

Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 2011/2

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
12 th July 2011	Tribute and thanks to retiring head teachers	This has been placed on the agenda at the request of the Chair. Details of the head teachers retiring in Brent at the end of the school year will be provided for the committee.	Report noted. The chair will write to retiring head teachers to express her thanks for their hard work on behalf of the committee.
	Brent Youth Parliament Update	Standing item – BYP members will update the committee on their work and campaigns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distribute Mid Year Progress Report • Show Shisha DVD 	Update from the BYP noted.
	Provision of services for children with disabilities	The chair of the committee has asked that a regular item on the provision of services for children with disabilities be included on each agenda. This follows the decision to close the short break service at Crawford Avenue and restructure services for children with disabilities at Clement Close.	It was agreed that this issue would become a standing item for the committee. Rik Boxer was asked to provide information for the next meeting on the range of service provision that parents are using for respite services, as an alternative to Crawford Avenue and Clement Close.
	Impact of the budget on future service delivery (including schools budget)	The committee will receive a report on the impact that the CSR and local government settlement will have on children's services, including the Brent schools budget, which is listed separately in the council's forward plan.	Report noted
	The implications of the Government's policy on academies and Free Schools in Brent	The committee will consider a report looking at the impact of Free Schools and academies in Brent and the implications for the council and school pupils.	The committee agreed the report's recommendations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorse the council's collaborative and inclusive approach to working with local schools within a mixed economy of

			<p>provision to meet the needs of local children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the Local Government Association in its lobbying during the committee stage of the Education Bill with regard to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the central importance of local authorities in the strategic planning of school places and the regulation of fair admissions procedures. ○ the vital role of elected member as representative on schools governing bodies whatever their status. ○ the need for a fair funding allocation for all schools which does not disadvantage maintained schools in favour of academies and free schools. • note the work of the One Council SEN project to develop a strategic and affordable approach to the provision and commissioning of appropriate SEN places. • note the need to develop a more commercially viable approach to the future provision of school improvement services in the light of the provisions contained within the Education Bill which will significantly increase competition in this market.
	Youth Offending Task Group	The final report of the task group will be presented to members for approval.	The report was agreed and will be submitted to the Executive for approval in September 2011.
	School places update	Standing item, in the form of a verbal report on school places in the borough.	Report noted.
	Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work	For information and to give members an opportunity to suggest items for the work programme.	Report noted.

	Programme		
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Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
6 th October 2011	Brent Youth Parliament	The members of the Brent Youth Parliament will be invited to provide an update on their work since the committee last met, as well as to raise any issues of concern they would like the committee to consider.	Report noted
	Review of policy for the provision of early years full time places	The chair of the committee has asked for a report to come to the committee on the plan to reverse the policy agreed in February 2010 regarding the allocation of full time early years places. This is currently in the Forward Plan, with a decision due in October 2011. The chair of the committee would like to consider this issue before the decision is taken.	The committee has asked for a report to their next meeting, which should include the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcome of the consultation with schools on the process for offering full time nursery places to 3 and 4 year olds • The opinion of the Schools Forum on this issue • A projection on how the requirement for 2 year olds will be met, including the role for children's centres in meeting this requirement • Safeguards to ensure the most vulnerable children are able to take up the places for 3 to 4 year olds • Information on the number of disadvantaged children in Brent and the number of full time nursery places available for them
	Strategy to provide primary school places in Brent up to 2014/15	The chair of the committee has asked for this report to be presented to members. It was originally considered by the Executive	Report noted

		in August 2011, and sets out the challenges faced by the council in providing adequate numbers of primary school places in the borough up to 2014/15, due to increasing demand in Brent.	
	2011 Education Standards	Verbal update on 2011 education standards.	Report noted. The full results will be presented at a future meeting, once they have been verified.
	Provision of services for children with disabilities	<p>The chair of the committee has asked that a regular item on the provision of services for children with disabilities be included on each agenda. This follows the decision to close the short break service at Crawford Avenue and restructure services for children with disabilities at Clement Close.</p> <p>For the meeting in October, the committee has specifically asked for information on the range of service provision that parents are using for respite services, as an alternative to Crawford Avenue and Clement Close.</p>	Report noted.
	Items on the Forward Plan in relation to Children and Young People	The committee will receive a summary of the items on the Forward Plan that relate to services for children and young people. The committee should consider whether there are any items they wish to call to scrutiny.	Report noted

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
8 th December 2011	Brent Youth Parliament Update	BYP will give a verbal update on their work over the previous 2 to 3 months, since the committee last met.	
	Results of Safeguarding Inspection	The Council's Safeguarding and Looked After Children Teams have been inspected by Ofsted (October 2011). The results of the inspection, plus the council's response will be presented to the committee.	
	Adoption Services in Brent	The chair of the committee has asked officers to prepare a paper setting out how Brent is working to address the issues relating to adoption services highlighted in figures published by the DoE on the adoption of children in care.	
	Review of policy for the provision of early years full time places	<p>The committee has asked for another report on this issue, which should include the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The outcome of the consultation with schools on the process for offering full time nursery places to 3 and 4 year olds • The opinion of the Schools Forum on this issue • A projection on how the requirement for 2 year olds will be met, including the role for children's centres in meeting this requirement • Safeguards to ensure the most vulnerable children are able to take up the places for 3 to 4 year olds • Information on the number of disadvantaged children in Brent and the number of full time nursery places available for them 	

	School places update	Verbal report on the shortage of school places in the borough, a standing item on the committee's agenda.	
	Provision of services for children with learning and physical disabilities	The committee has asked that a standing item on the provision of services for children with learning and physical disabilities is included on each meeting agenda. The results of the Judicial Review hearing into the closure of Crawford Avenue will be reported to members.	
	Items from the Forward Plan and Work Programme	The committee will consider items from the Forward Plan relating to Children and Young People as well as the committee's work programme.	

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
2 nd February 2012	Children's Centre Nursery restructure and fees increase	This item is in the Forward Plan, with a decision due in December 2011. The chair of the committee would like members to consider this issue and comment on the restructure prior to the Executive taking the decision.	
	Youth Offending Team Inspection	The results of the inspection of the Youth Offending Team will be presented to the committee for scrutiny.	
	Underachievement in Brent Schools	It has been suggested that the Children and Young People Committee considers a report on the underachievement of pupils in Brent schools, particularly Somali pupils.	

		The focus of the report should be on the services that are in place to help underachieving groups, rather than looking at statistics on performance.	
	Youth service review update	As requested by the committee in October 2010, the committee will receive an update on the progress of the ongoing youth services review, being carried out by the Children's Trust Sub Group.	
	Domestic Violence – Children's Partnership Project	The committee will consider the Children's Partnership report on domestic violence in Brent, following up previous presentations to the committee on this issue.	
	All through schools	The committee was interested in considering the merits of all through schools and whether Brent should be pursuing this as a viable option in any school expansion strategy. A report on this issue will be presented to the committee for discussion.	
	Special Educational Needs	The committee will consider an update on the SEN One Council project and new developments relating to SEN services, both in place and planned.	
	PE and Sports in Brent Schools	A review has been carried out to look at the quality of PE and sport provided by Brent schools. The committee will consider the outcomes from this and how the recommendations from the review are being taken forward.	
	Implications of the Munro Review	The committee will receive a report setting out the implications of the Munro Review on child protection arrangements in Brent.	

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
29 th March 2012			

Items to be timetabled

Item	Issue for the committee to consider
Emerging legislation	To look at the impact of emerging legislation on work within the children and families department, following the formation of a new government.