

DECISION-MAKER:	CABINET COUNCIL		
SUBJECT:	YOUTH JUSTICE STRATEGY 2017-20 UPDATE		
DATE OF DECISION:	20 MARCH 2018 21 MARCH 2018		
REPORT OF:	CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SAFETY		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
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STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

NOT APPLICABLE

BRIEF SUMMARY

All local authorities have a statutory duty to submit an annual Youth Justice Plan relating to their provision of youth justice services. Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out local youth offending partnerships' responsibilities in producing this plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan, setting out:

- How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded
- How the Youth Offending Service or equivalent will be composed and funded, how it will operate and what functions it will carry out

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Cabinet	(i)	To consider and recommend to Council the updated Youth Justice Strategy
Council	(ii)	To approve the updated Youth Justice Strategy

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	The Southampton Youth Offending Service provides statutory interventions to young people and plays a principal role in tackling crime committed by young people aged 10 to 17 years. Our key areas of work are reducing youth re-offending, the number of young people entering the criminal justice system (first time entrants) and the number of young people entering custody. The strategy attached has been developed with partners within the city with responsibility for assisting and contributing to this aim and summarises the key actions needed in order to be successful.
2.	The strategy is completely reflective of the more in depth document which

	<p>was endorsed by all statutory partners contributing to Youth Justice in the city in August 2017. It is reflective of the document submitted and commended by the Youth Justice Board ('YJB') in August 2017 and is reflective of the published document that has been available to the public in the House of Commons Library since September 2017. The priorities within the strategy reflect key performance indicators which need to be addressed locally and which also reflect themes set out within the Safer City strategy.</p>
<p>ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED</p>	
3.	<p>Failure to endorse the plan could result in removal of YJB Effective Practice Grant which would have significant financial and reputational impact upon the Local Authority.</p>
<p>DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)</p>	
4.	<p>The strategy is required to be submitted to the Youth Justice Board every summer in order to be compliant with Effective Practice Grant requirements. A decision was taken locally to develop a three year strategy for 2017-20 to be reviewed annually. Therefore, Southampton Youth Offending Service's 2017-20 three year Youth Justice Strategy (appendix 1) was completed in August 2017. It was reviewed and endorsed by the Southampton Youth Offending Service Management Board and Safer City Partnership Board. The document was submitted to the YJB, who commended it and it has been available to members of the public through the House of Commons library since September 2017.</p>
5.	<p>The timescale of submission of the YOS strategy did not correlate with local timescales for review and endorsement by members, nor did the strategy correlate with local template requirements; the document submitted to the YJB includes significant additional information required to fulfil YJB Grant conditions that are not included within a local document. As a consequence a bespoke strategy was completed for the city; the Southampton Youth Justice Strategy 2017-20 (appendix 2) but was not submitted to Full Council at this juncture. A decision was made to submit at the same time as the Safer City Partnership review in February 2018 due to the crossover in some strategic themes within both documents. Whilst this meant the document was not endorsed by Full Council, progress has been reviewed on a regular basis by both the Southampton YOS Management Board and the Safer City Board. Members are represented at both forums.</p>
6.	<p>In essence, the two documents utilise the same core information and the same structure of content focussing on the following areas;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our priorities of a) reducing Youth Crime b) reducing first time entrants to the youth justice system c) reducing re-offending rates and d) reducing custody rates focussing specifically on • Our successes of the last three years • Our Challenges • Our links with other strategies • Our key actions for the next three years
7.	<p>The two documents were recently reviewed by the Strategy and Commissioning Board and Council Management Team and feedback was received about amendments to the document submitted to the YJB.</p>
8.	<p>In addition, in relation to the two page Southampton Youth Justice Strategy,</p>

	clarification was sought as to how the city compared to comparator authorities and any information about why Southampton is higher than regional and national averages. In relation the first query, this information is included in detail in Appendix 1 of the document submitted to the YJB. In relation to the second query, this has been a longstanding concern dating back to the time that Southampton disaggregated from Wessex YOT in 2012 and has been tackled and reviewed over the course of these past 6 years. Southampton YOS's Out of Court Disposal Strategy was inspected- successfully- by HMIP inspectors last year and recommendations are being implemented in order to gain a greater understanding as to the reasons for historical deficits and further evaluation will be included in the next strategy review in July 2018.
9.	Finally recommendations were made about how to 'brand' Restorative Practice as child friendly and developing some case studies. This too will be addressed in the July 2018 review.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
10.	Funding for Youth Justice in Southampton comes from a number of different streams; Local Authority, Health, Police and Crime Commissioner, National Probation Service, Youth Justice Board and individual bespoke grant arrangements. Endorsement will not entail any additional budgetary implications already planned for but failure to endorse may impact upon partners' contribution to the 2018/19 budget
<u>Property/Other</u>	
11.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
12.	S. 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out local youth offending partnerships' responsibilities in producing a plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
13.	The Youth Justice Plan forms part of the Council's Policy Framework. A list of the Policy Framework plans are detailed in Article 4 of the Council's Constitution.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
14.	Failure to endorse the plan could result in removal of YJB Effective Practice Grant which would have significant financial and reputational impact upon the Local Authority
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
15.	If approved, the plan will form part of the Council's Policy Framework.

KEY DECISION?	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All wards

<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	2017-20 Southampton Youth Offending Service Youth Justice Strategy
2.	2017-20 Southampton City Council Youth Justice Strategy
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	Equality and Safety Impact Assessment
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.	Yes
Privacy Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA) to be carried out.	No
Other Background Documents	
Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	