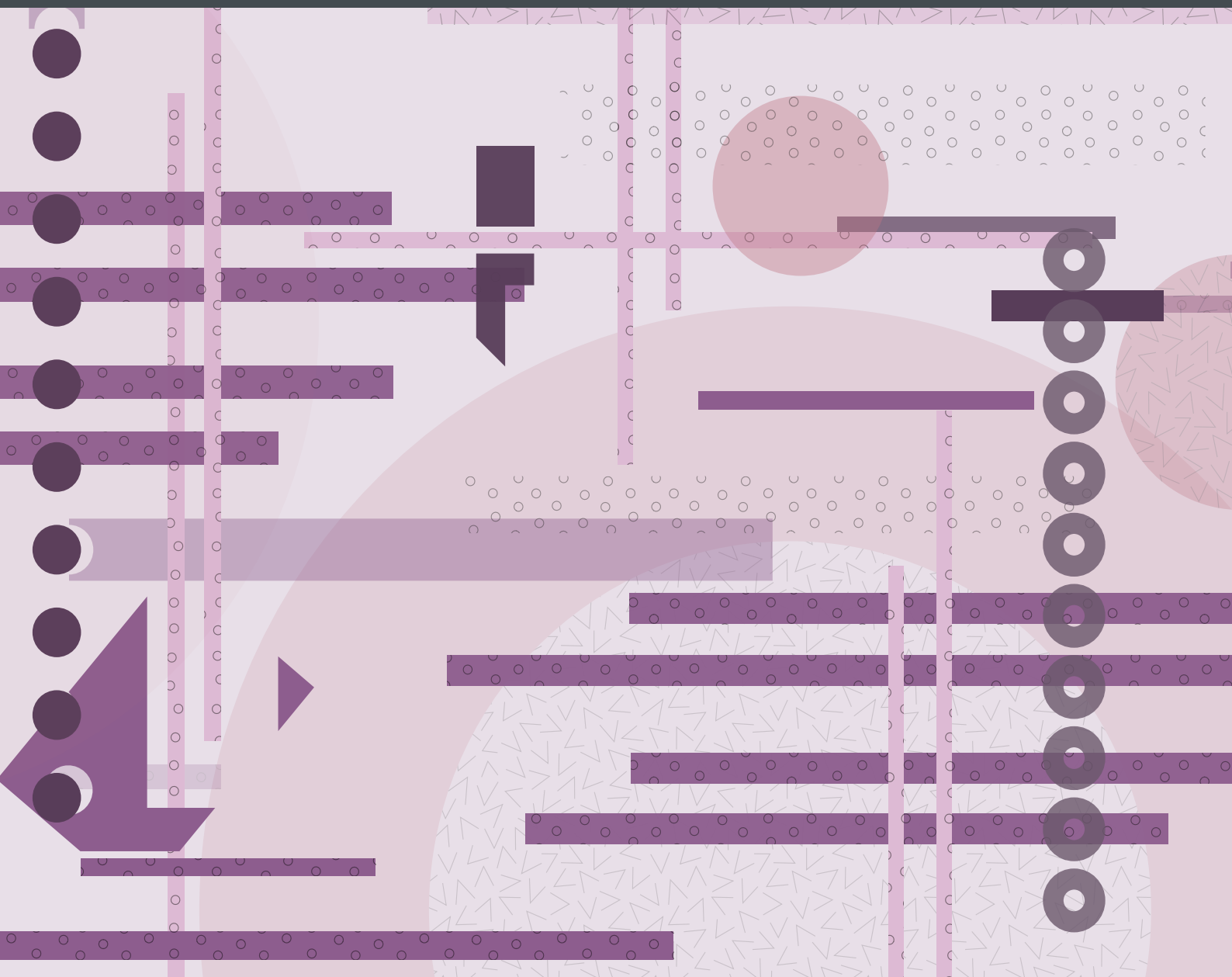


Criminal Justice Project

Impact of Restriction on Bail on offenders who use Class A drugs in Liverpool

July 2018


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KEY FINDINGS

- There were 445 offenders (324 individuals) eligible for Restriction on Bail (RoB) in Liverpool between April 2015 and March 2018. There was a 34% decrease between 2015/16 and 2016/17, followed by a 23% increase in 2017/18.
- Similarly, the number of attempted drug tests across the city's custody suites decreased by 49% between 2015/16 and 2016/17, then increased by 13% in 2017/18.
- Around three-quarters (74%) of those eligible for RoB between April 2015 and March 2018 were men, though there was an increase in the proportion of women eligible for RoB in 2016/17 when compared to 2015/16 and 2017/18.
- Proportions peaked for those aged 30-34 years and 40-44 years (18% each), though some variations were identified across the three years. Furthermore, there were higher proportions of women aged 40-44 years and 45-49 years (20% and 23% respectively) when compared to men of the same age groups (18% and 13% respectively).
- Over a third (37%) of those eligible for RoB between April 2015 and March 2018 were remanded in custody following their court hearing, followed by 36% who were given RoB, 17% who were given bail conditions separate to RoB and 10% where the case was disposed by the court.
- Notably, the proportion given RoB decreased year on year, representing an overall decrease of 61%, while those given bail conditions separate to RoB increased by 118% over the three-year period.
- Of the 159 clients given RoB between April 2015 and March 2018, around three-quarters (74%) were men and one in five (20%) were aged 30-34 years.
- Overall, there was a 65% decrease in the mean number of drug tests carried out on all those eligible for RoB in the six months following their court hearing when compared to the mean number of drug tests carried out in the six months pre-court. The reduction in drug testing activity pre- and post-court was significant ($p < 0.001$).
- Of the remanded in custody group, the mean number of drug tests decreased by 77% in the six months post-court compared to pre-court. This decrease was significant ($p < 0.001$) and the mean number of drug tests was lower than all other hearing outcome groups both pre- and post-court appearance.
- For those given RoB following their court appearance, drug testing activity reduced by 55% in the six months following their court appearance compared to pre-court. The decrease was significant ($p < 0.001$) and notably, these individuals had the highest mean number of drug tests in the six months pre-court appearance when compared to the other outcome groups.
- The mean number of drug tests in the six months following the court appearance of those who received bail conditions separate to RoB decreased by 47% when compared to drug testing activity in the six months pre-court. Although the decrease was significant ($p = 0.006$), this group of offenders had the highest mean number of drug tests recorded in the six months post-court hearing when compared to the other outcome groups.

