

Report to:	Council	Date of Meeting:	11 July 2024
Subject:	Youth Justice Service - Annual Plan 2024/25		
Report of:	Executive Director of Children's Social Care and Education	Wards Affected:	(All Wards);
Portfolio:	Cabinet Member – Children, Schools and Families		
Is this a Key Decision:	No	Included in Forward Plan:	No
Exempt Confidential Report:	/ 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.

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, Assistant Director Early Help, Targeted and Help and Protection for Children, Executive Director for Children's Services, Assistant Director Communities and Executive Director for People. The Chair of the Youth Justice Service Partnership, Paul Holden, Supt. Local Policing, Merseyside Police has signed the Plan on behalf of the partnership who were consulting during the plan production phase.

Recommendation(s):

That

- (1) the Council approves the Youth Justice Service - Annual Plan 2024 / 2025 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 in consultation with the Cabinet Member – Children, Schools and Families, 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:

<p>Resource Implications (Financial, IT, Staffing and Assets): The grant allocation from the Youth Justice Board will be received following submission of the Plan.</p>								
<p>Legal Implications: 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 partnership’s responsibilities in producing a plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, in consultation with the 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.</p>								
<p>Equality Implications: There are no equality implications.</p>								
<p>Impact on Children and Young People: 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.</p>								
<p>Climate Emergency Implications: The recommendations within this report will</p> <table border="1"><tr><td>Have a positive impact</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>Have a neutral impact</td><td>Yes</td></tr><tr><td>Have a negative impact</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors</td><td>Yes</td></tr></table> <p>The contents of the report have no climate emergency implications.</p>	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
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Have a negative impact	No							
The Author has undertaken the Climate Emergency training for report authors	Yes							

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
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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 (FD7701/24) and the Chief Legal and Democratic Officer (LD5801/24) 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.

Contact Officer:	Ros Stanley
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Appendices:

The following appendices are attached to this report:

The Sefton Youth Justice Annual Plan 2024 / 2025

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.

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This year's plan highlights a focus on education relating to the offers to children and attendance. The service is committed to the Child First Principles and delivering interventions that provide the opportunity to build a pro-social identity and develop confidence. We continue to develop the cohort profiles to understand the challenges that children face and ensure that partners are aware of this so that they can advocate for children. We have developed our prevention offer and have delivered to groups of children in secondary schools with our Police colleagues.

The plan highlights a stable year of performance. The YJB in April 23 introduced a monitoring system referred to as the Oversight Framework, which rates Youth Justice Services against performance metrics and compliance with the YJB grant terms and conditions. Sefton YJS has maintained satisfactory performance in Quadrant 2. 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.