

Cabinet

13 March 2013

County Durham Youth Justice Plan 2012/14



Report of Corporate Management Team

Rachael Shimmin, Corporate Director, Children & Adults Services

Councillor Claire Vasey, Cabinet Portfolio Holder for Children's Services

Purpose of the Report

- 1 The purpose of the report is to present County Durham Youth Justice Plan 2012/14 to Cabinet for approval.

Background

- 2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (S.40) places a duty on every Local Authority with relevant persons and bodies, to formulate and implement an annual Youth Justice Plan which sets out:
 - How youth justice services in the area are to be provided and funded, and
 - How the Youth Offending Service will be composed and funded, and what statutory functions the service is to carry out.
- 3 County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) multi-agency Management Board fully supports the attached Youth Justice Plan. It will be refreshed in May 2013 and a new Youth Justice Plan for 2013/15 produced.
- 4 As well as reviewing the progress made in youth justice over the previous period, the plan sets out the key priorities and next step for the partnership, in particular for the County Durham Youth Offending Service.
- 5 The key priorities in the plan are:
 - To reduce first time entrants to the youth justice system
 - To reduce re-offending
 - To reduce the use of custody (both remand and sentenced)
- 5 To achieve these, a range of actions are being implemented. Examples include:
 - Further integrate pre and post court delivery

- Develop and implement Enhanced Transitions Pilot (18-21 years) with Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust (DTVPT) and DCC CAS
- Embed Think Family approach in all CDYOS work
- Improve links with Crown Court and Magistrates Court sentencers
- Expand restorative justice interventions across all CDYOS work (pre and post court)
- Ensure the views of young people and families inform service design and delivery

6. The Plan also sets out the resource plan for the service, including staffing and finance. Cabinet will note that the Youth Justice Plan is resourced through partnership activity and finance and that several of these funding streams have transferred to the new Police and Crime Commissioner. It will be essential to work closely with the PCC in agreeing future priorities.

Recommendations and reasons

7 Cabinet are recommended to:

- (a) Approve the Youth Justice Plan
- (b) Submit to full council for approval

Background papers:

County Durham Youth Offending Service Youth Justice Plan 2012/14.

Contact: Gill Eshelby, Strategic Manager, County Durham Youth Offending Service Tel: 0191 383 4752.

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance - The plan contains information on the resourcing of CDYOS

Staffing - The plan contains information on staffing in CDYOS

Risk - The resourcing of CDYOS is dependent on a range of funding streams, all of which are still to be finalised for 2013/14

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty -

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder - The statutory duty of the youth justice system is to prevent crime and disorder by young people (Crime and Disorder Act 1998, S37(1)).

Human Rights - None

Consultation - None

Procurement - None

Disability Issues - None

Legal Implications – The delivery of statutory youth justice functions.