

**CABINET – 25 JUNE 2019****LEICESTERSHIRE YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2019 – 2020****REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES****PART A****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Cabinet the draft Leicestershire Youth Justice Strategic Plan which covers the period of 2019 – 2020.

**Recommendation**

2. That the County Council at its meeting on the 10 July be recommended to:
  - i. Approve the draft Leicestershire Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2019 – 2020, as set out in the appendix to this report;
  - ii. Authorise the Director of Children and Family Services, following consultation with the Lead Member for children and young people, to make minor amendments to the Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2019-2020 as are considered necessary to ensure it remains current and conforms to the requirements of the Youth Justice Board.

**Reason for Recommendations**

3. The County Council has a statutory duty under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan.

**Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)**

4. The draft Plan was considered by the Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 10 April 2019. The Commission supported the Plan and its comments are summarised in Part B of this report.
5. Subject to approval by the Cabinet, the Plan will be submitted to the County Council for approval at its meeting on 10 July 2019.

**Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

6. The previous Plan, which covered a period of three years between 2016 and 2019, was updated and subsequently approved by the County Council on 6 December 2017.
7. The 2019-20 Plan was approved by the Youth Offending Services Management Board at its meeting on 8 March 2019.

**Resource Implications**

8. Section 6 of the draft Plan sets out the resourcing and funding arrangements for the Youth Offending Service (YOS). The County Council remains the major funding partner via the Children and Families Service.

**Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

9. None.

**Officers to Contact**

Ms. J. Moore – Director of Children and Family Services  
Tel: 0116 305 2649      Email: [jane.moore@leics.gov.uk](mailto:jane.moore@leics.gov.uk)

Ms C Turner – Youth & Justice Service Manager  
Tel: 0116 305 0030      Email: [carly.turner@leics.gov.uk](mailto:carly.turner@leics.gov.uk)

## **PART B**

### **Background**

#### **The Youth Justice Plan 2019-20**

10. The Youth Justice Plan provides an overview of how the Leicestershire Youth Offending Service will link into partnership arrangements and deliver services in line with national requirements set out by the National Youth Justice Board (YJB). The plan provides a review of last year's plan, an overview of the YOS governance arrangements, the YOS structure and resources, local performance, identified risks, and highlights areas of development.
11. Where the Youth Justice Board previously encouraged Youth Offending Team's to create a three year Plan, guidance has been altered to reflect expected changes in 2020 which will define a new framework for the areas of focus for Youth Justice Plans, such as the new National Standards. The new plan therefore covers only one year.
12. 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 County Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). From 1 April 2019, the YOS transitioned into the new Children and Family Wellbeing Service, along with Supporting Leicestershire Families, Children's Centres and the Early Help Information, Support and Assessment Service. As detailed in the draft Plan, this approach has enabled the preservation of preventative work with young people on the cusp of offending through integrating youth workers with the Youth Offending Team.
13. The draft Plan details the Youth Offending Service's Performance against national indicators which remains good compared to regional and national trends in relation to re-offending, First Time Entrants and remand and custody rates.
14. Delegating authority for the Director of Children and Family Services to make minor amendments to the Plan will allow the performance data (detailed at section two of the Plan) to be updated once provided by the YJB and the final service structure to be added as Appendix C.

### **Consultation**

15. There is a requirement that the Plan be agreed by the statutory partners that make up the Youth Offending Service Partnership. As part of the consultation process the draft plan was submitted to the Youth Offending Management Board on the 08 March 2019. A workshop was also held with Board members to consider how the involvement of partner agencies could have been enhanced to develop youth justice related work. Feedback from this approach has been incorporated into the Plan

16. The Plan was supported by Scrutiny Commission in April and the following comments were made:
- a. The Plan recognised the continued support for the Youth Offending Service and acknowledged the good outcomes achieved for young people through working in collaboration with partners.
  - b. There were concerns regarding the input from agencies around young people's mental health input however the Commission was reassured by recent developments achieved through the Adverse Childhood Experiences Project and the improved link with mental health professionals.
  - c. It would be beneficial for future reports on the Plan to contain a case study to enable members to understand practice in relation to the Plan.

### **Background Papers**

Report to Council – 17 June 2016 – Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2016/19  
<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s119813/Final%20-%20Cabinet%20Draft%20Three%20year%20YJPlan%202016-2019.pdf>

### **Appendix**

Draft Leicestershire Youth Justice Plan 2019 – 2020.

### **Equality and Human Rights Implications**

17. The Youth Justice Plan outlines governance arrangements, performance, and priorities related to youth justice, for the YOS and partner agencies. There are no specific EHRIA implications.

### **Risk Assessment**

18. A risk management plan has been incorporated into the draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan which commences on page 17.