

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

EXECUTIVE MEETING

14JUNE 2004

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION ARTS AND LIBRARIES

NAME OF WARD(S)

ALL

**REPORT TITLE: WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE WANT BEST VALUE REVIEW 2004 –
IMPLICATIONS FOR YOUTH SERVICE**

FP REF EAL-04/05-0035R

1.0 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs members about the result of the 'What Young People Want' Best Value Review in relation to Brent Youth Service.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That members note the recommendations set out in pages 20 to 34 of the Best Value Review Document (Appendix A) and agree the action plan set out in appendix one to that document.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The action plan has funding implications in order to implement the stated recommendations. Members should note that the Youth and Voluntary Sector Support Service will be requesting growth in the revenue budget for 2005/6 to cover the new post of Service Operational Manager identified in the recommendations. Funding for two other identified posts will be met from Youth Service revenue growth already agreed for 2004/5.

Additional costs for installing a comprehensive management information system, implementing a marketing strategy, and undertaking a needs analysis and mapping of voluntary and statutory youth provision will be met by re configuring the youth service core budget between 2004-6.

4.0 STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The recommendations of the Best Value Review identify the need to create three new posts of Operational Manager, Quality Assurance Manager and Youth Consultation Officer within Brent Youth Service.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications contained in this report.

6.0 DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Extensive consultation was carried out as part of the Best Value Review process. A number of stakeholders informed the review. These included young people, youth service staff, other professionals working with young people and voluntary organisations.

7.0 DETAIL

- 7.1 The purpose of the review was "To identify the necessary structures, systems and resources an to ensure that young people between the ages of 11 – 19 are effectively involved and supported to achieve their goals." A copy of the review report is attached at Appendix A.

- 7.2 A self-assessment using the OFSTED framework was submitted to the Best Value Review panel detailing the following areas: Access and Participation, Achievements & Standards, Quality of Education provided, and Leadership and Management.

The review focused on quality of education provided in order to determine:

- The effectiveness of youth work practice
- How well provision matched the needs and interests of young people,
- How resources are distributed to affect learning and development
- How effectively the service worked with partners

- 7.3 Key Areas covered by the recommendations:

Access and Participation

- 7.4 The Best Value recommendations state that the service should undertake a needs analysis and audit of existing facilities. In addition, senior management in the Youth Service should develop a strategic partnership with organisations delivering youth work and agree clear objectives for delivering services to young people that are in line with the Children's Bill.

Achievement and Standards

- 7.5 The review recommends that the service establish a strategic approach to the collection of performance management information and ensure that this informs the allocation of resources. In delivering services, systems of tracking the progress of young people should be established; and young people should be involved in the evaluation of the service.

Leadership and Management

- 7.6 The review recommends strengthening of the management team to ensure that staff with management functions are not also responsible for direct service delivery.

Action Plan

- 7.7 The service has begun to implement recommendations made by the Best Value review team.

It is envisaged that the action plan (Appendix 1 of the review report) will be delivered by March 2006 subject to allocation of the financial requirements identified in the plan.

8.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- a) OFSTED self assessment framework
- b) The Children Bill
- c) Youth Service Plan

Any person wishing to view the above please contact:
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Exe 14.6.04-04/05EAL0035/ERG/Lead Officer J. Christie