



2012-13 Quarter Two (Q2) Stakeholder Report

Welcome to the second edition of the Police Custody Mental Health Diversion project Stakeholder update report. This pilot project is due to last for two years and is one of a range of similar schemes taking part in the National Diversion Programme across England, which have been funded by Offender Health at the Department of Health.

National Context

Collectively, the National Diversion Programme network will be responsible for informing a diversion implementation plan which will include:

- Gathering and sharing of learning, resulting in guidance on good practice in commissioning and provision of diversion services
- Development of quality standards and outcomes

- A workforce development and training plan

One of the key outcomes of the National Diversion Programme is a continuation of the commitment made by the Government in response to Lord Bradley's report, as follows:

"By November 2014, we expect to see the overall goal of police and court liaison services in place."

Local Arrangements

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT), in partnership with Staffordshire Police have been successful in securing funding to provide mental health assessment, liaison and diversion in the Northern Area Custody Facility (NACF) in Stoke on Trent for 2012-13 and 2013-14. The project will be managed as an extension of a court assessment scheme already in existence within North Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent, provided by the Criminal Justice Mental Health Team (CJMHT).

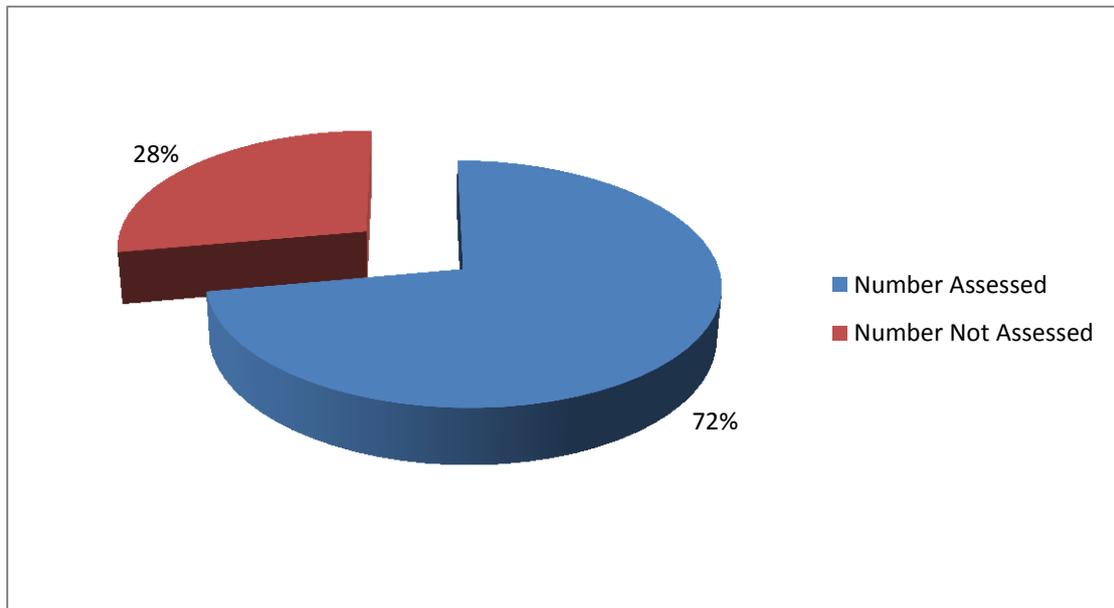
The project commenced on 18th June 2012, with Community Psychiatric Nurses (CPN's) providing mental health assessments at the point of arrest within the Northern Area Police Custody Facility (NACF) in Stoke on Trent.

The service runs 7 days a week and aims to ensure that detainees have access to timely support for their mental health needs both within the custody environment and following release.

