

Presentation to Herefordshire Council's Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee

West Mercia Youth Justice Plan 2018/19

17 September 2018



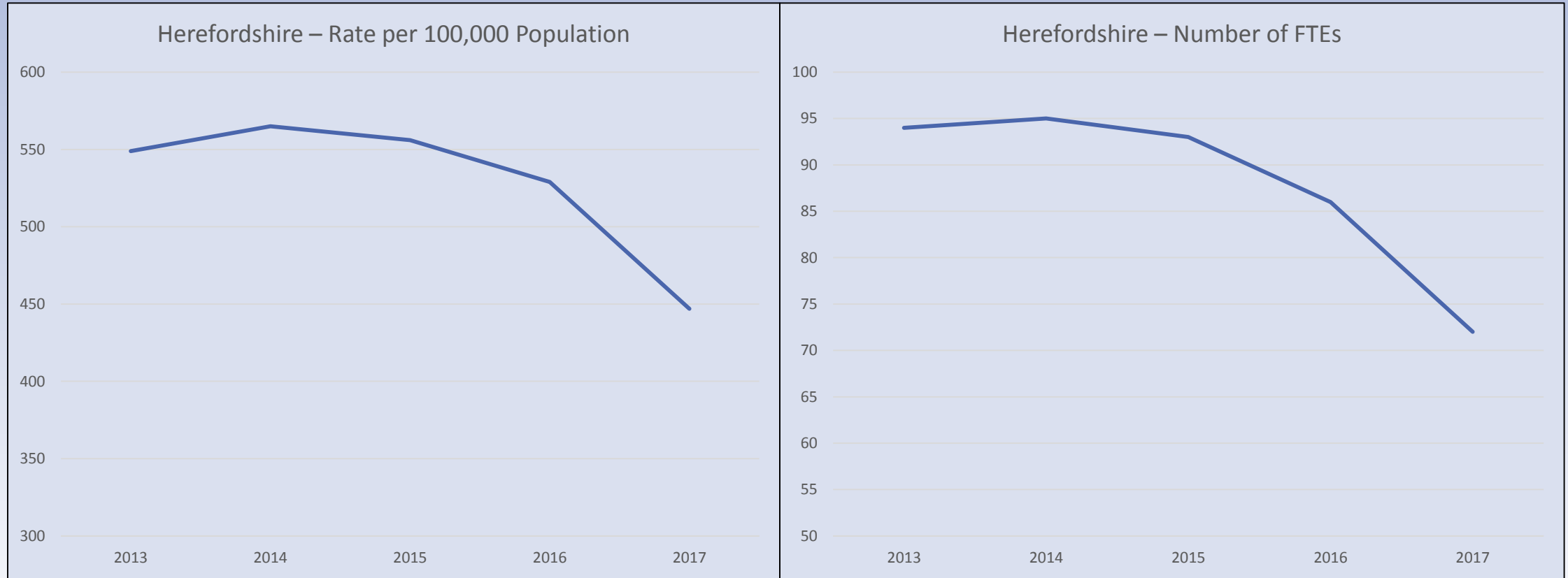
Youth Justice Plan 2018/19

- Annual youth justice plan is a requirement of Crime and Disorder Act 1998
- Is at level of the youth justice service, where more than one LA are jointly delivering a youth justice service and submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB)
- Must comply with content requirements issued by the YJB on behalf of the secretary of state
- Evidence of approval by the Management Board, before approval by the YJB
- YJB approval a condition of the youth justice grant
- Requires endorsement by each of the four Local Authorities

Youth Justice Service

- West Mercia Service established in October 2012
- Hosting arrangements transferred to the OPCC in 2016
- Major restructure in November 2016
- Implementation of new case management system – July 2016
- Implementation of new (national) assessment and planning process in Q3 2016/17
- Majority of services delivered from multi-agency teams that are aligned to the LA areas

