

**Meeting:** Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Board **Date:** 30 Jan 2023

**Wards affected:** All

**Report Title:** Torbay Youth Justice Service Improvement Plan Update January 2023

**When does the decision need to be implemented?** N/A

**Cabinet Member Contact Details:** Cllr Cordelia Law, Cabinet Member for Children's Services  
[cordelia.law@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:cordelia.law@torbay.gov.uk)

**Director/Divisional Director Contact Details:** Nancy Meehan, Director of Children's Services  
[nancy.meehan@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:nancy.meehan@torbay.gov.uk)

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## 1. Purpose of Report

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- 1.1 This report has been prepared to provide members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board with an update on the progress of the Torbay Youth Justice Service Improvement Plan 2022-23

## 2. Reason for Proposal and its Benefits

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- 2.1 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (Section 39) introduced the statutory requirement for local authorities to establish Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) in their area, requiring the involvement of the local authority, Police, Health, and Probation – the statutory partners.
- 2.2 Local Authorities are required under Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to 'formulate and implement' an annual Youth Justice Plan, setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded, how it will operate, and what functions it will carry out. The plan should equally address the functions assigned to a youth justice service, including how services will prevent offending behaviour and reduce reoffending.
- 2.3 The Youth Justice Plan must be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) by 30th June 2022. The final oversight for plans locally is with the Chair of the board and plans must be signed off before they are formally submitted. The Chair of the Torbay Board is Superintendent Ed Wright.
- 2.4 The Improvement Plan Update before the committee shows progress against the stated priorities of the TYJS Improvement Plan 2022-23 which was developed by all the statutory partner agencies and was as agreed by the Torbay Cabinet on the 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

2.5 The Youth Justice Plan contributes to desired outcomes of the Community and Corporate Plan: -

'We want Torbay and its residents to thrive' - the Youth Justice Service works with vulnerable children whose offending behaviour if not addressed is likely to have lifelong impact on their ability to thrive.

'where our children and older people will have high aspirations' - the Youth Justice Service supports children to develop alternatives to their current behaviours and raise their expectations and aspirations

'Build safer communities

- Work with partners to tackle crime, including exploitation, and its effects.
- Work with partners to reduce offending and reoffending and its impacts
- Work with partners to tackle domestic abuse and sexual violence and its effects'

The Youth Justice Service contributes to the delivery of these aspects for children of the 'Thriving Community' element of the Corporate Plan

### 3. Recommendation(s) / Proposed Decision

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3.1. That members of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board note the contents of the report.

#### **Appendices**

Appendix 1: TYJS Improvement Plan 2022-23 Jan 23 Update

#### **Background Documents**

N/A

# Supporting Information

## 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 The Improvement Plan has 15 priority areas for improvement activity, 10 of which are showing as 'Green' meaning they have been completed or on target to be completed within the originally estimated timescale or a revised one agreed by the YJS Strategic Board. Within this group there have been some positive developments particularly in relation to developing a Prevention Service offer working with children before they come into the formal justice system, and this will be expanded further of the next 2 years by the recent Turnaround funding. We have also achieved a Quality Mark for our work with children who have SEND, as well as auditing our education provision against national thematic inspection recommendations and refocussing our efforts to develop further our 'Child First' approach in all we do.
- 1.2 There are 3 areas that are 'Amber' indicating that they are in progress but are delayed these are in the areas of our mental health provision via the CAMHS to children at the YJS (which is caused by an inability to recruit to this post) as well as reducing the delays in the whole youth justice system so that the YJS can intervene earlier with children, and the third area is improving the feedback from service users, parents and victims, both of these areas we have progress but this has taken longer than expected.
- 1.3 The 2 areas flagged as 'Red' are in respect of securing safe, secure and accessible locations to deliver face to face work with children as we have been unsuccessful in a bid for the Upton Pavilion Building and are now looking at another location. The second area is the further development of the Trauma Recovery Model (TRM) and Enhanced Case Management (ECM) through the use of case formulation by the assistance of psychologist input which has been delayed because of the difficulties in recruiting within CAMHS.
- 1.4 The Improvement Plan is regularly updated and reviewed at the bimonthly YJS Strategic Board meetings which all statutory partners attend and agree progress and mitigations outlined in the Improvement plan.

## 2. Options under consideration

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- 2.1 N/A

## 3. Financial Opportunities and Implications

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- 3.1 N/A

## 4. Legal Implications

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4.1 N/A

## 5. Engagement and Consultation

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5.1 N/A

## 6. Purchasing or Hiring of Goods and/or Services

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6.1 N/A

## 7. Tackling Climate Change

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7.1 N/A

## 8. Associated Risks

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8.1 N/A

## 9. Equality Impacts - Identify the potential positive and negative impacts on specific groups

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	Positive Impact	Negative Impact & Mitigating Actions	Neutral Impact
Older or younger people	Positive Impact for children who have or are likely to offend		
People with caring Responsibilities			No differential impact
People with a disability	Positive impact for children with SEND as they receive intensive support package		
Women or men	90% of children in contact with YJS are male. Young males are more likely to criminalised for their behaviour & therefore referred to the service.		
People who are black or from a minority ethnic background			No differential impact

(BME) (Please note Gypsies / Roma are within this community)			
Religion or belief (including lack of belief)			No differential impact
People who are lesbian, gay or bisexual			No differential impact
People who are transgendered			No differential impact
People who are in a marriage or civil partnership			No differential impact
Women who are pregnant / on maternity leave			No differential impact
Socio-economic impacts (Including impact on child poverty issues and deprivation)			No differential impact
Public Health impacts (How will your proposal impact on the general health of the population of Torbay)			No differential impact

## 10. Cumulative Council Impact

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10.1 None

## 11. Cumulative Community Impacts

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11.1 The positive impact of the service is that children are diverted from crime and those with SEND and the impact of trauma are supported to develop positive life choices.