

NOTICE OF MEETING

Scrutiny Review - Reducing Youth Re-offending

MONDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2005 at 19:00 HRS - CIVIC CENTRE, HIGH ROAD, WOOD GREEN, N22 8LE.

MEMBERS: Councillors Davies (Chair), Dobbie, Gilbert and Patel

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (IF ANY)

2. URGENT BUSINESS:

The Chair will consider the admission of any late items of urgent business. Where the item is already included on the agenda, it will be dealt with under that item but new items of urgent business will be dealt with at item 6.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY, IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

A member with a personal interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered must disclose to that meeting the existence and nature of that interest at the commencement of that consideration, or when the interest becomes apparent.

A member with a personal interest in a matter also has a prejudicial interest in that matter if the interest is one which a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the member's judgment of the public interest.

4. ORAL EVIDENCE FROM THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER - CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (PAGES 1 - 2)

The Executive member, Crime and Community Safety, will provide oral evidence to the Review Panel

5. MINUTES:

6. ORAL EVIDENCE FROM THE YOUTH INCLUSION MANAGER (PAGES 3 - 4)

The Inclusion Manager will provide oral evidence to the Review Panel

7. DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SCOPE OF THE REVIEW (PAGES 5 - 8)

To agree the terms of reference and scope of the Scrutiny Review

8. DEPUTATION AND PETITIONS

To consider any requests received in accordance with Standing Orders

9. NEW ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS:

To consider any items of urgent business admitted at item 2 above

10. NEW ITEMS OF EXEMPT URGENT BUSINESS:

To consider any new items of exempt urgent business admitted at item 2 above.

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**SCRUTINY REVIEW - REDUCING RE-OFFENDING BY YOUNG PEOPLE
MEETING 5 SEPTEMBER 2005****QUESTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE MEMBER - CRIME AND COMMUNITY SAFETY.****Strategic Issues**

1. Reducing Youth Reoffending - What are the Council's objectives and key mission?
2. What are the key drivers for change identified (both internal and external) in relation to the Youth Justice Plan?
3. Please provide details of current strategies for reducing youth reoffending - Please include the following information
 - The availability of youth services and types of services aimed at reducing reoffending
 - The effectiveness of diversionary and intervention Programmes
4. What are the performance indicators for reducing reoffending by young people in Haringey? How is the Council performing against national and regional PIs and how does it compare within its family group? Please include details of:
 - Haringey's reoffending performance targets against other comparable authorities.
5. If the Council is under-performing what are the barriers to improvement?
6. What key information does the Youth Offending Service use in relation to youth reoffending? Which agencies does this information originate from and how is the information used? - Please include a breakdown of ethnicity, age, gender and disability and:
 - The range of services available to different groups of young people including ethnicity; age; gender and disability.
 - The level of take up of services available and which groups of these young people take up these services.
7. Can you provide any examples of how the Youth Offending Service has used information to develop a problem solving strategy to intervention in the area of youth reoffending?

Partnership working

8. Does the Youth Service have a strategy to determine how information is shared between partners? Please explain these strategies.
9. What strategies exist to ensure effective partnership working?
 - Please include strategies for identifying barriers and challenges to effective local partnership working.
10. Can you identify any partners or agencies that are not fully engaged with the Youth Offending Service? Please explain how they are encouraged to become more involved?

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DRAFT - QUESTIONS FOR THE YOUTH SERVICE INCLUSION MANAGER (AYTEN KIANI)

1. Can you briefly explain your role?
2. The Government believes that good information sharing is the key to successful collaborative working and early intervention to help children and young people at risk of poor outcomes: Does the Service use any information from the Community Safety Strategy in order to plan diversionary activities for young people at risk of reoffending? For example is this information used to target specific age groups; gender or target services in specific areas across the borough?
3. Do you think the partnership arrangements are working effectively? How do you involve voluntary groups?
4. Can you identify any gaps or shortcomings in current partnership working? What strategies are in place to ensure that partnership working is continuously improved?
5. Can you give examples of effective strategies or initiatives currently used by the Service in reducing youth reoffending? Are these initiatives sustainable? If not, what in your opinion is needed to ensure sustainability?
6. Do you work with other agencies to in order to consult young people and involve them in terms of developing solutions to crime and reoffending?
7. Do you work with other Local Authorities with similar problems to Haringey in terms of working incorporation by sharing ideas, information, or exchange programmes?
8. What more do you think the Council can do corporately to raise awareness and develop solutions to youth crime?
9. Are you satisfied with the level of take-up by young people of the services available? Can you identify groups of young people who are not fully engaged with diversionary activities? How do you intend to address the problems?

