

Kent County Council

Job Description: Youth Justice Community Remand Coordinator

Directorate: Children, Young People and Education
Unit/Section: Integrated Children's Services/Youth Justice
Grade: KSH
Responsible to: Youth Justice Partnership Manager

Job Purpose

Kent and Medway have secured funding from the Ministry of Justice (MoJ) to work collaboratively to develop community-based alternatives to custodial remand for children. This three-year programme builds on learning from previous pilots and pathfinders and supports the Government's ambition that custodial remand should be used only as a last resort, in the interests of public protection. We are seeking a Remand Coordinator to work across Kent and Medway to strengthen and expand community-based alternatives, reducing both the use and duration of custodial remand.

The Remand Coordinator will work to identify, coordinate and maximise support from the child's family, wider network and involved professionals. They will ensure that a robust programme of community-based support, supervision and monitoring is in place, effectively managing risks to both the child and others. The postholder will respond swiftly to tight court timescales, ensuring that suitable alternatives to custodial remand can be implemented at the earliest opportunity. They will also support children resettling from custody into the community through a planned, coordinated approach, with the aim of reducing reoffending and preventing re-entry into the secure estate.

The Remand Coordinator will develop, improve and monitor the effectiveness of the outcomes of community remands on the child, their family, and victims of youth crime. Supporting the achievement and celebration of positive outcomes to increase the confidence of the Courts and partners in the community remand offer. They will ensure learning and best practice are shared and embedded across partnership working and reflected in guidance.

Main duties and responsibilities

- Work closely with the national Ministry of Justice (MoJ), Kent Youth Justice Service, Medway Youth Justice Service and partners to lead the community alternatives to youth custody programme.
- Work with YJ Practitioners, identified children and their families, and other professionals, to identify, coordinate and facilitate a "team around the child." The Community Remand Coordinator is not the child's case manager, but will work closely with the YJ case manager, and will take a lead on coordinating the network around the child to identify robust support, supervision and surveillance which can achieve the child's desistance, manage their safety and well-being, and protect the public from harm. This should include working towards sustainable education/training/employment opportunities and attainment.
- Work closely with the MoJ to monitor the pilot outcomes, identifying best practice and lessons learned for longer term decision making and sustainability of effective approaches. Provide evidence of performance, improvement, and lessons learned,

reporting to colleagues, partners, and senior leaders, using robust self-assessment, audit processes, and stakeholder feedback mechanisms.

- The role will involve some negotiation with partners to ensure their input is effective, timely and collaborative. This will include updating current partnership policies/guidance to drive the delivery of high-quality and evidence based multi-agency working and practice.
- The post holder will be required to actively participate in strategic and operational partnership meetings to represent the YJ service and advocate for services, systems and processes that meet the needs of children, families and victims, including child level meetings in the secure estate.

Accountabilities

1. Lead on collaboration with partners to negotiate, monitor, and hold to account their contributions to supervise, support and have surveillance on children at risk of entry into the secure estate
2. Work closely with children and families to coordinate a network of support that can manage risk of offending and of harm to others, and prevent re-offending, and entry/re-entry into the secure estate
3. Work closely with the Ministry of Justice in the implementation of the community alternatives to youth custody programme, including appropriate, timely, accurate data sharing.
4. Ensure the voice of service users and stakeholders is monitored and responded to, being heard at County YJ Board. Ensure there are appropriate opportunities to hear from different Youth Justice cohorts who are at risk of entering/re-entering the secure estate, including disproportionately represented children.
5. Ensure the workforce has a full suite of appropriate policies and guidance to support their work. Collaborate with the service to review remand management and resettlement processes to ensure they are simple to understand, to implement and are up to date and accessible.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: Youth Justice Community Remand Coordinator

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	Criteria
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant professional training – such as Youth Justice or Social Work degree, or Youth Justice specific training: Prof. Certificate in Effective Practice. • Evidence of continued professional development
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptional partnership working at a senior level, in a Youth Justice or relevant multi-agency environment, effectively negotiating and influencing partners • Successful engagement with children who have offended, and their families, working in a trauma informed, solution focussed and relational way • Extensive experience of successful partnership collaboration and overcoming barriers and competing priorities • Successful monitoring and evaluation of projects or services • Contributing to clear and robust protocols, strategies, policies, and guidance
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptional communication and partnership skills in all formats, including ability to report coherently and confidently to Senior Managers • Ability to facilitate complex ‘team around the child’ meetings in a professional, solution-focussed, relational and trauma informed way • Capacity to grasp complex issues and manage multiple tasks and conflicting agendas in a timely way • Ability to advocate for children to secure an offer of education, training and employment
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detailed and up to date knowledge of the legislative framework for Youth Justice, Safeguarding and Education, including remand management and resettlement legislation • In-depth understanding of Youth Justice practice and standards including Restorative Justice; trauma informed and strength-based approaches, and child first principles. • Detailed knowledge of the roles and responsibilities of the statutory YJ partners • Exceptional understanding of assessing and managing the risk that children can pose to others, as well as the safeguarding needs of the child • Detailed understanding of the impact of secure remands on children, and a commitment to ensuring robust community remand programmes are available to all children except those very few who cannot be managed safely in the community

**Kent Values
and Cultural
Attributes**

Kent Values:

- We are **brave**. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge
- We are **curious** to innovate and improve
- We are **compassionate**, understanding and respectful to all
- We are **strong together** by sharing knowledge
- We are all **responsible** for the difference we make

Our values enable us to build a culture that is:

Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile

Curious - constantly learning and evolving

Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all

Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent

Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions

Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making