

## **Update on Cabinet Response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Board – Review of the Youth Offending Team**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Recommendation:</b>	<b>Cabinet Response:</b>	<b>Update:</b>
1.	To review the underspend in the Children's Services revenue budget for 2020/2021 and consider investing some of this money in supporting youth services to address some of the issues identified in the Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) Inspection and Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review reports and action plan.	This recommendation relates to aspects of the service that is delivered by youth workers rather than the Youth Offending Team itself. Such action will be covered by the implementation of the early help delivery model rather than providing further funding for delivery of service through the Youth Offending Team. Therefore the Cabinet will respond to this recommendation as follows: "The Early Help Board will ensure that youth service priorities are fully incorporated and prioritised for development and implementation within the Early Help Strategic Plan. This will include new priorities such as those recommended by the HMIP Inspection and the LGA Peer Review.	<p>Through an analysis of emerging trends in youth work and as evidenced in early help referrals, it has been established that Child Exploitation is becoming an increasingly prevalent concern. In response to this, the Early Help service has reconfigured its resource so that one of its Family Intervention Team supports this agenda and supports the Multi Agency Child Exploitation Panel (MACE). In addition to this, the service is also in the process of exploring the commissioning of a specialist service to deliver a 1:1 and group work to young people facing these challenges. This complements the CE Toolkit already in place for practitioners in schools to use.</p> <p>Discussions have taken place with Catch 22 who are a service that have delivered similar programmes of work</p>

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			<p>in other areas of the country. Catch 22 are also familiar with Torbay as they currently deliver programmes of work with other partners including education. The combination of experience of delivering CE prevention work and understanding the area places Catch 22 in a preferred position at the current time to take this forward and strengthen the Early help partnership.</p> <p>Following a number of meetings with Catch 22 they have provided a clear costed proposal and this is now with senior leaders within CSC to consider.</p> <p>The lead time to implement will be 12 weeks from agreeing the contract with Catch 22.</p>
2.	To ensure the Youth Offending Team continues to work with community and voluntary sector partners, such as Imagine This and the Torbay Youth Trust to ensure positive outcomes for young people who are going through the Youth Offending Service.	The Cabinet recognises the hard work of the community and voluntary sector partners and that such an approach is vital to securing positive outcomes for service users and will therefore seek to ensure that the Youth Offending Team continues to work with partners, to ensure that we work with young people within their communities.	Conversations are currently taking place with community centres, horticulture projects, schools etc. to secure spaces across the Bay for 1-1 appointments and to increase the opportunities to engage effectively with young people. A risk benefit and suitability checklist has been created to be undertaken when visiting/agreeing partnership working.

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			<p>There is also a wider discussion regarding the future development of 'youth spaces' as a whole across the Bay taking place with the VCS including sourcing potential funding with the YOT and older YP cohort in mind.</p>
3.	<p>To support the appointment of a dedicated Youth Offending Team Manager.</p>	<p>The appointment of dedicated Youth Offending Team Manager is being progressed.</p>	<p>A Youth Offending Team Manager was appointed 29 June 2021. Presently in the process of going through the HR procedures and obtaining references, etc. Start date to be confirmed.</p>