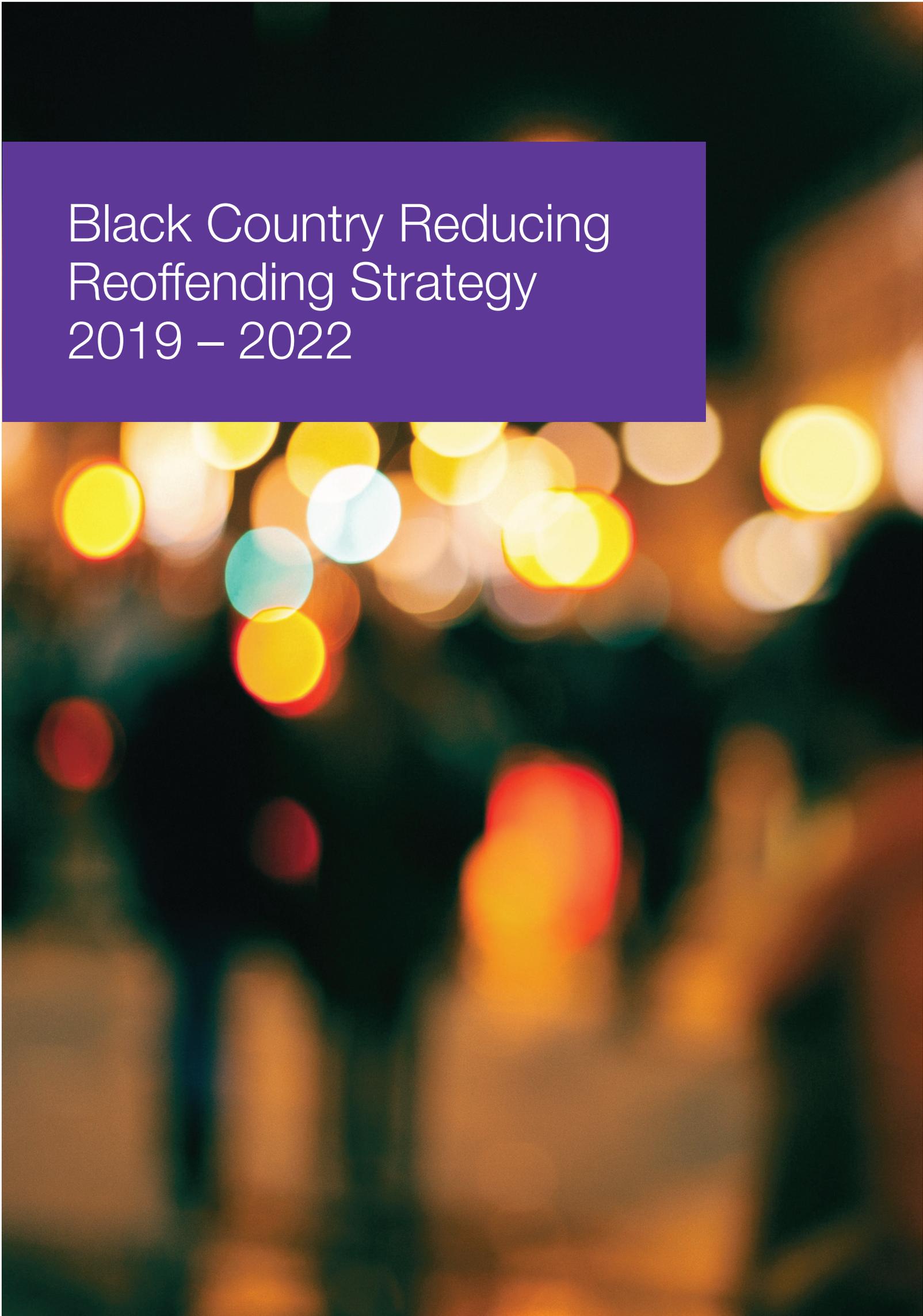


Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy 2019 – 2022



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Glossary of terms

ACES	Adverse childhood experiences	OMU	Offender Management Unit	ODOC	One day one conversation
BAME	Black, Asian and minority ethnic	LOMU	Local Offender Management Unit	PCC	Police and Crime Commissioner
CRC	Community Rehabilitation Company	LTDB	Local Tasking Delivery Board	PPOs	Prolific and Other Priority Offenders SAC Serious acquisitive crime
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation	MOJ	Ministry of Justice	SEND	Special educational needs and disability
CSP	Community Safety Partnership	MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements	TRM	Threat Risk Management
DV	Domestic Violence	MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub	YOT	Youth Offending Team
GODOC	Gangs one day one conversation	MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference	YJB	Youth Justice Board
HMCTS	Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service	NPS	National Probation Service	WMCA	West Midlands Combined Authority
IOM	Integrated Offender Management	NPU	Neighbourhood Policing Unit	WMP	West Midlands Police

Foreword

As the Chairs of the four Black Country Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) covering Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton, we are delighted to present the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy 2019 – 2022.

