

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**27<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

**HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To inform Members of the Young People Overview & Scrutiny Committee of the performance of the accommodation pathway in preventing youth homelessness.

**Performance of the young people's accommodation pathway**

**2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The homelessness prevention accommodation pathway has been in full operation since October 2012. This report summarises the levels of performance achieved by the pathway over its first 12 months of operation.
- 2.2 Access to the pathway is provided through 7 District area hubs where multi-agency teams, County and District, work to prevent homelessness. Wherever possible and safe to do so, young people are returned home or supported to remain in their accommodation. Where this isn't possible then they are provided with accommodation and support until they are able to live independently.
- 2.3 The pathway is resourced through a community budget managed by the Supporting People Partnership. Performance and conflict resolution are managed by a governance group attended by CYPS and housing authority officers, this meets on a monthly basis.

**3.0 Trends**

- 3.1 A total of 1626 young people visited the hubs over the full year. The level of presentation increased over each quarter. The highest number of referrals were classed as 'self referral'. As the pathway becomes better known then as a consequence there is likely to be a greater take up of the service. Nationally homelessness presentations have begun to level off and we expect to follow that trend.
- 3.2 Scarborough has the highest proportion of presentations (around 40%) but has only 18% of the population within the age range 16-25. By comparison Harrogate has 16% of the presentations but 26% of the population.
- 3.3 The likely causal factors for Scarborough are linked to social exclusion and deprivation. The district has the highest proportion of youth unemployment, numbers in receipt of job seekers allowance, proportion of young people failing to achieve qualifications, failing to attend school and leaving school at 16. Scarborough has a range of deprivation issues including poor housing and levels of criminal activity.

#### 4.0 **Performance**

- 4.1 The pathway provides a single point of access to advice, advocacy and support. For most young people a return to their family or kinship is the best outcome, in particular for 16 and 17 year olds who lack the maturity to live independently. Around 80% of young people presenting at a hub are restored to their families or kinships. A further 10% are helped to live independently. Of these only 10% re-present and require further help but of these 40% are aged 16 and 17 – which is an issue we are working to address.
- 4.2 Around 8% of those presenting require accommodation within the pathway. Typically they remain in the pathway for 12 months before leaving to live independently. Very few individuals need to remain in the pathway beyond 24 months.
- 4.3 Young people accommodated within the pathway (around 250 at any one time) have tailored programmes to meet their needs. These include a personal development plan covering pre-tenancy training, support to remain in or enter education, training and employment. Some of these young people also need help to overcome substance misuse, offending behaviours or mental health issues.
- 4.4 Where young people are returned to their families around 25% require family support for up to 6 weeks with a further 30% needing on-going support beyond that to prevent a further family breakdown. 45% require no further assistance.

#### 5.0 **Cost benefit**

- 5.1 The accommodation pathway provides a substantial cost benefit to both the county council and its district council partners. These have been estimated at over £2.5 million saved by preventing homelessness and consequent housing costs. Children's services are saving in excess of £550,000 by not having to bring young people into care. There is also a wide range of social benefit derived from the reduction of crime, improved health and higher levels of economic activity.

#### 6.0 **Next steps**

- 6.1 Remodelling within children's services will present opportunities for greater integration with the accommodation pathway. In particular this will be of value in working with the families of 16 and 17 year olds, building resilience of these families and preventing young people having to be brought into care or accommodated within the pathway.
- 6.2 The accommodation pathway is performing very well and continues to be the national exemplar for two tier authority working. However, managing difficult behaviours, securing sufficient move on accommodation and providing longer term support to families are the things we are now focusing on. The accommodation pathway is under review and these priorities will inform the re-commissioning of services that has commenced.

### **7.0 Recommendations**

- 7.1 Members of the Committee are requested to note and comment on the information in this report.

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16<sup>th</sup> June 2014

**Background Documents:**

- Young People's Homelessness Hubs Quarterly Data Full Year: October 2012 – September 2013
- Accommodation Pathway 'Workforce Bulletin'

Annexes: None

## Young People's Homelessness Hubs Quarterly Data Full Year: October 2012 – September 2013

Quarterly data has been collected and collated for all hubs for the first full year of operation from October 2012 – September 2013, starting with Quarter 3 in October. The data indicates that there were 1626 presentations to the pathway during this total period. 437 (27%) of these were 16/17 year olds.

Overall, the rate of presentations has increased through this period. This can be interpreted as:

1. an increase in actual homelessness and concern about housing/homelessness and/or
2. all 16 to 25-year-olds with any query about housing/homelessness being correctly channelled to the hubs as awareness regarding the hub services increases in the local area

### All Presentations

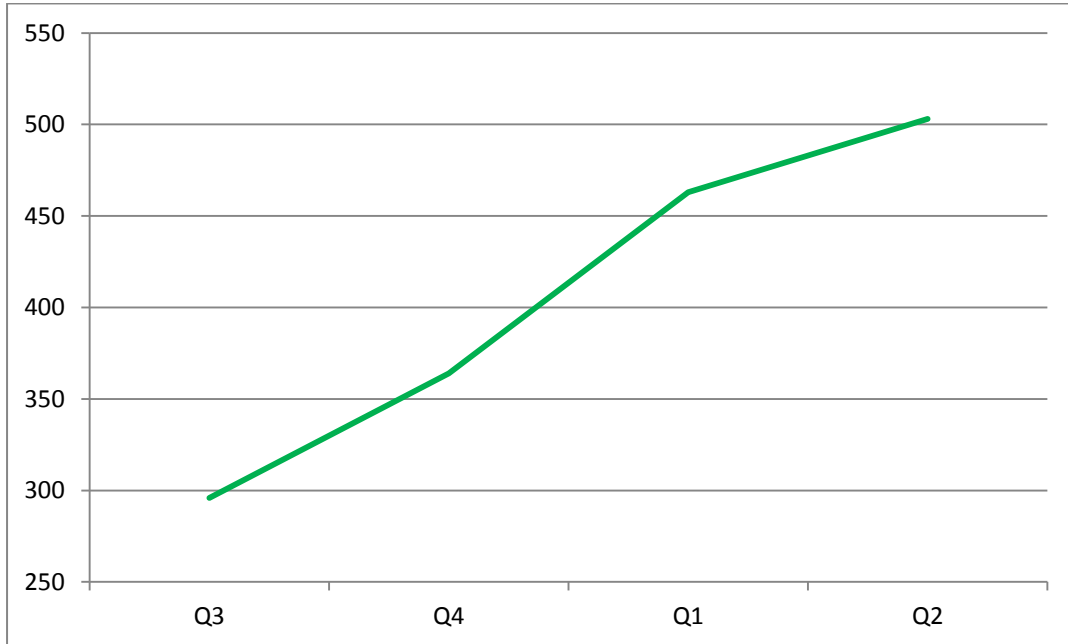
Area	Q3 Oct- Dec	Q4 Jan- March	Q1 April- June	Q2 July- Sept
Craven	16	35	26	25
Hambleton	15	13	35	25
Harrogate	32	74	87	64
Richmondshire	13	16	24	28
Ryedale	63	45	48	60
Scarborough	131	156	198	234
Selby	26	25	45	67
<b>Total</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>364</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>503</b>

