

Report of Leeds Youth Justice Service

Report to the Director of Children & Families

Date: 13/11/19

Subject: Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Project



Are specific electoral wards affected? If yes, name(s) of ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Has consultation been carried out?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Will the decision be open for call-in?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input 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

1. Main issues

- The Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder is designed to build and promote effective interventions for Youth Offending Teams in working with children in custody and preparing for their release.
- The programme aims to promote sector improvement in the ability of recipient YOTs to reduce the rate of offending on release from custody and increase the number of children finding suitable accommodation and education or employment upon release from custody.
- In order to support this activity, to create a post of Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Programme Co-ordinator (Grade Range PO4)

2. Best Council Plan Implications (click [here](#) for the latest version of the Best Council Plan)

- This service aligns with the Youth Justice Plan for Leeds.
- Making Leeds the best city for children and young people to grow up in: Young people in the youth justice system are often subject to multiple disadvantage. x

3. Resource Implications

- The scheme is fully funded by external YJB Grant

Recommendations

The Director of Children & Families is recommended:

- a) To approve the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Project
- b) To approve the acceptance of the grant Award from the Youth Justice Board
- c) To amend the YJS structure to facilitate the creation of the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder scheme and Programme Co-ordinator post (PO4 Grade)

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To amend the current YJS structure to facilitate the creation of the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Programme Co-ordinator post (grade to be determined)

2. Background information

- 2.1 Purpose of the grant, the grant fits with the YJB's mandate under section 41 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to make known and promote good practice across the sector. The YJB's Strategic Plan for 2019-2022 sets Resettlement and Transitions for children and young people as one of the YJB's priorities.
- 2.2 The Youth Justice Board has identified resettlement as a priority, to ensure that young people are given the very best chance of a positive future and do not reoffend. This project will help deliver that priority. The YJB strategic plan states that in addition to high rates of reoffending, "children in custody are amongst the most vulnerable" and "despite several resettlement support initiatives, outcomes for children leaving custody remain relatively poor."
- 2.3 There is now an established evidence base for effective resettlement support. Through the pathfinder the YJB will work with youth justice partners, to translate the evidence base for effective resettlement into both policy and practice. Within the Constructive Resettlement approach, the clear role for agencies is to work collaboratively with a child to build on his or her strengths and goals to help them shift their identity from pro-offending to pro-social. The framework to facilitate the child's identity shift involves both personal support to guide the shift and structural support to enable the shift. The YJB aim for this approach to resettlement to be routinely taken for children in every secure establishment in England and Wales. This pathfinder will operationalise these aims and share this practice with others in order that this has a widespread positive impact across the sector.
- 2.4 Research on the resettlement of young offenders shows a need to ensure a co-ordinated holistic response to the multiple complex needs of offenders, and a smooth transition from custody to community. Central to achieving these elements is the partnership between agencies. This means effective cooperation between custodial providers and community agencies as well as widespread partnership coordination in the community post release to address offenders' multiple needs.
- 2.5 The South and West Yorkshire Resettlement Consortium was established with support from the Youth Justice Board in 2014. The consortium has strong support from a wide range of stakeholders, including: Police and Crime Commissioners; Secure Estate;

Youth Offending Teams; Beyond Youth Custody (national resettlement research programme); Police; Probation; DWP; the Youth Justice Board and NHS England. The University of Bedfordshire became an academic partner in early 2017. The consortium has a Strategic Group chaired by Andy Peadar, Youth Justice Service Manager, and Leeds. The operational lead is Leeds City Council who also provide business support, and there is a regular operational group meeting.

3. Main issues

3.1 The aims and objectives of the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Project are to:

- 3.2 Improve partnership processes and communication
 - 3.3 Share existing effective practice and develop further innovation in line with Constructive Resettlement framework
 - 3.4 Help recipient YOTs to support young people to develop a pro social identity and improve outcomes for children leaving custody thereby reducing recidivism
 - 3.5 Hold dissemination events, share materials and resources developed
 - 3.6 Improved Resettlement practice within services with a continued focus on Resettlement throughout a sentence;
 - 3.7 Understanding of constructive resettlement approach embedded within staff and partners
 - 3.8 Local Pathways into services on release identified and embedded in services
 - 3.9 Early preparation for release and effective communication between institution and community agencies across all custody cases
 - 3.10 Facilitate a coordinated holistic response in local areas involving local multi-agency partnerships
 - 3.11 The intention is to seek secondments from across the regions Youth Offending teams to support the project and reimburse those secondees YOTs the costs incurred thereby limiting potential employment liabilities.
 - 3.12 It is anticipated that a single post that of a Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder, Programme Co-ordinator will be necessary to be created on the YJS structure. (grade to be determined)
 - 3.13 Secondment opportunities will be offered on the basis of existing terms and conditions of the home agency.
- #### **3.14 The intended outcomes from the funding are:**
- 3.15 To build and promote more effective interventions for Youth Offending Teams working with children in custody and preparing for their release.
 - 3.16 An improvement in the ability of recipient YOTs to reduce the rate of offending on release from custody and increase the number of children finding suitable accommodation and education or employment upon release from custody.

