

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	AGENDA ITEM No. 8
15 JANUARY 2019	PUBLIC REPORT

Report of:	Adrian Chapman, Service Director, Communities and Safety	
Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Cllr Irene Walsh, Cabinet Member for Communities	
Contact Officer(s):	Sarah Ferguson, Assistant Director, Housing Communities and Youth Anna Jack, Head of Youth Support	Tel. 07917 235538

YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE HM PROBATION INSPECTION PREPARATION

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM: Adrian Chapman, Service Director of Communities and Safety	Deadline date: N/A
<p>It is recommended that Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review and scrutinise the partnership preparation for HM Probation Inspection of Youth Offending Services 2. Consider the self-assessment and improvement plan implemented to ensure preparation for Peterborough's HM Probation Inspection of Youth Offending Services 	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

1.1 This report is submitted to the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee following a request made by the Service Director for Communities and Safety.

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

2.1 To present and review progress made against preparation for HMI Probation Inspection of Peterborough's Youth Offending Services.

2.2 This report is for the Adults and Communities Scrutiny Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference Part 3, Section 4 - Overview Scrutiny Functions, paragraph No. 2.1 Functions determined by Statute:

To review and scrutinise crime and disorder matters, including acting as the Council's crime and disorder committee in accordance with Sections 19 of the Police and Justice Act 2006.

2.3 This report links to the corporate priorities of Peterborough City Council in respect of:

- Improving educational attainment and skills
- Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults
- Keeping all our communities safe, cohesive and healthy
- Achieving the best health and wellbeing for the city

2.4 This report links to the Children in care Pledge in respect of:

- supporting young people into **college and education**
- helping encourage young people to be **healthy**
- supporting young people to have a **good education**

3. **TIMESCALES**

Is this a Major Policy Item/Statutory Plan?	NO	If yes, date for Cabinet meeting	
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4. **BACKGROUND AND KEY ISSUES**

4.1 In May 2018 HM Inspectorate of Probation launched a new 3 year Inspection Framework for the Inspection of Youth Offending Services (YOS). The inspection focuses on the effectiveness of the YOS partnership and the work of the YOS as a City Council service, to improve the lives of young people in contact with the Youth Justice System.

We anticipate that this Inspection will be undertaken in Peterborough in the next 6 months. The last inspection was in 2014 when we received a ‘good’ rating during a Full Joint Inspection.

This item is presented to committee to enable members to consider and endorse the improvement plan and preparation currently being undertaken.

4.2 The new HMI Probation Inspection framework involves the following activities:

- Presentation of our ‘Story of Place’ from the Youth Justice Management Board Chair, Assistant Chief Constable Dan Vajzovic
- Case file audits and case holder interviews for approximately 30 cases in total
- A 3 day Short Quality Screening Inspection or 2 week Full Joint Inspection (latter inspection includes Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of the Constabulary, Care Quality Commission and Ofsted during week 2)
- Between 4 – 7 Inspectors onsite for the duration
- Series of focus groups with staff, partners and members of Management Board
- Wider meetings in Full Joint inspection including Lead Member

4.3 HMI Probation Inspection will inspect 3 ‘Domains’ of Youth Offending Services work.

- **Organisational delivery** - Governance, Staff, Partnership and Services, Information and Facilities
- **Court Disposals** - Assessment, Planning, Intervention and Delivery and Reviewing
- **Out of Court Disposals (O OCD)** - Assessment, Planning, Intervention and Delivery and Reviewing

They will use the following criteria to inspect performance in these 3 domains of our work:

- Reducing Re-offending
- Protecting the Public
- Protecting the Child or Young Person
- Ensuring the Sentence is Served

Overall judgements against the 3 domains will be given as either **Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement** or **Inadequate**. Results of the inspection will be given during the last day of the Inspection, with a report and press release published 6 weeks later.

4.4 Inspectors will expect to see a clear thread of understanding of the Youth Justice Management Board objectives and strategic vision through all the areas of work that they inspect. Our Management Board objectives were agreed by the Joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Youth Justice Management Board in July 2018 and were included in the Joint Youth Justice Plan 2018/19. These objectives are detailed below:

- To increase young people known to YOS engagement in Education, Training or Employment and reduce the number of young people who are NEET/ Missing from

Education

- To ensure young people have effective transitions and support to move from young peoples' to adult facing services
- To ensure that health and social care services are integrated with youth justice and that young people have access to services that promote and improve their health, wellbeing and life chances
- To implement a partnership response to re-offending data and set priorities for reducing the number of young people who reoffend
- To develop a partnership wide Prevention Strategy to reduce the number of young people entering the youth justice system and going on to be adult offenders
- To ensure that there are robust partnership arrangements to prevent custodial sentences/remands and facilitate effective post custody resettlement
- To ensure that the partnership is responding to the complex cohort of exploited children by identifying young people, safeguarding them and bringing perpetrators to justice

Peterborough Youth Offending Service now sits as part of the wider Targeted Youth Support Service (TYSS), which has been operational since September 2018. The TYSS is a new adolescent service, which brings together previous young peoples' services under one structure to ensure we are working to improve outcomes for young people and delivering the right service at the right time.