### Presentations aged 16-17

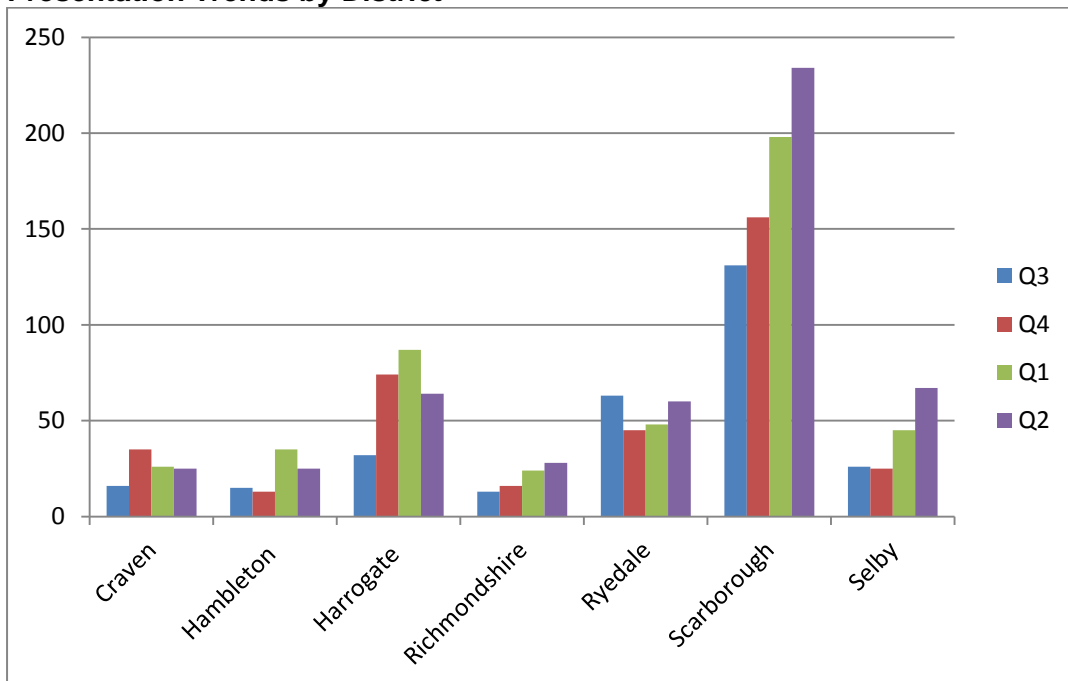
Area	Q3 Oct- Dec	Q4 Jan- March	Q1 April- June	Q2 July- Sept
Craven	3	9	9	4
Hambleton	7	3	11	17
Harrogate	14	17	24	22
Richmondshire	5	3	9	11
Ryedale	6	10	8	11
Scarborough	45	43	48	62
Selby	7	8	10	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>138</b>

The number of 16/17 year olds presenting has also been increasing, although as a percentage of overall referrals has remained fairly consistent at 26-29% each quarter.

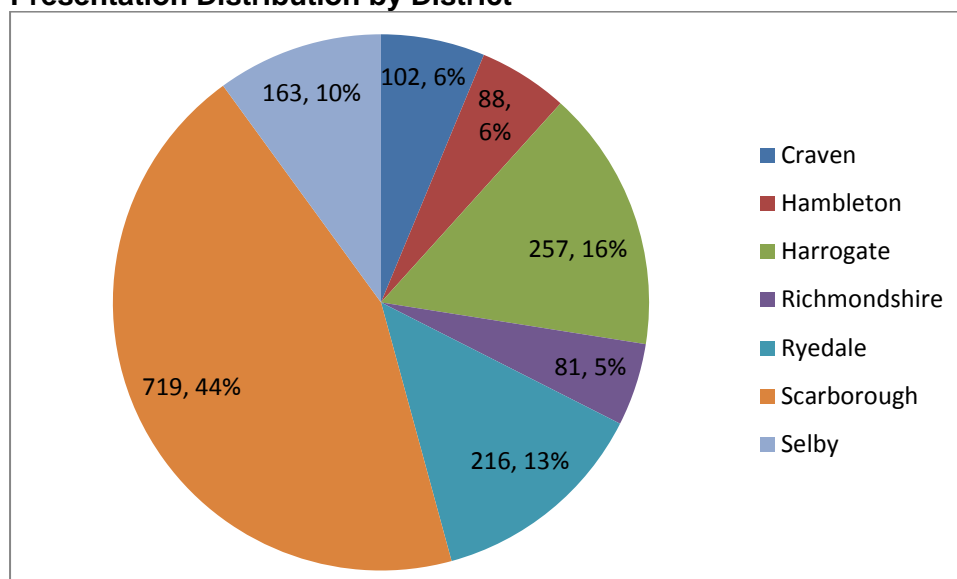
### Overall Presentation Trends



### Presentation Trends by District



## Presentation Distribution by District



### Causal factors

It is important that the drivers for the growth in numbers and distribution of homelessness presentations is better understood. The potential drivers are set out below.

#### *Population*

Overall, the population of North Yorkshire is unevenly distributed across districts, although Scarborough does not have as high a percentage of the population as Harrogate (18% compared to 26%). Harrogate has over a quarter of North Yorkshire's population yet only 16% of presentations. For each district, 16-25 year olds make up between 10 and 16% of the population. A quarter of North Yorkshire's 16-25 year olds reside in Harrogate, and 19% in Scarborough. This suggests that the high percentage of presentations in Scarborough cannot necessarily be attributed to population factors.