The statutory responsibility to reduce reoffending spans all four local authority areas, and relies heavily on strong multi-agency working. The rationale for developing a Black Country reducing reoffending strategy to enable the sharing of resources, identification of efficiencies and the avoidance of displacement is clear. It is acknowledged that offenders and those who are vulnerable move across geographic boundaries. Additionally, the organisational changes of agencies delivering against this agenda, including Police, Probation Services, Black Country Courts and youth offending, underpinned by significant financial and capacity constraints all lend themselves in a very timely way to the development of this Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy. The strategy outlines the strengthened commitment of partners across statutory, business sector, and the voluntary and community sector to work jointly, to unblock barriers and to reduce reoffending, which by consequence, will reduce the associated harm to

victims, the economy and contribute to the ambitious regeneration of the Black Country. It will improve the quality of life for those living, working or visiting our sub-region.

The consolidated effort of Black Country partners to actively tackle reoffending as a strategic priority, contributes directly to the high-level strategic ambitions of the West Midlands Combined authority (WMCA) and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC). Tackling the root cause of offending/reoffending whether associated with substance misuse, mental health, homelessness or other factors across the youth and adult population aligns with the public service reform agenda and draws on best practice, resource and expertise to both underpin and add weight to our approach to rehabilitate offenders.

Each Local Authority (LA) will deliver strategy ambitions via its own locally relevant delivery plans. These delivery plans will account for unique variations across authorities, playing a key role in achieving cross cutting strategy ambitions.



Chief Supt.
Sally Bournier
**Chair,
Dudley CSP**



Cllr
Garry Perry
**Chair,
Walsall CSP**



Mark Taylor
**Chair,
Wolverhampton
CSP**



Chief Supt.
Richard Youds
**Chair,
Sandwell CSP**

Executive Summary

Clear benefits arise from the adoption of a sub-regional reducing reoffending strategy across the four authorities. These include attraction of resources, sharing good practice and efficiencies, avoiding displacement issues, and strengthening our collective capability at a strategic level.

Black Country Reoffending – Youth and Adults

Adults: Black Country adult reoffending rates relating to acquisitive (property-related) crime are particularly challenging with increases in each area. The seven pathways of accommodation; education, training and employment; attitudes and behaviour; drugs and alcohol; children and families; health; finance and debt provide an effective model for management of offenders.

