

Family Friendly Sub-Committee

Framework to support contribution to policy decision making

When scrutinising and contributing to the decision making process by examining key policy issues and making reports and recommendations members of the committee should consider the following framework questions.

- Are we family friendly?
- Have we listened?
- Have we cared?
- Is it inclusive?
- Is it value for money?
- How does this link to policy?
- How has Cabinet policy direction been incorporated?

Framework template

Policy Name	North Tyneside Youth Justice Plan
Policy version/date	2023 to 2024
Policy author	Pete Xeros
Key updates, including reasons	
<p>Local authorities have a statutory duty to submit an annual youth justice plan relating to their provision of youth justice services (yjs).</p> <p>Section 40 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 sets out the youth justice partnership's responsibilities in producing a plan. It states that it is the duty of each local authority, after consultation with the partner agencies, to formulate and implement an annual youth justice plan, setting out how youth justice services in their area are to be provided and funded, how they will operate, and what functions will be carried out.</p> <p>The plan should equally address the functions assigned to a youth justice service, including how services will prevent offending behaviour and reduce reoffending.</p>	
Are we family friendly?	
<p>The services delivered by the YJS take a holistic approach and include the child and parent throughout the process regardless of what length of time the child is under the supervision of the service and is living at home in the community or subject to a custodial sentence. Both are included in all review meetings and the plans are written in a manner that are child friendly. All victims of crime where identified are consulted and offered a restorative justice intervention. This ensures the impact of the offence is incorporated into any work done and restorative justice gives the victim the option of requesting indirect/direct community payback, a letter of apology or where appropriate, a direct face to face meeting with the child.</p>	
Have we listened?	

Family Friendly Sub-Committee – Decision making template.

<p>The YJS undertakes a comprehensive assessment on every child. A big part of this is the views of the child and parent which is captured by a self-assessment they are offered the opportunity to complete. This ensures the voice of the child/parent is evident within all assessments. The YJS is required to report on all victims consulted and the type of restorative justice offered and delivered. This includes feedback as to their satisfaction with the service offered.</p>
<p>Have we cared?</p>
<p>The YJS is a child first service which recognises that children are firstly children and secondly a child that has offended. The YJS takes a trauma informed approach to the work undertaken with children and families which is a reflection of the disproportionate neuro diversity needs of children within the YJS cohort.</p> <p>The YJS also has a key focus on victims of crime ensuring they are considered in any work undertaken including how to ensure victims are not re victimised.</p>
<p>Is it inclusive?</p>
<p>The YJS analyses all characteristics of the children worked with to ensure we are sighted on and ethnic disproportionality and children overrepresented.</p> <p>The YJS is provided a tool kit from the Youth Justice Board which enables an assessment of ethnic disproportionality which for North Tyneside shows the ethnic composition of children in the youth justice system is reflective of that of all North Tyneside residents.</p> <p>The YJS does have a higher rate of children with SEND that that of the general population and this is also reflected nationally. In respect of this the YJS work is supported by a speech and language therapist and clinical psychologist. The YJS works closely with the SEND team and the SEND AD, is part of the statutory Youth Justice Service management board.</p>
<p>Is it value for money?</p>
<p>The YJS is a small service reflective of the population of the borough who's annual pooled budget is within the bottom 10% of Youth Justice Services Nationally.</p> <p>The YJS was inspected in 2021 and was rated as outstanding. In addition, performance is better than regional performance and better than national performance.</p>
<p>How does this link to policy?</p>
<p>The Youth Justice Plan is aligned to out North Tyneside Plan, with a focus on "A family friendly and A Caring North Tyneside. The YJS plan and objectives are also identified and aligned to the overall objectives of the Community Safety Partnership draft plan (2023 – 2024)</p>
<p>How has Cabinet policy direction been incorporated?</p>
<p>Additional committee questions/feedback</p>