INTRODUCTION

Restriction on Bail (RoB) is an early intervention for adult offenders who use Class A drugs (opiates and/or cocaine¹), providing an opportunity to engage in treatment whilst on bail and reduce re-offending. The process in identifying offenders suitable for RoB starts with a test for Class A drugs that is carried out by the police in the custody suite following an arrest or charge. Details of the drug test are documented on the defendant's custody record, which is submitted with the prosecution file when the defendant first appears in court having been charged. Drug test results are also communicated to the court based drugs worker in order to identify offenders who are potentially suitable for RoB, so that an assessment can be carried out to ascertain eligibility. If an offender refuses to undergo the assessment, the court has the power to refuse bail and remand the individual in custody (Home Office, 2010).

The drug test result and assessment are used as evidence before the court to show that the defendant has tested positive for a Class A drug and that they are suitable for RoB. The magistrates ultimately decide whether to implement RoB conditions to those who are given court bail, which requires them to attend the local treatment agency for the duration of bail. If a client fails to attend or participate in treatment, the local treatment agency informs the police who then make a decision on whether to arrest the defendant for breach of bail conditions. The defendant will then return to court where the decision will be made as to whether to re-bail the defendant to RoB, bail them with other restrictions or remand them in custody².

The aim of this report is to gain an understanding of the RoB processes in Liverpool, and to provide an overview on the number of offenders eligible for RoB as well as assess the impact RoB has on re-offending following a court appearance (using drug testing activity as a proxy measure).

ROB PROCESSES

In May 2018, the Public Health Institute (PHI) at Liverpool John Moores University met with the provider commissioned in Liverpool to deliver treatment as per the conditions of RoB. RoB processes and possible reasons for the decline in the number of clients eligible for RoB and those given RoB conditions as part of court bail were considered.

The Required Assessment (RA)³, which is imposed by Merseyside Police following a positive test for Class A drugs (opiates and/or cocaine) carried out in the custody suite, fulfils the purposes of the RoB assessment used to identify those eligible for these conditions whilst on court bail. The treatment provider has a court based drugs worker who is informed by the provider's custody suite staff of individuals who have tested positive for Class A drugs in order to identify potential RoB clients. The court based worker visits clients in the court cells to explain the RoB package and the conditions attached to the initiative. The treatment provider then presents to the court, informing the bench that the individual is suitable for the treatment delivered as part of RoB^{4,5},

¹ Cocaine includes powder cocaine and crack cocaine.

² See Appendix A for a RoB process map.

³ This a compulsory legal sanction which requires the individual to attend up to two appointments (initial/follow-up RA) with a drugs worker. During these assessments the drugs worker will assess the individual's drug use and offending behaviour and, if necessary, encourage them to engage with drug treatment services (Home Office, 2010).

⁴ See Appendix B for the treatment provider's RoB contract, which is used to confirm a named individual tested positive for Class A drugs and was assessed by a drugs worker. It also details the conditions attached to RoB, and the date and time of their appointment.

⁵ In instances when the treatment provider cannot be present in court, on-call cover is provided, and the Crown Prosecution Service can communicate to court that an individual meets the requirements of RoB.

while the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) are responsible for communicating the drug test result to the court, which is obtained electronically with the prosecution file from Merseyside Police. The magistrates then determine whether to impose RoB conditions for those given court bail. Information on clients eligible for RoB are collected via monitoring forms which are submitted to PHI's Intelligence and Surveillance Team for data entry and monitoring purposes⁶.

Those given RoB as part of their court bail are given an appointment with the treatment provider at 11:30 on the next working day. Clients are allocated a case manager and are required to undergo comprehensive drug and health care assessments. RoB usually lasts one to two weeks, but can be as long as three weeks, depending on the duration of bail. Those who tested positive for opiate metabolites⁷ are required to attend twice per week and those who tested positive for cocaine only are required to attend once per week, under the direction of their case manager. Clients are drug tested weekly while on RoB and are offered group work, as well as other interventions available to all clients who engage with the treatment provider. At the end of a client's bail period, the treatment provider provides a detailed report to the court indicating the client's willingness to engage, test compliance and details of the treatment delivered.

RoB is deemed as a valuable way of assessing suitability for a Drug Rehabilitation Requirement (DRR). A DRR is part of a Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order and is a key way for offenders to address problematic drug use, comprising of structured treatment and regular drug testing. It provides fast access to a drug treatment programme, with the main aim of reducing or eliminating illicit drug use and associated offending (National Offender Management Service, 2015). As clients have started drug treatment through RoB, many clients who are given a Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order following their bail period with RoB conditions are given a DRR⁸. The number of DRRs given by the court halved between 2014/15 and 2016/17 (Critchley, 2017), and it is possible that the reduction in the numbers of RoB could have attributed to this decline.

The treatment provider reported a number of reasons why there has been a decline in the number of RoB. Firstly, in 2016, the courts were given a 60% target whereby offenders are to be sentenced on the day, which increased to 80% in 2017. As the court's intention is to get everyone through as quickly as possible with the aim of sentencing on the day, offenders are more likely to be given a fine, curfew, Conditional Caution or a Rehabilitation Activity Requirement (RAR) day with the treatment provider if given a Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order⁹. Solicitors want the minimum sanctions for their clients and they have a lot of influence in court; therefore in instances where their client is given bail they will generally encourage bail without RoB conditions. The treatment provider attends court user group meetings to promote RoB; however, this does not appear to be working as the meetings are usually around court processes. Joint working seems to be lacking, which is attributed to the court's requirement to deal with cases as quickly as possible as per national targets for same day sentencing.

⁶ Monitoring data collected include: client initials, date of birth, gender, local authority of residence, date of court hearing, whether the drug test result was communicated to court, hearing outcome (e.g. bail [other], remand in custody, RoB), date of next hearing (if applicable), outcome of RoB (e.g. completed successfully, completed with breaches).

