

DRAFT

Report on the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Commission's review into Gang Culture in Derby and the actions being taken to combat it.

Introduction

In the early spring of 2009 the Chair of the Children and Young People (CYP) Overview and Scrutiny Commission proposed that Commission should conduct a short review to explore the background to the 'gang culture' that has become established in Derby. The review was prompted by murder of Derby teenager Kadeem Blackwood in November 2008 and by a wish, on the part of the Chair, to ensure that the City Council and its partners were fully aware of the problems associated with gangs and were doing everything possible address them.

Outline of the Review

The original objectives of the review were for the Commission to hold a single meeting at which members would:

1. Find out from young people how they view the current situation in Derby, how gangs affect them and about what they think the Council and the Police should be doing.
2. Ask the Police and the Derby Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) for their assessment of the present situation, about what doing/intending to do, and about what has been achieved.

It was then intended that members would consider the evidence given by both sets of witnesses, would identify any issues which it seemed had not been or would not be addressed and would then make any appropriate recommendations.

The proposals for the Commission's review were the subject of a press release which resulted in some local media publicity. As a consequence of that publicity Kadeem Blackwood's mother contacted the Chair and a meeting between the Chair, Vice Chair and Mrs Blackwood subsequently took place.

Prior to commencing this review the CYP Commission had established a practice whereby young people's representatives were invited to attend the scheduled business meeting of the Commission and to give their views and comments on items such as the Children and Young People Department's budget proposals and home to school transport.

It was considered that this working relationship with young people's representatives could be used to obtain the views of young people on the

gangs issue in Derby. An initial review meeting was therefore arranged for 7 April 2009 and the following witness groups were invited to give evidence.

1. Derby Young people
2. Derbyshire Constabulary
3. Derby Community Safety Partnership
4. Derby City Council Children and Young People Department

The outcomes of the 7 April meeting are contained in **Appendix A** of this report.

One of the young people's representatives who attended the meeting on 7 April expressed an interest in talking in more detail about her experiences to members of the Commission. A special meeting was therefore arranged at which the young person was able to speak privately to the Chair and Vice Chair and another member of the Commission. The young person in question subsequently spent a short work placement with the City Council's Overview and Scrutiny team and provided some very useful informal input to the review.

The outcomes of the meeting on 7 April were discussed by the Commission at a special meeting on 7 May 2009 where it was agreed it was important to decide the direction of the review and to avoid situations where actions taken by the Commission might jeopardise work being done by the Police or other agencies. The notes of this meeting are contained in **Appendix B** of this report.

One of the suggestions put forward at the 7 May meeting was that the Commission might take evidence from Enthusiasm, an organisation which has done a considerable amount of work with young people from gangs in Derby. In order to pursue this proposal Joe Rosseau and his colleague Chris Doyle were invited to a special meeting of the Commission on 1 June 2009. The notes of this meeting are contained in **Appendix C** of this report.

During the time that she spent with the Overview and Scrutiny team the young people's representative who had given evidence to the Commission's meeting on 7 April conducted an Internet survey and prepared a written summary of her findings. The summary document that she prepared is contained in **Appendix D** of this report.

In July 2009 the Chair of the Commission had a meeting with David Finn, the City Council's Head of Youth Service to discuss the actions that the Council is taking to address gangs issues in Derby. Following on from that meeting arrangements have been made for Commission members to attend a workshop at the Mandela Centre in Normanton to see the work being carried out by Derby City Council youth workers with young people who are judged to be at risk and likely to become involved with gangs. This visit will take place on 25 September 2009. It is also proposed to visit a youth club run by Enthusiasm in Alvaston.

To conclude the evidence gathering phase of the review arrangements are being made for a presentation to the Commission on the Family Intervention Project and for a meeting with Chief Inspector Sunita Gamlin of Derbyshire Constabulary and Sharon Squires of the Derby Community Safety Partnership on initiatives they are following to address the gang culture in Derby.

Local Actions in Derby

A trawl of the Derby Evening Telegraph website gives a good picture of the actions that have and are being taken in Derby to address the gangs issue. The articles refer to:

- The issues of leaflets in Allenton and the Austin Estate warning people that the Police will take action against gang members.
- A grant of £70,000 from Lloyds TSB to Jobs Education and Training (JET) which is to be used to help young people at risk of becoming involved with gangs. (26 March 2009)
- A Police boxing initiative, Ozbox, run at Grampian Primary School by Police officers in their spare time, and aimed at reducing nuisance and criminal behaviour by children at the school. (4 April 2009)
- A six month order giving the Police powers to move and separate groups of people brought into force around Sinfen, Sinfen Moor and Sunny Hill. (24 April 2009)
- Appointment of Chief Inspector Sunita Gamblin as officer responsible for Derby's 25 safer neighbourhood teams and officer in charge of the newly formed guns and gangs prevention team. (2 May 2009)
- Condemnation by Derbyshire MP Judy Mallaber of the Bebo social networking website 'pick your gun' survey. (11 May 2009)
- A one off grant from the government to Derbyshire Constabulary to be used to support the Force's strategy to stop children getting involved in gangs. (27 May 2009)
- A special Police task force to warn primary school children about the dangers of joining gangs. (3 June 2009)
- A 'break dancing' initiative aimed at young people which the organisers hoped would help children to express themselves. (8 June 2009)
- A spin-off from Operation Redshank targeted at young people who are involved in public order offences and anti-social behaviour and which involves searching some of those stopped for weapons and drugs. (1 July 2009)
- The establishment of Youth Forums in Allenton, the Austin Estate and Sinfen aimed at steering previous gang members away from the gang culture. (22 August 2009)
- A march by representatives of the Men of Black Ancestry through what are seen to be possible problem areas in Derby and aimed at showing young people that they can make a success of their lives. (24 August 2009)

Note: The dates shown above are the dates that the articles were published.

Key points arising from the Review

Key points arising from the Commission meeting on 7 April 2009.

7/4-01	Every area has got gangs (3)
7/4-02	People join gangs to protect their areas. Its all about security – either you join or you are an outcast. (4,5,9)
7/4-03	Coloured bandanas show which gang you belong to. (10)
7/4-04	Gangs are not really a good thing but some people have to join for protection (18,19)
7/4-05	Young people always have conflict. They can get beaten up if they live in the wrong place even if they are not in a gang. The history of areas and gangs means that incidents can lead to structured conflict and all young people are involved to some degree. (36)
7/4-06	No one fist fights any more there are always weapons. (40)
7/4-07	How would you define gangs – anyone can be in a gang but only when they are committing offences. Most groups of people are just crews. (41,42)
7/4-08	Are there girls in gangs – yes because boys can't hit girls but girls can hit girls. They are more violent. They have screwdrivers. (54)
7/4-09	If someone from another country came to Derby would there be pressure for them to be in a gang – Somalians are in gangs. What about someone from Kurdistan, would they be pressured or left alone? They would be left alone if they stayed out of trouble and didn't go out of their area. (55,56,57,58)
7/4-10	What are the other benefits of joining a gang – money, you steal it or make it selling drugs. (59,60)
7/4-11	What can the Council do to stop them? Give young people something to do and places to go. They need things to do in the evening because there is nothing to do. People would go if the Council put on activities. It needs to be free because parents can't afford much. Parks get wrecked because there is nothing else to do. Swimming is too expensive at £5.00. (70,73,74,75,77)
7/4-12	Do young people carry weapons – weapons can be anything from a pen to a gun, (87,88)
7/4-13	If you stand up for yourself its no problem. What about those who don't have confidence to do that? That is why you have gangs – everyone has a role model, you need to think about what your role model would do in that situation. (91,92,93)
7/4-14	What can be done to support those who don't want to be in a gang but feel pressured. Boys will give in easily because they don't want to be seen as weak – girls will say no but boys won't.
7/4-15	Wesley's project at the Mandela Centre is really positive and anti gang. Young people need talks from ex gang members. Some people feel that their only choice is to join a gang. Need to open up their options and opportunities. (100,102,104).

7/4-16	For some people gangs are like your street family. Most start of innocently and then turn into a gang. (108)
7/4-17	There is no way back for young people once they are excluded from school. You need more school time activities for those on permanent exclusion. Those on permanent exclusion are seen by others as being rewarded. Don't give too many privileges to people who are excluded.(111,112,115,138).
7/4-18	Some people think about their future – others don't care and do exams because they are forced to. (123)
7/4-20	Positive role models would help young people realise they need education. (124,125).
7/4-21	Young people need support outside schools. Someone else they can relate to. (129)
7/4-22	There has already been an extensive programme of multi-agency training through LEAP. (142)
7/4-23	Two areas of activity in City – general gang related issues and core gang groups revolving around organised crime. (143)
7/4-24	Three issues: Firstly general issues regarding the vulnerability of young people, secondly groups that would associate themselves with gangs and thirdly the actual gangs themselves. The second group are probably the most alienated and disenfranchised - they don't aspire to anything and have gangsters as role models. (144)
7/4-25	Young people have complex needs – one issue is parenting – discipline is not straightforward and generic. (149)
7/4-26	What seems to be missing is positive male role models (152)
7/4-27	Clear that young people want external support (155)
7/4-28	<p>Four possible aims for the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For Police and CSP to account to the Commission for their actions • Sharing of information about the risks and threats faced by the communities • Identifying gaps in knowledge, resources and ability to manage risks and threats • Act as advocate to full Council for resources <p>(168,169)</p>
7/4-29	Need to keep parents involved and to talk to them about issues (174,175)

Key points arising from the meeting on 7 May 2009.

