

Report for Community Safety Partnership

Date: 14 July 2021

Title: Haringey Annual Youth Justice Plan

Report authorised by: Jackie Difolco: Assistant Director – Early Help, Prevention and SEND

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Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/Non-Key Decision: Not applicable

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform members of the Community Safety Partnership of the objectives for the statutory Youth Justice Plan for 2021-22.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That, members of the Community Safety Partnership note the contents of the report and plan, directing any comments and observations to the Head of Service for Young Adults, Youth Justice and Haslemere.

3. Reasons for decision

3.1 Not applicable

4. Report

4.1 It is the duty of each local authority after consultation with partners to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan setting out:

- a) how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded; and
- b) how the Youth Justice Service will be composed and funded; how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out.

4.2 The statutory youth justice plan is approved by the Haringey Youth Justice Partnership Board and must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published annually by 31 August 2021. Youth Justice Plans also require political scrutiny and approval. Local arrangements vary on how this is achieved, but Youth Justice Plans may be considered at full council meetings or scrutiny committees, underlining the importance of the issues to elected members. The plan was approved by the Youth Justice Partnership Board on the 9 June and will be progressing to Children and Young People's Scrutiny in September.

4.3 The document is the youth justice partnership's main statement of purpose and sets out its proposals to prevent offending by children and young people. The plan shows not only what the Youth Justice Service (YJS) will deliver as a service, but how strategic links with other supporting initiatives will be developed and maintained.

4.4 This plan supports a range of associated partnership strategies including the Haringey Early Help Strategy 2021-2023, Young People at Risk Strategy 2019-2023, Community

Safety Strategy 2019-2023, Borough Plan 2019-2023 and the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Strategy. The youth justice plan is supported by a more detailed operational delivery plan overseen by the Head of Service for Young Adults, Youth Justice and Haslemere, who reports progress to the Haringey Youth Justice Partnership Board.

4.5 As a statutory regulated service, youth offending services are inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). The most recent single inspection took place in 2012, however the YJS underwent a thematic inspection in May 2021 regarding the support and supervision that black and mixed heritage boys and young men are receiving from youth offending services. Haringey was selected as one of nine Youth Offending Services across the country and one of three London boroughs. The inspection took place from the 17 – 21 May and involved interviews with staff, young people, partners and a review of cases. Findings from the inspection are expected to be published as part of the full report later in the year. Any areas of improvement will be reflected within the operational and partnership delivery plans.

4.6 The Youth Justice Plan is required to address the areas of performance, structure and governance, resources, value for money, partnership arrangements and risks to future delivery. The plan takes into account local performance issues, lessons from thematic inspections, together with learning from any serious incidents.

4.7 Key priorities for the Haringey Youth Justice Partnership Board for 2021-22 include areas for development highlighted by the self-assessment against the Youth Justice Board national standards as outlined below. Refer to Appendix A: Haringey Annual Youth Justice Plan 2021-2022

- a) Continued focus on reducing disproportionality amongst Black and Asian Minority Ethnic young people within the criminal justice system,
- b) Working with partners across the system to reduce the disparity on permanent school exclusions for children,
- c) Developing and sustaining parental support programs across the partnership (Early Help, Youth Service, Community Safety and Voluntary Organisations)
- d) Working with partners across the system to reduce levels of serious youth violence and knife crime,
- e) A focus across the partnership on early intervention and prevention to reduce offending and reoffending by children using a multi-agency whole family approach
- f) Improving health outcomes for young people within the criminal justice system,
- g) Responding to Covid 19 and implementing a recovery model.

4.8 Key outcomes for 2021-2022 include:

- a) A reduction in the number of children and young people who become first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System by 2% (84 young people).
- b) Re-offending rates for young people to be no more than 40%.
- c) Vast majority of case files audited are graded as 'Good' (80%)
- d) Multi-agency staff to receive training to increase understanding , competence and application of trauma Informed practice and unconscious bias.
- e) A reduction in the number of young people receiving a custodial sentence by 20% (4 young people) and a reduction in the number of young people remanded to custody.
- f) Fewer children and young people involved or at risk of child criminal exploitation.
- g) Prevent children and young people from becoming involved in gang related violence and or radicalisation.
- h) Interventions with children and young people to take place in a whole family context.

- i) Improve access to good quality education, training, employment and housing (including resettlement)
- j) Contribute to broader safeguarding agendas specifically, Child Criminal Exploitation and Children Missing Education.

5. Contribution to strategic outcomes

5.1 The objectives of the youth service are aligned with the priorities within the 'Borough Plan – Priority 2 (People) ' specifically:

- a) Happy childhood: all children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family, networks and communities.
- b) Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future.
- c) Strong communities where people look out for and care for one another.

5.2 This work contributes to the Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Strategy, Haringey's Borough Plan Priority 3 (Place), the Haringey Community Safety and Early Help Strategy. It will also help to deliver on Haringey's Borough Plan, Young People at Risk strategy, as well as the North Area Violence Reduction Group (NAVRG).

5.3 Officers and partners work strategically across related work areas and boards such as Youth Justice, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Health and Wellbeing, Regeneration, Community Gold, Early Help and the Community Safety Strategy.

6. Statutory Officers comments

Finance and Procurement

6.1 The Youth Justice service activity is funded from a combination of Local authority general fund budgets, grants and contributions from other agencies. The delegated funding available totals £1,665,926, of which £1,102,274 is from the general fund. Grant funding includes the Youth Justice Board Good Practice grant of £0.546m, which has increased by 8.8% in 2021/22 compared to the previous year.

6.2 The 2020/21 service performance as detailed in the Annual report was delivered within the agreed budget. Plans for 2021/22 are expected to be within the allocated funding of £1,665,926.

Legal

6.3 "Under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the local authority is required to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan."

Equalities

6.4 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;

- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

6.5 The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

6.6 In order to ensure that the Council satisfies the duty, it will be necessary to assess the equalities implications of individual pieces of work to progress the Council's youth service on a case-by-case basis, including undertaking an Equality Impact Assessment where necessary.

6.7 The Panel should ensure that it addresses these duties by considering them within its work plan, as well as individual pieces of work. This should include considering and clearly stating;

- How policy issues impact on different groups within the community, particularly those that share the nine protected characteristics;
- Whether the impact on particular groups is fair and proportionate;
- Whether there is equality of access to services and fair representation of all groups within Haringey;
- Whether any positive opportunities to advance equality of opportunity and/or good relations between people, are being realised.

6.8 The Panel should ensure equalities comments are based on evidence. Wherever possible this should include demographic and service level data and evidence of residents/service users' views gathered through consultation.

7. Use of Appendices

Appendix A – Haringey Annual Youth Justice Plan 2021-22

8. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A