

HEALTH & WELLBEING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 68

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Update on HWOSC Scrutiny Panels – Youth Justice Plan		
Date of Meeting:	23 April 2013		
Report of:	Head of law (Monitoring Officer)		
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Ward(s) affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 Last year, the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up a review panel into the Youth Offending Service and the Youth Justice Plan to consider potential problems that the team had been facing and how to address them.
- 1.2 The panel has now met; the draft minutes of their meeting are attached at **Appendix 1**.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 To note the outcome of the panel meeting.
- 2.2 That an updated report on the Youth Offending Team come to HWOSC in December 2013.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 There have been two external reviews of the Youth Offending Team by HMI Probation. The first of these, in 2011, assessed Brighton and Hove as in the bottom 25 services nationwide; the second, in late 2012, noticed an improvement in the service but still had concerns about some areas of work.
- 3.2 Following the 2011 inspection, Councillor Gill Mitchell asked that a scrutiny review be conducted into the suggested restructure of the Youth Offending Service. This was supported by HWOSC.

3.3.1 Councillors Wealls, Pissaridou and Wakefield sat on the Panel, along with Dr Mark Price from the School of Education, Brighton University. The Panel determined that they would best be able to consider the restructure proposals through a private workshop, being assisted by the Service Manager for the Youth Offending Team, Anna Gianfrancesco. Draft minutes from the meeting are attached at **Appendix 1**.

3.4 At the end of the workshop, Panel members concluded that they had confidence that the restructure proposals would address the problems identified in the inspection reports, notwithstanding the need for a settling-in period. Panel members decided that they would like to review the situation once the new structure had been put into place, and that a full report should come back to HWOSC in December 2013.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

4.1 None undertaken for the scrutiny workshop process.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

5.1 No financial implications for the scrutiny workshop. Financial implications of the Youth Offending Service restructure have been considered separately.

Legal Implications:

5.2 No legal implications for the scrutiny workshop. Legal implications of the Youth Offending Service restructure have been considered separately.

Equalities Implications:

5.3 No equalities implications for the scrutiny workshop. Equality I implications of the Youth Offending Service restructure have been considered separately.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 No sustainability implications for the scrutiny workshop.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 The scrutiny panel was convened following concerns about the city's Youth Offending Service, which is part of the city's response to its crime and disorder duties.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 None to this cover report.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 There are no direct public health implications for the scrutiny workshop.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 One of the council's corporate priorities is to reduce inequalities by reducing crime and improving safety. It is hoped that the restructure proposed to the Youth Offending Service will help towards this.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Draft minutes from the Youth Justice Plan Scrutiny Workshop, 6 December 2012.

