

## **Record of Decisions**

### **Annual Youth Justice Plan**

#### **Decision Taker**

Mayor on 18 October 2016

#### **Decision**

- (i) that the Youth Justice Plan 2016/17, as set out in Appendix 2 to the submitted Report, be approved; and
- (ii) that the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Mayor, Executive Lead for Adults and Children and statutory partners, be authorised to make any final changes to the Plan.

#### **Reason for the Decision**

To meet the Council's statutory requirement.

#### **Implementation**

This decision will come into force and may be implemented on Tuesday, 1 November 2016 unless the call-in procedure is triggered (as set out in the Standing Orders in relation to Overview and Scrutiny).

#### **Information**

Torbay Youth Offending Service is performing well with low levels of re-offending and use of custody. Re-offending rates are the third lowest nationally and the fourteenth lowest for the rate of offences per offender. First time entrants have reduced further from 66 (2014/15) to 52 (2015/16) but remains close above the rate for the south west region and statistical comparators. One of the priorities for the 2016/17 plan is to sustain the downward trend.

The number of young offenders in Torbay reduced from 107 (2014/15) to 80 (2015/16) although the level of complexity and vulnerability increased. Essentially the service is working with a smaller cohort of young people who are more entrenched in their offending behaviour, which is often of a more serious nature. The area for action for 2016/17 acknowledges this change.

Funding for the service is provided by partner agencies, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and a central grant from the Youth Justice Board (YJB). There have been reductions in both local contributions and YJB grant for 2016/17 which has been offset to an extent by the use of slippage and an increase in the OPCC contribution. Work is underway with local partners to find a sustainable solution for 2017/18 onwards taking account of the outcome of a Ministry of Justice review of youth justice which will be known before the end of the year.

#### **Alternative Options considered and rejected at the time of the decision**

None – There is a statutory requirement placed on the Local Authority by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

**Is this a Key Decision?**

No

**Does the call-in procedure apply?**

Yes

**Declarations of interest** (including details of any relevant dispensations issued by the Standards Committee)

None

**Published**

24 October 2016

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of Torbay

Date: 24 October 2016