

Report for:	Cabinet 17 March 2015	Item Number:	
Title:	Young People's Strategy 2015-18		
Report Authorised by:	Jon Abbey Interim Director of Children's Services		
Lead Officer:	Gill Gibson Assistant Director, Quality Assurance, Early Help and Prevention		
Ward(s) affected: All		Report for Key Decision: Yes	

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 Cabinet is asked to note the draft Young People's Strategy, in line with the Corporate Plan, to give high level strategic direction and focus in enabling young people to achieve their potential and thrive within our communities.
- 1.2 The Young People's Strategy will contribute to delivering key objectives, in partnership with the community, within the wider vision for children, young people and families in Haringey.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

- 2.1 Haringey Council and its partners facilitate and provide a range of services to young people. This draft strategy sets out the framework by which this can happen more effectively and so improve the lives of young people in the borough.
- 2.2 The Young People's Strategy is aligned to our Early Help ambition which will enable us to transform our model for delivering services to young people as part of a whole-system approach.
- 2.3 Young people and other stakeholders will be asked to provide feedback on this draft Strategy. The final version will need us to work in partnership with all stakeholders - including young people - to harness a wide range of resources, maximising the



impact of our collective actions to support all young people including those who are most vulnerable.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is asked to agree the draft Strategy for further engagement and discussion with young people and stakeholders.
- 3.2 Cabinet is asked to agree that the final Young People's Strategy will be brought back to cabinet in June 2015 for approval.

4. Alternative Options

There is a need to provide a Framework by which services for young people can work with coherence, increasing effectiveness of partnership and collaboration and so improving the outcomes of young people. This can only be agreed through this Corporate Strategy.

5. Background

- 5.1 Haringey Council and its partners facilitate and provide many services to young people. This strategy will provide the basis for the delivery plans to increase successful partnerships and cooperation leading to improving the lives of young people in the borough. The strategy will set out the principles and priorities for improving the lives of young people.
- 5.2 It is recognised that Haringey is in one of the most vibrant cities in the world and that there is a wealth of opportunity and activity for our young people. It is the shared responsibility of all those working with young people to enable them to identify, access and benefit from these opportunities.
- 5.3 The strategy recognises the contribution that young people make in the community and the importance of their voice in designing and deciding upon the range of services and activities that promote their success and well being.
- 5.4 The Young People's Strategy is an integral part of the Early Help approach as it reflects the widespread recognition that it is better to identify and deal with problems early, rather than respond when difficulties have become acute and may require more specialist interventions that may be less effective and more expensive.
- 5.5 The Strategy has also taken account of:
 - Early Help needs analysis – 2014
 - OfSTED Review – June 2014



- Post 16 Education review 2014
- Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Physical Activity Framework
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Participation of young people in Education, Employment or Training - Statutory guidance for local authorities, DfE, September 2014.

5.6 The following are the key headlines:

- Haringey has a relatively low number of jobs per resident compared to other parts of London, so our young people need to be equipped to access work across the capital;
- The Post-16 education review highlighted a lack of good quality careers education;
- The number of ‘unknowns’ (in terms of employment, education and training) is too high - 21.7% Jan 15 and projected to be 7% by March 15 (Haringey Stat). This is a marked reduction from June 2012 where Haringey was 37.6% and sixth highest in the country;
- There are high rates of sexually transmitted infections amongst young people;
- 73% of offenders who have been released from custody are likely to reoffend;
- Young males in particular find it difficult to access appropriate services;
- Vulnerable young women are at risk of sexual exploitation and violence;
- children and young people in Haringey are potentially at greater risk of developing mental health problems than those living in both London and England as a whole;
- Service delivery is not always based in the most appropriate place to reach the most vulnerable young people e.g. those affected by Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) or gang-related issues;
- Ofsted 2014 review judged that Haringey needs to improve its ability to access ‘hard to reach’ young people;
- London is forecast to see rises in employment in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Jobs in London are projected to grow by more than 850,000 by 2036; and
- Employment growth is projected in some service sectors, including the professions, scientific & technical, information & communication, admin & support, and accommodation & food service (GLA Economic Report).

