

Report for: Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel – 1st October 2026

Title: Haringey Youth Justice Plan 2024 – 2027 – Year 2 review

Report authorised by: Ann Graham, Corporate Director: Children's Services

Lead Officers: Simone Common, Interim Director: Early Help, Prevention and Youth Justice

Ward (s) affected: All

Report for Key/Non-Key Decision: Not applicable

1. Purpose of the report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to inform members of Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel of the second annual review of the statutory Youth Justice Plan for 2024-2027 which provides insight into the key strategic priorities, progress and activities undertaken over the past year.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That members of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny panel note the contents of the report and plan, directing any comments and observations to the Assistant Director: Early Help, Prevention and SEND.

3. Report

Background information

3.1 In England only, statutory youth justice plans must be signed off by full council. In advance of full council approval, the plan can be submitted with the approval of the Chair of the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board with confirmation of full sign off submitted at a later date. This partnership board has strategic responsibility to ensure youth justice services are delivered within its statutory remit. The 'sign off' by the Chair is an indication that the wider management board have approved the submitted plan which must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published annually by 30th June 2026. This plan was approved by the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board on the 24th June 2026 with the plan submitted to the YJB prior to the deadline.

3.2 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.

3.3 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 what progress had been made on the strategic priorities and how strategic links with other supporting initiatives will be developed and maintained.

3.4 This plan supports a range of associated partnership strategies including:

- a) The Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026
- b) Haringey Early Help Strategy 2024-2027
- c) Haringey Young People at Risk Strategy 2019 – 2029
- d) Haringey's Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- e) Community Safety Strategy 2024-2027
- f) SEND and Alternative Provision Sufficiency Strategy 2023-2026
- g) Mayor of London's Policing and Crime Plan

3.5 The Youth Justice Plan is supported by a more detailed operational delivery plan overseen by the Head of Service for Youth Justice and Youth at Risk Strategy, who reports progress to the Haringey Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board (YJSPB).

3.6 As a statutory regulated service, youth justice services are inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). The most recent single inspection took place in November 2024, the report was published in March 2025 where the YJS and partnership received an overall rating as 'good' 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. A link to the report is here: [An Inspection of Haringey Youth Justice Service](#).

3.7 The YJS has an action plan to address the six recommendations within the inspection report which has been monitored at the YJSPB.

3.8 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 and regular quality assurance.

Summary of progress against Haringey Youth Justice Plan 2024 - 2027

3.9 Between May – August 2026 the Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board (YJSPB) are currently engaged directly in our self-assessment of our 'National Standards'. Board members put themselves forward to ratify the outcomes of the audits in each area (Out of Court Disposals, In the community, In secure and At Court and Transitions).

3.10 There has been a specific focus to merge strategic partners and practitioners within the Youth Justice Service to strengthen the link and ensure meaningful connection for strategic decision making and practice development. Following this, the board members are encouraged to observe panels or attend initiatives such as the Dusty Knuckle hospitality celebration event for the children that have completed the course.

3.11 The board has continued with its thematic approach, enabling partners to have a targeted deep dive into the different parts of the youth justice system and partnership response. The key thematic areas have been, Restorative Justice/Victims, Education, Re-offending and Prevention and Diversion.

Key highlights – Quantitative Data 2025- 2026:

- a) The caseload has stayed in line with previous years. There are peaks and troughs throughout the year however the average caseload number across the year is 73. The total number of children supported throughout the year was 251.
- b) The throughput has increased and at the highest in over five years. There were 367 individual intervention/programmes delivered 25/26 across all 251 children, this is an increase of 23% on the previous year. This is principally due to the increase of pre-court programmes, particularly Turnaround and Community Resolutions which increased by 37 (95%) and 33 (254%) respectively. This could be viewed as positive as it means that children are being diverted away from formal disposals.
- c) The cohort of black children has decreased from 50% to 43%, the lowest for 10 years. White children increased to 33%. (offending population). There has been a recent surge of South American children, they currently represent 15 % of the caseload. The male/female ratio is 83% Male to 17% female.
- d) Offences are projected to increase by 23% or 71 offences compared to 24/25. This remains a projection as offences will continue to drip through due to the lag in police processing and sentencing.
- e) Violence against the person are all projected to increase in 26/27 (by 16 offences), Robbery (7 offences) and Drugs offences (16).
- f) The risk of safety and wellbeing of the caseload has increased from 33% to 48% last year. Note that we can no longer analyse out of court disposal assessments as they use a different assessment tool, therefore we are unable to provide comparative data.
- g) The health need of the caseload is greater than ever. Emotional and Mental Health need is now at 78% (66% last year). Substance misuse increased to 76% from 64% last year. Speech and Language difficulties reduced from 68% to 65% and physical health increased to 19% from 15%.
- h) Eighteen per cent of children were a child in care at some point during their intervention. This is a slight decrease from 22% for the previous year.
- i) Twenty six per cent of children had an education health and care plan compared to 24% the previous year.

