

## Resource: Youth Service – NEET and Youth Payment/Young Parent Payment (Youth Justice)

Youth Service provides an opportunity for young people to access support back into education, training, or work based learning. There are two separate services available to young people:

- Youth Service (NEET) for 16 and 17 year olds who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) or at risk of being NEET. This is a voluntary service for young people.
- Youth Service (Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment) for 16 to 18 year olds receiving financial assistance from Work and Income.

Child Youth and Family can encourage young people who are referred or directed for a youth justice family group conference or who are going onto a Supervision order after a Supervision with Residence order, to access those Youth Services available to them in the course of their intervention. This resource details the process to be followed in each instance.

### Information sharing

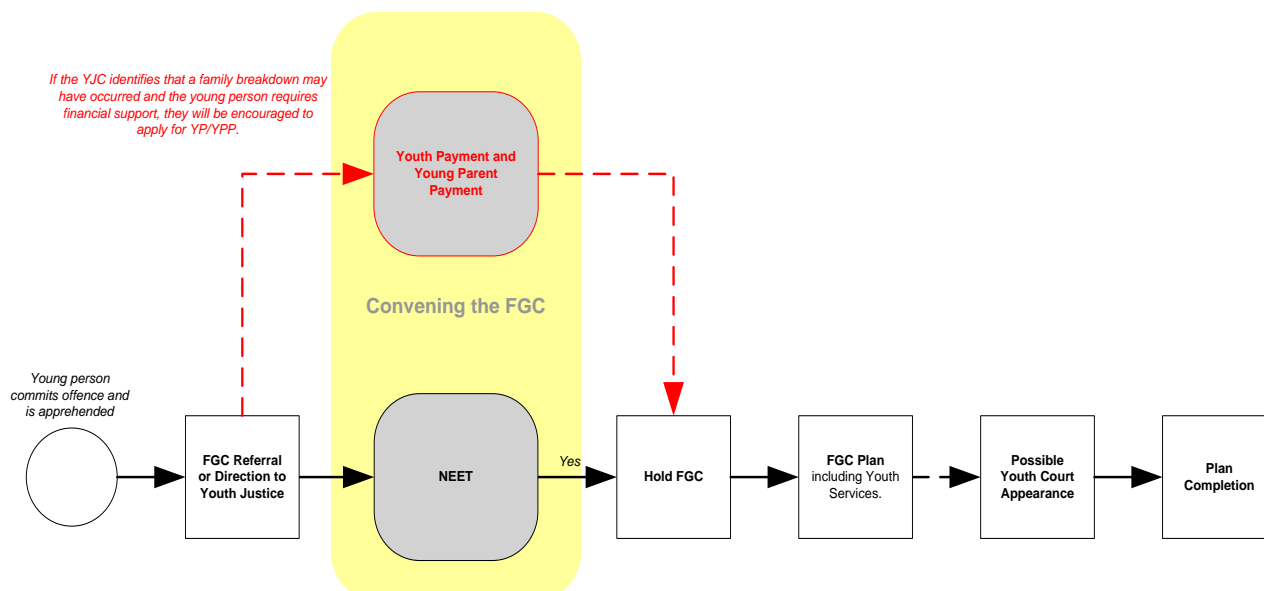
The young person can share any information with the provider. The young person's consent to share information is wide ranging and is given as part of the agreement to engage with the provider of the Youth Service

The youth justice coordinator or social worker can share relevant information with the provider that he/she believes will help the provider effectively deliver the Youth Service to the young person. The youth justice coordinator or social worker will exercise discretion in sharing information and it should be done in consultation with the young person and youth justice supervisor. The young person's consent is required and it is appropriate to confirm with the young person their understanding of 'informed consent' and 'relevant information'.

Any information provided by the youth justice coordinator or social worker must assist with the future planning for the young person. For example, the youth justice coordinator or social worker could advise the provider if the young person should not associate with particular social or peer group or that they have a diagnosis that impacts on the young person's ability to cope with certain environments, or their learning style. They may have engaged in programmes already that would assist in future service decisions.

More detailed guidance on information sharing is available in the *Guidelines for Youth Service Information Sharing* document.

### 1) Process for young people referred or directed for a youth justice family group conference



### **Initial Check**

When a young person is referred by Police or directed by the Youth Court, for a youth justice family group conference, the youth justice coordinator will:

- check the young person's circumstances and eligibility
- check whether the young person is interested in being involved in the Youth Service
- check whether a family breakdown has occurred; this will mean the young person has lost the support of their parents or guardians and requires financial support.

### **No family breakdown has occurred (NEET)**

Where it appears that a family breakdown has not occurred, the youth justice coordinator will contact a local Youth Service provider to discuss:

- the family group conference process and plan
- the services available to the young person
- arranging a meeting with the young person, provider, and youth justice coordinator
- the provider's availability to attend the family group conference.

### **Family breakdown has occurred (Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment)**

Where it appears that a family breakdown has occurred, the youth justice coordinator encourages and may assist the young person to apply for Youth Payment or Young Parent Payment.

Once an application is made the Youth Service Support Unit contacts the young person to advise them the Youth Service provider with whom they will need to engage. It should be noted that a family breakdown assessment may be required for these young people, which is part of the application process.

