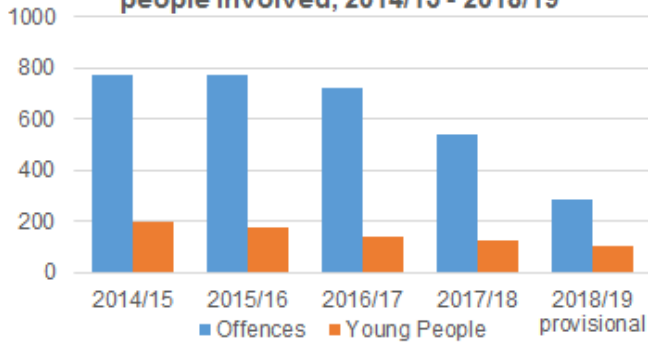


# Islington Youth Offending Service Needs Analysis 2019

The Youth Offending Service (YOS), established as a result of the Crime & Disorder Act (1998), is a partnership of different agencies - social care, probation, police, health and education. It aims to prevent and reduce youth offending and re-offending within Islington, as well as seeking to address the safeguarding issues of the young people the service works with and their risk of harm to others.

Proven offences committed by Islington young people and number of young people involved, 2014/15 - 2018/19



The number of proven offences committed by Islington young people each year is falling, as is the number of young people who offend each year.

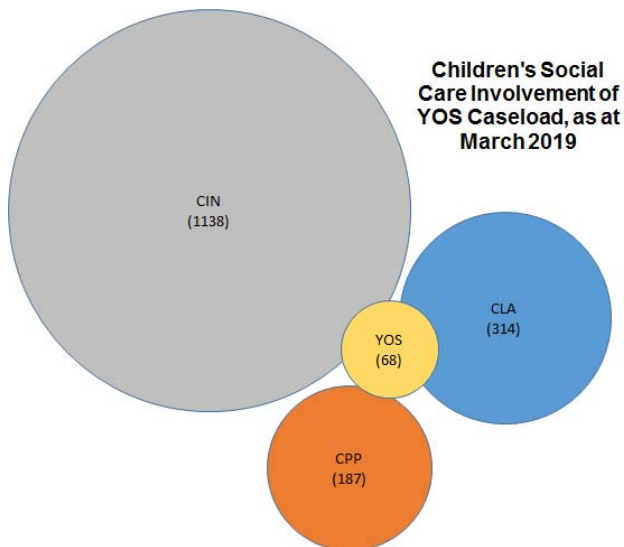
The most common offence type is Violence Against The Person offences, around half of which involve a weapon.

**94%**  
of offences in the last 5 years were committed by males

**16**  
The most common age for a young offender, closely followed by 17 year olds

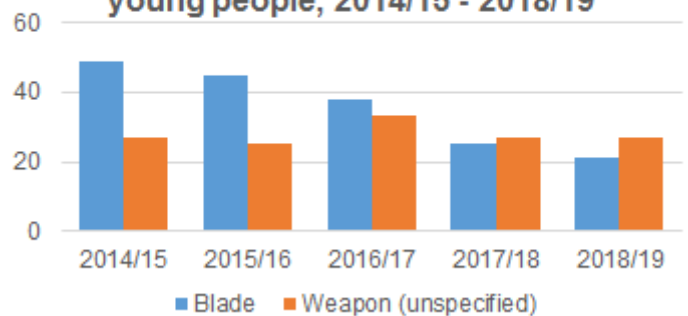
Young people from Black Caribbean, Black Other, and Mixed-White ethnic groups are over-represented within the YOS cohort and within the offending profile.

**68%**  
of offences are at gravity levels 2 (low) or 3 (medium)



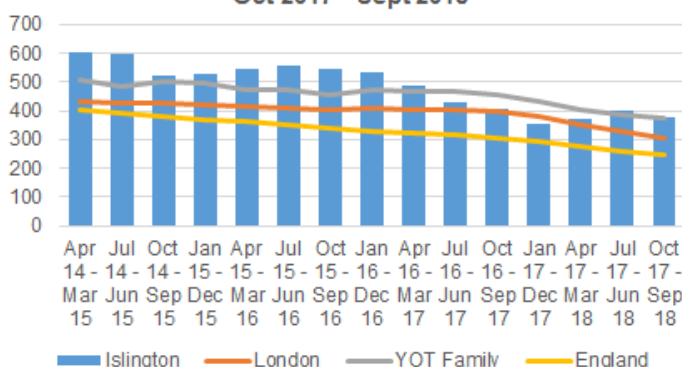
Although significant proportions of the YOS cohort are known to Children's Social Care, only a minority of Children's Social Care cases are involved with the YOS.

Number of proven knife-related offences committed by Islington young people, 2014/15 - 2018/19

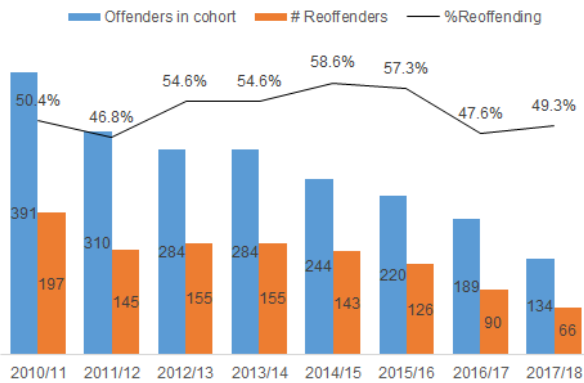


Knife crime has had a high profile in the media recently. The available data shows there has been a reduction in proven offences that specifically mention a blade amongst Islington young people over time, although the number that involve an unspecified weapon has shown little change over the same period.

