

## **Police and Crime Panel: Proactive Scrutiny Session two: youth offending**

**Aim:** To scrutinise and support the Police and Crime Commissioner in his aim to have ‘fewer young people entering the criminal justice system’ by holding an evidence-gathering session on this subject.

**Scope:** The session will invite written evidence from a range of stakeholders who may be able to assist the Panel with their proactive scrutiny of how the PCC can reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system. The PCC plans to meet his outcome by engaging with the “four Youth Offending Teams (YOTs) that cover the Hampshire Policing Area, and other relevant partners, to develop effective interventions and programmes that reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system” and to ‘do what works’ in relation to earlier targeted intervention and “support the continued use and development of diversionary programmes”.

The review will operate at a strategic level, and will collate and analyse information that stakeholders will be expected to produce. Several stakeholders will be invited to provide oral evidence to the Committee based on the level of information that can usefully be given to the Committee.

The Panel will then analyse the evidence provided, in order to identify any recommendation areas for action to the PCC.

### **1. Key Stakeholders:**

#### Oral Evidence

Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire  
Youth Commission  
Youth Offending Teams

#### Written Evidence:

Action for Children  
Community Safety Partnerships  
Crown Prosecution Service (Wessex)  
Family Lives  
FRANK  
Hampshire and IOW Community Rehabilitation Company  
Hampshire Constabulary  
HCCS Community Action  
HMP Winchester  
Local Authority Children’s Services  
Motiv8  
National Offender Management Scheme  
Pompey in the Community  
Prince’s Trust  
Relate  
Saints Foundation  
Solent Youth Action  
Southern Domestic Abuse Service  
Street Reach

YoungMinds  
Youth Justice Board

## 2. Key Questions

The key questions of the proactive scrutiny will be as follows:

- How well is the PCC currently working with partners, including young people, to reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system?
- What effective interventions and programmes exist which could also be considered as part of this particular priority?
- What other best practice exists which could be considered by the PCC as part of his pledge to reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system?

In order to answer the key questions, the following will be asked of selected stakeholders:

- 1) How well do you feel the Police and Crime Commissioner has worked with you or your organisation to reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system?
- 2) What work is being undertaken by you or your organisation to contribute to this outcome?
- 3) What youth offending interventions and programmes are you or your organisation aware of that:
  - a. should also be considered by the Police and Crime Commissioner as part of this priority, and what is your rationale for this view?
  - b. should not be considered or should be discontinued by the Police and Crime Commissioner as part of this priority, and what is your rationale for this view?
- 4) What do you think should be the priority for action to reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system, and why?
- 5) Is there any further evidence of information that you can provide to the Panel that will assist us with our proactive scrutiny of this topic?

## 3. Approach:

- Invite the key stakeholders listed at 1 to respond to (some or all of) the key questions listed at 2. Provide 4-6 weeks for written responses.
- Issue press statement inviting evidence from public and stakeholders
- Identify key witnesses to attend oral evidence session (afternoon of 3 October).
- Provide a webpage for the review, giving access to information about the timescales, publishing relevant documents etc.
- Provide a channel through which the public can make comment – enabling the opportunity for the public to make comment through the online system associated with items on the agenda at meetings.

## 4. Outcome

The Panel will go into private session after they have held their oral evidence session, in order to formulate and agree recommendations to the Commissioner on youth offending. The outcomes will subsequently be communicated by a short report, which will be published on the Panel's website.