Youth Justice Board

“Reforming the way we respond to youth crime – the coalition Government one year on”

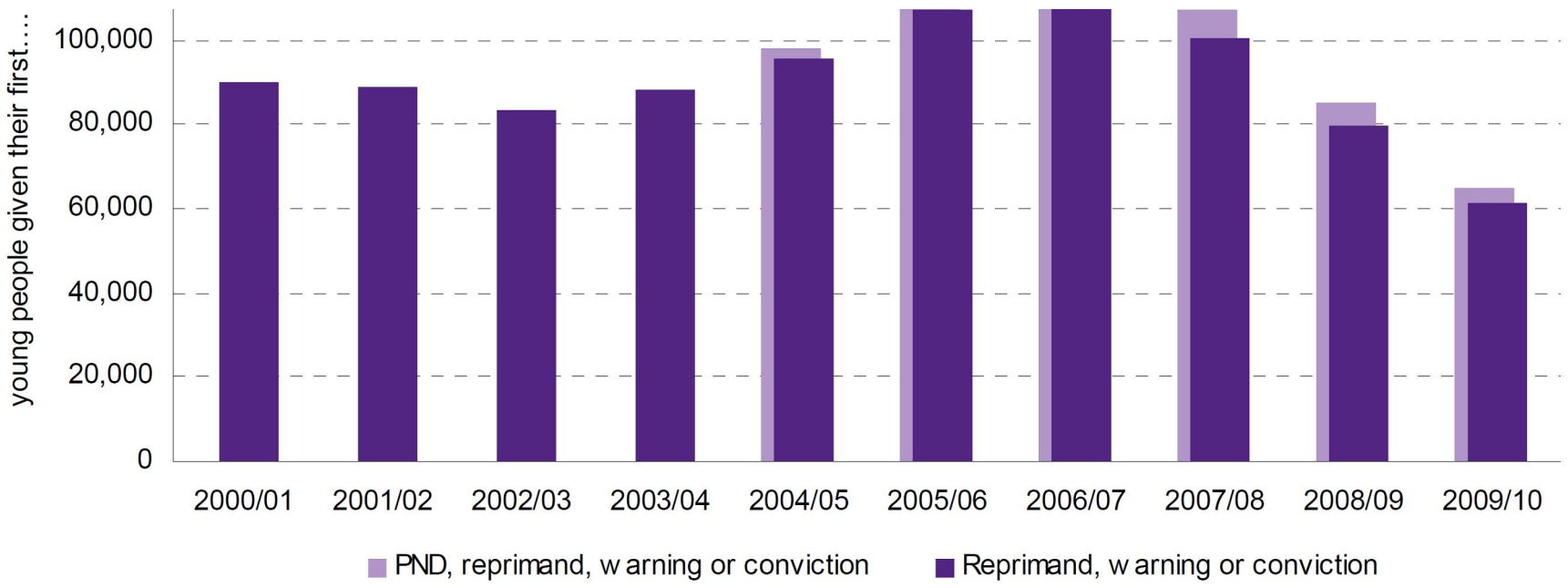
John Drew
Chief Executive
Youth Justice Board