The youth justice coordinator requests this information from the young person and contacts the local Youth Service provider to discuss:

- the family group conference process and plan
- the services available to the young person
- arranging a meeting with the young person, provider, and youth justice coordinator
- the provider's availability to attend the family group conference.

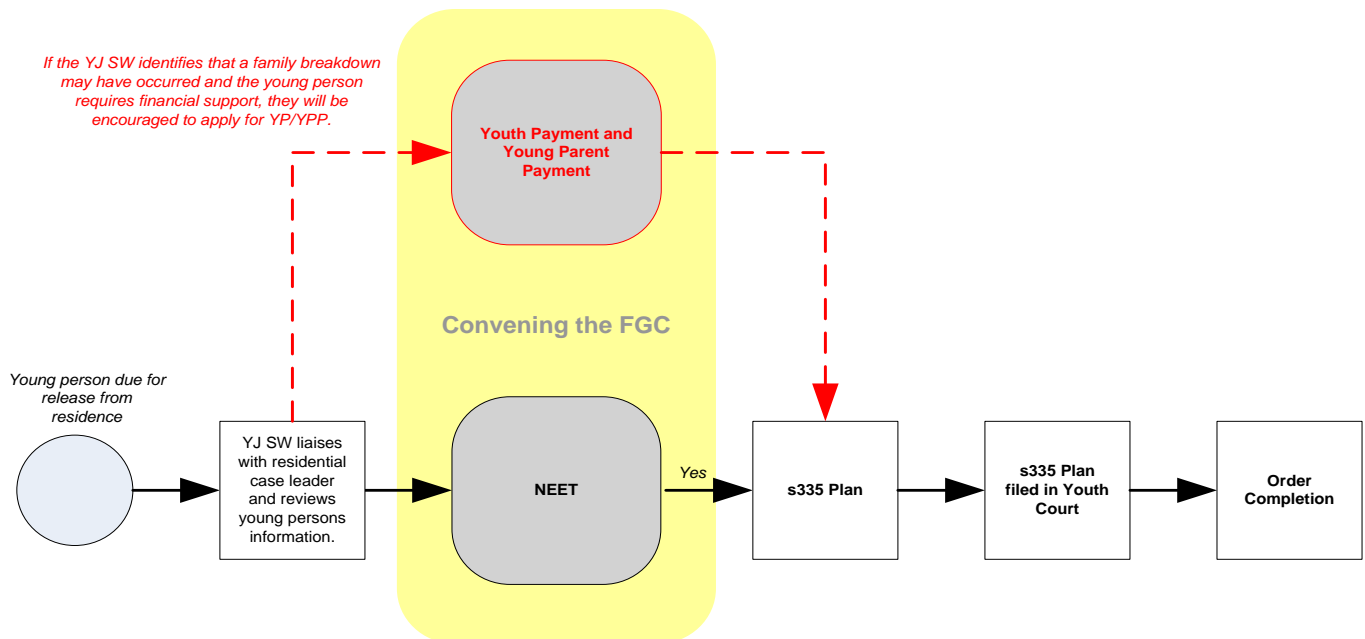
### **Holding the family group conference and the family group conference plan**

If a plan is agreed at the family group conference, it may include Youth Services. The required activities and responsibilities will be detailed in the plan.

If the family group conference agrees on a Supervision with Activity order or a Supervision order, Youth Services may form part of the s335 plan.

It should be noted that Youth Services may continue after a family group conference plan or Youth Court order is completed.

## 2) Process for young people who are going onto a Supervision order after a Supervision with Residence order



### Initial Check

When a young person is on a Supervision with Residence order and is due for release, the young person's social worker is responsible for developing the subsequent Supervision order and will liaise with the residential case leader. The social worker will:

- check the young person's circumstances and eligibility
- check whether the young person is interested in being involved in the Youth Service
- check whether a family breakdown has occurred; this will mean the young person has lost the support of their parents or guardians and requires financial support.

### No family breakdown has occurred (NEET)

Where it appears that a family breakdown has not occurred, the young person's social worker contacts their local Youth Service provider to discuss:

- the s335 plan and Supervision order
- the services available to the young person
- arranging a meeting with the provider and where appropriate, the young person.

### Family breakdown has occurred (Youth Payment and Young Parent Payment)

Where it appears that a family breakdown has occurred, the social worker will advise the residential case leader, who will then assist the young person to apply for Youth Payment or Young Parent Payment. The residential case leader's name and contact phone number will be included in the young person's application.

Once an application is made the Youth Service Support Unit will contact the residential case leader to arrange an appropriate time to speak with the young person about their application and to advise them of the Youth Service provider with whom they will need to engage. The residential case leader will share this information with the social worker. It should be noted that a family breakdown assessment may be required for these young people, which is part of the application process.

The social worker will then contact the local Youth Service provider to discuss:

- the s335 plan and Supervision order
- the services available to the young person
- arranging a meeting with the provider and where appropriate, the young person.

### **Forming the s335 plan**

Once the young person's social worker has determined (in discussion with the Youth Service provider) what Youth Services will be included in the s335 plan, they will then complete the plan and lodge it in the Youth Court where a Supervision order under s283(k) will be made.

It should be noted that some Youth Services may continue after the Supervision order is completed.