

Agenda item:

**Title of meeting:** Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

**Date of meeting:** 24<sup>th</sup> February 2015

**Subject:** Analysis of Portsmouth YOT Performance against the 3 National Key Performance Indicators

**Report From:** Jon Gardner, PYOT Manager

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Portsmouth YOT is measured nationally against three Key Performance Indicators; Preventing First Time Entrants Into the Youth Justice System, Reducing the Rate of Re-Offending and Reducing the Rate of Custody. As well as measuring the trends of the last three years' worth of data, locally, the Portsmouth YOT Management Board has set a target of being in the top three of our comparator YOTs by 2016.

#### Reducing First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System

The graphs below paint a mixed picture. The trend of First Time Entrants since 2009 is clearly downwards. In many respects this is a success story. It is one that is also replicated across the country.

However, it is a concern that this decline has plateaued and in Quarter 2 of 2014/14- the last quarter for which we have data- there is even an increase. Furthermore, the rates in Portsmouth are above regional and national averages. In many respects the figures are beyond the control of the YOT as the YOT does not undertake any Early Intervention and preventative work. The figures in this respect may be seen as a reflection on the support provided to young people (including those beneath the age of criminal responsibility) to address the complex criminogenic needs which some of them may exhibit prior to involvement with the Youth Justice System.

Work is already underway to address these concerns and the rise in First Time Entrants. The Children's Trust is developing Multi Agency Teams to ensure joined up early intervention is focussed at those who need it. In relation to offending Multi Agency Triage Panels are planned for roll out in April- again to ensure bespoke interventions are offered; to ensure only those who need progress through into the Youth Justice System do so.

Fig 1

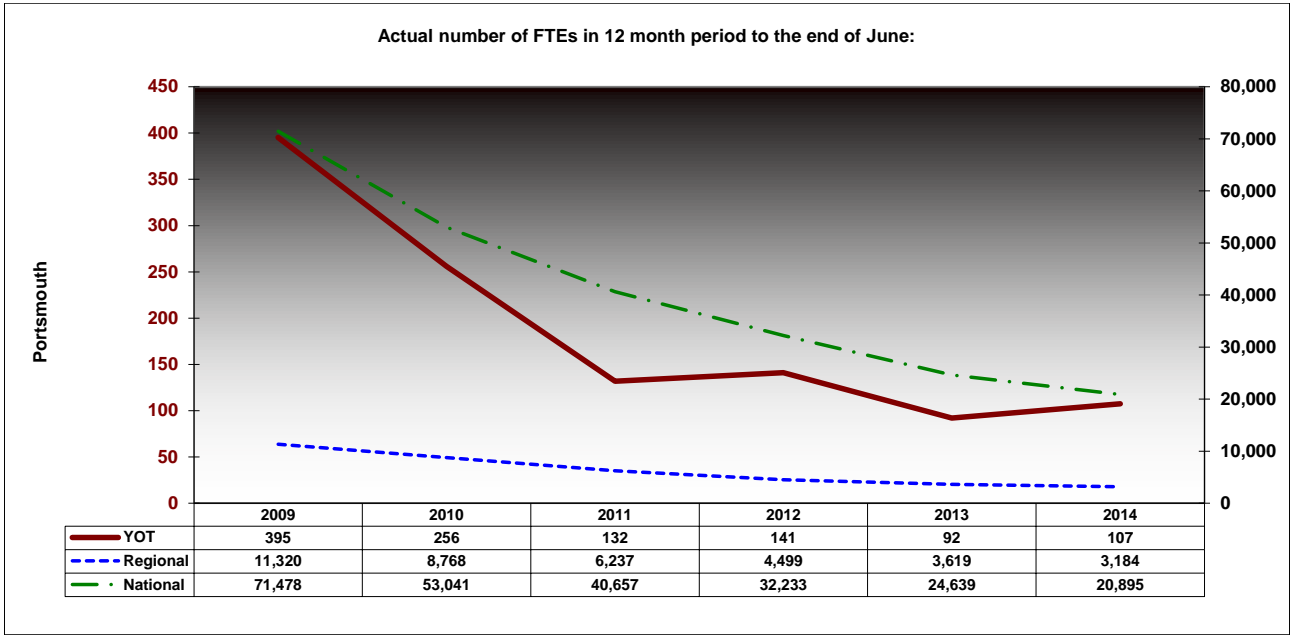
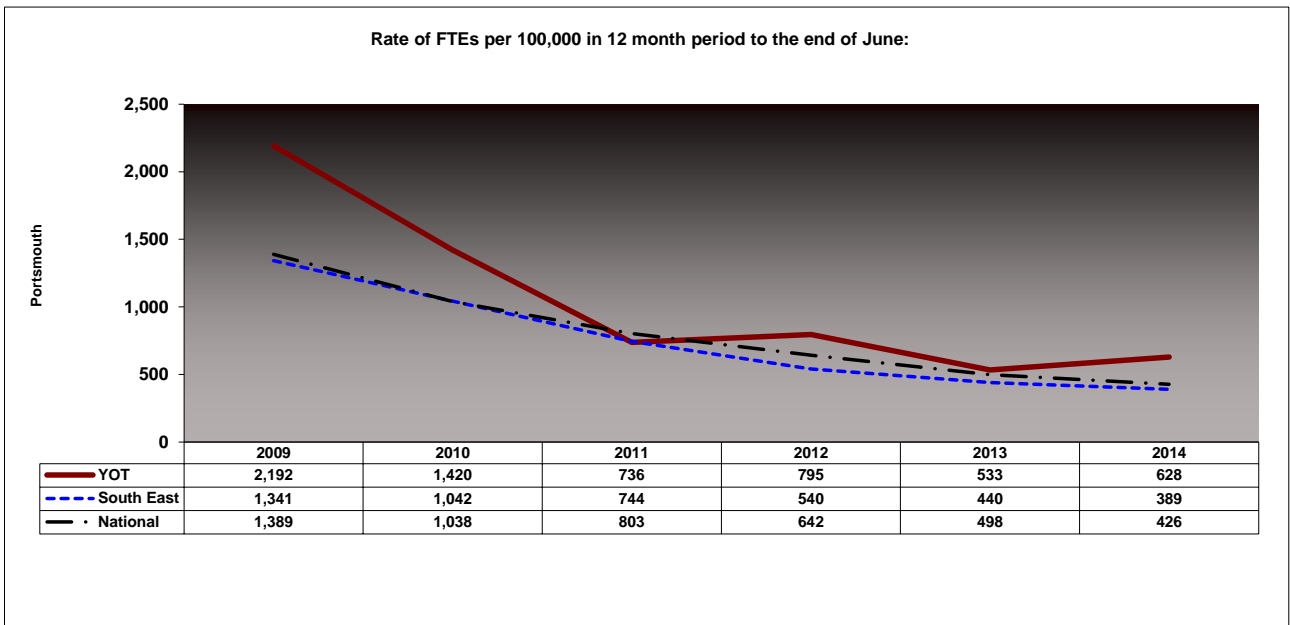


