

# YOUTH INTERVENTIONS: AN INSPECTION OF THE YOUTH JUSTICE AGENCY'S COMMUNITY INTERVENTIONS

Criminal Justice Inspection  
Northern Ireland  
*a better justice system for all*



## CHILDREN ENTERING THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE FOR THE FIRST TIME

In 2011-12:

**11.7%**

Aged 10 to 17 years

In 2021-22:

**9.5%**

Aged 10 to 17 years

## INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN REFERRED TO THE YOUTH JUSTICE AGENCY

In 2018-19:

**977**

In 2022-23:

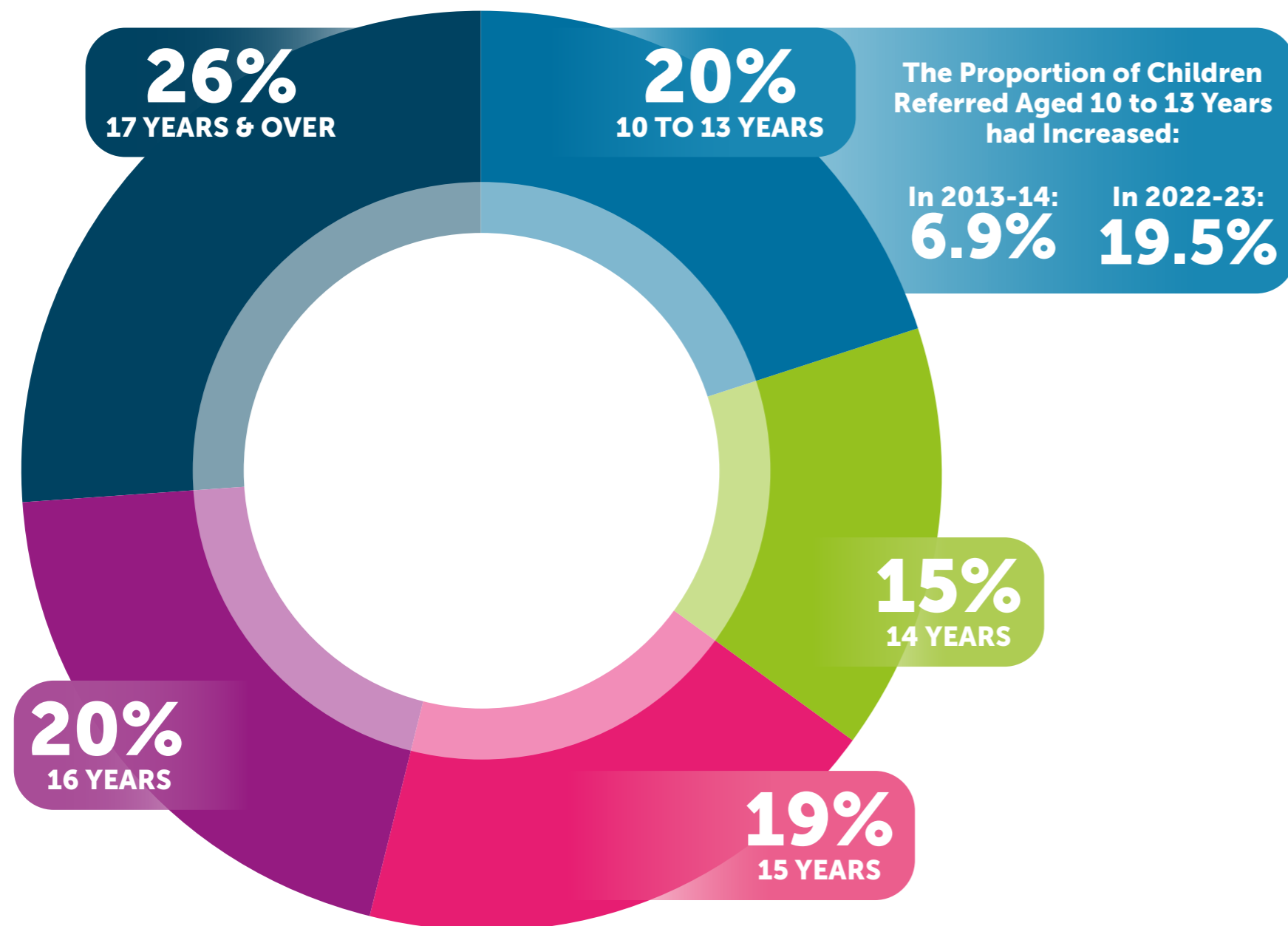
**774**

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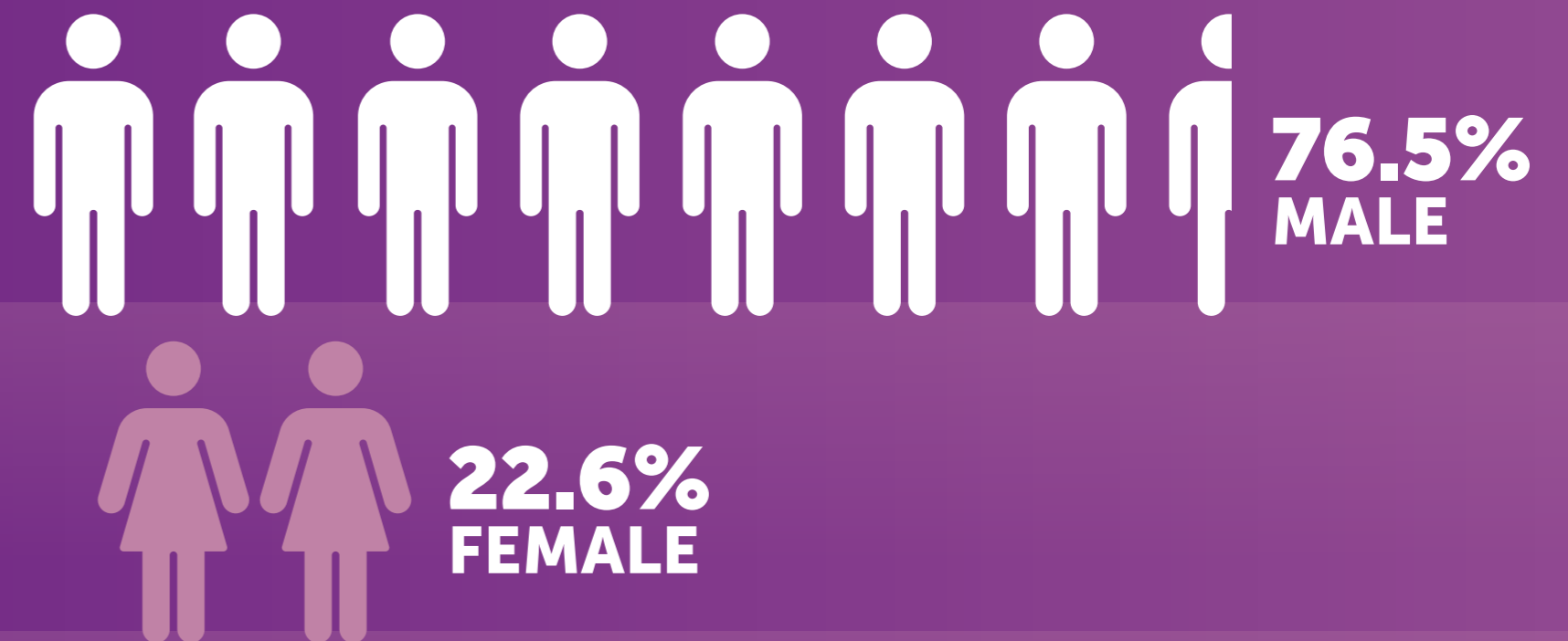
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## AGE AND GENDER PROFILE REFERRED TO THE YOUTH JUSTICE AGENCY



A greater proportion of males than females were referred to the Youth Justice Agency in 2022-23:



