

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

Report to: Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee

Date: 21/11/2022

Subject: Youth Justice Service Inspection Outcome

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Responsible Director: Jacqui McShannon, Strategic Director Children's Services

SUMMARY

Youth Justice Service were inspected by HM Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) in June 2022 and the outcome and recommendations were published on 20th October 2022. HMIP takes a risk-based and non-predictable approach in deciding whether to inspect and we had been planning for the inspection due to the lapse of time since our last inspection in 2015. At the time of the inspection YJS were delivered as part of the Tri-Borough arrangements and were not graded but service was found to be "performing very well".

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. For the Committee to note the outcome of the inspection and the five recommendations made by HMIP to support continuous improvement of our delivery.
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Wards Affected: All

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Values
Building shared prosperity	Our Youth Justice Service works to ensure best outcomes for some of our most vulnerable children and young people, diverting them away from crime and engaging them in positive activities, education, employment and training
Creating a compassionate council	The care and commitment of the workforce, partnership and our community organisations to support and protect our children and give them every opportunity to move away from crime was a strength noted by the inspectorate.
Doing things with local residents, not to them	The inspectorate noted the voice of our children, residents, and community

	organisations in shaping the way we deliver our YJS.
Being ruthlessly financially efficient	We use our resources to ensure we meet our statutory responsibilities but maximise our innovation to meet the wide range of needs our children have.
Taking pride in H&F	The Inspectorate acknowledged and found evidence of our pride in H&F and our aspirations for our children.
Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency	The Youth Justice Service works to ensure it delivers all its services with awareness and consideration of the climate challenge – by working smart and maximising opportunities to hybrid work we are reducing our carbon footprint and in our work with children and young people providing opportunities to learn and participate in our community

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

An inspection of youth offending services in Hammersmith and Fulham, HM Inspectorate of Probation, October 2022.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

1. The inspection looked at:
 - standards of organisational delivery (leadership, staffing and facilities),
 - their management of children serving court sentences (court disposals)
 - and children serving cautions or community sentences (out-of-court disposals).
 - It also rated the quality of resettlement work.
2. The breakdown of judgements for each domain:

Overall rating	Outstanding
Organisational delivery	
Governance and leadership	Good
Staff	Good
Partnerships and services	Outstanding
Information and facilities	Good
Court disposals	
Assessment	Outstanding
Planning	Outstanding
Implementation and delivery	Outstanding
Reviewing	Outstanding
Out-of-court disposals	
Assessment	Good
Planning	Outstanding
Implementation and delivery	Outstanding
Out-of-court disposal policy and provision	Good
Resettlement	
Resettlement policy and provision	Outstanding

The Outcome

3. The Inspectorate determined that YJS in Hammersmith and Fulham met the criteria for the highest judgement of 'outstanding' and that our children are provided every opportunity to move away from crime.

Recommendations

4. The Hammersmith and Fulham Youth Justice Service should:
 - review its work arrangements with volunteers to ensure that they are fully supported, used effectively and connected to the service
 - improve communication and escalation routes to ensure that key messages on service delivery and data analysis reach the board and operational staff

- review policies and guidance to ensure that they set out explicitly how the service intends to meet all diversity needs, particularly where there is disproportionality.

5. The Youth Crime Prevention Partnership Board (management board) should:

- continue to work with partners and the YJS to maintain the current health provision for YJS children
- develop its understanding of YJS children and families, the vision and priorities of the service and potential risks that could impact on delivery

LBHF Response

6. We have accepted the inspectorates' recommendations and will provide an action plan to deliver against them by 11 November 2022. The action plan will be developed in partnership with the Youth Crime Prevention Partnership (YCPP) and progress against the actions will be monitored through the YCPP.

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Youth Justice Service Inspection Outcome – Presentation

Appendix 2 - HM Inspectorate of Probation Report – October 2022

Appendix 3 - HM Inspectorate of Probation Press Release