

What we do

The majority of Youth Offending Team (YOT) work is statutory and referrals come in from both Police and the Courts. Alongside this statutory work, the YOT also offer voluntary intervention through its Prevention Project. Voluntary support is offered for young people aged 8 – 18 for several different reasons. Interventions could address those on the periphery of offending, those committing offending behaviour, as well as supporting safeguarding and promoting welfare and reducing risky behaviour.

Voluntary Support eg. Keep safe or anger management work. This could include positive activities or group work, parenting, and linking into other provisions.

Harmful sexual behaviour: All sexually harmful behaviour needs to be reported to Children's Social Care and the Police in line with WSCB safeguarding policy.

The pathway for young people demonstrating harmful sexual behaviour will depend on the outcome of any referral / strategy discussion and any subsequent police decisions. Early intervention will also be guided by initial indications of admission.

Voluntary support whilst awaiting summons: This includes support for young people who have been voluntarily interviewed by the police but who are without police bail.

Voluntary support whilst Released Under Investigation (RUI): This includes support for young people who have been arrested and released to either attend court or return to the police station later pending the completion of a police investigation.

Voluntary support on 2nd Youth Caution or subsequent caution: The YOT will write to every young person subject to a 2nd Youth Caution or subsequent caution with a voluntary support offer. This would include an assessment and intervention work, as well as offence specific work and could include an exploration of restorative justice.

Support

Support can be offered at different stages, depending on individual need. Consideration is given to a number of factors including:

- Anti-social behaviour
- Young people who have come to the attention of the Police
- Level of concern regarding behaviour
- Type / category of offence
- Seriousness of offence
- Issues relating to risk of serious harm
- Issues relating to safety and wellbeing
- Age and circumstances of young person arrested
- Extent of protective factors in place



We offer a range of support based on a holistic assessment of young people and their circumstance.

Where voluntary contact is agreed as a result of contact with Police / ASBRAC no separate referral will be required. However, a voluntary agreement that covers the remit of the work and issues relating to information sharing and confidentiality needs to be completed and signed by parents and where appropriate young person.

Where the request for voluntary support comes from an external agency, a DART should be completed and sent to YOT_Chippenham@wiltshire.gcsx.gov.uk



This will then come to a YOT Team Leader where a decision will be made regarding allocation.

Referrals can come from:

Schools, the Police, the Court, ASBRAC, MASH and Children's Social Care

Any referral to YOT prevention for voluntary support will be reviewed by a YOT Team Leader and if accepted, the case will be allocated. An initial visit will be undertaken by the allocated worker within 5 working days.

All young people who take up the offer of a voluntary support programme will be subject to a holistic assessment approved by the Youth justice Board Asset plus. The assessment will be completed within 10 working days. The length of intervention will be determined by the assessment and agreed between the YOT / Prevention practitioner, referrer and service user.

Progress will be regularly monitored and reviewed. At the end of the agreed intervention, both the referrer and young person / family will be notified that the work is now complete and the case will be closed with a record of what has been achieved.

Where ongoing need is identified, consideration will be given to a suitable exit strategy.



Where the request for voluntary support comes from an external agency, a DART should be completed and sent to –

Email: YOT_Chippenham@wiltshire.gcsx.gov.uk

Address: **Prevention Project
Youth Offending Team
Monkton Park
Chippenham
SN15 1ER**

Telephone: **01249 709400**

Information about Wiltshire Council services can be made available on request in other formats such as large print and audio. Please contact the council by telephone: **0300 456 0100** or email: customerservices@wiltshire.gov.uk

Youth Offending Team Prevention



Wiltshire Council

--- Where everybody matters