

## SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** Education & Children's Services Scrutiny Panel

**DATE:** 06 February 2020

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**WARD(S):** All

### PART I FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION

#### SLOUGH YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM UPDATE REPORT

1. **Purpose of Report**

This report is to provide an update on developments within the YOT and the Youth Justice arena since the last submission 24 October 2018 and covering June 2018– June 2019 (the reporting period of the Youth Justice Plan (YJP) to the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) / Youth Justice Board (YJB).

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Committee is requested to note the report.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

Slough YOT's Youth Justice Plan dovetails into the Slough Wellbeing Strategy, 2016-2020, protecting vulnerable children (Priority 1). This can be seen in the section of the Youth Justice Plan (Appendix A) around managing the risk of harm (particularly around the risk management panel which is multi-agency and focuses on young people at risk of harm, and safety and wellbeing where Children Looked After are concerned), and children and young people's voices. Improving mental health and wellbeing (Priority 3) is also highlighted within the Youth Justice Plan and is evidenced by Slough YOT working with various partners within Slough to ensure that work with children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) continues to be recognised, in line with the SEND Quality Mark Slough YOT obtained in respect of Slough and the YOT.

3b. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

The work of the YOT and its priorities highlighted in the Youth Justice Plan, summarised under the heading Update on Slough YOT's achievements and priorities during 2018/19, helped to deliver the following from Slough Borough Council's Five Year Plan:

- Slough children will grow up to be happy, healthy and successful.
- Our people will be healthier and manage their own care needs.
- Slough will be an attractive place where people will choose to live, work and stay.

In respect of Slough children growing up to be happy, healthy and successful, which is the theme of this years Scrutiny, work to enable children and young people takes place to ensure desistence from offending. This is via the delivery of services/support such as parenting, substance misuse, youth violence, victims work, speech and language, mental health, education, training and employment services etc. In addition staff training (in systemic working, trauma, domestic abuse, restorative justice, risk and social media cyber awareness – related to being safe on the internet, bereavement, unconscious bias, managing risk etc), supports this area of work.

#### 4. **Other Implications**

##### (a) Financial

There are no financial implications in respect of the priorities since the 2016 restructuring ensured that the YOT worked within the financial envelope given. However it should be noted that with financial pressures across the Trust the YOT funding from the Trust was reduced over the year. Slough YOT obtains grants to support non-statutory work. Joint bidding is also looked at, not just within Slough but across the Thames Valley. An example of the latter can be seen in respect of the Speech and Language Therapy (SALT) provision which is shared with 2 other YOTs within East Berkshire and will continue to be resourced by the Health Services.

##### (b) Risk Management

Part of the role of the YOT Management Board is to identify, consider, and as a collective reduce risks in respect of ensuring effective crime prevention services within Slough. This takes place at YOT Board meetings and is on-going. At the last YOT Management Board meeting risks related to secondee vacancies – Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (Camhs) and Education. In respect of the former the Health Service continues to seek to fill the vacancy and have interviews scheduled for mid February. The Education vacancy continues to be addressed at the YOT Management Board Meetings.

##### (c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications

There are no Human Rights Act Implications in respect of the priorities and youth justice services.

##### (d) Equalities Impact Assessment

An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been required as there have not been any new or substantially revised policies, procedures or functions. It is anticipated that if any transformation of the YOT takes place by the Trust that an Equalities Impact Assessment will be undertaken as part of the process.

(e) Workforce

Workforce is covered in the Youth Justice Plan under the section Resources and value for money. The main workforce implications relate to Health filling a long term secondee Camhs vacancy (which is being progressed), developing the Performance Analyst post now relocated in the Trust Performance Team and addressing the Education secondee vacancy (currently covered by an agency worker).

5. **Supporting Information**

**Youth Offending Team progress**

There is currently no change planned in primary legislation. As a result, the role and function of YOTs (as defined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) remain in force. The youth justice grant remains ring fenced and administered from the YJB.

The YOT priorities are outlined in the Youth Justice Plan 2019 - 2020 (Appendix A). The Plan was submitted and accepted by the YJB in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (section 40). Progress on processing the priorities, which in the main are partnership priorities (linked to partner plans and priorities) are outlined in Appendix B. The priorities are reported to the YOT Management Board on a quarterly basis.