7/5-01	It was suggested that there were three issues to consider. These were drugs, parenting and mentoring. It was thought that there was scope for the Commission to consider what the Council might be able to do in respect of parenting support and mentoring. It was also noted that young people had asked for more facilities to do more physical things – such as BMX tracks. (5)
7/5-02	It was suggested that the Commission should try to identify gaps in provision and where more work was needed. (8)
7/5-03	Information provided by the police was that the main gangs were the 38, EA1, the young BCT and the BCT. The police were aware of around 20 young people who were potentially involved and mediators were working with them to prevent them from becoming more involved. The Police were identifying individuals who were involved in gangs but the problem was obtaining funding to do this. In some cases funding for counter terrorism was being used.(10,11)
7/5-04	The high risk group were considered to be 14-16 year olds who aspired to be gang members. (12)
7/5-05	It was noted that the Junior Wardens initiative had been very successful but there were cost and resource issues. (13,14)
7/5-06	It was agreed that there was a role for schools and that they should be encouraged to act positively to deal with issues. There was a suggestion that initiatives should be targeted towards 7-10 year olds but a feeling by some Commission members that it should be done sooner than this.(15,16)
7/5-07	The Police said that they were considering the use of Anti-Social Behaviour Contracts (ASCs). The Anti Social Behaviour Orders used last year had been very successful because they prevented association. (18)
7/5-08	A Commission member said that he was aware that Children's Centres and the DCSP had done a lot on parenting but as Chair of the Derby Black Parents forum he knew that lots of parents felt out of the loop. They could influence but struggled to know what to do – and some children were under a lot of pressure to get involved. It was felt that parents needed to know what signs to look for - untypical children were now getting involved in gangs and schools now realised there was a problem that they did not originally think they had. (22, 23)
7/5-09	A Commission member asked if there was an anonymous hotline that children could call to get advice about gangs – it was said that they did not wish to contact Crimestoppers. It was agreed by the police that there was a need to look at other access points and that there was work to do on this. (24)
7/5-10	There was a recognised need to train high risk mediators for the future. There were funding issues and it was difficult to find the right people but there was the potential for huge cost savings. (25)
7/5-11	It was suggested by the police that the way forward for the

	Commission was to understand the issues and set the priorities. (26)
7/5-12	<p>The next steps for the Commission were seen to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To pursue briefing/training issues for schools and head teachers • Look at what was being done in primary schools • Investigate what was being done to provide mentoring • Investigate setting up area hotlines • Look into the provision of advice for parents and carers.

Key points form the Commission's meeting on 1 June with Joe Russo and Chris Doyle of Enthusiasm

1/6-01	Enthusiasm is a charity based in Allenton but operating as well in Osmaston, Alvaston, Bolton, Stockbrook, Austin, Sunny Hill and Chellaston. It has close links with the Youth Offending team. Focus is on young people who are at risk of entry into the Criminal Justice system. Emphasis is on providing alternatives for young people who might otherwise offend and end up in the Criminal Justice system. (2,3,4)
1/6-02	Prevention makes most sense as it costs between £52,000 and £120,000 to keep a young person in prison for a year so stopping them from offending is the better option. (5)
1/6-03	Enthusiasm projects target young people who are seen to be most at risk. Identifies them and works with them on a one-to-one basis to address issues and deal with them appropriately. (6)
1/6-04	Many gangs in Derby. They provide young people with a sense of identity, security and belonging – if these do not exist for them young people will try to create them. Music is a common theme. (8)
1/6-05	The A1 gang leaders both came from poor and negative backgrounds and did not have good positive male role models. They took the opportunity to advance themselves through drug dealing etc.
1/6-06	There are lots of big powerful and rich individuals in Derby. Gang leaders become role models to some young people. Gang members feel safe up to the point that it goes wrong for them. Then they feel abandoned. Young people are just gun fodder. (14,16)
1/6-07	Afro Caribbean girls aspire and achieve but boys don't – even those from the same family. (15)
1/6-08	There is a three tier structure in Derby First tier – 10-11 year olds. Not involved but aware of gang members/activities and may aspire to join Second tier – 17-19 year olds who are referred to Enthusiasm. They have a clear understanding of their situation. They know that they need money but don't believe they will get a job. They therefore look for other ways of getting money – options include drug dealing, prostitution, protection and extortion. Third tier – this is top tier. Into money laundering and large scale illegal businesses – making lots of money. (20,21,22,23,24)
1/6-09	Recent gangs conference shows that lots are being done across the city. (28)
1/6-10	Need to combat poor parenting. Need more positive male role models. Need to prepare young people for employment. (29)
1/6-11	Need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More mentors • More youth workers • The involvement of local people

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies to work together • More resources for prevention
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Appendices

Appendix A	Notes of the 7 April 2009 meeting of the Commission
Appendix B	Notes of the Commission meeting on 7 May 2009.
Appendix C	Notes of the Commission meeting on 1 June 2009.
Appendix D	Summary document prepared by the young people's representative

Children and Young People Commission
Gang's Review meeting

Tuesday 7 April 2009 at 6pm

Councillors

Councillor Sara Bolton (SB)
Councillor Pauline Latham (PL)
Councillor Martin Rawson (MR)
Councillor Lisa Higginbottom (LH) left at 7.30pm
Councillor Les Allen (LA)

Officers and other representatives

Wesley Davidson – Children and Young People's Services (WD)
Nicki Smith – On Track (NS)
Andrew Flack – Corporate Director, Children and Young People's Services (AF)
Andy Thomas – Community Safety Partnership (AT)
Nasreen Iqbal – Co-opted member, CYP Commission (NI)
Maurice Lawrence – Co-opted member, CYP Commission (ML)
Tony Brittan – Derbyshire police (TB)
Matthew Dawes – West Midlands Mediation and Transformation Services (MD)
John Honey – Co-opted member, CYP Commission (JH)
Adele Styles – Young People's Senior Consultation officer, DCC (AS)
David Finn – Head of the Youth Service, DCC (DF)

Young People

Taher
Lionel
Trevell
Armani
Asha
Grace
Heather
Farrah
Amber
Kelly

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|---|--------|---|
| 1 | SB | I want to open this up to the young people. What are your experiences of gangs? |
| 2 | NS | There is a particular problem with the A1 gang |
| 3 | Lionel | Every area has got gangs, like the A1, BCT, CLF, Mackworth Met |
| 4 | SB | Why do people join gangs? |
| 5 | Lionel | To protect their areas |
| 6 | SB | From who? |
| 7 | Lionel | From others. There was going to be a gang war in Derby |
| 8 | WD | I think gangs are just part of the street culture. They are your street family. |

Being part of a gang has different levels and meanings.

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| 9 | Grace | It's all about security. Either you join them or you're an outcast. If you're not part of it you're nothing. If you can stand up for yourself then you're ok. Colours all have meaning – I wore purple in my hair to school and got cussed because it was the wrong colour for my area. |
| 10 | Heather | It's all about bandanas ('ballys') and your bally colour is chosen by where you are from. Red is for the 38, pink is for Chaddesdon. It also represents your status, like in karate where you move up the grades. Reputation of how big and strong your gang is depends on the colour you wear. |
| 11 | WD | Ballys are a complicated thing. In Nottingham the Meadows is purple but if they went to Allenton with it on there could be confusion. |
| 12 | Heather | It causes problems. I live in Sunnyhill, so I should wear black but I go to school in Chad so I wear pink. |
| 13 | PL | Do you feel threatened? |
| 14 | Heather | No because of the way I wear it but I can't have any friends from Chad over to my house because they wear pink ballys. There used to be a kerfuffle between the BCT and the CLF because of this. It has died down now, but people want to say where they are from. I want to know though, what do you mean by gangs? Are they a real gang or just a group of people on the street? |
| 15 | Trevell | Most gangs are not like CLF because they are racist. Browning Circle are also all black, Chad Lads Forever are all white. If you are black and you go to Darley park then you can get in a racial fight. |
| 16 | PL | At what age? |
| 17 | Trevell | At any age, but usually 15-16. If you are 11-16 then you are a younger, if you are 17 and over then you are an older. |
| 18 | PL | Do you think gangs are a good thing? |
| 19 | Trevell | Not really but some people just have to join for protection. |
| 20 | Armani | Also if you don't wear the right coloured shoe laces you get beat up. |
| 21 | Farrah | My nephew is 3 and he already wants to be part of the A1. He does the sign and has asked for a bandana. He sees them on the streets in Allenton and wants to be like them. |
| 22 | Grace | There are also people who pretend to be in gangs who aren't – they just want to take the mick. |
| 23 | Armani | My cousin is 1 and already has coloured laces. |
| 24 | Grace | You should be able to wear any colour. A colour will always be a colour. It's bandanas that are the problem. |
| 25 | AF | When I was young, there were places that I wouldn't go, there were gangs and there were symbols. I'm interested in knowing at what point does that stop being about a sense of belonging and start being more threatening? |
| 26 | Lionel | Movies! |
| 27 | AF | Really interesting point and one I would have said myself. But how much |

