Judicial youth system

Exploring the Future of Juvenile Incarceration and the implementation of an improved judicial youth system

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5 November 2020
1. Motivations

Desire to change in 2015:

• Improve continuity in care and supervision by means of ‘local' placement (decentralisation);
• Move from 'one size fits all' to personalized care and security requirements;
• An approach to placement and screening juveniles which is customizable and goal oriented;
• Employ healthy elements from juvenile’s network (non-criminogenic factors);
• To improve the collaboration between chain partners, including the municipality (city or township).
2. Juvenile data 2019

Pre-trial detention
- Age: average 17 years old
- Length of stay: approx. 50% < 1 month
- 54% first time in JJI
- Approx. 70% live at home before incarceration
- Approx. 70% have care contacts
- Many psychosocial issues as addiction, debts and early school leaving

Age pre-trial in juvenile centre 2019

Length of stay PIJ (measure, custodial treatment)
2015-2019: from 1383 days to 1174 days
3. Total overview Exploring the Future of Juvenile Incarceration

**Objective:**
A robust, future-focussed environment in which the juvenile is the main focus and the approach surpasses chain boundaries and is sustainable. Goal: reducing the chance of re-offending (recidivism)

**Sub-goals:**
A. Juveniles at the right place (needed care)
B. Professional care focussed on treatment, safety and security
C. Good connection between forensic care and regular care
D. Fully integrated network of chain partners
E. Flexibility in treatment methods and capacity

**Further elaboration of contours via:**
- Experiments and trials
- Supplementary change questions

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**Contours System review JJI**
- VIV JJ report

**2015**
- Placement

**2016/2017**
- Screening
  - National Facility

**2017/2018**
- Advice
  - Future of juvenile incarceration
  - Local Facility
4. Building blocks

1) Placement, screening and global/integral plan
2) Local facilities (semi open setting)
3) National, specialist facilities (high secure setting)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residence title</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-trial detention</td>
<td>1.209</td>
<td>1.243</td>
<td>1.165</td>
<td>1.293</td>
<td>1.432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile incarceration</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>451</td>
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<tr>
<td>Measure Custodial treatment within a juvenile centre</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Experimental phase

- **Trials/experiments from 2016 till 2018**

  - Small scale, local facilities with a lower security level:
    - Local facility in Amsterdam
    - Local facility in Groningen
    - Local facility in Nijmegen

  - Integrated screening and diagnostics testing grounds:
    - In JJI De Hartelborgt, Rotterdam
    - In JJI Den Hey-Acker, Breda
    - In Local facility Groningen

- **Taskforce national specialist facilities for incarceration of juvenile delinquents within a high security setting**

Participants:
- Municipalities
- Certified institutions for Youth care
- Child Protection Agency
- Police
- Prosecution
- Parents
- Juveniles
- Advocacy
- Probation & rehabilitation organizations
- Education & Schools
- Science
- Healthcare
- Judiciary
5. Decision

28th of June 2019 decision to change by Minister of legal protection Sander Dekker

His decision focussed on differentiated arrangements in security, care and supervision. Aims to improve the continuity of care, care that is customizable and goal oriented. In order to contribute to reduce recidivism.

In order to achieve this the following measures need to be taken:

- Reducing the number of cells (capacity) for delinquent juveniles by closing down 2 correctional institutions for juveniles.

- Introducing local facilities for delinquent juveniles.
  - Placement in a local facility after a thorough screening and risk assessment.
  - Local care partners for juvenile help and judicial chain partners
  - Clear involvement by municipality/township (they are 'their young people') and local (care) partners are essential. (Preferably/where possible, involvement of juvenile and his/her parents/network)

- If there are contra-indications a delinquent/suspect will be placed in a high security national specialist facility.
  - Screening also contributes at creating a plan of action for the juvenile (long term)
  - Better involvement of parents/partners (older juveniles) and other healthy elements from network (non-criminogenic factors)
  - Combination of specialised expertise
6. Total overview implementation of changes in judicial youth system

### Objective:
A robust, future-focused environment in which the juvenile is main focus and the approach surpasses chain boundaries and is sustainable. Aimed at reducing recidivism

- **2019**
  - Decision and planning & Start Change Program
- **2020/2022**
  - Further development of Local Facility Amsterdam
  - Local Facility North
  - Local Facility Rotterdam
  - Local Facility South
  - Pilots for National Facilities
  - Adjustment of treatment/care offer
- **2023/2024**
  - Implement changes by current institutions to become National Specialist Facilities
  - Renovations correctional institutions for juveniles

### Scientific Monitor
- There will be 5 local facilities in 2023 (Amsterdam, Rotterdam, Den Haag, in the South and North of the Netherlands)
- There will be 5 national specialist facilities in 2024. (Sassenheim, Breda, Spijkenisse, Lelystad, Nijmegen)
Why all these developments?

- Population
- Science
- Adolescent criminal law
Population

• Diverse in individual, social and contextual factors
• Diverse in risk and protective factors

• Developmental problems
• Lower Cognitive abilities
• Trauma
• Personality problems
• Long criminal carriere

• Older
Science

‘Unfulfilled development’

- Biological
  Maturity of the brain (prefrontal cortex)
  inhibition, regulation, planning, decision making, problem solving
- Cognitive
- Social-emotional
  risk taking, influence
- Moral
Juvenile criminal law in the Netherlands

• criminal responsible from the age of 12
• juvenile criminal law between 12 and 18

2015 Adolescent criminal law

Between the age of 16 and 23 experts advice the court: Juvenile or Adult Criminal law

- psychological/psychiatric problems
- cognitive developmental problems
Issues in clinical practice

• Juveniles sentenced by adult criminal law

• Young adults in facilities with juveniles
Where do we stand now?

Five Forensic Youth Centres
Five small scaled facilities

Pilots:
- Lower secured units
- Transforensic care
- Screening and diagnostics
- Risk management
- Neuro biological intervention
- Interventions for older adolescents
Challenges

Developing change in a running business.....