



Purpose: For Decision

Full Council Report

Date	20 JULY 2020
Title	ISLE OF WIGHT YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (IOW YOT) ANNUAL JUSTICE PLAN 2022/23
Report of	CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES, EDUCATION AND LIFELONG SKILLS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The purpose of this report is to highlight the key points in the Isle of Wight Youth Offending Teams (IOW YOT) Youth Justice Plan 2022/23. This is to enable elected members to endorse the plan. Accordingly, the summary section will detail a brief background to the IOW YOT and its governance and leadership. There is specific reference to the YOT's status as a partnership and links between this plan and the IOW Strategic Plan will then be identified. Finally, service specific items will be covered including reference to the YOT financial arrangements, its performance framework, and priorities for the coming year.
2. The council is invited to consider and endorse the plan.

RECOMMENDATION

3. That the Youth Justice Plan 2022/23 be endorsed.

BACKGROUND

4. Youth Offending Teams were established under the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act. The essence of these teams was one of a statutory partnership between those agencies who touch children's lives when they commit an offence. Specifically, the Local Authority, Police, Probation and Health. This legislation also required teams to provide an annual Youth Justice Plan. This year revised guidance and a new template was produced. The IOW Youth Justice Plan is fully compliant with this guidance.
5. The work of all Youth Justice Services is overseen by the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales. This is a specific department within the Ministry of Justice. Their role is to provide oversight including the administration of the youth justice grant, the achievement of key performance indicators and the provision of practice standards. Attached is a link to the National standards for youth justice services for information:

6. Youth Offending Teams have statutory responsibility for children who are given an outcome by the court and the partnerships Joint Decision-Making Panel. Appendix one provides details of the outcomes which can be imposed. In addition, the IOW YOT delivers a prevention service to children who are at risk of committing an offence. Youth Crime Prevention receives referrals from a range of agencies across the Island.
7. As there is a strategic partnership between Hampshire and Isle of Wight local authorities in the management of the Island's Children's Services (Social Care and Education). The line management of the IOW YOT is provided by Hampshire. Therefore, there is a close link between Hampshire and IOW YOTs with the Head of Service managing both teams.
8. The IOW YOT is accountable to the IOW YOT Management Board, consisting of representatives of the four statutory partners: The board is chaired by the Deputy Director of Children's Services. Representatives from the local authority includes the Head of County Services, the Service Manager for Children in Care and representation from Island Futures. Health has representatives from both Public Health (local authority) and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The Probation Delivery Unit Head also attends. The Police representative is the Superintendent for the Isle of Wight and has responsibility for the line management of the seconded police officers. Our Southwest and South Central YJB Head of Innovation & Engagement (Southwest & South Central) also attends.
9. In addition to the statutory partners there are representatives from the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, HM Courts, and the Community Safety Partnership. Regarding YOT staff, the Head of Service is in attendance, supported by the Operational Team Manager. The board meets on a quarterly basis.
10. The Head of Service is responsible to Kieran Lyons, Head of County Services, Hampshire County Council. This line management structure provides close links to other county services including Residential services and Fostering and Adoption, in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.
11. The Head of Service also works closely with the service leads for Portsmouth YOT and Southampton Youth Justice Service. This is necessary when all four YOTs share common partners, for example Hampshire Constabulary and HM courts. Further, this collaboration has been crucial to developing strategies to deal with common objectives, for example, the development of a Pan-Hampshire Youth Diversion scheme and commissioning the provision of The Appropriate Adult Services (TAAS).

CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Responding to Climate Change and Enhancing the Biosphere

12. Whilst not directly referred to in the Youth Justice plan, the IOW YOT can impact on this priority through the management of staff and the influence we have over children under our supervision.
13. Staffing initiatives include:
 - Encouraging our staff to be aware of their own carbon footprint during working hours. YOT Staff are required to visit children in their homes and school environment. This does require travel. Staff are encouraged to undertake successive journeys at a time to reduce mileage. Further, to access pool cars which are powered by electricity.
 - Staff are still required to work at home part of the week which has reduced the amount of travel into County Hall, however, this is offset against the additional heating costs they may have at home during the winter months. Further, if staff are travelling from home to visits, it will be difficult for them to challenge the use of personal vehicles. Accordingly, the task is to explore this with staff with the objective of reducing our carbon footprint.
 - Teams will remain a way of facilitating meetings to avoid unnecessary staff travel. Further, printing is discouraged unless necessary.
 - Staff to complete carbon illiteracy training and be involved in any action which promotes the response to climate change.
 - Also, to encourage staff to walk when making local visits and where practical.
14. Influence the children we work with by:
 - Providing reparation projects which are linked to the environment, for example using the allotments and litter picking
 - Encouraging discussion by using it as subject matter through our creative arts programme. This will also support the achievement of an Arts Mark award
 - Encouraging children to maximise the information available by attending school
 - Encourage apprentices in green companies by working with Island Futures

