

Bath & North East Somerset Council		
MEETING	Council	
MEETING DATE:	11 July 2019	
TITLE:	Youth Justice Plan 2019-20	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Youth Justice Plan 2019-20		

## **1 THE ISSUE**

- 1.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty, in consultation with named legal partners Health, Police and Probation, to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan. The Plan sets out how services are to be organised and funded and what functions they will carry out to prevent youth offending and re-offending across Bath and North East Somerset.

## **2 RECOMMENDATION**

### **Council is asked to:**

- 2.1 Agree the Youth Justice Plan fulfils the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and can be submitted to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales;
- 2.2 Adopt the Youth Justice Plan as part of the Council's Policy and Budget Framework that can be accommodated within the Council budget;
- 2.3 Note that the Youth Offending Service Management Board is responsible for ensuring delivery and ask the relevant Development and Scrutiny Panel to oversee performance.

### **3 THE REPORT**

- 3.1 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 latest performance indicators and context for work with young people at risk of offending and re-offending and sets out how services will be resourced and delivered in 2019-20;
- 3.2 Actions in the work plan will help to make Bath and North East Somerset a safer place and support young people work towards crime-free lives with better prospects for the future;
- 3.3 The Youth Justice Plan 2019-20 is attached as an appendix to this report.

### **4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS**

- 4.1 Preparation of a 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 5 August 2019.
- 4.2 All work with young people at risk of offending or re-offending takes full account of their status as children before their status as potential offenders and prioritises safeguarding them within their communities as well as in their family settings.

### **5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)**

- 5.1 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 and are maintaining their current level of support. The Council makes the greatest contribution in terms of staff, cash and additional support, including office accommodation and financial and human resources support services. In 2019-20, the Council is contributing £454,515 towards a total budget of £806,433, most of which pays for staff salaries. This contribution is within the existing Council approved budget.
- 5.2 The work of the Service also depends on a core national grant from the Ministry of Justice, via the Youth Justice Board. For the year ahead, this amount reduces by 0.94% to £179,629. The Ministry of Justice also delegates funding towards the costs of remand places for young people; this year, the contribution is £3,513. The Police and Crime Commissioner's direct contribution remains £10,217 and NHS England is now funding a seconded Child and Adolescent Mental Health post at £40,000 through a Health and Justice grant. All remaining costs are met by the statutory partners;
- 5.3 Submission of a Youth Justice Plan and quarterly data returns are both conditions for receipt of the Youth Justice Board grant.

## **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. This is incorporated within the Youth Justice Plan itself.

## **7 CLIMATE CHANGE**

- 7.1 A number of young people who work with the Youth Offending Service undertake community reparation projects to help develop their understanding of the harm they have caused others and to make indirect amends. These projects include working with the Council Parks Department and community organisations to improve the environment and animal welfare. Projects change over time but currently include the National Trust Rainbow Woods, Bath Cats and Dogs Home, Julian House Build a Bike, Genesis Furniture Project, PEOPLE charity shop, Radstock Swallow Café, Chew Magna Community Farm and Bath City Farm.

## **7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 7.1 None

## **8 CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 This report has been approved by the S151 Officer and Monitoring Officer;
- 8.2 The Youth Justice Plan draws on feedback from young people who have worked with the Youth Offending Service over the last 12 months;
- 8.3 Governance has been reviewed with the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Responsible Authorities Group. Performance and the new work plan have been discussed with the Youth Offending Service Management Board, the Custody Review Panel, the Youth Crime Prevention Board and members of the Youth Offending Service itself.

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<b>Background papers</b>	Youth Justice Plan 2018-19
<b>Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format</b>	