- do you think these relate to real dangerous activity?
- 28 NS It's about intimidation. You should be free to go where you want.
- 29 Grace For some people it's paranoia as well. Lots aren't gangs; they are just groups hanging out.
- 30 AF How many young people do you think understand these colours?
- 31 Lionel Everyone does. You see all one colour outside the schools then they all mix in town.
- 32 AF I only asked because I know it doesn't always lead to violence.
- 33 Grace Lots of the violence isn't even caused by gangs
- 34 PL What happens if the colours mix in school?
- 35 Asha They are kept out of school
- 36 WD Young people always have conflict. Young people can get beaten up if they live in the wrong place, even if they are not in a gang. The history of areas and of gangs means that incidents can lead to structured conflict. All young people are involved to some degree. Schools are very vulnerable places now.
- 37 SB I've recently visited Lees Brook School and the headteacher Mr Dover said that he does not allow gang colours in the school.
- 38 Heather That's my school. That's why it's easy to go to that school when I come from Sunnyhill, because there is no trouble. There are no second chances for bullies. If every school was like that it would be ok.
- 39 Asha It's not colours, its attitude and situation. If a kid has a bad home life, like if their parents drink or do drugs then the kids have nothing better to do so they join gangs so that they are involved in something. They have something to do that is theirs. Before I went to secondary school I didn't know what a gang was. At Merrill, they have metal detectors on the gates so as to stop kids bringing stuff in. They are also bringing weed in to sell at lunch times.
- 40 Grace It's not one versus one anymore. If you get bullied by a gang you need your friends there to support you. No-one fist fights any more, there are always weapons – sticks, baseball bats.
- 41 MD How would you define gangs?
- 42 Heather Anyone can be a gang, but only when they are committing offences. Mostly groups of people are just crews.
- 43 TB Are the colours more widespread for the area they represent or for the gang?
- 44 Heather The gang is the area
- 45 TB We have seen problems with gangs and colours but what we want to know is – is it a gang or is it just being proud of your area?
- 46 WD If you have friends and family in an area you can represent that even if you don't live in the area.

- 47 MR I'm interested in what happens in the city centre when the colours meet. What happens then?
- 48 Grace Depends on what time it is. If it's between 1 and 5 then nothing happens because people are eating. If it is 6-8 then that's tension time. After 8 there is no-one in town anymore.
- 49 WD What happens at Zanzibar?
- 50 Lionel Fights. It's not always just parts of the city though. Sometimes Nottingham and Leicester come out too.
- 51 PL And if another city was there would the gangs join up against the other city?
- 52 Lionel No because there are links with gangs in other cities. So gangs in Derby link up outside Derby with other gangs.
- 53 PL Are there girls in gangs?
- 54 Grace Yes because boys can't hit girls but girls can hit girls. They are more violent. They have screwdrivers. You can see YouTube videos with violence of girls on. If you report them it makes no difference because they just upload it again.
- 55 PL What about if someone from another country came to Derby, would there be pressure for them to join a gang?
- 56 Trevell They are in gangs. Somalians are in gangs.
- 57 PL What about if someone was from say Kurdistan? Would they be pressured or would they be left alone?
- 58 Trevell They would be left alone if they stayed out of trouble and didn't go out of their area. I live in Allenton and the police say things like if you leave the house wearing a gang colour you will be arrested.
- 59 ML Are there any other benefits to joining a gang?
- 60 Taher Money. You steal it or make it by selling drugs.
- 61 PL Even young children?
- 62 Taher Yes
- 63 Asha There was weed in Merrill but they don't smoke it on site anymore. They have it before they come. The teachers should be able to tell that they've had some before they come in because they stink of it and they have red eyes.
- 64 Grace They just got sick of telling people not to bring it in.
- 65 WD You need to remember that foreigners coming to Derby are often not coming to Derby first. They will have been in bigger cities like Manchester or London first. They are aware. It doesn't take long for kids to find out about gangs.
- 66 Armani I just want to know who started all this. I want it to stop.
- 67 WD It's not new, but has been made bigger by Americanisation. UK youth culture is a very specific type of scene, like with the music they used to

listen to like the So Solid Crew. Even primary school kids define themselves by the area they live in. They are even going to school in bandanas. Parents need to be more aware.

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| 68 | Heather | There is a problem with weapons. There was trouble between Nottingham and CLF because someone linked to CLF was seeing someone from Nottingham and when they split there were threats and now the girl's brother sleeps with a metal baseball bat behind his bedroom door and something under his pillow because they have broken into his house and he is so scared of being beaten up. |
| 69 | Trevell | People are grafetti-ing new areas as well. |
| 70 | SB | And what do you think we can do to stop them? |
| 71 | Lionel | Nothing. |
| 72 | Grace | They just think rules are there to be broken. |
| 73 | Taher | Give them something to do. Young people need something to do, places to go. We need things in the evening because there is nothing to do. |
| 74 | PL | If we put on activities would people go? |
| 75 | All | Yes |
| 76 | Armani | We need a new building so that people can have somewhere to go |
| 77 | Heather | And it needs to be free. With the credit crunch parents can only afford so much. They can't use parent's money to stay out of trouble. Free parks get wrecked cos there is nothing else to do. Swimming used to cost about £5. It's too much money for parents to afford. |
| 78 | Amber | There is nothing for 16-18 year olds. |
| 79 | DF | Activities are one thing, but do you think people would be intimidated about getting to the activities – is that there? |
| 80 | Taher | No not at the moment because they are all daytime activities. |
| 81 | DF | Would you be scared going to another area for an activity between 7 and 10pm? |
| 82 | Grace | No if you had been brought up properly you would know just to ignore it and walk past. |
| 83 | Asha | There should be a curfew so that anyone under 16 is not allowed outside on their own after a certain time. |
| 84 | Heather | If you do that you are just moving the problem to another time slot. |
| 85 | NI | If you are part of a gang, then does that maybe mean you are carrying a weapon? How hard does that make that if you are recognised with other groups? |
| 86 | Heather | Gangs have other groups of friends outside the gang – like the Goths or the grebes. |
| 87 | NI | Do they carry weapons? |

- 88 Heather Weapons can be anything from a pen to a gun
- 89 Asha At Merrill there were knives being stolen from the cooking rooms. They had to count them out and count them back in again.
- 90 Lionel You can be mistaken for a gang member if you are seen with other gang members. It can put you in danger.
- 91 Grace If you stand up for yourself it's no problem.
- 92 AS What about those who don't have the confidence to stand up for themselves.
- 93 Grace That's why you have gangs. Everyone has a role model; you just need to think about what your role model would do in that situation.
- 94 Heather Lionel was wrong – you can mix with other groups if you're a girl. I can do it because I'm a girl. If I was a boy it would be different.
- 95 ML What more can be done to support those who don't want to be in a gang but feel pressured?
- 96 Lionel That's hard
- 97 Asha Boys give in easy because they don't want to be seen as weak by not joining a gang. Girls will say no. Boys won't.
- 98 PL What can we do to stop this?
- 99 AS Enthusiasm have talked a lot about prevention and about peer mentoring to show what went wrong.
- 100 Taher There is also Wesley's music project at the Mandela Centre. That is all really positive and anti gang.
- 101 WD This started at Easter last year, and the core groups were moving themselves away from the gangs. They were our ambassadors. We have a link in schools. We play the CDs that they make in the corridors and others can pick up on it. Works for a few, but there is a much wider issue as well. We're targeting 14, 15, 16 year olds but we need to look at the youngers because they are coming up strong.
- 102 NS They need talks from ex gang members. They don't listen to men who sit in offices and wear suits and carry briefcases. They need people who have been there and have the scars. You need facts and wounds so that they can relate to it.
- 103 DF I agree up to a point but you need a range of initiatives.
- 104 Kelly I agree but you also need to give them options. Some people feel that their only choice is to join a gang. We need to open up their options and opportunities.
- 105 Lionel The police do target us – like if we've been playing football and we all live in the same area and we are all walking home together we get stopped because they think we are in a gang. We then feel like we should be in a gang because we are being targeted already and we want to support each other.
- 106 Asha We need a gang day at school or a prison day. Have everyone kept in the

- hall all day and you are only allowed out for ten minutes a day.
- 107 Armani We could go and visit a prison to see what it is like.
- 108 Grace For some people prison is better than home. You get TVs and playstations. They make gangs because they are like your street family and you are also getting splinter groups. Most start off innocently and then turn into a gang. Like the BCT that was a dance group that got turned into a gang.
- 109 Heather When you go into gangs you know that you can get excluded from school and go to a special school. My cousin is in a special school and he only has to attend for a half day and gets rewarded for going for a whole week. It encourages misbehaviour.
- 110 MD It's not really like that, but I can see why people might think it is.
- 111 Heather There is no way back for youngers once they are excluded from school as they are not allowed back and the special schools are so nice they don't want to leave and before you know it they are in a young offenders centre.
- 112 Lionel You need more school time activities for those on permanent exclusions.
- 113 AF The last two half terms have seen 13 permanent exclusions from schools in Derby. Lots more are temporarily excluded but not permanently excluded. There are lots of things that we can do to help young people get back. How much of what you are telling us is your own experience and how much have you just heard about?
- 114 WD Young people who are out of the school system and very vulnerable to things like drugs. They've got the time to get involved and that makes the vulnerable. These young people are not involved but they have heard and seen enough. Horror stories circulate through,
- 115 Trevell It's not fair because permos get rewarded and we have to go to school and no-one likes school and we have to work the whole day and do our best.
- 116 AF You're looking at it the wrong way. You need to think about the rewards you're getting that they aren't, like an education. I know it's hard to do because at this age material things take precedence.
- 117 ML Do young people think that it is cool to achieve in school, or is it cool to be in a gang?
- 118 Grace It depends on the type of person you are. If you want to do something and you are committed to it then you will do it.
- 119 LA Permanent exclusion does not always lead to a life of crime, but it is hard to motivate children who've been permanently excluded. We need to find a better way to help. That's why there are rewards in the system. But they realise too late that they need to work harder. But Pupil referral units are starting to see results.
- 120 Farrah I've been permanently excluded from 3 schools. But I just needed another chance to get qualifications.
- 121 PL How old were you when you realised that?
- 122 Farrah I was in my last year. I thought it looked good to be in trouble. Enthusiasm

