Help and multi-agency child protection reforms.
3. Turnaround funding should only be used for Turnaround led interventions – Turnaround funding should not replace support which should be provided by statutory services. Safeguards should be put in place locally to ensure statutory services do not close cases before support to address identified family need that should be met by statutory services has been delivered.

Practitioners should consider the level of support provided as part of co-ordinated family plans:

- Targeted Early Help/Family Prevention and Child in Need – where possible, practitioners should feed into Family Help assessments and have a clear role to play in addressing the eligible child's needs which are not met through existing support for the family. For example, support may focus on the child in the family who is showing signs of offending, whilst needs identified for parents and other siblings which are highlighted in the existing plan, continue to be supported through the other practitioners.
- CIN/CSP – YJSs may have already chosen to work with CIN/CSP on Turnaround and if so, practitioners should continue existing arrangements. This includes – where possible, the Turnaround worker inputting into the CIN/CSP assessment, and working alongside the lead practitioner (which is usually from CS) as part of the coordinated multi-agency plan.
- CPP/CSPP – where a child protection plan is in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of a child Turnaround can be part of the plan to support the family in addressing the issues that led to the child being at risk. This may set out a role for the Turnaround practitioner to play, which will be likely to have a focus on meeting underlying need underlying linked to the child's eligible outcome when referred to the programme.
- CLA – children who are looked after could be receiving a varying level of support depending on their circumstances and their care placement, ranging from a foster placement, children's home or supported accommodation. Turnaround practitioners should have a detailed understanding of the child's existing networks and coordinate support with any professionals already present or family members where appropriate around the child.

Annex B – Other related initiatives

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
Young Futures Prevention Partnerships Panels	HO	Reducing violence and crime	Responsible for proactively identifying and intervening earlier with those young people at risk of being drawn into violence and crime.
Young Futures Hubs	DCMS	Reducing crime, mental health support and providing opportunities	DCMS will invest £70 million over the next 3 years to rebuild and improve local youth services and establish a network of 50 Young Futures Hubs by March 2029. Through Local Youth Transformation (England Only) we will: • support local authorities to invest in areas such as securing and publicising youth activities and facilities, improving mapping and coordination of services, training and professional development, and developing strong partnerships with local organisations • help local authorities rebuild their capability and leadership in the youth sector, where those have been lost due to funding reductions Young Futures Hubs will coordinate local services to offer early intervention support for mental health and wellbeing, careers, and crime prevention in high-need areas. Each YF Hub will meet three outcomes of improving opportunities, improving mental health and wellbeing, and preventing young people from being drawn into crime. First 8 early adopter YF Hubs will be operational before April 2026 with plans for an additional 42 by March 2029. LYT has so far been rolled out to 12 LAs, in addition to the 8 YF Hub early adopter LAs.
Family Help (Families First Partnership)	DfE	Family Help	A national programme to support families across England by providing the help they need to address multiple disadvantages. It

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
programme from April 2025)			takes a whole family approach and is delivered by lead practitioners working for local authorities and their partners. From April 2025, Family Help will be rolled out as part of the Families First Partnership (FFP) Programme. This wider programme implements reforms that create one integrated system, including Family Help, which combines Targeted Early Help and Child In Need, the establishment of Multi-Agency Child Protection Teams (MACPTs), and the embedding of Family Group Decision Making (FGDM). Builds directly on learning from the 10 Families First for Children (FFC) Pathfinders.
Families First for Children Pathfinders	DfE	Family Help	The Families First for Children (FFC) Pathfinder can help multi-disciplinary family teams provide targeted support to help families overcome multiple challenges so that they can stay together and thrive. The Families First for Children Pathfinders programme will continue to test and learn in the 10 Pathfinder areas and inform the national rollout.
Best Start Family HUBS (successor and expansion of Family Hubs/ Start for Life)	DfE/DHSC	Family Help	A one stop shop for families to make it easier for families to get the help they need. Family hubs provide services for children of all ages (0–19 or 0–25 for families with children who have SEND), with a great Start for Life offer at their core. Available in 75 Local Authorities. This is a £300m funding to support the network of family hubs and specific support within those hubs for parent–infant mental health, infant feeding services, parenting support, home learning environment, and to establish parent-carer panels. DfE published a list on gov.uk of the around 400 family hubs across the 75 Family Hubs and Start for Life programme areas.³¹

