

Agenda item:

Title of meeting: Cabinet & Council

Date of meeting: 6th November & 11 November Council 2014

Subject: Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015-17

Report From: Jon Gardner, Portsmouth Youth Offending Team Manager

Report by: Stephen Kitchman, Head of Children's Social Care & Safeguarding

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: Yes

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1. To seek endorsement the Portsmouth Youth Offending Team Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015 - 2017.
- 1.2. The Youth Justice Strategy Plan 2015 - 2017 requires forwarding to full council for determination in accordance with article 4 of the constitution - namely matters reserved for full council.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. That Cabinet notes the achievements made by the Youth Offending Team, the progress made since the full Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) inspection in November 2013 and endorses the new priorities for the team and Management Board in driving practice forward.
- 2.2. That cabinet endorses the refreshed Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015-17 and recommend that it is approved by Council.

3. Background

- 3.1. Following disaggregation from the Wessex Youth Offending Team in March 2012, the Portsmouth Youth Offending Team was established on the 01 April 2012. Under the requirements of Section 40 of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act, all Youth Offending Teams are required by law to prepare an annual Strategic Plan or a yearly review if the Strategic Plan spans a number of years.

In the case of Portsmouth Youth Offending Team, the YOT Management Board took a decision in 2012 that a three year plan was appropriate. The aforementioned plan is due to end next year and in line with this, a refresh of the Strategic Plan has been undertaken based on review of local need and progress to deliver both National and Local priorities.

- 3.2. Over the last couple of months the draft Strategic Plan has been shared with members of The Portsmouth YOT Management Board, the Portsmouth Children's Trust Board and the Safer Portsmouth Partnership Board. Requests for changes to the draft have been complied with and the final version of the review is now available for Cabinet approval.
- 3.3. The plan has four main components. Firstly the achievements of the Youth Offending Team have been noted and information has been provided on the successes of the last 12 months. Secondly, a number of mandatory contents (Structure and Governance, Partnership Arrangements, Resources and Value for Money, Risks to Future Delivery) required by the Youth Justice Board are covered in appropriate detail.
- 3.4. The next part of the plan lays out the three new objectives for the Team and Board:
 - To implement a comprehensive Workforce Development Programme to underpin, develop and sustain a high Quality Youth Offending Team
 - Achieve a long term sustained reduction in re-offending and custody
 - Reduce First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System
- 3.5. The final element of the plan illustrates the implementation timetable and how the plan will feed in to the Portsmouth Knowledge Programme.

4. Reasons for recommendations

- 4.1. The delivery of a Youth Justice Strategic Plan is a statutory requirement for the local authority.

5. Equality impact assessment (EIA)

- 5.1. This has been completed.

6. Legal comments

- 6.1. There are no legal comments save that the current plan is consistent with sec 40 of the Act (Crime and Disorder Act 1998) to the extent that endorsement by Council will comply with the statutory obligations to have a Youth Justice Plan in place and review the same.

7. Head of finance’s comments

7.1. The Strategic Plan contains reference to the current budget provision, the financial context and constraints being placed on the partner agencies. It also recognises the need to make savings and ensure value for money over the period of the plan. As a consequence there is a recognition that the plans will need to be delivered within the resourcing available over the plan period.

Stephen Kitchman
Head of Children's Social Care & Safeguarding
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Appendices: Appendix 1 - Portsmouth Youth Offending Team Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015 - 2017.

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Portsmouth Youth Offending Team Youth Justice Strategic Plan 2015 - 2017	

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: Name and Title

