

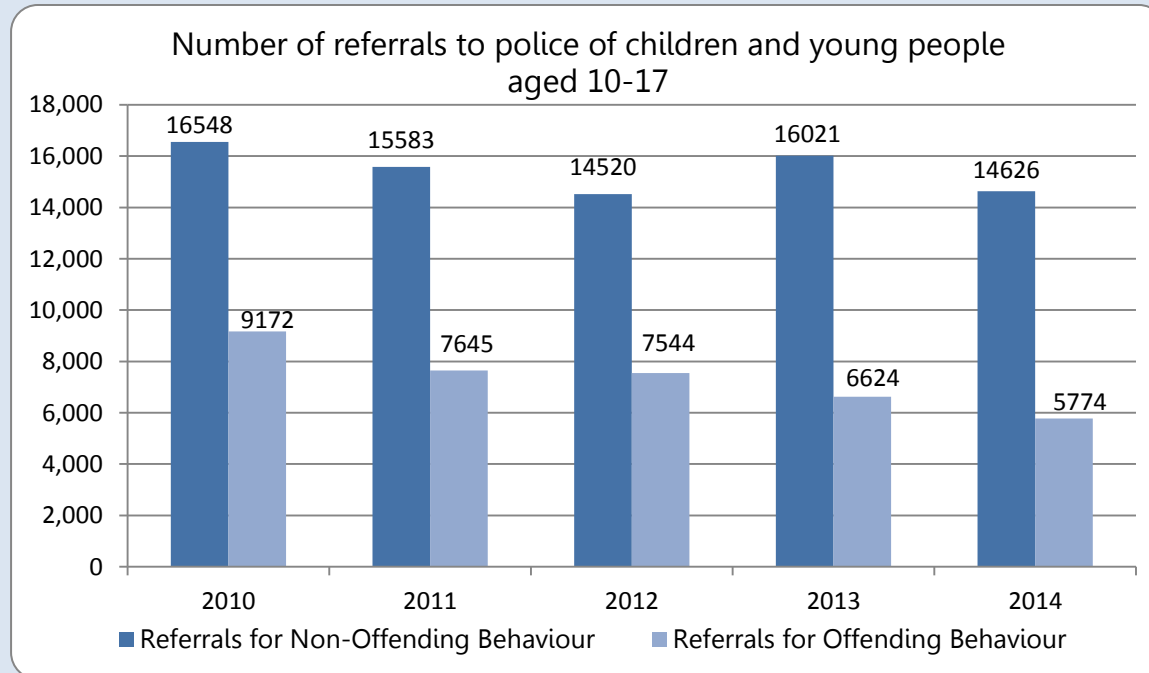
## **EARLY INTERVENTIONS**

### ***INTERVENING EARLY TO REDUCE THE RISK OF INDIVIDUALS, ESPECIALLY YOUNG PEOPLE, FROM COMING INTO CONTACT WITH THE JUSTICE SYSTEM***

Lead Responsibility: Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership (CYPSP)

Partners on CYPSP: Education, Councils, Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI), Probation Board for Northern Ireland (PBNI), Youth Justice Agency (YJA), Health and Social Care Trusts, Health and Social Care Board, Public Health Agency, Senior Representatives from community, voluntary and BME sector.

**Performance Indicators:** The performance indicators which are under development by the CYPSP Children Young People and Offending Regional Subgroup will capture trend data for this area generally.