⁷ Opiates only, or cocaine and opiates.

⁸ In Liverpool, another treatment provider is commissioned to deliver DRRs; therefore clients are transferred from one agency to the other in order for clients to continue their treatment journey.

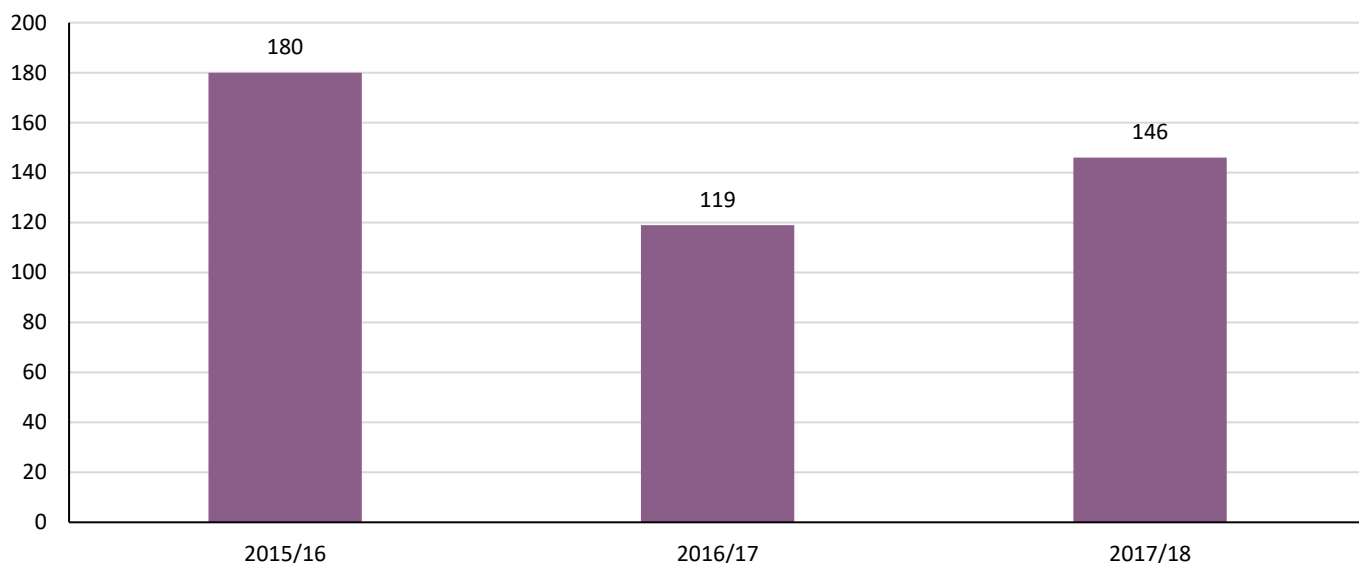
⁹ RARs were introduced by the Offender Rehabilitation Act 2014 and became available to the courts in February 2015. It is a requirement that the court can include as part of a Community Order or Suspended Sentence Order, and the court can order 10-60 RAR days, but in Liverpool, offenders usually receive 20 RAR days on average. It is considered that offenders receive RAR days instead of being given a DRR due to the pressures in court to meet the same day sentencing target, as the courts do not want to adjourn for pre-sentence reports which include an assessment to determine suitability for a DRR (Critchley, 2017). A RAR day with a treatment provider in Liverpool is usually an appointment with a drugs worker, and although the client will be encouraged to engage with their service, there is no requirement to do so and therefore this is less effective than a DRR.

Furthermore, there has been a decline in the number of drug tests carried out by Merseyside Police following an arrest or charge. However, in order to identify those eligible for RoB, a positive test result for Class A drugs is required. Previous PHI research highlighted that the number of attempted drug tests conducted in Liverpool’s custody suites halved in the twelve months following the implementation of targeted testing¹⁰ (Critchley and Whitfield, 2017). Further research suggested that individuals who could be suitable for treatment were not being drug tested under targeted testing, as more than half of a cohort of individuals who tested positive for Class A drugs and continued to offend were not drug tested at subsequent arrests (Collins et al., 2017). The decline in drug tests is mostly attributable to targeted testing, though there has also been a reduction in arrests, and an increase in the use of Voluntary Attendance¹¹. In addition, because of the Policing and Crime Act 2017, the police can no longer release someone on bail for longer than 28 days; therefore the police will release suspects under investigation. Those released under investigation are contacted by post to advise them of the outcome, though the investigation may result in further interviews and arrests if new evidence emerges. The impact that this has on RoB is that the treatment provider’s court worker is unaware of when these individuals present at court following a charge.

OVERVIEW AND TRENDS OF ROB DATA

There were 445 offenders (324 individuals) eligible for RoB in Liverpool between April 2015 and March 2018. There was a 34% decrease between 2015/16 and 2016/17, followed by a 23% increase in 2017/18 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Number eligible for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)