#### *Deprivation*

Analysis suggests that deprivation and poverty levels in Scarborough are considerably higher than across other districts, and this is certainly likely to be contributing to the proportionally high percentage of Scarborough presentations. For example, in terms of unemployment, poverty and benefits:

- Scarborough has the highest proportion of 6 month+ unemployment benefits claim (42.5% compared to a county average of 36.6%), suggesting that medium-term unemployment is disproportionately an issue in Scarborough
- Scarborough also accounts for 45% of the county total of long-term unemployed (claiming JSA for 12 months or more), and the district's long-term unemployment levels are higher than the national average
- In January 2014 3.8% of Scarborough's working age population were claiming Job Seeker's Allowance (JSA), compared to a county average of only 1.8%. The figure in Harrogate was only 1.1%
- In 2012, county bankruptcy rates were highest in Scarborough and lowest in Harrogate

- Child poverty levels are high in Scarborough, particularly around the Whitby and Filey areas and in central Scarborough

The English Indices of Deprivation 2010 identify disadvantaged Lower Super Output Areas (small geographical areas each with a population of around 1500 people) in England according to a range of indicators. Levels of economic deprivation are higher in Scarborough than all other areas. For example:

- 60% of the top 10 most deprived LSOAs where young people were experiencing education deprivation in North Yorkshire were in Scarborough. These areas experience a high proportion of young people failing to achieve qualifications, high levels of absence and high proportions of young people leaving school at 16
- 80% of the top 10 most deprived LSOAs where income deprivation was affecting children in North Yorkshire were in Scarborough
- 9 of the 10 most deprived LSOAs in terms of housing quality in North Yorkshire were located in Scarborough. This indicator captures the proportion of social and private housing which fails to meet the decent homes standard and the proportion of houses without central heating
- Scarborough and Selby experience particularly high levels of certain crimes (violence, burglary, theft and criminal damage) compared to the rest of the county

Particular wards within Scarborough – including Castle and Eastfield – experience a particularly high concentration of deprivation compared to the rest of North Yorkshire according to the English Indices of Deprivation. It is possible that young people may be particularly at risk of homelessness in areas where many of the indices of deprivation are found together. For example, in areas where housing quality is poor, families are living in relative poverty and young people are not accessing education, employment or training, this may create a difficult home environment and high levels of strain upon family members / parents. Data also indicates that Scarborough receives the highest proportion of re-presentations (30% of all re-presentations occur in this district), which also boosts overall presentation rates considerably. Similarly, Hub data indicates that that rates of young people presenting in Scarborough who are NEET are high.

#### *Hub Maturity*

The maturity of the Hub may also be contributing to the high percentage of Scarborough referrals. The Hub in Scarborough is well-established and has been fully operational for longer than some of the Hubs in other areas. Data suggests that well-established and mature Hubs do tend to record more presentations. This may be for a number of reasons, such as greater awareness and increased referrals from other agencies, and greater awareness and increased self-referrals from young people directly. There may also be increased accuracy in how presentation levels are recorded and monitored as Hubs become more established. For example, initial presentation levels in Harrogate were lower than expected within the new Hub, but as the database system was embedded to record the number of presentations, the number of recorded cases doubled.

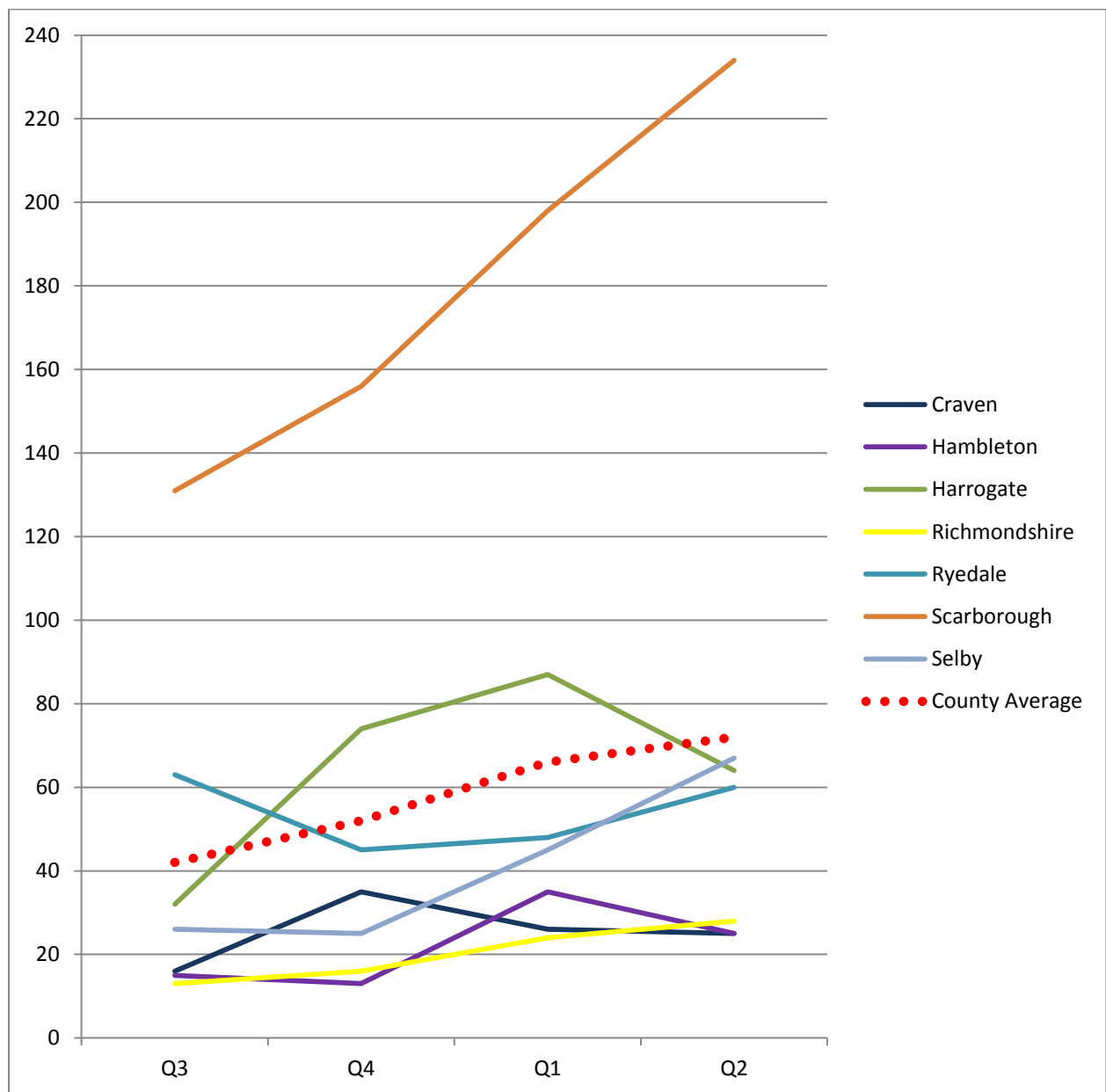
An examination of referral sources was carried out for January 2013. This timeframe was selected as the Hubs had been formally established for 3 months, so should have been becoming more established, although there may still have been discrepancies.

