Derbyshire Youth Justice Service

Partnership Board

Terms of Reference

Introduction

The Derbyshire Youth Justice Service (YJS) is established under Section 37 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 with the principle of preventing offending by children and young people through the effective delivery of youth justice services. Sections 38 and 39 require the co-operation of the named statutory partners to form a YOT and places on them a duty to secure youth justices appropriate to their area.

Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Derbyshire Youth Justice Board is to provide the strategic oversight, direction and co-ordination of youth justice services across the partnership with the principle aim of preventing offending by children and young people through the effective delivery of youth justice services. At it’s heart, we will work together for better outcomes for young people, challenge, scrutinise and hold each other to account.

Our vision for Children's Services is one where we all work creatively together to inspire and empower children, young people and their families to be the best they can be: safe, healthy, happy, learning and working.

To achieve this in a youth justice context, the board is **committed to preventative, restorative Child First and victim focused approaches to practice and collaborative partnerships**. We want our collective staff working in the field of youth justice to feel supported, confident and skilled, in order to work effectively together and help our children and families achieve their aspirations and prevent offending.

**Current YJS Vision**

*Child First in everything we say, do and write. We build on the strengths of children, families and communities to achieve their potential and in turn, protect the public and victims. We never give up on our children and young people.*

**Values**

* Child first
* Valuing diversity
* Restorative
* Child centred, individualised approach

Board Membership

Inclusion of young people

The Board will be committed to seeking the views of young people to inform service delivery and ensure the YJS has a clear participation and co-production approach. A young person is nominated to be a board member each year.

The Board Membership will consist of senior representatives from the statutory partners;

Derbyshire County Council (DCC)

Health (CCG)

Probation Service

Police (Vice Chair)

Additional non-statutory partners who may be co-opted onto the Board could include:

Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

Independent ‘Expert’ Board Member

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC)

Childrens Services (CS)

Public Health (PH)

Specialist Services (SS)

Voluntary Sector (VC)

And could include non-statutory partners:

Youth Court Magistrates

Court Legal Advisers

Local Secure Establishments

Housing providers

Elected Councillors

YJB Regional Leads

Victim Services

Strategic leads for commissioned accommodation services (Framework/Addullam

Senior managers, staff from within the YJS and the wider partnership will also be invited to attend as appropriate to ensure that the full context to the practical issues surrounding offending behaviour is understood by the Board. The principal education psychologist will receive the agenda and minutes of the meeting to inform their attendance for relevant agenda items.

The Board will be chaired by the Strategic Director of Childrens Services (or their representative) and a Vice Chair will be appointed from the statutory partners.

The Board will meet as a minimum four times per year and additional meetings will be held as appropriate.

DCC will provide administrative support to the Board the agenda and Board papers will be circulated to all Board members prior to the Board meetings. Board members will be responsible for sharing the agenda and papers with their deputising representative and brief them appropriately should the Board member be unable to attend. Consistency of representation at the Board is preferable to ensure continuity therefore Board members are asked to consider this should cover arrangements be required. Any agenda items or papers will be sent to the Head of YJS 5 days working days prior to the meeting.

The Head of Service for the Youth Justice Service attends the Derbyshire Criminal Justice Board, which provides a link to Derbyshire Courts and Crown Prosecution Service to raise and address any issues that arise.

Activities of the Board

* To ensure that the statutory Youth Justice Plan and any related plans are prepared, monitored and delivered. Be active in setting the service vision and values each year.
* To monitor and oversee performance against national indicators.
* To pursue appropriately, additional resources for the purpose of reducing youth offending and to monitor performance against any external commissioned contracts.
* To agree an annual budget and monitor expenditure against that budget including the financial contribution of partners.
* To ensure that the views of children, families and the victims of crime have an impact upon service delivery.
* To ensure that the service has an effective working relationship with partner agencies who have an impact upon preventing offending and re-offending behaviour.
* To ensure that the YJS is prepared for any formal/informal Inspections, this could include HMIP, JTAI, OFSTED ILAC’s/Focused Visits, National Standards Audits and internal Practice Learning Days. The YJS will have an internal Quality assurance framework to support quality of practice/development and inspection readiness.
* To support the Corporate Parenting Board in discharging its duties to Children in Care and Care Leavers.
* Individual members of the Partnership Board have a responsibility to represent the needs of the service to their parent organisation and to ensure that due regard is given to the Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act requiring all agencies and organisations to consider any potential crime and disorder implications when making decisions.
* Board members should be active in their commitment, attendance and participation.They should recognise the contribution their own agency makes to youth justice and advocate the work of the YJS in their own broader roles

Review

The Terms of Reference will be subject to an annual review or when there is a significant change such as service name change.

**January 2023**