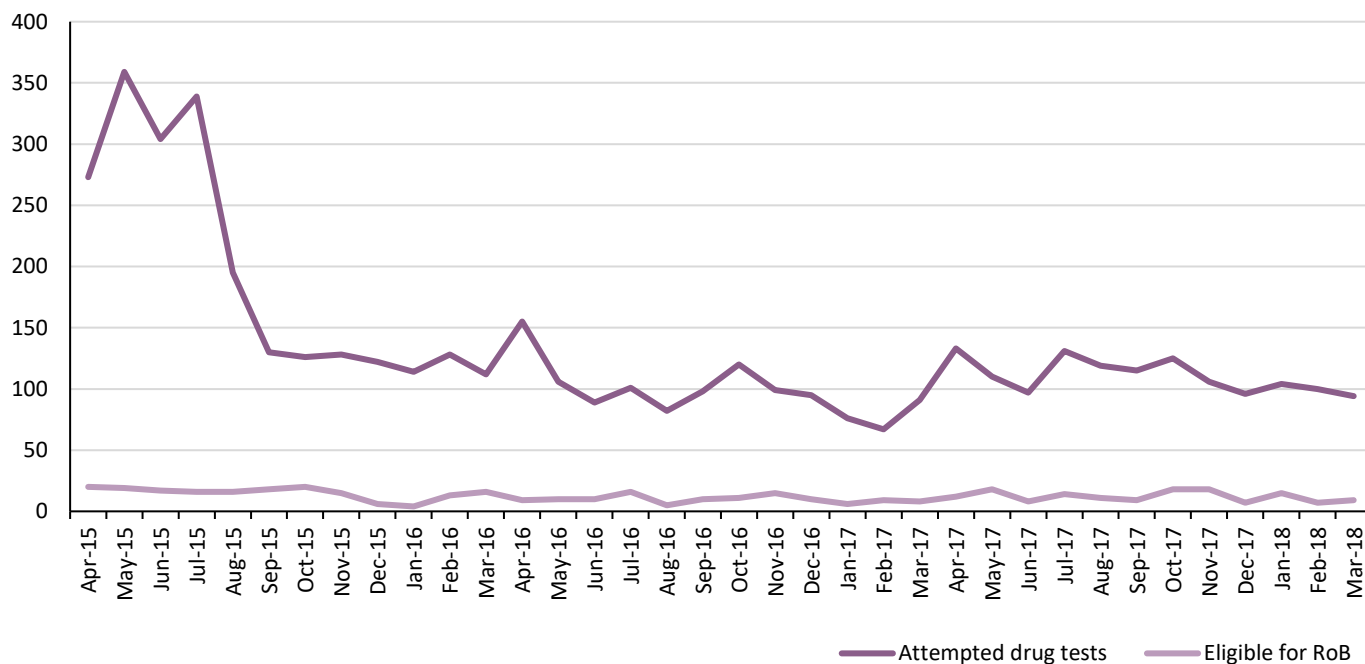


¹⁰ Targeted testing was implemented in 2015 and involves a list of six questions around drug use that should be considered by the police before a decision is made on whether the detainee is tested for Class A drugs. The main aim of targeted testing was to reduce the number of negative drug tests carried out in the custody suite setting, thus saving police time and money, while ensuring offenders who use drugs continue to be tested and referred to treatment services through an RA which is imposed by the police following a positive drug test.

¹¹ Voluntary Attendance is an alternative to arrest, where custody is deemed unnecessary. Interviews are conducted in designated local facilities, not in the custody suite, and therefore no drug tests are carried out. Voluntary Attendance was introduced nationally in 2012, but its use has been increasing in the last two to three years.

Figure 2 compares the number of attempted drug tests across Liverpool’s custody suites with the number of offenders eligible for RoB over the three-year period. Similar to the trends for RoB, the number of attempted drug tests across the city’s custody suites decreased by 49% between 2015/16 and 2016/17 (compared to a 34% decrease in the number eligible for RoB), then increased by 13% in 2017/18 (compared to a 23% increase in the number eligible for RoB). Figure 2 shows that generally, in months where there were peaks in drug tests, this was emulated by numbers eligible for RoB; therefore highlighting the importance of drug testing detainees in order to identify them for opportunities to engage in treatment.

Figure 2: Attempted drug tests vs. eligibility for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Around three-quarters (74%) of those eligible for RoB between April 2015 and March 2018 were men (n=330). Figure 3 shows comparisons across the three years, highlighting an increase in the proportion of women eligible for RoB in 2016/17 (30%).

Figure 3: Gender of those eligible for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)

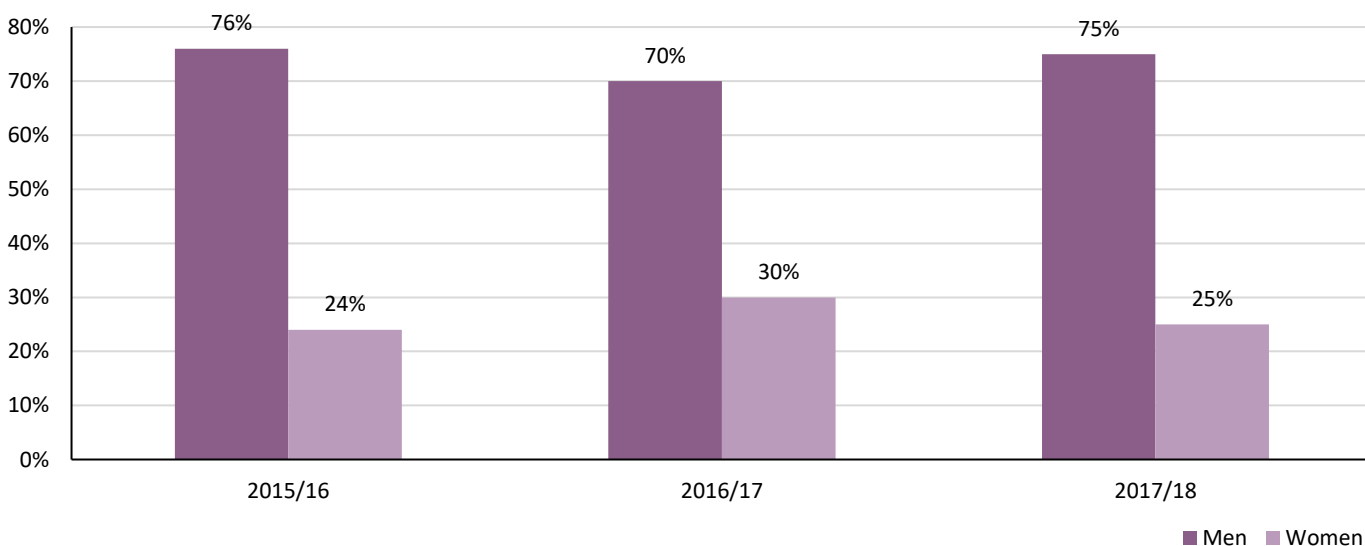
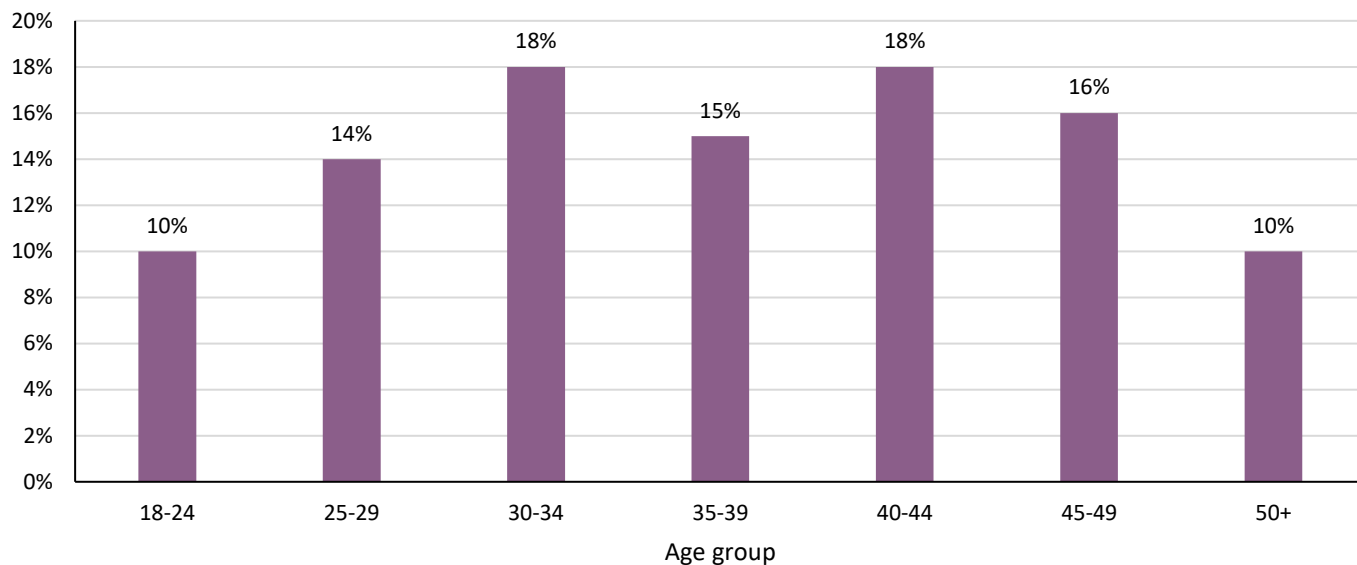