4.5 As part of a routine review of quality and practice of services, Peterborough Youth Offending Service Youth Justice Management Board have completed a self-assessment that includes a self-analysis of organisational delivery arrangements and case file audits. The areas for improvement have been embedded into a service Inspection Improvement Plan that is updated at monthly intervals and monitored by the YOS Management Team, Ofsted Preparation Group and Youth Justice Management Board.

4.6 The following outlines the areas of strength and the areas of improvement for each of the domains outlined in 4.3.

4.6.1 **Organisational Delivery:**

Strengths

The YOS Inspection Self-Assessment identifies that the Youth Offending Services have good organisational delivery arrangements with a well-attended and led Youth Justice Management Board. It highlights that there is a clear vision and strategy, and partnership arrangements that support service delivery of the YOS. Local leadership ensures that there are appropriate workload levels, monitoring of the quality of work and an understanding of the strategy of the Youth Justice Management Board throughout the service.

In our assessment, staff are skilled and have their learning and development needs identified and met. There is an understanding of the profile of young people known to the service through a live Re-offending Tracker and good access to seconded staff located within the service. Information and facilities are available in a young person centred building (the newly opened Lincoln Road site) and there are clear processes recently implemented around case work in respect of Quality Assurance and Audit, and Serious Incident Notifications. A refreshed young people feedback process has also been recently implemented.

Areas for improvement:

- Attendance from senior education representative at the Management Board
- Implementation and review of service policies and partnership agreements
- Increased functionality and reporting through our ICT Client database
- Increased use of staff reward and recognition framework

4.6.2 **Court Disposals**

Strengths

From a sample of cases audited the majority of cases are good or above in respect of Assessments, Planning, Implementation and Delivery. This includes evidence of the service supporting young people's desistance from offending and keeping other people safe.

Areas for improvement:

Improvements are required in respect of:

- Quality and timeliness of reviews in all areas
- Quality assessment, planning and delivery in respect of keeping young people safe

4.6.3 Out of Court Disposals

Strengths

Following a national Thematic Out of Court Disposal Inspection publication in spring 2018 the service have implemented new assessment, planning and delivery processes to achieve improvements in line with national recommendations. All Out of Court cases are now allocated to experienced YOS Officers, to achieve the areas of improvements identified. Staff training was undertaken to address improvement areas and is scheduled again for January 2019.

Areas for improvement:

Areas for improvement have been identified, with a number of cases from a small sample judged in audit as Requires Improvement or Inadequate. Progress needs to be made and improvement plans are in place. A sample of new cases will be audited in December and January to monitor the direction of improvements so far.

Improvements are required across all areas in respect of:

- Assessment and planning
- Intervention delivery and Reviews
- Joint working

4.7 The YOS will continue to update their Self-Assessment, monitor the HMI Probation Inspection Improvement Plan and conduct case audits against Inspection Criteria on a monthly basis in preparation. This work will be monitored by improvement and governance arrangements.

5. CONSULTATION

5.1 Not applicable, although it is important to note that the Youth Justice Management Board membership is drawn from a wide range of partners and organisations, that are signed up to Inspection preparation and Improvements.

6. ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES OR IMPACT

6.1 The positive impact of sharing Peterborough's HMI Probation Inspection Self-Assessment and Improvement preparation enables us to further prepare for inspection and brief Committee Members.

7. REASON FOR THE RECOMMENDATION

7.1 To ensure the relevant Scrutiny Committee is fully briefed in relation to the detail on inspection/performance framework improvements in the area of the Youth Offending Service Partnership.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8.1 NA

9. IMPLICATIONS

9.1 NA

Legal Implications

9.2 The Youth Offending Service and Youth Justice Management Board is a statutory service under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. The Youth Justice plan is a statutory document under the terms of the Youth Justice Grant.

Equalities Implications

9.3 No concerns in respect of over representation currently identified in YOS Population.

Rural Implications

9.4 NA

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10.1 Youth Justice Plan 2018/19
HMI Probation Inspection Improvement Plan

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1: Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Youth Justice Plan
Appendix 2: Improvement Plan 2018-19

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