Project Activity

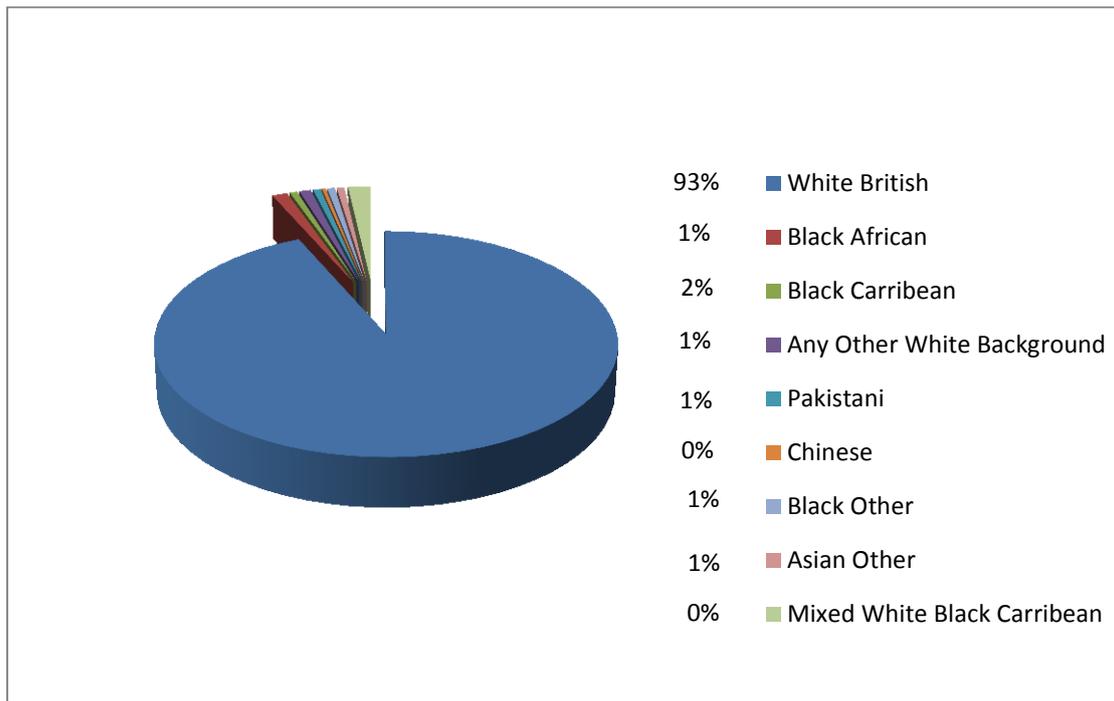
On Q2, the project has received 463 referrals, of which 334 were seen for a mental health assessment, as shown in Figure 1. The primary reason for assessments not occurring was detainee’s refusal.

Figure 1



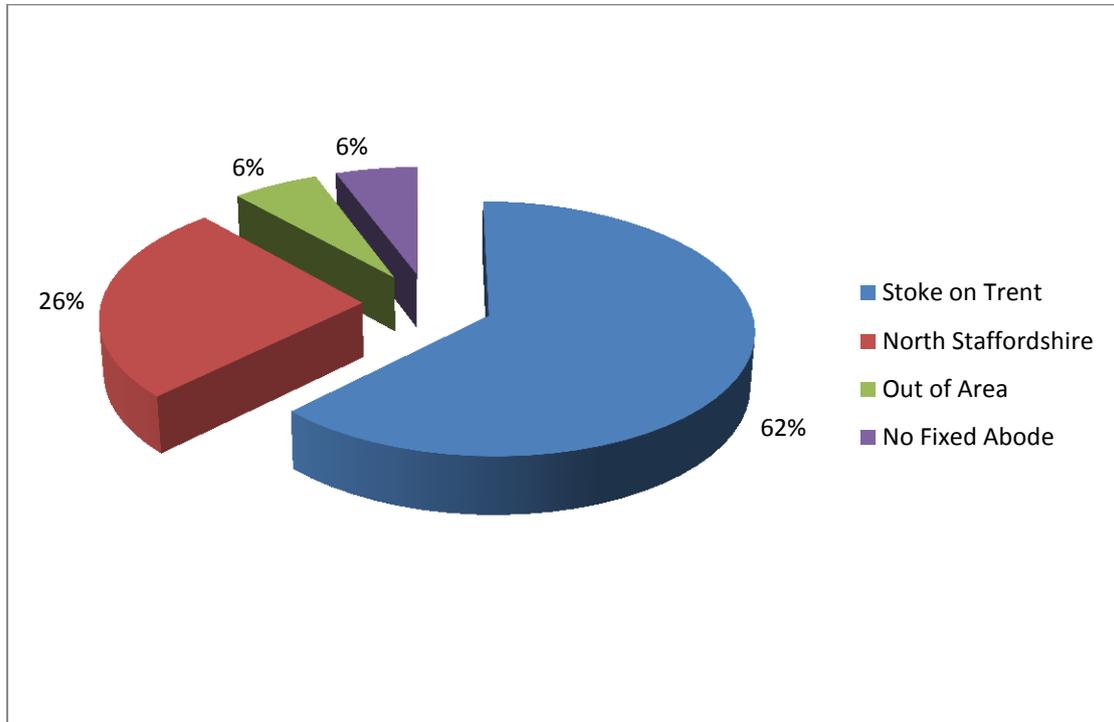
The ethnicity of the large majority (310) of those assessed was White British, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2



