



## **CABINET – 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2014**

### **YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGIC PLAN 2014/15**

#### **REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

##### **PART A**

##### **Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present the draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan for 2014/15 to the Cabinet.

##### **Recommendation**

2. (a) That subject to (b) below the draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2014/15 as appended to this report be submitted to the County Council meeting in July 2014 for approval;  
(b) That the Director of Children and Families, following consultation with the Cabinet Lead Member, be authorised to make any amendments to the draft Strategic Plan which might arise from its final consideration by the Youth Offending Service Management 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 on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2014. The Commission's comments will be reported to the Cabinet.
5. The Youth Offending Service Management Board will consider the draft Plan at its meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2014.
6. The Plan will be submitted to the County Council for approval on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014.

##### **Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

7. Youth Justice Plans have been produced on an annual basis since the Youth Offending Service was established in April 2000.

**Resource Implications**

8. Section 5 of the draft Plan (page 8) sets out the resourcing and funding arrangements for the Youth Offending Service. The County Council remains the major funding partner via the Chief Executive's Department and the Children and Young People's Service.
9. Effective from 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014, the Youth Offending Service transferred from the Chief Executive's Department to the Children and Young People's Service, now sitting within the Supporting Leicestershire Families section.
10. In 2013/14 there was a 6.1% reduction in funding. The 2014/15 budget represents a standstill.
11. The Director of Corporate Resources has been consulted on the content of this report.

**Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

12. None.

**Officers to Contact**

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## **PART B**

### **Background**

13. The draft Plan highlights the continuing high performance of the YOS in 2012/13 and sets out the priorities and objectives for the Service in 2013/1. Performance has continued to improve year on year.
14. The work of the Youth Offending Service during 2012/13 and 2013/14 is set against a background of significant reductions in external grant, as outlined in Part A above. However, two year transitional funding will help to mitigate the impact and one of the key objectives of the Service Review will be to minimise the impact on front line services.
15. The Service Delivery Plan, starting on page 16 of the draft Plan, sets out the achievements for 2012/13 and plans for 2013/14 in key areas of work.

### **Consultation**

16. There is a requirement for the Plan to be agreed by the statutory partners that make up the Youth Offending Service partnership. The first draft of the Plan was submitted to the Youth Offending Services Management Board on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014 and the Board will consider the final draft at its meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014.
17. The draft Plan will also be submitted to the Children and Young People's Executive Commissioning Board on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2014 as part of the consultation process.

### **Background Papers**

Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2012/13  
[http://www.leics.gov.uk/youth\\_justice\\_strategic\\_plan.pdf](http://www.leics.gov.uk/youth_justice_strategic_plan.pdf)

### **Appendix**

Draft Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2013/14

### **Equal Opportunities Implications**

18. Inequality is inherent within the criminal justice system. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed on the Plan. The EIA indicates that the plan presents no adverse impact to young people at risk of offending and re-offending, but identifies the need to continue to monitor YOS performance in relation to diversity and to continue to take account of the results of the participation survey completed by young people and their parents/carers.

### **Risk Assessment**

19. A risk management plan is included on page 29 of the draft Plan.

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