Economic Recovery and Reducing Poverty

15. It is the IOW YOTs vision for the children it works with to lead happy safe and healthy lives. This involves them achieving their full potential away from the Criminal Justice System.
16. The IOW YOT understands that this vision can in part be achieved though all children accessing education, accordingly it seeks to work with children and their partners to achieve this. There are clear links between our vision and that of the IOW Councils in relation to reducing poverty.

Impact on Young People and Future Generations

17. This Places a duty for children to have an active voice in decision making on matters that affect them. This aligns directly to one of our priorities for 2022/23 is to improve the participation of children in the work of the YOT.

Corporate Aims

18. The IOW YOT works across various strands of the Corporate Plan including Public Health, Children's Services and Community Safety.
19. Regarding Public health, the YOT places the health and wellbeing of the children at the heart of our work, through the assessment of their health needs and identifying how these needs are addressed. This includes referral to our CAMHs service and substance misuse provider where required.
20. With reference to the Children's Services, our Youth Justice plan directly reflects this by:
 - Developing the way we listen to children and their carers so they can influence the work of the YOT
 - Working together with education partners to ensure children are in school and achieving their full potential.
 - Ensure that our performance meets the "good" standard with aspirations to be an outstanding YOT.
21. Finally, the IOW YOT works directly with the local Community Safety Partnership to deliver key priorities for community safety in the reduction of crime, antisocial behaviour, and disorder, reduce reoffending and prevention of radicalisation (counter terrorism).

SERVICE/DECISION SPECIFIC PARAGRAPH

22. Our work is underpinned by the Youth Justice Board's vision of a child first Youth Justice system, which is a system where all services:
 - *Prioritise the best interests of children and recognising their particular needs, capacities, rights, and potential. All work is child-focused, developmentally informed, acknowledges structural barriers and meets responsibilities towards children.*
 - *Promote children's individual strengths and capacities to develop their pro-social identity for sustainable desistance, leading to safer communities and fewer victims. All work is constructive and future-focused, built on supportive relationships that empower children to fulfil their potential and make positive contributions to society.*
 - *Encourage children's active participation, engagement, and wider social inclusion. All work is a meaningful collaboration with children and their carers.*
 - *Promote a childhood removed from the justice system, using pre-emptive prevention, diversion, and minimal intervention. All work minimises criminogenic stigma from contact with the system.*
23. The Youth Justice Plan provided evidence on how the IOW achieves the visions of a child first service.

Finance

24. The IOW YOTs budget is received via income from a variety of sources. At the time of writing the Youth Justice plan we had not received details of our Youth Justice grant for 2022/23. The figures below are therefore based on last years grant. Since the plan was submitted notification was received of a helpful increase from £139,534 to £168,275, however for the sake of consistency the figures in this report align directly with the plan.

Income 2022/23

Agency	Amount	Provides
Youth Justice Board	£139,534	
Local Authority Children Services	£318,382	
Office Police Crime Commissioner	£30,600	Youth Crime Prevention
Probation	£5,000	To provide support to the Probation Officer
Total	£493,516	

25. It is a requirement that the four partners provide either financial support or staff. Current arrangements are:

- One Police Officer and some Sargeant and Inspector time.
- There is one CAMHS practitioner. Forensic CAMHS where individual children receive a service.
- The National Probation Service provides a 0.5 Probation Officer.

This equates to the following monetary value:

Agency/Funding	Salary value
Police	£80,850
CAMHS	£42,753
Probation	£23,762
IOW Council - HR legal, ICT, accommodation	£94,291 (include recharge arrangement for 10% of the salary cost for the Head of Service, Performance, and Quality Manager.