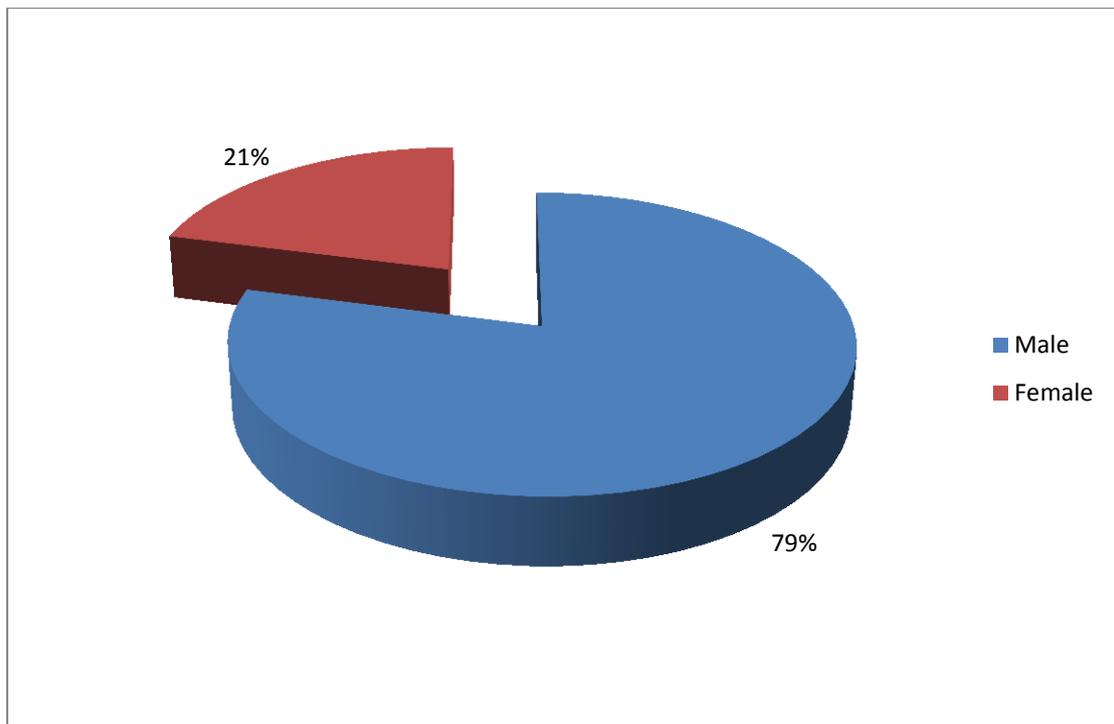
Most of those assessed were from Stoke on Trent, with a significant percentage reporting being of No Fixed Abode, as shown in Figure 3.

