

Community Awards 2017

Shortlisted projects

Residential Care category

Pan Dorset Children in Care Protocol - Devon & Cornwall Police and Dorset Police

Dorset Police, Dorset Combined Youth Offending Service, Dorset County Council, Bournemouth Borough Council, Borough of Poole, Crown Prosecution Service, HM Courts & Tribunals Service, have worked together to produce and implement the Pan Dorset Children in Care Protocol. This represents a pan-Dorset multi-agency approach to prevent and reduce offending by children and young people in care. It has been designed to provide an overarching set of principles to inform the processes that will ensure that any child or young person in care within the region is afforded the same protection and consideration, whatever their home local authority. The main aim is to ensure that children and young people in care are kept out of the criminal justice system wherever possible and that those who do enter it are provided with services that reduce the likelihood of them reoffending.

This protocol aims to reduce the criminalisation of children and young people in care by encouraging the use of alternative resolution approaches wherever possible within the care setting, in response to low level incidents. This applies to all placement settings and should include all children and young people in care who are in kinship care and those living independently, as well as those in residential and foster care.