

TO: EXECUTIVE
13 OCTOBER 2017

BRACKNELL FOREST YOUTH JUSTICE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2019
Director of Children, Young People and Learning

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To gain the approval of the Executive for the proposed plan for the delivery of Youth Justice services in Bracknell Forest during the period 2017-2019.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.2 Bracknell Forest Youth Offending Service Partnership Strategic Plan 2017-2019 attached (appendix A)

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to prepare a Youth Justice Plan to set out how Youth Justice services will be delivered locally within available resources.

The Plan is written in the same format as the Bracknell Forest Community Safety Plan 2017-2019, as the Community Safety Partnership has overarching governance responsibility for the YOS and the Youth Justice and Community Safety plans are closely aligned. The Youth Justice Strategic Plan is structured under the following headings, which are recommended by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales:

Introduction, Structures and Governance, Resources and Value for Money, Partnership Arrangements, Risks to Future Delivery.

The Plan sets out the strategic priorities for the period 2017 -2019.

A refresh of the Plan will be undertaken in 2018.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 For the Executive to recommend the adoption of the Youth Justice Plan 2017-19 to Council

4 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty on Local Authorities to prepare a Youth Justice Plan. This needs to be endorsed by Council.

5 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None

6 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 6.1 The Youth Offending Service (YOS) is a statutory partnership under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The statutory partners are the Local Authority, (which is

(Appendix C – to the Executive Report)

responsible for hosting the YOS), National Probation Service, Police, and National Health Service.

- 6.2 Within Bracknell Forest, governance of the YOS is provided by the YOS Performance Management Board reporting into the Bracknell Forest Community Safety Partnership. The YOS Management Board meets quarterly and is made up of the members of the Community Safety Partnership who have statutory responsibility for YOS funding. The YOS Management Board scrutinise YOS performance and develops actions for improvement where necessary. Staffing and resource issues are regularly reviewed and the Board assists in setting the strategic direction of the YOS. The YOS Management Board takes an active role in ensuring that young offenders and those at risk of entering the youth justice system have access to universal and specialist services within Bracknell Forest and that partner agencies recognise and maintain responsibility for contributing to the reduction of offending by children and young people.
- 6.3 The YOS sits within the CYPL department of the Council and the YOS Head of Service is a member of the Children's Social Care management team, supervised by the Chief Officer. The YOS works in close collaboration with other services within the department, in particular Children's Social Care and schools. Many of the cases that YOS are involved with are subject to child protection or child in need plans and YOS caseworkers are members of core groups. YOS Prevention services are delivered in schools including groupwork programmes designed to prevent CSE and domestic abuse, and YOS is fully involved in the forward planning for the department to work together in a more integrated way with the overall aim of improving the life chances of our children and young people in Bracknell Forest.
- 6.4 The Council Plan 2015 – 2019 commits to review the focus and delivery of all services over the next 3 years. It is, as yet unknown how the Transformation programme will affect the current structure and governance of the YOS. A review of the YOS is likely to be included in the Transformation of the Children, Young People and Learning Department in line with all other Services based upon the 'One Council' approach. However, this will be mindful of the Local Authority's legal duties under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

7 ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS

Borough Solicitor

- 7.1 The relevant legal requirements are addressed within the report.

Borough Treasurer

- 7.2 The amount of available resources are set out in the Strategic Plan. Financial performance during the year will be reviewed as part of the Council's agreed budget monitoring process, which will identify any required management actions.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 7.3 The Plan embraces diversity and provides youth justice services to all sections of the community. By definition, young people who have offended face discrimination and can be marginalised by the wider law abiding population due to the impact of offending and anti social behaviour on the community. A preliminary Equalities Impact Assessment has been prepared and a full assessment is not required.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 7.4 Section E, Bracknell Forest Youth Offending Service Partnership Strategic Plan 2017-2019 attached (appendix A)

Other Officers

- 7.5 None

8 CONSULTATION

Principal Groups Consulted

- 8.1 Bracknell Forest Youth Offending Service Partnership, Chair of YOS Management Board, Children's Social Care Management Team, CYPL Departmental Management Team

Method of Consultation

- 8.2 In writing

Representations Received

- 8.3 None

Background Papers

Bracknell Forest Youth Offending Service Partnership Strategic Plan 2017 -2019

Contact for further information

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