

Report of Head of Service Leeds Youth Offending Service

Report to Children's Services Senior Leadership Team

Date: 02.05.2013

Report to look at options for the commissioning of the Youth Inclusion Project (YIPS) and Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP).



Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

The junior and senior Youth Inclusion Projects (YIPs) have now merged and were extended for a six month period with a potential for a further six month extension. This provides a good opportunity to review the specification for youth crime prevention within the city and consider the options of how this can be provided in conjunction with the Leeds City Council PAYP resource.

Recommendations

- 1 To support the recommendation of the options appraisal and agree the proposal to use the combined resource of the Youth Inclusion Project and Positive Activities for Young People to specify a city wide crime prevention service. This service would be put through a competitive procurement process.

2 Purpose of this report

- 2.1 To provide a recommendation for the future of commissioning youth crime prevention services.

3 Background information

There are currently a number of agencies delivering targeted youth crime prevention interventions in Leeds, these are Youth Inclusion Projects (YIPs), Positive Activities for Young People and the three area based youth offending teams

- 3.1 The delivery model is slightly different across each of the services:
- YIP's are services commissioned from the voluntary sector in Leeds with an 8 – 16 age range;
 - PAYP key-work (13 – 19 age group) is Leeds City Council provision managed within Leeds YOS
 - The YOS area based supervision teams are part of the statutory multi agency YOS partnership providing 10 – 18 age services.
- 3.2 There is a proposal to change the referral criteria in the short term, this would result in the following changes. YIP's accepting referrals for children & young people aged 8 to 13 inclusive, PAYP accepting 13+ work where longer term support and input is required and YOS picking up 13+ prevention work (and all statutory work).
- 3.3 All services have amended their work practices to become city wide.
- 3.4 The current commissioned YIP services have an extension for sixth months with an option to extend for a further six months.
- 3.5 The recent redesign of Children's Services, with the creation of Targeted Services and the growth of Cluster Guidance & Referral Panels has led to some uncertainty among referral agencies and panels regarding criteria for referral to targeted youth crime prevention provision. In recognition of this it is necessary to simplify the landscape in terms of youth crime prevention and ensure all agencies and partners are clear about where to go to get support for at risk young people.
- 3.6 There is also a clear need to distinguish between early intervention programmes and targeted prevention work that falls under a statutory remit under the new (April 2013) Out of Court Disposal requirements of the Legal Aid Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders (LASPO) Act 2012. The YOS is required to provide a range of programmes as part of the implementation of these new arrangements particularly in relation to Cautions and Conditional Cautions.

4 Main issues

4.1 The proposed option for simplifying the landscape is to consider merging the PAYP provision with the YIP's to form dedicated targeted youth crime prevention programmes within each of the three wedges within Leeds. This would be dedicated provision for 8-13 year olds across the city.

4.3 The three targeted youth crime prevention teams would be required to link in with a range of locality partners but in particular the following key partners:

- Youth Service partners
- Targeted Services
- Leeds Anti-Social Behaviour Team

4.2 The YOS would continue to provide the statutory out of court provision and to accept referrals for preventative support for 13 plus young people. It is envisaged that the majority of these referrals will come from the Anti-Social Behaviour team and direct from the Police.

4.2 All three wedges would be required to deliver a core programme and provide a core offer to the area but would be encouraged to make the use of the different resources available in the locality within their individual programmes, consequently delivery would be a mixture of casework and centre based provision depending on what is available within each area. Referrals to the programme would be via Clusters and revised guidance will be issued to agencies.

4.3 There is currently a mixture of arrangements in that the YIP's are commissioned out to voluntary sector partners, whilst PAYP is delivered internally by a Leeds City Council team. An options appraisal has been completed and its attached in the appendix which gives recommendation as to the best options for future delivery:

- Whether there should continue to be separate arrangements?
- Whether all three areas should be put out to tender?
- And whether there are any other options such as staff being seconded into successful providers.

The project team would recommend all the merged provision becomes part of a tender.

4.4 If this recommendation is agreed the project team would begin work on a revised service specification and start a procurement process.

5 Corporate Considerations

5.1 Consultation and Engagement

5.1.2 The commissioning process will consult and engage young people throughout its process, if the go ahead is given to start a procurement process

5.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

5.2.1 An equalities impact screen has been completed on this proposal.

5.3 Council policies and City Priorities

5.3.1 This fits with the Children and Young People's plan 2011-2015 priority to reduce crime and antisocial behaviour.

5.4 Resources and value for money

5.4.1 The combining of the YIPS and PAYP would make the most effective use of a resource for city wide youth crime preventative services.

5.4.2 The current costs are £414,800 for Youth Inclusion and £200,000 for PAYP.

5.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

5.5.1 The procurement process will be subject to call in as the contract value if agreed would be over £250,000.

5.6 Risk Management

5.6.1 If a procurement process is started it will be subject to a full project management approach including a risk register. The process will adhere to the TUPE protocol due to the likelihood of the involvement of Leeds City Council; Staff in the process.

6 Conclusion

6.1 To make the best use of the city's resources for youth crime resources a proposal has been made to merge the Youth Inclusion Service with Positive Activities for young people and put the proposed new service through a full commissioning process.

7 Recommendations

7.1 To agree to the proposal to merge the YIPS and PAYP resource and commission a new crime prevention resource for the city.

8 Background documents¹

8.1

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.