6. Proposal

- 6.1 The Strategy will influence how both the Council and wider partners shape their services to achieve our vision that ‘Haringey will create communities that enable young people to thrive and flourish: to be safe, sociable and successful’.



6.2 This will be delivered through four priorities:

1. Ensure that young people in Haringey are valued for the positive contribution they make to communities and the economy
2. Ensure clear pathways into attractive and relevant breadth of employment, learning and enterprise opportunities
3. Improve health and wellbeing for all our young people
4. Co-ordinate engagement to reach vulnerable young people and intervene to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

6.3 The strategy will be further refined through discussion and engagement with young people to agree outcomes, targets and key activities in line with each of the four priorities. The aim is to produce a live strategy that is informed by people who will be affected by it and who can help to put it into action and monitor our progress.

6.4 This strategy incorporates the statutory duties on local authorities to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training [Participation of young people in education, employment or training - Statutory guidance for local authorities, DfE, September 2014 Crown Copyright 2014) In particular:

- To secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people aged 16 to 19 and for those up to age 25 with a, Education, Health and Care plan (ECH).
- Make available to all young people aged 13-19 (up to 25 with EHC), support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training.
- To promote the effective participation in education and training of 16 and 17 year olds with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training.
- Local authorities must make arrangements - i.e. maintain a tracking system - to identify 16 and 17 year olds who are not participating in education or training. Putting in place robust arrangements to identify young people who are not engaged in education or training or who have left provision enables local authorities to offer support as soon as possible.
- LA responsibilities outlined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to prevent offending by young people. This requires every local authority to have in place a Youth Offending Team including social workers, probation, education, health and Police.

7. Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

The Medium Term Financial Strategy approved by Council on 23rd February included £16.7m of savings to be found within the Priority one budget area. This included £2.1 m savings to be found across services for young people. This report sets out the high level priorities for the strategy for young people to deliver in



partnership the most effective services within the budget.

8. Comments of the Assistant Director of Corporate Governance and legal implications

8.1 The Assistant Director of Corporate Governance has been consulted on this Report. There are no legal implications arising from the recommendations.

9. Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments

9.1 Our proposals will successfully align with Early Help to form a holistic, whole system redesign, the impact of which will be positive by enabling young people to access support at the earliest opportunity.

9.2 We do know that often the most socially excluded residents predominantly have the protected characteristics defined in the Equality Act 2010 and our delivery model will be designed to ensure that services are made clear and accessible to all groups in the borough, including those that are socially excluded and require either support or protection.

9.3 It is not thought that there will be any differential impact upon any of the protected groups outlines in the Equalities Act 2010, as a consequence of the new operating model – however we will ensure that we gather data and undertake analysis to provide assurance that the new model does not impact upon protected groups.

10. Head of Procurement Comments

There may be a commissioning component in delivering the strategy and relevant procurement processes will be considered at that stage.

11. Policy Implication

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (Section 507B), Chapter 40 Crown Copyright 2006) which states that:

“A local education authority in England must, so far as reasonably practicable, secure for qualifying young persons in the authority’s area access to sufficient educational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities”.

12. Reasons for Decision

To agree a draft Young People’ strategy for further engagement and discussion with young people prior to Cabinet considering the final strategy in June..

13. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: Young People's Strategy 2015-18

14. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Education and Inspections Act 2006 Chapter 40 Crown Copyright 2006



Haringey Council

Appendix 1

Young People's Strategy 2015 - 2018 (DRAFT)

Introduction

Haringey Council has produced a Corporate Plan in which it sets out priorities for the borough over the next three years. The Corporate Plan is aimed at all people within our communities. The council also wishes to develop a Young People's Strategy, in line with the Corporate Plan, that will give direction and focus to all partners in enabling young people to achieve their potential and thrive within our communities. Haringey Council and its partners facilitate and provide many services to young people. This strategy will provide the basis by which this can happen with coordination, increasing successful partnerships and cooperation and so improving the lives and outcomes of young people in the borough. The strategy will set the principles and priorities for improving the lives of young people.