The data indicates that – countywide – 63% of total referrals were self-referrals. This was by far the most common referral route, followed by 'NYCC' (12%), 'other' (10%) and 'parent/relative/friend' (6%). As suggested above, self-referrals from young people may increase as Hubs become more established and young people are more aware of the local

services and support available. Scarborough and Ryedale received the highest percentages of self-referrals, whilst other Hubs such as Hambleton and Richmondshire received only very small percentages. Scarborough was also the only Hub to receive any referrals from the Police and Youth Justice Service, suggesting relationships with these agencies might be better established in this area.

Additionally, it is important to note that even before the introduction of the new Hubs, presentation levels in Scarborough were considerably higher than elsewhere in the county. For example, in 2009-2010, Scarborough received 39% of all referrals and almost twice as many as Harrogate.

**Quarterly Presentations by District (plotted against County Average)**





## Re-Presentation Data

169 young people presented more than once during the first year of Hub operation (01/10/12 – 30/09/13). Some re-presented more than once, meaning there were a total of 199 re-presentations during the timeframe. Of these:

- 1626 presentations were made in total during the year. This means 10% were re-presentations
- The average age on first presentation was 19
- 67 of the young people re-presenting were aged 16/17 (40%). This represents a disproportionate amount of 16/17 year olds re-presenting, as less than 30% of total presentations were within this age range
- 143 young people re-presented once within this timescale (85% of those re-presenting)
- 21 re-presented twice within this timescale (12% of those re-presenting)
- 5 re-presented 3 times within this timescale (3% of those re-presenting)
- 9 of the young people *also* re-presented either before or after the given timescale

The breakdown of re-presentations across districts is as follows:

District	Number of Young People presenting more than once	Number of Re-Presentations	Re-Presentations as a total % of all Presentations for district
Craven	4	4	4
Hambleton	5	5	6
Harrogate	25	27	11
Richmondshire	9	10	12
Ryedale	27	29	13
Scarborough	90	112	16
Selby	10	12	7
Countywide	170 <sup>1</sup>	199	10

Re-presentation rates as a % of all presentations per district varied between 4 and 16%, with a countywide average of 10%. Re-presentations were below the county average in Craven, Hambleton and Selby and above average in Harrogate, Richmondshire, Ryedale and Scarborough. As well as being most common in Scarborough, young people were much more likely to re-present a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> time in this area:

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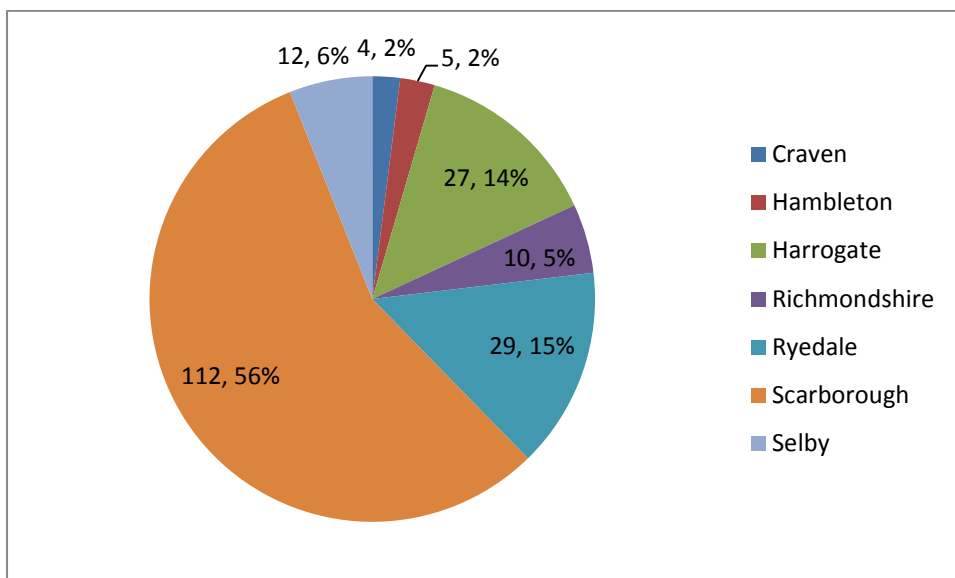
<sup>1</sup> Please note one young person presented twice in Scarborough then twice in Ryedale making the total here 170

District	% of district re-presentations that presented once only	re-re-	% of district re-presentations that re-presented twice or 3 times
Craven	100		0
Hambleton	100		0
Harrogate	92		8
Richmondshire	89		11
Ryedale	93		7
Scarborough	80		20
Selby	90		10

It may be that the young people presenting in Scarborough simply have more complex needs and are more likely to re-present regardless of the quality of intervention and support that is offered. However, it may also be that the sheer volume of young people presenting in Scarborough makes it more difficult to offer the optimum amount of support for each case. In contrast, in areas such as Craven where re-presentation rates were very low, and no young people re-presented more than once, this may be linked to the fact that there is less demand on staff to manage a large number of referrals and cases. It is also possible that the level and quality of CSC involvement may vary across districts, as an initial analysis of cases on ICS does appear to suggest that young people may be more likely to re-present when they are not receiving CSC support.

Please note, data is only presented here where a young person re-presented to the same Hub. There are a very small number of additional cases where a young person re-presented at a different Hub. Additionally, where a young person is recorded as presenting twice on the same date, this is not recorded here, as this is considered to be the same case/presentation.

### Distribution of Re-Presentations by District



As might be expected, over half of the re-presentations (56%) took place in Scarborough. This was followed by Ryedale (15%) and Harrogate (14%), with the remaining districts experiencing only very small shares of re-presentations.

## Timescales

A homelessness prevention is counted as successful if there is no re-presentation within 6 months. 43 of the young people (25%) made their 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation more than 6 months after their 1<sup>st</sup>. 19 of these (44%) were aged 16/17. 75% re-presented within 6 months, indicating that these would not be recognised as successful preventions.

The average number of days between presentations was 133, which equates to around 4 and a half months. For those who made more than 1 re-presentation, only 12% did not initially re-present within 6 months. The average number of days between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation was only 82 days, or less than 3 months.

## Involvement of children's social care

Very few of the young people had active involvement from CSC at the time of their re-presentation. However, the majority were known to CSC and had some historic involvement, previous/recent referrals, or CSC became involved again after the 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation. Some had CSC involvement during initial presentation, but then the case would be closed, which may have contributed / led to re-presentation. It seems that re-presentations are happening in the gaps when CSC is not supporting.

