

Report for:	Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel 14 March 2013	Item Number:	
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Title:	Youth Offer
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Ward(s) affected: All	Report: for information
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

At the December meeting the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel asked for further information on developments in the Youth Service including:

- the current strategy and achievements;
- details of work;
- how young people are consulted and involved in decision making;
- planning undertaken for proposed changes in the age range served;
- activity to prevent youth offending

2. Background information

2.1 The Strategy for Young People 2011-14 sets out the intended outcomes and priorities for youth in Haringey. It was developed with the support of the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, the Cabinet Member for Community Safety and the Cabinet Advisor for Youth. It involved the preparation of a comprehensive needs assessment, mapping of services provided by council, health, voluntary and independent agencies and extensive consultation. The strategy has a section summarising the views of young people about the youth offer. The intention of the strategy is for all youth providers to contribute to the youth offer. A copy of the Strategy is attached at [appendix 1](#).

2.2 The Strategy identified the following outcomes:

- promoting positive aspirations for young people
- ensuring the safety of young people
- reducing risky behaviour
- promoting positive participation by young people
- promoting accessible and appropriate youth services across the borough.

A summary of these and related activity linked to the priorities can be seen in [appendix 2](#).

- 2.3 In order to achieve better targeting of the Strategy's five outcomes, the following three key strands were identified to support and provide a focus for the Strategy:
- reducing the numbers of young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET);
 - reducing youth offending by indentifying young people at risk and diverting them away from crime and into activities which promote more positive aspirations.
 - extending the service to younger children
- 2.4 This work supports the Council's priority to intervene sooner rather than later and to target resources before needs become entrenched and long term. Youth Services are well placed to identify early signs of problems with young people, to divert them away from risky behaviour and encourage them into safer and more positive activities that support them in their aspirations for adult life. This also contributes to the work already set out in the Community Safety Strategy and Youth Justice Plans.
- 2.5 In June 2012 the Cabinet agreed an allocation of an additional £1.2 million to fund the three key strands over the next three years. Further details of commissioning intentions can be seen in Section 4 below.

3. Progress with the Strategy

- 3.1 In 2011 following the reduction in Government grants, the Youth Service moved to a more targeted model. This targeted work takes the form of one to one programmes providing personalised support, signposting into alternative activities and provision of some services directly, such as mentoring.
- 3.2 Between April 2012 and January 2013 there were 142 referrals for one to one support. The largest number of referrals came from social workers, the pupil referral unit (PRU) and other youth organisations. The Community and Participation Service has worked with a broad spread of young people across the borough with the highest numbers coming from Tottenham Green, Bruce Grove and Northumberland Park wards.
- 3.3 Young people are encouraged to self evaluate the impact of their engagement with the team across the following 12 dimensions at the start and end of their contact with the service:
- Living arrangements;

- Family and personal relationships;
 - Statutory education;
 - Neighbourhood;
 - Lifestyle;
 - Substance misuse;
 - Physical health;
 - Emotional and mental health;
 - Perception of self and others;
 - Thinking and behaviour;
 - Attitudes to offending; and
 - Motivation to change.
- 3.4 Analysis of these evaluations shows young people improve across these dimensions by at least 25% and 83.7% of young people report that their attitudes improved during their engagement with the service.
- 3.5 Young people have gained skills in activities such as media production (including an internet based radio), healthy eating, street dance, fashion and design, football and boxing through participation in the programmes.
- 3.6 Activities were offered over the summer 2012 period to enable young people to participate in the celebratory atmosphere of the Olympics. These were aimed at increasing the engagement of young people and diverting them from crime and anti-social behaviour over the holiday period.
- 3.7 Activities took place across the borough for young people aged 8-19 (or 24 with a learning difficulty or disability). The service worked with the police and other partners to design the summer programme to ensure activities were available, particularly to young people living in higher risk areas.
- 3.8 A proportion of activities were also targeted at specific groups such as younger children to deliver the priority of reducing the age range to 8. Haringey Play Association was commissioned to offer play activities in the following parks: Chestnuts, Tower Gardens, Bruce Castle and Lordship Lane Recreation Ground, identified because of the levels of need in the local areas.
- 3.9 Haringey Play Association and a number of other independent organisations were commissioned to deliver the activities. These included Mountview Theatre School, Haringey Shed, Chicken Shed and Black Arts Productions. Streets Ahead organised Wood Green Flash Mob for singing, UK Unsigned vocal performance arts and Tutored a Steel Pan Course. Film or video making was provided by Exposure and Footpath Films. Action for Kids worked with disabled young people supporting the Haringey Play Association providing play in parks for 8-11 year olds. DJ Academy conducted street based DJ workshops and the BG Radio Project was available. The Tottenham Football Foundation ran Panna soccer skills and Sanjuro Martial Arts provided martial arts training for disabled young people.

