



Overview and Scrutiny Committee 23rd March 2010

Report from the Director of Policy & Regeneration

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Transitions Services Task Group – Final Report

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out the findings and recommendations of the Transitions Services Task Group that are being presented to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee for approval.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is recommended to endorse the Transition Services Task Group recommendations for them to be passed to the council's Executive for approval.

3.0 Details

- 3.1 The final report of the Transitions Services Task Group is attached at appendix 1. The task group was established by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider the services in place for vulnerable young people in Brent aged 16 to 25. The term "vulnerable" can be applied to many different groups of people, but the task group's focus has been on the following groups:

- young people who are offenders or at risk of offending
- care leavers
- those in contact with secondary mental health services
- those who have a moderate learning difficulties
- teenage parents
- young people who are not in full time education, training or employment

- 3.2 The task group worked to the following terms of reference:

The task group agreed to:

- Establish what services are in place currently for young people moving from the responsibility of children's services to adult's services.
- Seek the views of service users about to move from children's to adult services – what support do they think they need, are they satisfied with arrangements that have been made for them.
- Consider how those who have already moved onto adult services regard the transition arrangements in place, and whether they were satisfied with the process when they were changing services.
- Look at best practice in this field that Brent can learn from.
- Consider the ambitions for services in Brent and the steps have been taken to realise those ambitions.
- Look at areas service providers feel that changes can be made to improve the services on offer.

3.3 The members of the task group were:

- Councillor Lesley Jones (chair)
- Councillor Will Motley
- Councillor Arthur Steel

3.4 The task group has developed 11 recommendations that it hopes can be endorsed by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The members of the task group are of the view that these recommendations can make a positive contribution to services for vulnerable young people in Brent. The recommendations address the following subject areas:

- The role of councillors as corporate parents to young people in care
- Eligibility criteria for social care and mental health services
- Early intervention and preventative services
- Housing services for young people leaving care
- The development of specific services for young people in transition
- Ideas for future overview and scrutiny task groups

3.5 To date the task group hasn't received any feedback on the recommendations from the service areas affected. Any feedback received before the 23rd March will be reported to councillors at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

7.1 None

Background Papers

Contact Officers

Andrew Davies
Policy and Performance Officer
Tel – 020 8937 1609
Email – andrew.davies@brent.gov.uk

Phil Newby
Director of Policy and Regeneration
Tel – 020 8937 1032
Email – phil.newby@brent.gov.uk