- helped me to see that I needed more.
- 123 Lionel Some people think about it and know that they want to get GCSEs for their future. Others don't care and do the exams because they are forced. I would say you should put people in isolation rather than exclude them.
- 124 WD Cllr Higginbottom left at 7.30pm
What would help young people realise that they need education?
- 125 Armani Positive role models
- 126 Farrah Isolation rather than exclusion would have helped me. Also support. I really needed support.
- 127 MD Isolation is hard for a young person to deal with. We need to think about how we move on from punishment to encouragement.
- 128 NS Some of the youth workers mentioned going to school with the kids to build trust and help them understand their behaviours at school.
- 129 DF We need support outside the school, someone else who they can relate to.
- 130 WD We provide that level of support. I make contacts in primary schools and build links. Kids come in with loads of issues, even at that age.
- 131 TB Would Enthusiasm be willing to cross boundaries to do projects?
- 132 Farrah Yes, if they knew they were safe.
133 Heather Can we have in school isolations?
- 134 AF It's an option we can certainly look into.
- 135 Armani I got kicked out of two schools
- 136 SB So what sort of activities do you think we could introduce to help?
- 137 ALL New buildings, up to date activities – modern stuff, mentoring, role models, boxing
- 138 Lionel Don't give too many privileges to people who are excluded. There should be more education games about numeracy and stuff.
- 139 Grace Loads of schools put stuff on for OFSTED so that they think you spend all your time outside doing fun lessons, when it's not like that at all.
- 140 **Young people leave – 7.45pm**
- 141 SB It's been absolutely fascinating to hear these young people speak so honestly – in particular Farrah who we thank for her openness and honesty. Now we need to think about what we do next. We've had an approach from Enthusiasm to go and see them on site, which I think we should do.
- 142 DF There are a range of things going on that we also need to recognise. We need to know about resources of course but there has been an extensive programme of multi-agency training through LEAP, but the young people have given us some really good comments. There is a holding (?) event on 20 May 2009 to look at the development of a curriculum framework in the city to take on the different strata of needs. We are trying to trial

different things, and the mediation service are on board with us.

- 143 TB There are two things going on in the city – general gang related issues and core gang groups revolving around organised crime. The Community Safety Partnership are scoping who and what is out there, and trying to come up with some solutions.
- 144 AT It was really good to listen to all those comments and views and the way I see it is that we've got three issues. The first are general Young People issues, which are predictable issues regarding vulnerability. Then there are the groups that would associate themselves with gangs. These young people are the most vulnerable. Then there are the actual gangs themselves.
- We have got to learn and understand a lot more about who is in gangs and their territory. We spent a long time last year trying to avoid the fact that we had a gang problem, even denying the fact we had gangs and this meant that we missed their emergence. Since Christmas 2007 the police response to the shootings has been appropriate. We did some prevention work but it wasn't that good. The murder of Kadeem Blackwood was a wake up call, during the police operation many in the community really came forward to help. They helped to provide us with information and understanding about the activities of the A1 gang. Post the shooting, we have got some interventions in and around Sunnyhill, trying to target that middle group. The role of the mediators has been absolutely crucial in that situation. They were there hours after it happened getting in with the communities and calming tensions. Now if I reflect on where we are, we've got good enforcement, and we are getting good results in court. But the key issue is still prevention. We are talking to our Executive Board to get more robust solutions to talk about what needs to be done. Now a lot of the older members are locked up there are risks about succession. We have a new community advisory group which is a range of different people advising on communities and interventions. There is real strength and resilience in that community. The middle group are probably the most alienated and disenfranchised group. They don't aspire to anything and have gangsters as role models.
- 145 SB I'm concerned about a lot of Asha's comments regarding knives and weed in schools. AF are you aware of this?
- 146 AF It is hard to get a feel for how much is real life experiences and how much is just reported, but a lot of what we were hearing was just the bottom level. They've all got stories of young people who've fallen foul of one thing or another, but we will explore what Asha was saying. We need to consider where we give the positive support, and this is part of our ongoing core business.
- 147 PL I got a feeling that they wanted schools to be stricter so that they will be safer in them, and that they want them to punish those who are bad. They want teachers to deal with problems and they want isolation rather than exclusion. Maybe schools need to have a stricter regime to help them?
- 148 AF Yes they want a settled, stable environment
- 149 DF Young people have complex needs. One key issue that we've not picked up on is parenting. Discipline is not straightforward and generic.
- 150 JH Schools are already very competent at dealing with children who are square pegs. In school exclusions is a resourcing issue. For me a big issue coming through is peer mentoring and self esteem promotion.

- 151 ML I agree with the idea of the three tier system.
- 152 AT Schools do not take much of a child's life time. It is difficult to know how much influence they have on behaviour. What seems to be missing is positive role models. For a lot of these kids we do not know their family background and whether they have positive strong male role models, in school or out of school.
- 153 MD We need interventions at the parents level because many of the parents are kids themselves.
- 154 MR The definition of what makes a gang is an absolute spectrum. Rivalries have always been there. Peer mentoring is important – so what role can organisations like Connexions play? Different secondary schools have different policies towards drugs, and that might be worth looking at. We certainly need a better understanding of what is going on so that we can intervene. Who is working with parents already? Which organisations?
- 155 NI I think it is clear that the young people want external support.
- 156 DF We need to remember that we do have success stories. We can't lose faith. Most of the government money available is for young people aged 13 and upwards, but we need more resources for younger services. We need to challenge the activities going on with them.
- 157 AT Do people associate the colours and the territories with the lead gang members?
- 158 MD No, it doesn't go that far.
- 159 WD Yes, they all know the names. Young people are following what they see and hear and then do themselves. We need to work with young people early on. We need to be aware of reality because we are still blinkered to it.
- 160 ML Links are being made across so many mediums – YouTube, Facebook. You can't ignore these influences on young people.
- 161 TB We need to look at specific territories
- 162 WD Don't label communities!
- 163 TB The communities have labelled themselves. This is already resource intensive. If we want to expand we need to find out where the resource is coming from.
- 164 SB What next? The communities are concerned, people feel vulnerable. Do we need a media strategy? Should we visit Enthusiasm? What about school involvements? Connexions?
- 165 AF We need to develop a view as to where we want this to lead.
- 166 SB I am supportive of the aims of peer mentoring and role models, self esteem promotion and a consistent drugs policy in schools. We also need more activities aimed at what young people want to do.
- 167 DF Gang culture is not portrayed as multicultural, but it really is. This needs to be addressed.

- 168 AT As I see it there are three aims:
1. for the CSP and the Police to become more accountable to the Commission for their actions
 2. sharing the risk and threats that the communities face
 3. identifying the gaps in knowledge, resources and abilities to manage the risks and threats.
- 169 MR Yes, this would be good and I would also add that the Commission could act as an advocate to Full Council for resources required. I would also like to see positive publicity to the community on things that are already happening.
- 170 PL I would be concerned about promoting anything to do with gangs.
- 171 TB It's in the papers already. We need to provide a balance.
- 172 MD And what people don't know they make up. We need to share the good and the bad news. People want to know what we're doing about these problems.
- 173 AF We must also bear in mind the resourcing balance. If we use money for projects here, we must decide where else can do without those funds to achieve our aims.
- 174 ML We must also keep the voice of the parent in there. This should be one of our outcomes.
- 175 WD Parents would be willing to talk to us. We need to get to them.
- 176 ML There are good examples of things happening across the city, and this would be a good place to start talking about community mentoring.

The meeting closed at 9.03pm.

It was agreed to meet again in the next few weeks when the notes are circulated and we have all had a think about the way ahead and what recommendations we want to pursue.

It was also felt other evidence gathering sessions should be arranged, perhaps in the community.

LF/DR 14 April 2009

Gangs Review - Outcomes of 7 May Review meeting

Those present:

Councillors Bolton, Latham, Williams and F Khan.

CS Andy Hough (AH) –Derbyshire Constabulary, Patrick Lee (PL) DCSP,
Andrew Flack (AF), John Honey (JH), Maurice Lawrence (ML), Adele Styles
(AS)

DRR

Apologies were received from Councillors Les Allen and Martin Rawson, Tony Brittan, Andy Thomas, Alison Brown.

The Chair explained that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the evidence provided to the Commission at the meeting with young people's representatives on 7 April 2009 and to discuss and decide on the next steps in the Commission's review.

AF suggested that the notes of the meeting on 7 April should be treated as confidential and after discussion it was agreed that in future documents they should be referred to by their initials.

Cllr Latham said it was important to decide the direction of the review and to avoid situations where actions taken by the Commission might jeopardise work being done by the Police or other agencies. This was endorsed by the other Commission members.

Councillor Williams suggested that there were three issues to consider. These were drugs, parenting and mentoring. She suggested that the drugs issue was a matter for the Police but there was scope for the Commission to consider what the Council might do in respect of parenting support and mentoring. She also said that young people had told her that they wanted more physical things to do and had mentioned the provision of BMX tracks.

