

people involved in late-night, anti-social behaviour on the streets. Under a local child curfew scheme, a local authority or local police force can ban children under 16 from being in a public place during specified hours (between 9pm and 6am), unless they are under the control of a responsible adult. With children under 10, contravening a ban imposed by a curfew notice (for instance being found outside their homes after the curfew) is one of the conditions under which a family court could make the child subject to a CSO. A local child curfew can last for up to 90 days.

### **Junior youth inclusion projects**

Junior youth inclusion projects are based on high-crime, high-deprivation neighbourhoods across England and Wales and work with the 8-13 age range. Projects aim to prevent youth crime in those neighbourhoods by targeting the 50 most at-risk children and young people in the area, assessing their needs and providing meaningful interventions aimed at addressing those risk factors. Young people typically are either on the cusp of offending or are already involved in low-level offending. In order to engage with the 50 most at-risk young people, projects work with around another 100 peers and siblings of core group members.

### **Youth inclusion support panels**

Youth inclusion support panels (YISPs) are multi-agency planning groups that serve to identify those young people in the 8-13 age range who are most at risk of offending and engaging in anti-social behaviour. They offer an early intervention based on assessed risk and need. Parenting support in the form of contracts and programmes is offered as part of a range of tailored interventions.

The suggested criteria for a young person referred to the YISP is as follows:

- \* The child is aged between 8 and 13 years inclusive (up to 17 in some areas).
- \* The behaviour of the child is of concern to two or more of the partner agencies and/or their parents/carers, and they consider that it requires a multi-agency response.
- \* The parent/carer and child are willing to take part, give consent to the referral and the child is willing to co-operate with an integrated support plan.
- \* The child is exposed to four or more risk factors.
- \* There is known offending behaviour up to and including a police reprimand or ASBO, or there is concern over potential involvement in criminal or

anti-social behaviour.

The panel is made up of representatives from a variety of agencies which can include YOTs; police; social services; housing, probation and education services; Connexions; voluntary sector organisations; anti-social behaviour units; and the fire service. (This list is not exhaustive and can be tailored to local circumstances.) The panel will meet on a regular basis and consider referrals made to it in order to devise an integrated support plan. The YISP must ensure that a mechanism is in place for the sharing of information. The method, criteria and considerations for this can be found by referring to the Association of Chief Police Officers/Youth Justice Board guidance.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>15</sup> Association of Chief Police Officers/Youth Justice Board (2005) *Sharing Personal and Sensitive Information in Respect of Children and Young*

*People at Risk of Offending*. London: Youth Justice Board, p.11.