4. Corporate considerations

4.1 Consultation and engagement

4.1.1 The proposal does not have any significant impact on communities living or working in any specific area; this is a national project being promoted by the Youth Justice Board largely targeting improving services, polices and interventions via consultative engagement with other Youth Offending Services to improve resettlement outcomes. Consequently no consultation has been undertaken.

4.2 Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

4.2.1 The service provision should have a positive impact on young people who are frequently subject to multiple disadvantage and contribute to their ability to integrate positively within their communities.

4.3 Council policies and the Best Council Plan

4.3.1 This service aligns with the Youth Justice Plan for Leeds.

4.3.2 Making Leeds the best city for children and young people to grow up in: Young people in the youth justice system are often subject to multiple disadvantage.

4.3.3 Keeping people safe from harm and promoting community respect and resilience:

4.4 Climate Emergency

4.4.1 The service should not have any material impact on the climate emergency.

4.5 Resources, procurement and value for money

4.5.1 This grant will fund a specific programme of work designed to develop and improve service provision for young people in custody.

4.5.2 This is not a competitive process, The YJB have approached the South and West Yorkshire Resettlement Consortium (a consortium of Youth Offending Teams and the secure estate) to deliver this programme, the pathfinder programme uses intelligence and data to identify the most appropriate partners,

4.5.3 It is intended that this will be a three-year programme, to March 31st, 2022. This programme will be monitored, assessed and reviewed regularly to ensure the grant complies with agreed terms and conditions.

4.5.4 Economy: these are strategic partners and local authorities and we rely on their procurement and recruitment practices.

4.5.5 Efficiency: We are working with strategic partners, stakeholders and some local authorities with a view to the learning being applied directly to others – greater return for our investment. We are supporting different initiatives in different areas, maximising the learning and reducing risk if some prove less effective.

4.5.6 Effectiveness: We intend to invest in practitioners with experience and who are in a strong position to impact on effective, constructive Resettlement.

4.5.7 Payment Schedule:

Single instalment per year	GRANT SUM PAYABLE
Year 1	£102,231
Year 2	£245,177*
Year 3	£250,181*
Funding retained from previous year(s)	

Total for Grant	£597,589*
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***These figures may be subject to change**

4.6 Eligible expenditure

No.	Item	Year One September 2019 – March 2020	Year Two April 2020 – March 2021	Year Three April 2021 – December 2021
1.	Staffing			
1a	Consultancy, Planning and Development	38,680	75,919	79,715
1b	Delivery and training preparation (team sessional)	25,520	73,006	82,633
1c	Recruitment	3,000	3,000	-
1d	Travel/Train/Hire Car Visits	4,320	14,040	14,742
1e	Overnight Accommodation	2,400	7,800	8,190
1f	Subsistence	1,200	3,750	3,938
	Subtotals	75,120	177,515	189,218
2	IT Support	1,500	3,000	3,000
3	Laptops/Mobile/iPad	4,200	2,200	-
4	Admin Support	3,020	5,065	5,319
5	Data & Calls	260	400	400
6	Video Conferencing Kit	2,500	6,500	3,000
7	Video Aids/ Guides/ Presentation/ Case Studies	1,000	3,000	1,000
8	Venue/ Meeting room hire and facilities	1,000	4,200	4,452
9	Resettlement Clinics	2,000	6,500	6,500
10	Evaluations	-	10,000	10,000
11	Office Costs	1,500	2,500	2,500
	Subtotals	16,980	43,365	36,171
	Totals	92,100	220,880	225,388
	Management Supervision Payroll HR finance	10,131	24,297	24,793
	GRANT TOTAL	£102,231	£245,177	£250,181

4.7 Legal implications, access to information, and call-in

4.7.1 This is a key decision subject to call in and is notified on the list of forthcoming key decisions.

4.8 Risk management

4.8.1 The recruitment of appropriately skilled staff to undertake this work and being able to backfill appropriately within service.

4.8.2 Securing the support of Local Authorities to allow staff to be seconded

4.8.3 Limited knowledge (at the current time) of the potential areas where work/support will be required (e.g. the size of the 'ask') which impacts on the ability to plan, particularly around travel and accommodation which could be substantial if YOTs are located in the South of England.

- 4.8.4 Reduced emphasis on the work in South and West Yorkshire by the consortium manager who has been the central focus for consortium activity and co-ordination, this will be addressed by the appointment of a programme co-ordinator.
- 4.8.5 Terms and Conditions from YJB are still subject to review and agreement.

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 To facilitate the changes within the YJS structure to support the project where required.

6. Recommendations

The Director of Children & Families is recommended:

- 6.1 To approve the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder Project
- 6.2 To approve the acceptance of the grant Award from the Youth Justice Board
- 6.3 To amend the YJS structure to create the Constructive Resettlement Pathfinder scheme and Programme Co-ordinator post (PO4 Grade Range)

7. Background documents¹

- 7.1 None

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.