- 3.10 Over the 6 week programme 432 sessions were offered providing a total of 5,840 places. 94% of places were taken up with 1,434 children and young people participating (some children will have attended more than one activity). Open events held during the 6 weeks, included Play in Parks, Panna Football and the Ally Pally Funday.

How young people have been involved in decision making

- 3.11 Action has been undertaken to support and promote the participation of young people and get them involved in their local communities and with local activities. Over 150 young people have taken part in:
- the Youth Council,
 - the Children In Care Council,
 - the Young Commissioners programme,
 - the UK Youth Parliament, and
 - the formation of the Police Youth Independent Advisory Group.
- 3.12 Thirty young people have been trained in recruitment and selection and have been involved in a variety of appointments, including the Director of Children and Young People's Service. We are currently developing decision making at a local level through the implementation of Area Youth Forums.

4 Progress on commissioning

- 4.1 Children and young people have also been involved in our commissioning work.
- 4.2 In January 2012 we received £40,000 from the Children's Improvement Board to:
- deliver a programme of training for young people to equip them with the skills and experience to commission programmes of youth work activity; and
 - enhance our relationship with the voluntary sector, particularly on the issue of commissioning.
- 4.3 Young people were directly involved in the commissioning of 13 organisations. This provided them with opportunities to learn film making, undertake market research, acquire sporting qualifications and learn what is involved in organising a Carnival. Overall:
- 336 young people were engaged in projects, including 23 young people with special educational needs;
 - 2 young people were offered employment;
 - 117 young people gained accreditations;
 - Over 100 young people participated in voluntary activities including stewarding at the Olympics.
- 4.4 Haringey was the only local authority to receive additional funding in 2012/13 as a result of the success of our Young Commissioners programme.

- 4.5 See paragraph 3.9 for a list of the organisations that were commissioned to provide activities during the 2012 summer programme.
- 4.6 The intention is that the voluntary and community sector (VCS) should play a more active role in the delivery of the youth offer. A commissioning event for the VCS and independent sector was held in February 2013. Providers of services for young people were invited to this 'Market Place' so that the Council could set out its commissioning priorities. This event was advertised via HAVCO and attracted over 50 participants representing 35 organisations in Haringey.
- 4.7 A pilot consultation event is being held on 1 April at Chestnuts Primary School asking the 8–11 year old pupils about their attitudes and perceptions of the role of the Police, bullying and personal safety. The results of the consultation will be used to inform the future commissioning of appropriate services.

5 Planning for extension of the age range served

- 5.1 The 2012 summer programme included activities offered to young people from the age of 8 upwards. Haringey Play Association provided play in parks for children aged 8-11 (see 3.8 above). Activities were advertised widely, including through Youth Space and the Family Information Services via the Summer Fun booklet. Descriptions of activities included the age range catered for and many were available to younger children.
- 5.2 A specialist member of staff has been employed with primary school age experience who has started working with children aged 8+.
- 5.3 A training needs analysis has been undertaken with staff and this shows where investment is required in workforce development so that more members of staff can work with younger children. Six members of staff are enrolled on an Open University programme.
- 5.4 Potential service providers are being asked to evidence how they will work with younger children.
- 5.5 The service is beginning to receive referrals for younger children as schools, social workers and others identify that this is an appropriate early help offer.