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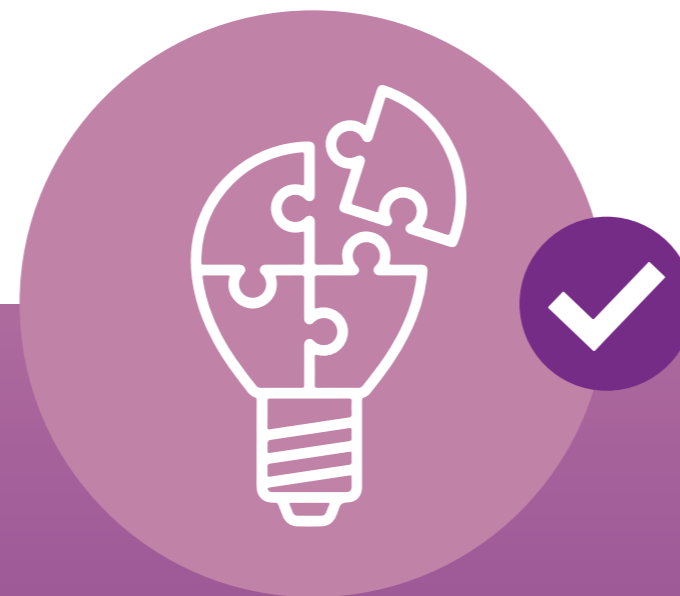
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## **WHAT DID INSPECTORS FIND?**



**The Youth Justice Agency (YJA) had a strong, experienced management team to support the delivery of interventions.**



**YJA were dedicated and demonstrated motivation and understanding of the work required to help children.**



**Children, parents and carers and victims described excellent relationships with YJA staff.**



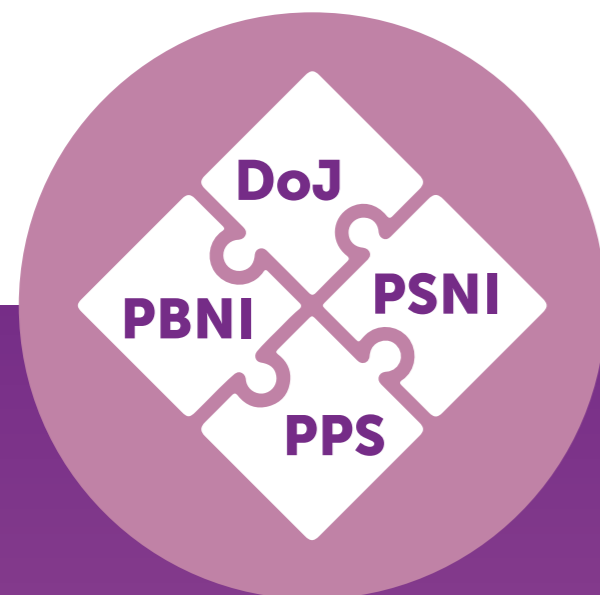
**Staff built excellent partnerships with other organisations supporting children.**

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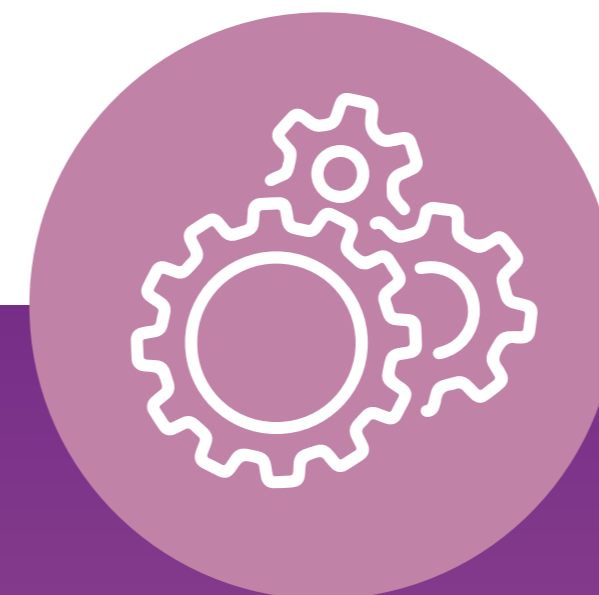
## **WHAT NEEDS TO IMPROVE?**



**Better partnership  
working between the  
Youth Justice Agency  
and its criminal justice  
partners.**



**The vision for and  
strategic oversight  
of the youth justice  
system.**



**Enhancement in  
the high-quality  
services delivered  
and workload  
trends.**



**Retention of  
highly skilled and  
child-centred  
workforce.**