

Report to Scrutiny Panel 19 March 2019 – Child Friendly Haringey

Appendix 2

Recommendation & Action	Lead & others to be involved	Timescale	Agreed/ Partially Agreed/ Not Agreed	Comments	FINAL OUTCOME
<p>1. That the Council declares its intention to become a “Child Friendly” borough, with this approach embedded in everything that the Council does and driven by strong political and officer commitment.</p>	<p>Director of Children’s Services and Priority 1 Board</p>	<p>May 2018</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>The Council wholly supports the intention behind UNHRC’s idea of being "child friendly" and welcomes the interesting and varied case studies provided in the report to illustrate how other authorities have taken this forward. We believe that our current Priority 1 vision and objectives incorporate elements of the commitment to being "child friendly" but we recognise the potential value of challenging ourselves (including other Council services) and our partners to demonstrate the practical difference their policies and decisions make for children. We welcome the opportunity to explore what a commitment to being "child friendly" could look like for Haringey specifically.</p>	<p>The new Borough Plan 2019 -2023 has provided a platform on which Haringey can build on its journey to becoming Child Friendly.</p> <p>It sets out the Council’s and key stakeholder organisation’s partners vision for Haringey’s young people: to grow up free from fear or exploitation, are happy, succeed at school and beyond, and are supported by the communities in which they live. The plan also sets out its ambition for young people; setting long term foundations in the early years, to be happy and healthy throughout their childhoods, to feel secure in their family, and communities, that all young people have a pathway to success, live in communities where people look out for and care for one another, and a safer borough.</p> <p>We believe that the Borough Plan’s vision for Haringey’s Children and Young People articulates well the Council’s and key stakeholder</p>

					partner organisations political commitment and Haringey's aspirations to be "Child Friendly". ACTION CLOSED
<p>2. That a "Child Friendly borough" strategy be developed for Haringey and that this includes the following: A clear local vision of what a "Child Friendly" borough should look like; Enhanced arrangements for listening and responding effectively to the voice of the child; Engagement of children in the design, implementation and evaluation of services designed for them; Child impact assessments and evaluation to be considered within proposed new policies and reviews or change to existing policies; Action to ensure that children know their rights; and A coordinating mechanism.</p>	<p>Sarah Alexander</p> <p>Policy & Strategy Team</p>	<p>December 2018</p> <p>TBC</p>	<p>Partially Agreed</p>	<p>This would have significant resourcing implications and at this point in the Corporate Plan cycle, we do not think developing a separate "child friendly borough" strategy and governance mechanism distinct from Priority 1 would be helpful. However, as we begin to consider the content of the Corporate/Borough Plan from 2018 for children and young people, we think this will provide the right process for refreshing our overarching strategy and local vision, for which a commitment to being "child friendly" could be a unifying theme. Furthermore, there will be several key policies and strategies that will be revised to align with the new Corporate Plan, offering further opportunities to align our approach.</p> <p>In the shorter term, a Participation Strategy to set out expectations and arrangements for listening and responding to</p>	<p>Embedded within the shortly to be adopted Borough Plan's - People Priority is the Young People at Risk Strategy aimed at reducing Serious Youth violence, a key priority for the council and its partners. Its delivery plan sets out a range of provision, activity and support for families, parents and children and young people, and includes the Council's commitment for parents, carers and young people's involvement in design and shaping of services to meet their needs.</p> <p>The Council's developing Young People at Risk Strategy has been developed in collaboration with Haringey's young people. The voices and views of our young people has informed the strategic priorities of the Young People at risk Strategy and is fundamental to the delivery of agreed actions under the strategy and reflects the council's commitment to bringing together communities and our young people to tackle serious youth violence in the borough. Underpinning principles of the</p>

				<p>the voice of the child is being drafted and we will look to consult young people and partners on this strategy over the next 6 months. We aim to complement the strategy with a practitioners' guide, to influence the culture and behaviours of staff who work directly with children and young people.</p> <p>Two areas highlighted in the report that we would like to explore further with colleagues and with children and young people are the ways we might increase understanding of children's rights and whether we might develop a mechanism such as Child Impact Assessments so that the impact of policy decisions on children and young people could be properly evaluated across council services.</p>	<p>strategy include: "whole family" focus and approach and engagement of young people in design of support packages to meet their needs.</p> <p>Haringey's Participation policy (2018) sets out how Haringey's Children and Young People Services (CYPS) will proactively seek the views of children and young people to inform and influence and shapes our services. It references Article 12 of the UHCHR. The policy will ensure that Haringey CYPS engage in meaningful participation with children and young people; and that we will use the information, data and intelligence gathered to develop, reinforce and transform our services. We will continue work to complete the practitioners guide, and consult with the Youth Council, ASPIRE and other young people for their views in implementing the plans in the policy delivery.</p> <p>We will refer to Democratic Services the review of mechanisms for Child Impact Assessments over and above that of Equality Impact Assessments as a tool already being used by the Council in evaluating the impact of policy</p>
--	--	--	--	--	--