In producing the strategy and future delivery plans the Council wishes to have discussion and engagement with young people, local stakeholders and council departments to:

- Confirm priorities
- Identify key activities to support the delivery of a strategy for young people

The aim is to produce a live strategy that is informed by people who will be influenced by it and who can help support put it into action.

Purpose

To provide a high level vision statement and strategic framework for improving outcomes for all young people in Haringey.

Our Corporate Plan outlines 3 overall outcomes for the borough:

1. Outstanding for All - children, young people and adults are healthy, thrive and achieve their potential
2. Clean and safe - a place which is clean well maintained and where everybody feels safe and is proud to live and work
3. Sustainable housing, growth and employment - building a base for communities to thrive.

In addition to this the Council must ensure that it meets statutory responsibilities with regard to:

- Delivering the September Guarantee;
- Tracking young people Not in Employment, Education and Training (NEET);
- Preventing offending by young people (under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998) through provision of a Youth Offending Team.

Young people have an important contribution to make in realising the ambitions in the Corporate Plan.

Our vision is that:



Haringey will work with local communities and partners to enable young people to thrive and flourish: to be safe, sociable and successful.

We recognise that we are building on the progress already made and are taking this opportunity to strengthen our partnership approach in enabling better outcomes. Many services across the council and our partnership have the potential to contribute to this strategy and improve outcomes for young people.

Principles that underpin our vision

To help us to achieve the outcomes set out in the Corporate Plan we need to work differently with and for young people and we are therefore committed to the following principles:

- 1. We recognise that young people need to be engaged and remain in employment, education and training in order to gain the relevant skills for future employment which enables them to thrive and achieve. This is an underlying principle of everything that we do.**

This means...

- Young people across Haringey will have choice and quality pathways that also link with regeneration opportunities such as those available in Tottenham

- 2. We will work with young people to design and deliver support and services and encourage their participation in decisions that affect them.**

This means...

- Young people are active participants in all personal decisions which affect them
- Young people will help to define the outcomes which are important to them and identify how best to support those needs
- Young people will be involved in decision-making relating to services that affect them
- Young people will be involved in the commissioning and quality assurance of services
- Working with young people to promote peer support

- 3. We will ensure that the needs of our young people are met at the earliest opportunity.**

This means...

- We will build family resilience in line with the Early Help Strategy
- An early help approach which moves away from crisis management to one that focuses on strengths and enables young people and families
- Effective signposting to appropriate activities

- 4. We will build strong partnerships with a wide range of stakeholders to invest in Haringey's young people.**

This means...

- Increasing the inward investment from alternative sources to enhance the range of opportunities available to young people; The council will work together with local voluntary and community organisations to ensure they have an influential role in delivering the strategy



Achieving our vision: Four strategic priorities

We have developed four strategic priorities to help the public, voluntary, community and commercial sectors work together to deliver this vision.

Strategic Priority 1 - Ensure that young people in Haringey are valued for the positive contribution they make to communities and the economy

What this means?

- Activities such as volunteering and peer mentoring are recognised and valued
- Increasing the positive images and promotion of young people
- Increased sense of belonging, self worth and self esteem leading to improved confidence and aspiration
- Young people as leaders and making a positive contribution within the borough
- Young people actively contributing to the decision making within the borough & council

Why is this important?

- That society does not miss the contribution that young people make to communities and the economy
- To encourage the take up of vulnerable young people in those opportunities
- To promote positive perceptions of self and improve self esteem
- To engage all young people in decision making and commissioning
- To ensure young people are ambitious for their future

What will it take to do better through working together?

- Adults are willing to change their perception of young people away from negative stereotypes and recognise the strength and energy that young people bring
- Creating a range of opportunities through which young people can participate in influencing ideas and decision making
- Improved partnership framework for involving and engaging young people with councillors and officers
- Supporting positive self esteem and a strengths-based approach equips young people to benefit from the opportunities
- Promoting skills for life and world of work curriculum which meets the needs of employers, this could also include activities such as peer mentoring and volunteering.