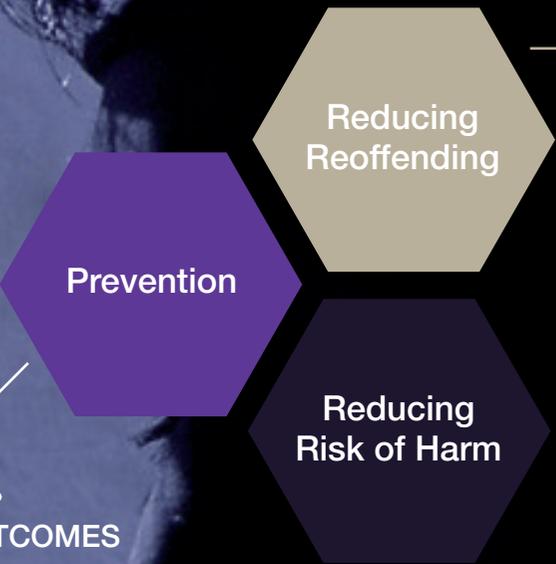
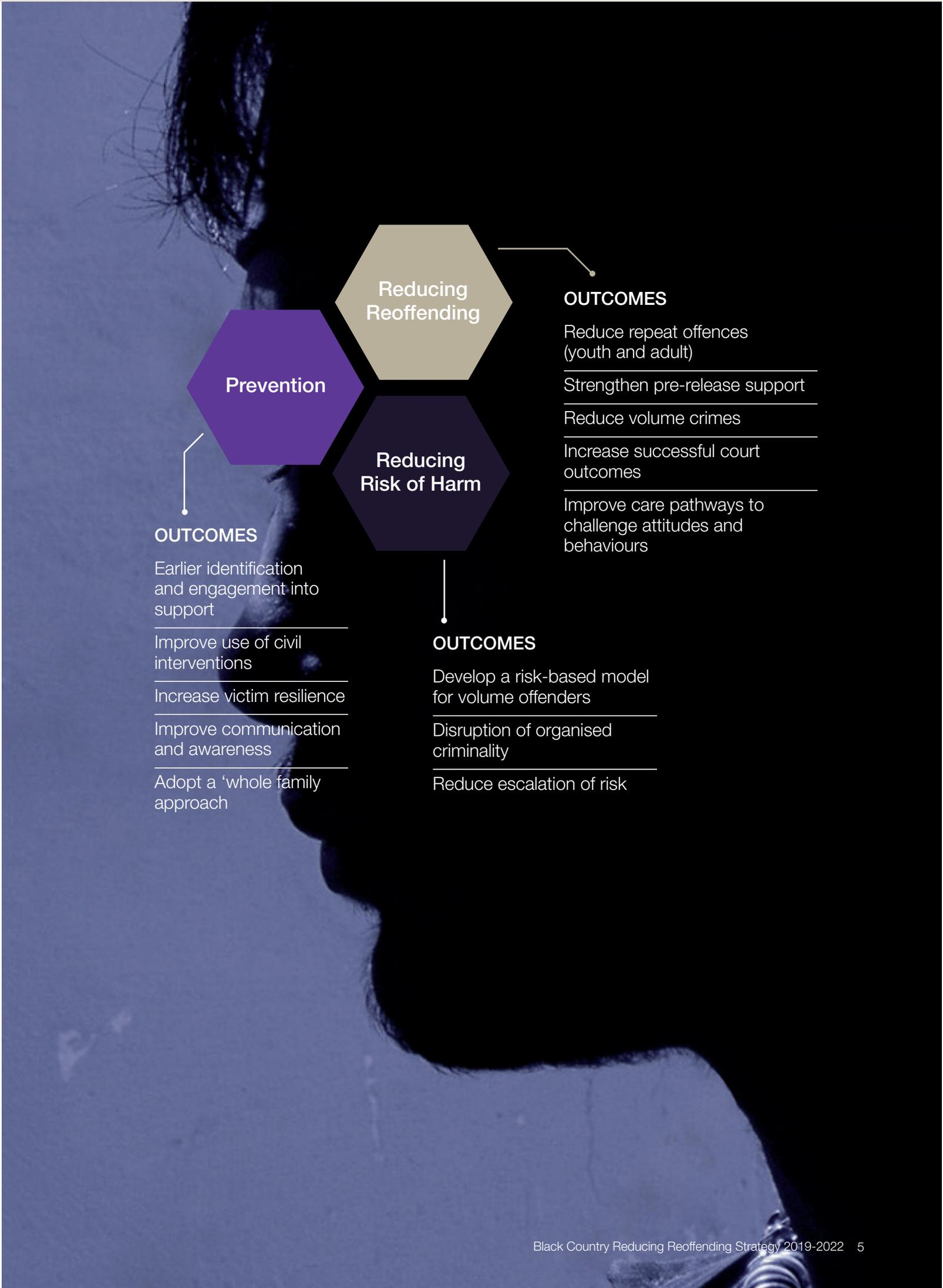
Youth: Youth reoffending levels saw a marginal increase between 2014-2015. Multi-agency Youth Offending Teams continue to provide bespoke support and interventions. These cater for the changing issues of young people with a clear focus on crime prevention; desistance; childhood adversity; serious violence, emerging exploitation and youth to adult transition.

Risks and Protective Factors

A range of identified risk factors, such as mental ill-health or drugs and alcohol can increase the propensity of to reoffend; homelessness, unemployment or disengagement from education increase this risk significantly. Consequently, there is a commitment across the four local authority areas to develop and deliver on a minimum offer, in relation to housing and training/employment to lessen this risk; these are in the final stages of development.

Delivery Priorities and Outcomes

The priorities listed on the following page provide clear focus for implementation of this strategy; local action plans for each area will ensure delivery is tailored to local need. Streamlined oversight is provided through the Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy Group with overall governance retained by each local Community Safety Partnership. In addition to aligning with national and regional policy, a Black Country approach enables the sharing and attraction of resources and good practice, implementation of efficiencies, avoids issues of displacement and strengthens our collective response and capability at the strategic level.



OUTCOMES

- Reduce repeat offences (youth and adult)

- Strengthen pre-release support

- Reduce volume crimes

- Increase successful court outcomes

- Improve care pathways to challenge attitudes and behaviours

OUTCOMES

- Earlier identification and engagement into support

- Improve use of civil interventions

- Increase victim resilience

- Improve communication and awareness

- Adopt a 'whole family approach'

OUTCOMES

- Develop a risk-based model for volume offenders

- Disruption of organised criminality

- Reduce escalation of risk

Introduction

Managing repeat offenders remains a key priority not only for the Black Country but nationally. Statistics estimate that around half of all crime is committed by individuals with previous convictions with an estimated cost to the taxpayer of £9.5 to £13 billion per year. A high number of offences are committed by a very small group of individuals, termed Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPOs).

The model of Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is used in the management of offenders with the West Midlands authority areas having a history of being amongst the highest performing in the country. IOM brings together all agencies, including police, probation, local authority, substance misuse treatment services and a range of third sector providers working closely together to cut reoffending through the targeted management of youth and adult offenders.

The Policing and Crime Act 2009 placed a specific requirement on Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs) to formulate a strategy to reduce reoffending by adults and young offenders.

