



Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Tuesday, 13 July 2010 at 7.30 pm
Committee Rooms 1 and 2, Brent Town Hall, Forty
Lane, Wembley, HA9 9HD

Membership:

Members

Councillors:

Gladbaum (Chair)
Matthews (Vice-Chair)
Aden
Harrison
Hector
Hunter
Oladapo
HM Patel

first alternates

Councillors:

S Choudhary
Clues
Mistry
Hirani
Daly
Sneddon
Long
Baker

Second alternates

Councillors:

A Choudry
Allie
Mitchell Murray
Hossain
Denselow
Ashraf
Mashari
HB Patel

Voting Co-optees

Mr C Akisanya
Dr Kumar
Mr R Lorenzato
Vacancy

Non-Voting Co-optees

Dr J Levison
Mrs S Tabi

Observers

Mr A Carter
Ms J Cooper
Mrs L Gouldbourne
Ms C Jolinon
Mr B Patel
Brent Youth Parliament
representatives

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The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

Item	Page
1 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests	
Members are invited to declare, at this stage of the meeting, any relevant financial or other interest in the items on this agenda.	
2 Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 6
3 Matters arising (if any)	
4 Deputations (if any)	
5 Children and Young People's Plan 2009/11 - progress report	7 - 26
Brent's second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) was published in May 2009. The CYPP (2009-11) is a strategic document setting out the vision and priorities of the local Children's Trust, Brent Children's Partnership (BCP), for the delivery of services to children and young people in Brent.	
Ward Affected: All Wards; Contact Officer: Krutika Pau, Children and Families, Strategy and Partnerships Tel: 020 8937 3126 krutika.pau@brent.gov.uk	
6 Brent Youth Parliament overview report	27 - 36
This report includes progress made by BYP with the 'Break the Stereotype, Fix the Impression' campaign aimed at challenging the negative stereotypes associated with young people.	
Ward Affected: All Wards; Contact Officer: Krutika Pau, Children and Families, Strategy and Partnerships Tel: 020 8937 3126 krutika.pau@brent.gov.uk	
7 Education Standards in Brent 2009	37 - 62
The report outlines key trends in education standards for 2009 achieved	

by schools in Brent at the end of each key stage.

Ward Affected: All Wards; **Contact Officer:** Rik Boxer, Children and Families, Achievement and Inclusion

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8 School places update

The committee will receive a verbal update on school places in the borough.

Ward Affected: All Wards; **Contact Officer:** Director of Children and Families

9 In-flow and out-flow of secondary aged pupils

The committee will receive a verbal update on the in-flow and out-flow of secondary aged pupils.

Ward Affected: All Wards; **Contact Officer:** Director of Children and Families

10 Work programme

63 - 66

This report sets out a long list of items for inclusion in the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme in 2010/11.

11 Date of next meeting

Discussions are taking place to revise the overview and scrutiny structure, with proposals to delete some of the existing committees and select committees and for others to be re-titled. The proposals are due to be put to the Council meeting on 13 September 2010. In the meantime the Council's meetings calendar shows the next meeting of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee is scheduled to be held on 20 October 2010.

12 Any other urgent business

Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Democratic Services Manager or his representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 64.



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LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday 25 March 2010 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Motley (Chair), and Councillors Arnold, Mistry, C J Patel and Hirani, together with Mr C Akisanya (voting co-optee) and Mr R Lorenzato (voting co-optee) and Dr J Levison (non-voting co-optee)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Dunwell, Ms J Cooper (observer), Mrs L Gouldbourne (observer) and Ms C Jolinon (observer)

Apologies were received from Councillors J Moher, Tancred and Wharton.

1. **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

None declared.

2. **Deputations**

None received.

3. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 February 2010 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Matters arising**

(i) *Item 5 – Early Years Single Funding Formula*

The Chair informed the Committee that it had not been possible to include information on early years places in the update on school places provided to the current meeting. This subject would be covered at a future meeting.

(ii) *Item 7 – Tackling homophobic bullying in schools*

The Chair reported good coverage in the local press of the Committee's work on tackling homophobic bullying. A campaign had been launched at Queens Park Community School, and similar groups were being established in other schools.

(iii) *Item 8 – School status and diversity in Brent*

The Committee agreed to discuss this matter under any other urgent business, in order to allow Councillors Moher and Wharton to participate.

