

OFFICER DECISION RECORD (ODR2)

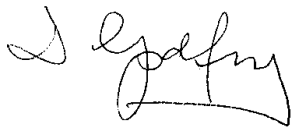
This form records an officer decision and is published in accordance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

Date of Decision	26/09/2025
Decision Taker (including Job Title)	Dawn Godfrey Executive Director of Children's Services
Specific Delegation	<p>A report on the subject of the Youth Justice Services Hosted Model Proposal was considered at Children and Families Committee on 29/04/2024. The Children and Families Committee recommended to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Agree that Cheshire West and Chester Council will host Cheshire YJS on behalf of all four councils and other statutory partners.2. Approve the transfer under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employees) Regulations 2006 ('TUPE') of staff from Cheshire East into Cheshire West and Chester Council effective from 1 April 2025.3. Delegate authority to the Executive Director of Children and Families to take all steps necessary to implement the recommendations set out above, including producing an agreed memorandum of understanding which clarifies the legal and review arrangements.4. Delegate authority to the Chief Executives, in consultation with the Section 151 Officer and Executive Directors for Children and Families across the pan-Cheshire footprint to agree the final funding formula as set out in tables 5a and 5b of Appendix 4 and that it be included in the 2025/26 MTFS.
Brief Description of Decision	To enter into a Partnership Agreement to formalise the transition of the Pan-Cheshire Youth Justice Service to a fully hosted model under Cheshire West and Chester Council as the Lead Authority, replacing the previous Memorandum of Understanding.
Reasons for the Decision and	This decision is made on the understanding that it provides the most cost effective and robust means of delivering high quality Youth Justice Services, which we could not replicate the scope of as a single Local

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alternatives considered	<p>Authority. It includes 4 other Local Authorities, namely, Cheshire West and Chester Council, Halton Borough Council, Warrington Borough Council alongside this council. The following alternatives were considered as part of the decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status Quo: this was rejected due to inefficiencies and ICT fragility - Incremental Reform: this was considered but deemed insufficient - Fully Hosted Model: this was the preferred and chosen model for operational efficiency, financial transparency and sustainability.
Member consultation and interests declared	Not required
Significant Decision	Yes
Legal Implications	<p>Local Authorities have a statutory duty to provide a Youth Justice Service under the Crime and Disorder Act 1980. Section 113 Local Government Act 1972 allows local authorities to enter into an agreement with other authorities to place the services of officers at the disposal of another authority for the purposes of their functions. Section 1 Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 enables local authorities to enter into agreements to supply goods and services, including administrative professional or technical services.</p> <p>The decision maker has the necessary authority to make the decision. The Committee provided delegated authority to the Executive Director of Children's Services to take all necessary steps to implement and agree to the arrangement.</p> <p>Legal have reviewed the terms of the agreement between the local authorities having collaborated with the service as well as finance and are happy with its terms.</p> <p>Nick Wrigley – Senior Lawyer – 26/09/2025</p>
Financial Implications	The 2025/26 MTFS included growth of £0.198m recognising the gap between the existing budget

	level and that required for the Cheshire West and Chester hosted model. Future increases have also been included in the MTFS to take account of pay inflation. Total budget for Cheshire East 2025/26 is £0.615m. Any overspends by Youth Justice Partnership will be recovered from the partners. Kathy Oliver / Diane Green 26/09/2025
Confidential/Exempt Information	None.
Background Papers	None.



SignedDawn Godfrey.....

Dated26/09/2025.....