

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	14 September 2010	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2258
TITLE:	Youth Justice Plan 2011-12	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Youth Justice Plan 2011-12		

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 within Bath and North East Somerset. The Plan will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet agrees that:

2.1 The Youth Justice Plan fulfils the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

2.2 The Youth Justice Plan is recommended to Council as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Responsibility for enabling local work in preventing youth offending is shared by the statutory partners, as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Council makes a significant contribution into the overall budget for the Youth Offending Team, which also receives staff and/or funding from the Police, Health, Probation, Community Safety Partnership, the Youth Justice Board and the Department for Education. For 2011-12, the overall budget is £1,006,391, towards which the Council is contributing £305,193 (and is also awarding £202,442 contribution from the Early Intervention Grant). Partners also support the work of preventing youth offending making in-kind contributions to the Youth Offending Team and by their own delivery of services.

3.2 Reductions in funding from the Youth Justice Board, Probation and Health have been managed by planned efficiencies and loss of two posts. The Youth Offending Team Service Manager has responsibility for delivering services within the budget, which is agreed by the Responsible Authorities Group and overseen by the Youth Offending Team Management Board, including representatives from all the statutory partners.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

4.1 The Youth Justice Plan directly contributes to the following corporate priorities:

- Building communities where people feel safe and secure
- Improving life chances of disadvantaged teenagers and young people

5 THE REPORT

5.1 The principal aim of the youth justice system is to prevent youth offending. The Youth Justice Plan sets out how Bath and North East Somerset will resource and deliver services to achieve this, in accordance with National Standards, guidance and a performance monitoring framework, whilst ensuring that locally agreed priorities receive due attention.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The report author and Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 Equalities issues are addressed within the Youth Justice Plan, including data that highlights that young people from mixed race backgrounds are over-represented in the youth justice system, locally and nationally. Improvements are anticipated, as no young people from mixed race backgrounds entered the local youth justice system for the first time in 2010-11

8 RATIONALE

8.1 Submission of a Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement under Section 40 Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and the plan is part of part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework. The work programme contained within the plan contributes to making Bath and North East Somerset a safer place and to helping young people involved in offending to work towards more positive outcomes.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 Cabinet members; Trades Unions; Scrutiny and Development Panel; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users;

10.2 This Plan is informed by feedback from young people receiving services from the Youth Offending Team. It has been consulted with staff in small working groups and has been discussed by the Youth Offending Team Management Board. A report on last year's Youth Justice Plan and outturns has been discussed at the relevant Scrutiny and Development Panel, The Lead Member has been briefed and a copy will be sent to the Trades Unions.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Young People; Other Legal Considerations

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 This report has been cleared for publication by the Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) and was sent to the Unions on 24 August 2011

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Background papers	
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	