(iv) *Item 12 – Other urgent business – former scout hut, Coniston Gardens*

The Committee agreed to discuss this matter under any other urgent business, in order to allow Councillors Moher and Wharton to participate.

(v) *Item 12 – Other urgent business – Schools Health & Safety Conference*

Ms Cooper (Teachers' Panel) reported that the schools health and safety conference had been a great success. A majority of Brent schools had attended, represented by a governor, headteacher and trade union safety representative. Ms Cooper thanked the Council for its support for the conference, which she believed would lead to improvements in schools.

5. Review of the impact of locality-based social care teams

Graham Genoni (Assistant Director, Social Care) presented the report and answered questions from members on progress made by the newly-established Locality Service in delivering the strategic priorities of the Children's Trust Board and national performance indicators. Graham Genoni reported that the delivery of social care services had been restructured in January 2009 with a view to delivering services directly to five localities. The intention was to make services more accessible to local families, with stronger links to other agencies. In the beginning the staffing situation had been weak. For example, only around 45% of staff were permanent. However, this had increased to 83%, and the teams were working well together. Dedicated services for looked after children had also moved to the localities. Early intervention teams would eventually move in with the social work teams. Turning to performance over the period, Graham Genoni pointed out that significant improvements had been made to the timeliness of assessments and work delivery. However, there had been a 19% increase in child protection referrals in the previous two years, and a large increase in applications to the courts. In December 2009 the number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan was higher than it had been for over 10 years.

Answering questions from members, Graham Genoni reported that the Kilburn and Willesden teams both worked from the same premises in Kilburn, while premises were sought in Willesden. The Harlesden team was based in central Wembley, but would be moving to Harlesden High Street. The Kingsbury team was also based in Wembley, but would eventually move to a building project attached to Kingsbury High School. The Wembley team was based in central Wembley and would eventually move to the new Civic Centre. All five teams would be in their localities by the end of 2010. The distribution of staff was not even, as it related to the differing levels of need in the localities. Robust management ratios were in place in order to manage effectively, as well as to support and train newly-qualified social workers. An event had been organised with staff at the end of 2009 to discuss and evaluate progress.

Graham Genoni agreed to write to the Committee with the outcome of an analysis of child protection re-referrals in the light of possible recording errors. He also agreed to produce a brief report on progress of the relevant performance indicators following a review.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the report be noted;
- (ii) that the Committee be informed of the outcome of an analysis of child protection re-referrals;
- (iii) that a brief report be prepared on the progress of the relevant performance indicators following a review.

6. **Long-term projections on school places in Brent**

Rajesh Sinha (Department of Children & Families) introduced the report and answered questions from members on issues relating to long-term projections relating to school places in Brent. Rajesh Sinha reported that, in addition to receiving GLA projections, Brent now organised its own, partly in response to the recommendation from Partnership for Schools relating to the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project. A shortfall of around 22 primary and 26 secondary forms of entry was currently forecast for September 2018, and this would be monitored annually. Changes in migration and house-building would affect the accuracy of the projections. A total of 901 sixth-form places would be provided, as well as an additional 180 SEN places in the next 10 years.

Asked about the prospect of a new secondary school, Rajesh Sinha reported that the Council needed to balance the need for land for primary schools and the longer-term need of the secondary sector. Answering a question on how this related to the BSF project, Mustafa Salih (Assistant Director, Finance & Performance) reported that the first phase of the project was the expansion of four schools, but that the second phase might contain the option of a new school, assuming BSF continued. The Committee noted the need for a new secondary school in the centre and south of the borough. In response to a question about surplus capacity in Year 7, Mustafa Salih reported that, while the long-term plan was for expansion, an option could be investigated of adjusting the funding formula to provide transitional protection for any schools with surplus places.

Responding to a question about all-through primary and secondary schools, Mustafa Salih reported that these were favoured by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. The advantages were believed to be the same ethos throughout and good preparation for transition. Brent did not have a set view on this, but would work with schools who favoured the model of all-through education. The ARK Academy and Alperton Community School were committed to this, and other schools were exploring the possibilities. The Committee agreed that all-through education was an issue worth discussing on a theoretical basis.

In response to a question on whether new buildings took account of the needs of hearing-impaired children, Mustafa Salih informed the Committee that the Council's SEN strategy would inform and be incorporated into the BSF programme.

