

### Disproportionality in the Youth Justice System – Scope and Terms of Reference

Review Topic	Review / Project Title
<b>Rationale</b>	<p>There is disproportionate percentage of young people from some communities within the youth justice system in Haringey. This is particularly pronounced within the black community. Data shows that 47% of the caseload for the Youth Justice Service come from the black community, despite them representing only 28% of the population. This disproportionality is mirrored both across London and nationally.</p> <p>The review will look at the reasons for this, what can be done to prevent it and diversionary activities. This will involve looking at a range of issues including the role of schools, care and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). In addition, it will look at how this is addressed within the new Early Help service. Examples of effective action from elsewhere will be considered to see if there is potential for these to be adopted locally.</p>
<b>Scrutiny Membership</b>	<p>Members of the Children and Young People’s Scrutiny Panel will carry out this review</p>
<b>Terms of Reference (Purpose of the Review/ Objectives)</b>	<p>To consider the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overrepresentation of specific ethnic minority groups within the youth justice system and the reasons for this;</li> <li>• How support services work together to prevent and divert young people from over represented communities entering the youth justice system;</li> <li>• The support that young people receive once they enter the youth justice system and its effectiveness in preventing young people from re-offending; and</li> <li>• Successful action undertaken by similar London boroughs to address the issue</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Links to the Corporate Plan</b></p>	<p>This review relates to Priority 1 – “Enable every child and young person to have the best start in life, with high quality education”</p> <p>Objective 5; Children and families who need extra help will get the right support at the right time to tackle issues before they escalate</p> <p>It also relates to Priority 3 – “A clean, well maintained and safe Borough where people are proud to live and work.”</p> <p>Objective 5: To work with partners to prevent and reduce more serious crime, in particular youth crime and gang activity.</p>
<p><b>Evidence Sources</b></p>	<p>This will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Youth Justice Service data;</li> <li>- Community Safety Strategy 2013-17;</li> <li>- Relevant legislation and guidance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Witnesses</b></p>	<p>The following witnesses will be invited to take part in the review/submit evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jennifer Sargeant – Head of Targeted Response and Youth Justice</li> <li>- Simon Stone – Service Manager, Youth Justice Service</li> <li>- Police</li> <li>- CAMHS</li> <li>- Pupil Referral Unit</li> <li>- Crown Prosecution Service</li> <li>- Haringey Racial Equality Council</li> <li>- Haringey Peace Alliance</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Young offenders</li> </ul>
<b>Methodology/Approach</b>	<p>A variety of methods will be used to gather evidence from the witnesses above, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Desk top research</li> <li>- Evidence gathering sessions with witnesses</li> <li>- Visits or evidence from local authorities who undertaken successful work in this area</li> <li>- Review of evidence sources (listed above – including written submissions)</li> </ul>
<b>Equalities Implications</b>	<p>The review is specifically focussed on a key equalities issue as it concerns the disproportionate percentage of young people from some communities who come into contact with the youth justice system.</p>
<b>Timescale</b>	<p>The evidence gathering will be completed by the end of July 2016.</p>
<b>Reporting arrangements</b>	<p>The Director for Children’s Services will coordinate a response to Cabinet to the recommendations. It may also be necessary for the conclusions and recommendations of the review to be submitted to the Youth Justice Service Partnership Board should they cover partnership issues relevant to its work.</p>
<b>Publicity</b>	<p>The project will be publicised through the scrutiny website and scrutiny newsletter providing details of the scope and how local people and community groups may be involved. The outcomes of the review will be similarly published once complete.</p>
<b>Constraints / Barriers / Risks</b>	<p>Risks:          Not being able to get key evidence providers to attend on the agreed date of evidence gathering.          Not being able obtain evidence from key informants e.g. local authorities</p>

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<b>Officer Support</b>	<b>Scrutiny Support:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Rob Mack, Principal Scrutiny Officer</li></ul> <b>Service Support:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jennifer Sergeant – Head of Targeted Response and Youth Justice</li><li>- Simon Stone – Service Manager, Youth Justice Service</li></ul>