National Context

As these successes were not replicated on a national scale, a significant shift in national policy was introduced with an unprecedented overhaul of criminal justice agencies with the aim of strengthening the approach to rehabilitate offenders. The resulting legislative change has driven restructures across Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Services, with the Offenders Rehabilitation Act 2014 changing the way adult services are provided nationally and extending the scope of these services to include more offenders. Similarly, legislative change such as Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 and the Anti-Social Behaviour, Policing and Crime Act 2014, have introduced revisions to the criminal justice responses for youth offending, and the civil interventions available to agencies respectively. Responsibility for reducing reoffending is shared across a number of government departments including the Home Office, Ministry of Justice and the National Offender Management Service.

Regional Context

The West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) aims to work across the West Midlands area with strategic and third sector partners to address offending. The WMCA have a particular focus on reducing offending and working to invest upstream using tools and incentives rather than managing those who have reoffended.

The WMCA has several key areas of focus which will complement the strategy, these include;

- Understand children and young people's pathways and profile
- Benchmark current interventions and service provision - cost, outcomes, governance
- Review research and best practice nationally, regionally and internationally
- Explore Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and the effect they have on offending behaviours.

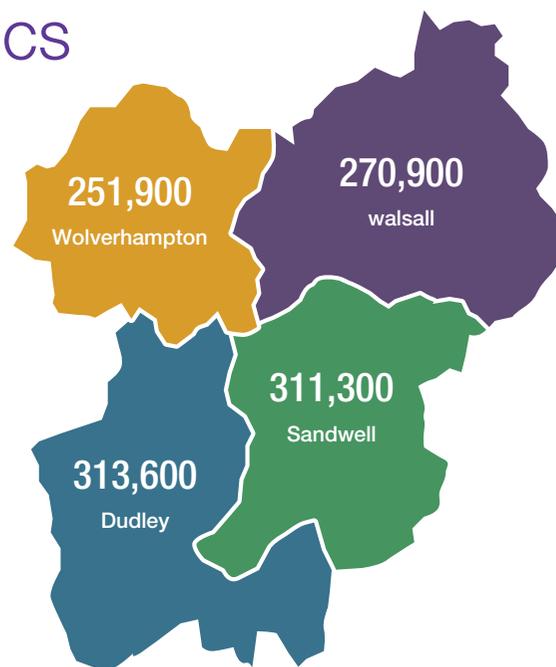
The West Midlands PCC, has committed to working with partners across the West Midlands area to reduce reoffending and to support offenders away from criminality. Offender management remains a high priority for the PCC, which is detailed in the Police and Crime Plan 2016-2020.

Sub Regional context

Recognising there will be local variations of need and delivery of response, each of the four local authority areas within the Black Country will develop its own action plan to drive delivery. Reoffending behaviour may be impacted by differing variables such as retail locations, regeneration developments or population which need a tailored intervention or a different service response, whilst ensuring delivery in one area does not impact negatively on another. Whilst all four areas are committed to delivery of this strategy, oversight of performance responsibilities will remain with each CSP and opportunities for joint working and sharing of good practice will be maximised.

Black Country Demographics

The Black Country is a sub-region of the West Midlands located to the west of Birmingham. The Black Country covers the four Metropolitan District Council areas of Dudley, Sandwell, Walsall and the City of Wolverhampton. The region is 356 square kilometres and has a population of 1,166,420. Dudley has the largest population with 313,600; Sandwell has 311,300, Walsall 270,900 and Wolverhampton with 251,900.



Population



(50.8%)
Aged 25 to 64



241,096 (20.7%)
Aged under 16 years –
higher than the percentage
rate for England (19%)

Population aged 0-14

Dudley	17.7%
Sandwell	20.4%
Walsall	19.5%
Wolverhampton	18.6%

Deprivation



The area has **significantly higher income deprivation**, child poverty and older person deprivation compared to the rest of England.



24,448 (3.4%)
Affected by unemployment

Ethnicity



260,552 (22.9%)
Described as belonging to
Black and Minority Ethnic groups (BAME)

BAME groups

Dudley	11.5%
Sandwell	34.2%
Walsall	23%
Wolverhampton	35.5%



29,665 (2.7%)
Cannot speak English well or at all

Health & Wellbeing



234,991 (20.6%)
Living with a **limiting long-term illness or disability**



135,509 (15.6%)
of adult population are
recorded as binge drinkers



32,877 (7.1%)
Living in **overcrowded accommodation**

Reoffending Rates October 2015 - September 2016 Acquisitive Crime* – Area Specific Focus

Acquisitive crime incorporates the following property related crimes:

	Dudley	Sandwell	Walsall	W'hampton
Theft (non-motor)	79.31%	70%	100%	88.83%
Theft from vehicles	61.11%	66.67%	80%	57.14%
Burglary (domestic/dwelling)	60%	47.54%	74%	56.67%
Burglary (other)	60%	42.86%	67.65%	50%
Criminal damage	60%	38.89%	59.46%	45.45%

*Percentages shown demonstrate the highest rates of offending in each local authority area.

