

CABINET MINUTES

11 OCTOBER 2012

Chairman: * Councillor Bill Stephenson

Councillors:

* Bob Currie	* Thaya Idaikkadar
* Margaret Davine	† Phillip O'Dell
* Keith Ferry	* David Perry
* Mitzi Green	* Sachin Shah
* Graham Henson	

In attendance: Susan Hall Minute 508
(Councillors) William Stoodley Minute 508

* Denotes Member present
† Denotes apologies received

RECOMMENDED ITEMS

511. Youth Justice Plan and Youth Offending Improvement Plan following Core Case Inspection of Youth Offending Work

Cabinet received a report of the Corporate Director of Children and Families, which set out how the Youth Offending Team (YOT) would be resourced and the services that would be available in relation to the statutory primary aim of YOTs to prevent youth offending in the area.

The Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Families referred to a Council priority which was the protection of vulnerable children and adults. The report set out the strategic plan to ensure effective outcomes for children and young people who offended or were at risk of offending. She stated that the Plan needed to be submitted to Council for approval.

The Corporate Director of Children and Families referred to the findings of the 2011 inspection of the service, which had been poor, and the plan for

securing improvements. The Corporate Director added that the results of the inspection were of great concern as it had placed Harrow below the national and London averages and that major challenges lay ahead.

In order to meet these challenges, a fundamental reorganisation of the Directorate had taken place, a smaller focused Youth Offending Team had been created with a new permanent team and service manager. Extra resources had been allocated to this area and work with the Youth Justice Board was in place. In addition, representation on the YOT Management Board had been strengthened to ensure robust challenge and scrutiny. Moreover, the relocation of staff into a single site would ensure closer working relationships amongst staff responsible for this area as a whole.

The Corporate Director stated that the challenges that lay ahead had not been underestimated and the trajectory to ensuring progress was contained in the Improvement Plan to help improve outcome for children and young people in Harrow.

Resolved to RECOMMEND: (to Council)

That the contents of the Youth Justice Plan be agreed and the Plan be recommended to Council for approval.

Alternative Options considered and rejected: As set out in the report.

Conflict of Interest relating to the matter declared by Cabinet Member / Dispensation granted: None

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 7.32 pm, closed at 9.32 pm).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR BILL STEPHENSON
Chairman