The Government's initial assessment of the youth justice system

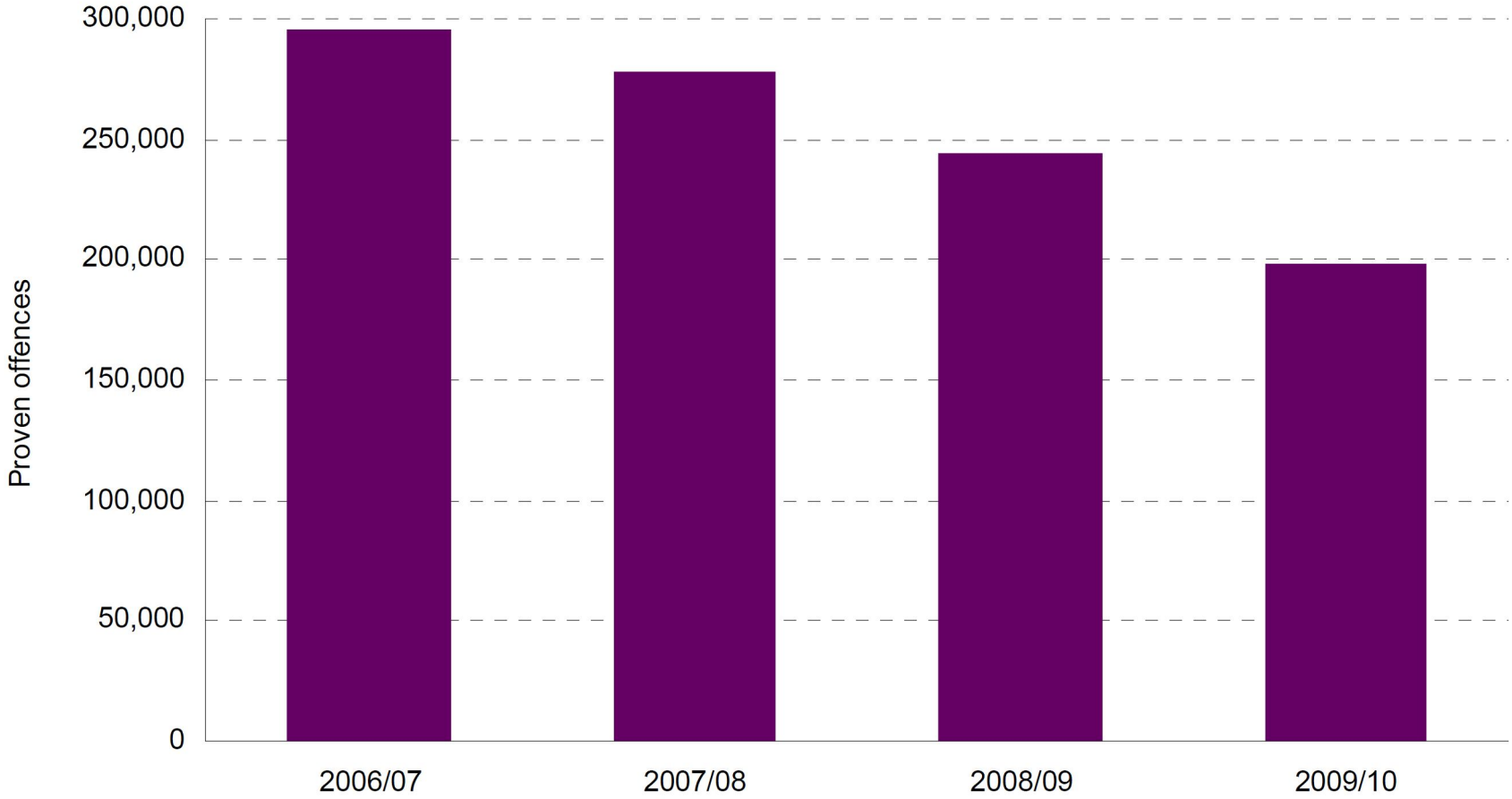
Strengths

- Delivery of results

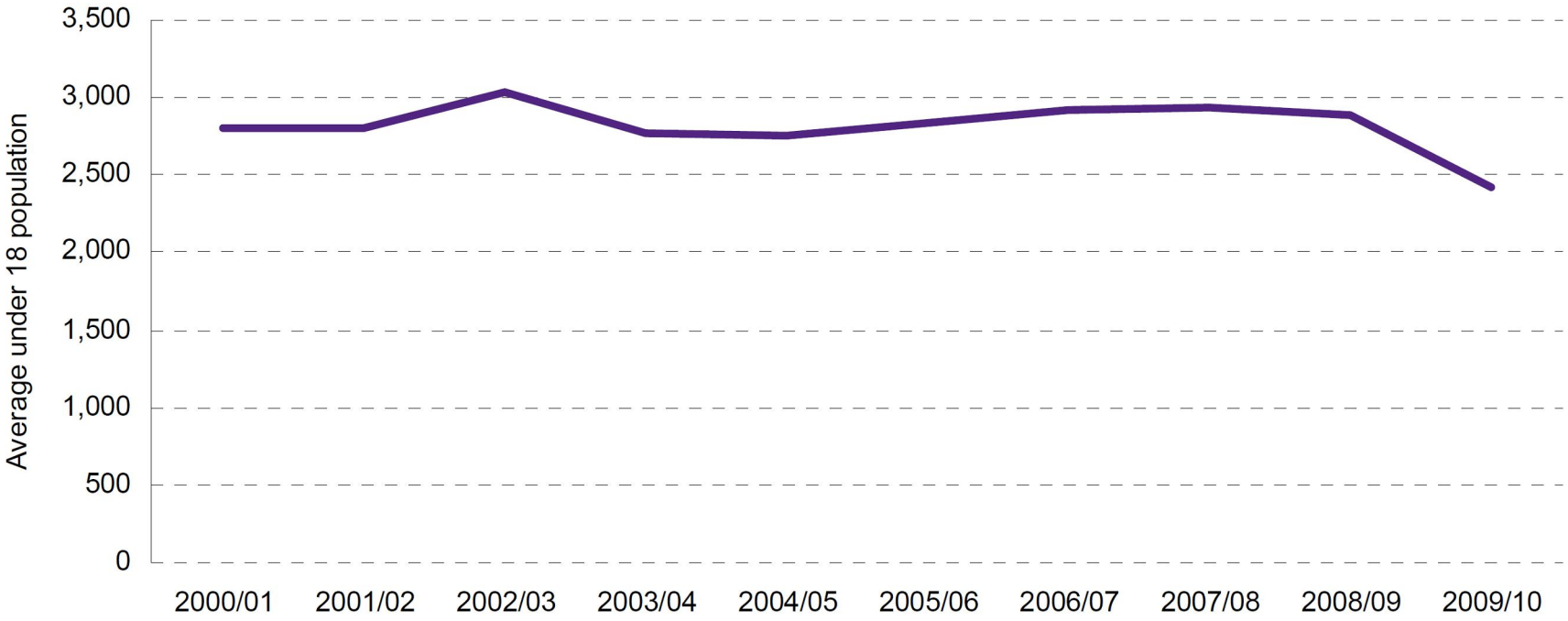
First-time entrants to the criminal justice system



Proven offences committed by young people



Average Custody population (under 18)



The Government's initial assessment of the youth justice system

Strengths

- Delivery of results
- Local engagement
- Coherent approach to youth custody

Weaknesses

- Too much monitoring and central prescription
- Cost
- A conveyor belt at times

The New Youth Justice

Headlines

- YOTs and their Boards at its heart
- Maintenance of distinctive custodial estate for children & young people
- Better engagement between custody and community
- Reduced National Standards
- Less national monitoring
- Continued central funding but at reduced levels
- Development of Payment by Results
- Gradual devolution of custody budgets
- Expansion in use of restorative justice
- Introduction of further local elements into the youth justice system

The Government's response to the Green Paper consultation

- Reforms on remand

- Further announcements on …

The YJB's priorities for the next 12 months

- The proposed abolition of the YJB
- Consultation on a new Secure Estate Strategy to 2015
- Strengthening of the checks and balances in custody
- Regime refocus in custody
- Reducing National Standards
- Development of a new assessment system
- Continued championing of the place of prevention
- Development work on listening to children …
- … black and minority ethnic children …
- … and girls.