

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	The committee will consider a report looking at the impact of Free Schools and academies in Brent and the implications for	The committee agreed the report's recommendations to:

	Schools in Brent	the council and school pupils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endorse the council's collaborative and inclusive approach to working with local schools within a mixed economy of provision to meet the needs of local children. • 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 Programme	For information and to give members an opportunity to suggest items for the work programme.	Report noted.

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6th 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.	<p>The committee has asked for a report to their next meeting, 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
	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 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.	Report noted
	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.	Report Noted
	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.	The committee has requested a further report back in 2012 with the Action Plan arising from the Inspection. The committee has also recommended the report is passed to the Executive, with the Action Plan, so that they take ownership of its implementation.
	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.	The committee noted the report on adoption services. They have asked for a further paper on ethnicity and adoption at a later date. This will be added to the committee's work programme, but is likely to be a report taken for information rather than scrutiny.
	Review of policy for the provision of early years full time places	The committee has asked for another report on this issue, 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 	The committee considered the report and still had concerns about two issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The admissions procedure and the lack of appeals process. Complaints to the council from unsuccessful applicants are a possibility. • That places won't reach those most in need, or those who need additional help before starting school to reduce underachievement. Brent's Somali community was given as an example of a group that should be informed about the

		<p>vulnerable children are able to take up the places for 3 to 4 year olds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on the number of disadvantaged children in Brent and the number of full time nursery places available for them 	<p>availability of early-years places.</p> <p>The committee agreed to recommend the report to the Executive, along with their specific concerns so that the Executive can consider a response to these issues.</p>
	School places update	Verbal report on the shortage of school places in the borough, a standing item on the committee's agenda.	Report noted.
	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.	Report noted – JR result was in the council's favour, but an appeal is possible. Further information to be provided at the February meeting.
	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.	The chair requested that an item on Special Educational Needs is included on the committee's next agenda.

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2 nd February 2012	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.	
	Youth Offending Team Inspection	The results of the inspection of the Youth Offending Team will be presented to the committee for scrutiny.	Report was noted
	Complex Families Review Update	The chair of the committee has asked for an update on the work that is taking place with	Report was noted. Future update on project to

		complex families in Brent. This will be in the form of a presentation due to short notice.	be presented in around 6 months time.
	Special Educational Needs – Additional Resourced Schools	The chair of the committee has asked that the report on Additional Resourced Schools prepared for the School's Forum is presented to the OSC for discussion.	Report was noted.
	School Places Update	The committee will be given an update on the school places situation in the borough.	Verbal update.
	Items from the Forward Plan and Work Programme	The committee will be presented with a list of items related to children and young people's services on the Forward Plan, to decide whether there are any they wish to scrutinise. The committee's work programme will also be included on the meeting agenda.	

Meeting Date	Item	Issue for committee to consider	Outcome
29 th March 2012	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.	
	Education standards in Brent schools – 2011 results.	The committee will receive a report on education standards in Brent schools for 2011. Included within this will be an analysis of areas of underperformance and the steps being taken to address these.	
	Inspection on Adoption Services in Brent	Committee will be presented with a report on what the changes and the likely impact of these changes.	

	<p>Safeguarding and LAC Action Plan</p> <p>School Places Update</p>	<p>The committee has asked to see the Safeguarding and LAC Ofsted Inspection Action Plan to scrutinise progress in its implementation.</p> <p>The committee will be given an update on the school places situation in the borough.</p>	
	Items from the Forward Plan and Work Programme	The committee will be presented with a list of items related to children and young people's services on the Forward Plan, to decide whether there are any they wish to scrutinise. The committee's work programme will also be included on the meeting agenda.	

Items to be timetabled

Item	Issue for the committee to consider	
Expansion of Brent Schools	The committee will consider a report on the plans to expand Brent schools following the allocation of £25m capital funding by Government to provide more school places. The report will include information on the pros and cons of all through schools	
Preventing Youth Offending Task Group follow up	The committee will follow up the recommendations from the preventing youth offending task group.	

Children's Centre Nursery restructure and fees increase	This item is in the Forward Plan, with a decision due in February 2012. The chair of the committee would like members to consider this issue and comment on the restructure prior to the Executive taking the decision.
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.
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.
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.
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.
Music Service	Observer at the February committee meeting requested that the music service and provision in the borough be looked into.
Complex Families Project	Update required around September 2012