6 Activity to prevent youth offending

- 6.1 The Youth Offending Service (YOS) has maintained its prevention team to work with those at risk of offending/acting in an anti-social manner. Referrals are taken from schools, the CAF Panel, Police and, through the Youth, Community and Participation Service screening process, referrals relating to offending behaviour are directed to the relevant service. Each young person is assessed and a plan of work drawn up and agreed with parents/carers. At the end of contact, referrals may be made elsewhere if on-going activities are required – generally to Youth, Community and Participation (YCP) provision.

- 6.2 The prevention team also contains the triage scheme, where young people arrested on low gravity offences are bailed for 6 weeks by the police and referred to the YOS prevention team. Each young person is assessed and an individual plan of work is drawn up. If the young person engages with the YOS, the bail is cancelled and s/he is diverted away from the criminal justice system. One of the benefits of triage is that a young person does not have a criminal conviction which can be a barrier in later life, particularly in relation to employment.

The following table indicates the numbers of young people who have been subject to triage since 2009 and the reoffending rates of those involved. The latest re-offending rate for 2011/12 is 14.7% which compares favourably with the overall YOS re-offending rate of 45.2%.

Triage Offending	
Triage clients Since July 2009	508
Triage clients 2012	108
Triage clients complied 2012	91
% compliance rate	84.3%
2009/10 triage re-offending rate	20.0%
2010/11 triage re-offending rate	12.8%
2011/12 triage re-offending rate	14.7%
2011/12 non-compliance offending rate	27.3%
2011 prevention/reprimand re-offending rate	20.0%
2011/12 YOS re-offending rate	45.2%

Offence	No	2012	2011
Drugs	32	30%	30%
Theft and Handling	27	25%	44%
Violence	21	19%	16%
Criminal Damage	9	8%	7%
Motoring	7	6%	1%
Other	3	3%	4%
Public Order	3	3%	9%
Fraud and Forgery	2	2%	1%
Non Domestic Burglary	2	2%	1%
Vehicle Theft	2	2%	3%

Through funding from DoH, all those subject to triage also receive a health and wellbeing assessment.

- 6.3 Staff within the Children and Young People's Service, the PRU and some YCP staff are trained in restorative approaches and use this within families

and groups. The YOS Referral Order panel volunteers are also trained in restorative approaches. Group work is undertaken in some schools, currently one primary school with three more planned this term in the borough and also at the Pupil Support Centre. Groups tend to be 6 weeks long and cover topics identified by the YOS workers and the school. Contact has been made with the local Probation Service to increase referrals of children of parents known to probation, as having a parent or older sibling who is an offender is a known risk factor for a child's later involvement in offending.

7 Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: The strategy for young people:

Appendix 2: Progress on outcomes & priorities

Appendix 3: Case studies

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Strategy for

YOUNG PEOPLE

in Haringey

2011-2014



www.haringey.gov.uk



PROGRESS ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STRATEGY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Vision:

We want young people in Haringey to be inspired to achieve their full potential and make a positive contribution to their community.

