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- **DIVERT is a Metropolitan Police custody programme designed to divert 18-25 years olds away from offending and into employment, education and training based in Brixton, Croydon, Wood Green, Stoke Newington, Bethnal Green and Lewisham Police.**
- **Funded by the London VRU, DIVERT works collaboratively with Bounce Back, The New Era Foundation , Palace for Life Foundation and Millwall Community Trust. DIVERT connects people to a vast network of grassroots and London wide opportunity, including statutory partners like DWP.**
- **DIVERT uses Custody Intervention Coaches based directly in police custody to speak with young adults with the ultimate aim of changing their direction so that they don't reoffend and have a reduced chance of becoming victims or perpetrators of violence.**

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- **We work separately to the Criminal Justice System and work on a tailored approach. We find working within police custody uses that environment as a teachable moment.**
- **We speak with people arrested for the possession of knives and weapons including offences that also drive violence including drug possession and supply. This isn't a soft option, this is about that young adult taking responsibility and making better choices to change their life.**
- **After they have left police custody whether they have been NFA'd , Bailed, RUI'd or Charged our Custody Intervention Coaches work in a proactive and timely way to get that young person into opportunity.**

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- **DIVERT has worked with over 1169 18-25 year olds providing them with information, advice and guidance. 789 have received training and education including mental health resilience and pre employment courses. Just over 200 have found employment.**
- **Initial findings from the College of Policing Evaluation at Brixton concluded that DIVERT had a 20% reduction in re-arrest rate compared to the control group.**
- **DIVERT has shared best practice and is fully embedded in Thames Valley and Lancashire Police which is also funded by their respective VRUs.**
- **In 2021 DIVERT the VRU are proposing to increase funding for DIVERT to be in 12 major police custody suites and to provide to support 2000 young adults per year.**

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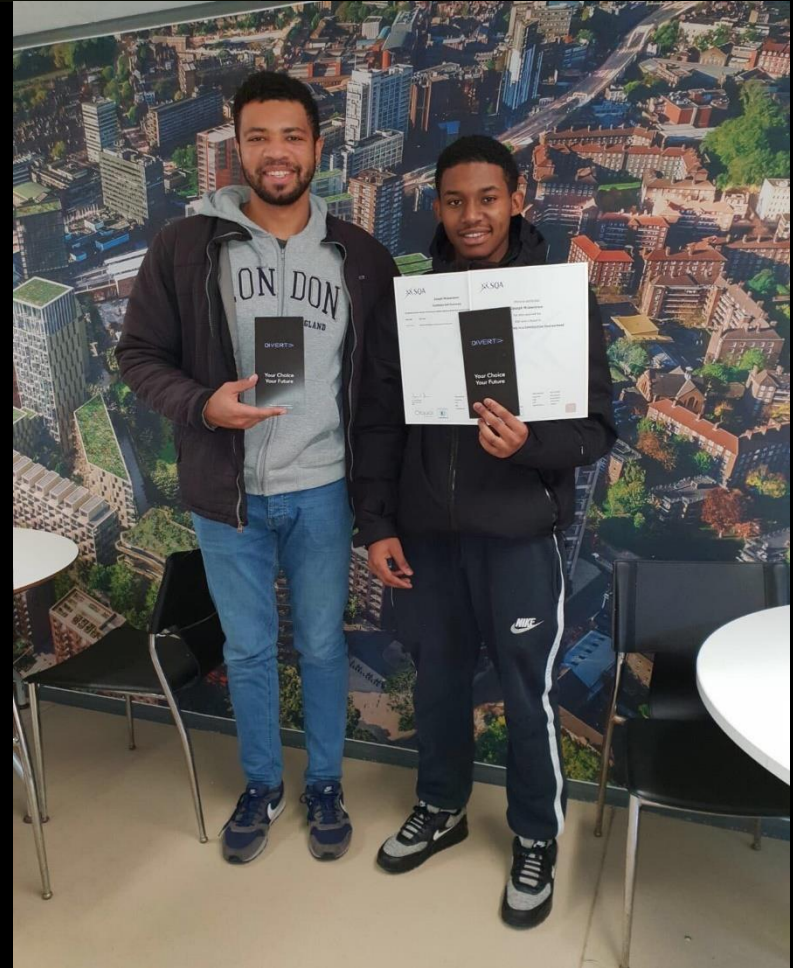
Paul was arrested for the possession of knife and taken to Brixton Custody. Angel spoke with him and identified his passion for music. Paul enrolled and attended a 7 week music development course via the Grit School. He here is with Angel after performing in Brixton.



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The logo for DIVERT, featuring the word "DIVERT" in a blue, stylized font, followed by a blue greater-than sign (>). The logo is set against a dark, rectangular background.

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“I had never heard of DIVERT before to speaking to my son when he called me from custody. From the moment I spoke with Tom from DIVERT, I knew that the people and organisation were special. DIVERT have helped my son look at himself, reflect, and re-establish himself. I can only give my thanks, gratitude and respect for what they have done, and the support they will continue to offer him.”

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ON RELEASE DIVERT SENT
ME TO BOUNCE BACK.
I STARTED AS A VOLUNTEER,
GOT MY CSCS CARD AND
I NOW WORK WITH THEM.

BOUNCE
BACK
HELPED
A LOT
AND IN
EVERY
WAY.

I
LEARN
SOMETHING
EVERYDAY.



THEY
KEEP
MY HEAD
OUT OF
TROUBLES.

YOU GET TRAINING AND
YOU GET PAID, YOU CAN'T GO WRONG.
BOUNCE BACK IS NOT JUST PAINTING
IT'S A COMMUNITY. IT'S LIKE FAMILY.

**bounce
back.**

Annual Review



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“When Angel approached me at my cell when I was in custody, I was really surprised, I wasn’t expecting him to come into my cell and start talking to me, it was such a relieve to come out of the cell and focus on the positive and it helped me to free my mind and think about what I needed, what I could do and what I wanted to do. DIVERT has helped me to get social help such as housing and benefits, as well as find training and employment. I am grateful for this opportunity”



PALACE FOR LIFE FOUNDATION

Here is Aaron our Custody Intervention Coach from Palace for Life. Aaron works in Croydon Police custody. Working with Shamel he has now enrolled him onto a football coaching course after coming into custody

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"Aaron was my hero, my knight in shining armour when he came to my door that day. I knew I could open up to him and tell him things about myself."

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Chief Inspector Jack Rowlands

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