

Young Persons Plans (YPP) 7 Minute Briefing

1. Background

Local Authorities have found it difficult to establish meaningful engagement with many adolescents subject to traditional Child Protection Plans.

We know that change occurs when the YP is an active agent within their own plan.

Risks for adolescents can be very different and are often within the wider System around the young person.

a different approach is needed to influence the systems around the YP to build safety and resilience. The YP's motivation, relationships and interactions are crucial to its success in reducing risk

2. What is it?

A Young Person's Plan is a relationship based safeguarding framework accessed at the threshold of Significant Harm as defined in Working Together to Safeguard Children. The framework is focused on risk reduction and resilience building with a strong multi-agency professional group.

YPP support mechanisms include

- Independent visits by the Chair to establish & support engagement
- A risk reduction plan in partnership based on the resilience framework
- Practice models to support risk analysis solution & support circles

3. Adolescent risk

Adolescent brain development is when YP are impulsive & developing consequential thinking.

If there are risks within the system of the YP individual, family, peer group and community, they need help and protection, often this can be also be harnessed from the systems around them. The YP, family and professionals must take a different approach to influence systems.

4. Push & Pull factors

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Push factors are reasons that may distance a YP from the people and places that protect them including DV, substance use and homelessness.

Pull Factors - techniques used by an individual or group to gain the young person's attention and admiration often linked to insecurities or wanting to belong.

5. System thinking

The YPP framework focuses on the systems of the YP

Sometimes systems need to change to be more protective

Practice tools as eco support circles can identify these systems and the interplay between systems associated with risk. Self, Family, peer, and community systems can build increased safety.

6. Building resilience to mitigate risk

The YP plan is based on the resilience framework and areas that are important to our Young People.

This includes

- **Basics** (safety, home, finance)
- **Belonging** (relationships/peers)
- **Learning** (education, training)
- **Coping** (emotional wellbeing and solution skills)
- **Core Self** (independent skills/transitions)

7. How to request a YPP

The entrance threshold for YPP remains Significant Harm

The same YP Coordinator can stay involved if it is in the YP's best interest when risk has reduced to YPP Child In Need to support sustainment of change.

To initiate a YPP

- Multiagency Strategy meeting with rationale for a different approach.
- Section 47 informed by YPP consultation
- Request ICPC/YPP to the SQUA

Additional Information

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