

REPORT OF THE CABINET

B. YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2016-2019

Introduction

1. This report concerns the proposed Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2014/15.

Background

2. The Youth Justice Strategic Plan is identified in the Constitution as forming part of the Policy Framework and therefore requires the approval of the County Council.
3. Youth Justice Plans have been produced on an annual basis since the Youth Offending Service was established in April 2000. The County Council has a statutory duty under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to prepare and submit an annual Youth Justice Plan to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).
4. There is a requirement for the Plan to be approved by the statutory partners that make up the Youth Offending Service (YOS) partnership. The draft Plan was approved for on-line public consultation by the Youth Offending Service's Management Board on 12 February 2016. The revised draft Plan was then agreed by the Board on 20th May submitted to the following bodies as part of the consultation process:-
 - The Scrutiny Commission on 15th June;
 - The Cabinet on 17th June.

The Plan

5. The Plan highlights the continuing high performance of the YOS in 2012/13 and sets out the priorities and objectives for the Service. To reduce the burden on Youth Offending Services nationally, the Youth Justice Service has encouraged services to outline their priorities over a three year period. The new Plan does this and sets out priorities for the period 2016-19.
7. The work of the Youth Offending Service over the last three years has been set against reduced funding from the YJB, partner agencies and through the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy. Reductions in staff have been balanced across a number of functions, to preserve the services linked to preventative work with young people on the cusp of offending. Performance against national indicators remains good compared to regional and national trends.

Resource Implications

8. Sections 4 and 6 of the Plan sets out the resourcing and funding arrangements for the Youth Offending Service. The County Council remains the major funding partner via Children and Family Services.

Relevant Impact Assessments**Equal Opportunities Implications**

9. An equality and human rights impact assessment has been completed in the light of MTFS changes and the introduction of a three year plan. No adverse impacts were highlighted.

Risk Assessment

10. A risk management plan has been completed and incorporated into the Plan.

Consideration by Cabinet and Scrutiny

11. The Plan was presented to the Scrutiny Commission for comment at its meeting on 15 June 2016. The comments made are set out in Appendix 2 to this report. The Commission commended the Plan to the Cabinet.
12. The Cabinet considered this matter at its meeting on 17 June 2016 and agreed the Plan.

(Motion to be moved:-

That the Youth Justice Strategic Plan covering the period 2016-2019, attached as Appendix 1 to this report, be approved.)

Background Papers

Report to Cabinet – 17 June 2016 - Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2016/20.

<http://ow.ly/Km0b301mAVF>

Appendix

Appendix 1 - Draft Leicestershire Youth Justice 3 year Strategic Plan 2016 – 2019

Appendix 2 – Comments of the Scrutiny Commission