



# haringey strategic partnership

for children & young people

## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

### **MEETING**

**Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board  
11 September 2006**

### **TITLE**

**Young Persons Substance Misuse Commissioning Review**

### **SUMMARY**

The young persons substance misuse commissioning review was conducted over a number of months by the Haringey Drug Alcohol Action Team (DAAT). The purpose of the review was to align the young persons substance misuse agenda in Haringey with the KPI's and targets set by Government Office for London (GOL). The services for young people which are commissioned by the DAAT are done so through the Young Persons Substance Misuse Grant (YPSMG). This is 'banked' by the council but is provided and monitored by GOL.

This commissioning review outlines the need for change for the Haringey young persons substance misuse agenda. The findings of the report build on an earlier mapping exercise into young people's substance misuse services in Haringey, commissioned by the DAAT and carried out by the Centre for Public Innovation in 2004. With the need to bring the young persons drugs agenda in line with Every Child Matters: Young People and Drugs, the DAAT needed to examine whether the limited resources available via the YPSMG were being targeted to those most vulnerable to developing substance misuse problems. In addition there was the need to develop a coherent commissioning strategy which will facilitate clear care pathways, across the tiers for young people in the borough.

Every Child Matters: Young People and Drugs has three main objectives:

- Reforming delivery and strengthening accountability
- Ensuring provision is built around the needs of vulnerable children and young people
- Building service and workforce capacity

There are specific national and local targets which are set out in every Child Matters and monitored by GOL. The main Public Sector Agreement (PSA) is to: Reduce the use of Class A drugs and the frequent use of any illicit drug among all young people under the age of 25, especially the most vulnerable. The KPIs related to this and which are monitored by GOL are:

- Number of young people in treatment
- The achievement of National Healthy Schools Standard by 2009
- To ensure all young offenders screened for substance misuse, receive appropriate assessment and intervention if appropriate
- All LAC will be screened for substance misuse by October 2006
- It is also expected that truants/excludees will be screened for substance misuse and if identified referred on for assessment and intervention if substance misuse is identified

Research and consultation exercises were carried out for the review. This included the guidance, legislation and best practice contained in the literature, local data profiling groups of young people vulnerable to developing substance misuse problems and through a series of 15 focus groups, the views of young people, parents/carers and professionals. The conclusions and recommendations in the report are based on these findings.

**The main conclusions and recommendations of the review are**

- To commission a multi agency service at tier 2/3 level;
- To commission five posts at tier 2 level to work as a virtual team
- To commission one adviser to work with schools and vulnerable groups at tier 1/2 level
- To commission Positive Futures to provide a project
- To have the following groups supporting the delivery of the young peoples and drugs agenda: young person’s substance misuse commissioning group, young persons substance misuse task group, practitioners forum (new) and young persons forum (new)

These have been agreed by the DAAT.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The CYPSP is asked to note

- the findings and recommendations of the review
- how the review supports Changing Lives, and in particular its potential contribution to priority eight in the Stay Safe outcome and the specific commitment to reduce alcohol and drug misuse amongst young people.

**LEAD OFFICER(S)**

Jean Croot, Head of Community Safety