



Inspection of
Youth
Offending

Archwilio Rhaglen Troseddwy'r Ifanc

Press Notice

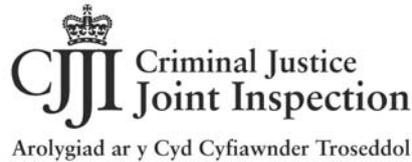
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Independent inspection of youth offending work



10 October 2011

EMBARGOED UNTIL 00:01 – WEDNESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2011

PUBLICATION OF INSPECTION REPORT Inspection of Youth Offending work in Barking and Dagenham

The latest inspection report of Youth Offending work in England and Wales was published today.

Liz Calderbank, HM Chief Inspector, said:

“This Core Case Inspection of youth offending work in Barking and Dagenham took place as part of the Inspection of Youth Offending programme. We have examined a representative sample of youth offending cases from the area, and we have judged how often the Public Protection and the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done to a sufficiently high level of quality.

We judged that the Safeguarding aspects of the work were done well enough 75% of the time. With the Public Protection aspects, work to keep to a minimum each individual's *Risk of Harm to others* was done well enough 65% of the time, and the work to make each individual less likely to reoffend was done well enough 86% of the time. A more detailed analysis of our findings is provided in the main body of this report, and summarised in a table in Appendix 1. These figures can be viewed in the context of our findings from Wales and the regions of England inspected so far – see the Table below.

We found the YOS staff group to be enthusiastic and committed to working with the children and young people they were responsible for. The YOS was reaping the benefits of its investment in developing staff through an internal apprenticeship scheme, which had given career opportunities to those who had worked as volunteers or sessional staff.

Many of the cases we inspected showed a worrying degree of violence, much of it gang related, with the children and young people as both victims and perpetrators. This provided the very difficult context the YOS operated within. Conversely, there were several cases in the sample where consideration could reasonably have been given to diversion from prosecution by way of a reprimand or final warning.

Operating within this difficult context, the YOS had achieved some good results, particularly in the areas of reducing the likelihood of offending and outcomes. Overall, we consider this a creditable set of findings.”

	Scores from Wales and the English regions that have been inspected to date			Scores for Barking and Dagenham
	Lowest	Highest	Average	
'Safeguarding' work <i>(action to protect the young person)</i>	37%	91%	68%	75%
'Risk of Harm to others' work <i>(action to protect the public)</i>	36%	85%	63%	65%
'Likelihood of Reoffending' work <i>(individual less likely to reoffend)</i>	43%	87%	71%	86%

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The report is available at <http://www.justice.gov.uk/about/hmi-probation/index.htm>.
2. This Inspection of Youth Offending (IYO) programme started in April 2009. Youth Offending work in all 158 areas of England & Wales will be inspected over the course of a three-year cycle.
3. Liz Calderbank can be contacted on liz.calderbank@hmiprobation.gsi.gov.uk and 07973 384751.