³¹ [List of family hub sites - GOV.UK](#)

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
Early Support Hubs	DHSC	Mental Health Support	Hubs to help children and young people receive better mental health support and interventions across the country for thousands of children across 70 hubs in local communities. Early Support aims to offer advice on wider issues that may affect mental health, drugs, alcohol and sexual health. Hubs are open to those aged 11–25.
Better Youth Spaces (BYS)	DCMS	Preventing Youth Violence	A mainly capital programme to equip, refurbish or build new a range of universal and targeted youth centres. These provide vulnerable young people with safe spaces, access to trusted adults, positive activities and informal education. £350m to be delivered 26/27 until 2030 in targeted areas (to be agreed).
NHS Vanguards – Children with complex needs in the community	NHS England	Delivering integrated care for children with complex needs	The Framework for Integrated Care (Community) brings services together around the child, creating earlier, more effective support that leads to better outcomes. It is designed to cut through the complex and often fragmented systems that families navigate, uniting multiple agencies to work seamlessly for each child and their carers. The vanguards, now covering 26% of England, are built on strong local partnerships across health, education, local authorities and youth justice, demonstrating how integrated working can deliver real, measurable improvements and wraparound support for vulnerable children and young people. Anchored in six core principles, the Framework focuses on what truly changes lives: every interaction matters; organisations must be trauma-informed rather than trauma-organised; collaboration and co-production are essential; frontline practitioners are powerful agents of change; behaviours must be understood in context; and daily relationships (the “Rule of 167”) are central to helping children grow and heal. Evidence so far shows that these children have high and complex needs that do not respond to standard interventions at first, but that trusting, sustained relationships can

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
			unlock progress for the child, the family and the system around them. Working in an integrated, cross-organisational way under these principles is already improving outcomes for children and young people, and supporting staff working in challenging environments. Vanguards are available in the following areas: North East and Yorkshire • NHS Humber & North Yorkshire • NHS North East Yorkshire & North Cumbria North West • NHS Cheshire & Merseyside East of England • NHS Mid & South Essex Midlands • NHS Coventry and Warwickshire • NHS Lincolnshire London • NHS North Central London • NHS North East London • NHS South East London South East • NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West South West • South West Integrated Non Custody Services NHS Long Term Programme funding has confirmed funding until 2028.
Liaison and Diversion (L&D)	NHS England	Improving community healthcare	Designed to identify people (including young people) who have mental health, learning disability, substance misuse or other vulnerabilities when they first come into contact with the criminal justice system (arrest stage).

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
			The purpose of L&D is to support individuals through the early stage of the criminal system pathway and refer them to appropriate health or social care. This will enable them to be diverted away from the criminal justice system into a more appropriate setting to address their needs in a holistic manner.
Violence Reduction Units	Home Office	Preventing Youth Violence	Tackling serious violence and preventing young people being drawn into it through a multi-agency approach. VRUs operate twenty police force areas that account for 80% of knife crime in England and Wales. VRUs deliver a wide range of preventative programmes in their areas, which can include universal provision (for example sports initiatives or social skills training) or more targeted behavioural change interventions for young people on the cusp of or involved in crime, such as Focused Deterrence.
Serious Violence Duty	Home Office	Preventing serious violence	In FY26/27 the Home Office provides grant funding to each police force area to support delivery of the Duty. The Serious Violence Duty places a statutory requirement on a range of specified authorities, such as the police, local government, youth offending teams, fire, health, and probation services, to work collaboratively, analyse the local problem, and put in place a strategy to prevent and reduce serious violence.
Your Choice	YEF and Home Office	Preventing Youth Violence and Harm	A pro-social Violence Reduction Programme, with a RCT. LA youth practitioners are trained to use psychologically informed, CBT tools and techniques to support young people between 11–18 at risk of contextual harm, supervised by an appropriately qualified Clinical Lead. Available in London and Wigan. Currently funded until April 2025. More information available on: https://www.lia.london/your-choice/ or YourChoice@londoncouncils.gov.uk.

