

Report for: Joint meeting of Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel and Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel

Item number: 8

Title: Progress report on outcomes for children in care supported by Haringey Youth Justice Service

Report authorised by: Ann Graham, Director: Childrens Services

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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 Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel and the Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel of the progress to date from targeted work to improve outcomes for children in care who are being supported by the Youth Justice Service (YJS).

2. Cabinet Introduction

- 2.1 Not applicable

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 As this report is for information only, members of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny panel and Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel are asked to note the contents of the report, directing any comments and observations to the Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND.

4. Reasons for Decisions:

- 4.1 Not applicable

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 Not applicable

6. Background Information

6.1 The presentation attached outlines the recommendations from a previous meeting of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee to develop a targeted approach to improving outcomes for children in care who are also subject to intervention from the YJS.

6.2 As of March 2025, 25% of the youth justice cohort are children in care, this equates to 17 children. Over the last year since April 24, 22% of the youth justice cohort were children in care, equating to 43.

6.3 The YJS has embedded a targeted approach with this cohort, ensuring any innovation projects are always offered to this cohort. The service has a number of different support agencies embedded which consist of CAMHS, Speech and Language, Education and Substance Misuse services. The support the cohort receives will be dependent on whether they're placed in Haringey or out of borough.

6.4 The YJS also offers AQA certification for their participation in community reparation projects and over the past year three of children from this cohort have received at least one certificate that they can use for their CV's.

6.5 For the majority of outcome areas, children in care open to the Youth Justice Service (YJS) continue to have poorer outcomes than children who are not in care and open to YJS. Of the 27 outcome areas, there has been improvement in only four of these which relate to:

- a) more CIC being in education, training and employment
- b) improved health
- c) reduction in drug offences committed
- d) reduction in offending by family members

6.6 Some of the challenges to improving outcomes for CIC within the YJS cohort include:

- a) children legal status changing and transient which impact on interventions and support that can be offered
- b) children are often placed outside of the borough resulting in small numbers of CIC being able to access local support,
- c) frequent changes of placement impact on continuity of support and relationships with host youth justice services.
- d) Youth Justice, Social Care and SEND responsibilities are all different for when children are placed out of borough.

6.7 The multi-agency task and finish group in place are reviewing the outcome measures for CIC and expanding the scope of targeted interventions to ensure they are impactful and lead to positive outcomes. These include:

- a) YAS are completed a mini self-assessment audit on joint cases with YJS to look at working practices and outcomes for children.
- b) YJS and CYPS Joint Protocol reviewed and updated in line with new and relevant legislations and practices
- c) Review of the Reducing Criminalisation of looked after children and care leavers protocol into practice
- d) CYPS Audit Tool amended to capture YJS involvement and children's lived experiences in Youth Detention accommodation
- e) Consistent sharing of the YJS CiC cohort with the Social Care services, SEND and Education to ensure systems are updated with up to date information.
- f) Review the support for children when placed out of borough that are in need of education support via virtual school

6.8 Haringey Youth Justice Service had an inspection in November 2024 with the report published in March 2025, see here for link to the report [An inspection of youth justice services in Haringey](#). The service was given a grade of '**good overall with outstanding features**' which is excellent and a true reflection of where we are as a partnership in supporting some of our most vulnerable children and young people within the youth justice system. "The YJS and children's services had effective strategic and operational relationships with an understanding of their differing roles and responsibilities. Inspectors saw examples of collaborative work to support children and families, as well as effective challenge and escalation where required."

7. Contribution to Corporate Delivery Plan and strategic outcomes

7.1 The objectives of the early help system and delivery services are aligned with the priorities within Haringey's Corporate Delivery Plan' specifically:

Theme 3: Children and young people

- Outcome 2 Happy Childhoods - All children across the borough will be happy and healthy as they grow up, feeling safe and secure in their family networks and communities.
- Outcome 3 Successful Futures - Every young person, whatever their background, has a pathway to success for the future

Theme 7: A Safer Borough

- Outcome 1: A borough where all residents and visitors feel safe and are safe.

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

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

8. Carbon and Climate Change

8.1 Not applicable

9 Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

9.1 Not applicable

9. Use of appendices

10.1 Appendix One: Progress report on outcomes for children in care supported by Haringey Youth Justice Service

11. Background Papers

11.1 Not applicable

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1 Not applicable