

**Executive Meeting****On 21st November**Report Title: **Youth Crime Reduction Strategy 2006-2008**

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable):

Report of: **David Hennings, Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy)**Wards(s) affected: **All**Report for: **Non-Key Decision****1. Purpose**

1.1 To approve the Haringey Youth Crime Reduction Strategy 2006-2008.

**2. Introduction by Executive Member**

2.1. Crime has fallen in Haringey and, as Executive Member for Crime and Community Safety, I am determined to continue to work with our partners to sustain this downward trend.

The recent Youth Offending Team (YOS) inspection praised the service for its commitment to reducing crime and safeguarding children and young people.

The Youth Crime Reduction Strategy 2006-08 focuses on the following main elements:

- The identification of youth crime characteristics in Haringey
- Reasons and risk factors associated with youth offending
- Details of existing services
- Strategic aims, including agreed priorities and actions to achieve these.

One of the main manifesto pledges is to make our communities safer. This administration is committed to reducing crime and in particular youth crime and re-offending by young people. This strategy provides the framework for our continuing commitment for preventing and reducing offending amongst young people.

**3. Recommendations**

3.1 To approve the Haringey Youth Crime Reduction Strategy 2006-2008 and note Funding Implications post 2008.

Report Authorised by: **David Hennings**

Contact Officer: **Linda James, YOS Strategic Manager, tel: 020 8489 1146.**

#### **4. Director of Finance Comments**

4.1 Members should note uncertainty over funding beyond March 2008 and more generally how YOS's dependence on substantial amounts of short term funding makes it difficult to plan strategically for the longer term.

#### **5. Head of Legal Services Comments**

The Report and accompanying Strategy show consideration has been given to the relevant legislation namely the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Children Act 1989, Children Act 2000 and relevant guidance and policies issued by government departments and related agencies. The Strategy is appropriate and complements the Haringey Youth Justice Plan and Young People's Plan and there is a clear indication that the Human Rights Act 1998 has been taken into account when considering the implementation of the Strategy in the lives of young people.

#### **6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

6.1 None

6.2 None

#### **7. Strategic Implications**

7.1 The strategy defines 5 strategic aims:

1. To build on and improve partnership working.
2. To reduce re-offending and tackling persistent and high risk offenders.
3. To reduce child and youth victimisation.
4. Targeted crime prevention and reduction and early intervention.
5. To improve consultation and participation with young people.

Achievement of these aims will involve adopting a multi-disciplinary approach working in conjunction with other key partners and agencies

#### **8. Financial Implications**

8.1 Funding for the YOS Prevention Team, which is principally responsible for the success of the strategy, is assured until end March 2008.

#### **9. Legal Implications**

9.1 The Legal Implications have been appropriately dealt with in the body of the Report and the accompany Strategy document. Comments have been provided at paragraph 5 of this Report.

#### **9.2 Equalities Implications**

9.3 The Youth Crime Reduction Strategy addresses the work of the YOS Prevention Team and partner agencies. The recently published Haringey Inspection Report praised the work of the YOS in relation to diversity and the Prevention Team in particular as being "responsive to the changing ethnic make-up of the local community in the interventions and activities it provided".

## **10. Consultation**

10.1 The Youth Crime Reduction Strategy has been presented to the Youth Offending Service Partnership Board and Children and Young People's Strategic Board. All Councillors and the Executive have also been consulted.

## **11. Background**

11.1 Haringey was one of eleven Boroughs asked by the Government Office for London (GOL) to produce a Youth Crime Reduction Strategy for 2002-2005. This strategy was instrumental in setting up services in the Prevention Team within the YOS. The Scrutiny Review – Reducing Re-offending by Young People recommended that a Corporate Youth Crime Prevention Strategy be developed. The strategy describes existing services and defines strategic aims for 2006-2008.

## **12. Conclusion**

12.1 The Actions contained under the 5 strategic aims will be reviewed regularly by the Youth Crime Reduction Steering Group with oversight by the YOS Partnership Board.

## **13. Use of Appendices/Tables/Photographs**

13.1 Appendices are contained within the body of the strategy.