



CABINET – 26 FEBRUARY 2002

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

DRAFT YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2002/03 – 2004/05

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present to the Cabinet the attached draft Youth Justice Plan for Leicestershire and Rutland 2002/03 – 2004/05.

Recommendations

2. (a) That approval be given to the draft Youth Justice Plan for 2002/03 - 2004/05; and

(b) that the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, be authorised to agree:
 - (i) any minor amendments to the draft Plan; and
 - (ii) any other amendments to the draft Plan in the light of consideration of comments by the Scrutiny Commission

before it is submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

Reason for Recommendation

3. The County Council has a statutory duty under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to prepare and submit to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales an annual Youth Justice Plan. The draft is presented for consideration prior to approval by the Cabinet of the final Plan for submission to the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

Timetable for Decisions including Scrutiny

4. The Plan has to be submitted to the YJB by 1 March 2002. However, there is also a requirement for the Plan to be considered and approved by the statutory partner agencies of the Police, Probation Service and the Health Authority, as well as consult with other appropriate bodies such the Crime Reduction partnerships. The deadline for consultation was 15 February 2002.

5. It is proposed that the draft Plan be considered by the Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 27 February. The recommendation in paragraph 2(b)(ii) above gives delegated powers to me (in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader) to approve any amendments to the final draft Plan in the light of consideration of any comments by the Scrutiny Commission, before the Plan is submitted to the YJB.
6. Following acceptance of the Plan by the YJB, final endorsement by the County Council will be required later in the year. Depending on the timing of the YJB's approval process this is likely to be on 22 May 2002.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

7. This is the third Youth Justice Plan to be produced. Last year's Plan was approved by Cabinet on 23 January 2001 and endorsed by the County Council on 11 April 2001. The establishment and operation of the Youth Offending Service is a statutory duty under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Resource Implications

8. Section Two of the Plan sets out the resourcing and funding arrangements for the Youth Offending Service. The County Council is the major funding partner, via the Social Services, Education and Chief Executive's Departments. The County Council contributes £728,080 (47%) out of a total budget of £1,561,853. Excluding YJB grants and Rutland's contribution, the proportion is 65% of the partner agencies total contribution.
9. The Youth Offending Services Management Board, the partnership body that oversees the work of the Youth Offending Service, has agreed a revised budget, subject to approval of the Plan and finalisation of each agency's budget process. The County Treasurer has been consulted on the draft Plan, including the resource implications.

Circulation under Sensitive Issues Procedures

None.

Officer to Contact

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