

Agenda item:

[No.]

CABINET

On 21 July 2009

Report Title.

Matters Referred By The Overview And Scrutiny Committee on 20 April - Scrutiny Review of School Exclusions – part 2

Report of: Peter Lewis – Director Children and Young People's Service

Signed :



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Wards(s) affected: All

Report for: Non-Key Decision

1. Purpose of the report (That is, the decision required)

1.1 This is to update Cabinet on the decisions and recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny on 20th April in the report presented on the Review of School Exclusions (part 2) and seek their approval.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)

2.1 Overview and Scrutiny have produced a helpful report which CYPS has considered carefully. I am happy to agree all the recommendations.

3. State link(s) with Council Plan Priorities and actions and /or other Strategies:

- 3.1. The Children and Young People's Plan – raising attainment, promoting inclusion and reducing the number of young people not in education, employment and training (NEET);
- 3.2. Crime reduction and improving community cohesion;
- 3.3. Reducing child poverty;
- 3.4. Keys to Wellbeing Strategy
- 3.5. Child safeguarding

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 CYPs accepts all the recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny and these are detailed in the Action plan attached.

5. Reason for recommendation(s)

- 5.1. Overview and Scrutiny made their recommendations following consultation with young people and their families, schools and local authority services and officers.

6. Other options considered

- 6.1. None

7. Summary

- 7.1. The secondary Pupil Support Centre received 'Good' in both the Ofsted inspection of its own provision and in the more recent review into day-6 provision.
- 7.2. The secondary Pupil Support Centre is part of the Building Schools for the Future programme and work is due to start on the Commerce Road site at the end of this summer term. The provision will temporarily relocate to the second site at Coppett's Wood after the Y11 GCSE examinations, with a planned return to Commerce Road early in 2010, at which point the whole provision will be located on a single site.
- 7.3. The Keys to Wellbeing Strategy currently in the first phase of implementation, is intended, through the BSF programme at secondary and through the DCSF Back on Track funding at Primary, to enable schools to retain more young people in mainstream as a result of earlier intervention and targeted support nearer to home. This will reduce the number of places needed in the secondary centre.
- 7.4. Haringey was one of only 12 local authorities to receive Back on Track funding from the DCSF to enable it to develop and share its good practice with other schools nationally.

7.5. Haringey continues to have reducing numbers of permanent and fixed term exclusions.

8. Chief Financial Officer Comments

8.1. Given that:

- investment through BSF will enable the YPC to be situated on a single site; and,
 - the actions taken have and are expected to continue to deliver reductions in the number of pupils excluded;
- a revenue saving should become available.

8.2. The YPC is funded as a Pupil Referral Unit through the centrally retained element of the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) and any savings generated will be available to redistribute within the DSB in consultation with the Schools Forum.

9. Head of Legal Services Comments

9.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on the content of this report and has no specific comment to make.

10. Head of Procurement Comments –[Required for Procurement Committee]

10.1. None

11. Equalities & Community Cohesion Comments

11.1. The recommendations are intrinsic to promoting equality of access and attainment and community cohesion

12. Consultation

12.1. Young people and their families and schools were consulted as part of both part 1 and part 2 of the Scrutiny review(s)

13. Service Financial Comments

13.1. There are no additional financial implications arising from the recommendations of Overview and Scrutiny. These will be supported through the budget of the Secondary PSC and the DCSF Back on Track Grant for the Keys to Wellbeing Strategy, which has already been secured.

14. Use of appendices /Tables and photographs

14.1. The required action plan and progress report is appended as Annex 1.

14.2. The full version of the Overview and Scrutiny report can be found on the Haringey web site.

15. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

15.1. DCSF Guidance on Attendance & Exclusions – September 2008

15.2. DCSF Back on Track – updated to the reports of Sir Alan Steer on exclusions and provision – March 2009

15.3. Haringey keys to Wellbeing Strategy – November 2008

Overview and Scrutiny Review of Exclusions (part 2)
Action Plan and Progress Report

