

**REPORT OF THE CHAIR OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S
COMMITTEE**

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE YOUTH JUSTICE SERVICE STRATEGY REVIEW
2021/22**

Purpose of the Report

1. This report presents the Youth Justice Service Strategy Review 2021/22 for approval by Full Council. An annual Youth Justice plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998). A copy of the full review is attached as **Appendix 1**.

Information

2. Youth Justice Services in Nottinghamshire are made up of three multi-agency Locality Teams and a county wide Interventions Team. The Service meets all the statutory requirements of a Youth Justice Service as set out in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and includes seconded staff from Police, Probation, Health, and Futures (Education, Training and Employment).
3. The aims of the Youth Justice Service are to:
 - reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system
 - reduce the frequency and rate of re-offending by children and young people who are already within the youth justice system
 - keep the numbers of young people experiencing custody – either on remand or as a sentence of the court - to a minimum.
4. Details of Nottinghamshire's performance against these measures can be found at page 17 of the review (**Appendix 1**). Performance has been good across all measures with data showing that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average. First Time Entrants have again fallen, and Nottinghamshire has seen a 14% reduction on last year's figures. Rates of re-offending and numbers of re-offences committed by re-offenders has again reduced and figures show that Nottinghamshire is performing better than the national average. Numbers of young people remanded and sentenced to custody means that, both nationally and locally, fewer young people are experiencing a period of incarceration.

Locally, the total numbers of young people remanded/sentenced to custody is significantly reduced from last year and is currently lower than the national average.

5. In addition to the multi-agency make-up of the teams, the Service works closely with partners and commissioned providers at a strategic and operational level to try to ensure that the needs of children and young people are met and to achieve its outcomes and aims. Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service has maintained its commitment to working with children and young people in need of help, on a non-statutory basis. It delivers a high-quality service in relation to diversion, outreach and detached services, thus keeping a focus on reducing the numbers of First Time Entrants.
6. In the three year plan published in 2020/21, the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service identified five key targets, which provide the focus for long term development work within the service:
 - to work with partners to promote a more holistic approach to meeting children and young people's needs in the Youth Justice System
 - to increase the number of children and young people who are accessing early intervention aimed at reducing the potential of them entering the criminal justice system
 - every child and young person in contact with Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service has appropriate Education Training and Employment (ETE) provision in place
 - to ensure that children and young people have the best support available to meet their needs when leaving custody
 - to ensure that robust consultation processes are in place to enable all children and young people and parents and carers to have an opportunity to shape Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service.
7. The review provides an overview of the progress that has been made so far in relation to these areas and outlines the work that the Youth Justice Service intends to deliver over the following year (2021/22). This year's plan includes streams of work which have emerged since the original document was published in relation to Disproportionality, Serious Youth Violence and Exploitation and responding to the COVID 19 pandemic.
8. As with last year, the strategy features artwork, photography, and poems which have been created by young people working with the service. Quotes from young people and parent/carers can be found throughout the document.

Other Options Considered

9. An annual Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998).

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. The Annual Youth Justice Service Strategy Review requires the approval of Full Council.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Crime and Disorder Implications

12. An annual Youth Justice Plan is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) which requires the local authority with its partners to prevent offending and reoffending by children and young people and to deliver an effective local youth justice system.

Financial Implications

13. Statutory Youth Justice plans must be fully costed; this year's plan has no additional costs associated with it.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Nottinghamshire Youth Justice Service Strategy Review 2021-22, attached as **Appendix 1**, is approved.

Councillor Tracey Taylor
Chairman of the Children and Young People's Committee

For any enquiries about this report please contact:

Rachel Miller
Group Manager, Early Help and Youth Justice Services.
T: 0115 993 4371
E: rachel.miller@nottsc.gov.uk

Constitutional Comments (ELP 25/08/21)

14. It is appropriate for this report to be considered by Full Council in accordance with the constitution.

Financial Comments (JG 17/08/21)

15. Statutory Youth Justice plans must be fully costed and the total funding available from Nottinghamshire and partners is £2.031m for 2021-22.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All

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