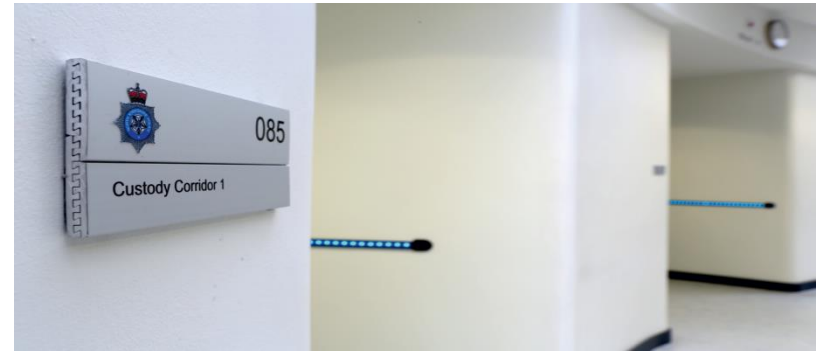
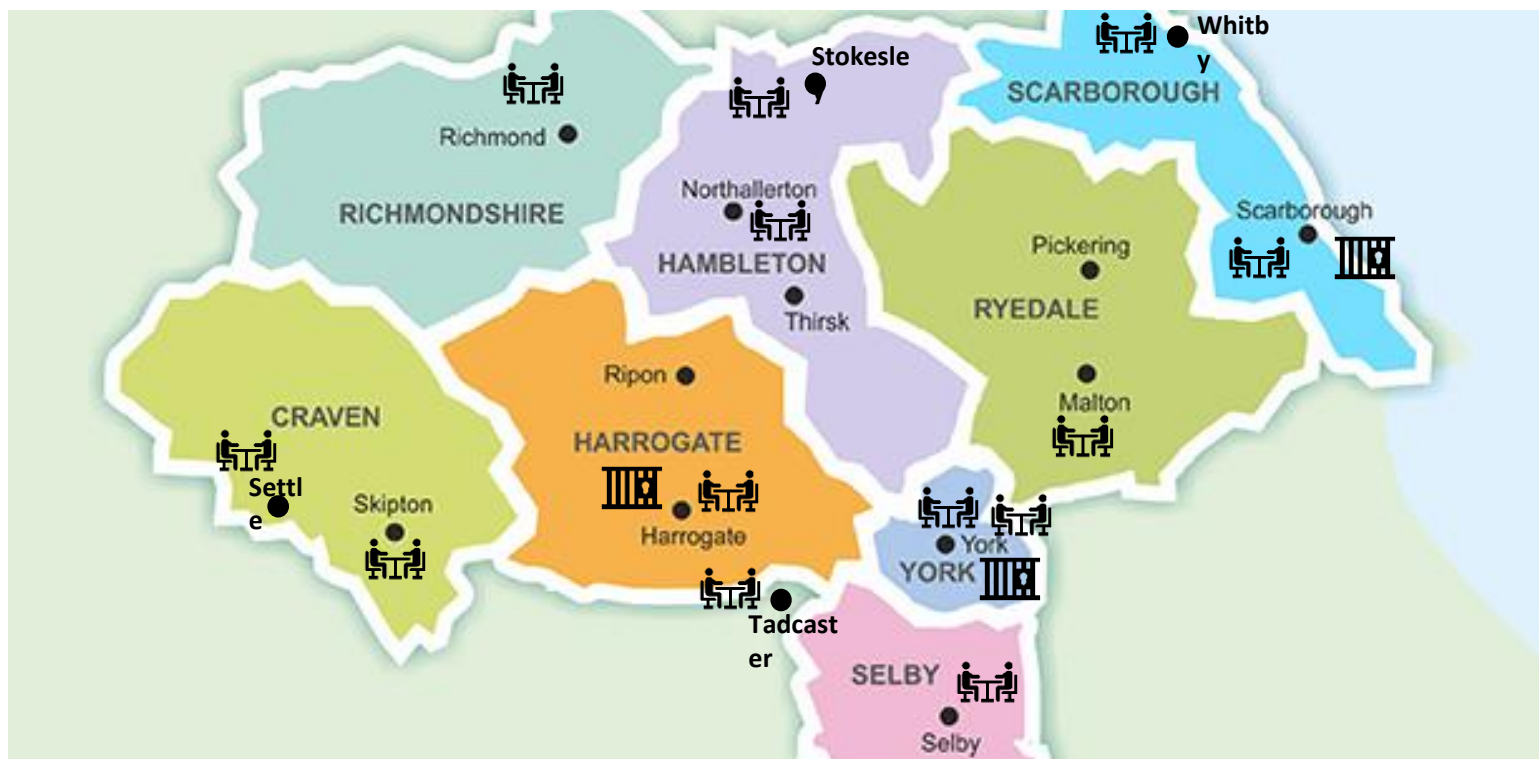




Police Custody

Public Accountability Meeting







Police Custody Estate

- North Yorkshire Police operate a centralised custody model in common with many other force areas.
- Designated suites at York Harrogate and Scarborough which operate on a 24/7 basis.
- Total cells available across the county = 57. York has largest capacity.
- High risk environment managing the complex needs of suspects and keeping people safe.



