

**Meeting:** Policy and Development Decision Group (Joint Commissioning Team)

**Date:** 9 October 2017

**Wards Affected:** All

**Report Title:** Annual Youth Justice Plan 2017/18

**Is the decision a key decision?** No

**When does the decision need to be implemented?**

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## **1. Proposal and Introduction**

1.1 There is a statutory requirement for each local authority to set out an annual plan for the delivery of the Youth Justice Service within their area. Torbay Youth Offending Service co-ordinates the provision of youth justice services across Torbay.

1.2 Torbay Youth Justice Service is multi-agency comprising the Police, National Probation Service, health and Local Authority. It's work is overseen by a Partnership Board chaired by the Director of Children's Services. The service works in partnership to achieve the national youth justice strategic priorities:-

- Preventing new entrants to the criminal justice system;
- Reducing re-offending;
- Increase victim and public confidence;
- Ensure the safe and effective use of custody

1.3 A copy of Torbay's Annual Youth Justice Plan for 2017/18 is attached as Appendix 1.

## **2. Reason for Proposal**

- 2.1 Torbay's performance on re-offending and use of custody compares well with statistical comparators but less so with first entrants which have fallen in number but remain at a rate that is above South West and National levels. This is a key area for focus in the 2017/18 Plan.
- 2.2 There were 123 young offenders in Torbay in 2016/17 which is an increase on the previous year's figure of 107, against a declining population of 10 -17 yr olds. The YOS is increasingly working with children characterised by more persistent and serious offending which is reflected within the 2017/18 Plan..
- 2.3 There has been ongoing reductions in funding from the YJB and local partners in recent years, however, the 2017/18 budget is sufficient to ensure secure service viability and compliance with National Minimum Standards.

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

- 3.1 That the Youth Justice Plan 2017/18, attached at Appendix 1 be approved and that Director of Children's Services be given delegated authority to make any final changes in consultation with key stakeholders.

## **Appendices**

Appendix 1: Youth Justice Plan 2017/18