Area	Increase/ decrease	Expected Reoffending Rate	Actual Reoffending Rate	
Dudley	↑	39.58%	46.02%	Female service users saw a higher than expected reoffending rate at 48.23% (expected 39.56%)
Sandwell	↑	32.29%	38.16%	Higher rates of reoffending than the Black Country trend for 18-21 year olds
Walsall	↑	42.14%	47.19%	Less significant reductions were observed on reoffending service users aged 18-24 compared to the general Black Country area
W'hampton	↑	36.78%	40.35%	Reoffending rates are within expected parameters

¹ A significant time lag of approximately 18 months exists with use of this data, due to the process of tracking offenders and any additional convictions, should they reoffend'

Adult Offending Overview

Adult offending and reoffending rates



Offences between April 2015 – March 2016

Violence against a person	859 offenders 211 reoffenders	24.5% reoffending rate
Possession of a weapon	200 offenders 109 reoffenders	54.4% reoffending rate
Sexual offences	859 offenders 211 reoffenders	14.3% reoffending rate
Drug offences	859 offenders 211 reoffenders	23.2% reoffending rate



Factors increasing the propensity of adults to reoffend

Certain factors have been identified as significantly increasing the propensity for offenders to reoffend. The Community Rehabilitation Company, which works with low to medium risk offenders reported the following figures:

Offending behaviour type	Reoffending rate	Expected reoffending rate
Service users with mental health challenges	57.83%	40.68%
Perpetrators with a Child Protection Flag	57.39%	44.01%
Service Users with identified substance misuse issues	65.53%	N/A
Service users identified as homeless	82.50%	23.2%
Service users identified as unemployed	60.63%	32.80% (for those in employment)

Youth Offending Overview

Managing Youth Offenders

Youth Offending Team Boards are governed by CSPs. The challenge for Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) is to continually evolve to meet the changing needs and issues of the cohort of young people they work with. Although exact priorities at a sub-regional level depend on, and react to local information, each Black Country YOT does identify the following as areas for priority:

- **Crime Prevention**

A challenge is to find the correct balance between statutory court work and pre-court focus on police disposals, or particular cohorts e.g. girls and looked after children

- **Desistance and foundations for change**

Including education, Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), speech, language and communication

Planning and intervention increasingly focusing on positive foundations for change

- **Childhood adversity and impact upon offending behaviour**

Become more aware of abuse, loss, trauma and attachment, resilience to understand the most effective ways to engage, change behaviour and secure positive outcomes

- **Serious Violence and emerging issues**

Such issues evolve, but currently involve exploitation ‘county lines¹’, urban street gangs, knife crime, and an ongoing focus on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

- **Transition from youth to adult**

This area requires ongoing focus and collaboration between youth and adult agencies



	Cohort	Reoffenders	Re-offences	Reoffences per offender
Jan 2014 – Dec 2014	985	381	1140	2.99
Jan 2015 – Dec 2015	956	393	1280	3.25

N.B Datasets of live reoffending information are not immediately comparable at this time; therefore, the indicator is from the Youth Justice Board datasets, produced quarterly.²

¹ County lines are telephone lines which Organised Crime Groups (OCG) use to sell and arrange delivery of drugs up and down the country. Typical county lines activity involves OSG and/or criminal networks exploiting younger individuals from large urban areas to travel to smaller locations such as a county or coastal town – to either deliver or sell drugs and/or money.

² A significant time lag of approximately 18 months exists with use of this data, due to the process of tracking offenders and any additional convictions, should they reoffend'

Priorities, Outcomes and Delivery

Priorities for this strategy have been informed by analysis of data trends, organisational priorities and local need. These have been collated to identify key priorities which are shared and require a strong partnership focus. Whilst robust management of the highest risk offenders and those prolific offenders who commit high volume crimes remains a priority, increased emphasis is now placed on those offenders which commit the greatest harm to victims by their offending behaviour.

Delivery priorities and expected outcomes are:



Early areas of focus:

- Ensure that (appropriate) risk management is in place to protect victims
- Work to build sustainable relationships between offenders and their families/children, creating support networks to deter offending
- Improve information sharing arrangements between case management forums
- Increase access to sustainable opportunities; including preparation for employment and increased support from local business
- Support to help service users address friendships, encouraging healthy and mutually supportive relationships

