

Site

Gateshead YJS

Name of project / initiative

Listen to Me video

Overview

Listen to Me is a 7 minute video scripted, voiced and animated by young people involved with Gateshead YJS, capturing their experiences of how they became involved in offending, their experiences of the Youth Justice Service, and what worked for them to help them stop offending.

Its impact

The video, which has been widely shown already, is intended to help encourage other young people involved with the CJS to engage constructively with services, and discourage others from becoming embroiled in criminality in the first place, as well as helping to inform the understanding of teachers, parents, and criminal justice professionals about young people and how most effectively to help divert them from crime and assist those involved in desisting from it. The team also feel that making the video has brought real benefits to the young people taking part themselves – helping build their confidence, and giving them the chance to reflect on their own experiences, and consolidate their desistance journeys.

What's special about it

The video is written and voiced by the young people themselves, and the team feel that their regional accents and local cultural references make the video more engaging for other local young people.

Wider applicability

Gateshead believe their video would not be so useful outside the north east, but that it would be helpful for other regions to produce similar videos of their own, and note that it was relatively inexpensive to put together.

For more information:

Contact: emmablackwell@gateshead.gov.uk

See also: <https://youtu.be/tnoyL3OhF5A> ["Listen to me" video] &
[Knowx.uk/Gateshead-KBT23.pdf](https://www.knowx.uk/Gateshead-KBT23.pdf) [additional information]