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Staffordshire brings more offences to justice

Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board welcomed the latest set of figures which show improved performance of the justice system across the county.

Chris Sims, Chair of Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board, said: "The agencies that make up our Board work together to ensure that the system is being rebalanced in favour of the law-abiding majority and we're delighted that these new figures emphasise our progress.

"We're now dealing more quickly with persistent young offenders, more fines are being enforced and more trials are being run in the Magistrates' Courts and as a result, we are bringing more offences to justice. During the past twelve months we have exceeded our target by 9.2% (26,713) in bringing 29,172 offences to justice.

"But it doesn't stop there, we're making every effort to further improve our Criminal Justice System by undertaking detailed analyses of our work processes, tackling bureaucracy to find out where improvements can be made and identify our priorities for local improvements and reform."

In Staffordshire the figures show:

- Reduction in time in bringing persistent young offenders to justice from 72 days to 52 days
- Reduction in our outstanding warrants by 17.4%, from 470 in June 2007 to 388 in September 2007
- Increase in the percentage of community penalty breaches dealt with in 25 days from 47% in June 2007 to 55% in September 2007
- Exceeded our target by 9.2% in the number of offences brought to justice

Across England and Wales latest performance shows that 1.44 million offences were brought to justice in the year to June 2007 which is well above the 1.25

million required by the Public Service Agreement and an increase of 44% since March 2002.

The latest set of CJS quarterly performance figures to September 2007 have been published and can be found at <http://lcjb.cjsonline.gov.uk/>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board was set up in April 2003 to manage the CJS at a local level. It, along with the other 41 Local Boards covering each county or metropolitan area across England and Wales, reports to the National Criminal Justice Board which supports them in their work to meet Public Service Agreement targets at a local level and reduce crime in Staffordshire.
2. Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board brings together the chief officers of criminal justice agencies including the Courts Service, Crown Prosecution Service, Probation Service, Police Service, Prison Service and the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Youth Offending Services. The agencies share the responsibilities of reducing crime and the fear of crime in Staffordshire.
3. For further details, please contact Martine Redpath, Communications and Marketing Manager, Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board on 01785 235129 or email: martine.redpath@staffordshire.pnn.police.uk
4. Staffordshire Criminal Justice Board is responsible for the running of the Criminal Justice System in the county of Staffordshire. For further information please visit: www.lcjb.cjsonline.gov.uk/Staffordshire