*Particular focus on youth offending

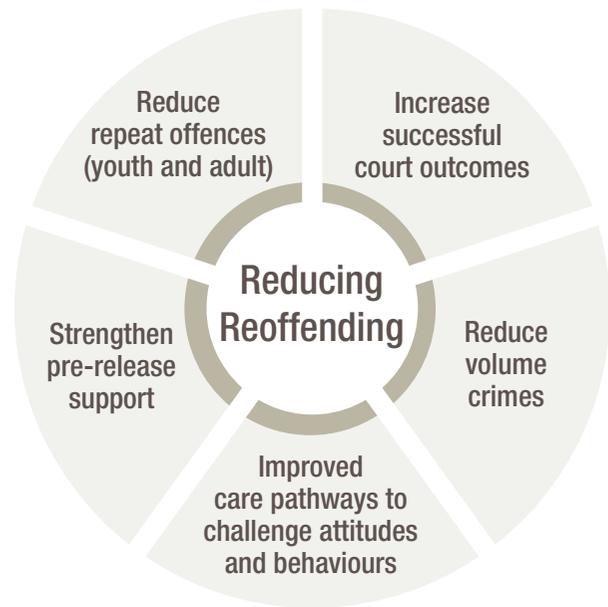
Early areas of focus

- Where appropriate, attendance on accredited group programmes that are specific to the type of offending. The aim - to challenge inappropriate thinking and provide skills to alter behaviours
- Increase focus on screening cases that may be responsive to interventions via the Personality Disorder Pathway
- Provision of 1-1 supervision with offender managers



Early areas of focus:

- Improve the provision and access of recovery orientated substance misuse services
- Improve the provision /accessibility of mental health services
- Increase access to stable and sustainable accommodation, especially for those leaving custodial settings
- Increase access to courses / training which matches their skills and interests
- Increase female specific services to address pathways out of reoffending
- Ensure service users build knowledge, confidence and increase financial stability
- Maximise successful completions of community orders and custodial licences; to increase the opportunity for offenders to complete offence-focused work



This strategy outlines a commitment to develop new approaches for earlier identification and intervention for those on the cusp of offending, strengthening the intervention pathways to reduce the reoffending risk such as mental health and substance misuse and will place a spotlight on offenders who pose the greatest risk and cause the greatest harm.

Performance Framework

National frameworks are in place from which performance of youth reoffending (Youth Justice Board - YJB) and adult reoffending (Ministry of Justice - MOJ) is captured and compared. This binary system tracks cohorts of offenders through the criminal justice system following sentence and records any reoffending over a period of time. A significant time lag of approximately 18 months exists with use of this data, due to the process of tracking offenders and any additional convictions, should they reoffend.

Due to this lag, a variety of proxy measures and local performance toolkits are used by partners to

capture more up to date performance, providing an in-depth insight into current offending patterns which includes detail on the seriousness of offences committed as well as the volume. The variable use of these however, means that only the MOJ and YJB published data allows for service comparison and benchmarking across geographic areas.

Performance against this Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy will therefore use a mixture of both data sets to enable partners to respond promptly and flexibly to local trends and evidence what is or is not achieving a positive impact.

Key performance indicators	Adults	Youths
Reoffending rates (those under supervision / proven)	✓	✓
Increased access and support to secure accommodation	✓	✓
Support to access Education / Training / Employment	✓	✓
Progress towards recovery from substance misuse issues	✓	✓
Assistance to manage debts, finance, access benefits	✓	✓
Support to build/ maintain relationships with families/children	✓	✓
Specialist Domestic Violence Court outcomes	✓	✗
Successful completion of community sentences	✓	✗
Reoffending (DV / Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) cases / IOM data)	✓	✗
Risk assessments completed (Think Family)	✓	✗
Percentage of recalls (standard and fixed)	✓	✗
Breach Timelines National Probation Service (NPS)	✓	✗

Pathways to Reducing Reoffending

Whilst many of the pathways highlighted for adults remain relevant when working with young people, it is necessary to highlight that young people do require a different approach and the pathways in and out of offending can be complex, particularly in terms of their ability to influence their environment. The YJB assessment tool ASSET+ currently focuses on the following factors, underpinned by analysis and planning.

- Personal, family and social factors
- Living arrangements and environmental factors
- Parenting, family and relationships
- Young person development
- Learning, Education, training and employment
- Foundations for Change
- Resilience, goals and attitudes
- Opportunities
- Engagement and participation
- Factors affecting desistance
- Self-assessment views from the young person and parents/carers



At the heart of any strategy to reduce reoffending are the issues of vulnerability and risk. Reducing vulnerabilities of individuals and communities by ensuring that the right services (pathways) are in place and accessible to assist people away from offending behaviour; offenders are carefully managed by agencies in a joined-up way to reduce risks to both themselves and the public.

The following page outlines each pathway and priority areas of delivery.

Pathways and priority areas of delivery



Accommodation and support

- Stable accommodation can reduce the likelihood of reoffending by more than a fifth
- It provides building blocks to gain employment and access support services



Education, Training and Employment

- Employment reduces the risk of reoffending between a third and a half
- There is a correlation between offending and low achievement, poor literacy, numeracy and language skills



Health

- Adult offenders are disproportionately more likely to suffer from mental and physical health problems.
- 31% of adult prisoners have been found to have emotional wellbeing issues linked to their offending behaviours.