Staffing resources.

- Legislation and Policy dictate that a Custody suite must be managed by a fully trained and operationally competent Sergeant.
- Custody suites are staffed by a mixture of police custody sergeants and civilian detention officers (D.O.) who are specially trained to national Standards.
- Current establishment of 24 Sgts and 28 FTE D.Os who work 24/7 on a rotating shift pattern.
- Optimum staffing levels are carefully managed to ensure that there are adequate resources to safely manage the suites and safeguard detainees welfare.
- The management of the 3 suites is undertaken by 2 managers of the rank of Inspector, who report into a CJ Chief Inspector.



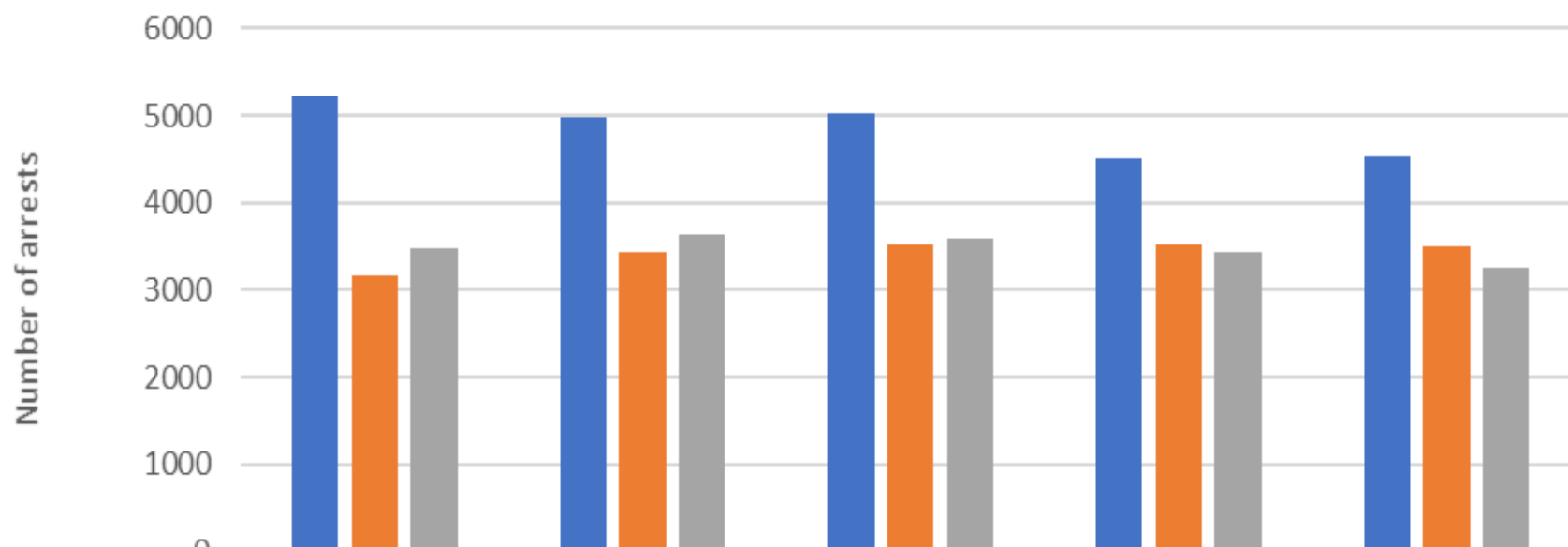
Staff Development

- All staff work to APP and training is aligned to the National Curriculum for this specialist role.
- Both Sgts and DOs undertake a 4 week in house training course in order to be competent to work in the custody environment.
- All Staff must be assessed as competent following a period of on the job mentoring.
- All staff undertake Continual Professional Development throughout the year, and we have a continual learning environment sharing lessons learnt through reflective practice.



