



# Richmond Borough Youth Offending Team Bi-monthly Newsletter



Issue 5, November 2012



## Welcome to the latest edition of Richmond Borough's Youth Offending Team

This newsletter provides updates on the current information from the Borough's Youth Offending Team. If you would like any further information, or would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact us

Scott Hampshire  
Youth Offending Team Manager

### In this issue

The main focus of this newsletter will be:

1. Prevention
2. New Web Page
3. Changes in the team

- Richmond Youth Offending Team now offers voluntary support for children and young people who are at risk of becoming involved in criminal or anti-social behaviour. Parents can also choose to receive support or guidance from the team, and can refer their young people via a referral form allocated on our new website. This innovative approach allows families to self-refer to our prevention team and address emerging concerns of offending behaviour, based on the following considerations.

- Is the young person frequently getting into trouble at school?
- Has the young person ever been excluded from school?
- Have relationship problems affected the parent relationship with their young person?
- Do they live in an area where there is a high crime rate?
- Do they suspect their young person is becoming involved in petty crime?
- Do they live in an area where there are concerns about the availability of drugs and alcohol to young people?
- Are they becoming unhappy with the type of young people their young person is mixing with?

- If they can answer 'yes' to one or more of these questions, then families can self refer via the YOT website to access voluntary help.

[www.richmond.gov.uk/youth\\_offending](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/youth_offending)

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## Who can the team work with?

The Youth Offending Team focuses on prevention can work with:

- Children and young people aged 10-17 years
- Children and young people who are involved in anti-social behaviour and/or at risk of offending or re-offending
- Children and young people who are willing to participate in the programme, under a voluntary contract

## Types of intervention

These sessions will be one-off sessions within the safer neighborhood wards.

They will be focused on:

- substance misuse intervention
- actions and consequences
- peer associations
- restorative justice approaches
- neighborhood conferences
- parenting sessions

The conclusion of these sessions will explore transitional support and sign post to appropriate services within the borough such as targeted youth support, the Youth Service and the third party sector.

It is envisaged that referrals can be taken from November with the first rolled out in January.

## New website

We are in the process of developing and up dating our website to make it more user-friendly. It will be more interactive, highlighting resources and programmes within the team, taster video clips of Eyes of a Criminal - a restorative approaches DVD, and community referral pathways to our prevention service. This is still in development with a plan to launch the new web page in November 2012. Please keep an eye out within the next news letter.

## Leaving

### Scott Hampshire

As you are aware both Michael O'Connor and I are leaving the YOT. My last day will be 30 November 2012.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all your hard work. It was lovely working with such dedicated, highly skilled and professional volunteers. I have spoken to Rane Training who shadowed you on the RJ training. They positively commented on Richmond's young people and how YOT are lucky to have you all in our services. I would like sincerely like to second this.

### Michael O'Connor

Dear all,

As you are aware from Scott's comments above, I am leaving the YOT on the 14 December this year to take up a new post in the London Borough of Ealing. I am going to be managing a family intervention project and working within the current troubled families agenda. The role will have a key focus on reducing admissions to care within Ealing and will involve managing staff who will be working intensively with young people and families with complex and multiple need.

It has been a really difficult decision for me to leave Richmond after six fantastic years. I have really enjoyed working with you all. I really feel that the vision for involving volunteers to improve outcomes for children and communities in Richmond is starting to come together, and I am excited for you all in terms of the future and potential opportunities with joint working across Richmond and Kingston.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you all for your continued commitment to the young people and families within Richmond and truly believe that the development of services that engage volunteers and the community will continue to achieve sustained outcomes for children.

I wish you all the best for the future