



SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 15 JUNE 2016

**LEICESTERSHIRE YOUTH JUSTICE THREE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN
2016-2019**

DRAFT MINUTE EXTRACT

The Commission considered a report of the Director of Children and Family Services concerning the Leicestershire Youth Justice three year Strategic Plan 2016-19 which was to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 17 June. The Commission was considering the report as the Council's designated "Crime and Disorder" Scrutiny Committee. A copy of the report marked "Agenda Item 10" is filed with these minutes.

Arising from questions, the following points were noted:

- Despite reduced funding, the IMPACT team was continuing to function well with high satisfaction rates for their work. Reductions had been applied by reducing the hours of staff members and it was noted that this had not impacted the quality of the work of the team;
- First time entrants in the criminal justice system had continued to fall though it was known that there remained a high risk that this would plateau or even increase in the future as a result of year-on-year reductions;
- The rise in custodial sentences referenced on page 32 was due to the fact that the performance was calculated as a proportion of the overall number of young people receiving an outcome in court. As numbers of young people into the system had reduced, the proportion of young people in custody had risen slightly despite numbers remaining fairly static over the past few years. It was acknowledged that this could be better reflected in the Plan by including the actual numbers of young people in custody;
- The staff grouping referenced on page 35 showed that the workforce in the Youth Offending Service was diverse. As a result of the high number of males in the criminal justice system, the Service did occasionally recruit to "male only" posts as a means of boosting representation of this group;
- Reference was made to a recent meeting held in Countesthorpe called by the new Police and Crime Commissioner, Lord Bach and chaired by Mr. Jennings CC, which had been attended by over 180 local residents. Though the meeting had been held as a result of some anti-social behaviour problems in the area it was noted that the excellent work of the Youth Offending Service and the IMPACT team was evident;

- Reference was made to page 19 of the report which stated that there was a “slight increase in re-offending rates”. It was acknowledged that percentages would be added to make clearer exactly what this increase was.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Leicestershire Youth Justice Three Year Strategic Plan 2016-2019 be commended to the Cabinet for consideration at its meeting on 17 June;
- (b) That the work of the IMPACT team be commended.