## Gender and Pregnancy

There was a roughly even gender split, with slightly more young women presenting (53%) than young men (47%). However, this varied across the county, with notably high proportions of young women presenting in Craven, Ryedale and Selby:

	% Male	% Female
Craven	37	63
Hambleton	47	53
Harrogate	52	48
Richmondshire	56	44
Ryedale	41	59
Scarborough	49	51
Selby	40	60

Over the year 119 young women (aged 16 - 25) presenting were pregnant (7% of total presentations), with the number increasing each quarter:

	<b>Oct- Dec Q3</b>	<b>Jan- March Q4</b>	<b>April- June Q1</b>	<b>July – Sept Q2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Craven	3	3	3	4	13
Hambleton	1	0	2	2	5
Harrogate	0	3	8	4	15
Richmondshire	0	0	2	3	5
Ryedale	6	1	4	5	16
Scarborough	2	9	15	23	49
Selby	0	2	5	9	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>119</b>

Pregnancy rates were highest in Craven and Selby

<b>District</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>% of district total presentations</b>
Craven	13	13
Hambleton	5	6
Harrogate	15	6
Richmondshire	5	6
Ryedale	16	7
Scarborough	49	7
Selby	16	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>7</b>

Pregnant Teenagers (aged 16 & 17)

	<b>Oct- Dec Q3</b>	<b>Jan- March Q4</b>	<b>April- June Q1</b>	<b>July – Sept Q2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Craven	1	2	1	0	4
Hambleton	0	0	0	0	0
Harrogate	0	1	2	1	4
Richmondshire	0	0	0	0	0
Ryedale	1	0	0	0	1
Scarborough	0	1	1	5	7
Selby	0	0	0	4	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>20</b>

17% of pregnant young women presenting to the Hub were aged 16 or 17, with the numbers increasing across each quarter (mirroring the broader overall increase in pregnant women presenting). The rates were fairly low overall but highest in Craven.

This can be compared to the rates of teenage conception (aged 15-17) in the general population in each district. For 2012, rates per 1000 were highest in Scarborough (29) and Richmondshire (27), and lowest in Harrogate (16) and Ryedale (13). Therefore it is not perhaps surprising that 35% of pregnant teenagers who present do so in Scarborough. However, this does not appear to map onto the presentation patterns in districts; for example the percentage of pregnant teenagers presenting in Harrogate and Craven seems disproportionately high. Similarly, Richmondshire has high teenage conception rates but no pregnant young women presented for the whole year. This may be due to discrepancies in awareness of the support available for pregnant young women across districts.

### **Couples and Individuals**

Data on whether these young women present as individuals or a couple is available for Q1 and Q2 only. For these quarters, 29 pregnant young women (33%) are recorded as presenting as part of a couple or family.

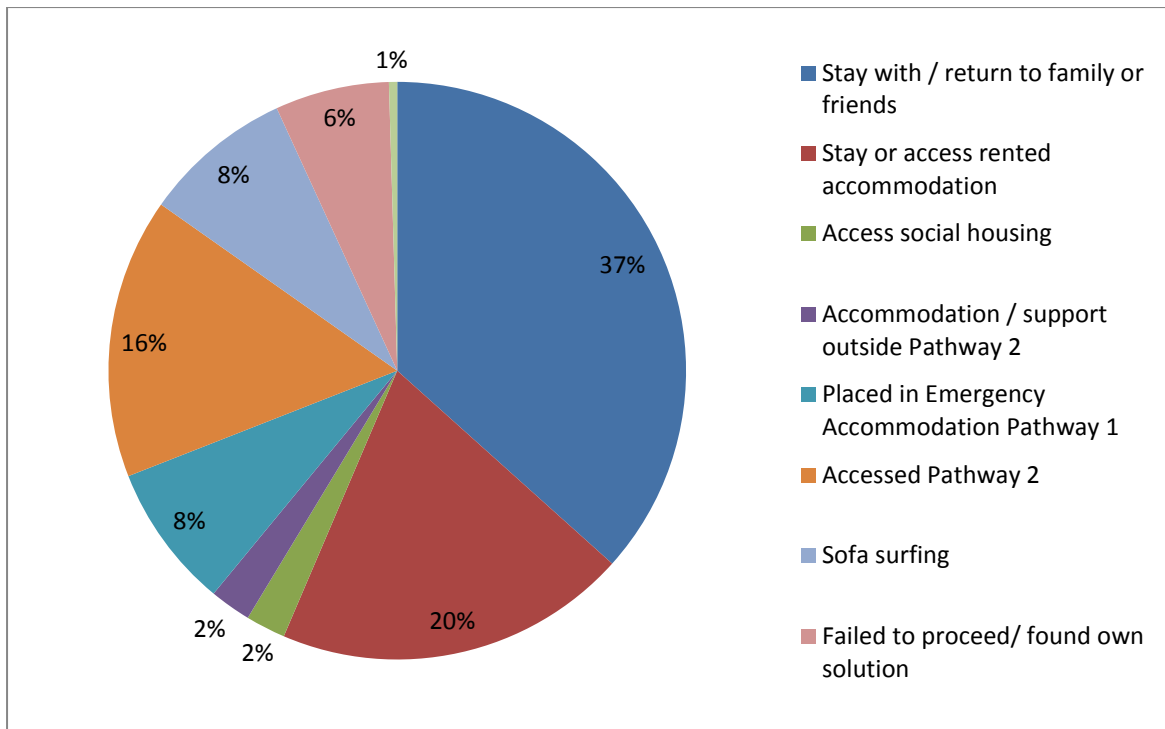
### **Numbers known to Youth Justice (where known, according to referral data)**

The data indicates that 12% of young people (191) were known to YJS upon presenting. Of those known to YJS, according to the data, 48% (92) had their cases open at the time of presentation, and 52% (99) were closed.

### **Actions and Outcomes summary (all presentations Oct 2012-Sept 2013)**

An analysis of outcomes recorded for young people following presentation to their local hub shows that:

- 37% stay with or return to family, friend or kinship in a stable living arrangement
- 20% are assisted to stay in or access rented accommodation
- 2% were helped to access social housing
- 2% accessed supported housing outside Pathway 2
- 8% accessed Pathway 1 emergency accommodation
- 16% accessed Pathway 2 longer-term accommodation
- 8% were 'sofa-surfing' with friends
- 6% found their own solutions
- 1% were brought into care and placed in regulated accommodation



The only clearly negative outcome is sofa surfing, experienced by 8% of the young people. It is not possible to discern whether 'failed to proceed/found own solution' is a positive or negative outcome as this will vary (we can also assume that some of the cases recorded as 'failed to proceed/found own solution' resulted in the young person returning home or to a suitable living arrangement).

