

Supporting Young People in Conflict with the Law: Improving Outcomes & Reducing Re-offending



What are we trying to achieve?

We are aiming to reduce re-offending and improve outcomes for 16–17-year-olds who have been jointly reported to Scottish Children’s Reporter Administration (SCRA) and Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) by increasing the number of young people reported being offered robust alternatives to entering the statutory system by 10%.

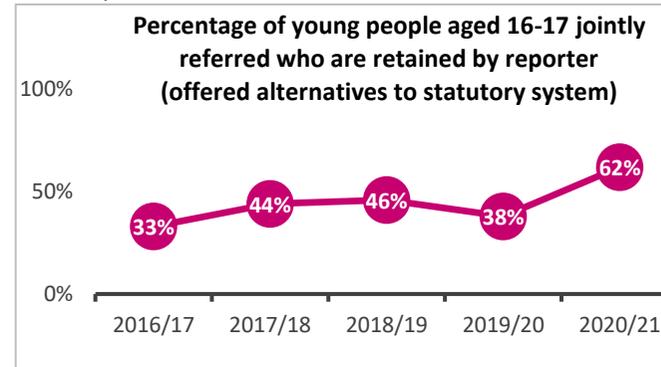
How are we doing this?

Through our multi agency project we are testing the following improvements:

- We have set up a single point of contact in Children’s Social Work to ensure awareness of all jointly reported young people and therefore able to offer support and guidance to the lead professional and ensure that information is shared in a timely manner.
- Developed a briefing note and training materials to support workforce development.
- Held multi-agency workforce development learning sessions to ensure that all staff are confident in the process and the information they share.

What have we achieved?

- **Achieved our aim** with **62%** of 16-17 year olds jointly reported being retained by the reporter and offered alternatives, an **increase of 24%** since 2019/20



- **72%** of staff attending the learning sessions reporting their knowledge had increased a great deal or a lot following session. All attendees indicated an increase in knowledge, of those attending some already had a high level of knowledge and experience.
- **79%** of staff reported that the briefing note on joint referrals was extremely or very helpful.
- **Operational and systems** improvement suggestions captured from the learning sessions, ensuring the whole system was considered and staff connected and progressing the ideas at all levels. These will be progressed as part of an ongoing learning community supported by a Practice Lead role in SCRA.

What impact have we had?

As part of our overall approach to creating participation and engagement opportunities for young people in conflict with the law to have a voice in systems, the Youth Justice Improvement Group has started to design approaches which will reach out to young people at various stages, including those Jointly Reported

[The Centre for Youth and Child Justice \(CYCJ\) Participation and Engagement Strategy](#) is informing our approach to moving from consultation to co-design.

Jointly Reported Cases to SCRA and COPFS

LEARNING SESSIONS FOR 2022

What are our next steps?

- Continue to develop our improvements to ensure the increase is **sustained**, 2021/22 data is awaited.
- Design and test the further improvement suggestions from the learning sessions.
- Meet regularly as a multi-agency improvement group to monitor and support improvements