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Agenda item:

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**On 29 SEPTEMBER 2005**Report Title: **SCRUTINY REVIEW - REDUCING YOUTH REOFFENDING**Report of: **Councillor Matthew Davies - Chair of the Review Panel**Wards(s) affected: **ALL**

Report for: Non-Key decision

1. **Purpose** : To consider the scope and terms of reference of the Scrutiny Review on Reducing Youth Re-offending

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Committee agrees the scope and terms of reference of the review.

Report Authorised by: Trevor Cripps - Scrutiny Manager

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3. Executive Summary

3.1 This scrutiny Review was commissioned by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee as part of its work programme for 2005/06 in response to concerns amongst local residents who highlighted Crime and Community Safety as the top personal concern in the Council's annual residents survey (2004). The rate of re-offending in Haringey has increased within the last year. The Review will focus on services that provide diversionary activities for young people at risk of reoffending and anti social behaviour. The Panel will also look at the services provided by the Council and its partners, examine the way that they operate and make recommendations to ensure that the Youth Offending Strategy deliver on its objective of reducing the rate of reoffending in line with the Youth Justice Board's priorities for the forthcoming year.

4. Reasons for any change in policy or for new policy development (if applicable)

4.1 N/A

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Haringey Youth Crime Reduction Strategy
Haringey Youth Justice Plan

6. Background

6.1 This scrutiny Review was commissioned by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee as part of its work programme for 2005/06 in response to concerns amongst local residents who highlighted Crime and Community Safety as the top personal concern in the Council's annual residents survey (2004). The Review will focus on services that provide diversionary activities for young people at risk of reoffending and anti social behaviour. The Panel will also look at the services provided by the Council and its partners, examine the way that they operate and make recommendations to ensure that the Youth Offending Strategy deliver on its objective of reducing the rate of reoffending in line with the Youth Justice Board's priorities for the forthcoming year.

7. Description

The Review comes at a time when the emerging national agenda is looking to develop existing services for children and young people. By April 2006 all councils must have a Children and Young People Plan in place by bringing together all the various partners and ensuring the Plan is child focus by sharing best practice and developing a multi-agency approach. In addition to this the Youth Green Paper: '*Youth Matters*' highlights the government's aims to radically re-shape services for young people.

The consultation sets out a comprehensive package aimed at improving outcomes for all young people, with a particular emphasis on those who are disadvantaged and the Government's proposals to improve access to, and improve the quality of certain services for teenagers including the youth justice services.

Scope/terms of reference:

The panel aim to:

Assess how efficiently Haringey Council, in partnership with local voluntary groups and the police deliver services for Haringey's young people who have offended. The review will focus on services that provide diversionary activities for young people at risk of reoffending and anti social behaviour. Its tasks will be:

- 1.To look at the services provided by the Council and its partners, the way that they operate and make recommendations for improvements.
2. To check whether there are any gaps in provision for the targeted age group.
- 3.To examine the services targeted at Haringey's young offenders, with specific reference to:
 - a) The availability of youth services and types of services aimed at reducing reoffending.
 - b) To look at the range of services available to different groups of young people including ethnicity; age; gender and disability.

- c) To look at the level of take up of services available and which groups of these young people take up these services.
- d) To identify barriers and challenges to effective local partnership working.
- e) To examine the effectiveness of diversionary and intervention Programmes.
- f) To consider Haringey's reoffending performance targets against other comparable authorities.

4. To examine the contribution made by those services to the council's strategies (including Haringey Youth Justice Plan) aimed at reducing reoffending behaviour by young people.

5. To make recommendations on good practice and on how the delivery of these strategies could be improved.

Value for Money

In line with the new Corporate Assessment Framework, scrutiny will look at value for money issues arising from the investigation.

8. Consultation

8.1 It is envisaged that consultation will take place in the form of a focus group with young people in general and young offenders in particular.

9. Summary and Conclusions

9.1 Not applicable at this stage

10. Recommendations

10.1 Not applicable at this stage

11. Legal and Financial Comments

11.1 Not applicable at this stage.

12. Equalities Implications

12.1 Young black people and young Roma are known to be over-represented at every stage of the criminal justice system and a greater percentage of them receive custodial sentences as a percentage of all sentences, than other ethnic groups. The Youth Justice Board has included a 14th Key Performance Indicator requiring the Youth Offending Service to carry out a race and diversity audit and to produce an action plan to address inequalities.

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