

News and Updates - April 2011

Kirklees Youth Offending Team was inspected in October 2010. The following is a summary of the findings and report published after the inspection.

	Kirklees Rating	Kirklees Score	England & Wales Average
Safeguarding Work (action to protect the young person)	Good (moderate improvement required)	70%	67%
Risk of Harm to others work (action to protect the public)	Adequate (substantial improvement required)	56%	62%
Likelihood of re-offending work (action to reduce likelihood of young person re-offending)	Good (moderate improvement required)	73%	70%

As part of the inspection, feedback was obtained from young people worked with by Kirklees YOT and victims of crime by young people.

Of the 79 young people who completed the questionnaire, *"the vast majority felt positive about the service given to them and felt they were less likely to re-offend as a result of their involvement with the YOT."*

Of the 21 victims who responded all were completely or mostly satisfied with the service given by the YOT.

In his foreword to the report, the Chief Inspector, Andrew Bridges, said:

"Although work to reduce Likelihood of Re-offending was often done well, more consistent attention needed to be paid to the assessment and management of vulnerability and of Risk of Harm to others."

"It was encouraging that staff in Kirklees YOT were able to reflect on their practice and were committed to improving their work with children and young people."

As a result of the inspection Kirklees YOT has produced an action plan to address the six actions requested by the inspectors. This action plan will be completed within 12 months and will be monitored by the Youth Justice Board.

Kirklees Councillor Ken Smith (Cabinet Member for Children & Families) commented:

"The findings of Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) confirm the good standard of work that continues to be carried out. We also acknowledge that there will always be room to develop and improve. Our work on the areas identified by HMIP is already underway."

The full report can be found at:

www.justice.gov.uk/inspectorates/hmi-probation/docs/KirkleesCCIReport-rps.pdf