Figure 4 shows the age groups of those eligible for RoB during the three-year period. Proportions peaked for those aged 30-34 years (n=79; 18%) and 40-44 years (n=81; 18%).

Figure 4: Age group of those eligible for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)



There were some variations in the age group of offenders across the three years (Table 1). In 2015/16, the proportion of those eligible for RoB peaked in those aged 30-34 years (n=46; 26%), while in 2016/17 there were similar proportions across those aged 25-29 years (n=20; 17%), 30-34 years (n=19; 16%), 35-39 years (n=20; 17%), 40-44 years (n=21; 18%) and 45-49 years (n=20; 17%). In 2017/18, there was a peak for offenders aged 40-44 years (n=31; 21%), followed by 45-49 years (n=28; 19%).

Table 1: Age group of those eligible for RoB by financial year (2015/16 to 2017/18)

Year	18-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50+
2015/16	12%	11%	26%	14%	16%	12%	9%
2016/17	8%	17%	16%	17%	18%	17%	8%
2017/18	8%	16%	10%	14%	21%	19%	12%
Total	10%	14%	18%	15%	18%	16%	10%

There were further variations identified when comparing age group and gender. Over the three-year period, there were higher proportions of women aged 40-44 years and 45-49 years (20% and 23% respectively) when compared to men of the same age groups (18% and 13% respectively; Table 2).

Table 2: Age group and gender of those eligible for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)

Age group	Women	Men	Total
18-24	10%	9%	10%
25-29	10%	15%	14%
30-34	13%	19%	18%
35-39	15%	15%	15%
40-44	20%	18%	18%
45-49	23%	13%	16%
50+	8%	11%	10%