Rising Complexity and Key Risks

3.12 The cohort of children within our local youth justice system have a range of complex needs which has impacted on the following areas of risk that the service continue to monitor and respond to:

- a) reoffending rate rose to 37% from 34% (4 children), the highest in four years, influenced by sentencing delays and adult transition offences,
- b) risk to safety and wellbeing increased sharply due to trauma, exploitation, mental health issues, and substance misuse,
- c) disproportionate impact on Black, Global Majority children, children in care, and emerging groups requires ongoing systemic response,

- d) low completion rates in Out of Court Resolutions and prevention programmes, due to the voluntary nature of them,
- e) gaps in victim data sharing from policing limit understanding of victim needs and disproportionality in youth justice,
- f) workforce instability in key seconded health roles.
- g) increase in South American children within youth justice requires culturally informed responses and further analysis,
- h) national youth justice reforms bring risks and opportunities needing careful implementation to avoid unintended effects.

Key achievements 2025-2026:

3.13 Key achievements within the service and local partnership are summarised below:

- a) thematic approach within our governance arrangements has enabled a deeper understanding of trends and areas of focus to target on to improve outcomes for children,
- b) continued to maintain very low custody rates, outperforming London and national averages,
- c) overall reduction in serious youth violence by 17%,
- d) expansion of prevention and diversion activity significantly, with major growth in Turnaround and community resolution programmes,
- e) fully embedded child first practice and strengthening the voice of children in strategic decision-making,
- f) delivering innovative programmes such as Dusty Knuckle, Youth Xtra, the Child First Custody Project, and the Stop & Search research initiative.
- g) receiving external recognition and awards for creativity and service excellence. At the Think Haringey First Staff Awards, the Youth Justice Service were nominated and won two awards for: Highly commended Team of the Year and Creative Team of the Year,
- h) the Young Haringey Achievement Centre continues to recognise the commitment and hard work of our children for their contribution to their local community with educational qualifications via the Assessment Qualifications Alliance (AQA) Scheme. AQA offer wide range of units which makes achievement accessible to every child and young people regardless of their age, ability or interests. From April 25 to March 26, 27 children and young people received an accreditation, totalling 71 AQA units.

Priorities within Haringey Youth Justice Plan 2024 - 2027

3.14 Haringey's Young People at Risk Strategy reviewed and refreshed its partnership action plan 2023-26 which aligns with the work of the Youth Justice Service and our long-term approach to reducing youth violence in the borough. [Haringey Young People at Risk Action Plan 2024 - 2027](#) The action plan will be refreshed outlining the areas of work to support delivery of the objectives within the strategy for the remaining three years.

3.15 The Youth Justice Strategic Priorities between 2024-2027 are set out in the graphic below:

The Youth Justice Strategic Priorities over the next three years are set out below:



3.16 The Youth Justice Service Strategic Partnership have agreed and committed to a three-year strategic plan with seven key priorities and will be reviewed on an annual basis with the plan refreshed.

4. Contribution to Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 and strategic outcomes

4.1 The objectives of the youth justice service 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.

4.2 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.

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

5. Statutory Officers comments

Finance

5.1 Delivery of Youth Justice Services in Haringey will continue to be appropriately resourced. The overall resourcing forecast envelope of Youth Justice Services was £2,674,647 for 2025-26. This is inclusive of all sources of income and in-kind contributions. Delivery of Youth Justice Services is resourced through a diverse range of funding sources:

- Youth Justice Board core grant; devolved remand and Turnaround grants
- Haringey Council's funding contribution;
- MOPAC and VRU funding via Community Safety to fund the Youth Xtra Practice Lead Post;
- Integrated Care Board funding commissioned health in justice provision; and
- Other In kind contributions from the Police and Probation

5.2 The MOJ Grants specifically supports and ensures our court ordered interventions, and our preventative and restorative interventions are reflective of the cohort and that the service has the right resources to deliver. The YJB grant continues to be used to fund such core staff salaries activities, training, and interventions in line with this strategic annual plan.

5.3 The YJS has continued to match fund the Integrated Care Board (ICB) contribution for a CAMHS post to both undertake direct work and support the workforce to support children to improve their mental health and wellbeing outcomes. In addition, the YJS provides a small contribution to the new Speech and Language Therapist.

5.4 The Turnaround Funding has continued to allow the service to build on the opportunity to strengthen the bespoke prevention arm to the Youth Justice Service, being able to utilise existing specialised skills and knowledge to address a clear need for youth crime prevention work within the borough, in due course, take the leading role for delivering against the priorities within the Youth at Risk Strategy, and further align with the Supporting Families Programme and our Early Help Strategy.

Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

5.5 Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on local authorities, after consultation with relevant persons and bodies, to formulate and implement a Youth Justice Plan setting out how Youth Justice Services in their area are will be provided, funded and operate. The plan must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board by the 30th June 2026.

5.6 Youth Justice Plans: Guidance for youth justice services updated in March 2023 states that in England, the plans must be signed off by Full Council in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000. Where local authorities are unable to obtain sign off by Full Council, the plan can be submitted to the Youth Justice Board with the approval of the Haringey Youth Justice Strategic Partnership Board Chair, with confirmation of Full Council sign off at a later date. The Board Chair sign off is taken as an indication that the wider management board approves the plan.

