

CHILDREN'S SERVICES REVIEW COMMITTEE

9 April 2009

POLICY REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS UPDATE: MULTI- AGENCY APPROACHES TO YOUTH DISORDER (2008)

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Strategic Priority: Prosperous City, Healthy City, Learning City
**Corporate Improvement Priority: Delivering Customer Focused Services,
Efficient and Effective Council**

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 This report is presented to Children's Services Review Committee to update them on progress arising from the recommendations contained within the 2008 Policy Review on Multi-agency approaches to youth disorder.
- 1.2 This report also requests Children's Services Review Committee to agree accepts regular updates on policy review recommendations.

2. Background

- 2.1 In June 2002, the then Education Review Committee listed areas of the Local Education Authority that they felt could be improved through scrutiny and review. The outcome of this was the first in-depth policy review, which assessed a specific area of education within Sunderland, namely Achieving Educational Inclusion.
- 2.2 In subsequent years the Education Review Committee, later to be the Children's Services Review Committee carried out a yearly policy review:
 - Achieving Education Inclusion, 2003
 - Gender and Achievement, 2004
 - Out of School Hours Learning (Study Support), 2005
 - Schools – the new centres of community (2006)
 - Service for Children in Care (2007)
 - Multi-agency approach to youth disorder (2008)
- 2.3 Each policy review contained a number of recommendations for Children's Services to consider when designing and delivering their services.

- 2.4 In presenting this progress update to Committee, it was decided that the most recently completed policy review (Multi-agency approaches to youth disorder) would be presented for consideration.

3. Current position

- 3.1 In 2008, the focus of the policy review was Multi-agency approach to youth disorder, where Children's Services Review Committee gave consideration to the provision for young people that diverted them from anti-social behaviour.

- 3.2 The review focused on:

- The co-ordination of different agencies and the collaboration and co-ordination of effort and resources.
- The targeting of provision for the minority of teenagers who become disengaged or excluded from mainstream provision, sometimes dropping out completely.

- 3.3 Following completion of the review, Children's Services Review Committee offered 15 recommendations for consideration by Children's Services.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 Children's Services Review Committee are asked to note that of the 15 recommendations set out in the policy review, 11 of these have been implemented, three are being considered as part of the needs assessment currently being undertaken by the Youth Development Group in relation to its commissioning arrangements, and one incomplete, due to a lack of information being available. Full details of the progress being made is detailed at Appendix 1.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 Children's Services Review Committee are asked to note the progress being made on the recommendations from the Policy Review: Multi-agency approach to youth disorder).
- 5.2 Children's Services Review Committee are also asked to agree to further progress updates on their policy review recommendations.

6. Background Papers

- 6.1 Children's Services Review Committee, Multi-agency approaches to youth disorder, Final Report, May 2008

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES REVIEW COMMITTEE

POLICY REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND OUTCOMES: MULTI-AGENCY APPROACHES TO YOUTH DISORDER

YEAR: 2008

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
1.	A formal inter-agency working method producing a 'One Team' approach is needed with much more information about the services provided by each agency.	The One Team approach is being delivered through Locality based working arrangements delivering services to children and young people aged 0 – 19 across the city. Targeted Youth Support (TYS) is part of the new arrangements offering support to those young people with additional needs for targeted intervention. As part of this offer YYS will signpost children and young people to appropriate services.
2.	To help to meet the challenge of achieving shared resources the Council should develop a 'Shared Resources Protocol' that agencies can sign up to	Agencies are already signed up to the new locality based arrangements outlined above. Work is being undertaken to map all available accommodation across the city and to identify opportunities for collaborative use of resources. A number of co-location capital bids are being prepared and services continue to explore opportunities for sharing resources across the city.
3.	To ensure that what is measured makes a difference, there should be evaluation of neighbourhood interventions through the corporate performance management framework	The Youth Development Group has national targets in relation to contact, participation, recorded and accredited outcomes of young people which are universal targets. Targets measured relate to the Commissioning of Youth Work Contracts.

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
4.	The identification of children and young people with unmet need through the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is unclear and should be defined	<p>The Common Assessment Framework is now the universal assessment process across Children's Services and Children's Trust partners.. It is used to ensure access to the correct services.</p> <p>All Children's Trust partners have been offered CAF training.</p> <p>The Youth Offending service now delivers its prevention function through the Targeted Youth Support element of the locality based working arrangements.</p>
5.	New roles and relationships require Protocols to be developed, defining ways of working and interaction within a One team approach	Locality based working arrangements will deliver services from 0–19 and protocols are in place for accessing the service and for identifying a lead professional to drive forward plans for children, young people and their families. The Team Around the Child
6.	The Council's Area Committees have contributed funding towards youth work provision in the past and this should be pursued further, linked to Recommendation 9 and 13, with the possibility of providing an enhanced premium for extended project delivery at evenings and weekends	<p>Youth Development Group is currently undertaking a needs assessment in relation to its own Commissioning of Youth Work arrangements that come to an end in March 2010. The needs assessment process will be used to inform service delivery from April 2010. This information is currently being collated and will be analysed in order to present recommendations for consideration.</p> <p>In addition, there has been an expansion of evening and</p>