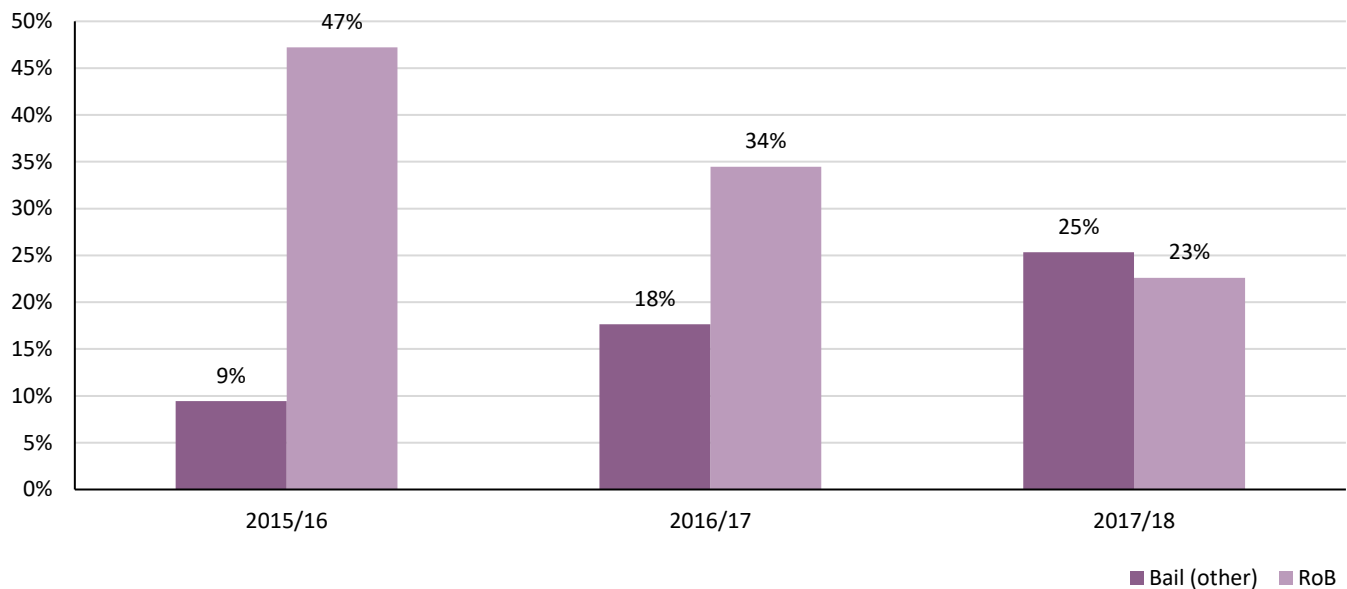
HEARING OUTCOME

Overall, 37% (n=166) of those eligible for RoB between April 2015 and March 2018 were remanded in custody following their court hearing, followed by 36% (n=159) who were given RoB, while 17% (n=75) were given bail conditions other than RoB and 10% (n=45) had their case disposed by the court (Table 3). However, proportions varied over the three years, and notably those given RoB decreased year on year, representing an overall decrease of 61%, while those given bail conditions separate to RoB increased by 118% over the three-year period (Table 3 & Figure 5).

Table 3: Hearing outcome of those eligible for RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)

Year	Bail - other	Case disposed	Remand in custody	RoB
2015/16	9%	13%	31%	47%
2016/17	18%	8%	40%	34%
2017/18	25%	9%	43%	23%
Total	17%	10%	37%	36%

Figure 5: Bail - other vs. RoB (2015/16 to 2017/18)



Of the 159 clients given RoB between April 2015 and March 2018, around three-quarters were men (n=117; 74%), and one in five were aged 30-34 years (n=32; 20%).

In order to understand possible reasons why offenders may have been bailed without RoB conditions, these records (2017/18 only) were matched to Merseyside Police drug testing data. Of the 37 bail - other records, 33 were matched to a positive drug test result prior to their court appearance¹². Just under three in five (58%) offenders who were bailed without RoB tested positive for opiate metabolites (opiates only/both opiates and cocaine), compared to 42% who tested positive for cocaine only.

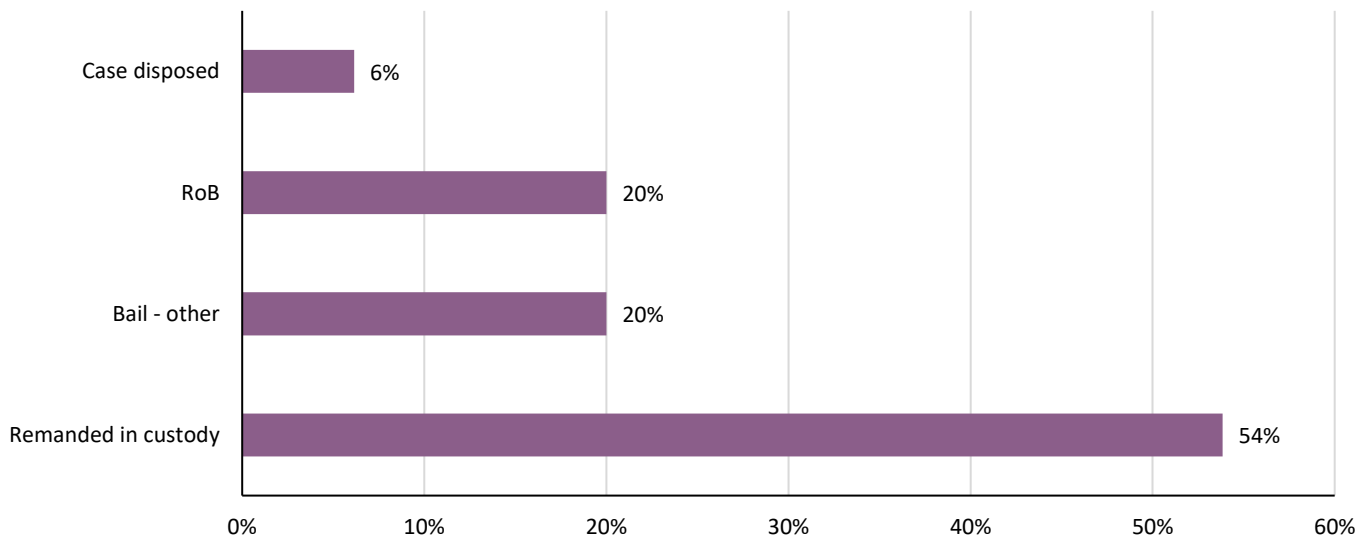
¹² A possible reason why a number of RoB records could not be matched to a positive drug test is inconsistencies in the recording of the client's attributor.

RE-OFFENDING OF CLIENTS ELIGIBLE FOR RoB

To consider the impact of RoB on re-offending, a cohort of clients eligible for RoB between 1 April 2017 and 30 September 2017 was identified from the treatment provider's monitoring forms (65 individuals¹³). Over seven in ten (72%) of the individuals were men (n=47), and one-quarter (25%) were aged 45-49 years (n=16), followed by one-fifth (20%) aged 40-44 years (n=13).

Over half (54%) of the offenders were remanded in custody following their court appearance (n=35), while those given RoB and those given bail conditions separate to RoB each accounted for 20% of the cohort (n=13 each), and 6% had their case disposed by the court (Figure 6).

Figure 6: Hearing outcome of the offenders eligible for RoB (April to September 2017)



RESULTS OF STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

The cohort of clients eligible for RoB were matched to Merseyside Police drug testing data as a proxy measure of offending in the six months prior to and six months following their court appearance. As highlighted earlier in the report, there was a substantial reduction in the number of attempted drug tests carried out in the custody suites following the implementation of targeted testing. Care should therefore be taken with these results as the number of drug tests reported pre- and post-court appearance is not an accurate representation of all offending which occurred during the time period.

Statistical analysis¹⁴ measured the difference in drug testing activity pre- and post-court appearance to assess the impact on offending behaviour as a proxy measure for all those eligible for RoB, and then broken down by hearing outcome (remanded in custody, RoB and bail - other¹⁵).