Arrest figures 2017-2021

Arrests Per Custody Suite 2017 - 2021



■ York

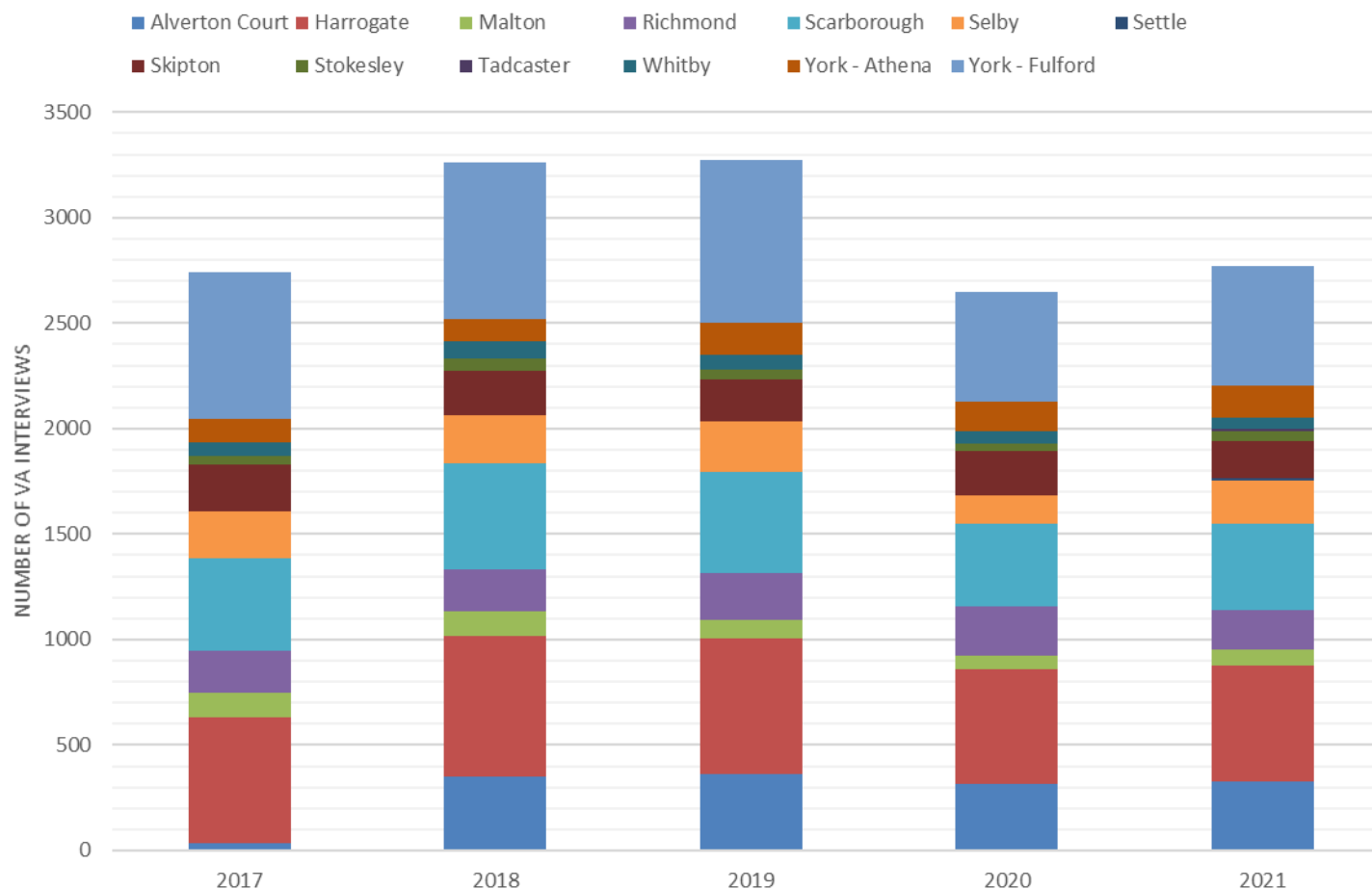
■ Harrogate

■ Scarborough

■ York ■ Harrogate ■ Scarborough



Voluntary Attendance figures 2017-21





Arrest versus Voluntary Attendance?

Arrest

There are at least reasonable grounds to suspect the person's involvement in the commission of a criminal offence.

There are reasonable grounds for believing that the person's arrest is necessary.