The Chair said that the Commission had already been contacted by Bish Vocek and Joe Rosseau of Enthusiasm and there was an opportunity to hold review meetings in the Community.

AH suggested that the Commission should the Community Advisory Group which met monthly at St Mary's Wharf Police Station. He said that ML was the contact for this and that there would be a meeting in May.

The Chair referred to the suggestions contained in the e-mail received from Martin Rawson on 29 April and his suggestion that the Commission try to identify his gaps in provision and areas where more work was needed. AH gave the background to the incident involving Da Vinci school to which Councillor Rawson referred. He said that there was a particular trigger for this incident which involved a young person who was not a gang member. The Commission decided that would not after all be necessary to speak to the Head Teacher at the school.

AF referred to the ripple effect of KB's death on other schools and he and AH explained the actions that had been taken in response to this. AF also mentioned a programme to make Junior Schools aware of the gangs issue and said that this should be rolled out to senior schools.

Councillor Khan asked what action the Police took when they found young people were involved in gangs. AH referred to the multi agency gang unit. He said that the main gangs were the 38, EA1, the young BCT and the BCT. He said the Police were aware of around 20 young people who were potentially involved and told the Commission that the mediators were working with them to prevent them becoming involved. AH said that at the lower level they were aware of a young person who was nine, and who had attended the 7 April meeting, who wanted to be in a gang and to go to prison. He said the challenge in such cases was to find the best way to intervene.

PL said that some people who resisted getting involved gangs were targeted and victimised. He said they were developing mentoring but needed to train more mentors. AH said that the Police were identifying individuals who were involved in gangs but the problem was obtaining funding to do this. He said that there was funding available for counter terrorism and that this was being used in some cases.

Councillor Khan asked if there were hard cases who didn't want to speak to anyone representing the authorities. AH confirmed that this was the case but said that they were using the mediators at high level and at low level. AH said that a high risk group were the 14-16 year olds who aspired to be gang members.

AS asked about the role of the PRU and said there were real issues about intimidation to join gangs. In response PL said that Derby Homes were working with the PRU to engage with young people. He said that Junior Wardens in Chaddesden had been very successful and told the Commission that the DCSP would have access to the Derby Homes information about this initiative. PL said that the approach would be rolled out to other areas and if it worked well it could realise much of what the Commission was hoping to achieve.

The Chair agreed that the Junior Wardens had been very successful and said that they were an excellent initiative. However she said there were cost and resource issues.

JH suggested that what was being done so far was firefighting and he felt that this needed to be expanded to prevention. It was agreed that there was a role for schools and that they should be encouraged to act positively to deal with the issues. AH agreed that prevention was very important and said that the Police considered it more important that 'catch and convict'. He said that the police and other agencies worked with convicted gang members in prison and he mentioned one person who was serving time for manslaughter and who had expressed a wish to apologise to the victim's family.

AH suggested that the initiatives with schools should be targeted towards 7-10 year olds but JH said it should be done sooner than this. The Commission agreed it was important to encourage schools to pursue this.

Councillor Latham said that there was a need to look at Children's Centres and AH agreed it was important to protect children in these establishments.

In response to a question from Councillor Khan AH said that the Police were considering Antisocial Behaviour Contracts (ABCs). He said the ASBOs used last year had been very effective as they had prevented association. AH said that they had a Section 30 Dispersal Order for Austin/Allenton to gather evidence for ASCs.

Councillor Williams said that in some circumstances it could appear to other people that some young people were getting rewarded for doing wrong. AH agreed that this might appear to be the case and said the authorities' response following the death on KB had been to direct funds to the area.

Councillor Williams asked about training for professionals, youth workers and teachers etc. AF said that there was a strong programme for other areas but this was a different issue. He said mentioned the LEAP programme but said that more briefing for staff would be beneficial.

AS reminded the meeting that one of the key points from the 7 April meeting had been the young people's request for exclusion not isolation.

ML said he was aware that Children's Centres and the DCSP had done a lot on parenting but said that as the Chair of the Derby Black Parent's forum he said he knew that lots of parents felt left out of the loop. He said that they could influence but struggled to know what to do, and he told the Commission that some children were under a lot of pressure to get involved.

Councillor Khan said that parents needed to know what signs to look for. He said that untypical children were now getting involved in gangs and schools now realised that there was a large problem they did not originally think they had.

Councillor Khan asked whether there was an anonymous hotline that children could call for advice about gangs. Councillor Latham said that this had been raised before and children did not want to call Crimestoppers. AH agreed there was a need to look at other access points and said there was work to do on this. PL suggested the setting up of specialist text numbers for SMS text messages. He said there was an image issue and young people were reluctant to come forward and engage. PL said that the new mediator had been very successful and the young people in the area liked and trusted him.

AH referred again to the need to train high risk mediators for the future. He said that there was a funding issue and it was important to find the right person but there was the potential for huge cost savings on high risk issues.

AH said that there were funding issues with all the initiatives. He told the Commission that there was a need for them to understand the issues and set priorities for the way forward. It was not just a case of looking at what should be done but also of considering the issues for other areas.

Councillor Williams asked what was being done for children in care. AF said he was not sure about this but would check.

AS mentioned FD who had attended the meeting on 7 April and said that she was willing to talk to the Commission in more detail. It was agreed that members of the Commission would meet with her.

The Chair summarised and said that the Commission should:

1. Interview Bish Vocek
2. Visit Enthusiasm and speak to Joe Rosseau
3. Talk to FD – C/VC, Cllr Williams and AS will do this
4. Contact the Community Advisory Group and arrange to meet with them – ML is contact for this – meeting in May.
5. Pursue briefing/training issues for schools and head teachers
6. Look at what is being done at primary schools
7. Investigate what is being done to provide mentoring
8. Investigating setting up area helplines
9. Look at advice e provided for parents and carers

AH pointed out that there were diversity issues with gangs that the Commission should be aware of

It was suggested that there could be benefit in the Commission talking to Cl Sunita Gamblin. Cllr Khan suggested seeing what was being done at the Mandela Centre. Possibility of talking to Wesley at Sinfin and to David Finn re his Gangs Team.

Immediate actions

1. Chair, Vice Chair, Cllr Williams and AS to speak to FD. (need to arrange this)
2. Arrange meeting before June CYP meeting with Enthusiasm, BV and the contact that Pam Thompson has.

DRR 8 May 2009

Part 2

Gangs review evidence – Joe Russo and Chris Doyle from Enthusiasm

Chair gave background to Commission's review. Death of KB was impetus to start. Meetings with YP and Police. Would like to know what Enthusiasm doing and probably to take up offer to visit.

JR – Enthusiasm is charity based in Allenton but operating as well in Osmaston, Alvaston, Bolton, Stockbrook, Austin, Sunny Hill and Chellaston.

Focus is on YPs at risk of entry into Criminal Justice system.

Originally told that nothing for YPs to do on Austin Estate so set up Youth Club – close links with Youth Offending Team. Emphasis is on providing alternatives for YP who might otherwise offend and end up in Criminal Justice system.

Prevention makes most sense – costs between £52,000 and £120,000 to keep YP in prison so stopping them offending is better option.

Projects target YPs who are seen to be most at risk. Identify them and work with them on one to one basis. Address the issues and target and deal with them appropriately

Gangs have always existed but consequences now greater – ultimately death.

Big media issue – in 2007 gangs everywhere in Derby A1, BCT CLF etc. Gangs provide YP with sense of identity, security and belonging – YPs need these and if not there will try to create them. Music is common theme as well as cultural issues.

In more modern gangs such as 187 Crew in Allenton there is mix of black/white and BME members.

Leaders of A1 gang on remand or facing long prison sentence. Carlos Grant and Ashley Campbell both known to JR when younger and ok then. Both came from poor and negative background. Took opportunities to advance themselves – drug dealing etc. Security issues – family background. Did not have good positive role models – father and brothers in prison. Strong supportive mothers but possible mental health issues. Drugs/depression.

In 'normal' circumstances if parents ask for help they will get it – if parents not capable or don't know to ask they no help will be provided

Gangs provide senses of family and belonging – fear is big issues and music is big thing – looking for identity. Personal identity – don't fit either side.

Association with US culture. Not solely black or Afro Carib issue – white children are involved.

AS question – Gang members feel safe until point it goes wrong then feel abandoned? JR agrees – lots big powerful and rich individuals in Derby – YPs just gun fodder.

ML – re identity – Afro Carib girls aspire and achieve but boys don't even from same family.

CD – some men look up to the 'business people'. Gang leaders become role models to some.

ML – what can be done in education system at age 10-11? JR – need to bring face to face with someone who believes in them. Need people who care. AS agrees – you don't switch off its caring profession.

JR – LEAP training package is challenging gang issues – Enthusiasm had first pilot scheme.

Three tier structure

First tier - 10-11 – not involved but aware of gang members/activities and may aspire to join.

Following KB incident Enthusiasm engaged in intensive mentoring of A1 members. Gold, Silver, Bronze approach. Bronze concerned with strategy on the ground. Bronze assessment group has gang members referred to it.

Is referral database of those YP at risk of involvement in gangs – identify them and try to involve in positive activities.

Second tier - YPs 17-19 who are referred have clear understanding of their situation – know that need money but don't believe they will get a job. Therefore look for other ways of getting money – options include drug dealing, prostitution, protection, and extortion.

Third tier is top tier. Into money laundering and large scale illegal businesses. Making big sums of money.

