

County Council

26 September 2023

Youth Justice Plan 2023-2024

Recommendations

That Council approves the Warwickshire Youth Justice Service Strategic Plan 2023/24.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The annual Youth Justice Strategic Plan and its submission to the national Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB) is a statutory requirement under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. Grant funding from the YJB to Youth Offending Teams (YOT) (Locally called the Youth Justice Service) is reliant on the submission of an acceptable plan within the required template/format.
- 1.2 Youth Justice Plans are required to be signed off by the full council in accordance with Regulation 4 of the 'Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000'.
- 1.3 The Youth Justice Chief Officer Board is a multi-agency group chaired by the Warwickshire County Council Executive Director for People. This Board is responsible to the YJB for the overview and implementation of the Youth Justice Plan. The Plan was agreed by the Board and submitted to the Youth Justice Board on the 30th June 2023.
- 1.4 The Youth Justice Plan covers performance for the period 2022/23 and provides service budgets, operational and strategic developments within the service and partnership, service structure and the Service Improvement Plan for 2023/24.
- 1.5 This Youth Justice Plan sets our vision for the Warwickshire Youth Justice Partnership to deliver great services. The Plan has been delivered with partners and board members through development sessions to consider the priorities moving forward and to ensure we are meeting our commitments to delivering a Child Friendly County and delivering a Child First approach.
- 1.6 In relation to the service's performance against the Key National Performance Indicators, the latest national data for first time entrants (October 2021 – September 2022) show a reduction in first time entrants in Warwickshire, with the Service below both the YOT Family (Youth Justice Statistical Neighbours) and National averages. The two reoffending rate measures also show that the

Service's performance is consistently lower than the YOT Family and National averages.

- 1.7 This final indicator compares the number of custodial sentences against the 10 –17-year-old population. Children in Warwickshire in the secure estate is very small. However, the data shows that the rate in Warwickshire (Jan 22 – Dec 22) is 0.09 per 1000 above the YOT Family and 0.02 above the national averages. The Service remains below the West Midlands average.
- 1.8 The plan sets out the Partnership's key local priorities, which are:
 - Prevention of Serious Youth Violence
 - Prevention of and improved intervention for children who present with harmful sexualised behaviours.
 - Embedding the ARC Trauma Informed Model and improving the interventions offer for children
 - Focusing on Core Good Practice – including reviewing all policies, procedures and agreements

2. Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no direct financial implications for the County Council arising from this report. The Plan will be delivered within existing budgeted resources from the County Council, partners and grant funding from the Government, as set out in Appendix 4 of the Plan.

3. Environmental Implications

- 3.1 None

4. Supporting Information

- 4.1 The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the 2023/24 Youth Justice Plan
- 4.2 Warwickshire is a high performing Youth Justice Service which continues to develop and utilise its funding to best meet the needs of children. This will include a clear focus on delivering high quality interventions with children and families through a holistic lens.
- 4.3 The actions associated with the Plan will be tracked and monitored by the Warwickshire Youth Justice Chief Officer Board in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

5. Timescales associated with the decision and next steps

- 5.1 The objectives within the plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Warwickshire Youth Justice Chief Officers' Board

Appendices

1. 2023/24 Warwickshire Youth Justice Plan

	Name	Contact Information
Report Author	George Shipman Head of Safeguarding Communities	georgeshipman@warwickshire.gov.uk
Director	John Coleman Director of Children & Families	johncoleman@warwickshire.gov.uk
Executive Director	Nigel Minns Executive Director for People	nigelminns@warwickshire.gov.uk
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Sue Markham Portfolio Holder for Children & Families	suemarkham@warwickshire.gov.uk

The report was circulated to the following members prior to publication:

Local Member(s): N/A – This is a countywide matter

Other members: Councillors Marian Humphreys, Jerry Roodhouse, and Barbara Brown