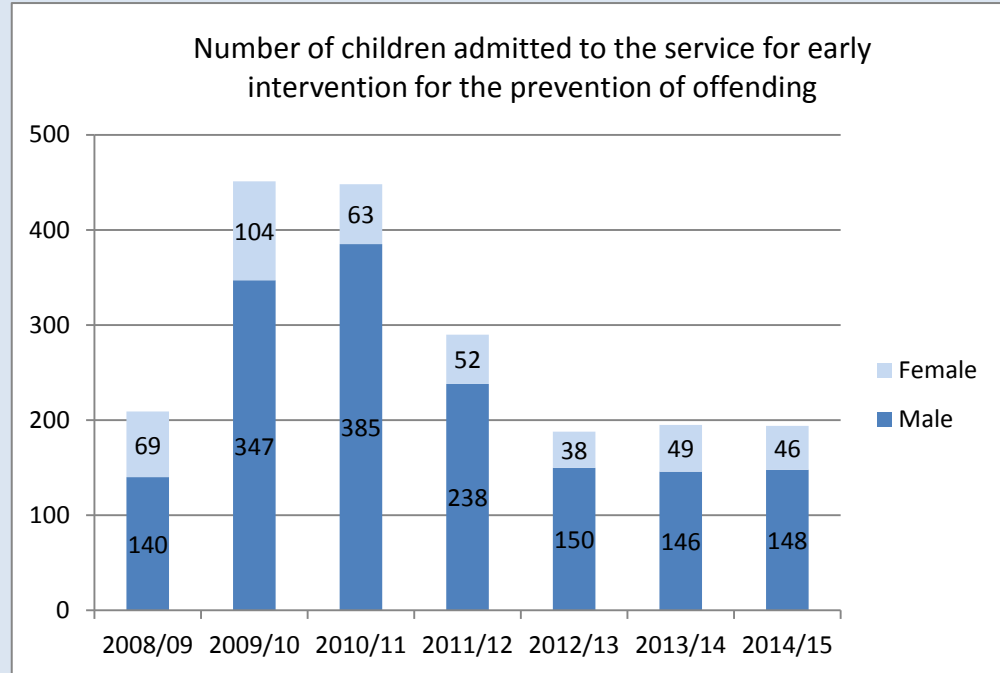
These figures represent referrals to Youth Diversionary Officer rather than number of young people. A young person may have been referred on more than one occasion. PSNI record Non-offence behaviour for the purpose of monitoring risk to children, to provide appropriate support to protect them and to reduce their risk of offending. The number of referrals to police of children and young people for offending behaviour has fallen each year since 2010.

**Action 1 (service) regional early intervention service –**

Outcome monitoring data from early intervention prevention of offending service will be used to show numbers engaged, changes in status across programme (if they come to attention of youth justice agencies during involvement) and aggregated outcome data for individuals involved with the service.

Proportion of children admitted to the service for early intervention who satisfactorily completed the process:

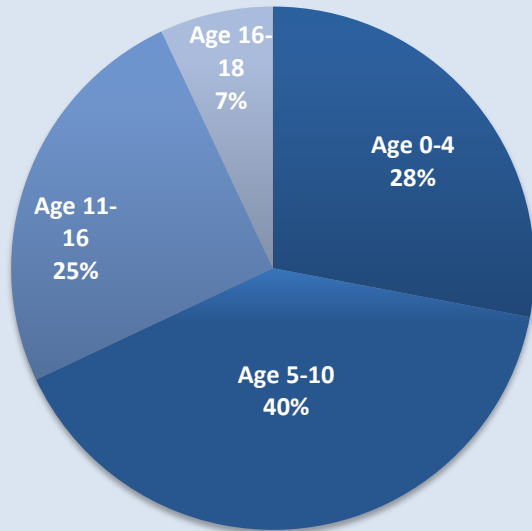
- 2014/15 – 83%
- 2013/14 – 80%
- 2012/13 – 67%



**Action 2 (programmes) number of programmes supported, number of participants involved and evaluation data from programmes.**

**Action 3 (local services)** number of services commissioned through CYPSP structures, outcome data from individual services, partners involved in planning process, examples of improved coordination, completed roll out of Hubs, completed roll out of locality planning, data from Hubs on reasons for referral and success in meeting needs of vulnerable families, and development of early intervention infrastructure through the Early Intervention Transformation Programme.

**Age profile of referrals April 2014- March 2015**



**Family Support Hub Scorecard shows that:**

- To date **5685** Families were referred to Family Support Hubs, with a total of 6913 children and 5129 adults. Within the current financial year at December 2015 a total of 3,204 families have been referred.
- Key reasons in order for referral included: Emotional and Behavioural difficulty support for primary school children; Emotional and Behavioural difficulty support for post primary school children; Parenting programmes / parenting support; Emotional and Behavioural difficulty support for parents Financial Support; Emotional and behavioural difficulty support for pre-school children; Adult Mental health issues; Child Care Support and Domestic Violence.
- 93% of onward referrals were achieved on time within the 4 week timescale.
- 94% of those referred on took up the service offer.
- 86% completed the intervention referred to.
- 95% of families who completed an intervention had a positive outcome.

