

28th June, 2018

Councillor Nuala Fennelly
Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools
Doncaster Council
Floor 4
Civic Office
Waterdale
Doncaster
DN13BU

Dear Nuala,

At a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee held on Thursday 28th June 2018, Members gave detailed consideration to the Youth Offending Service Plan in Doncaster for 2018/19 prior to deliberation by Cabinet and Full Council. Please find an outline of the discussion that took place below.

I am pleased to advise you that Members were supportive of the Plan. Members listened to the positive impacts that have been made within the service for children and young people of Doncaster as well as the strong and improving performance that could be seen throughout the report. It was recognised that there were challenges around lags in the reporting of information but Members noted the steps taken in response including live tracking.

Members heard about the ongoing and positive impact of EPIC which often focused on more than one approach. It was explained how work undertaken had included targeted action in youth crime hotspots, involved young people in a wide range of activities and engaged with communities and schools. The Panel found the report interesting and were pleased to hear how the work of EPIC was constantly evolving and how the team was always striving for more through its forward thinking and innovative work. For example, it was heard how that in relation to school exclusion, the team endeavoured to start with the young person at an earlier point before they reached that stage in the process.

Members were pleased to hear how there was no young person at completion of an order who was without appropriate or suitable accommodation. It was also outlined that the team benefited from a very good Education, Employment or Training (EET) service, a range of Personal Advisers and dedicated Under 16 staff to support the young person accessing suitable education.

In conclusion to the above, Members were told about the ongoing successes that had been experienced within the Youth Service and how more resources were now being utilised upstream, achievements recognised by other Local Authorities.

I would therefore like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Summers, Consultant Court and Case Management and Marcus Isman-Egal, Programme Manager, for outlining in detail the information contained within the Youth Offending Service Plan 2018-19.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Rodgers', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Councillor Kevin Rodgers
Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

cc: Jo Miller, Chief Executive
Cabinet Members
OSMC
Andy Hood, Service Manager, Youth Offending Service
Damian Allen, Director Learning and Opportunities
Paul Moffatt, Chief Executive Doncaster Children's Trust
Mark Summers, Consultant Court and Case Management
Marcus Isman-Egal, Programme Manager