CD – Not been able to engage positively with BCT members – takes time to achieve. Carrot needs to be to familiarise them and build relationship then after 8-12 weeks start training in issues such as weapons, community, respect - provide positive alternative activities.

Multi Agency Gangs Team (MAGs) - specialist job so need specialist staff. Can find the right people but need resources.

YPs say want more youth activities

ML – at recent gangs conference – lots being done across city. JR – more resources elsewhere. Would have received more if had not already done work. Not enough done on Austin Estate before shooting.

Need to combat poor parenting – need more male role models.
Need to prepare YP for employment – issue of previous criminal record.
Need more prevention

Mentors do parent intervention.

Poss Recommendations

1. Identify and train more people to do right job
2. Need to match up and engage more mentors
3. More Youth Workers needed
4. Need local people to get involved
5. Agencies need to work together
6. More resources needed for prevention.

Chair thanked JR and CD – to arrange visits to Enthusiasm later in year.

DRR 11 June 2009.

Gang issues

26 young people were killed in gun or knife crime in London in 2007. Many people are putting the blame on gangs. So the question is why are so many people interested in joining gangs today?

Peer pressure and wanting to look 'bad' are two of the reasons, but during our investigation, one thing seemed to stand out. Young people are searching for some kind of family unit.

Chris Saed is a youth worker at Sulgrave Youth Club, a place that gives young people something to do during the weeknights and keeps them from falling into things like gangs.

"I think what gangs offers you in comparison to a family are security and protection. Being in a gang means you always have someone watching your back, and people that feel they don't have that protection and support at home will look elsewhere for it.

Michael Lewis is another youth worker. "There are many reasons to why young people get into gangs. The main reason is just to have friends. Peer pressure can lead people into a situation where there is a need to feel like you belong to something. It can seem like a family, not all families are good though, but some are. It depends on what your gang does. You could be in a gang that helps old people across the road. A youth club is a gang, but not a negative one."

Once you're in a gang it can be hard to break free. But 22-year-old Kemar did. "At the time I was a kid, a gang was just being bad, troubling people, not to the full extent of stabbing someone but obviously harming them. Punching or kicking them; belittling them in front of people.

"We didn't have guns or knives. We were actually scared to use knives. It was only the few that used knives to make a big point, and this isn't going back too long ago. But we were scared most of the time. We weren't really troublemakers we were just doing it to fit in.

"I doubt gangs will fade away. People always want to fit in and even if it's in the bad or wrong crowd or the right crowd, people just want to fit in.

"A friend of mine is in prison, He's older than me but he's in a gang and he's still got that gang mentality. I managed to get out, but he stayed in, and now he's in prison for stabbing someone and really truly it was over nothing it was over a status. The guy said 'oh I'm badder than you, he's badder than you' so he stabbed him. Now that's it. His life is screwed up, if he comes out now he

can't get a job, he can't have a proper life he's going to be trapped for the rest of his life.

"If any young person came to me for advice, I'd just tell them don't go into a gang. Seriously, gangs are just not worth it. Because when you reach my age you won't have anything to look back on, or have nothing to live off. You won't have education you won't have a job, you won't have money, you will be constantly on job seekers allowance, and I know how much that is; that's £90 every two weeks and that's ridiculous."

It seems that gangs come in different shapes and forms and not all are bad. Some are there to support and back up kids and teens like families. But choose the gang you pick carefully because you could be getting yourself into a sticky situation

Gangs in the United Kingdom are gangs which are or were active in the cities and towns of the United Kingdom. The true definition of the word *gang* in the UK is somewhat ambiguous but is usually used by the British media as a comparison to the street gangs of the United States.

Almost three quarters of all gang related organised crime in cities alone, particularly gun crime is allegedly centred around London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Leeds, Bradford, Bristol, Nottingham, Glasgow, Edinburgh and Manchester.

On 28 November 2007, a major offensive against gun crime by gangs in Birmingham, Liverpool, London and Manchester led to 118 arrests. More than 1000 police officers were involved in the raids. Not all of the 118 arrests were gun related; others were linked to drugs, prostitution and other crimes. Home Secretary Jacqui Smith said it showed the police could "fight back against gangs".^[1]

Leicester has had a rapidly developing gang culture, particularly in recent years. The areas most badly affected including Highfields, Beaumont Leys, Anstey, and Thurmaston and in New Parks.

Increasingly, Britain's street gangs are becoming more and more aligned to America's Crips and Bloods.

Birmingham

The 1980s saw gang culture grow in Birmingham, which came about mainly in the late 1970s. Most of the gangs in Birmingham are ethnic gangs which came about to protect their communities against far-right parties such as the National Front, but as multiculturalism in the city grew rapidly and far-right parties subsided the gangs turned to crime and deviance. Although the Birmingham gangs have a history dating back to the 1970s, most were not brought to the public's attention until New Years Eve, 2003, when a high-profile drive-by shooting in the Birchfield area (in the Aston ward of

Birmingham) claimed the lives of two teenage girls, Letisha Shakespeare and Charlene Ellis.

The riot in the Lozells area of Birmingham October 2005 saw black and Asian gangs clash on a large scale. This was due to an unfounded rumor that several Asian men had gang raped a black girl which sparked the violence. The violent clashes in the volatile area of Lozells claimed three lives and scores of injuries, the riots brought about alliances between gangs of the same ethnicity which were previously unthinkable, such as the alliance between the Burger Bar Boys and Johnson Crew.

Bristol

In 1998, six members of the Aggi Crew were imprisoned after being found in possession of over £1 million worth of crack-cocaine.^[9]

There were raids across the city which was the latest phase of Operation Atrium, launched in 2001 to clamp down on drug-related crime in Bristol by disrupting organised gangs. More than 960 people have been arrested in the past 18 months.

Liverpool

Street gangs in Liverpool have been in existence since the mid-19th century. There were also various sectarian 'political' gangs based in and around Liverpool during this period.^[11] Dr Michael Macilwee of Liverpool John Moore's University and author of *The Gangs of Liverpool* states, "You can learn lessons from the past and it's fascinating to compare the newspaper headlines of today with those from the late 1800s. The issues are exactly the same. People were worried about rising youth crime and the influence of 'penny dreadfuls' on people's behavior. Like today, some commentators demanded longer prison sentences and even flogging while others called for better education and more youth clubs."

In the early 1980s Liverpool was tagged by the media as 'Smack City' or 'Skag City' after it experienced an explosion in organised gang crime and heroin abuse, especially within the city's more deprived areas. It has also been suggested that distribution networks for illicit drugs within the UK and the Republic of Ireland, even allegedly some Mediterranean holiday resorts are today controlled by various Liverpool gangs.

A report in the *Observer newspaper* written by journalist Peter Beaumont entitled *Gangsters put Liverpool top of gun league* (28 May 1995), observed that turf wars had erupted within Liverpool. Official Home Office statistics revealed a total of 3,387 offences involving firearms had occurred in the Merseyside region during a four year period between 1997 and 2001. It was revealed that Liverpool was the main centre for organised crime in the North of England.

In August 2007 the ongoing war between two rival gangs caused nation-wide outrage, when innocent 11 year old Rhys Jones was shot in the neck and died in his mother's arms in the car park of the Fir Tree pub in Croxteth Liverpool.

^[18] On 16th December 2008, Sean Mercer was convicted of the murder and ordered to serve a minimum tariff of 22 years by trial judge Mr. Justice Irwin.

London

On 21 February 2007, the BBC reported on an unpublished Metropolitan Police report on London's gang culture, identifying 169 separate groups (see Ghetto Boys, Hawkubites, Peckham Boys, Tamil Snake gang, Yardie, and Younger Green Mandem), with more than a quarter said to have been involved in murders ^[20]. The report stated that "the largest number of gangs are in Hackney, east London (22 gangs); Enfield in north London (13); Lambeth and Merton in south London (12 gangs each); Waltham Forest in north east London (11) and Brent in North West London (11). Criminologist Dr John Pitts, from the University of Bedfordshire, said: "There are probably no more than 1,500 to 2,000 young people in gangs in all of London, but their impact is enormous." The figure quoted by Professor John Pitts has no method and it is not known whether he did actually say this as its source is a BBC news article.

Modern street gangs have been in existence in London as far back as the 1980s although at first they were seen as a sub-culture much like others at the time which included punks, Rasta's and football hooligans. It is increasingly likely that most gang members in London will come from ethnic minority communities as the youth population is increasingly diverse, with nearly 80% of school pupils in Inner London from an ethnic minority background. In the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, the majority of the gangs are Bangladeshi, it is estimated that there are alone there are 2,500 Bengali youths affiliated to one of the many local gangs, and that 26 out of the 27 gangs in the area are Bangladeshi.

Manchester

The first recorded gangs in Manchester were "Scuttlers", who became prominent amongst the slums during the second half of the 19th Century, but had mostly disappeared by the beginning of the 20th century. In the mid 1980s, a growth in violence amongst Black British youths from the west side of the Alexandra Park Estate in South Manchester and their rivals, West Indians living to the north of the city, in Cheetham Hill began to gain media attention. The city has sometimes been dubbed in the media as 'Gangchester' and 'Gunchester'.

The gang wars in Manchester first gained national media attention in the Guardian newspaper on 7 June 1988. In the article, Clive Atkinson, deputy head of Greater Manchester Police CID said, "We are dealing with a black mafia which is a threat to the whole community"

The gang culture has spread into many deprived areas in South Manchester in recent years. A gang-related crime occurred on 9 September 2006, in Moss Side, where Jessie James, a 15-year old schoolboy was shot dead in the early hours of the morning. His shooting is said to have been the result of a mistaken identity for a rival gang member. Up to this day his murderer has not been found.

