

<b>Report to:</b>	Council	<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	13 July 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Youth Justice Service - Annual Plan 2023/24		
<b>Report of:</b>	Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education	<b>Wards Affected:</b>	(All Wards);
<b>Portfolio:</b>	Cabinet Member – Children's Social Care		
<b>Is this a Key Decision:</b>	No	<b>Included in Forward Plan:</b>	No
<b>Exempt / Confidential Report:</b>	No		

### Summary:

Each year, the Youth Justice Board (YJB) requires local Youth Justice Services to produce an Annual Plan to satisfy the grant allocation and to ensure that the YJB is kept abreast of local business and performance. This year, the YJB have recommended that each Youth Justice Service adhere to a template for consistency and that the plan is signed off by the Chair of the local Youth Justice Partnership (formerly the YOT Management Board).

Sefton's Youth Justice Annual Plan has been produced in accordance with the YJB requirements and has been shared with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Head of Communities, Head of Children Social Care, Executive Director for People and the Executive Director for Children's Services. The Chair of the Youth Justice Service Partnership, Graeme Robson, Supt. Local Policing, Merseyside Police has signed the Plan.

### Recommendation(s):

That

- (1) the Council approves the Youth Justice Service - Annual Plan 2023/24; and
- (2) in the event of subsequent comments by the Youth Justice Board, delegated approval be granted to the Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education, in consultation with the Cabinet Member – Children's Social Care, to finalise the Youth Justice Service Annual Plan.

### Reasons for the Recommendation(s):

The Council's Constitution provides that the Annual Youth Justice Plan is part of the Policy Framework approved by Full Council.

### Alternative Options Considered and Rejected: (including any Risk Implications)

N/A

**What will it cost and how will it be financed?**

**(A) Revenue Costs**

N/A

**(B) Capital Costs**

N/A

**Implications of the Proposals:**

<b>Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets):</b> The grant allocation from the Youth Justice Board will be received following submission of the Plan.	
<b>Legal Implications:</b> None	
<b>Equality Implications:</b>  There are no equality implications.	
<b>Impact on Children and Young People:</b> Yes The work of the Youth Justice Service sets out to support vulnerable children, address the root causes of their offending behaviour and prevent them from reoffending.	
<b>Climate Emergency Implications:</b>  The recommendations within this report will	
Have a positive impact	No
Have a neutral impact	Yes
Have a negative impact	No
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes
The contents of the report have no climate emergency implications.	

**Contribution to the Council's Core Purpose:**

Protect the most vulnerable: The work of the Youth Justice Service sets out to support vulnerable children, address the root causes of their offending behaviour and prevent them from re-offending.
Facilitate confident and resilient communities: The work of the Youth Justice Service aims to protect the public and support safer communities.
Commission, broker and provide core services:

As above
Place – leadership and influencer: As above.
Drivers of change and reform: As above.
Facilitate sustainable economic prosperity: N/A
Greater income for social investment: N/A
Cleaner Greener: N/A

### **What consultations have taken place on the proposals and when?**

#### **(A) Internal Consultations**

The Executive Director of Corporate Resources and Customer Services (FD7277) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD5477) have been consulted and any comments have been incorporated into the report.

#### **(B) External Consultations**

Statutory Board Partners were consulted on the plan and were requested to contribute. They included representatives from Merseyside Police, the Probation Service, MerseyCare, Sefton Council and Venus.

#### **Implementation Date for the Decision**

Immediately following the Council meeting.

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#### **Appendices:**

The following appendices are attached to this report:

The Sefton Youth Justice Annual Plan 2023/24

#### **Background Papers:**

There are no background papers available for inspection.

## **1. Introduction/Background**

As mentioned above, each year, the Youth Justice Board (YJB) requires local Youth Justice Services to produce an Annual Plan to satisfy the grant allocation and to ensure that the YJB is kept abreast of local business and performance. This year, the YJB have recommended that each Youth Justice Service adhere to a template for consistency and that the plan is signed off by the Chair of the local Youth Justice Partnership (formerly the YOT Management Board).

Sefton's Youth Justice Annual Plan has been produced in accordance with the YJB requirements and has been shared with the Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Head of Communities, Head of Children Social Care, Executive Director for People and the Executive Director for Children's Services. The Chair of the Youth Justice Service Partnership, Dawn McNally, Supt. Local Policing, Merseyside Police has signed the Plan.

This year's plan highlights a strength in governance arrangements through the statutory Youth Justice Partnership. We have agreed a partnership vision and a suite of local priorities that are reported on quarterly. The Partnership has supported operational delivery and seconded mental health practitioners and an education attendance officer which is gratefully appreciated. We have utilised the cohort profiles and case mapping audits to raise concerns relating to children's mental health which has resulted in the Community Youth Connector project, delivering emotional support to girls in school settings. We have embraced the Ministry of Justice Turnaround Project which also delivers much needed early intervention and diversion services.

The plan highlights a stable year of performance and we have built upon our child first approaches. We have maintained a Service Development Plan and made good progress against many of the actions. This demonstrates that we understand our gaps and risks so as to deliver quality services and maintain inspection readiness.