National Indicator Performance – First Time Entrants



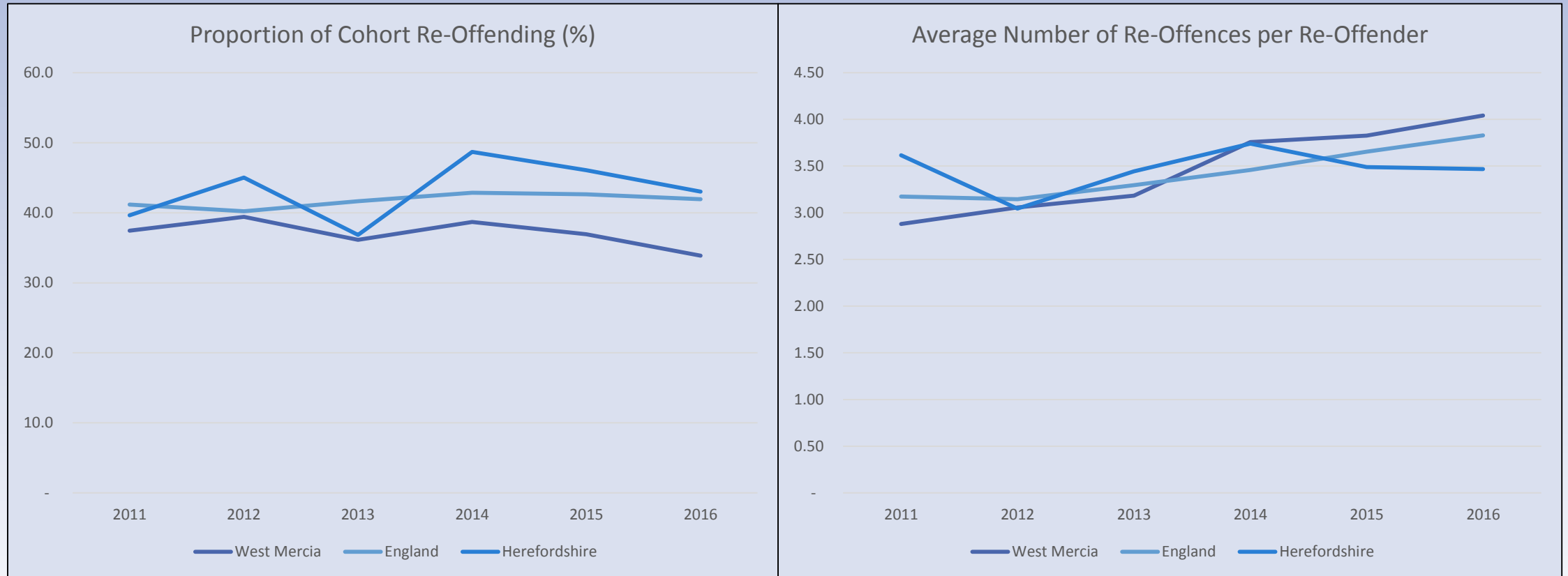
National Indicator Performance – First Time Entrants

- Young people offending for the first time largely outside control of the Youth Justice Service
- Effective targeting of young people with relevant risk factors
- One significant driver of rate is Police activity and decision making
- HSCP Priority
- Bringing more people into scope of joint decision making
- Widening use and range of informal disposals

National Indicator Performance – Use of Custody

- Expressed as a rate; number of custodial sentences per 1,000 youth population
- Low rate of custodial sentences in West Mercia
- West Mercia rate (2017), 0.16, Hereford 0.06, England 0.39
- Represents 1 custodial sentence on a Herefordshire young person during 2017

National Indicator Performance – Re-Offending



National Indicator Performance – Re-Offending

- Not fully understood, but work by the YJB suggests an increasing proportions of more serious and persistent offenders in the cohort over time
- 2016 cohort cannot be directly compared to previous years due to change in methodology in 2015
- Live tracking of re-offending of young people under WMYJS supervision
- Understanding the prevalence of ACEs in the cohort of young offenders, and developing trauma informed practice
- Improving the planning of interventions

Pilot Inspection

- Not an official or published inspection
- Assessment and the implementation and delivery of interventions to young people were good
- Planning requires improvement
- There was an inadequate for an aspect of partnership work, primarily based on information sharing with Children Services and Police intelligence
- There were five recommendations

Pilot Inspection - Recommendations

- Develop a clear vision for the service
- Re-configure the out of court decision making process
- Improving information sharing through use of technology
- Develop the planning skills of practitioners
- Ensure practitioners understand CAMHS thresholds and are able to help young people who not meet the criteria for CAMHS

All improvement actions to address the above recommendations and also more detailed findings of the inspection have been incorporated in the Youth Justice Plan delivery plan (pages 15 to 17)

YJP Delivery Plan – Pages 16 -17

Priority 1: Our People

- 1.1 Promote in-service progression and ensure that appraisals are used effectively
- 1.2 Strengthen staff development programmes
- 1.3 Improve staff morale, motivation and encourage engagement

Priority 2: Our Partnerships

- 2.1 Improve multi-agency engagement at high risk and decision making meetings
- 2.2 Ensuring young people's mental health needs are met
- 2.3 Review and improve policy and practice in relation to out of court disposal decision making thereby contributing to a reduction in the number of first time entrants

Priority 3: Our Performance, Quality and Practice

- 3.1 Develop our quality assurance and performance framework in collaboration with our partners
- 3.2 Ensure adequate interface with Children Services information systems
- 3.3 Develop our practice and encourage innovation

Priority 4: Our Governance

- 4.1 Communicate our vision and priorities to our staff, partners and stakeholders
- 4.2 Develop Board Member links to WMYJS to support service development and improve engagement with staff and service users
- 4.3 Anticipate and mitigate future risks to the long term delivery of our vision

Recommendations from General Scrutiny Committee (2017)

- Request that the Management Board review process for preparing the plan to permit scrutiny to comment at an earlier stage
 - Timing of pilot inspection and also publishing of the content requirements from YJB worked against this
- Request evaluation of informal disposals are included
 - Included on page 10 of the plan
- Plan to drafted to review performance year on year to be compared
 - Trend information included for FTE and re-offending, and comparison of current year to previous year included for use of custody
- Mindful of low numbers in Herefordshire can distort statistical comparisons
 - Numbers of FTEs and the number of young people in the re-offending cohort have been included