¹³ For individuals with more than one monitoring form over the six-month period, the record with the earliest court hearing date was kept and all others were removed from the data set.

¹⁴ See Appendix C for methodology.

¹⁵ In instances where the case was disposed at court, these have been included in the analysis of all offenders eligible for RoB, but separate analysis for this group of offenders has not been carried out due to a low number.

There was a 65% decrease in the mean number of drug tests carried out on all those eligible for RoB in the six months following their court appearance, when compared to the drug tests carried out in the six months pre-court (Table 4). The reduction in drug testing activity pre- and post-court was significant ($F[1,63] = 62.696$; $p < 0.001$). In order to identify differences across the hearing outcome groups, we analysed each group in turn (Table 4).

Table 4: Mean number of drug tests pre- and post-court by hearing outcome

Hearing outcome	Mean number of drug tests		Difference (pre - post)	Significance
	Pre-court	Post-court		
Remanded in custody	1.14	0.26	0.88 (-77%)	$p < 0.001$
RoB	1.38	0.62	0.76 (-55%)	$p < 0.001$
Bail - other	1.31	0.69	0.62 (-47%)	$p = 0.006$
All eligible for RoB[^]	1.31	0.46	0.85 (-65%)	$p < 0.001$

[^] Including those disposed at court

REMANDED IN CUSTODY

The mean number of drug tests carried out on those who were remanded in custody following their court appearance decreased by 77% in the six months post-court compared to pre-court. This decrease was significant ($F[1,33] = 54.421$; $p < 0.001$); however, these individuals will have been in prison custody for at least part, if not all, of the six months following their court appearance and will therefore have had little or no opportunity to offend and present to police custody drug testing during this time. The mean number of drug tests for those remanded in custody was lower than all other hearing outcome groups both pre- and post-court appearance.

ROB

For those given RoB following their court appearance, drug testing activity reduced by 55% in the six months following their court appearance compared to pre-court. The decrease was significant ($F[1,11] = 17.408$; $p < 0.001$), and notably, these individuals had the highest mean number of drug tests in the six months pre-court appearance and the second lowest mean number of tests in the six months post-court (after the remanded in custody group) when compared to the other outcome groups.

BAIL - OTHER

The mean number of drug tests in the six months following the court appearance of those who received bail conditions separate to RoB decreased by 47% when compared to drug testing activity in the six months pre-court. Although the decrease was significant ($F[1,11] = 8.509$; $p = 0.006$), this group of offenders had the highest mean number of drug tests recorded in the six months post-court appearance when compared to the other outcome groups.

CONCLUSION

This report highlights the value of RoB on offenders who use Class A drugs. Although there was a significant reduction in the mean number of drug tests carried out in the six months following the court hearing of all those eligible for RoB, those given RoB showed the second greatest reduction when compared to the other outcome groups. However, individuals in the remanded in custody group who had the largest difference pre- and post-court will have had little or no opportunity to offend and present to police custody drug testing as they were in prison custody for at least part, if not all, of the six months following their court hearing. Comparatively, those who were given court bail without RoB had the highest mean number of drug tests in the six months following their court hearing, thus indicating a far less effect on offending than those given RoB.

There were limitations in the statistical analysis; due to a reduction in the number eligible for RoB, numbers included in the analysis are small. The results show a proxy for re-offending only, as individuals eligible for RoB were matched to drug testing data provided by Merseyside Police whereby detainees are tested for Class A drugs. Therefore individuals may have continued to offend but were not drug tested by the police, and as stated in this report, there has been a substantial reduction in the number of drug tests across Merseyside. Likewise, there may have been offending occurring prior to the court hearing that did not result in a drug test. Although a certain degree of caution should be taken with these results, reassuringly the findings are somewhat similar to analysis carried out by PHI in 2013 using the same methodology, prior to the implementation of targeted testing (Cuddy, 2013).

The findings highlight the benefit of magistrates implementing RoB conditions to those who are given court bail, rather than other bail conditions. However, the proportion of offenders given RoB decreased year on year, while it increased for those given bail conditions separate to RoB. Although it seems that this could be due to a lack of awareness of the RoB initiative from magistrates and solicitors, this requires further investigation to ascertain the specific reason(s) why individuals who are deemed suitable for RoB are given court bail without these conditions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