Fig 2



## Reducing Re-Offending rates

Fig 3: Re-offending Data

Portsmouth Trend Data					
Quarter	Cohort Size	Re-offenders within 12 months	Re-offences within 12 months	Offences per offender	Proportion of YPs who re-offend
Q1 (13/14)	350	164	636	1.82	46.9%
Q2 (13/14)	343	168	653	1.90	49.0%
Q3 (13/14)	333	161	608	1.83	48.3%
Q4 (13/14)	323	158	614	1.90	48.9%
Q1 (14/15)	304	138	550	1.81	45.4%
Q2 (14/15)	277	123	506	1.83	44.4%

Data is so far only available up to Quarter 2 (July to Sept) of 2014/15. As is evident from the chart above (fig 3), there is a downward trend in re-offending rates although offences per offender has plateaued. It should be noted that data for this particular measure is historic and the re-offending rates relates to a cohort of young people who first offended three years ago. So, the data for Quarter 2 14/15 relates to a group of young offenders coming into contact with the YOT from **Jan to Dec 2012**. The YOT is currently using a live tracker to measure real time re-offending rates. This indicates that currently the projected National Binary rate of re-offending is 23.5%. In Portsmouth the projected rate is 13.1%. In addition the projected National Frequency Rate is 0.78%. In Portsmouth it is 0.46%. Re-offending rates therefore sit encouragingly below projected national averages for both measures. Unfortunately, it is the historical figure which is measured by the YJB

There are a number of reasons for this reduction but both historically and more recently but it is my contention that greater joined up working between agencies in the city and improved YOT practices since disaggregation from Wessex YOT have played a part.

YJB measured re-offending rates are still high when compared to other YOTs though and there is still considerable work to undertake. However, the YJB advised in their quarterly report for Q2 14/15 that **"Performance has improved against both the binary and the frequency measures of reoffending during the period between Jan-Dec 11 and Jan-Dec 12 in line with the national trend although set against the trend towards a deterioration across the South East. (A mixed picture can be seen across Hampshire). It is noted that the improvements seen in Portsmouth are of a greater magnitude than those seen either nationally or across the South East or Hampshire."**

## Reducing Custody Rates

Again, at the time of writing, data is only available for Quarter 2 (July to Sep) of 2014/15. As is evident from the chart below (fig 4), there has been a significant reduction in custody rates in the last year.

Fig 4 Custody Rate Data

Portsmouth Trend Data		
Quarter	Number of Custodial Sentences	Rate per 1,000
Q1 13/14	26	1.50
Q2 13/14	22	1.27
Q3 13/14	16	0.92
Q4 13/14	12	0.69
Q1 14/15	6	0.35
Q2 14/15	9	0.53

Rates for Quarter 2 of 2014/15 did increase- though the figure is skewed slightly as one young person had his custodial sentence overturned on appeal in Quarter 3. The rate for Quarter 2 was therefore more likely to be similar to that of Quarter 1. Nonetheless, the rate is still lower than the start of the financial year. The speed of this decline over the last 18 months has been commented upon by the Youth Justice Board who are impressed by this rate of decrease. Indeed, in their most recent quarterly report they commented that **"Performance has improved substantially. Whilst this is in line with the trend seen nationally and across both the South East and Hampshire improvements seen in Portsmouth are to a much greater magnitude. In turn whilst actual performance remains weaker than the national average and also the South East and Hampshire averages, it is now much closer aligned which is a development that is welcomed."**

Again, one of the reasons for this reduction has been the improved practices and integrated working across the city by the YOT in recent months with agencies to ensure that the highest risk young people are effectively targeted.