

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO COUNCIL

**DATE 18 SEPTEMBER
2024**

**REPORT OF SENIOR
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

STOCKTON-ON-TEES YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN

SUMMARY

Local authority partnerships have a statutory duty to submit a youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth justice services (YJSs). Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out the youth justice partnerships responsibilities in producing a plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, in consultation with partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan, setting out how YJSs in their area are to be provided and funded, how they will operate, and what functions will be carried out.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Youth justice plans, in England only, must be signed off by the full Council in accordance with Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities England Regulations 2000).

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation for full Council to sign off Stockton-on-Tees Youth Justice Plan for 2024/25.

DETAIL

1. The Youth Justice Plan reports on our vision, strategy, governance, leadership and partnership arrangements. It reflects and builds upon our strong performance against key national performance measures. It documents key themes around child first principles, workforce development, diversion, exploitation and working with families.

BACKGROUND

2. The Youth Justice Plan was produced after consultation with partners.
3. The Plan documents seven key strategic objective for the forthcoming year. These are:
 - 1) Help children stay out of the criminal justice system.
 - 2) To reduce reoffending.
 - 3) Reduce the use of custody and prioritise effective resettlement.
 - 4) Strengthen our responses to Serious Youth Violence and Child Exploitation.

- 5) To reduce the number of school exclusions.
- 6) To refresh our practice in our work victims and restorative practice.
- 7) To develop a Participation model of practice.

COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

4. The primary aim of a youth justice plan is to prevent offending and re-offending by children by working with them, their parents and carers. Youth Justice teams support victims of crime and work to contribute to keeping communities safe.

CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS

5. There are no direct corporate parenting implications for the Council arising from the recommendations.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. There are no direct financial implications for the Council arising from the recommendations.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no direct legal implications for the Council arising from the recommendations.

RISK ASSESSMENT

8. The Youth Justice Plan is overseen by the Youth Justice Board and Stockton-on-Tees Youth Justice Management Board. Strong partnership arrangements are in place to monitor progress against our strategic objectives.

WARDS AFFECTED AND CONSULTATION WITH WARD/COUNCILLORS

9. None.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

10. Stockton-On-Tees Youth Justice Plan 2024/25

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