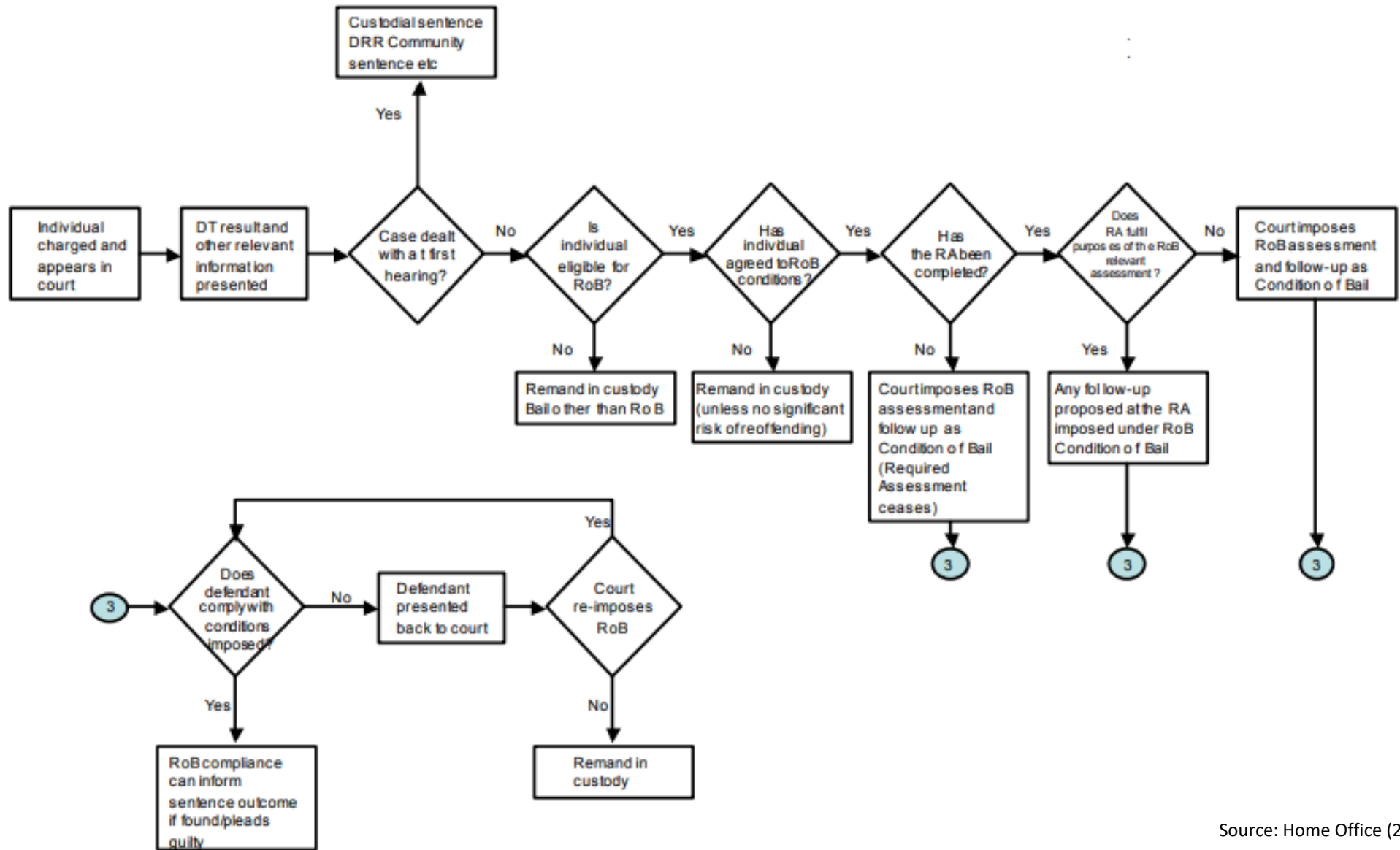
- The police custody drug testing process is the main criminal justice route whereby offenders who use Class A drugs are identified and assessed for treatment. Early interventions include the RA process and RoB for those given court bail. However, the number of drug tests across Merseyside has decreased substantially, which has had an impact on numbers of clients eligible for RoB. Stakeholders should therefore consider ways to increase drug testing in the custody suite setting to identify clients for these early interventions.
- Stakeholders should utilise data collected on RoB monitoring forms, as the information will enable stakeholders to observe any changes and/or trends, as well as investigate the reasons for these trends. For example, a decline in those given RoB was identified, while those given bail with conditions separate to RoB increased, and the proportion eligible for RoB peaked in 30-34 year olds in 2015/16, and in 40-44 year olds and 45-49 year olds in 2017/18. This should assist in evidencing any process changes that may be needed, in addition to highlighting potential gaps or barriers in offenders being given RoB. Furthermore, the dataset enables client profiling, which is key to identifying likely presenters, and can affect the resources and services required to cater for the needs of these individuals in an efficient manner. With resources and budgets constantly under scrutiny, this information should be used to ensure these individuals have a successful drug treatment experience.
- It is imperative that there are effective and prompt communication channels, and joint working between Merseyside Police, the treatment provider, the CPS and the magistrates. Although organisational operations and targets may differ considerably, an overarching aim of assisting offenders who use drugs towards treatment should be shared by all stakeholders and facilitated as much as possible.
- Magistrates should have a full understanding of the options available for offenders who use Class A drugs, and delivery of training and new ways to promote RoB (and options upon sentencing, i.e. DRRs) should be considered.

These recommendations are unlikely to be achieved without sustained working between all stakeholders; however their implementation would likely ensure offenders who use Class A drugs receive early interventions to address their offending and drug use.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

ROB PROCESS MAP



RESTRICTIONS ON BAIL INITIATIVE – LIVERPOOL

NAME:

D.O.B:

BAIL APPLICATION BEFORE: LKMC

ON:

The above named person tested positive for a Class A drug/s on arrest and was assessed by a qualified drugs worker for the Restrictions on Bail initiative in Liverpool. An appointment has been made for;

Date/Time.....@11.30am

If the Court imposes Restrictions on Bail, the conditions will include;

- Attending [redacted] twice per week under the direction of his/her individual case manager. The first appointment will take place within 24 hours of bail, or on the next working day.
- To undergo full comprehensive drug and health care assessments, and if required, an appointment will be arranged for him/her to be seen by one of our clinicians for commencing on an appropriate treatment programme.
- Attending group work sessions aimed at addressing drug use and offending behaviour.
- Under the direction of their individual case manager, to attend other appropriate appointments identified as being beneficial in assessing his/her suitability for long-term drug treatment.
- Providing a detailed Court report indicating his/her willingness to engage in the programme.
- Random urine testing is included as a feature of the Restrictions on Bail programme.

[redacted] is fully aware of its responsibility to the Courts and wider communities and will enforce the non-compliance procedure, (breach) if required.

.....
DIP Worker – Liverpool DIP Team

METHODOLOGY FOR STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

- A cohort of offenders eligible for RoB between 1 April 2017 and 30 September 2017 was identified from the treatment provider's monitoring forms (n=72; 65 individuals). For individuals with more than one record over the six-month period, the record with the earliest court hearing date was kept.
- The cohort of 65 individuals was matched to drug testing data provided by Merseyside Police to identify the number of drug tests carried out across the force's custody suites in the six months prior to and six months following the individual's court hearing.
- A General Linear Model was used for the statistical analysis. Descriptive statistics showed the mean number of drug tests pre- and post-court hearing, while multivariate analysis of variance was used to test for statistical significance between the means (F value). Analysis was carried out on the overall dataset of all individuals eligible for RoB, and then repeated for the following hearing outcome groups: remanded in custody, RoB and bail - other. In instances where the case was disposed at court, these have been included in the analysis of all offenders eligible for RoB, but separate analysis for this group of offenders has not been carried out due to a low number.

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