



Youth Justice Board  
Bwrdd Cyfiawnder Ieuencid

29 September 2009

Janice Gregory  
Committee Chair  
Communities and Culture Committee  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Dear Janice

Thank you for your letter requesting further details on the Wales Custody and Resettlement Committee. I attach information on the latter.  
Please do not hesitate to come back with any further queries.

Yours sincerely

Sue Williams

Head YJB Wales

**E:** Sue.Williams@yjb.gov.uk

**T:** Mobile: 07876-131228

cc: Dusty Kennedy, Head of Strategy YJB; Steve Bradford, Head of Policy Co-ordination, YJB

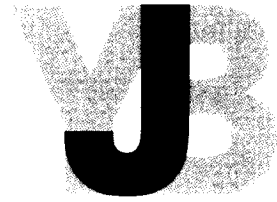
**Office**  
**Swyddfa**  
YJB - Wales  
The Phoenix Centre  
Paradise Park  
Townhill  
Swansea SA1 6PH

**T:** 01792 454420

**F:** 01792 466212

**E:** yjbwales@yjb.gov.uk

**W:** www.yjb.gov.uk



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# Overview of the Custody and Resettlement Committee

## Background

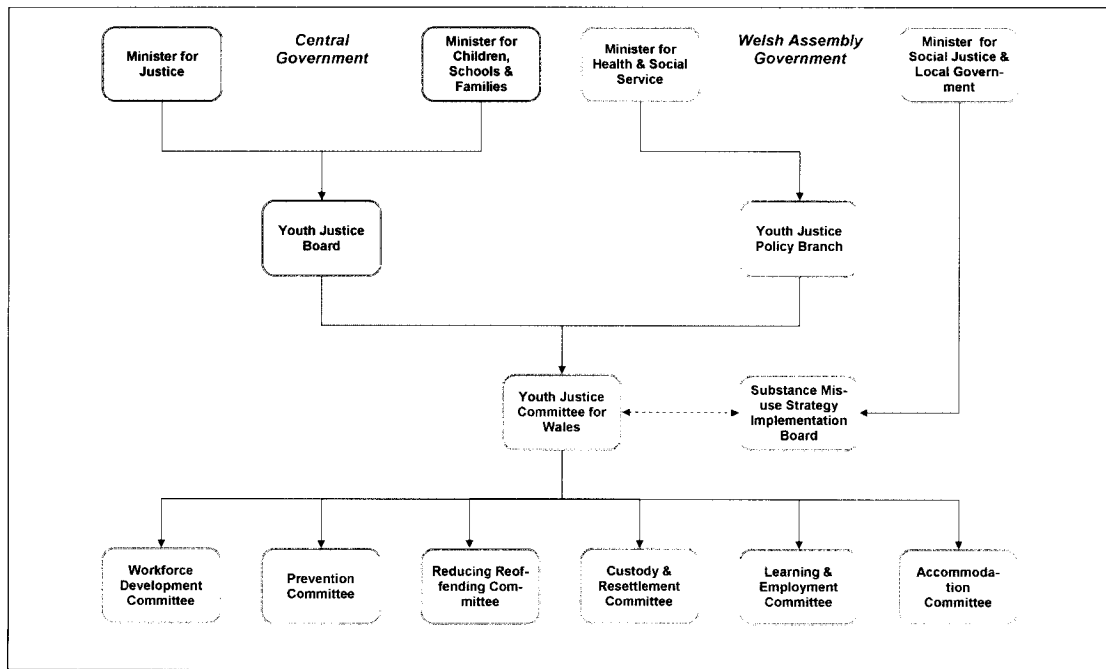
As part of the refresh of the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy, priority areas for implementation of the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy were identified. In order to support and drive delivery against with these priorities, the Youth Justice Committee for Wales (YJCW) agreed the establishment of a range of sub-committees.

There are five direct sub-committees of the YJCW that deal with the following priority areas:

- Prevention;
- Reducing Youth Re-offending;
- Custody and Resettlement;
- Learning and Employment; and
- Accommodation.

There is a further direct sub-committee that deals with the overarching theme of workforce development and one aligned group that deals with the priority area of substance misuse.

Governance for these groups is illustrated below:



In the case of the Custody and Resettlement Committee, it was decided to adapt and enhance the membership and terms of reference of a pre-existing group; the Wales Juvenile Secure Forum. This forum had been in existence since 2006. The most notable development was the widening of the group's remit, to include consideration of resettlement.

### Terms of Reference and Membership

The purpose of this committee is to promote the wellbeing of children and young people from Wales who are subject to a custodial sentence, to encourage a reduction in the use of custody for children and young people and to focus on effective resettlement for those who leave custody. These aims are in line with the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy and its Delivery Plan.