Initiative	Funded by	Theme	Overview
Engage	London Violence Reduction Unit	Preventing Youth Violence	London-based programme young people between 10–18 years old who have been arrested. Intervention coaches work are specially trained youth workers (non police staff) to work closely with young people following their arrest. They work to prevent violence and support young people with ongoing long-term support, including guidance that will lead to education, training, apprenticeships and employment opportunities. Engage is available in all 12 of the Metropolitan Police Basic Command Units and is available until 2025: Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Westminster, Kingston, Merton, Richmond, Wandsworth Bromley, Croydon, Sutton Bexley, Greenwich, Lewisham Barking and Dagenham, Havering, Redbridge Ealing, Hillingdon, Hounslow Lambeth, Southwark Enfield, Haringey Hackney, Tower Hamlets Camden, Islington Barnet, Brent, Harrow Newham, Waltham Forest.

Annex C – Version Control and Change Log

Version	Date	Detail of Change
1	November 2022	Section 2.1 – Eligibility Criteria • Addition of children in receipt of Community Protection Orders, Civil Orders and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts to the eligibility criteria (page 7). • Addition of wording around additionality regarding Out of Court Disposals on Turnaround (page 7) • Addition of children open to child in need plans/care support plans (CiN/CSP) to the eligibility criteria (page 8). Section 2.3 – Screening • Change mandating of Early Help assessments to Early Help-style assessments (page 12). • Clarification around HMIP inspections of Turnaround cases (page 17). Addition of Appendix A – Welsh Government (page 32–34)
2	March 2023	Section 2.1 – Eligibility Criteria • Addition of children who have come to notice of agencies with enforcement powers for repeated involvement in ASB, and children in receipt of a Community Protection Warning/Notice (page 8 and 11). • Clarification around cases open to Early Help (page 9). • Clarification around child in need (CiN) and child in need of care and support (CNCS) cases (page 9) • Addition of transitional period for stepped up cases (page 9) Section 2.2 Referrals • Clarification around conditional discharges (page 12) Section 3.5 Interventions • Addition of Sports Fund explanation Section 5.4 Evaluating Success • Introduction of appointed evaluation partners Anna Freud Centre (page 31) Addition of Annex C – Turnaround and Supporting Families (page 42)

Version	Date	Detail of Change
		Addition of Bibliography after links were embedded within the text (Page 45)
3	May 2024	Section 1.1: The Case for Change - Addition to case for change with up to date figures and research (page 7–8) Section 2.3: Screening - Updated to include the use of the YJB Prevention and Diversion assessment tool with Turnaround case (page 17) - Renamed HMI Probation Inspection framework and Turnaround section to HMI Probation Inspection framework and included updates to inspection requirements (page 17–18) Section 2.4: Closing a Turnaround case - Clarified position on when YJSs can report a case as “closed” for RUI/PCB and escalation to CPP (page 19–20) Section 2.5: Children on Turnaround moving to another Local Authority - New guidance on how YJSs should manage children on Turnaround moving authorities (page 20) Section 3.4: Renamed Examples of positive practice to Resources and best practice examples - Embedded link to YEF Sports Programme (page 26) - Included up to date reviews of the YEF study on Sports Programmes (page 27) - Addition of two new examples of best practice in Turnaround for Anti-Social Behaviour and Harmful Sexual Behaviour (page 28–30) Section 3.8: Other related initiatives - Initiative table updated (page 32–35) Section 4.2: Turnaround unit costs - Clarifying the £2900 per child cost when working with siblings (page 35–36) Section 5: Monitoring and Evaluation - Updated to reflect changes on Turnaround Evaluation (page 36–37) - Removal of Oversight Table (previously page 36)

