
YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

Responsible Cabinet Member(s) –Councillor Eleanor Lister, Social Services Portfolio

Responsible Director(s) - Margaret Asquith, Director of Social Services

Purpose of Report

1. To inform Members of the Youth Offending Service annual performance position for the year April 2003 to March 2004

Information and Analysis

2. The Youth Justice Board (YJB) for England and Wales closely monitors the performance of the YOS on a quarterly and annual basis. The performance is also monitored locally by the Darlington Thematic Partnership (Community Safety).
3. The YJB uses 17 Indicators and 13 Performance Measures to assess performance, 11 of these are monitored on a quarterly basis and 2 on an annual basis. The annual Performance Measures refer to reducing burglary and vehicle crime and to reducing re-offending by young people in Darlington.
4. The YJB scores and ranks all 154 youth offending services nationally. Darlington YOS has been ranked 1st along with 26 other services for the year April 2003 to March 2004.
5. The reduction in burglary and vehicle crime demonstrates an 18% reduction on the 2001 baseline figure.
6. The reduction in re-offending has been most significant in relation to work carried out with young people receiving Reprimands and Final Warning interventions. That is, those young people who have found themselves in trouble with the police for the first time. However, it should be noted that the re-offending rates for young people receiving community penalties or custody continues to be high at 94% and 100% respectively, and the YOS continues to work to reduce the number of young people who find themselves in these categories.

Outcome of Consultation

7. No consultation was required in the production of this report.

Legal Implications

8. This report has been considered by the Borough Solicitor for legal implications in accordance with the Council's approved procedures. There are no issues which the Borough Solicitor considers need to be brought to the specific attention of Members, other than those highlighted in the report.

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998

9. The contents of this report have been considered in the context of the requirements placed on the Council by Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, namely, the duty on the Council to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area. It is not considered that the contents of this report have any such effect.

Council Policy Framework

10. The issues contained within this report do not represent change to Council policy or the Council's policy framework

Decision Deadline

11. For the purpose of the 'call-in' procedure this does not represent an urgent matter

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that Members receive the report for information

Reason

13. The excellent performance by Darlington YOS is a measure of the success of the YOS in reducing offending and re-offending by young people in Darlington.

Margaret Asquith
Director of Social Services

Background Papers

Youth Justice Board Quarterly Returns
Youth Justice Board Annual Return
Youth Justice Board Practice and Performance Directorate 01-07-04

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