

Subject: Response to *Breaking the Cycle: Reducing Youth Reoffending in London*

Report to: Police and Crime Committee

Report of: Executive Director of Secretariat

Date: 12 November 2015

This report will be considered in public

1. Summary

- 1.1 The Committee is asked to note the response from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC) to its report, *Breaking the cycle: reducing youth reoffending in London*.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 **That the Committee notes the response from the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime to its report, *Breaking the cycle: reducing youth reoffending in London*, as attached at Appendix 1 to this report.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee agreed its report, *Breaking the cycle: reducing youth reoffending in London* at its meeting on 21 July 2015. The report is available from the following area of the GLA's website: www.london.gov.uk/who-runs-london/the-london-assembly/publications¹
- 3.2 The recommendations from the report were as follows:

Recommendation 1

The Mayor and MOPAC should explore the issue of the recruitment to Youth Offending Teams with the Youth Justice Board (YJB) in London, and determine how it may be able to provide the YJB with additional support.

Recommendation 2

MOPAC should amend the youth reoffending dashboard to allow the public to track the reoffending rate of those on different sanctions, not only those leaving custody. The data

¹ London Assembly Police and Crime Committee, [Breaking the cycle: reducing youth reoffending in London](#), July 2015

behind the dashboard should also be made available on the London Datastore. These amendments should be made in time for the next update of the dashboard.

Recommendation 3

MOPAC should, in the next six months, complete and publish a full reoffending analysis of the Heron Unit participants, to determine the overall success of the project.

Recommendation 4

MOPAC should ensure that a full reoffending analysis of participants of the re-settlement of Young Offenders Leaving Custody projects is built in to the final evaluation of the programme.

Recommendation 5

The revised youth reoffending strategy should be developed in conjunction with former young offenders, to ensure that young people have a direct input into its objectives and priorities.

Recommendation 6

The revised youth reoffending strategy should include a commitment to deliver an awareness raising campaign:

- a) for young people, so that they know where they can access support before offending occurs; and
- b) for parents, teachers and others working with young people, so that they know where to refer young people to before offending occurs.

Recommendation 7

The revised youth reoffending strategy should include a commitment to involving former young offenders in support projects where it is clear that their contribution would add value.

Recommendation 8

The revised youth reoffending strategy should recognise the importance of continuity in the relationship between a young offender and support worker, and work to ensure the system can create opportunities for a one-to-one relationship.

Recommendation 9

The revised youth reoffending strategy should:

- a) address the difficulties in the application of a payment by results model for resettlement projects, and consider how these might be mitigated; and
- b) set out how any payment by results approach will support the participation of small community based organisations.

Recommendation 10

The Mayor should take a lead role in ensuring that suitable accommodation for young offenders is available across all boroughs in London.

4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 The response from MOPAC is attached at **Appendix 1** for the Committee to note.

5. Legal Implications

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

6. Financial Implications

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

List of appendices to this report:

Appendix 1: Response from MOPAC dated 6 October 2015 to *Breaking the cycle: reducing youth reoffending in London*.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
List of Background Papers: None
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