

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	08 July 2015	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2771
TITLE:	Youth Justice Plan 2015-16	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Youth Justice Plan 2015-16		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty, in consultation with the partner agencies, to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan. The Plan sets out how youth justice services are to be composed and funded, how they will operate and what functions they will carry out to prevent youth offending and re-offending across Bath and North East Somerset.

2 RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 The Cabinet recommends adoption of the Youth Justice Plan as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework and notes this can be accommodated within the Council budget.
- 2.2 Cabinet recommends the Youth Justice Plan to Council as fulfilling the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and can be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The Council is the lead partner in the multi-agency arrangements to prevent youth offending, working closely with Police, Probation and Health Services. All partners have statutory responsibilities to participate in the resourcing of the Youth Offending Service. The Council makes a significant contribution in terms of staff, cash and additional support, including provision of office accommodation and financial and human resources support services. In 2015-16, the Council is contributing £384,877, which is 46.7% of the total budget of £823,964; most of this is in the form of staff.
- 3.2 Submission of a Youth Justice Plan is a condition for receipt of the second instalment of the Youth Justice Grant, due to be paid in December 2015. This year, funding from the Youth Justice Board totals £229,051.

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS AND BASIS FOR PROPOSAL

- 4.1 Preparation of an annual Youth Justice Plan is required under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The national Youth Justice Board for England and Wales has published guidelines for its completion and requires it to be submitted by 31 August 2015.

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The principal, statutory aim of the youth justice system is to prevent youth offending (by 10-17 year olds). 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 their parents/carers and victims and sets out how services are to be resourced and delivered in 2015-16.
- 5.2 Actions in the work plan will contribute to making Bath and North East Somerset a safer place and to helping young people work towards more positive, crime-free outcomes.

6 RATIONALE

- 6.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to publish a Youth Justice Plan

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 None

8 CONSULTATION

- 8.1 This Plan draws on self-assessment undertaken by the Youth Offending Service and its Management Board and feedback from service users. A copy has been sent to the Trade Unions.
- 8.2 This Plan has been drawn to the attention of the Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and the Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director – Finance)

9 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 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	<i>Sally Churchyard: 01225 396966</i>
Background papers	<i>Youth Justice Plan 2014-15</i>
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