

## Summary of Charlie Taylor Review of Youth Justice and Government Response 2016

The report below highlights the key recommendations made by Charlie Taylor following his review of Youth Justice in 2016. The change in Government post the referendum saw a very different response than anticipated by the Youth Justice Sector, with the Government continuing to support community based services such as Youth Offending Team. The Government will be responding in more detail to each of its recommendations and therefore further papers will be published to make further sense of their thoughts.

<b>Charlie Taylor Recommendations</b>	<b>Government Response: Justice Secretary Elizabeth Truss and Youth Justice Minister Philip Lee</b>
<p><b>1. More devolved youth justice system</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional mental health investment in youth justice</li> <li>• Removal of statutory requirement for LA to have an established YOT, with LA picking up the statutory duties with ongoing cooperation from probation, Police, health and education to work with the YOT</li> <li>• Remove ring fence of the grant</li> <li>• Remove the YJB's performance management</li> <li>• LA to use their own assessments</li> <li>• Inspections to be undertaken by Ofsted</li> <li>• MoJ should devolve funds that cover custodial placements to local areas</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key facts:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth offending has fallen sharply – 82% reduction between 2017 and 2015. 67% reduction in custody over the same period, 900 young people in custody in England and Wales</li> <li>• Outcomes for young people in custody are good enough. Complex issues including, violence and self-harm, reoffending rates from at 69%</li> <li>• 900 in custody represent some of the most complex and damaged children within society. Broken homes, drug and alcohol misuse, generational joblessness, abusive relationships, childhoods spent in care, mental illness, gang membership and educational failure are common in the backgrounds of many offenders.</li> <li>• To put education at the heart of youth custody and improving the provision of health care to tackle the factors that increase the risk of offending.</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Coming into contact with the youth justice system</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More diversionary programmes jointly operated by LA, police and health</li> <li>• Review length a yp can be detained for to 3 hours unless offence is severe</li> <li>• Automatic access to legal advice and solicitors</li> <li>• Reforms to training police – mandatory child-specific training</li> <li>• Local protocols in place about charging decision that take into account health screening</li> <li>• Restorative practice protocol in place for children's homes to resolve minor incidents</li> <li>• Distinct approach to childhood offending and how this is dealt with by the criminal justice system,</li> </ul>	

<p>distinguishing under 15's and 15-17 year old in relation to disclosure of implications</p>	<p><b>1. The right framework for improvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work for better efficiencies to review governance arrangements, implement more robust performance measures for both community and custody</li> <li>• Clearer commissioning arrangements, create single director of operations for youth custodial operation overseeing performance and operational delivery to resolve issues</li> <li>• Continue to ring-fence grants for the provision of youth justice services within local authority funding to ensure sufficient funding for these services</li> <li>• Work with local authorities to explore how local areas can be given greater flexibility to improve youth justice services.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3. Children in Court</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of introducing Children Panels where children and young people are referred to a panel of trained magistrates, where the young person pleads guilty, panel to investigate health, education, social care</li> <li>• All children and young people to be heard at youth court</li> <li>• Revised fee structure for youths</li> <li>• Revised court summons for parents to attend court</li> <li>• Revise the law to consider whether the law on youth reporting restrictions should be amended to provide for them to apply automatically in the Crown Court,</li> <li>• Remove short term sentences</li> <li>• CYP under 16 be given custodial sentences in exceptional circumstances Consider changes to Youth Detention Centres</li> </ul>	<p><b>2. Tackling offending</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cross departmental sharing of good practice, DfH, DfE, YJB</li> <li>• Reform sentencing</li> <li>• More autonomy for local authorities to develop their offer</li> <li>• Continue to reduce youth crime through early intervention and prevention addressing the following; individual factors such as learning disabilities and health needs; family factors such as offending behaviour or substance abuse within the family; school related factors such as low attainment, bullying and exclusion; and risks arising from the community environment, including the prevalence of gangs.</li> <li>• Build on whole family model of support</li> <li>• Build young people's resilience through improving their access to education, access to health services, family support and positive role models</li> <li>• Allow young people the opportunity to restore their crimes and continue to deter them away from crime</li> <li>• Swift and appropriate youth court and sentencing</li> <li>• Further work to explore the recommendations about youth criminal records</li> <li>• Improved work force development</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Secure Schools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create secure schools collaboratively between MoJ and DfE, with focus on education, health and behaviour</li> <li>• Social worker to remain consistent throughout the young persons time in custody</li> <li>• Robust resettlement offer with yp knowing where they are living two weeks prior to release</li> </ul>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove the LASPO arrangement, where only previously known LACs remain LAC</li> <li>• Inspection from Ofsted and CQC</li> </ul>	<p><b>3. Improving youth custody</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased health and education offer and training in custody and release</li> <li>• Develop Youth Justice role in YOIs for additional support to young people in custody</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. The role of Central Government</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creation of Youth Justice Commissioner</li> <li>• Establish expert committee to provide independent advice and challenge in youth justice and the operation of the system across England and Wales</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better more effective planning for community from custody – new support plan Develop two secure schools in north and south</li> <li>• Capacity and skills development of workforce Improvements in the secure estate of more specialist units with specialist support.</li> </ul>