



Havering
LONDON BOROUGH

Notice of Non-Key Executive Decision

Subject Heading:	Youth Justice Grant Allocation 2024-2025
Decision Maker:	Tara Geere, Director of Children's Services
Cabinet Member:	Cllr Oscar Ford, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
ELT Lead:	Tara Geere, Director of Children's Services
Report Author and contact details:	Fatema Ahmed, Project Manager, 01708 431854 Fatema.ahmed@havering.gov.uk
Policy context:	Supports the council's vision of "Supporting our residents to stay safe and well".
Financial summary:	The London Borough of Havering Youth Justice Service has been allocated £352,621 grant funding for the 2024/25 fiscal year by the YJB, this is an increase of 0.3% from 2023/24.
Relevant Overview & Scrutiny Sub Committee:	People OSSC
Is this decision exempt from being called-in?	Yes, it is a non-key decision

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

People - Supporting our residents to stay safe and well **x**

Place - A great place to live, work and enjoy

Resources - Enabling a resident-focused and resilient Council

Part A – Report seeking decision

DETAIL OF THE DECISION REQUESTED AND RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this report is for the Director to grant retrospective approval for the Council to accept the Youth Justice Grant for the following financial year 2024/2025, given that the Chief Financial Officer/Strategic Director of Resources has already accepted the terms and conditions for the grant as there was an imminent deadline to accept these.

The total grant amounting to £352,621 is designated for the fiscal year 2024/25. This will enable the local authority to receive the allocated funding to support the continued delivery of the Youth Justice Service.

The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a statutory duty upon each Local Authority to create a local Youth Justice Team/Service, whose primary aim is to prevent and reduce the offending behaviour of children (aged 10–18-year-olds) alongside key partners.

AUTHORITY UNDER WHICH DECISION IS MADE

Part 3 Section 3.3.3

5.1 To apply for, accept and thereafter spend / allocate any grant funding connected with their directorate provided that any match funding or residual liabilities can be met from the existing budget of the directorate. For the avoidance of doubt this delegation shall allow the acceptance of any grant offered / allocated to the Council without any application.

STATEMENT OF THE REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Director of Children's Service is asked to authorise the agreement for the London Borough of Havering to accept the Youth Justice Grant for the following financial year 2024/2025, which will allow the Chief Financial Officer/Strategic Director of Resources to authorise the acceptance and the terms and conditions for the grant. This will enable the local authority to receive the allocated funding to support the continued delivery of the Youth Justice Service.

There is a duty for the local authority, the police, the probation service, and health named partners to cooperate in order to secure youth justice services appropriate to their area. Youth Justice Teams are partially funded by the Government's youth justice grant, in addition to funding from the council and statutory partners, to deliver elements of the youth justice system at a local level.

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The local Youth Justice plan has been submitted to the Youth Justice Board and will be submitted to Cabinet to be endorsed as part of the conditions of the grant to ensure timely payment of the Youth Justice Grant for 2024/25.

The London Borough of Havering have received confirmation of the actual amount of grant funding that has been allocated is £352,621 for the 2024/25 fiscal year by the YJB, this is an increase of 0.3% from 2023/24.

Failure to accept the terms and conditions of the grant would result in a loss of funding and would hinder the local authority's ability to meet its statutory obligations under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

No other options were considered as the acceptance of the grant is essential for the continued operation of the Youth Justice Service. Rejecting the grant would result in a significant funding shortfall and negatively impact service delivery.

PRE-DECISION CONSULTATION

Not applicable, this decision is to accept the terms and conditions of the grant allocation from Youth Justice Board.

NAME AND JOB TITLE OF STAFF MEMBER ADVISING THE DECISION-MAKER

Name: Fatema Ahmed

Designation: Project Manager

Signature: *Fatema Ahmed*

Date: 29/08/2024

Part B - Assessment of implications and risks

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

As stated in the Report the Council has duties in relation to youth justice. The acceptance of the grant will assist in compliance with these duties.

The grant award will have to be used in accordance with the terms and conditions. These terms and conditions are lengthy and provide amongst other things that the grant is used for the relevant purposes and that an accounting for its use is required. Any breach of conditions can result in clawback.

Provided the terms and conditions for the grant are adhered to there are no significant legal risks associated with the decision. Failure to approve receipt of the grant and accept the terms and conditions would result in a loss of funding and hinder the Council's ability to meet its statutory obligations under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

This decision seeks approval to accept grant of £352,621 from the YJB, which provides essential funding for the Youth Justice Service. Without it, the service would face financial challenges, potentially leading to reduced service levels. The grant represents a 0.3% increase from the previous fiscal year and recognises the inflationary pressures, as well as the variations in volume and complexity of cases being managed across the country, ensuring stability in funding. The funding is ring fenced for frontline staffing costs within the Youth Justice Service.

Failure to accept and adhere to the terms and conditions of the grant would result in a loss of funding and hinder the local authority's ability to meet its statutory obligations under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. There are no adverse financial implications to the London Borough of Havering in accepting this funding.

HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS (AND ACCOMMODATION IMPLICATIONS WHERE RELEVANT)

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable HR risks or implications that would affect either the Council or its workforce.

EQUALITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have 'due regard' to:

- (i) The need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- (ii) The need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share protected characteristics and those who do not, and;

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(iii) Foster good relations between those who have protected characteristics and those who do not.

Note: 'Protected characteristics' are age, sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnerships, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment.

The Council is committed to all of the above in the provision, procurement and commissioning of its services, and the employment of its workforce. In addition, the Council is also committed to improving the quality of life and wellbeing for all Havering residents in respect of socio-economics and health determinants.

An EqHIA (Equality and Health Impact Assessment) is usually carried out and on this occasion this isn't required.

The Council seeks to ensure equality, inclusion, and dignity for all in all situations.

There are not equalities and social inclusion implications and risks associated with this decision.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

The recommendations made in this report do not give rise to any identifiable environmental and climate change risks or implications.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

APPENDICES

Appendix A	Draft Youth Justice Plan 2024/2025
Appendix B	2024/25 Youth Justice Grant Award Letter

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Part C – Record of decision

I have made this executive decision in accordance with authority delegated to me by the Leader of the Council and in compliance with the requirements of the Constitution.

Decision

Proposal agreed

Details of decision maker

Signed



Tara Geere
Director of Starting Well

12 September 2024

Lodging this notice

The signed decision notice must be delivered to Committee Services, in the Town Hall.

For use by Committee Administration

This notice was lodged with me on _____

Signed _____