Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel - Work Planning 2018-20

Top Themes from Scrutiny Survey:

1. Youth Services
2. Youth Offending
3. Early Intervention
4. Safeguarding
5. Looked After Children
6. Special Educational Needs

Issues Suggested in Scrutiny Survey or at Scrutiny Café

No.	Suggestion	Comments and Feedback from Survey and Cafe
1.	Youth crime	• Alternatives to 'youth crime' need to be provided by investing in activities, training and safe spaces for young people; • The effectiveness of engagement with young people on the dangers of knives needs to be explored so that the best options could be determined; • Parents and other key adults should be trained so that they are able to detect potential signs that young people were becoming involved in crime; • A public health approach to violent crime, as has been used successfully in Glasgow, should be considered in Haringey; • The Gangs Matrix can lead to the labelling of children and young people at a young age. It can also impact on families; • Reducing the criminalisation of children. The Council should be using the various levers available to it, to support young people themselves and to prevent their criminalisation; • Disproportionate attitudes and responses of Police towards young people in the west compared to the east of the borough;. • The link between youth crime and the provision of youth services, play areas and parks; • The need for young people to have safe spaces to go to.
2.	Youth services	• A broader range of opportunities needs to be made available for children and young people that covers all ranges. Opportunities should take account of issues relating the post codes as some young people find it difficult to move across the borough due to "post code" issues; • Research should done to determine whether cuts to youth services have impacted on crime and the wider community; • Resources should be mobilised to tackle loneliness, especially young people so they do not resort to gangs; • Exposure magazines has been badly affected by reductions in funding and consideration needs to be given on how it could be sustained.
3.	School Exclusions	• Exclusions may not always be appropriate. Research needs to be done on how they

No.	Suggestion	Comments and Feedback from Survey and Cafe
	(Also suggested by Panel)	are being used to determine what was happening in schools; • There is a need to analyse the reasons for exclusions and data relating to it. This should include tracking the various stages that children and young people go through and where they finish up; • There are disproportionate numbers of young black boys being excluded. A number finish up in the Pupil Referral Unit, which can be a stepping stone to prison; • Alternative provision should be looked at, especially its quality and effectiveness. A significant percentage of children and young people are also being excluded from alternative provision, which can move them closer towards imprisonment. • There are links between exclusions and knife and serious crime; • Children with special needs can be especially at risk from exclusion; • Exploring the mental health elements concerning pupil exclusions from schools. • A different approach to school exclusions is required that is more person centred.
4.	Mental health services for teenagers and young people (CAMHS) *(Also suggested by Panel)*	• There is considerable pressure on mental health services, particularly from schools; • Children with mental health needs can wait up to 2 years to get an appointment at CAMHS; • Mental health related support for parents of children with special needs; • Exploring the mental health elements concerning pupil exclusions from schools.
5.	Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)	• SEND children are growing in numbers. They can often find difficulty in accessing services; • It can be a struggle for young people with special needs to be diagnosed. They can be at risk of being excluded in the intervening period; • Some parents are reluctant to have their child diagnosed because of the possible stigma; • There can be increased stress on parents with children with special educational needs as trying to access services is difficult, particularly when transport which has been reduced; • There can be a long wait for autistic children to receive support; • Exploring investment in Children's services to support children with autism as currently it seems that autistic children are not getting the early support they needed. When progressing to adults, they have increased support needs which is likely to be costing Adult Services more to deal with.
8.	Infrastructure	• There is a lack of proper infrastructure for the development of services for children and young people. There are a lot of funding sources that could be utilised but the lack of infrastructure inhibits voluntary sector organisations from taking full advantage of them.

No.	Suggestion	Comments and Feedback from Survey and Cafe
9.	Play and leisure	• There is unequal access to play and leisure across the borough and particular difficulties are experienced by children with disabilities.
10.	Services to Schools *(Also suggested by Panel)*	• Haringey Education Partnership (HEP) is an independent organisation and was now responsible for school improvement within the borough. Few people know about this and there is a lack of available information.
11.	Supporting young people *(Also suggested by Panel*	• There needs to be more effective sign posting so that young people are better able to identify suitable opportunities.
12.	Supporting Parents	• Parents need to be empowered so that they are able to support children effectively
13.	Transition to Adult Services	• It is possible for some young people to miss out on services when they transitioned to Adult Services. Some disengage from support and services.
14.	Health Inequalities	• There are different health outcomes for young people. In particular, there are considerable differences in levels of obesity.
15.	No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)	• The implementation of recommendations from recent reviews that had taken place on support to families with no recourse to public funds needed to be monitored, especially those regarding subsistence levels.
16.	Celebrating young people	• A lot of publicity about young people in the borough is negative. With the exception of exam results, little that is positive is said.
17.	Setting in Schools	• Setting within secondary schools can be used in a discriminatory way
18.	Children's Centres	• These are high quality services but there is limited understanding of their role amongst the community within Haringey. They are a well-kept secret and need to be marketed more effectively.

No.	Suggestion	Comments and Feedback from Survey and Cafe
19.	Young carers	
20.	ESOL for primary schools	