

# Subject: Youth Re-offending and Resettlement

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 8 January 2015

This report will be considered in public

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides background information to the Police and Crime Committee for its meeting with invited guests to discuss youth reoffending and re-settlement in London.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the report and puts questions to the invited guests on youth reoffending and re-settlement.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 Following the introduction of the Police and Crime Plan in 2013, the Mayor committed to deliver a “rehabilitation revolution” by improving the treatment and re-settlement of offenders and by cutting reoffending rates, particularly for young people. The Mayor set London’s criminal justice agencies a specific target of reducing the reoffending rate of young people leaving custody in London by 20 % (from a baseline of 70.8 %).
- 3.2 In October 2014 the London Assembly’s Police and Crime Committee agreed to carry out an investigation into youth reoffending and re-settlement in London, following on from their previous report, *Time to Reflect. The Development of Time for Action, The Mayor's Strategy to Tackle Serious Youth Violence*<sup>1</sup> (March 2012). The Committee aims to examine Mayoral interventions in the area of youth reoffending and re-settlement, and look at what more the Mayor could do in the future to address youth reoffending. In particular it will examine how the reduction in re-offending of young people released from custody be sustained, and assess data that suggests the reoffending rate of young offenders with a non-custodial sanction is rising.
- 3.3 The scoping paper, including the terms for the scrutiny investigation, was reported to the Committee on 13 November 2014, and can be accessed on the GLA’s website [here](#)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/TFA%20-%20Final%20version%20MW.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.london.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s40858/Appendix%201%20-%20Youth%20rehabilitation%20-%20Scoping%20paper.pdf>

3.4 The investigation aims to:

- Assess the nature and extent of youth re-offending in London;
- Examine the strategies and programmes that MOPAC and partners have put in place to tackle youth re-offending in London;
- Review these strategies against any established best practice, including the learning from Project Daedalus, and national and international practice; and
- Establish future challenges and opportunities to further reduce youth re-offending.

## **4. Issues for Consideration**

- 4.1 The first meeting of the investigation will be used to discuss some of the broad issues and developments in youth reoffending both nationally and in London, and the different approaches taken to youth re-settlement. The Committee will hear about local, national and international good practice in respect of re-settlement, and consider this in the context of London.
- 4.2 The Committee will also examine the impact of Project Daedalus and the Heron Unit, a brokerage service that ran from September 2009 until May 2012 and provided intensive support to young people in Feltham Young Offender Institution (YOI). Young people in the unit received intensive support from “Resettlement Brokers” who worked with them both in custody and on release to build life skills and improve opportunities for education, training and employment.
- 4.3 The following guests have been invited to attend:

Panel 1 (10.00am)

- Dr Tim Bateman, Reader in Youth Justice, University of Bedfordshire;
- Dr Alex Newbury, Senior Lecturer, Brighton Business School;
- Graham Robb, Youth Justice and Education consultant; and
- Lisa, Harvey-Messina, Head of London Business Area, Youth Justice Board.

Panel 2 (11.00am)

- Glen Knight, Governor, Feltham YOI;
- Evan Jones, Head of Community Services, St Giles Trust;
- Loretta Albertini, Switch Direction Performance Manager, Working Links; and
- Helen Dyson, Operations Manager, Nacro.

## **5. Legal Implications**

- 5.1 The Committee has the power to do what is recommended in this report.

## 6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

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**Appendices to this report:** None

<b>Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985</b>
List of Background Papers: None
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