Figure 3



The majority of detainees assessed were Male, as shown in Figure 4.

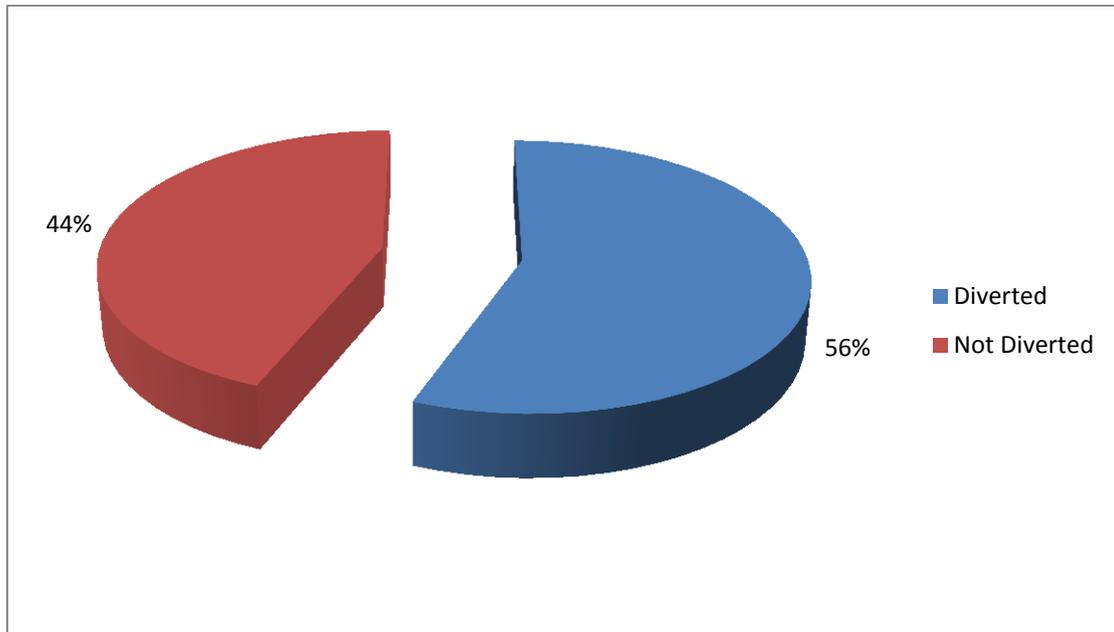
Figure 4



Diversiory Activity

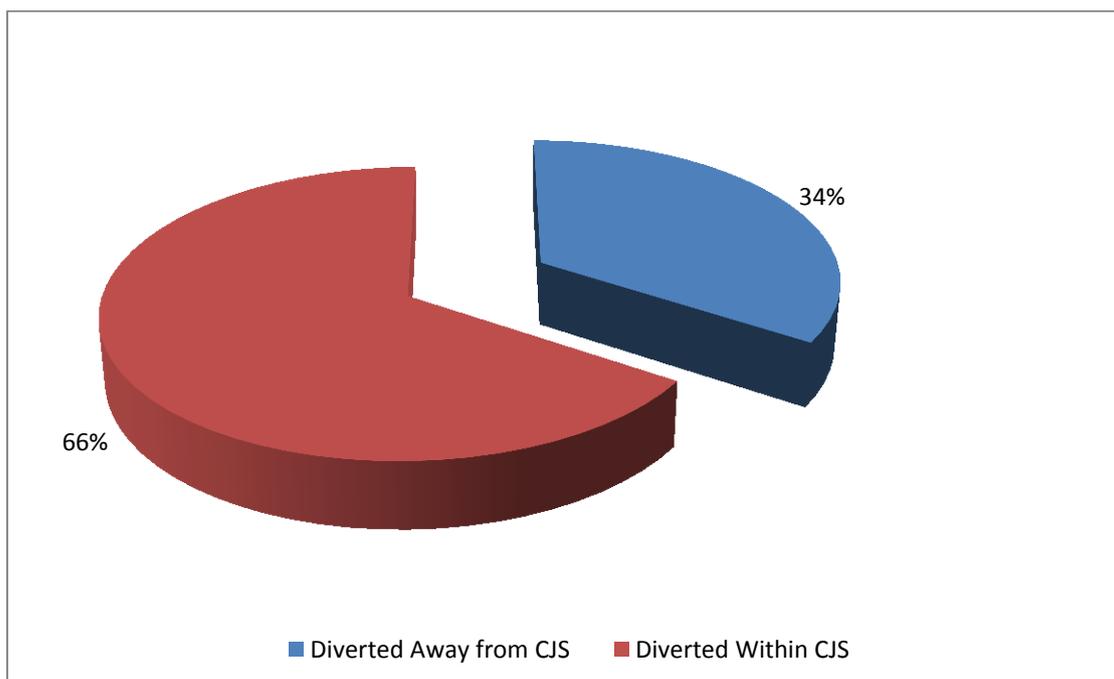
Of those seen for a Mental Health assessment, 187 were assessed as requiring referral into a mental health service (diverted), as shown in Figure 5.