OUTCOME Promoting positive aspirations for young people	
	Achievements
Ensure the services have a positive impact on young people's lives	<p>We have developed a Providers Network which is meeting 6 weekly to consider delivery of priorities and commissioning arrangements.</p> <p>A volunteer framework has been developed in partnership with HAVCO. When the YCP have volunteering opportunities a volunteer job description is created, this is then advertised via HAVCO's Volunteering Centre. Identified applicants are forwarded to the named contact who conducts an interview with the shortlisted applicant. The selected applicant completes a Safeguarding Form, CRB check and any relevant training.</p> <p>As part of our commitment to ensuring all young people with disabilities receive appropriate support, s139a forms have been completed for all young people in special schools in order to support their transition to post-16 education and training.</p> <p>As part of the review of the performance framework we are developing a key indicator so that we can measure young people's satisfaction with their lives (a national indicator) and include how local services have contributed to this.</p>
Ensure that young people are supported to access relevant Education, Employment and Training opportunities	<p>Universal information related to Education, Employment or Training is routinely promoted through YouthSpace. Jobs created through the council's</p>

	<p>Haringey Jobs Fund scheme are also advertised on YouthSpace. Young people can self refer themselves from YouthSpace to the council's Jobs For Haringey programme to receive support to apply for these jobs.</p> <p>The strategy to implement the Raising of the Participation Age (RPA) is under development.</p> <p>School leaders, including school governors, have had information regarding the RPA requirements. All secondary schools and colleges will be visited before Easter to ensure effective working relations for pupil transfer to post 16.</p> <p>The Enterprise and Employment Centre has agreed that providers of youth services can staff the centre free of charge in the set up period.</p> <p>Practices, process and resources with regard to RPA and September Guarantee responsibilities are under review and a communication strategy is due to be in place by end of March.</p>
OUTCOME Ensuring the safety of young people	
<p>Ensure young people feel safe in all environments (e.g. at school and on the street)</p>	<p>A Police Youth Independent Advisory Group has been established. We supported the recruitment of young people to this group up until October 2012. Since November 2012 this group has been managed by the Safer London Foundation which facilitates regular monthly meetings with young people aged 14 – 18.</p> <p>The following Metropolitan Police promises are being delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each secondary school will have a dedicated police officer • All secondary schools will have a visible police presence between the hours of 3.00 – 4.30pm • Each primary school will have a named contact with the police

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree and deliver on one school council promise in each secondary school every term (focussing on safety and reassurance) <p>We are consulting with primary school children on the issues of personal safety, bullying and relationships with the Police.</p> <p>Haringey Youth Council (HYC) has decided that bullying is to be their campaign issue this year. HYC participated in a regional event hosted by Kidscape as part of anti-bullying week in November 2012. Since then HYC have collected young people's thoughts, opinions and experiences on bullying. They wish to develop an understanding of bullying in Haringey: where is it most prevalent, what are the main themes and how can they affect positive change i.e. stop bullying, promote victim support, challenge people's understanding on what is bullying etc.</p>
OUTCOME Reducing risky behaviour	
<p>Ensure that there are early identification systems in place so that at risk young people receive help and support before their situations escalate</p>	<p>We deliver targeted personalised programmes to young people who are referred through a variety of agencies. As part of the package of support for young people we signpost and actively encourage the young people to participate in at least one positive diversionary activity. Currently the highest number of referrals come from Social Care.</p>
OUTCOME Promoting positive participation by young people	
<p>Ensure that young people have a voice so that they can, if they want to, contribute to local, regional and national decision-making</p>	<p>Three area youth forums are being developed which will provide a link with local grass root projects and the Youth Council.</p> <p>At present HYC is the central focus of the emerging consultation framework. Several specialist participation groups feed in to this; Area Forums, HIT Team, Aspire, Young Commissioners, UKYP. We are developing structures that enable us to hear the voices of children aged 8-</p>

