

Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Relevant Officer:	Diane Booth, Director of Children’s Services
Relevant Cabinet Member:	Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Secretary (Resilient Communities)
Date of Meeting:	5 November 2018

BLACKPOOL YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM STRATEGIC PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

- 1.1 To recommend to Council the Blackpool Youth Offending Team (YOT) Strategic Plan for submission to Youth Justice Board and update the Executive regarding the position of Youth Offending.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

- 2.1 To recommend to Council to approve the Blackpool Youth Offending Team Strategic Plan for 2018-2019, as attached at Appendix 2a.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

- 3.1 This plan meets the annual renewal of the requirements to submit a Youth Justice Plan to the National Youth Justice Board

This plan has now been approved by all multi agency partners at the strategic Blackpool Young People’s Service Board this includes Youth Offending Service delivery. The Local Partnership is required to agree and contribute to the plan due to the youth offending delivery being a statutory partnership including Police, Health, Education, Local Authority and Probation

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council?

No, however this document will if approved form part of the Council’s Policy Framework

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? Yes

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

Not to approve the revised Blackpool Youth Offending Team Strategic Plan, which would have significant implications for the funding of the Youth Offending function.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 The relevant Council priority is: "Communities, creating stronger communities and increasing resilience".

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The attached revised Youth Justice Plan was approved by partner agencies in Blackpool at the meeting of Blackpool Young People's Service Management Board meeting held on Monday 17 September 2018.

5.2 The document was produced by the Head of Service for Targeted Intervention Service due to the Service Manager not being in post. This is a requirement to submit to the National Youth Justice Board to ensure continued funding to deliver prevention and targeted interventions to reduce youth offending reoffending in the town.

5.3 The plan is reflective of the current position in respect of all areas of youth justice locally and identifies challenges presently.

5.4 A key challenge is in respect of an increase locally in first time entrants to the criminal justice system and the increase in numbers of young people in custody both of which are contrary to the regional and national trend.

5.5 The outlined challenges are being addressed as part of the plan and an improvement action plan which is in place with statutory partners to improve delivery and practice to impact positively on youth crime across the town. The plan outlines in terms of the National Indicators: Reducing First Time Entrants, Reducing reoffending and Reducing the use of custody both existing good practice and key areas for improvement

5.6 The improvements will be monitored by the Blackpool Young People Service Board chaired by the Director of Children's Services. The Board has already agreed to nominate Champions to simplify and enhance the promotion and monitoring of the National Standards which formed the basis of many aspects of the strategic plan. It was acknowledged that doing so would aid the auditing process in those areas and allow for associated reporting to be brought back to the Board on a regular basis.

This will ensure that the plan is delivered and monitored in a partnership approach. On Friday 21 September 2018, Blackpool YOT was notified of a full YOT inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). Two weeks of preparation and advance evidence was submitted. The inspection site visit was attended by 6 Inspectors during the week commencing 8 October 2018 for 5 days. No feedback was received on the site visit. The determined grading will be notified on 26 October 2018. It is not currently anticipated that arising from the inspection that will be a requirement to make any amendments or additions to the attached plan, this however will be confirmed at or in advance of the Executive meeting.

5.6 Is the Corporate Delivery Unit aware of this report? Yes

The Corporate Delivery Unit has been involved directly in the creation of the plan and will assist in ensuring it is monitored.

5.6 Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.7 **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 2a: Youth Justice Plan 2018-2019

6.0 **Legal considerations:**

6.1 None.

7.0 **Human Resources considerations:**

7.1 To enable the required staffing quota to be maintained in line with the allocated grant this is a necessary component.

8.0 **Equalities considerations:**

8.1 None.

9.0 **Financial considerations:**

9.1 This report is a prerequisite to continued funding from the Youth Justice Board

10.0 **Risk management considerations:**

10.1 Failure to submit would incur financial risk and also risk of inspection of the service from the Youth Justice Board.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

14.0 Key decision information:

14.1 Is this a key decision? Yes

14.2 If so, Forward Plan reference number: 14/2018

14.3 If a key decision, is the decision required in less than five days? No

14.4 If **yes**, please describe the reason for urgency:

15.0 Call-in information:

15.1 Are there any grounds for urgency, which would cause this decision to be exempt from the call-in process? No

15.2 If **yes**, please give reason:

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE HEAD OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

16.0 Scrutiny Committee Chairman (where appropriate):

Date informed: 26 October 2018 Date approved:

17.0 Declarations of interest (if applicable):

17.1

18.0 Executive decision:

18.1

19.0 Date of Decision:

19.1

20.0 Reason(s) for decision:

20.1

21.0 Date Decision published:

21.1

22.0 Executive Members in attendance:

22.1

23.0 Call-in:

23.1

24.0 Notes:

24.1