Of the 1626 young people who presented at the hubs over the year, 319 (20%) are recorded as having entered pathway 2, sofa surfed or required CSC accommodation. This suggests that prevention in some form (through general guidance, signposting or pathway 1 support) was successful in 80% of cases.

## Cost Benefit Analysis

### *Pathway Savings*

It is possible that savings may have been made through assisting these young people through pathway 1, signposting and other support, as these young people did not go on to become homeless and require further support from pathway 2. Pathway 2 was recorded as an outcome in only 204 cases, meaning that had these 897 young people not received appropriate support, the potential burden on pathway 2 could have been approximately 4 times greater. Note that this exercise considers only the 897 cases above where a positive outcome is recorded, although if we assume that other cases also had a positive outcome, the figure for successful preventions becomes even higher, making this a conservative estimate.

It is not possible to speculate how many exactly of these 897 young people would otherwise have gone on to require pathway 2 support, as some of them may have merely required signposting and advice and not have been at high risk of homelessness. However, had even half of these young people entered pathway 2, the additional cost burden would have been significant.

The model below shows estimated costings if all these young people had entered longer-term accommodation for 12 months.

This needs to be offset against the total estimated maximum spend on Pathway 1. This has been calculated by factoring in the estimated unit costs of Nightstop (short-term emergency accommodation and support) of £116.29 per night. For a young person to spend 14 nights in Nightstop would cost £1628.06. This covers the costs of recruiting and training hosts, ensuring hosts are available at all times throughout the districts and paying hosts for the service they provide (£259 for 14 nights). 105 cases are listed as having involved short-term emergency accommodation through pathway 1 (suggesting **£170,946.30** could have been spent on accommodation if all of these young people used Nightstop for the 14 night period).

The unit costs of high and medium need accommodation vary, and snapshot data from April-May 2013 suggests that around 80% of young people presenting to the Hubs have low or medium needs and 20% high needs. However, it makes sense to assume that many of those with higher needs have entered the pathway anyway, so the majority of successful preventions may have been achieved with those young people who did not have the most complex needs. The cost of accommodating and supporting a young person with medium needs per year is **£6312**. If we assume that even half of these young people (448) may have entered pathway 2 without support and intervention, this results in an additional annual cost of **£2,827,776**.

Total saving through not accommodating an additional 448 young people in medium needs accommodation	2,827,776
Minus costs of pathway 1 interventions	170,946.30
<b>Total estimated annual savings achieved through avoiding use of pathway 2</b>	<b>£2,656,829.70</b>

This is only an estimated figure as it is not possible to know what the outcome for these young people would have been had pathway 1 support not been available. It is possible that less than half may have come into pathway 2 anyway, but it is also possible that more than half may have done.

It can be estimated however that for every young person who receives 14 nights of support from Nightstop (£1628.06) rather than requiring pathway 2 support (£6312), the saving for that individual is **£4683.94** per year.

Savings through use of the Pathway become even more considerable when more expensive options such as Local Authority Care Homes are avoided. The cost per resident for Care Home accommodation is estimated at £2,767 per week (PSSRU, 2011), which would equate to £143,884 per year.

### *Section 20 Savings*

Figures for North Yorkshire from the ICS system indicate that under the previous system, 28 young people entered care in 2010 under section 20 (excluding those with severe disabilities who would not be accommodated within the pathway anyway).

Under the remodelled provision, ICS records show that for the first six months of 2013, 7 young people aged 16-17 came into care under section 20. This can be extrapolated to 14 per year.

This represents an estimated reduction of 14 young people coming into care.

Potential savings can be modelled as follows:

	Young people supported under Section 20	Minimum estimated cost per year	Maximum estimated cost per year	Average estimated annual cost
2010	28	644,000	1,568,000	1,106,000
2012/2013	14	322,000	784,000	553,000
<b>Anticipated annual saving</b>				<b>553,000</b>

#### *Total Potential Savings*

Savings through avoidance of use of Service Pathway 2	<b>2,667,785.70</b>
Savings through decreased use of Section 20	<b>553,000</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,220,785.70</b>

**This represents a total estimated annual saving of £3,220,785.70 per year.**

#### *Other Potential Savings*

Research has demonstrated clear links between homelessness and other complex and chaotic life experiences such as substance misuse, mental health problems, experience of care and prison and engagement in street activities such as sex work, shoplifting and begging (McDonagh, 2011). Pulling together other research, it is possible to estimate the potential cost savings that may have been achieved through each homelessness prevention. These may not be direct or immediate savings to the authority but may be longer-term or lifetime savings to other agencies, partners and broader society:

#### Cost of NEET

Coles et al (2010) estimate the lifetime costs of 16-18 year olds not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and outline a range of costed case study models. The authors acknowledge that homelessness or even placement in temporary accommodation is a considerable risk factor for NEET status, with the report also citing that 57% of 16-17 year olds who become homeless are NEET. The authors estimate the following average individual costs of being NEET between aged 16-18:

Average cost of NEET (benefits, lost tax and NI) aged 16-18	£56,300
Average resource cost of NEET (losses to economy, individuals and families) aged 16-18	£104,300
<b>Total</b>	<b>£160,600</b>



## Mental Health

Evidence suggests that around 60% of those who become homeless suffer from diagnosable personality disorders (Communities and Local Government, 2012). A report by Demos estimates that treatment for an individual with general poor mental health aged 16-30 costs approximately **£1354.83** per person per year (Hannon et al, 2010).

## Substance Misuse

A report by Joseph Rowntree suggests that of those who experience homelessness, 70% also experience substance misuse (McDonagh, 2011). Curtis (2011) estimates that the average unit cost of a treatment in an inpatient setting for substance misuse is £147 per patient day or £1,029 per patient week.

## Criminal Behaviour<sup>2</sup>

Coles et al (2010) estimate that the lifetime cost of a drift into persistent and serious offending (including long custody sentences) is approximately **£2,371,000**. They compare this to the estimated cost of **£7,050** for early-intervention strategies such as the involvement of a Youth Offending Team, a Connexions Personal Advisor and a mentoring scheme.

## Teenage Pregnancy

Coles et al (2010) estimate that the lifetime cost of supporting a teenage mother is £97,135 (this consists mostly of child benefits, but also includes £4000 of support from a Connexions Personal Advisor and a number of small scale projects in early parenthood). In contrast, the cost of failing to support a teenage mother who then gets sucked into a destructive lifestyle and has another child (both of whom are later taken into Care) escalates to **£858,362**.

