

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

OUTCOMES OF HMIP REINSPECTION OF YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 To update the Cabinet regarding the outcomes of the Youth Offending Service Re-inspection by HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation).
- 1.2 A copy of the inspection report can be found in group offices.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 Following a poor inspection published in January 2011 a comprehensive improvement plan was submitted to HMIP in February 2011.
- 2.2 The improvement plan was supported and monitored via the Youth Offending Management Board and a re-inspection took place in January 2012.
- 2.3 The report outlining the outcomes of the reinspection was published on 9 May 2012 and this was subject to media release both from HMIP and North Lincolnshire Youth Offending Management Board (YOMB).
- 2.4 Overall, the outcomes were that Youth Offending Services in North Lincolnshire has gone from being one of the poorest in the country to an excellent service amongst the top 5% in England and Wales.
- 2.5 The Youth Offending Service and the Chair of the YOMB received a congratulatory message acknowledging the achievements regarding the outcome from the Chief Executive to the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales (YJB).

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The published report highlights the 'very creditable' findings of the re-inspection, identifying only minimal areas for improvement and a much stronger performance and progress since the last inspection.
- 3.2 The HMIP recognises the foundation for sustained and significant improvements in the 3 Core Case Inspection elements of practice, including:

- Safeguarding (ensuring we assess the vulnerability of young people in the criminal justice system and they are protected)
- Risk of Harm (Protecting the public);
- Reducing the Likelihood of Re-offending;

CCI area	Lowest in England and Wales	Highest in England and Wales	Average in England and Wales	North Lincolnshire 2011	North Lincolnshire 2012
Safeguarding Score	37%	91%	67%	37%	84%
Risk of Harm Score	36%	86%	62%	36%	81%
Likelihood of Reoffending Score	43%	87%	70%	43%	83%

3.2 The re-inspection also provides formal acknowledgement of effective leadership and management in North Lincolnshire and confirms there is capacity for sustained improvement.

3.3 The YOS was required to submit an improvement plan within one month of publication. Further improvements required are now deemed as 'minimums'. The improvement plan has been submitted and approved by HMIP. This will be monitored by the Youth Offending Management Board and will be externally monitored by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) for the next 12 months.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 The impact is positive for the local authority, for young people involved with the Youth Justice System and also for members of the North Lincolnshire community. A good inspection reduces the need for further external scrutiny and will enable the service to concentrate on improving practice and outcomes. The YOS focus will remain on improving performance and enhancing community safety by ensuring that we reduce offending, provide services that keep young people safe, promote the welfare of young people and protect the public from harm caused by youth offending. Improving overall performance means that young people in the criminal justice system will have better chances of exiting offending and achieving their potential in education, training and employment.

4.2 Over two financial years the Youth Offending Service has seen significant changes in cohort size and characteristics. Figures show that despite this the YOS continues to make progress in priority areas through reducing first time entrants; reducing the numbers, frequency and seriousness of reoffending; and reducing the numbers of young people who are NEET.

4.3 Strategies to reduce NEET and raise performance in all areas include Integrated Offender Management partnership work and dedicated provision for young people at risk of, or having, NEET status.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY,IT)**

5.1 None

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 – CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

6.1 None

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION**

7.1 The Lead Member, Youth Offending Service staff and managers, a victim of youth crime and a reformed young offender were interviewed for radio and television at the time of the publication of the report.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 To welcome the results of the HMIP re-inspection of the Youth Offending Service

8.2 To thank the staff involved for their hard work and commitment to achieving such a positive result.

DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report -

- YOS Reinspection Report