



The protocol provides a reference point for practitioners in Children and Families (C&F) Services working with children who are at risk of offending and/or reoffending.

Professionals in Early Help and Prevention, Children's Social Care and Portsmouth YOT should use the protocol when a child has mutual involvements, or is at risk of the same. This includes children open to Early Help, Child in Need, Child Protection, Looked After Children or Care Leavers who are at risk of offending, undergoing a Youth/Crown Court processes or are already open to the Portsmouth Youth Offending Team (YOT).

All staff should familiarise themselves with **Section 1** (Underlying Principles). However, it is not intended that practitioners read the document in full. Instead, each section provides specific guidance, which should be referred to when required, as follows:

Section 2 outlines how Early Help and Prevention practitioners can respond to children who may be at risk of offending/reoffending, including completion of a revised screening tool, and how YOT practitioners should respond to children who may be in need of additional help and support.

Section 3 outlines how YOT and Children's Social Care services should work, both respectively and jointly, to identify risk and need in respect of offending/reoffending as well as wider safeguarding issues, and ensure work is done effectively *with* children In Need, subject to Child Protection Planning and/or Looked After who may be known to both services.

Section 4 outlines specific 'youth justice' scenarios as follows:

- 4.1 Appropriate Adults
- 4.2 Police and Criminal Evidence (PACE) Beds
- 4.3 Joint Decision Making Panel (JDMP aka Triage)
- 4.4 Remand into Local Authority Accommodation (RILAA)
- 4.5 Remand into Youth Detention Accommodation (YDA)
- 4.6 Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) and Local Authority Residence (LAR) Requirements
- 4.7 Youth Rehabilitation Order (YRO) and Intensive Fostering (IF) Requirements
- 4.8 Custodial Sentences
- 4.9 Youth to Adult Transitions in Criminal Justice
- 4.10 Transfers in and out of the Service

Section 5 provides a reference point for staff should challenges be identified during joint work which require escalation and/or senior manager decision.

For more information:

Refer to the Joint Working Protocol