In April 2007, eleven members of the Gooch Gang were found guilty of a number of charges ranging from murder to drugs offenses. The Gooch Gang had a long-standing rivalry with the equally notorious Doddington gang. The Gooch gang operated with a tiered structure. On the top were the gang's leaders, Colin Joyce and Lee Amos, and below them were members controlling the supply and distribution of drugs to the street dealers at the bottom. The gang was earning an estimated £2,000 a day, with street dealers allowed to keep £100 a day for themselves. Since 2004 when Joyce and Amos were sent to prison on firearms charges, there was a 92% drop in gun crime in Manchester.

Why Young People Join Gangs and What You Can Do

As parents, teachers, school administrators and mentors, it's important we have as much insight as possible to understand why young people today might be interested in joining gangs so we can be better equipped to speak to our children. The following is a compilation of articles that address some critical issues, including:

- Understanding Why Your Children Might Join Gangs
- General Reasons For Gang Membership
- Personal Reasons for Gang Membership
- Characteristics of Gangs
- Gang Recruitment Tactics
- Consequences of Gang Involvement
- Early Warning Signs
- What You Can Do
- Gang-Fighting Tips
- Parent and Teacher Intervention
- Helping Your Child Resist Gangs
- How To Discourage Them From Joining A Gang
- Gang-Free Homes

Try to Understand Why Your Children Might Join Gangs

Many times children feel they have no choice. They may prefer to not become a gang member but they cannot see any other way to avoid the situation. Children may be living in fear on a daily basis and see joining a gang as a solution to problems. The pressure to join a gang may be very strong. Parents must provide children with a safe loving home environment plus help them get to school safely. It is also the parents' responsibility to see that school is a safe place to learn and play.

Children may join a gang as a means of protection from rival gangs. Children may view their neighbourhood gang as a solution to the torment and threats from other gangs. Parents must work to see that the neighbourhood is safe place for their children to play, learn and live. Parents need to work together to monitor children and provide law enforcement with information to help keep the neighbourhood safe. If children get into trouble with law, parents must let their children suffer the consequences for illegal behaviour. Protecting children from the law does not teach responsibility.

Children often choose to join gangs if their friends or family members belong. In order to "fit in" with other gang members, children may also begin to wear certain colours or other types of clothing associated with gangs. They may wear distinctive hairstyles, use gang terminology, and get involved with gang activities. If a parent notices any of these indicators it is a signal that the child is interested in a gang or has already joined.

Children often have unsupervised time. If this becomes excessive, children will search for something to do to prevent boredom. Gang activities can fill the excess time. Parents should be involved in coordinating and sponsoring activities for their children. More activities and parental involvement will decrease the strength a gang has in the neighbourhood. Parents should form community groups that are willing to supervise children's activities. It is also important to know where your child is at all times. Make them accountable for their time and actions.

Gang activities appear exciting to children. Children, especially teens, like to take risks. Gangs provide many opportunities to take risks and find excitement. Make sure your children are involved in sports, clubs or other activities that provide healthy risk taking opportunities. Get children involved with community work to help make neighbourhoods safe.

The appeal of obtaining money fast can be overwhelming for children. We live in a society that advocates immediate gratification at any expense. Gangs are involved in drugs and other criminal activities that give children opportunities to get money quickly. Children may be offered more money for delivering a package or being a lookout than their parents can earn in a week. Children must understand the risks and realize that consequences will be enforced. They must also realize that they are being used by older gang members who do not want to get caught.

Teach your children to have pride in their accomplishments and to legitimately earn money. Parents must encourage the system to be consistent and to support the legal system. Report related activities to the police. Encourage children to stay in school in order to be qualified for a job. Give children responsibilities around the house, encourage work ethics and encourage children to seek jobs in the community.

Children who feel valuable and important in the home will feel more comfortable with others. Parents need to teach children how to share, compromise and take turns, how to listen to what others have to say, and how

to be a group member. Since the gang may be the most active organization in the neighbourhood, parents must provide the opportunity for participation in youth organizations and athletic teams in order for children to practice group skills. If organizations do not exist in the neighbourhood, parents must be willing to get involved to manage them. Also, set a good example for your children when you participate in group settings.

Children may feel that they do not have a sense of purpose in life and seek gang activities to reinforce their self-esteem. Parents must strengthen children's sense of purpose by setting expectations for their personal behaviour. Expect your children to have respect for others, to obey authority, to be honest and to do one's best. Help children set realistic goals so they feel a sense of accomplishment. Challenge your children to expand their interests. Work with the school to determine what opportunities are available for children. Keep communications open with school authorities and teachers.

Children may join a gang to retaliate for personal injury or damage to friends or family. Parents must develop a support group in the community that can deal with children's sorrow or frustration. If necessary there are agencies and school employees who are capable of helping children to deal with these feelings of anger.

General Reasons for Gang Membership

The primary age group of gang members ranges generally from 13 to 21 years. Interviews of gang members indicate that joining a gang is seldom understood by the gang members themselves, but can vary from brotherhood to self-preservation as listed below.

1. Identity

Gang members cannot achieve an identity in their environment, so they gain it in the gang culture. They often visualize themselves as warriors against the outside world, protecting their neighbourhood.

2. Protection

Joining a gang in a community with several gangs offers considerable protection from violence and attack from rival gangs.

3. Fellowship

Studies indicate that a tight family structure is lacking in the home environment. Gang activity offers that closeness, that sense of family that is often lacking in the home.

4. Intimidation

Membership can become very dangerous at this level of "recruitment." New members are forced to join by threats, violent beatings, and initiations in order to increase membership.

No ethnic group or geographical location is excluded. Unlike gangs in the

past, we are seeing mixed ethnic and socio-economic groups making up gangs. There is an on-going struggle for territorial control and the lucrative drug market among gangs in our community. School personnel, parents and community members need to be aware of these dynamics in their schools, homes, and in the community at large.

Personal Reasons for Gang Membership

There are a variety of personal reasons for young people joining gangs.

These include: the excitement of gang activity, the need to belong, peer pressure, attention, financial benefit, family tradition, and a lack of realization of the hazards involved. This also is a way students with poor self-concept increase their self-esteem. These young people seek to attain recognition for their activities, whether criminal or not. Gangs supply that extra pat-on-the-back that they might not receive at home or at school.

Parents need to be aware of what's going on in their child's life. If young people cannot communicate their concerns and problems to someone significant at home or at school, they could make a negative decision to join a gang, which would affect them for the rest of their lives.

Characteristics of Gangs

Characteristics in gang behaviour can range from a poor general attitude to clear-cut personality disorders that can at times parallel the criminal mind. Caution is wise when thinking one can place all gangs into one behavioural category.

A gang member on his/her own "turf" in school or in the community may be openly hostile. Outside the turf, the gang member may seem likable, open and friendly. But he/she has his/her own code and sense of fairness and can easily turn on one when the code is violated. This can often result in sudden noncooperation, or worse, violent retaliation.

The gang member is a good con artist and can easily manipulate his/her environment as it suits his/her needs. Appearance can be very deceiving. But, a gang member can also display poor internalizing skills, be chronically angry, resentful of authority, and can be an accomplished liar.

The more violent gang member can be callused, remorseless, lack realistic long-term goals, be prone to easy boredom and have poor impulse control.

Today in many mature, modern criminal street gangs violence is often a means to an end. Material profit, through drug trafficking and other criminal activities, is the prime objective.

Studies in modern gang behaviour indicate that violent gangs have a strong capacity to deal with fear and are therefore not easily intimidated by authority.

They have cut fear off. They experience excitement at every stage of a crime, are concrete thinkers, have little interest in responsible performance or a display of ownership.

They consider themselves basically decent human beings, and therefore justified in what they do. Each gang member wants to be in charge, but often has poor leadership skills, is chronically angry and defensive, cannot be structured or do tasks for a protracted period of time.

Gang Recruitment Tactics

Gangs pressure kids into gangs by using the following methods:

- Peer pressure, offer protection.
- Threaten safety of friends or family members.
- Offer money for what appears to be simple activities.
- Challenge kids to take risks.
- Attend parties where gang related activities are occurring.
- Family members already belong to a gang.

Consequences of Gang Involvement

Short Term:

- In trouble with the law
- Drop out of school.
- Withdrawal from family.
- Risk of injury in a "jump-in" by your own gang.
- Drug trafficking/weapons.
- Involvement in "dirty-work."

Long Term:

- Lose opportunity for education and employment.
- Spend time in jail or prison.
- Possibility of losing family and friends.
- Risk of personal injury.
- Risk your own family's life.
- Endless amounts of threats, assaults and drive-by shootings.

Early Warning Signs

Graffiti is a clear marking of territorial boundaries which serves as a warning and challenge to rival gangs. It is also used to communicate messages between gangs.

Youth hanging out around public parks, high schools, fast food stands, convenience stores and other hang outs for teenagers. Frequent use of public phone booths by people who actually receive calls there.

Increase in crime - Gang related acts such as vandalism, assaults, burglaries,

robberies, and even random drive-by shootings.

What Can You Do?

1. Get involved!

Become aware of what's going on in your neighbourhood and community. When incidents occur such as vandalism, loitering and drug activity, report them to the police immediately.

2. Get rid of Graffiti!

Graffiti serves as a territorial marker to gang members. When you see graffiti on block walls, houses and sidewalks, report it to law enforcement officials, and remove it immediately, after taking photographs.