Strategic Priority 2 - Ensure clear pathways into an attractive and relevant range of employment, learning and enterprise opportunities

What this means

- All young people are engaged in learning, employment or enterprise
- All young people have aspirations and the employability skills to achieve them
- A curriculum which gives young people the skills to meet their career aspirations
- All young people will have greater access to apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience



- The quality in pathways (particularly in Tottenham) will enable young people to continue their studies into higher education and Russell Universities

Why is this important?

- Haringey is part of a global city and we want our young people to benefit from the opportunities that this provides including in science, technology, engineering and maths
- Young people will be equipped to access the new employment and enterprise opportunities being opened up through Tottenham regeneration and the capital.
- Good quality careers advice enables young people to make good choices
- Those Not In Education Employment or Training (NEET) are more susceptible to risky behaviours such as offending
- Appropriate ambitious pathways retain young people in education, training and employment

What will it take to do better through working together?

- High quality training, advice and guidance for careers delivered in and by schools.
- Earlier identification of potential NEET and unknowns in schools takes place so they can be supported to make proactive choices about appropriate pathways
- Providing quality pathways and skills to develop and support aspiration in order to help all young people to take up learning, employment and enterprise opportunities.
- Information advice and careers services delivered where NEETs and pre NEET young people are.
- Partnerships and engagement with employer and higher education networks to promote internships, apprenticeships, work experience and other opportunities
- Better informing parents and carers about the range and implications of individual pathway choices on future opportunities
- Promoting high quality provision and choice for all young people and their families
- All young people provided with an offer of learning through the September Guarantee process

Strategic Priority 3 – Improve health and wellbeing for all young people

What this means

We want all young people growing up in Haringey to:

- be able to make the best choices in order to enjoy good mental health and wellbeing
- choose healthy lifestyles
- to have the confidence to engage in positive relationships
- to know how to stay safe

Why is this important?

- peer pressure, lack of knowledge and the desire to experiment can put young people's health at risk.
- There are high rates of obesity and this limits life chances
- Promoting good sexual health enables young people to stay safe



- Young males in particular find it difficult to access appropriate services and this has an impact on their health
- Poor mental and physical health and wellbeing impacts on young people's self esteem, achievement and access to opportunities and can have lasting effects beyond adolescence.

What will it take to do better through working together?

- We will support young people to develop a health and wellbeing strategy which has genuine meaning for them
- There is a shared ownership to engage more young people in physical activity
- A better understanding of young people's changing health needs
- Prevention and Early intervention through health awareness education
- Ensure early identification and intervention of health and wellbeing needs as part of the early help approach
- Ensure we all are working together in partnership to develop and deliver the health and wellbeing strategy and physical activity framework
- Schools and partners are proactive in raising awareness around issues such as child sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation and violence against women and girls - taking appropriate action when vulnerable young people are identified.

Strategic Priority 4 – Co-ordinate engagement to reach vulnerable young people and intervene to ensure their safety and wellbeing

What this means?

- There is a multi-agency response to wrap support around vulnerable young people and their families
- More young people are accessing appropriate support and advice before they reach crisis point
- Reduction in the pattern of high risk behaviours with appropriate and timely interventions for vulnerable young people
- Vulnerable young people will be identified for appropriate provision which includes accessing and maintaining learning, employment and enterprise opportunities
- Dedicated response focused on youth justice to prevent re-offending.

Why is this important?

- To reduce the number of offenders released from custody who are likely to reoffend
- Risky behaviour can affect future life opportunities and choices
- Young people who are supported into positive activity after interventions are more likely to sustain that change and thrive



- To build resilience and support vulnerable young women to move away from the risk of sexual exploitation and violence
- Unmet need prevents young people accessing employment, enterprise, and learning.

What will it take to do better through working together?

- All partners adopting a strength-based focus on the vulnerable child within a holistic family context to intervene effectively with the most vulnerable young people and effect change
- Raising awareness of risk factors across all partners to better identify and address unmet need earlier
- Developing a multi-agency assertive outreach approach to engage with young people on the edge of offending, exclusion, gangs, and at risk of child sexual exploitation
- Providing holistic family support for young offenders to prevent re-offending and promote access to skills and life opportunities
- Improved networking and access to partner and community assets.