Figure 5



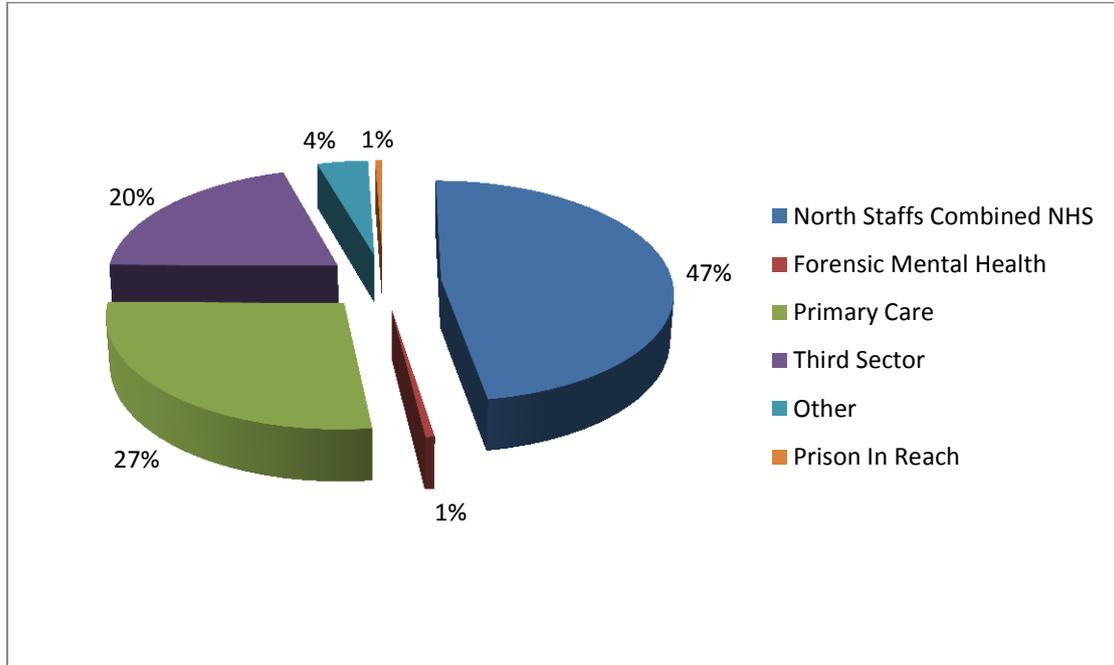
Of those diverted (referred to a Mental Health service provider), 64 were not charged with an offence by the police (Diverted Away) and 123 charged with an offence (Diverted Within), as shown in Figure 6.