	<p>12, and children and young people with disabilities.</p> <p>The participation team facilitates young people's engagement in decision-making processes. This includes training young people to be involved in interviewing staff and supporting young people's engagement with MPs and Councillors. Young people are part of the Youth Strategy Planning Group, commissioning youth provision, and consulting with various Haringey departments i.e. the Education Commission, Haringey 54,000 programme, Health & Wellbeing consultation and Tottenham Regeneration.</p>
<p>OUTCOME Promoting accessible and appropriate youth services across the Borough</p>	
<p>Make it easier for young people, parents and carers to find out about services for young people in their local area</p>	<p>The facebook page has been refreshed and there is now a twitter account to keep young people informed on a regular basis. There was a marketing campaign for the Summer Fun programme which included posters at bus stops and information on the programme in libraries, call centres and leisure centres.</p> <p>There have been two features on the work of the Youth Council In Haringey People.</p>
<p>Working with the 3rd sector, shape youth provision across the borough and make sure that the 3rd sector is prepared for commissioning</p>	<p>Forty young people have been trained as young commissioners. Working with the Young Commissioners, we have nearly completed a Commissioning Tool Kit, which is a guide to involving young people at every stage of commissioning.</p> <p>We have had detailed discussions with HAVCO, in particular on the development of Together North London – a consortium of local 3rd sector providers with the intention of piloting a commissioned programme of positive activities for young people in the summer term and summer holidays.</p>

CASE STUDIES

1. Issue/s identified

A 17 year old young man, referred by Children and Families, is claiming asylum in Haringey having been tortured and abused in Pakistan and Afghanistan. At the point of our involvement he lived in an overcrowded flat, was depressed with suicidal thoughts and spoke no English

Interventions

Accompanied to counselling sessions
Assisting to enrol at college on ESOL class
Liaise with housing, benefits agency and Job Centre Plus
One to one meetings

Outcomes

The young person is saying that he no longer has suicidal thoughts. Having had support with housing and benefits he has his own room. He can communicate in English and is attending college. He has leave to remain in the UK until he is 18 and has applied for permanent leave to remain.

2. Issue/s identified

A 16 year old young woman was referred as she had been engaging in risky behaviour (running away from home, and approaching unknown men on the streets and asking to go back home with them) and self harming

Interventions

Weekly one to one meetings
Support re-integrating to Tuition Service
Liaison with mother
Liaison with other support services
Accompanied to college to gain college place

Outcomes

Achieving distinction in most subjects at college
Stopped running away from home
Is thinking of looking for part time work

3. Issues identified

A, a 17 year old young man suffering from serious depression and anger management issues resulting in physical violence towards his mother. Also A had made a suicide attempt by taking an overdose of pain killers. A did not mix with his peers and had no interest in activities outside of school apart from computer gaming.

Intervention details

Regular one to one support enabling worker to engage and build relationship and monitor well being

Referred to CAHMS and Family Support – contract drawn up between A and his mother to clarify issues and boundaries
Encouraged A to join a biking club to gain outside interests and make friends

Outcomes

No further self harm
Improved relationship with mother
Better engagement with peer group

4. Issues identified

H is a 16 year old young man referred because he is not engaging in education, he does not speak English, family relationships poor, particularly with his sister and is suffering from depression

Intervention details

One to one work to build relationship
Support H to enrol on ESOL course at college
Encouraged H to join Power League football on Friday evening
Brokered contact with Charity for Asylum Seekers

Outcomes

Received Citizenship for 5 years
Speaks English and attends college
Regular attendee at Power League
Much better relationship with sister

5. Issues identified

K is an 18 year old young woman who has been referred as she is homeless, not in education, employment or training and has mental health issues.

Intervention details

Referred to Young Adults Service
Support worker allocated through One Support Housing
Did not engage with CAMHS and did not feel comfortable
Engaged in further education
Engaged in the Youth Forum

Outcomes

In education
Engaging in positive activities
Housed and receiving income support

6. Issues identified

J, a 17 year old young woman was referred due to long term non attendance in school (from Yr 9), mother believed she was engaging in risky behaviour with peers, anger management issues, presenting anxieties about the future

Intervention details

One to one support to establish relationship

Encouraged J to think about importance of education – short and long term –
J expressed an interest in child care.
Provided help with college applications

Outcomes

Participated in work experience at local Primary school and subsequently
attended school more frequently
Has a College place

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