



City of Westminster



THE ROYAL BOROUGH OF  
KENSINGTON  
AND CHELSEA

## Westminster & Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea Health & Wellbeing Board

25 September 2023

**Date:**

**Classification:**

**General Release**

**Title:**

Annual Youth Justice Plans 2023

**Report of:**

Children's Services

**Wards Involved:**

All

**Report Author and  
Contact Details:**

Jyoti Morar (RBKC) and Kiran Hayer (WCC)  
[Jyoti.Morar@rbkc.gov.uk](mailto:Jyoti.Morar@rbkc.gov.uk) and  
[KHayer@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:KHayer@westminster.gov.uk)

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### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 Good progress is being made in both boroughs in supporting children and young people engaged in the youth justice system and keeping the wider public safe.
- 1.2 Post pandemic families and family relationships have been impacted by the cost-of-living crisis which has disproportionately affected the poorest in our communities. It has also disproportionately affected those from diverse backgrounds who in turn are disproportionately represented in the Youth Justice System. Addressing inequalities of experience of this group is an important priority for both Councils.
- 1.3 The Plans set out our ambition, strategy and approach as well as governance, leadership and partnership arrangements. They also highlight how work has been resourced.
- 1.4 **Section 6** of the RBKC Plan and **Section 4** of the WCC Plan sets out what has been achieved over the past twelve months. While there has been some difference in focus, both plans set out successful work undertaken to address, serious youth violence, young people not in education, employment and training, mental ill-health, substance misuse and disproportionality.

- 1.5 **Section 8** of the RBKC Plan and **Section 4** of the WCC Plan sets out performance against national indicators including first time entrants to the criminal justice system, reoffending, and custody.
- 1.6 At the end of the Plans are the Youth Offending Teams' Service Improvement Plans – **Section 10 (RBKC)** and **Section 15 (WCC)**.

## **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 The plans are for information only.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1 Local authorities have a legal duty to produce an annual youth justice plan that shows how they will provide and fund youth justice services (YJSs) in their area.
- 3.2 The plan should equally address the functions assigned to a youth justice service and cover how services will prevent offending behaviour and reduce reoffending.
- 3.3 Annual youth justice plans provide us with an opportunity to review performance and developments over a single year period and plan for the next year. This allows services to be able to respond to any changes that have taken place in the previous year, including new legislation, demographic changes, delivery of key performance indicators, and developments in service delivery.
- 3.4 Youth justice services are organised and delivered on a sovereign basis in Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea and are part of Early Help Services in both boroughs.
- 3.5 Youth Justice Plans were submitted to the Youth Justice Board at the end of June.

## **4. Financial Considerations**

- 4.1 None.

## **5. Legal Considerations**

- 5.1 None.

Sarah Newman  
Executive Director, Bi-Borough Children's Services