When the YOT last reported to the Scrutiny Panel there was a question in respect of top 10 offences. An update is thus included in the report for this year. All the offences in Table 1 were focused on throughout the year via 1:1 Interventions or group work programmes which where appropriate had the support of specialist providers working within the YOT such as substance misuse, speech and language, serious youth violence workers, etc.

Top 10 Offences June 2018 to June 2019			
Rank	Type of Offence	No. of Offences	% of Offences
1	Violence Against The Person	118	23%
2	Theft And Handling Stolen Goods	76	15%
3	Breach Of Statutory Order	64	13%
4	Motoring Offences	63	12%
5	Drugs	53	10%
6	Criminal Damage	31	6%
7	Other	20	4%
8	Vehicle Theft / Unauthorised Taking	19	4%
9	Public Order	18	4%
10	Robbery	15	3%

Table 1

It should be noted that Violence against the person and theft continue to be within the top 3 of offences committed however drugs offences has moved out of the top 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> in the ranking. Interestingly robbery moved from a ranking of 4 during 2017 – 2018 to a ranking of 10 in 2018 – 2019 indicating success in work to prevent such offences. In respect of the violence against the person offences it was noticeable that young people were being arrested for offences related to moving drugs, despite the drop in the ranking of drug offences, similar to the national picture. Hence partnership work indicated in the Youth Justice Plan, particularly under the Managing the risk of harm and Safeguarding/Wellbeing sections indicate work undertaken across Slough, regionally and nationally to protect, prevent and support young people and families caught up in the ‘serious youth violence’/county lines agenda.

Within the Youth Justice Plan section Evidence of Performance (National Indicators 1 – 3) it is highlighted that reoffending fell from 32.9% 2017 – 2018 to 12.9% 2018 – 2019. Young people receiving custody fell from 8.0% 2017 - 2018 to 3.0% 2018 – 2019 and the number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time fell from 58 during 2017 – 2018 to 57 during 2018 – 2019. Where the local indicators (supporting preventing offending) were concerned challenges still existed in respect of young people being in education, training or employment with the outturn for this indicator (which had a target of 70% or more) only raising slightly, from 48.6% during 2017 – 2018 to 54.2% during 2018 – 2019. Hence work in partnership with both Slough Borough Council and the Trust continues.

Due to less young people entering the criminal justice system and the aforementioned violence ranking at the top within Slough work (as an individual YOT and in partnership with the police, social care, services for youth, health, probation, courts etc) has needed to focus more on contextual safeguarding elements.

### **Celebrating 20 years YOT**

Two young people have contributed to the updated logo which will be used for 1 year (commitment to the young people) to celebrate 20 Years since YOTs were established in statue. Within the updated logo the 20 represents the 20 years the YOT has been in existence incorporating elements of the Trust and the YOT. In addition feedback from the young person who wanted the hands incorporated was that hands represented “the YOT giving helping hands”. The logo is displayed as follows:



### **6. Comments of other committees**

- The Head of Service was nominated by the Health representative on the YOT Management Board to the Butler Trust Awards. Although she did not receive an award she was did receive a letter (October 2019)

congratulating her on being nominated and highlighting that the nomination was a great achievement in that it clearly reflected the esteem in which she was held by the people she worked with

- The required Youth Justice Plan was submitted to the YJB on the required deadline date (05/08/19). The YJB confirmed acceptance of the plan 16 August 2019 stating:

“Thank you for your Youth Justice Plan submitted on 5/8/2019,

I can confirm that this complies with sections 40(1) & (2), 40(3) and 40(4) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

The plan has been quality assured and the following elements are of interest/considered innovative/ are aligned to YJB priorities.

- a) Your work to address Disproportionality including the monitoring of Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) children in your cohort and those with Special Educational Need (SEN)
- b) Your proactive work to improve early intervention and prevention support for children
- c) Your recognition of staff contribution through submission of nominations to the Butler Trust awards.

## 7 **Conclusion**

Since the last appearance at Scrutiny Slough YOT has sustained progress as highlighted in the Youth Justice Plan, and comments from the Youth Justice Board. In addition the YOT has met it's prime objective to prevent young people from offending (taking a holistic/systemic approach involving partners etc as required) and thus ensure the delivery of youth justice services are delivered in line with legislation. This is despite the challenges around in respect of the more serious nature of offences committed. The YOT thus continues to be an effective service as indicated by the Youth Justice Board.

## 8 **Appendices Attached**

- A Youth Justice Plan 2019/2020
- B Priorities Plan Progress