

Title of proposed EIA	Strategic Youth Justice Plan
Reference No	EQUA951
EA is in support of	Amended Service
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	01/04/2021
Directorate	Education and Skills
Division	Commissioning
Service Area	Commissioning
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Catherine Moore
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Nigel Harvey-Whitten
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Helen X Price
Purpose of proposal	EIA of draft Youth Justice Plan 2022-23
Data sources	Other (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	Strategic Youth Justice Plan 2021/2022

#### ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS

Protected characteristic: Age

Age details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

There is a statutory requirement in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, Section 40, for every local authority, after consultation with partner agencies, to produce and implement a Youth Justice Plan. The plan sets out how local youth justice services are to be provided and funded. There is a requirement for the Plan to be submitted to the national Youth Justice Board (YJB) and published in accordance with the directions of the Secretary of State.

Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. The latest census figures identify that over 26% (274,135) of the population is under 18 years and 58% of these are from minority ethnic backgrounds. There are approximately 117,000 10-17-year-olds.

Birmingham is one of the most deprived local authorities in England

according to the Index of Multiple Deprivation statistics from 2019. Although many children achieve good outcomes, others face a range of challenges, particularly in terms of their wellbeing and staying safe.

Analysis of local data for 2022/23 has identified that the majority of first-time entrants were aged 15-17, with 54% aged 16 or older. The most prevalent offences amongst first time entrants were Violence against the Person, Motoring offences and Robbery.

Protected characteristic: Disability

Disability details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

The Youth Offending Service is a targeted service. Analysis using the Asset Plus data system for Birmingham shows that those who offend in this cohort:

- Eight in ten were known or suspected to have a health issue.
- Eight in ten were subject to school exclusion or attendance at multiple secondary schools.
- And a very high number of the cohort (nearly 3/4) have a speech and language need.

Of those that re-offend they were more likely to:

- Have Special Educational Needs.
- Be experiencing issues around school attendance/exclusion.

These indicate a level of learning and health need which could be indicative of disability.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Gender details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

9.8% of first-time entrants to the Youth Justice System were female. Girls and young women are supported by a dedicated team which seeks to improve their life chances, reduce their re-offending and improve tracking of progress for girls and young women going forwards

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Gender reassignment details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

We know that wider work with young people indicates that this is an important and sensitive issue. Although not specifically addressed within the plan, interventions take account of this protected characteristic. Data which details this more fully will be collected.

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Marriage and civil partnership details:

Not Applicable

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Pregnancy and maternity details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

Support will be provided to entrants to the Youth Offending Services for those who need support with pregnancy and maternity services as part of the health universal offer.

On the more general health point, the Youth Offending Services will ensure that access to health services within Birmingham will be available. We note that:

82.4 % have access to a GP

14.3 % have a physical health need

63.3% have a mental health need

Protected characteristics: Race

Race details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

Birmingham, the biggest city in the UK outside London, is a diverse, multicultural city. More than half its one million population identified as non-white British in the 2011 census and that figure is likely to be higher in 2020. The population of children and young people in Birmingham are more ethnically diverse than the older population of the city and diversity increases with every cohort of children born.

Black and Black British children are over represented in the Youth Offending Services cohort, for



instance at twice the rate in the 10-17 population. We know that the Youth Offending Services is overrepresented in particular:

- Black, Asian, and other minority ethnic children accounted for 63% of all First Time Entrants compared with 55% in the general 10 -17 population.
- 59.2% of **all** children receiving out of court disposals compared with 55%.
- 84.2% of all children receiving a custodial sentence compared with 55% in the general 10-17 population

Youth Offending Services are inclusive and seek to have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Religion or beliefs details:

Service Users / Stakeholders

The Youth Offending Services, although targeted in nature, apply universal principles for sound working practice irrespective of religion. The services are therefore inclusive and have a positive impact on this characteristic.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Sexual orientation details:

Socio-economic impacts

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended

NO

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?

Contract monitoring data from current arrangement (measurement and performance statistics) are monitored by the multi-agency Youth Justice Board.

Consultation analysis

Improvement work in train in relation to inspection by HMP in 2020.

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Not identified

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact? Not applicable

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

The performance metrics will be

continue to be monitored throughout the duration of the plan (see reference to the local performance metrics being created on page 15 of the YJP).

What data is required in the future?

Further data on cohort size of those with gender reassignment needs.

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s)

No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

The new Youth Justice Plan has no adverse or negative impacts on citizens with protected characteristics. It seeks to improve the targeted support for a vulnerable group of children and young people.

It seeks to actively address the over representations (specifically race) that are evident and to have a positive impact as early as possible for young people. Working as early as possible with young people will provide the greatest opportunity for lives to be turned around.

#### QUALITY CONTORL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing?

Yes

Quality Control Officer comments

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

No

Decision by Accountable Officer

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

Reasons for approval or rejection

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

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