

**To the Chair and Members of Full Council**

**Statutory Youth Justice Plan 2015-16**

<b>Relevant Cabinet Member(s)</b>	<b>Wards Affected</b>	<b>Key Decision</b>
Nuala Fennelly/ Chris McGuinness	All	(P350)

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. The purpose of this report is to present a new statutory, strategic Youth Offending Service Plan (YOSP) for 2015-2016 for the Youth Offending Service (YOS) in Doncaster where responsibility for the discharge of the plan lies. The YOSP is due for review and submission to the Board annually.

The Plan sets out the resourcing and value for money, challenges to future provision, structure and governance, partnership arrangements and risks to future delivery for the service. In relation to these, actions and timescales are set to develop the service and ensure the best service for the children and young people of Doncaster.

**EXEMPT REPORT**

2. This report is not an exempt report

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

3. That the Youth Justice Plan is approved.

**WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

4. The citizens of Doncaster will be protected from offending, re-offending and the fear of crime. The successful implementation of the Youth Justice Plan will contribute to an overall reduction in offending and will, through the delivery of a revised prevention offer, reduce the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system.

This has significant and far reaching positive consequences in terms of raising aspirations with young people and their families, making communities safer and more inclusive. Crucially the targeted work around child sexual exploitation and young people missing from home will improve the outcomes and safety of young people throughout the borough.

## BACKGROUND

5. This strategic plan impacts upon the delivery of youth justice in all wards of Doncaster. It involves expenditure of £2,123,555 in 2015-16 of which £814,025 comes from Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council as part of its contractual arrangements with Doncaster Children's Services Trust (DCST).

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 set the statutory functions for Youth Offending Teams. The relevant provisions dealing with the youth justice system are set out in Part III of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 ("the 1998 Act"). Section 37(1) of the 1998 Act provides that it shall be the principal aim of the youth justice system to prevent offending by children and young persons.

Section 38 places a duty on local authorities, acting in co-operation with the agencies listed below to secure that, to such extent as is appropriate for their area, all "youth justice services" are available there. Those agencies are:

- Chief Officer of police or police authority any part of whose police area lies within the local authority's area.
- The Secretary of State in relation to his functions under sections 2 and 3 of the Offender Management Act 2007.
- Every provider of probation services that is required by arrangements under section 3(2) of the Offender Management Act 2007 to carry out the duty under this subsection in relation to the local authority.
- Every local probation board, Strategic Health Authority, Local Health Board or Primary Care Trust any part of whose area lies within that area.

Section 40 of the 1998 Act sets out the duty of each local authority to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded and their functions and composition. Youth offending teams must co-ordinate the provision of youth justice services for all those in the authority's area that need them and carry out the functions of the youth offending service plan.

## OPTIONS CONSIDERED

6. N/A

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

7. N/A

## IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY PRIORITIES

- 8.

	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Implications</b>
	All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.  • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i>	Reducing first time entrants into the youth justice system, significantly reduces the financial burden on other statutory services, and therefore protects against services being overwhelmed and placed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i></li> </ul>	<p>under budgetary pressure, when earlier intervention could have been undertaken successfully. Creating an aspirational culture amongst young people involved in anti-social behaviour and offending will lead to greater engagement with education, training and employment opportunities.</p>
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i></li> </ul>	<p>Doncaster YOS is committed to ensuring that all young people receive a full health assessment from the YOS nurse and any attendant issues addressed. In addition as part of a re-framed prevention offer Doncaster YOS will engage young people on the cusp of offending and Anti-Social Behaviour in a range of diversionary activities which will include positive physical activities.</p>
	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i></li> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i></li> </ul>	<p>A successful implementation of the youth justice plan will divert young people on the cusp of offending, but crucially will also prevent re-offending in those who do offend. A reduction in offending will lead to safer communities, in which its young citizens are more invested and consequently are actively engaged in the development of those communities.</p>
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i></li> </ul>	<p>The youth justice plan will support families who have presenting issues, through the YOS commitment and ongoing contribution to the Stronger Families initiative. The outcome of which will be more families turned around in phase two of the programme and a culture which enables families to reach their full potential.</p>
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	<p>Doncaster YOS, has always strived to deliver value for money, by tracking best national practice and amending service provision to meet these needs.</p> <p>All posts are reviewed when they become vacant to assess the need</p>

		for this post or provision in the future.
	Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.	Doncaster YOS is monitored and challenged by the Management Board, which is comprised of representatives from all partnership agencies. In addition Doncaster YOS is subject to monitoring from the Youth Justice Board in terms of quarterly data monitoring on key performance indicators.

## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

9. The risk factors are outlined in the YOS service plan itself. The most pertinent risks are in relation to policy change, partnerships and financial contributions to YOS for 2015/16. The plan itself has been written to minimize risk to delivery and links to other strategic plans for Doncaster help to achieve this.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

10. Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires the Council, after consultation with relevant persons and bodies, to formulate and implement each year a Youth Offending Service Plan setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded.

The youth rehabilitation order was created by the criminal justice and immigration act 2008 and came into effect by virtue of regulation on 30 November 2009. As indicated in the body of the report new national standards are emerging from this statutory framework. These set out the minimum standards requirements for relevant organisations providing youth justice services. The standards focus upon youth justice in the community, effective governance and planning and performance management.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

11. There are no direct financial implications for DMBC. Doncaster YOS is a multi- agency organisation funded by a range of partners including DMBC (Details contained in the Youth Justice Plan). However, the funds are allocated as part of the contract between DCS Trust and DMBC. No additional funds are requested.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

12. None

## TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

13. None

## EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

14. Decision makers must consider the Council's duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty at s149 of the Equality Act 2010. The duty requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the act, and to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a 'protected characteristic' and those who do not share that protected characteristic.

Doncaster Youth Offending Service is a statutory service, which administers the delivery of Court Orders to all young people throughout the borough. Doncaster Youth Offending Service is governed by the National Standards for Youth Justice Practice which guarantees the consistency of the service offered to both those who share a "protected characteristic" and those who do not share a "protected characteristic" Consequently, there are no specific equality implications arising from this report.

Any activities arising from the management of strategic risks will need to be the subject of separate 'Due regard' assessments.

Copy of the YOS Due Regard Statement is available upon request.

## CONSULTATION

15. This report has significant implications in terms of the following:

Procurement		Crime & Disorder	X
Human Resources		Human Rights & Equalities	
Buildings, Land and Occupiers		Environment & Sustainability	
ICT		Capital Programme	

## BACKGROUND PAPERS

16. None.

## REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS

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