

# CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE CABINET MEMBER MEETING

## Agenda Item 14

Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Youth Offending Service Improvement Action Plan</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>12<sup>th</sup> September 2011</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Strategic Director, People</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Nigel Andain</b>	<b>Tel: 29-6167</b>
	<b>Email:</b>	<b>Nigel.andain@brighton-hove.gov.uk</b>	
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Forward Plan No:</b>	
<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 As a result of the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) inspection the YOS was required to develop an Improvement Action Plan in order to address the issues arising from the Inspection. Members are requested to agree to the content of the Improvement Action Plan

### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member consider and approve the YOS Improvement Action Plan

### 3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Brighton & Hove YOS was inspected by HMIP at the end of March 2011 and the report was published at the beginning of July 2011. The Inspection raised some valid points relating to our practice, which will be addressed through the YOS Improvement Action Plan.
- 3.2 The Improvement Action Plan has 15 recommendations which comprehensively address not just the issues raised by the Inspectorate, but improvements which we have been aware of and have been introducing incrementally. However, the Inspection has given us the opportunity to combine our improvements into one coherent process.
- 3.3 The recommendations cover the whole process from initial Pre-Sentence Report (PSR) for court, to the initial assessment of the young person and through to the Intervention Plan and including the 'extras' such as Risk Management Plans and Vulnerability Management Plans. The motif throughout the Plan is to ensure that workers are sufficiently trained and confident in the analytical assessment of young people.

- 3.4 The Action Plan includes a training programme for practitioners, which has been agreed by the YOS Management Board. The training will cost £2,600 for 4 days (4 modules x 2) training up to 24 practitioners. This money was within the existing budget.

#### **4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The Improvement Action Plan has been signed off by the HMIP and the YJB and has been agreed by the YOS Management Board and the Strategic Director for People, Terry Parkin.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no financial implications as a direct result of the recommendations of this report. All actions in the improvement plan must be fully costed and funded from within current available resources.

*Finance Officer Consulted: Name: David Ellis Date: 22/08/11*

##### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The action plan aims to address the concerns raised by the inspection report and so improve the services so as to meet the authority's statutory and regulatory duties in respect of youth justice.

*Lawyer Consulted: Name: Natasha Watson Date: 22/08/11*

##### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The YOS adheres to the Council's Equalities principles and as we address the needs of some of the most socially excluded young people in Brighton & Hove. We therefore contribute to the reduction of poor outcomes.

##### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The YOS supports the sustainable community's goal as well as climate change and energy. The location of a multi agency team as a one stop shop facilitates the support of vulnerable clients without recourse to multiple visits and assessments

##### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 The YOS works with young offenders from the ages of 10 – 17 (and up to 20 in some instances) with a target to reduce re-offending, custody and First Time Entrants. We have also brought the Targeted Youth Support youth crime prevention team into our structure and so have a strategic oversight into youth crime from prevention to detention (custody).

##### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 Financial and Legal risks are set out above

Public Health Implications:

5.7 None

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.8 The YOS is a multi agency team located within the Children & Families Delivery Unit. Also, as a criminal justice agency we work closely with our partners in criminal justice, including the Community Safety Partnership, the courts, Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust and Sussex Police. This ensures that the cross council priorities of working with those vulnerable and at risk young people are adhered to and that young people get the best service available.

**6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):**

6.1 There are no alternative options

**7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS**

7.1 To agree the YOS Improvement Action Plan in order to ensure that youth justice practitioners are fully trained to deliver the best interventions for young people and achieve the best possible outcomes.

7.2

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. The YOS Improvement Action Plan

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. None

**Background Documents**

1. None