Substance Misuse

- Two thirds of adult prisoners use illegal drugs in the year prior to imprisonment
- Intoxication by alcohol is linked to 30% of sexual offences, 33% of burglaries, 50% of street and violent crimes



Finance, benefits and debt

- Having a lawful income is vital to offenders' rehabilitation
- Approximately 81% of offenders claim benefits on release from prison



Children and Families

- Maintaining a strong relationship with families and children strongly assists in helping adult offenders sustain changes and avoid reoffending
- Custody can place added strain on family relationships



Attitudes, thinking and behaviour

- Offenders are more likely to have negative social attitudes and poor self-control
- Addressing attitudes and thinking behaviour during custody can reduce reoffending by up to 14%



Provision of a minimum housing and employment offer

To demonstrate commitment across the Black Country area to reducing reoffending and the rehabilitation of offenders; each local authority area will provide a 'minimum offer' for housing and employment support which will contribute to strengthening the pathways to reduce reoffending.

The 'minimum offer' will be tailored to meet the requirements of each local authority area and will be included in local action plans. Offers will centre

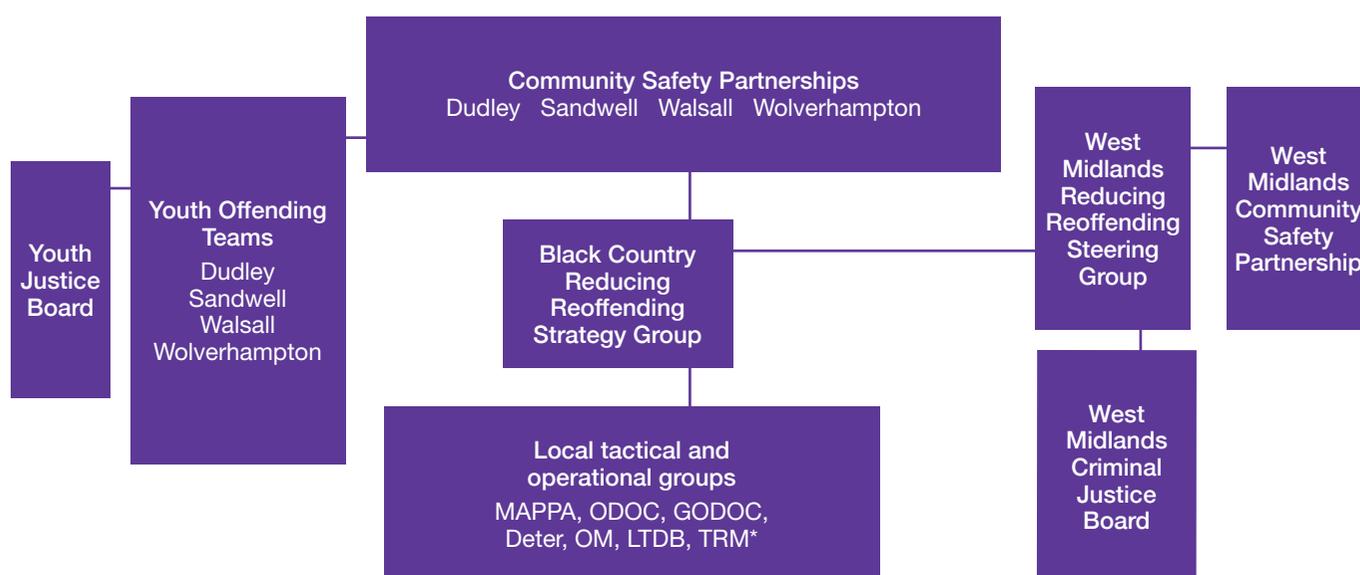
around including additional steps to reduce the risk of an offender having no bed space available on release from a secure setting. Additionally, it could look at the use of public sector contracts as a means to providing work placements within designated workspaces and local providers to assist offenders to access training, support and employment opportunities.

Individual pathways will be finalised within the first year of strategy delivery.

Governance

Whilst governance for reducing reoffending sits squarely with the respective CSP for each individual area, there are clear benefits in streamlining our approach and driving delivery across the Black Country sub-region. A Black Country Reducing Reoffending Strategy group will provide a vehicle for joint working across the Black Country to progress the shared priorities within this strategy, with provision for area

variances to be taken forward by each individual area. As reducing reoffending also features as a priority for the West Midlands PCC and the Combined Authority, links to those regional structures will add weight to delivery of the Black Country priorities and open up further opportunities for new approaches and additional resources to be drawn down to aid local implementation.



* Multi-agency public protection arrangements, one day one conversation, gangs one day one conversation, deter, offender management, local tasking delivery board, threat risk management

Consultation

The strategy was produced in partnership with the four Black Country CSPs. Partners who input into the strategy include: West Midlands Police, National Probation Services, Community Rehabilitation Company, Recovery Near You, Youth Offending Teams, Changing Lives, Wolverhampton DV Forum.