## **Summary of Potential Additional Savings per Individual Homelessness Prevention**

Potential Additional Savings to NYCC, partner agencies and societal savings		<b>Average Cost of intervention</b>	<b>Average Cost of failure to intervene</b>	<b>Saving</b>
	Avoidance of NEET	-	160,600 (for age 16-18)	<b>160,600</b>
	Avoidance of Care	-	23,000 (annual)	<b>23,000 per year</b>
	Avoidance of mental health issues	-	1354.83 (annual)	<b>1354.83 per year</b>
	Avoidance of substance misuse		1,029 (weekly)	<b>1,029 per week</b>

<sup>2</sup> See also document YJS Involvement in Cases Presenting to the Homelessness Hubs October – December 2012

	Minimalisation of criminal behaviour	7,050	2,371,000 (lifetime)	<b>2,363,950</b>
	Avoidance of destructive lifestyle for teenage mother	4,000 (plus £97,135 of lifetime support and benefits)	858,362 (lifetime)	<b>757,227</b>

A 2013 report by Porchlight (a UK-based youth homelessness charity) suggests that for every £1 invested in young people, there is a return of £6 in social value, using the Social Return on Investment (SROI) model. SROI models place value on longer-term outcomes, changes and impacts which may not have market values. The report also estimates that £12,300 of social value will accrue to each service user.

The report focuses on a range of short, medium and longer-term outcomes, predicting that for young homeless people who are at risk of homelessness and access short, medium or longer-term accommodation services, it is possible to estimate the percentage of young service users who will experience a certain outcome. The report estimates that:

- 48% will make new friends and improve family relationships
- 72% will gain independent living skills including managing a budget
- 68% will experience improved mental and physical health
- 64% will experience increased confidence and maturity
- 60% will develop increased resilience and be more likely to go on to live unsupported
- 36% will reduce offending behaviour and contact with police
- 34% will engage in meaningful use of their time (through work, training or education)
- 18% will in future see a marked increase in their likelihood of gaining employment
- 14% will in future reduce their risk of becoming long-term homeless in adulthood

Two negative outcomes were also noted:

- 32% will experience disruption to existing friendships and work when moving into accommodation
- 20% will be unable to abide by the rules and will be evicted from the accommodation services

The report also examines additional longer-term benefits for other agencies including:

- Increased revenue for colleges as young people stay in education longer
- Increased tax revenue for HMRC as young people are more likely to secure employment
- Reduced burden on statutory and other public services including social housing, police and the justice system, the NHS and DWP (allowing reallocation of public resources away from homeless youth and adults to other groups in need)
- Reduced burden on Social Services (with savings to Children's Social Care of £74 per hour for every hour of client support provided by homelessness services rather than a social worker)



# Workforce Bulletin

A Partnership between: North Yorkshire County Council, Craven District Council, Hambleton District Council, Harrogate Borough Council, Richmondshire District Council, Ryedale District Council, Selby District Council, Scarborough Borough Council, Foundation, SASH, Barnardos, Craven YMCA, Broadacres, Leeds Federated Housing, Ripon YMCA, Richmond YMCA, Ryedale YMCA.

Welcome to the first edition of the Workforce Bulletin for those involved with the North Yorkshire Young Peoples Pathway, Housing Solutions @ The Hub. The Bulletin will come out twice a year and include news on district Hubs, developments in Pathways 1 and 2, feedback from young people and key outcomes from data collected about the Pathway.

## New and Improved Supported Accommodation in Pathway 2

**Belmont Road** in Harrogate is new accommodation for Pathway 2 offering five high quality self-contained flats. The service was opened by County Councillor Tony Hall Executive Member for Children and Young People's Service and Abdul Ravat from the Homes and Community Agency who said: "These 5 homes shows what can be achieved by working in partnership – our investment of £103,000 has made a real difference but together with investment of £252,000 from NYCC Children and Young People's Service and strategic support from Harrogate Borough Council we have been able to make a real difference in providing supported accommodation for young people."



For more information on Belmont Road contact: [rehan.shah@foundationuk.org](mailto:rehan.shah@foundationuk.org)

**Cygnets House** opened its doors to partner agencies and stakeholders in Selby District to celebrate the completion of a programme of extensive refurbishment, courtesy of the landlord, Chevin Housing. Nicki Watkinson, Foundation Project Manager commented, "The day was a great success, with many partners visiting for the first time in many years, and literally being blown away by the improvements made". Students on placement with Children's Social Care commented "This is the best Young People's hostel I have been in" and staff from Selby District Council commented that they felt much more confident recommending Cygnets House to young people. Staff and customers at Cygnets House would like to thank all those who attended.

For more information on Cygnets House contact: [Nicki.watkinson@foundationuk.org](mailto:Nicki.watkinson@foundationuk.org)



Helen Fielding from the Homes and Community Agency and Councillor Linda Cowling, leader of Ryedale District Council

**Derwent Lodge** in Norton, Ryedale has been completely redesigned and renovated to provide excellent accommodation with 14 en suite rooms, well equipped kitchen, communal area and office. It provides spaces for Ryedale's Homelessness accommodation of which 7 are for Pathway 2. Kim Robertshaw, Housing Manager for Ryedale District Council said Derwent Lodge offered supportive accommodation. "The residents don't just live here, they are offered training and education and there is a job club every week, with the aim of equipping them to lead independent lives."

For more information on Derwent Lodge contact: [kim.robertshaw@ryedale.gov.uk](mailto:kim.robertshaw@ryedale.gov.uk)

## Development Day Hailed a Success

The Development Day held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014 brought together managers of Children's Social Care and Children's and Young Peoples Services (Youth Support Services, Assessment & Impact, Residential, Leaving Care, Youth Justice), representatives from each of the 7 District and Borough Councils, the Commissioning Body, Supporting People and Foundation as the Lead Provider.

The event was facilitated by Anna Whalen, former national advisor on Youth Homelessness, who said, "Nationally it's been a real challenge for two tier authorities to work together on both dealing with 16/17 year olds at risk of homelessness and also in developing the 'Positive Pathway' model of youth homelessness prevention and support. So it's very encouraging to see North Yorkshire - both the County and the District Housing Authorities – continue with their commitment to work together to prevent youth homelessness and get better outcomes for young people who have little choice but to leave home or enter local authority care at a young age. Your work on joint planning, strategy, commissioning, investment in preventative services and ability to work through what can be difficult issues on the ground are all having a positive impact; at a time when there are significant budget pressures and increased demand, partnership working can come under some strain, but without partnership at every level, it is not possible to move forward on dealing with youth homelessness. Across Children's Services and the Supporting People Commissioning team, as well as all the Housing Authorities and many provider organisations, such as Foundation Housing, there is a real sense of leadership and 'grip' in terms of delivering services to support highly vulnerable teenagers. There are very few two tier authorities I am aware of that I would recommend to others to make contact with – and it's very pleasing that North Yorkshire is on that short list."