The committee meets each quarter, submits minutes to the YJCW and is required to present a detailed report to the YJCW at one meeting per year. There is also the facility for pressing issues to be escalated to the YJCW when necessary.

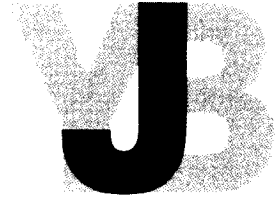
Membership of the Custody and Resettlement Committee is drawn from, among others, relevant departments of the Welsh Assembly Government, custodial establishments that house children and young people from Wales, youth offending teams and the Youth Justice Board (YJB). The Committee is chaired by the Head of the YJB for Wales..

Full terms of reference are attached below.

ANNEX 1



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Welsh Assembly Government



Youth Justice Board  
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# Custody & Resettlement Committee

## Terms of Reference

Version: 1.0

## **Aim**

The aim of the Custody & Resettlement Committee will be to promote the reduction of the use of custodial sentences for young people convicted of an offence and enable the effective operation of the youth justice system in Wales with regard to resettlement following custody.

## **Primary objectives**

The primary objectives of the Custody & Resettlement Committee will be to:

- Monitor at a national and regional level the effectiveness of youth justice service delivery in Wales via reports on the number and proportion of convictions that result in a custodial sentence, provided by the YJB Wales lead official for Custody & Resettlement.
- Provide strategic oversight of the implementation of relevant objectives in the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy delivery plan, as determined by the Youth Justice Committee for Wales.
- Provide reports to the Youth Justice Committee for Wales on the implementation of the relevant objectives of the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy delivery plan and national performance against the reducing custody indicator.
- Identify the problems faced by children and young people from Wales who are in or have left custody and propose solutions to the Youth Justice Committee for Wales.
- Act as a forum for the discussion and subsequent dissemination of information and good practice to members' own organisations and associations.
- Commission work, as directed by the Youth Justice Committee for Wales, from other relevant sub-committees on issues relating to the fields of learning, employment and accommodation
- Take advice, as directed by the Youth Justice Committee for Wales, from the relevant Welsh Assembly Government grouping on issues related to alcohol and other substance misuse.
- Consult, where appropriate, children and young people within individual members' own sphere of business in order to contribute their opinions to the matters discussed by the committee.

## **Chairing arrangements**

The Committee will be chaired by the Head of the YJB for Wales

## **Membership**

The membership of the Committee will be reserved to senior representatives from the following organisations:

- Ashfield Young Offenders Institute
- Eastwood Park Young Offenders Institute
- Hillside Secure Children's Home
- Intensive Supervision and Surveillance managers in Wales
- Parc Young Offenders Institute
- Resettlement and Aftercare Programme managers in Wales.
- Stoke Heath Young Offenders Institute
- Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Children, Education Lifelong Learning and Skills, as nominated by the Director for DCELLS
- Welsh Assembly Government, Department for Health and Social Services
- YJB Wales policy lead for Custody & Resettlement - Secretariat
- Youth Justice Board, Directorate of Secure Accommodation, as nominated by the Director of Secure Accommodation
- Youth Justice Board, Strategy Directorate, as nominated by the Director of Strategy
- Youth Offending Team managers in Wales
- Representative of ADSS Wales

## **Accountability**

The Custody & Resettlement Committee will report through its minutes and progress reports to the Welsh Assembly Government and the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales via the Youth Justice Committee for Wales.

## **Secretariat**

YJB Wales will provide the secretariat functions to serve the Committee.

Services will comprise:

- A note of the agreed actions flowing from each meeting and a record of progress against actions; circulated to members no more than ten working days following each meeting.
- A record of attendance and apologies.
- A chair's briefing paper; provided no fewer than five working days prior to each meeting.

- An agenda and relevant papers; circulated to members no fewer than five working days prior to each meeting.
- Maintenance of a members' distribution list.
- Provision of appropriate performance information.
- Funding of a suitable venue, as required.

## **Meeting arrangements**

Meetings will:

- Take place on a quarterly basis, no fewer than six weeks prior to the Youth Justice Committee for Wales. Dates will be set in advance for each financial year, following the publication of those for the Youth Justice Committee for Wales.
- Usually be held three times each year in South Wales and once in North Wales.

Papers are to be submitted to the secretariat for the chair's approval before distribution to members of the committee. Apologies should be submitted to the YJB Wales policy lead for Custody & Resettlement and copied to the chair.

## **Arrangements for review**

These terms of reference will be reviewed, on no more than an annual basis, at the request of either:

- The Youth Justice Committee for Wales.
- A majority of the members of the Custody & Resettlement Committee.