

## Youth Justice Patient Story – July 2024

**Name of service:** Youth Justice Service

**Main purpose of service:** Our specialist nurses work with young people aged between 10 and 18 who are already involved with either the Kirklees or Calderdale Youth Justice Services.

The aim of the service is to promote health and wellbeing and contribute to the prevention of youth crime in Calderdale and Kirklees.

### About H:

H's mum spoke to Locala's Engagement Team in June 2024 to share her experience of the support her and her son, H, received from Locala's Youth Offenders Team over the last 12 months.

In 2023, H received a community order after been caught carrying a weapon in public. At the time, H was also experiencing pain in his leg and was having difficulties walking, which created a barrier to him attending school where he was a year 10 pupil.

### Locala's care:

During this challenging time for H, he was introduced to Locala's Health Advisor, Louise Seddon. Louise supported H with coordinating health care for his leg pain. His mum said **"Within weeks of meeting Louise, she had referred him to a physiotherapist and had assisted him to an appointment at the Leeds General Infirmary as he was struggling to manage his pain."** H was diagnosed with a slipped disc and is now receiving regular physiotherapy which is already really helping her son.

Whilst H was not attending school, Louise maintained a relationship with his school to advocate for him. After speaking to H's teacher, Louise learnt that he had been behind in school and had struggled with education from a young age and was also suffering from memory loss. In addition to this, Louise identified a speech disorder when communicating with him. Following this, Louise coordinated the appropriate care for H, including a referral into Locala's Speech and Language Therapy team for ongoing support.

### Gratitude:

H's mum said, **"He feels listened to now and he is getting the support he needs. I am thankful for Louise. We wouldn't have got anywhere without her."**

**"I feel like things are calming down for us. Louise has lifted a lot of weight and stress from our shoulders. Even the community police officer told him that they are proud of him. Thank you, Louise, for sticking it out and supporting us as a family."**

When we asked if there is anything Locala could have done to make her experience better, she said, **"No, nothing. Louise has been amazing."**

### H's future:

H is now 16 years old, and with the extra support and care he now has in place, he has enrolled on to a Barbering course at college which he hopes to start this September.