**Camden Youth Offending Service**

***Face to face working on hold***

**All face to face contact has been replaced by phone conversations**

We currently do not have the facilities in place to see young people in accordance with the governmental guidance of keeping a distance of two metres. Phone contacts will also be made with parents. Frequency of contact with each young person will vary depending on their assessed level of risk.

**Reparation and group work interventions are on hold**

Due to the face to face nature of reparation, it is not possible to conduct this virtually. All reparation projects are therefore on hold until face to face work can resume.

***Capabilities during the COVID-19 restrictions***

*During this period of social distancing, Camden Youth Offending Service is dedicated to providing ongoing provision to the service users it supports. There are limitations on the usual interventions we provide however - please see below for information on how this may affect the young people we are working with.*

***Risk Management***

Our inability to work face to face means we are limited in terms of delivering meaningful interventions to reduce the assessed risk. Some external controls like reporting to the Police Station have also been suspended. External controls that remain in place are existing curfews with electronic monitoring; doorstep curfews, non-contact and exclusion requirements. However, case managers and their line managers will be reviewing each case, reflecting on instances where increased confinement due to social distancing and self-isolation are likely to impact on safety, wellbeing and risk of serious harm to others. When cases are identified that require further support, Skype calls will be made to the professional network to discuss appropriate actions.

The Daily Risk Briefing will continue as normal. Further to this, the team has a daily skype conference to manage the daily contingencies.

***This document will be updated as the situation changes.***

***Information Sharing***

**Daily Skype meetings**

The management team meets on a daily basis to discuss risk and safeguarding management; the impact that these arrangements are having on our team, young people and families

The YOS whole team meet on a daily basis to discuss how these arrangements are working, the challenges we face and how we overcome barriers.

**Same day information sharing to the professional network**

If there are any developments in a young person’s situation, relevant professionals will be updated on the same day by the appropriate case manager.

**New cases will require input from other professionals**

If a young person previously unknown to the YOS receives a new order, a case manager from our team will be in touch with relevant professionals, to gain information for their assessment. This is the same process as usual, and will continue throughout this period.

**High Risk & Vulnerability Panel (HRVP) will be done virtually for April**

Invites will be amended for key professionals. All other high priority meetings will also be conducted virtually.

***Who to contact?***

For general enquiries, please use our duty number, which is still available 9am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. You can also send emails to the duty inbox which is checked daily.

**YOS Duty Number: 02079741261**

**YOS Duty Inbox:** **YOSDUTY@camden.gov.uk**

**YOS Secure Inbox:** **YOT@camden.gov.uk.cjsm.net**

For specific enquiries regarding **Referral Orders** or **Out of Court Disposals**, please contact:

Jodie Lewinson: 020 7974 4355 / Jodie.Lewinson@camden.gov.uk.

For specific enquiries regarding **Court**, **ISS** please contact:

Bea Nigolian: 020 7974 4793 / Bea.Nigolian@camden.gov.uk.

For specific enquiries regarding **Engage** or **Education Link** please contact:

Hannah Burdett: 0207 974 4248 / Hannah.Burdett@camden.gov.uk.

If you know the case manager of the young person you wish to discuss, please contact them directly on their normal office number or email.

***Court Outcomes***

**Court is closed for two weeks**

Court houses will now be closed, and open only for priority cases. In the case of youths it means only dealing with overnights and remands into Youth Detention Accommodation, and Remands Into Local Authority Accommodation. This also includes custody trials.

**Processing breaches is now on pause**

Young people will still be breached where necessary, but a summons request will be on pause until further guidance says otherwise.

**Referral Orders**

Referral Order panels will continue as usual, but via conference calls rather than face to face. The young person’s views will be discussed with them prior to the call by the case manager, and shared with the panel members. During the call young people will have the decision of the panel members and the general process explained to them as usual.

**Out of court disposals**

The Out of Court Disposal panel will meet weekly, allowing for Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Cautions to continue to be allocated to YOS case managers. Case managers will carry out an assessment of the young person and alongside YOS Police will use this to review, and agree on an interim interventions that can be delivered remotely with the young person.  Signing of Cautions can be completed retrospectively, allowing for the swift implementation of early intervention and a focus on key areas such as safeguarding, public protection and reducing re-offending.