					<p>decisions for children and young people.</p> <p>All reports and policies are signed off by the Director of Children's Services with strategic SMT responsibility.</p> <p>ACTION CLOSED</p>
<p>3. That, as part of the development of a "Child Friendly" strategic approach, engagement take place with partners and the voluntary sector in order to secure their collaboration.</p>	<p>DCS, Priority 1 Board, supported by Policy & Strategy Team</p>	<p>May 2018</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>The process for developing our new Corporate/Borough Plan will provide extensive opportunities for partner engagement and we will introduce the principles of being "child friendly" into these discussions to determine whether this is a strong unifying theme that resonates with stakeholders in Haringey. Utilising this process will also increase the likelihood that any commitment to being "child friendly" is part of a corporate approach and the contribution of services beyond Priority 1 can be identified and agreed.</p>	<p>The Council's new Borough Plan 2019 – 2023 has been in development since summer 2018. Extensive engagement and participation of key stakeholder partner organisations in its consultation being completed in December 2018 captured views from a wide audience including families in agreeing the Borough Plan's objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The evidence base for the Council's Young People at Risk Strategy; due at March 2019 Cabinet was informed by responses from consultation with Haringey Young People undertaken by the Godwin Lawson Foundation, Haringey's Youth Council, Parents and carers. The views, and commitment of participation of all key stakeholders including the community has steered, and been accounted in the strategy and action plan. The strategy takes a whole systems</p>

					<p>approach that is required to achieve increased co-ordination of several cross-cutting themes and approaches across a range of council departments and stakeholder organisations. In addition partnership collaboration between the council and key stakeholder partner organisations including the VCS has resulted in securing significant external funding to support children, young people and their families. This funding will be used to deliver the Borough Plan and the Young People at Risk Strategy and other key delivery plans.</p> <p>This represents a positive shift in direction with the Council strengthening its partnership working with key stakeholder partner organisations including the VCS and communities.</p> <p>ACTION CLOSED</p>
4. That an application be made by the Council to become a UNICEF Child Rights Partner.			Not Agreed	<p>Pending the discussions outlined above, and in light of the significant financial contribution required by UNRCH at a time of severe budget pressure, we do not believe that applying to become a Child Rights Partner is the right</p>	<p>N/A Not progressed</p>

				<p>decision for Haringey at this time. However we remain open to doing so in the future if agreement can be reached about what the local commitment to being "child friendly" would mean for Haringey and buy-in secured from our partners.</p>	
--	--	--	--	---	--

<p>5. That the following issues, based on feedback and performance information, are key priorities for children and young people in the Council's new Young People's Strategy and the focus of any projects developed as part of the Unicef Child Rights Partners scheme;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Community safety for young people and, in particular ensuring that they are able to travel safely around the borough; <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Youth facilities and activities which provide fun as well as opportunities for personal, educational and social development; <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Mental health and the promotion of social and emotional well-being; <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Housing and, in particular, the avoidance of homelessness; and <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> Reducing the percentage of children living in households living in poverty. 	<p>Jennifer Sergeant & Young People's Strategy Steering Group</p>	<p>September 2018</p>	<p>Agreed</p>	<p>We welcome all feedback from children and young people about what their priorities are and how they would like to see us respond. The issues of Community Safety, mental health services and youth facilities are already picked up as part of our Young People's Strategy 2015-18 and there is work ongoing in each of these areas, which officers would be happy to provide further information on. The Young People's Strategy is due for review in 2018 following the agreement of a new Corporate Plan and further engagement with young people as part of this will help to update our objectives and inform service development.</p> <p>The issues of housing and homelessness for young people have</p>	<p>The Council's new Borough Plan 2019 – 2023 in development since summer 2018. Extensive engagement and participation of key stakeholder partner organisations in its consultation being completed in December 2018 captured views from a wide audience including families in agreeing the Borough Plan's objectives and priorities.</p> <p>The Young People at risk Strategy has succeeded the Young People Strategy 2015-2018.</p> <p>The range of issues set out in these recommendations are reflected as key areas within these key strategy documents.</p>
---	---	-----------------------	----------------------	--	---

				<p>been considered as part of the Supported Housing Review recently completed and we are planning to recommission the youth homelessness pathway. We also recognise the growing challenge relating to housing for young residents and continue to work closely with Homes for Haringey to ensure homelessness prevention is maximised.</p> <p>Child poverty remains a significant concern in Haringey, despite the improvement in the relative deprivation of the borough compared to the London and national picture. Child poverty and improving life chances requires a multi-dimensional response from the council, which is reflected in our commitment to outstanding schools, our work on post-16</p>	<p>ACTION CLOSED</p>
--	--	--	--	--	-----------------------------

				education and reducing NEETs, benefits maximisation and managing the impact of welfare reform, and supporting parents into work by rolling-out the local Early Years offer.	
--	--	--	--	---	--