Figure 6



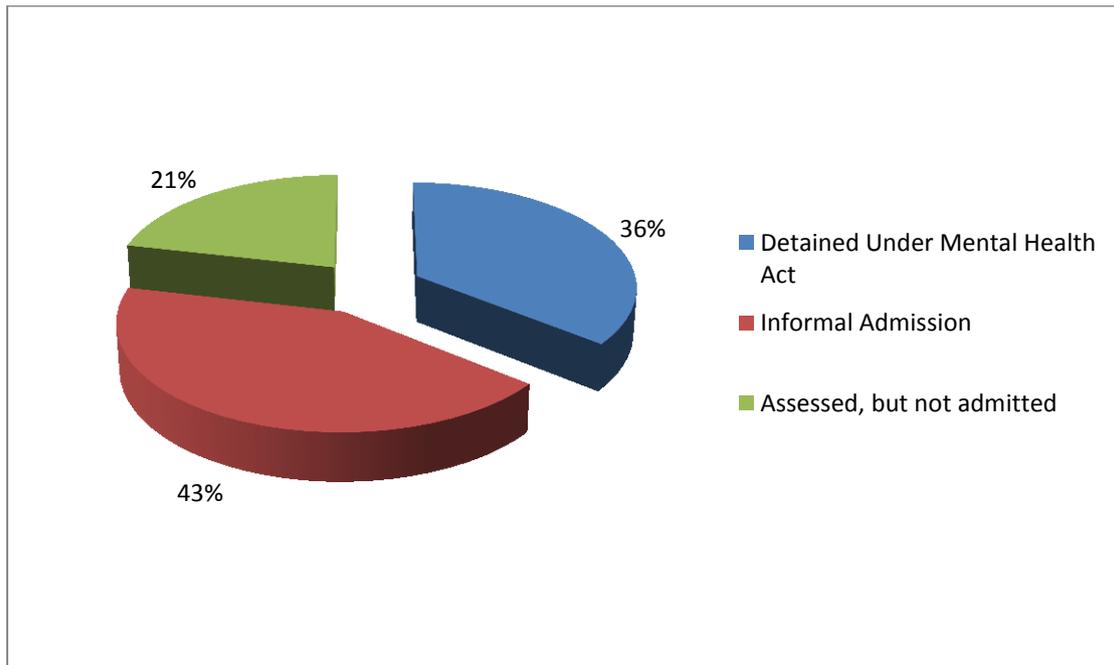
Referral routes following assessment are shown in Figure 7 below and were varied, with the majority being made to the local NHS specialist mental health provider – North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust.

Figure 7



There were 14 detainees who were felt to require emergency admission to a mental health in-patient hospital. The outcomes of those admission assessments are shown in Figure 8 below.

Figure 8



Service User Feedback

The project continues to be well received by service users. Of those 127 (38%) detainees who completed service user feedback forms, 83% of service users were 'Very Satisfied' with the service in general; 60% felt that the service 'Exceeded their expectations' and the remaining 40% felt the service 'met their expectations'. Finally 86% of service users felt that the mental health professional assessing them was 'Very Supportive and Approachable'.

Service User Comments

What could we do better?

"Nothing – you listened and that's all I wanted"

"Nothing really, it's just good to know there is someone to talk to and not feel so alone to deal with things yourself"

"Help with medication"

Waiting Times

Police custody is a fast-paced environment and the project continues to deliver timely assessments to ensure the safety of detainees. In Q2, the average time from referral to assessment was 1.04 hours. 56% (n=186) were seen within 1 hour, 28% (n=93) were seen between 1-2 hours and the maximum wait for assessment was 5 hours.

Next Steps

In Quarter 3 the project will be able to measure the outcomes of some of the interventions we have put in place for the service users in police custody. These include:

- ✓ Following up detainees 'diverted' in Q2 to see whether they have come back into contact with the police
- ✓ Following up detainees 'diverted' in Q2 to see whether they engaged with mental health services following referral and have a care plan
- ✓ Continuing to offer flexible support to detainees who have mental health problems

For further details, please contact:

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valuing people as **individuals**
working together for better lives
openness and **honesty**
providing high quality **innovative care**
exceeding expectations