

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	13 September 2012
TITLE:	Youth Justice Plan 2012-13
WARD:	ALL
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report:	
Youth Justice Plan 2012-13	

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 Production of an annual Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement. It sets out work planned to prevent youth offending and re-offending across Bath and North East Somerset and there is a requirement that it is submitted to the Youth Justice Board.

2 RECOMMENDATION

Council is asked to agree that:

2.1 The Youth Justice Plan be approved in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;

2.2 The Youth Justice Plan be adopted as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework; and

2.3 The Youth Justice Plan can be submitted to the Youth Justice Board.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The Council takes the lead in the local partnership to prevent youth offending, working closely with Police, Probation and Health services, in accordance with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. All partners have a statutory obligation to help resource the Youth Offending Service and the Council makes a significant contribution in terms of staff, cash and in-kind support, including provision of office accommodation and a range of financial and Human Resources services. In 2012-13, of a total budget of £992,069, the Council is contributing £520,736, including a contribution of £213,908 from the Early Intervention Grant to enable the Service to provide preventative services.

3.2 The budget has accommodated a small further reduction in the Youth Justice Grant. Additionally, just over half of the current Home Office contribution to this national funding has been transferred to the Police Authority, in preparation for the whole Home Office element becoming part of the Police and Crime Commissioner's budget in 2013-14. The Police Authority has awarded this sum, £15,626, back to the Youth Offending Service for 2012-13.

3.3 The Youth Offending Service Manager has responsibility for delivery of services within budget, as agreed by the Youth Offending Service Management Board, made up of

representatives from all the statutory partners, and overseen by the Responsible Authorities Group.

4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

- Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone
- Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live
- Building a stronger economy

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The principal, statutory aim of the youth justice system is to prevent youth offending. The Youth Justice Plan reviews the very positive progress made in 2011-12 and sets out how Bath and North East Somerset Council and its partners will resource and deliver services in 2012-13, in accordance with legislative and National Standards and a performance monitoring framework.

5.2 The work plan included contributes to making Bath and North East Somerset a safer place and to narrowing the achievement gap between vulnerable young people and the general population by helping young people work towards more positive outcomes.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and no adverse or other significant issues were found.

8 RATIONALE

8.1 Preparation of an annual Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement under Section 40 Crime and Disorder Act 1998

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Cabinet members; Trades Unions; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer

10.2 This Plan is informed by feedback from young people receiving services from the Youth Offending Service. It has been consulted with members of the Service and draws on self assessments undertaken by the managers' group and the Management Board. A briefing meeting has been held with the Lead Member and a copy has been sent to the Trades Unions.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Young People; Human Rights; Other Legal Consideration

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

2.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Background papers	Youth Justice Plan 2011-12
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	