The document was available for full public consultation advertised by social media, email, via third sector organisations, communities of interest and across partner agencies. Comments and suggestions made during the consultation have been considered and revisions included within the document where appropriate.

Equalities

A full equalities analysis has informed the strategy development and will direct improved access to services. Particular focus will be given to tailoring provision for female offenders, and strengthening prevention measures for young people, particularly BAME young people, where disproportionate representation within the youth criminal justice system is evident. Pathways and processes will cater for offending profiles in terms of age, gender, offences, and vulnerabilities.

Apx 1. Delivering in partnership

In order to successfully reduce reoffending, there is a strong focus on joint partnership working. Partner contributions are summarised below;

Youth Offending Services

The aim of the Youth Justice system is to prevent offending and reoffending. Multiagency YOT's comprise staff from partner organisations who work together in co-location to improve outcomes for children and young people and enhance the safety of the community.

The YOT engage with local crime reduction partners to work with young people aged 10-18, who present the greatest risk to communities and themselves, providing them with specific monitoring and support. This can include early engagement and prevention services as well as intensive surveillance and support which manages highest risk young people. The YOT leads the local youth MAPPA targeting those young people who have the potential to cause the most harm. There are strong initiatives in relation to our 'Deter' cohort where young people who are of the highest concern receive additional Offender Management.

The YOT offer includes working to address the root cause of behaviour rather than addressing symptomatic behaviour, building positive foundations for change through education, language and communication and crime prevention to engage those on the cusp of offending before they enter the criminal justice system.

YOTs are accountable to a YOT Management Board which oversees and scrutinises their work.

Police and Prison Resettlement

WMP offer resettlement assistance for adults leaving local prison establishments (85% of all releases). A small team of police officers and staff work alongside prison and probation colleagues within resettlement prisons. These officers aim to better share information and align supported interventions for managed offenders resettling back into our communities.

We anticipate that this will pay significant dividend, enabling smoother and more successful integration, reducing the otherwise negative impact of offending triggers and barriers to desistance from crime.

Her Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service (HMCTS)

Following a review of the Magistrates Court service; Sandwell Magistrates Court closed in 2016 and a new listing pattern was instigated in October 2016. Trial centres continue to be offered at Dudley, Walsall, and Wolverhampton Magistrates Court, with Crown Court services provided from Wolverhampton. The court maintains a close working relationship with the Crown Prosecution service, support is given to Witness Services and there is close work with the YOTs. There is a need to consider further potential listing changes due to resource and facility changes – this will go to a formal consultation period once proposals are available for partners.

West Midlands Police and Integrated Offender Management

West Midlands Police (WMP) has an established and effective Integrated Offender Management programme. In 2011, considerable investment was made in Offender Management Units (OMUs) The force enjoying unequalled success nationally in the reduction of SAC offending, which in partnership produced the lowest reoffending rates in the country.

In 2015 WMP began to explore the wider adoption of IOM methodology into other aspects of offending. IOM is now seen as a key function of the “Geared to Prevent Harm” approach and is a key element of the Intervention & Prevention (I&P) work to prevent and reduce crime, demand and vulnerability.

The current model prevents further offending across a wider breadth of criminality. Incorporating integrated case management approaches with partners for new and emerging crime types, as well as extending the reach with increased management of violent and organised offenders. Crucially this IMO work is delivered locally within Neighbourhood Policing Units.

National Probation Service (NPS) and Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

The Offenders Rehabilitation Act 2014 facilitated Transforming Rehabilitation reforms which split probation responsibilities between newly form CRC and the NPS in June 2014. NPS has responsibility for the completion of Pre-Sentence Reports at Court and thereafter, the correct allocation of work to either the CRC or NPS. The key factor for allocation is 'risk of serious harm'. High / very high risk of serious harm cases are allocated to NPS, with most other low/medium risk work allocated to CRC. At any point during the sentence the CRC can escalate a case to NPS if the risk of harm is assessed as too high.

NPS use Approved Premises to monitor and support very high-risk offenders in the community, particularly those released on licence. NPS contributes to multi-agency partnerships such as MAPPA, MARAC and Prevent to ensure that there is a robust and comprehensive risk assessment, risk management and sentence plan available in a timely way.

The legislative change also extended the scope of offenders eligible to access probation support and designated resettlement prisons introduced providing ‘through the gate’ support from custody to community during the last 3 months before release.

All offenders are assessed to identify factors that are linked to the risk of reoffending and the risk of harm. A risk management plan and sentence plan are compiled with for the purpose of reducing both the risk of reoffending and risk of harm, which includes working with victims to ensure that their voice is heard.

Apx 2. Partner Organisations

This strategy has been approved by the following Community Safety Partnerships and their constituent partners; Dudley Safe and Sound Partnership, Safer Sandwell Partnership, Safer Walsall Partnership, Safer Wolverhampton Partnership.



For further information
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