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
		weekend work, not least as a result of the very successful XL Youth Village model which have run in pilot areas of the city.
7.	The involvement of smaller registered social landlords and private landlords should be explored, with encouragement to sign up to a range of supported interventions for disorder issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One is run by HOT and works with 3 accredited private landlords to provide tenancies for people who have become homeless for either arrears and/or ASB. There are 15 households on scheme, largely families. As there is only one worker at present they are only able to provide housing related support on this scheme and cannot always work with households with very high or complex needs. An additional worker is being recruited and this will allow an extension of the numbers on scheme. • Family Intervention Project - run by DISC. They work with families who are either homeless or threatened with homelessness due to ASB. They work with maximum 5 cases per worker and work intensively with them to bring about change in the whole family. A large number of cases are in Gentoo properties but they work with other landlords also.
8.	The Review Committee will write to the appropriate Minister pressing for further action in relation to the availability of cheap alcohol	Government has issued Youth Alcohol Action Plan, Young people and Alcohol Guidance and are currently consulting on Children, Young People and Alcohol. All of these documents have been considered by the Working Group on Young People and Alcohol.

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
9.	Re-aligning funding to provide targeted services at weekends and evenings would provide value for money. This could include enhanced payments for workers	Youth Offending Service
		A successful bid under the Youth Crime Action Plan was made in 2008/09 to offer additional activities for young people on Friday and Saturday nights. In addition the Youth Offending Service made a successful bid to deliver Restorative Interventions on evenings and at weekends. Further bids will be made for 2009/10/11
		Youth Development Group
		<p>Youth Development Group is currently undertaking a needs assessment in relation to its own Commissioning of Youth Work arrangements that come to an end in March 2010. The needs assessment process will be used to inform service delivery from April 2010. Questions that are being asked during the consultation period relate to opening times and times that youth provision should be available which includes evenings and weekends. Data on current youth work provision is also being collected which will also relate to opening times.. Youth Work predominately takes place in the evening and there is weekend working at present. This information is currently being collated and will be analysed in order to present recommendations for consideration.</p> <p>The Go4It funding (formerly PAYP) has specific requirements for work on weekends.</p>

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
10.	The Council must retain a strategic overview of all youth provision in the city for a universal service, and projects outside of the contractual arrangements with the Council should be accounted for in the geographical distribution of services and audit of provision	Youth Development Group maintains records of youth projects associated with the Commissioning of Youth Work Strategy, which includes contracted voluntary sector youth projects and satellite youth projects, directly delivered youth projects, and projects that have been successful in receiving funding from the Youth Opportunity Fund/Youth Capital Fund.
11.	Any action plan to develop the outcomes of this review should include the site at Hylton Dene for exploration as an example of potential benefit from a multi-agency approach in an area of the city with demonstrably fewer opportunities for young people	<p>Please see reference to the Youth Development Group Needs Assessment process mentioned in No.6 and 9 above.</p> <p>A Youth Village (an extension of the XL Project) will be delivered in the North, funded through the Youth Capital Fund Plus and Youth Opportunity Fund. The site at Hylton Dene has been suggested as a potential venue for this provision at some time during the 2009 programme.</p>
12.	All agencies including schools, through the extended services team, should work together with an agreed framework to ensure that the best interests of young people are met and obstacles to this are removed	<p>100% of schools are delivering the Extended Services Full core offer. This includes a safe place to be for older children and childcare for children in primary schools, access to swift and easy referrals, a varied menu of activities and community provision.</p> <p>Extended Services Cluster Co-ordinators in 17 schools support the delivery of the extended services offer within their clusters. They support the Common Assessment Framework process to ensure young people receive the services that they need.</p>

Recommendations		Has this recommendation been implemented. If not, please provide a response.
13.	To address any inequity of youth provision across the city, the Council's Area Committees could review what is happening in their own area, consulting with local people and agencies about the delivery of youth activities	<p>Please see the reference to the Youth Development Group Needs Assessment process above.</p> <p>The delivery of Youth Work Strategy provides an agreed distribution of youth work resource across the city through the contracting/tendering arrangements.</p>
14.	The Schools Forum should sign up to an agreement for schools to be kept open until 9.00 pm. Youth workers should be part of the school staff, and the YDG should consider using efficiencies to fund this and have a monitoring role	Individual schools can decide to fund activities and run groups up until 9 pm. Although not standard practice in all schools, there are some good examples, for example, Hetton School, in partnership with ELCAP who hold the commissioning of Youth work contract for that area have 'commissioned' ELCAP to provide detached workers to work in and around the school grounds with young people and the outcomes have been very positive for all concerned.
15.	The Council should carry out an assessment of the impact of the work of the Community Wardens to demonstrate if extending the model is justified	Further work is needed on this recommendation.