


IN CARE,
OUT OF TROUBLE
AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW CHAIRED BY LORD LAMING


**OUR THOUGHTS ON THE ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED
IN THIS REPORT**

There were 75,155 looked after children on
31 March 2015 in England and Wales

94% of children in care in England do not
get in trouble with the law. However
children in care in England are **six** times
more likely to be cautioned or convicted
of an offence than other children




The review's survey of local authorities found that children in care who come to police attention may have a higher risk of being convicted - as opposed to being cautioned - compared to other children



Looked after children in custody show greater levels of mental health need (as a group) compared to other children in custody

Looked after children receive less emotional and practical support and have tend to have worse outcomes in areas such as resettlement planning



In the most recent survey by the Prisons Inspectorate, children in secure training centres who said they were or had been in local authority care were:

Less likely than their peers to say that they had visits from family, carers or friends at least once a week

(34% compared with 61%)

Less likely than their peers to say that
they knew where they would be living
when they left the centre

(52% compared with 89%)

More likely than their peers to say that
they had been physically restrained
during their time at the Secure Training
Centre

(45% compared with 29%)

More likely than their peers to say that they had felt threatened or intimidated by other children while at the centre

(25% compared with 10%)

44% of looked after children in custody
are from an ethnic minority
background, which is more than one
and a half times the proportions in the
general population and the looked after
population

**THE REPORT MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS
INCLUDING RESTORATIVE JUSTICE FOR
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN**

‘Restorative justice bring those harmed by crime or conflict and those responsible for the harm into communication, enabling everyone affected by a particular incident to play a part in repairing the harm and finding a positive way forward’

(www.restorativejustice.org.uk)



Activity



**Some examples of good
practice**

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

Reduced the number of Looked after Children in the criminal justice system year on year since 2011

Agencies work together and have joint working agreements

Introduction of the Youth Restorative Intervention and joint decision making between youth support service and police

LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL

Restorative Justice Programme was introduced in
2007 – 2010

Enabled staff in children's homes to manage low
level behaviour without involving the police.

An independent evaluation found there was a
substantial reduction in convictions both inside
and outside homes

HERTFORDSHIRE

23% reduction in police call outs during three years following the implementation of restorative practice in care homes by Hertfordshire County council

IDEAS FROM LINX

Police officers to visit Children in Care Councils

Each young person should have one person dealing with them so they can build a relationship up

Young people should not use 'I'm in care' as an excuse

Police could visit the foster carer support groups to reach YP in foster care

CPB to have police representation

Restorative justice is a good idea

OVER TO YOU:

**What can we do in
Lancashire?**