5.7 The Council's Constitution, at Part 3 Section B, sets out the terms of reference of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee which includes scrutinising decisions made or other action taken, in connection with the discharge by the responsible partner authorities of their crime and disorder functions. Scrutiny Panels are established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to examine designated council services. Areas covered by the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel includes Youth Services and Youth Justice.

Equalities

5.8 The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard the need to:

- a) Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act,
- b) Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not,
- c) Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

5.9 The three parts of the duty applies 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. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

5.10 This report is to inform members of the CYP and Schools Scrutiny of the objectives for the statutory Youth Justice Plan for 2024-2027. This plan takes into account learning from partnership working, as well as serious incidents and safeguarding to ensure our children and young people are given specialist support to cater to their needs. Cross-cutting and partnership work with CAHMS, Social Care and other teams/organisations supports us in catering to the needs of vulnerable groups, specifically with regard to mental health, sex and sexual orientation, disability and gender reassignment. As well as this, a focus on disproportionate exclusion rates, custody and other negative outcomes will be focused on as part of the new plan to further protect those with the previously mentioned protected characteristics.

5.11 Equalities impact will be monitored as part of annual refresh of the plan.

6. Use of Appendices

Appendix A: Haringey Youth National and Local Indicators 2025-2026

Appendix B: Haringey Progress Report Year 2 2025-2026

Appendix C: [Youth justice plans: guidance for youth justice services - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/youth-justice-plans-guidance-for-youth-justice-services)

7. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A

Appendix A: Haringey Youth National and Local Indicators 2025-2026

No	Key Indicators	YJB National Indicators	23/24 Output	24/25 Target	24/25 Output	25/26 Target	25/26 Output
1	National Indicators	1.1 Reduce the Use of Custody 1.2 Reduce the rate of Re-offending. 1.3 Reduce the number of first-time entrants into the Youth Justice System	9 sentences 32.3% 51 children	6 sentences 30% 45 children	1 sentence 26% 67 children	1 sentence 25% 50 children	2 sentences 37% 57 children
YJB New Key Performance Indicators			23/24 Output	24/25 Target	24/25 Output	25/26 Target	25/26 Output
2	Suitable Accommodation	Increase the % of children in suitable accommodation by the end of their intervention	91%	96%	92%	95%	Not published yet
3	Education Training and Employment Suitability	Increase the % of children in suitable Education, training and employment by the end of their intervention	72%	80%	73%	80%	Not published yet
4	Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health (number of children with an order ending in the period)	Increase the % of children attending intervention from those that have an identified Emotional/Mental Health need.	42%	80%	65%	80%	Not published yet
5	Substance Misuse (number of children with an order ending in the period)	Increase the % of children attending intervention from those that have an identified Substance Misuse need	41%	80%	46%	80%	Not published yet
6	SEN/EHCP	% with an identified SND/EHCP need that have a formal plan in place	100%	100%	100%	100%	Not published yet
7	Out of court disposals	% of Out of Court Disposals (OOCs) completed successfully	43%	60%	56%	65%	Not published yet
8	Links to Wider Services	During the intervention:- % of children that are a Child in Care % of children that are on a Child Protection Plan % of children that are Children in Need % of children on an Early Intervention Plan	19% 5% 14% 8%	N/A N/A N/A N/A	16% 8% 15% 22%	N/a N/a N/a N/a	Not published yet
9	Management Board Attendance	% of the statutory senior board members (Children's Services, Education, Probation, Police, Health) that attended the partnership board (can be delegated)	90%	100%	80%	100%	Not published yet
10	Serious Youth Violence	Reduce the number of serious youth violence offences (Drugs, Violence and Robbery with a gravity of 5 and above)	34	30	15	15	Not published yet
11	Victims	Increase the % of victims engaging with RJ opportunities (of those consented)	79%	90%	100%	100%	Not published yet
YJS Performance Indicators			23/24 Output	24/25 Target	24/25 Output	25/26 Target	25/26 Target
12	Case Management (Personal Performance Reports PPR)	Increase the % of children with an ASSET+ completed within timescale (within 20 working days of start of intervention and every 3 months thereon)	72%	80%	72%	80%	66%
	There is now an expectation that records are obtained where those CiC children that are placed in another authority	Increase the % of children with Home Visit undertaken within timescales (within 15 working days of start and every 2 months thereon)	76%	80%	78%	80%	71%
		Increase the % of children with an Intervention Plan completed within timescale (20 working days from start and every 3 months)	77%	80%	77%	80%	78%
13	Links to Wider Services	To support our CiC with robust risk plans to reduce the number of CiC who get assessed as High Risk across at the end of YJS Intervention:- *Serious Harm *Safety and Wellbeing *Risk of Re-offending	25% 64% 45%	20% 50% 35%	26% 61% 39%	20% 50% 35%	35% 49% 26%