

RAW Navigator Pilot Review - 2020/21

At the start of Sept 2020, 5 children aged between 13 and 16 were referred onto the RAW Youth Navigator Scheme by the three Police LPAs covering Oxfordshire. These children were either committing high levels of crime or antisocial behaviour and quite often there were CCE concerns mainly around drug dealing.

The Navigator Scheme offers the referred children intensive one to one mentoring by a social worker. They encourage and arrange positive activities, as well as positively motivating the children around educational and training opportunities. The interventions are tailored to the particular child and have involved activities such as gym sessions, boxing and days out.

The following summarised feedback from RAW about the young people consistently shows that the children are positively engaging with the project:

Child	Progress
A	A is engaging well, and we are building a good relationship. A and I have done some work around risks and continue to have conversations about where they could end criminally and within Social Care. A is now allowed to attend full time PRU on the next steps course. A is going through as assessment for ASD (medication advised) and ADHD. A has mentioned they would like to change their life style. A would like Navigator to look into gym session with them.
B	We are going to do some self-esteem and emotions worksheets and involve some art/crafts while doing this. B is feeling down at the moment, as they want to move forward with life, but are dealing with changes from before. We are doing work around consequences. B wants to be involved in Pegasus (preforming arts) and has been accepted onto Pegasus for Jan 2021.
C	Planned to visit school with C. Free taster session acquired for C in boxing (counts as one of their positive activities in YOS). Took C boxing and waiting for confirmation of YOS to pay first 2 months and waiting funding result for more. RAW brought C boxing gloves, skipping role, wraps and mat as requested by boxing gym.
D	D would like to find some work in bricklaying if possible. D is motivated to do this and says they are bored at the moment. We have agreed to meet weekly.
E	E is very motivated to find a job or an educational course (ACE). I am going to be looking into building a relationship and looking for some apprenticeships together.

Positives	Negatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speed of referrals. Engagement with YP. To be able to share appropriate information to safeguard the YP. Being able to support YP and their families too. Attending custody/ court appearances to help support the YP. Building quick trusted relationships with YP. Praising YP when they are doing well. Multi Agency working with families, social workers, schools YOS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limitations due to further funding for activities. COVID caused multiple implications. Pressure of the need to work for YP. Parent's willingness to engage.

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Impact of RAW Navigator interventions

In order to look at the effectiveness of these interventions, research was carried out utilising Police information and data for each young person. This focused on an average period of 8 months before the intervention with RAW and then the 4 Months after the intervention had started. Both the frequency and gravity (seriousness) of investigated offences were measured.

Young person	Difference in the number of offences	Difference in seriousness of offending (frequency x gravity)	Difference in Missing person reports	Difference in police Intelligence reports	Difference in stop checks by police
A	-3.5 (30% reduction)	9% reduction	Increase of 1 occasion	Increase of 11.5	Decrease of 2.5 (70%)
B	-9.5 (90% reduction)	82% reduction	Increase of 1.5 occasions	Decrease of 4.5	Decrease of 2 (100%)
C	-3.5 (100% reduction)	100% reduction	No change	Decrease of 1.5	No change
D	- 5 (100% reduction)	100% reduction	Increase of 4 occasions	Increase of 2	Decrease of 0.5 (100%)
E	+ 0.5 (50%increase)	50% reduction	No change (0 before and after)	Increase of 5.5	Increase of 1 (100%)

Summary

- There is a significant drop in the rate of offending after the RAW intervention starts
- There is a reduction in the seriousness (gravity) of offending
- There is a slight increase in the amount the subjects are reported missing.
- There is a significant increase in the amount of intelligence being submitted for some subjects
- There is a decrease in the amount of times the subjects are being stop checked by police.

These findings are very positive, showing that the rate and seriousness of offending across the group has significantly decreased and that they are out being stopped by police less.

Although the rate these children are going missing and the number of police intel reports have increased, this could be merely down to the parents, partnership agencies and the police being more aware of these children and what they are currently involved with. The parents may also be more willing to report their child as missing due to positive involvement from both Social Services and Police

NOTE: A 6th child was referred onto the scheme prior to the end of the 2020/21 financial year but has not been included in the evaluation at this time.

Conclusion

These young people are showing excellent engagement, are planning positively for their futures. They are receiving enhanced safeguarding and are showing a reduction in criminal offending. One would expect these findings to be even more successful in the future, as the interventions have only been running for a short period and activities have been hampered by COVID.