Two outcomes from the day are for the Practitioner Handbook to be reviewed with clear guidance on dealing with 16 & 17 year olds and a training package is being developed that all workers in both Pathways will have access to in addition to the eLearning on offer from Foundation.

## Pathway Manager Update

My first 6 months in post have flown by as I have been welcomed by all the Hubs on my visits and have enjoyed seeing the accommodation provided by Provider Partners. I attended manager's team meetings in Children's Social Care and participated in key meetings that steer the Pathway strategically and operationally. I am getting to all the Practitioner Meetings and am happy to attend these as needed. If you have any queries I can help with you can reach me on: [jill.boak@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:jill.boak@northyorks.gov.uk) or 01609798438/07854170088

## How well are we doing?

Overall Prevention work is seeing a success rate of 88% at the current time which is above the target of 80% so there is some excellent work happening reflected in thanks and praise received from families for whom intervention has been beneficial.

### Presentations

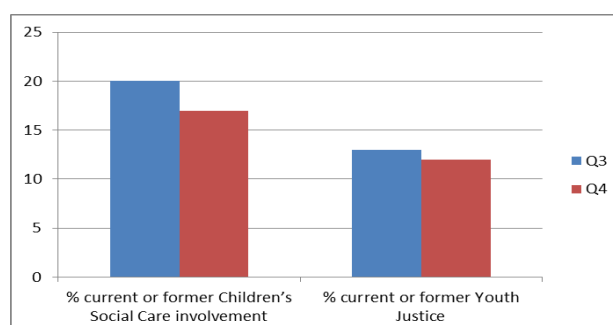
	Q3 Oct-Dec 2013		Q4 Jan-March 2014		Interpreted in Chart form:
	16-17	18-25	16-17	18-25	
Age	16-17	18-25	16-17	18-25	
Craven	6	29	7	18	
Hambleton	5	3	8	23	
Harrogate	22	57	13	77	
Richmondshire	13	16	12	10	
Ryedale	6	42	10	35	
Scarborough	32	129	47	167	
Selby	11	24	6	21	
<b>Total</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>351</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>395</b>		<b>454</b>		

We are looking closely at the re-presentation figures and have introduced a new element to Pathway 1 which gives the family a plan to help them identify triggers and signs of family breakdown before it occurs and seek help early preventing crisis.

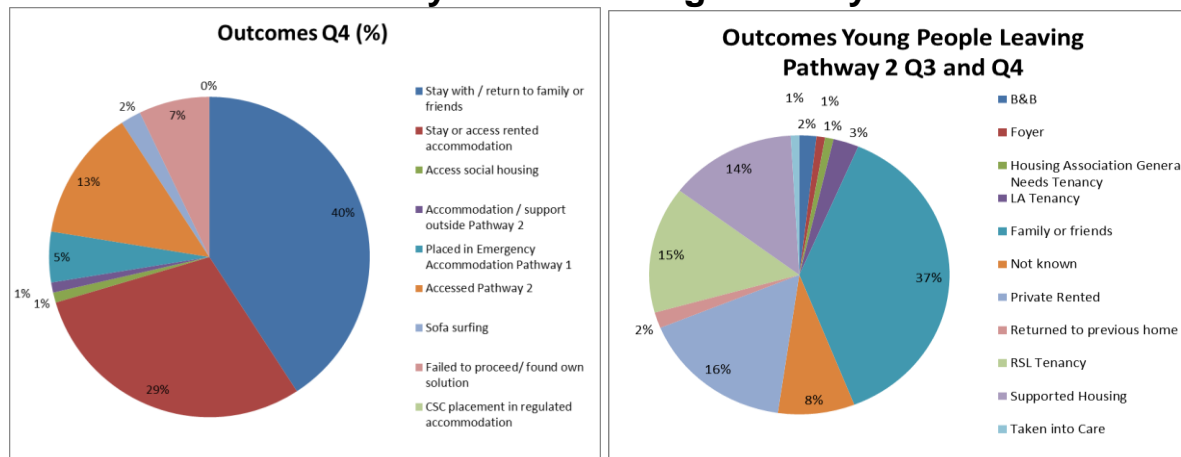
### Children's Social Care and Youth Justice

In Quarter 3 those with current or past involvement from Children's Social Care accounted for 19 % and 17% in Quarter 4.

In Quarter 3 current or former Youth Justice cases account for 13% of cases with two thirds of these being open cases and in Quarter 4, 12 % were known to Youth Justice with half being open cases.



## Outcomes from Pathway 1 and Leaving Pathway 2



The average length of stay in Pathway 2 is 12 months.

Feedback from Liz Hamm (Leaving Care Team), "The Pathway is a great success. I used to have to make up to a dozen phone calls when looking for accommodation for a care leaver, now it just takes one call to the Hub".

## Case Study

**Background:** Female, 17 accommodated by Children's Social Care when she was younger after family breakdown. Was not able to maintain boundaries, has an offending history, substance misuse issues and other health issues.

**Pathway 2 Support:** Spent 3 months in Pathway 2 Supported Accommodation giving her some stability to access support. It also gave her the opportunity to manage boundaries and learn the skills to live independently. Initially, her behaviour was chaotic and her substance use was high and at times was abusive to workers. Over time she accessed support from her support worker, and built a good working relationship. A lot of time was spent focusing on her positive traits, in an attempt to build her confidence and step out of her comfort zone. She also received support from her leaving care PA, YJS and her social care Outreach workers. She was able to access support 24/7. She became pregnant and decided that it was time to address her substance misuse issues, and spent a lot of time at her Mums. She also required a lot of support with accessing health services. Her stay at the Supported Accommodation was beneficial as she matured significantly and gained respect for others, which had a positive impact on her behaviour.

**Move on outcome and sustainability:** Moved home with Mum and this is currently settled with both being able to talk issues through. She is no longer using substances and is very committed to moving forward with her life.

## Next Edition:

\*The new Broadacres accommodation development The Crossing in Hambleton.\*

If you have any comments on this first Bulletin or if you have any news you would like to see in the next Bulletin the deadline date for submissions for the Autumn/Winter Edition is **1<sup>st</sup> November 2014**. Email articles to: [jill.boak@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:jill.boak@northyorks.gov.uk)