
REPORT FOR: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	17 September 2015
Subject:	Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018
Key Decision:	Yes
Responsible Officer:	Chris Spencer, Interim Corporate Director of Children and Families
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Simon Brown, Portfolio Holder for Children Schools and Young People
Exempt:	No
Decision subject to Call-in:	No, as the decision is reserved to Council
Wards affected:	All
Enclosures:	Appendix - Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report presents the draft Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018, a statutory plan, setting out how the 3 outcomes

- reducing the number of first time entrants
- reducing re-offending
- reducing the use of custody

will be achieved.
The Plan also sets out the challenges and priorities for 2015-2018.

Recommendations:

Cabinet is requested to recommend approval of the Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018 to full Council.

Reason: (For recommendations)

It is a statutory requirement to produce a Youth Justice Plan.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

Multi –agency Youth Offending Teams (YOT) were established in 2000 following the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act with the intention of reducing risk of young people offending and re-offending and to provide counsel and rehabilitation to those who do offend.

The Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018 includes the Council Priorities.

Options considered

It is a statutory requirement to produce a Youth Justice Plan.

Background

It is the responsibility of Harrow Council, in consultation with partner agencies, to develop and implement a Youth Justice Plan setting out how youth justice services in Harrow will be provided and funded, how the Youth Offending Team will be composed and funded and identifying the key priorities for 2015-2018.

Current situation

The Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-18 is in draft form and is scheduled to be presented to full Council in December. It will be submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) in August 2015.

Why a change is needed

It is a statutory requirement to produce a Youth Justice Plan.

Implications of the Recommendation

The Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan sets out the resource implications and the workforce.

The budget for Harrow Youth Offending Team is resourced by contributions from the Youth Justice Board, Harrow Council and statutory partners. Statutory partners have also contributed through the deployment or secondment of key personnel.

Performance Issues

Impact on Council priorities

- Making a difference to the most vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for businesses, and
- Making a difference for families

The three key performance indicators for the Youth Offending Team are

- Reducing first time entrants
- Reducing re-offending
- Reducing the use of custody

Reducing First Time Entrants

There was a 23.4% decrease in the number of young people being found guilty of a crime.

In Oct 13 – Sept 14 there were 73 First time entrants FTE's compared to 79 Oct 12-Sept 13, a rate of 311 per 100,000 compared to 327 per 100,000.

Re-offending

Harrow's most recent re-offending rate (April 12-March 13) of 43.7% accounts for 60 re-offenders from a cohort of 139, this compares to 84 re-offenders in the same period the previous year. The sizes of the cohort and the number of re-offenders have decreased consistently since 2009, however with a smaller cohort and lower numbers of FTE's the proportion of re-offenders has increased. The alternative measure for re-offending is the frequency rate which represents the average number of re-offences per offender. In the latest reporting period (April 12- March 13) the average number of offences committed by re-offenders was 1.08, this is an increase on the previous year which was 1.04.

Custody

The general trend in Harrow is a decrease in the number of young people in custody. Over the past three years Harrow has seen considerable decreases from 28 in 2012/13 to 23 in 2013/14 and 15 in 2014/15.

The key performance targets are set by the Youth Justice Board for all Youth Offending Teams.

Environmental Implications

None.

Risk Management Implications

Risk included on Directorate risk register?	No
Separate risk register in place?	No

Legal Implications

Set out detailed legal implications of the proposed decision. Where appropriate, liaise with the relevant legal officer and ensure that their clearances are obtained.

Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 makes it a duty of the local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to formulate and implement for each year a youth justice plan setting out:

1. How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded;
2. How the YOTs are to be composed and funded, how they are to operate, and what functions they are to carry out.

Such functions may include the local authority's duty to take reasonable steps to encourage children and young persons not to commit offences.

Partner agencies are the chief officer of police, local probation board and strategic health authority.

Following approval, the youth justice plan has to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board and published.

As a statutory plan, the Youth Justice Plan forms part of the Council's policy framework and as such requires approval of full Council.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the Harrow Youth Offending Partnership Youth Justice Plan 2015-2018 are detailed in the plan.

The budget for Harrow Youth Offending Team is shown below.

Budget 2014-15	£'000
Expenditure budget	£917
Funded by:	
Youth Justice Board	£259
Drug Action Team (MOPAC)	£0
Council funding	£528
Probation Service	£47
Police Service	£66
Child & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)	£17
Total funding	£917

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

An Equalities Impact assessment has been completed.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

The plan details how the Youth Offending Team will meet the key performance indicators detailed above which incorporates the administration's priorities.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for local businesses
- Making a difference for families

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Jo Frost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 12 August 2105		
Name: Helen Ottino	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Monitoring Officer
Date: 16 August 2015		

Ward Councillors notified: NO, as it impacts on all Wards	.
EqIA carried out:	YES .
EqIA cleared by:	Roger Rickman

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Ann Garratt, Head of service Youth Offending
Ann.Garratt@harrow.gov.uk
0208 736 6976

Background Papers: Harrow Youth Offending Team Annual Report 14-15

**Call-In Waived by the
Chairman of Overview
and Scrutiny
Committee**

NOT APPLICABLE

*[Call-in does not apply as the
decision is reserved to Council]*