

Local Authorities and Young People in custody

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April 14th 2011

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Council's strategic roles

Institutional

Ensuring sufficient supply of educational places so that every young person up to 18 stays in learning

Personal

Champions for parents and vulnerable pupils, supporting the vulnerable children and young people, including young offenders

ASCL Act 2009 :

- Made LAs responsible for the learning outcomes for all young people in their area
- Ensuring 16-18 year olds stay on in learning
- And those aged up to 25 for those with a learning difficulty
- Extended the duty to promote the learning fulfilment to young people (up to 17) in custody

Young People in Custody : Home Role

- Sharing Information
- Assessing
- Special Educational Needs
- Tracking progress and achievement
- Re-settlement on release
- Including housing and care if needed
- Changing behaviour

Young People in Custody : Host Role

- Commissioning (and de-commissioning)
- Contracting
- Monitoring
- Quality Assurance
- Intervention in institutions in their area and on behalf of other LAs

Host = Institutional? ; Home = Personal?

Coalition changes to ASCL Act

- Mainstream contracting with YPLA
- LA contracting of YOIs never commenced
- Growth of academies and free schools
- Rapid reduction in YOIs
- Transfer of youth justice back to MoJ
- Home role becoming embedded, but Host role under review

LA : Personal Role

- YOT teams responsible for individual support
- Linking with other LA staff in children's services, especially in 14-19 teams
- Ensuring information, including about education, is available to the Court, YOI and to the school or college on release
- Linking with SEN teams as needed
- And with housing and social care on release

What we are doing

- 'host' LAs working in partnership nationally
- Acting as a hub for LAs which have young people in the YOI
- Developing good relationships between YOIs, LAs and other services
- Linking with other agendas 14-19 learning; young people in care; special needs
- With less money and fewer staff

Challenges for LAs

- Councils working together to deliver
- And with other agencies
- Understanding Government policy shifts
- Ensuring those released remain in learning re-integration in school or college
- Sharing information
- Reducing curriculum churn
- IAG changes
- Fewer YOIs makes communication harder

Future action

- Keep on working together
- Understand how LAs / YOIs network in your area, including named contacts
- Don't wait for national government's lead just get on with it!
- Build stronger relationships with schools academies, free schools – and colleges
- Build long term curriculum plans for every young person in custody

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