Scrutiny recommendation	Response	Ownership
1. That the Children and Young People's service be commended on the quality of provision currently provided at the secondary Pupil Support Centre and in being recognised nationally as a 'leading edge' authority of such provision and being fully compliant with the provisions set out in the Government White Paper 'Back on Track'.	CYPS will ensure that it maintains its reputation for making good provision for pupils excluded from school, for preventing exclusions and for remaining fully compliant with national requirements. Key to this will be ensuring that the new Ofsted inspection requirements relating to attendance are complied with. The new regulations state that a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU – shortly to be renamed Short Stay School) cannot be judged 'Good' if absence levels are high as they will now be judged on the attainment for all registered pupils and not just those who attend. Attendance levels at Haringey's secondary PRU have risen over the last 4 years from an average 47% to an average just over 70%. There is a robust plan for improving this further in their school development plan. Haringey schools have a high level of commitment to retaining young people within mainstream through a range of strategies, including inter-agency / multi-agency working and close collaboration with each other. There has been a reduction in the number of permanent exclusions in secondary schools year on year. The development of multi-agency working is bringing together a range of partners to develop earlier and more timely intervention, including the working with health partners, and in particular CAMH services, particularly through the Keys to Wellbeing Strategy (Nov 2008).	CYPS core team
2. That the Director of Children and Young People's	The secondary PSC has a School Improvement Partner, as for other secondary schools, who provides robust challenge to the setting.	Janette Karklins – Deputy Director

Scrutiny recommendation	Response	Ownership
Service considers ways to ensure that quality assurance can be embedded and made stronger.	Since September 2007, the PSC has a Management Committee compliant with the new regulations for PRU Management Committees. The membership and structure has been approved by the DCSF. The role of this multi-agency committee needs strengthening and the committee has undertaken a self review of their needs to develop an action plan for their work. This needs further development, especially as the secondary PSC undergoes the BSF developments. In line with DCSF requirements, from September 2009 the attendance and attainment data for pupils at PRUs will be included in the attendance and attainment data for Haringey schools.	CYPS
3. That the Director of Children and Young People's Service ensures that further work is carried out with partners especially the police and the PCT on the well being agenda. and 4. That the Director of Children and Young People's Service considers how the good practice that has been developed can be further promoted with Haringey seeking Beacon status.	Haringey's Keys to Wellbeing strategy clearly sets out this commitment and it was in recognition of this that the authority was awarded capital and revenue funding through the 'Back on Track' grant. This has already been used to develop the multi-partner implementation plan and training plan and a needs and skills audit has just been completed (end May 2009) by schools, children's centres, local authority teams, YOS, CAMHS and other partners, which will result in a detailed, accredited professional development programme for all partners in meeting the needs of children, young people and their families with social and emotional and mental well-being needs. It will also result in a training directory of providers, utilising partners with advanced skills as well as training packages and units available from the DCSF and external providers. We have secured additional support and involvement of the National Strategies Behaviour and Attendance team and the Regional Advisor is a member of the Training & Development sub-group.	Peter Lewis – Director CYPS

Scrutiny recommendation	Response	Ownership
	There is already joint working between the police and the LA on a special European programme developed by them to address antisocial behaviour, and this resource will also contribute to these developments. The Keys to Wellbeing Strategy (K2W) also links to the audit of children and young people's mental health needs and the Director of CYPS chairs the K2W strategy group which consists of directors / senior officers from partner agencies.	
5. That the Director of Children and Young People's Service considers ways of ensuring that the secondary Pupil Support Centre had a good and positive image.	Haringey has already demonstrated its commitment to this by including the secondary PSC in the Building Schools for the Future programme. Part of this development has included consultation with and information for the local community as well as schools. The new building (planned to be opened early in 2010) includes space for multi-agency working with families and community use. The secondary PSC is already highly regarded by schools and Haringey is one of very few local authorities where the head of the provision is a member of the headteacher forum. The Children and Young People's Service would support this recommendation	Janette Karklins – Deputy Director CYPS
6. That Overview and Scrutiny Committee gives consideration to a further review on the quality of provision in 2 to 3 years time after the opening of the new young people's centre in 2010.		Overview and Scrutiny