

CONNECTED

Youth Justice Agency Stakeholder Newsletter

*Making communities safer
by helping children to stop offending*



Stakeholder Survey

Thank you to all those who took time to contribute to our 2015-16 stakeholder survey, the results of which were published under [Statistical Bulletin 2/16](#).

The key findings from the survey included:-

- 89% of stakeholders surveyed agreed that YJA contributed to making communities safer
- 75% of stakeholders were very or fairly confident YJA was effective at reducing offending by young people
- 89% of stakeholders surveyed felt their organisation was informed of services delivered by YJA

Equally pleasing has been the qualitative narrative feedback received as this has helped us to shape and develop our services, particularly in relation to community engagement and early intervention work.

We have been working pro-actively with schools, youth groups and community partners in raising awareness of our work and also in the delivery of a number of initiatives for e.g. 'Think before you drink' and 'Ctrl Alt Delete' intervention plays, road safety roadshows (in conjunction with NIFRS, NIAS and the PSNI), educational DVDs ('No Harm Done'; 'One Punch'; and 'One Glance') and in the development of early intervention programmes funded through the EITP (Early Intervention Transformation Programme). In addition, we continue to sit on a number of partnership boards and committees.

Some quotes from our recent survey:-

"Staff and services are delivered to an excellent standard"

"Whilst there is always a need to improve any services, I feel that the Youth Justice Agency have their finger on the pulse and are very effective at supplying a service which gives value to the quality of life of its participants"

If you would like to hear more about our work or services, please [contact us](#).

Acknowledging Support for Reparation Providers

The Youth Justice Agency held a reception to thank Reparation providers in the Craigavon, Banbridge, Armagh and Newry areas and to acknowledge the valuable work undertaken by these partner organisations in supporting young people through the provision of reparation placements.

The event took place during Restorative Justice Week 2016 and was hosted by Portadown Football Club, a current Agency Reparation provider. It provided an opportunity for guests in attendance to hear at first hand the experiences of some of those involved in reparation – from a community and Agency perspective.



Reparation Providers who work with the Agency are pictured with staff from our Southern Area Team

Reparation work encourages young people to make genuine efforts to make amends for their offending behaviour while also helping to restore broken relationships within the community. This is done by encouraging the young people to engage meaningfully in their placements and to support them to undertake the reparative activities as part of their statutory orders.

If you would like more information about becoming a Reparation provider, please contact the Agency – info@yjani.gov.uk

Annual Carol Service

The Youth Justice Agency held its annual carol service at Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre, Bangor on Friday 16th December.

Young people in the Centre were joined by parents, families and invited guests for the traditional service which was conducted by Rev Colin Megaw, Chaplain at Woodlands and Minister of Helen's Bay Presbyterian Church.



(L-R):- Declan McGeown, YJA Chief Executive; Rev Colin Megaw, JJC Chaplain; Claire Sugden, Justice Minister; Alderman Deborah Girvan, Mayor of Ards & North Down Borough Council; and Brian Ingram, JJC Director

One Punch, One Glance – two powerful videos

The Youth Justice Agency, in conjunction with The Playhouse, Derry, launched two short educational films entitled 'One Glance' and 'One Punch', warning young people about the impact of crime at a recent event in the Playhouse, Derry.



Young people in attendance are pictured with representatives from the organisations involved in the production of the films

Both films were directed by Chris Byrne of Pillarpix Media and produced by the Playhouse Street Talk project in partnership with the Youth Justice Agency. The films were funded via the Early Intervention Transformation Programme. [Read more...](#)

Offenders urged to 'Stay Onside'

Offenders in Northern Ireland are getting the chance to turn their lives around through the development of a new programme by the Irish Football Association (IFA) and justice agencies involved in the Reducing Offending in Partnership (ROP).

ROP is a Northern Ireland-wide approach to the management of priority, or prolific offenders by the Police Service of Northern Ireland, Probation Board, Youth Justice Agency and Northern Ireland Prison Service.

This new and innovative intervention aims to reduce re-offending and reduce the number of victims of crime. It consists of four programmes to be run on a pilot basis, one in Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre, one in Hydebank Secure College and two within the community, in Belfast and Ballymena.



(L-R) Andy Waterworth (IFA), Mark Dennison (PSNI), Harry Bradley (YJA), Patricia Muldoon (YJA) and Mark Nicholson (PBNI) at the programme launch at the National Football Stadium at Windsor Park

Woodlands and Hydebank are 6 weeks in duration, the two community based programmes will be 12 weeks in duration and all will be run weekly. An evaluation will be completed to determine the future roll out of further programmes. [Read more...](#)

Stakeholder Survey 2017

The Youth Justice Agency Stakeholder Survey 2017 will launch on Monday 6th February 2017. We would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to complete this survey. Please keep an eye out for e-mails, tweets and on our website for more information about this launch.

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