26. In addition, the staff directly paid by the YOT budget are:

Role	Full Time equivalent
Operational Team Manager	1
Assistant Team Manager	1
Social Workers	2

Youth Offending Team officers	1.6
Youth Crime Prevention Officer	2.5 (funded by the OPCC and our reserves)
Parenting	0.5
Education Training and Employment	1
Restorative Justice	1

Performance

27. Regarding Performance there are three National Indicators which the team are measured against:

- The number of First-Time Entrants (FTE) into the criminal Justice service. This is any child who receives a Youth Caution or above. The objective is to keep this as low as possible as it is recognised that there is a negative impact through being labelled as someone who offends. The latest performance figures show that there were 31 children in a 12-month period, which is considered as too high. As a result, IOW, together with the other four Hampshire YOTs and the police, introduced a Youth Diversion Programme where children get the same interventions without being criminalised. This was launched in November 2021 and is proving successful.
- Rate of reoffending. This is measured by taking all children who commit an offence and receive a substantive outcome within a 3-month period and tracking them over the following 12 months. The latest figure for the island sits at 33.7%. which is a significant reduction from previous years.
- It is very rare for an IOW child to receive a custodial sentence. In the last five years there has been two children who received this outcome,

28. All Youth Justice Services are inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation. (HMIP) and we are anticipating an inspection imminently. Of note is that the YOT was part of a thematic review of how YOTs responded to the pandemic. A link to the report is added here for information:

[A thematic review of the work of youth offending services during the COVID-19 pandemic.pdf \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/A-thematic-review-of-the-work-of-youth-offending-services-during-the-COVID-19-pandemic.pdf)

29. Through a review of the work the following priorities were identified for the 2022/23:

- As previously stated, keeping children in education is a priority for the IOW YOT. We have been developing operational practices however there is a need for a more strategic response for this priority
- There is a growing body of evidence that children from other minority backgrounds are disproportionately represented in the Criminal Justice service. The IOW YOT needs to understand what this looks like on the Island. This includes implementing findings of the inspection in relation to the experience of black and mixed heritage boys:

[A thematic inspection of the experiences of black and mixed heritage boys in the youth justice system \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)

- We need to improve how we incorporate the views of children and their carers into service delivery and design.
- To further develop the way children are assessed in relation to the potential to cause harm to others.
- To develop assessments in relation to health outcomes to ensure children receive the correct intervention.
- To continue to develop, in partnership, its response to serious youth violence. This includes a review of local youth to adult transition arrangements to ensure children are transferred safely.
- To increase our capacity to understand and deliver better service to adults and children experiencing, Adolescent to Parent Violence.

CONSULTATION

30. There is a requirement when developing the Youth Justice plan to consult with our partners. Accordingly, management board members were invited to individual meetings with the Head of Service to ascertain their views. In addition, members who could not attend were invited to provide written comments. One area we do need to develop is the consultation with children and their carers. This will be further developed next year.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

31. It is a legal requirement for the IOW YOT to produce an annual Youth Justice Plan. Parliament through regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 as amended requires Full Council to determine the Youth Justice Plan (section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) as that is still in Schedule 3 of those amended regulations. Part 3 Section 5 of the constitution includes the Youth Justice Plan in the Policy Framework and accordingly it is a decision for the council sitting in full session. [PART 3 - Budget and Policy Framework Rules.pdf \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](#)

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

32. It is a requirement of the plan to provide data on the ethnicity of our work force. This is in appendix two of the main report.

SECTION 17 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998

33. The youth Justice plan details how the IOW YOT works to prevent and address offending on the Isle of Wight. It achieves this by working in partnership with the local council and other relevant agencies. Accordingly, it complies with the duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (as amended by Police and Justice Act 2006).

OPTIONS

34. There is one option identified in this report which is to endorse the Youth Justice Plan 2022/23.

RISK MANAGEMENT

35. Within the Youth Justice Plan the risks, opportunities and challenges for the forthcoming year are detailed. However, I understand this section to mean the risk to the option presented in this report not being approved. There is one option in the report which is to endorse the Plan. The submission of the plan is dependent on our Youth Justice grant being released and the deadline was the 30th June 2022. However, should the council choose not to endorse the plan, then this is mitigated by the opportunity to amend the plan should that be required.

EVALUATION

36. The 2022/23 plan is translated into a local service delivery plan and is evaluated throughout the year. It is then reviewed in the 2023/24 plan.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

37. Appendix 1 - details the range of outcomes available to children
Appendix 2 – Island Youth Justice Plan

BACKGROUND PAPERS

38. Links are provided within the report where relevant.
39. Contact Point: Nikki Shave Head of Service, Hampshire and the Isle of Wight Youth Offending Teams: nikki.shave@hants.gov.uk

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