

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service - Progress Update

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet of the progress of the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Partnership and the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan that must be submitted to the Youth Justice Board.
- 2.2 The North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2019/2021 is a 2-year plan and was approved by the Council Cabinet on 24th September 2019. It will be formally reviewed and updated in 2021.
- 2.3 The plan is overseen by the Youth Offending Management Board. This is an effective partnership board whose membership includes senior leaders from across the Council, partners in Health, the Police, Probation, Humberside Fire and Rescue, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Housing Providers and the Youth Justice Board.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 Whilst it is not a requirement of the Youth Justice Board to submit a full Youth Justice Plan in 2020, the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Management Board have overseen and reviewed the implementation of the existing plan, noted the progress and agreed the ongoing priorities for the board for 2020/2021.
- 3.2 The North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service has confirmed and provided assurance to the Youth Justice Board in line with the guidance they provided regarding the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the steps taken to successfully maintain a 'business as usual' approach.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 During 2019/2020, the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service with its partners continued to make good progress in reducing the impact of youth crime in North Lincolnshire, in summary:

- First Time Entrants to the youth justice system have continued to be at a low level and reducing.
- Reduced number of children who re-offend in the 2 years following an offence
- Reduced number of young people sentenced to custody. No young people are currently in custody.
- The number of young people involved with North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service who are in full-time Education, Employment and Training (EET) continues to be higher than Humberside and England averages. This is a key factor in reducing offending and anti-social behaviour.
- The partnership commitment to ensuring young people live in an environment where they are less likely to get in to trouble is shown through continued success in ensuring young people live in suitable accommodation at the end of an order.
- Prevention and out of court disposals continue to be a high and increasing proportion of the work of the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service ensuring that young people are successfully diverted from offending.
- The service developed and implemented the Immersive Skills and Aspirations Project. Shortlisted for the Council's Best Awards, the project successfully diverted young people from anti-social and offending behaviour through a holistic approach that strengthens families and communities, builds their life opportunities and skills and promotes resilience.

4.2 The Youth Justice Board have been informed how the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Partnership continues to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and has developed and implemented new and innovative ways of working whilst prioritising both individual case-work and wider services. Including:

1. An effective response to the impact of COVID-19 that prioritised children, considered risks and ensured statutory requirements continued to be met throughout.
2. Impact on governance and service delivery including ongoing challenges and success.
3. How the partnership will continue to meet the ongoing or emerging risks of COVID-19 through adaptive approaches, partnership work and ensuring that the child continues to be at the centre.

5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)

5.1 Financial – the finances are detailed a part of the 2-year plan in 2019 - 21.

6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)

6.1 In delivering the continuing plan, the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service will continue to contribute to the Council priorities of:

- Safe and Well – reducing crime and anti-social behaviour, promoting the emotional well-being of children and reducing substance use.
- Prosperous – helping children remain within education, employment and training
- Connected – supporting children take an active part in their communities, building community resilience and social capital

7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

7.1 N/A

8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

8.1 The Board has full participation of all Partners through the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Management Board.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Cabinet notes the positive progress of the North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Service and partners.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

- North Lincolnshire Youth Justice Plan 2019/2021