**Example – anyone better off** - My son is 10 years old and was diagnosed with ADHD and said he wanted to kill himself. He found it difficult to form friendships and was constantly fighting with other children and the school constantly blamed him for incidents. I thought he was just a “bad boy”. I found referral to the Hub worked pretty seamlessly. I got a range of support including 1 to 1 support for my son, my husband and I attended a parenting programme and we also got specialist advice about ADHD. With hindsight I wish I had asked for help sooner. I view my son in a very different light now and have found the support really helpful and all the services involved didn’t judge us. We’re really glad we did this. *Mother of 2 children, 1 with ADHD.*

**Story behind the figures/context:** It is too early to assess the effectiveness of this programme in time, the data currently being collected will illustrate the work of the CYPSP and the potential impact it may have on the numbers of young people coming into contact with the justice system.

What we agreed to achieve in 2013-2015	What we did in 2014/15
<p>Develop and deliver a network of Early Intervention for young people who are at risk of coming into contact with the Justice System</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HSCB continues to provide a regional service for early intervention prevention of offending (8-13 years).</li> <li>• Through the Early Intervention Transformation Programme (EITP)The 6 in 10 Project, which aims to break the intergenerational cycle of offending and improve the long-term outcomes for the children of young parents leaving prison through the development of parenting and employability skills has been established and is now working with the first cohort.</li> <li>• Through EITP five pilot early intervention services have been developed across Northern Ireland. Led by the Public Health Agency these services will accept referrals from justice agencies and will work on issues that potentially could draw young people into the justice system.</li> </ul>
<p>Deliver specific programmes to reduce the risk of offending across the 8-18 age range</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The early Intervention Transformation Programme(EITP) has developed three demonstration projects (EDGES [2] which works to deflect young people from care and contact with justice system and Belfast Intensive Family Support Service, which works with families under pressure) which include a role in diverting young people form offending.</li> <li>• Belfast Intensive Family Support Service (BIFSS) is in operation and the first report card was released in April 2015. There have been 436 family referrals to BIFSS since it was established. Probation, Youth Justice Agency and PSNI are part of the multi-agency steering group and all refer families to the service.</li> <li>• The ‘EDGES’ services were commissioned and became operational in 2015. To date 117 vulnerable young people have accessed the service. Youth Justice Agency and PSNI are part of the multi-agency steering group and all refer families to the service.</li> </ul>
<p>Support delivery of Early Intervention projects at community level through local partnerships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported by CYPSP there are now 29 Family Support hubs in place to coordinate early intervention services. This offers complete geographical coverage. There are 625 providers involved in this network. In a survey of providers involved in this network in 2015 the following key results were found: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 93% of respondents felt the hub network increased the focus on early intervention in their area</li> <li>○ 75% felt that it reduced duplication of service delivery</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

- 83% felt that it improved the use of resources in their area
- 78% felt that it led to a greater involvement of providers and the community in addressing issues
- 92% felt that it increased collaboration
- 93% felt that the network contributed to improved outcomes for children and families.

- Supported by CYPSP there are now 27 Locality Planning Groups focussing on Early Intervention which cover all of Northern Ireland
- Supported by CYPSP a quality assurance framework for family support has been developed and rolled out across the hub network. At March 2015 92% of the Hubs had either fully or partially implemented the framework.
- CYPSP outcomes groups continue to support a range of commissioned early intervention services across Northern Ireland. In 2014/15 £500,000 of additional support services were commissioned through this route.
- Awarded £126,000 funding through the PCSP network, for Priority Youth Intervention programmes to target the engagement and participation of disaffected young people who are vulnerable and at risk of involvement in interface violence and criminal activity, and/or increase contact and integration within and between communities to support innovative approaches to dealing with contentious issues.
- Initiatives being delivered across the PCSP network include:
  - **East Belfast DPCSP** Project aimed at children of Primary School age and those aged 11 - 13 years in a highly socio-economic deprived area of East Belfast set up as an early years intervention to divert children from the street and negative behaviours.
  - **West Belfast DPCSP** project led by Colin Neighbourhood partnership's Community safety Forum ( comprising of CNP, PSNI, NIHE, Lisburn PCSP, CRJI, Colin Safer Neighbourhood project, Footprints Women's Centre),and focussed on intervention work with young people on the fringes or involved in low level ASB/criminal behaviour.
  - **Derry and Strabane PCSP Youth Educated in Safety** Programme - an educational initiative delivered by Shantallow Community Residents Association (SCRA) to primary school pupils, aged between 8 and 11. This year the initiative has been extended to include Strabane schools. The initiative tackles issues of hoax callers, bullying, alcohol, drugs and substance misuse, home safety, road safety,

	healthy eating, electricity safety, pets, impact of ASB, community relations, internet safety and fire safety. Last year 1674 primary school pupils attended the events with 132 secondary pupils acting as mentors
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