

please note that the names used in this case study are fictional

Medium-risk Programme referral from Education & Children's Services

'Sandra'

Sandra was referred to the service in June 2006 by Education and Children's Services as a result of her offending behaviour. It was acknowledged that Sandra's behaviour was becoming increasingly concerning, including her involvement in offending within the local community.

The referral was accepted and a programme of intervention designed to reflect factors contributory to Sandra's offending as identified by the comprehensive assessment formalised through the ASSET tool.

The assessment indicated that Sandra was at medium risk of reoffending and numerous areas of concern were identified including;

- Family and Personal Relationships
- Neighbourhood
- Lifestyle
- Emotional and Mental Health
- Thinking and Behaviour
- Attitudes to offending.

In response to these identified criminogenic needs and mindful of the risk principle, the proposed intervention for Sandra was designed to address some of these issues through five modules taken from Chapman's 'Youth Justice Modules'. In line with 'What Works' and National Standards the programme was based on cognitive behavioural methods with Problem Solving as a basis.

Sandra fully completed all five modules and worked well throughout the programme. Sandra has demonstrated the ability to work through problems using a systematic and positive approach, identify potentially risky situations and communicate her feelings appropriately. In addition to this Sandra appears more equipped to empathise with others and consider the consequences for both her and others prior to becoming involved in situations.

Following completion of the programme a second Asset was completed which evidenced a decrease in Sandra's assessed risk of reoffending to medium-low. One area that continues to present some level of risk for Sandra is impulsivity, which is a recognised element of ADHD; a condition which Sandra has been formally diagnosed with and is prescribed medication for. Sandra does appear to have made significant efforts in her decision making and structured activities such as Guides, which she attends weekly, may continue to support this.

It is my understanding that Sandra has not been involved in offending for approximately 10 months which I believe is a testament to her strength of character and positive attitude.

Perth & Kinross Youth Justice Service