Version	Date	Detail of Change
4	March 2025	Section 1.1: The Case for Change • Update of cost per child figure to £3,043 in section and throughout document (Page 7 and throughout guidance) • Removal of reference to Beating Crime Plan 2021 (Page 8) • Addition of Safer Streets Missions in introduction (Page 7) • Removal of Sentencing Council report link (Page 8) • Reference added for Youth Justice Statistics 2023–2024 (Page 7) Section 1.2: Addressing ethnic disproportionality • Addition of statistics from Turnaround published management data on delivery of the programme Jan 2023 to Dec 2023 (Page 8) Section 2.1: Eligibility criteria • Updated to included Child Looked After, Children on Family Help/Family Prevention plans, Children open to Protection/Care and Support Protection plans (Page 10) Section 2.2: Referrals • Replaced 'Early Help' to 'Family Help' in section and throughout document (Page 13) Section 2.3: Screening • Amendments to Stage 1 – Triage: removal of guidance on Family Help/Families First assessment and ineligibility for children open to Children Social Care (Page 16) • Stage 2 – Completing Assessment: removal of predated OOCR assessment guidance (Page 17) • YJB Prevention and Diversion Assessment Tool section updated in consultation with the YJB (Page 17) • HMIP Inspection Framework updated in consultation with HMIP (Page 18) Section 2.4: Closing a Turnaround case • Clarity over cases not having to be closed after 12 weeks of intervention added (Page 20) • Removal of "Escalation to Child Protection Plan, Child Looked After or Care Support Plan (CPP/CLA/CSP)" (Page 20) Section 2.5: Children moving to another YJS in a new authority • Guidance added for YJSs working with children who are placed in a different Local Authority (Page 20)

Version	Date	Detail of Change
		Section 3.3: The importance of following, and building, the evidence base • Additional guidance added on Knife Crime Education Programmes (Page 26) Section 3.6: Interventions to meet wider family and underlying needs • Removal of guidance of funding to exclude support which Early Help/Families First systems can meet (Page 31) Section 3.8: Other related initiatives • Table updated to reflect current initiatives across government (Pages 33–36) Section 4.1: Funding • Updated guidance for YJSs who have a target attached to grant allocation (Page 37) • Addition of information for lump sum £20k payment (Page 37) Section 5: Monitoring and evaluation • Updated to reflect current evaluation process of the programme (Pages 38–39) Section 5.1: Record Keeping • Updates to reporting requirements for FY 25/26 (Page 39) Section 6: Turnaround in Wales • Addition of new section of the guidance, formerly known as 'Annex A: Welsh Government' (Pages 41–42) Removal of Annex A: Welsh Government • Moved to main body of the guidance – see Section 6: Turnaround in Wales Annex C • Removal of Turnaround and Supporting Families Annex • Replaced as 'Annex B – Supporting children on Turnaround alongside Children's Services' (Pages 49–50) Removal of Frequently Asked Questions

Version	Date	Detail of Change
5	March 2026	The following sections have been updated to reflect the maturity of the Turnaround programme: • Section 1: Introduction and objectives (language) • Section 1.1: The case for change (language and NatCen findings) • Section 1.2: Addressing racial disproportionality (language and statistics) • Section 2.1: Eligibility criteria (line updated on working with children's services, Other related initiatives overview moved to Annex B) • Section 2.2: Referral (links for existing and local national guidance; removal of YJS management boards guidance) • Section 2.2.1: Referring Partners (removal of referral partners map) • Section 2.4: Closing a Turnaround case (removal of last paragraph) • Section 2.5: Triage Map (removal) • Section 3.3: The importance of following, and building, the evidence base (updated on knife crime interventions) • Section 3.4 Resources and best practice examples (addition of social skills training, focused deterrence and informal pre-court diversion) • Section 4: Funding (updated to reflect funding for next 3 FYs and bi-annual payments) • Section 5: Monitoring and evaluation (updated to reflect current evaluation stage and NatCen findings) • Section 5.3 Financial reporting (removal) • Section 6.1: Turnaround Programme Funding (updated) • Annex A: Turnaround Programme: Referral Guidance (removal); Replaced as Annex A: Supporting children on Turnaround alongside Children's Services The below sections are additions to the guidance: Section 1.4: A Modern Youth Justice System (Page 8) Section 2.1: Eligibility criteria – Child knife possession guidance (Page 10) Section 2.2: Turnaround alongside other services (was part of 2.1 in version 4, now new section – included is Working with Children's services (prev 2.1) and other related initiatives (prev 3.8)) • The Young Futures Programme (Page 12)

Version	Date	Detail of Change
		Section 3.4 Resources and best practice examples • Addition of YEF's Diversion Practice Guidance (Page 24) Section 5.1: Reporting • Addition of legal guidance of YJS access to Police National Computer checks for over-18s (Page 33)

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