

20 February 2018



**County Durham Youth Offending Service:
Work to Reduce Reoffending**

**Report of Margaret Whellans, Corporate Director, Children and Young
People's Services**

Purpose of the Report

- 1 This report provides the background to a presentation to be given by senior officers from County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) on the service's work to reduce reoffending by young people in Co. Durham. Following the September meeting of the Committee, members requested the presentation to gain a better understanding of CDYOS' work.

Background

- 2 County Durham Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) is a statutory multi-agency partnership, established under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, with the principal aim of preventing offending by children and young people. Local Authorities are responsible for establishing a Youth Offending Team/Service in their area. Police, National Probation Service and Clinical Commissioning Groups are statutorily required to assist in their funding and operation.
- 3 It is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to formulate and implement a statutory Youth Justice Plan setting out:
 - How youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded;
 - How the Youth Offending Service (CDYOS) will be composed and funded, how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out.
- 4 The Youth Justice Plan outlines the work of the partnership to achieve its strategic purpose:
 - To prevent reoffending by children and young people
 - To reduce First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the youth justice system
 - By delivering specialist interventions
 - Underpinned by safeguarding and public protection.
- 5 After approval by the Management Board, the Youth Justice Plan is presented to Cabinet and full Council for approval before submission to the YJB. Youth Justice Plans are sent to Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (lead for YOS inspections) and to the House of Commons library for Ministers.
- 6 CDYOS is accountable to a multi-agency Management Board, chaired by the Head of Early Help, Assessment and Safeguarding, DCC. Legal and data requirements placed on CDYOS and the Management Board include:
 - Complying with the statutory requirements laid out in s.38 to 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, and other relevant sections of the Act
 - Complying with National Standards for Youth Justice and reporting requirements for Community Safeguarding and Public Protection incidents

- Adhering to the relevant Youth Justice Board (YJB) data recording guidance
- Approving the annual Youth Justice Plan

7 The statutory duties of CDYOS are attached for information. The focus of all CDYOS' work is reducing reoffending. All young people with whom the service works have committed an offence and been through formal Police processes (arrest and Police custody suite).

Presentation

8 Gill Eshelby, Strategic Manager, and Dave Summers, Countywide Manager Operations and Service Delivery, will give the presentation which will focus on the work of the service to reduce reoffending.

9 They will provide members with an understanding of:

- AssetPlus – the national assessment and intervention planning process
- Desistance factors
- Intervention planning and delivery
- Case management and National Standards for Youth Justice
- Sentencing framework

10 There will be the opportunity for questions and discussion.

Recommendation

11. Members are recommended to:

- (i) Receive the presentation at the meeting on 20 February

Attached for Information:

- County Durham Youth Offending Service – Statutory Functions

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – This work continues to evidence significant savings to the Criminal Justice System, to Durham County council and partners.

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – This work is a crucial part of the Reducing Re-Offending Strategy and has implications for all partners (CDYOS Management Board, the Safe Durham Partnership, Children and Families Partnership and the County Durham Partnership).

Human Rights – None

Consultation – Statutory partners are consulted in the production of the Youth Justice Plan.

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – The Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement. County Durham Youth Offending Service is a statutory service.

Provision of:

- Case management of Court Orders (Community and Custody) in line with National Standards for Youth Justice
- Out of Court Disposals
- Specialist assessment based on criminogenic factors and desistance
- Interventions to reduce re-offending
- Court staffing (Youth, Crown, Remand Courts including Saturday and Bank Holiday working)
- Bail Supervision functions
- Appropriate Adult service for Police interviews (PACE)
- Pre Sentence Reports for Courts
- Community Volunteers (Referral Order Panels)
- Recruit, train, manage, supervise, and deploy volunteers to carry out statutory functions
- Referral Order Panel Reports
- 'Prevention' services to prevent youth crime
- Anti-Social Behaviour escalation supervision
- Service to victims of youth crime (both young people and adults)
- Delivery of court-ordered reparation to community and victims
- Delivery of Unpaid Work requirements (16/17 year olds)
- Transition services to NPS/CRC
- YJMIS data / management info to Youth Justice Board / Ministry of Justice regarding youth justice cases
- Parenting Orders imposed in the Youth Court (Criminal Matters)
- Case management of Sex Offenders (Assessment, Intervention and Moving On (AIM)) – young people under 18
- Remands to Youth Detention Accommodation (RYDA)
- Resettlement of young people after custody

Duty to:

- Comply with National Standards for Youth Justice (accountable to Ministers)
- Comply with arrangements for multi-agency public protection (MAPPA)
- Comply with relevant legislation
- Cooperate with MAPPA/LSCB/SDP (CSP)
- Provide and support a Management Board
- Produce and deliver an annual Youth Justice Plan
- Provide assistance to persons determining whether Youth Cautions or Youth Conditional Cautions should be given
- Cooperate with Children's Services to improve wellbeing of children and young people in County Durham
- Cooperate regarding safeguarding and public protection incidents in the community (YJB)

Additional Functions:

- Provision of Out of Court Disposals (service delivery)
- Provision of Think Family / Stronger Families
- Manage safeguarding and risk management inherent in all the above
- Team Around the Child (TAC) / Team Around the Family (TAF)
- Assessment, Planning Interventions, Supervision (APIS)
- Offending Behaviour Programmes (OBPs)