3. Parental Intervention

Be aware of changes that occur with your children such as dress changes, selection of friends, truancy, violence and disregard for persons or property. Also be aware if your child has purchased new and expensive items or if your child has extra money that cannot be accounted for.

Changes in behaviour and dress can be a normal part of adolescence or an indication of inappropriate identification and association. Know the difference by being an involved parent.

Parent, neighbourhood and law enforcement involvement is the only way gang activity will be curbed. Remember, this is your community--not that of the gangs!!!

Gang-Fighting Tips

A single call to local officials has minimum impact. To be really effective, have everyone in your neighbourhood call your representative or proper authorities.

If you're worried about gang retaliation, keep in mind that calls to local government offices and police can be made and kept anonymous.

Police do not usually ask for your name and address unless you are a victim or a witness who wishes to testify. If you give your name and address to the police for one of these reasons and you are hesitant to have the police come to your home, inform them at the time of the call. Be sure to make this very clear to them when you call. Remember, gangs will continue harassing and threatening the community until you put a stop to it.

Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm is a voluntary/community organisation, set up in 1992 and a registered charity.

Enthusiasm delivers projects, working with 11 to 18 year olds who are most at risk of offending and social exclusion. Joe Russo, the founder and Chief

Executive of Enthusiasm, talks about what the organisation offers communities...

"The vision of Enthusiasm is to provide opportunities for young people to fulfil their true potential; reduce anti-social behaviour and reduce the risk of young people entering into the Criminal Justice System.

We have developed our work over the last eight years with the Derby Community Safety Partnership, which has led to the project s expanding across the City of Derby and more recently have commenced work on the Clifton Estate in Nottingham.

Because of its positive impact, Enthusiasm were finalists in the National Charities Award 2007, an awards programme that spotlights exceptional performance.

Young people get involved through agencies, schools and local housing officers. The project continually develop links with local communities and parents and has been recognised both locally and national for its success. Enthusiasm aims to continue to expand where there is a need."

Specific geographical areas we currently work in are:

Derby
Osmaston/Sinfin
Allenton/Boulton
Alvaston
Stockbrook
Mackworth
Morley Estate
Chellaston

The service which is delivered by Enthusiasm integrates into Neighbourhood working and links closely with the police, Housing Managers, parenting support organisations, youth organisations, Connexions, local businesses, schools and general organisations working within the locality, this is in terms of referrals and also to ensure the holistic needs of the young person are catered for.

Enthusiasm engages with local people within the community who not only provide us with intelligence but also solutions to problems, thus regenerating the community from within and it is important that we have local bases for young people to access our services.

DERBY LEADS THE WAY IN TACKLING YOUTH CRIME

Thursday, 26th February 2009

A ground-breaking Derby project that helps local young people to speak out if they have been victims of anti-social behaviour, knife and gang-related crime today opened its doors to Justice Minister David Hanson MP and Victims' Champion Sara Payne. As well as this the project also offers vital support and information to young victims of crime.

The pilot, which began last November, is already reaching out to more than 4,000 local 11-17 year olds. Working hand in hand with local communities, police, schools and voluntary groups it offers a range of services tailor-made to the needs of young people. These include workshops, drop-in sessions and school assemblies.

As well as this on Fridays and Saturdays, when anti-social behaviour and gang crime is at its worst, they run a range of music, sport and youth clubs to give local young people a range of options other than the streets.

Justice Minister David Hanson said:

"Youth crime has a devastating effect on victims, communities and their families. That is why the Government, through the Youth Crime Action Plan, is dedicating £440,000 to helping steer young people away from crime. Derby's pilot scheme shows just what can be achieved when people on the ground work together and is an inspiration to other communities facing similar issues."

Victims' Champion Sara Payne said:

"I am really pleased to see how young people are being supported throughout the system in Derby. It is great to hear over 4,000 young people have been reached through the Enthusiasm young victim project."

Senior Manager of Enthusiasm Paul Brookhouse said:

"Young people are more likely to be victims of crime than adults and most likely to be victimised by other young people. However, young people are less likely to come forward and report this and therefore less able to access the wide network of support that is available.

"This is why we are supporting over 4000 young people in six months."

At the end of the pilot in May 2009 Derby will make a public pledge stating how they will continue to support young people and a full evaluation of the measures will be ready in July 2009.

Notes:

1. The Derby project is one of five other local pilots in the country linking in with the Youth Crime Action Plan and the Tackling Knives Action Programme. The other areas include Lambeth, Norfolk Lewisham and Oxfordshire.
2. The Derby Pilot started in November 2008 and is due to end in May 2009. Officials are expecting an interim report from evaluators at the end of February, which is expected to show good results. The Government has invested approximately £60,000 in the Derby project.
3. Guidance of best practice will be available in summer 2009. Other areas will be encouraged to take forward the good practice and make their own local pledge.
4. 58% of respondents to the Casey Review reported Friday nights were the most important time for teenagers to be provided with activities in order to prevent antisocial behaviour.

Derby Youth Offending Service

The Derby Youth Offending Service aims to reduce offending by children and young people aged between 10 and 17, and to prevent offending by all young people. The Youth Offending Service consists of representatives from social services, the Police, Probation, Health, Education and other local Organisations. This multi-agency approach is designed to address the risk factors associated with offending and to meet the holistic needs of young people.

The Youth Offending Service is part of the Derby Community safety partnership and is headed by Des Morrison. The Derby Youth Offending Service has reduced the rate of robbery, burglary, and violent crime re-offending. The YOS provide a wide range of community alternatives to custody ranging from prevention to intensive supervision.

Youth Crime Prevention

Derby Youth Offending Service has a targeted approach to work with the "most at risk" vulnerable young people in the city in partnership through the development of Youth Inclusion Projects, Youth Inclusion and Support Panels, and Positive Activities for Young People. All of this project work with young people aged 8 to 17 years of age is built upon the premise of early identification and referral, followed by targeted intervention work, in order to divert and refocus young people into positive and sustainable activity.

Referral Order Panels

Young offenders convicted of their first offence in the youth court will be

referred to a community-based 'youth offender panel.' A Panel is made up of at least two trained volunteers from the community (community panel members) and a member of the Youth Offending Service. The offender is expected to agree a 'contract' with the panel. If the young offender fails to agree a contract or fails to abide by it during the term of the order, the case is referred back to the court for re-sentencing.

The aims of these panels are to ensure young offenders take responsibility for their behaviour, to put things right for the victim and to bring young people into the law-abiding community.

Restorative Justice

This is an approach where the involvement of the victim is as important as that of the offender. It gives the offender the opportunity to make an apology as well as allowing the offender to try and repair the harm caused. The meeting of victim and offender in a controlled environment gives both parties

The chance to explain the consequences of the offender's actions. If the victim does not wish to participate, the Youth Offending Service will step in to express the views of the victim. Other significant adults or other people affected by the crime may be invited to attend in order to let the offender understand the effect their actions have had.

Restorative Justice seeks to balance the concerns of the victim and the community with the need to reintegrate the offender into society.

Intensive Supervision & Surveillance Programme (ISSP)

The ISSP is the intense supervision of a persistent young offender. By doing this, Derby YOS makes far better use of public money. It costs about £50,000 to keep a young person in youth custody for 12 months compared with a maximum of £8,000 to work with a young person on a 12month Intensive Supervision and Surveillance programme. The establishment of the programme marks a major development in providing a mix of highly structured programme for the supervision and control of prolific and serious young offenders, and a means of greatly increasing our knowledge and understanding of why they continue to offend and what interventions are most likely to affect their desistance from crime. These young offenders are very criminally active, and also have the greatest potential to commit a disproportionate amount of crime as they grow older, and the majority of the most serious and harmful offences in the future.

Bail Supervision and Support

The Bail Supervision and Support Scheme offers additional support and assistance from the Youth Offending Service, to help young people who appear in court and are at risk of being refused bail. A programme is then developed as an alternative to remand in custody. This programme requires the youth to attend the Bail Supervision and Support Scheme for appointments up to five times per week and participate in certain activities, for example:

- Attendance at the careers office
- Participation in activities at local youth centres
- Attend appointments at school

Mentoring

A mentor is a role model. For most of us, our role model is either one or both of our parents but some young people do not have a role model to learn from. This is where the YOS steps in. In Derby there are several mentoring projects. The fusion project is one of these. Fusion is a mentoring scheme geared towards giving young Black and Asian people support to help boost their opportunities and divert them from re-offending.

The Enthusiasm project delivers the Youth Inclusion Programme (YIP) for the YOS. Enthusiasm mentors work with young people who are at risk of offending or social exclusion. A recent evaluation by the youth justice board indicated that those mentored by Enthusiasm have a 92% decrease in arrest. Many of the young people mentored by Enthusiasm return to mainstream education, which leads to breaking the cycle of offending and withdrawal from society.

Drug Treatment Testing Orders (DTTOs)

Drug Treatment Testing Orders are a community-based sentence designed to break the link between addiction and offending. DTTOs work when an offender is arrested and then a pre-sentence report is completed. If this then indicates that the offence is drug related then the offender might be suitable for a DTTO. This could be a possible alternative to a prison sentence.

Parenting Order

This order may be imposed for up to one year and requires parents to comply with any requirements of the order, and to attend counselling or guidance sessions at least once a week for a period of three months. The order is available for the parents of any young person convicted of an offence, provided the court is satisfied that the order will assist in preventing further offending.