Necessity

The officer must consider whether the investigation can be effectively carried out by less intrusive means. Must take into account

- *the situation of the victim*
- *the nature of the offence*
- *the circumstances of the suspect and;*
- *the needs of the investigation.*

Where the arrest criteria is not met then the suspect may be invited to voluntarily attend an interview under caution

Voluntary Attendance (VA) process



- National change in Custody landscape on legislation including Bail Act changes in 2017, Safer Detention principles, Out of Court Disposals, and effectiveness and efficiency
- Review of Custody led to considerations significant Investment in our Voluntary Attendance Suites
- 13 VA suites strategically positioned to provide alternative options to Custody for interview.
- Not under arrest and free to leave at any stage
- Free and independent legal advice
- Risk assessments conducted and there is access to healthcare and liaison and diversion services

Pre charge bail and Released Under Investigation



- Bail can be used pre and post charge to prevent offending, protect victims and witnesses and to manage the suspect by placing conditions on a subjects freedom within defined timescales.
- Police and Crime Act 2017 included a significant reform of pre-charge bail and introduced a presumption of releasing a suspect without bail as released under investigation, (RUI)
- RUI suspect investigation without conditions restricting subjects freedom
- Introduction of dedicated Bail Sergeant and robust Suspect Management Policy and monitoring regime aligned to the National Guidelines for monitoring investigation on RUI
- Bail act to be amended this summer removing the presumption to release without Bail – impact assessment has been completed

Identifying vulnerability

A person is vulnerable if, as a result of their situation or circumstances, they are unable to take care of or protect themselves or others from harm or exploitation.



Vulnerability in Custody is considered broadly and can include

- Mental Health: including Section 136 Places of Safety verses Custody, identifying Mental Health Needs in Custody and preventing Self Harm
- Medical needs: Disabilities and Neuro Diversity. Dignity in Custody research and best practice being developed with the University of Sheffield
- Addiction: including detainees being under the influence Drugs and Alcohol and addiction support
- Detainees as Victim and Crime: Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Criminal Exploitation and Modern Slavery
- All suspects subject to a Pre-release risk assessment



Safeguarding detainees and Managing risk

- Legislation and Policy: highly regulated environment, Authorised Professional Practice and PACE.
- All detainees are subject to a rigorous Nationally developed risk assessment.
- Embedded Healthcare professionals 24/7 in custody.
- Liaison & Diversion service – NHS led and are able to signpost detainees to support pathways which are bespoke to their individual needs.
- All detainees will have an individual Care Plan subject to their individual needs and vulnerability

Appropriate Adults (AA) in custody.



- The role of the appropriate adult is to safeguard the interests, rights, entitlements and welfare of children and vulnerable people who are suspected of a criminal offence, by ensuring that they are treated in a fair and just manner and are able to participate effectively. This is over and above legal representation.
- Custody Sergeant assesses need for AA and arranges attendance and by whom whether familial, Local Authority or other responsible Adult.
- Local Authorities have a statutory obligation to provide an AA for children who are arrested
- NYCC have an embedded on call rota for vulnerable adults and a similar for the City of York is in development .
- We work closely with YJS and CSC and have our internal scrutiny procedure to continually assess the effectiveness of the AA provision

Governance and Scrutiny



- National NPCC groups as part of Custody and Bail lead Networks as well as regional custody meeting
- HMIFRSC Inspections every 5-6 years
- IOPC Scrutiny and learning and role of Professional Standards Department
- Monitor commissioned services such as Health Care providers and participate in Regional Health Care Board
- Independent Custody Visitors
- Criminal Justice Policy Inspector and officer
- All Suites covered by CCTV and microphones; Daily Dip sampling and CCTV reviews take place to scrutinise staff conduct and compliance with Policy.
- BI Weekly Custody SMT meetings to scrutinise all aspects of custody performance focusing on the Use of Force, Children in Custody, Appropriate adults,

Strengths



- Specialist trained Staff and Centralised Custody Suites
- Use of Authorised Professional Practice (APP)
- Strong Partnerships relationships
- Embedded Health Care Professionals
- Embedded Liaison and Diversion
- Dedicated Health Care Provided (non-Police) Places of Safety for 136 Detentions
- Suite of Out of Court and Diversionary options available and embedded either within Custody or as an alternative to arrest
- Strong Governance and Scrutiny arrangements
- Robust Suspect management and scrutiny Process.

Challenges

- Geography
- Age of the Custody Estate
- Covid
- Legislation changes including Bail
- Only two Inspectors for 3 suites.
- Dynamic nature of Demand
- Complex needs of some detainees.



Opportunities

- Technology Virtual Courts including Virtual Courts, Video Remands, Video Interviews and Cloud Video Platform
- Increased Police Officer numbers
- New Estate
- Increased Diversionary options including the Two Tier Framework
- Mobile Evidential Breath Testing devices



Thank you for listening

Questions?