Rate of First Time Entrants per 100,000 10-17 year olds, Islington vs. comparators, 2014/15 - Oct 2017 - Sept 2018

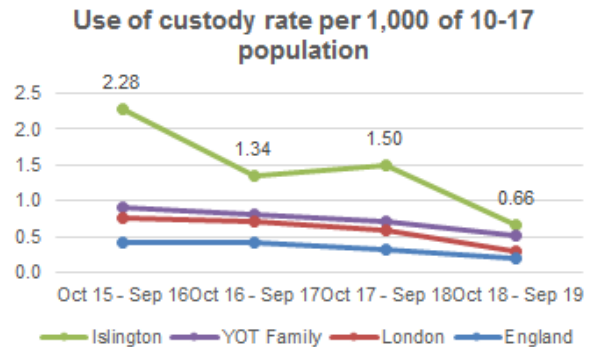


First time entrants are young people aged 10-17 who receive their first substantive outcome (relating to a reprimand, a final warning with or without an intervention, or a court disposal for those who go directly to court without a reprimand or final warning). Over the last few years, the Islington First Time Entrant rate has been falling faster than the comparator rates.



Islington's custody rate has been above the average rates for each comparator group over this period. However, as the custody rate for Islington is falling over time, the gap between Islington and the comparators has narrowed in recent quarters.

The re-offending measure looks at a cohort of young people who commit an offence over a 3-month period, and then tracks their offending over the following 12 months. Around 50% of each of Islington's cohorts re-offend. However, the number of offenders in each cohort is falling, so there are fewer re-offenders in more recent quarters. The Islington % of re-offenders is just above the averages of the borough's comparators in most quarters but is reducing.



The YOS uses a planning and interventions framework known as AssetPlus to assess a wide range of issues and factors affecting the young person and influencing their offending behaviour. Common issues discovered include:



A 2017/18 'SPARK' project looking at the 25 most prolific offenders found a high prevalence of these issues, with three-quarters having a **social care assessment** identifying **domestic violence** concerns. More than two-thirds having **parents who had offended**, and two-thirds had an **absent or uninvolved father**. On average, this group had first been **arrested at age 12** and entered **custody at age 16**.

### Factors for desistance

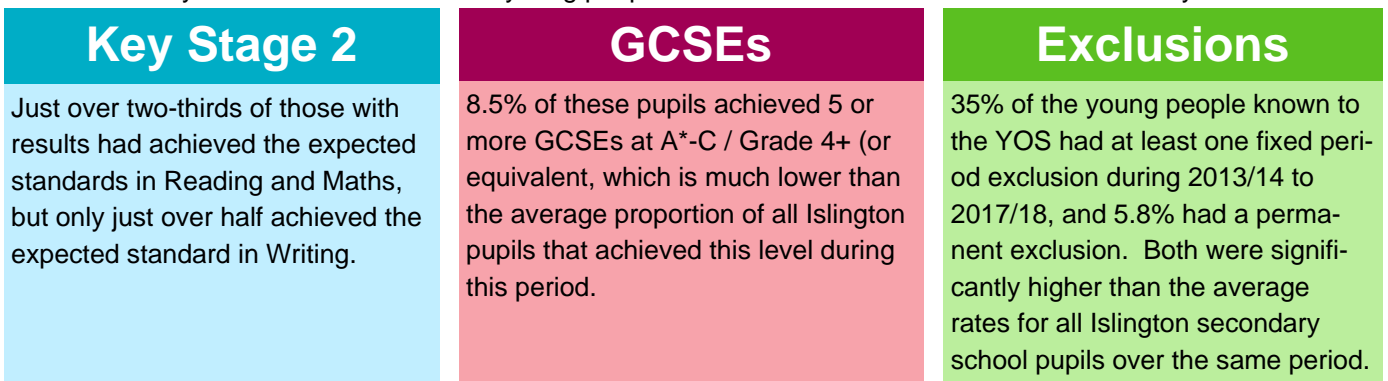
The most common factors for desistance, i.e. those that will help the young person not to offend in the future, were Learning & Education, Training & Employment, Family & Wider Networks and Engagement & Participation factors.

### Factors against desistance

A wide range of factors against desistance, i.e. the issues that are barriers to preventing the young person offending further, were recorded in the assessments, although only factors in the category Features of Lifestyle were mentioned in more than half of the assessments completed (e.g. gambling, inappropriate use of technology).

### Educational Outcomes

Based on analysis of the outcomes for all young people the YOS has worked with over the last five years:



### Factsheet details

This factsheet was produced by Adam White, Business Intelligence Project Manager, and approved for publication by Curtis Ashton, Acting Director of Youth and Community in March 2020.

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