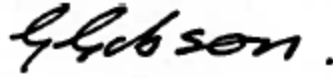


Report for: Cabinet, 12th July 2016

Item number:

Title: Youth Transition - Response to Review by Overview and Scrutiny



Report

Authorised by: Gill Gibson, Assistant Director of Assistant Director for Children's Services - Quality Assurance, Early Help, and Prevention

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Ward(s) affected: ALL

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: N/A

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 Under the agreed terms of reference, scrutiny panels can assist the Council and the Cabinet in its budgetary and policy framework through conducting in-depth analysis of local policy issues and can make recommendations for service development or improvement. The panels may:
- Review the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
 - Conduct research to assist in specific investigations. This may involve surveys, focus groups, public meetings and/or site visits;
 - Make reports and recommendations, on issues affecting the authority's area, to Full Council, its Committees or Sub-Committees, the Executive, or to other appropriate external bodies.
- 1.2 In this context, the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel conducted a review that focussed on young people who are considered at risk of becoming a "NEET" i.e. not in education, employment or training. Amongst the issues considered were the following:
- The choices available to a young person;
 - The influences on the decisions that they make in response to them; and
 - Interventions that may deliver the best outcomes.
- 1.3 The final report of the second part of this review is attached at Appendix 1. This outlines the conclusions and recommendations of the Panel, which were approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8 March 2016.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

This review of youth transitions provides a powerful set of evidence and a steer for how Haringey Council and its partners can enhance and develop the range of services they provide, or facilitate, for young people. The life chances of young people are greatly affected by the choices they make while at school and the influences around them. The recommendations of this scrutiny review help to set out a way of supporting young people to make effective choices and so improve their lives. I would like to thank the Scrutiny Panel and all those who participated in the review for their hard work.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 That the Cabinet approve the responses to the recommendations of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee as outlined in **Appendix 2** of the report.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The evidence supporting the Panels' recommendations is outlined in the main body of the report (**Appendix 1**).

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 The evidence supporting the Panels' recommendations is outlined in the main body of the report (**Appendix 1**). The Cabinet could choose not to accept the recommended response by officers to them, as outlined in Appendix 2. The potential implications of alternative courses of action are referred to within this, as appropriate.

6. Background information

- 6.1 The Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel has undertaken a piece of in-depth work regarding the challenges facing young people growing up and reaching adulthood in Haringey. It began this work in 2014-15 and reported its preliminary findings to the Panel meeting on 9 July 2015. It was of the view that, at this stage, it did not yet have sufficient evidence to reach final conclusions and recommendations. It therefore commissioned further work with the aim of enabling it to make final conclusions and recommendations. The report attached as Appendix 1 outlines the outcome of this further work and the findings, conclusions and recommendations that the Panel has made, which were approved by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8 March 2016.

7. Contribution to strategic outcomes

- 7.1 The work undertaken by the Panel will contribute to Priority 1 of the Corporate Plan – "Enable every child and young person to have the best start in life, with high quality education" and Priority 4 'Drive growth and employment from which everyone can benefit'.

8. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Finance and Procurement

The recommendations following from this report will have to be met from existing resources within the Youth service. This may involve the re-prioritisation of existing work programmes to ensure that they are affordable.

Most of the recommendations are low cost and the service is seeking joint funding where appropriate and sponsorship for the year 11/12 careers event.

Legal

Under Section 9F Local Government Act 2000 (“LGA”), Overview and Scrutiny Committee have the powers to make reports or recommendations to Cabinet on matters which affect the Council’s area or the inhabitant of its area. The Constitution provides that the Scrutiny Review Panels must refer their findings/recommendations in the form of a written report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval. Afterwards, final reports and recommendations will be presented to the next available Cabinet meeting together with an officer report where appropriate. The Overview and Scrutiny committee must by notice in writing require Cabinet to consider the report or recommendations.

Under Section 9FE of the LGA, there is a duty on Cabinet to respond to the report. That response must indicate what (if any) action Cabinet, proposes to take, within 2 months of receiving the report or recommendations.

Equality

The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Tackle discrimination and victimisation of persons that share the characteristics protected under S4 of the Act. These include the characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex (formerly gender) and sexual orientation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

The report highlights the need to ensure that there are opportunities for all young people within the borough as well as a number of areas where there are particular challenges in respect of this.

9. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1 – Report of Scrutiny Panel

Appendix 2 – Response by the Children’s Service to recommendations

Appendix 3 – Haringey Guarantee

10. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985