

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Cabinet	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	16 July 2014	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2659
TITLE:	Youth Justice Plan 2014-15	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Youth Justice Plan 2014-15		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The Local Authority has a statutory responsibility to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan. The Plan sets out work to be undertaken to prevent youth offending and re-offending across Bath and North East Somerset and was approved by the multi-agency Youth Offending Service Management Board on 24 June 2014

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet agrees that:

2.1 The Youth Justice Plan can be recommended to Council as fulfilling the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and can then be submitted to the Youth Justice Board.

2.2 The Youth Justice Plan can be recommended for adoption as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework and can be accommodated within the Council budget

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

The Council is the lead partner in the multi-agency arrangements 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 responsibility to participate in the resourcing of the Youth Offending Service. Due to significant organisational changes, Probation has not yet confirmed their contribution to the budget for 2014-15, but has committed to retaining their level of staffing – one full-time Probation Officer. It is anticipated that confirmed

information will be available by the time the Youth Justice Plan is taken to Council in September. The Probation Service has not confirmed its representative on the Youth Offending Service Management Board either, but again, it is anticipated that this will be known by September.

The Council makes a significant contribution in terms of staff, cash and additional support, including provision of office accommodation and a range of financial and human resources services. In 2014-2015, the Council is contributing £455,858 or 49.2% of the total costed budget, mostly in the form of staff.

The Operational Manager has delegated responsibility from the Youth Offending Service Management Board for delivery of services set out within the Youth Justice Plan, within the agreed budget.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

Preparation of an annual Youth Justice Plan is required under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The national Youth Justice Board has requested that it is submitted by 30 September 2014.

5 THE REPORT

The principal, statutory aim of the youth justice system is to prevent youth offending. The Local Authority is the lead partner in the multi-agency arrangements for work undertaken with young people who have committed offences. The Youth Justice Plan reviews the positive progress made last year in work with young people at risk of offending and re-offending, and with parents/carers and victims and sets out how services are to be resourced and delivered in 2014-2015.

Actions within the work plan will contribute to making Bath and North East Somerset a safer place and to helping young people work towards more positive individual outcomes.

6 RATIONALE

The Council has a statutory obligation to publish a Youth Justice Plan.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

8 CONSULTATION

This Plan draws on self assessment and consultation within the multi-agency Youth Offending Service and its Management Board, including the Lead Member for Early Years, Children, Young People, Health and Wellbeing. A copy has been sent to the Trade Unions.

This Plan has been drawn to the attention of the Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance).

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

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

Contact person	Sally Churchyard, 11-19 Prevention Service Manager 01225 39696
Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	