Asked about the process of expanding schools, Mustafa Salih reported that the Council worked with schools to explore the possibilities of expansion, inviting schools to consider this and commissioning feasibility studies. Currently nine schools had undergone such studies, and the options were being explored. As part of the BSF programme 14-19 provision was being explored in conjunction with the further education college, with joint provision being explored between some schools and the college.

Asked about the factors under review to provide flexibility in the methodology over a long period of time, Rajesh Sinha reported that the GLA was working on a pan-London scenario with a view to analysing demand in the longer term and identifying saturation points.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the report be noted;
- (ii) that the possibility of a new secondary school in the centre or south of the borough be kept under consideration by this Committee.

7. School places in Brent

Mustafa Salih (Assistant Director, Finance & Performance) updated the Committee and tabled a brief report setting out the number of children out of school between October 2009 and March 2010, as well as the progress of applications for school places in 2010/11. Mustafa Salih pointed to significant pressure on school places, with 60 reception age children currently without places. Offers had been made to all 60, but had been declined, mainly because of the location of the schools offered. The situation remained constant over the period since October 2009, particularly in view of the fact that new pupils had arrived in the borough since then. The Council had resorted to extreme measures to find places. For example, it was now looking to children's centres to take reception age children, and at linking children's centres and schools. The prospects were that two or three extra classes would be needed for September 2010 in view of the number of applications being received. The admissions process for secondary schools was at the second stage, and currently only Cardinal Hinsley and Crest Boys' Academy had vacancies. Extra places were needed currently and for the future.

RESOLVED:

that the report be noted.

8. Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

Mustafa Salih (Assistant Director, Finance & Performance) updated the Committee and tabled a brief report on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme. He was pleased to report that, since the previous update, Brent had been officially launched onto the BSF programme. Discussions had then taken place on setting up a joint Local Education Partnership (LEP) with Barnet and Enfield, but this had not come to fruition, partly because of the differing stages reached by the three

authorities. While a joint LEP would have delivered a substantial saving in costs, the project would still go ahead, with Brent exploring possibilities with other authorities and, if necessary, taking the project forward as a single LEP.

RESOLVED:

that the report be noted.

9. **Four-year review of the work of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Stella Akintan (Policy and Performance Officer) introduced a review of the work of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee from 2006 to 2010 and invited comments and suggestions for future work. Stella Akintan pointed to the good work of the task groups, and she informed the Committee that its work on tackling homophobic bullying would be submitted for an award to the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

The Chair informed the Committee that he was keen to continue to hold at least one meeting a year at a community venue in order to involve the public more and encourage participation.

Discussing highlights of the work of the Committee, the Chair drew attention to the fact that Priyesh Patel, who had attended the previous meeting as a representative of Brent Youth Parliament (BYP), was the youngest person ever to attend a Council committee in an official capacity, and Mrs Gouldbourne (Teachers' Panel) praised the way the Council had involved the BYP in general. Mrs Gouldbourne also thanked Mustafa Salih (Assistant Director, Finance & Performance) for all the work he and his team were doing on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) project. Councillor Mistry thanked the officers who had worked on the task groups, pointing out that the Committee's report on safety outside the school gates had been received well at the Council's Executive.

The Chair thanked all the officers involved in the work of the Committee, and members agreed a particular vote of thanks to Stella Akintan.

On behalf of the co-opted members and observers, Dr Levison thanked the Chair for his calm, good-humoured and efficient chairing over the four-year period.

RESOLVED:

that the report and members' comments be noted.

10. **Date of next meeting**

It was noted that the date of the next meeting of the Committee would be confirmed by Council in May 2010.

11. Other urgent business

11.1 Other urgent business - school status and diversity in Brent


Mustafa Salih (Assistant Director, Finance and Resources) circulated a brief report setting out the implications for the Council of the Supreme Court ruling against the admissions policy of the Jewish Free School (JFS). While the Council did not set admissions policies for faith schools, it had ensured that the relevant schools had reworded their policies in accordance with the Supreme Court ruling. It would also monitor future admission policies and oversubscription criteria in order to ensure compliance with the judgement.

11.2 Other urgent business - former scout hut, Coniston Gardens

In response to concerns raised at the previous meeting about plans for the Council to sell the site of the former scout hut in Coniston Gardens, Fiona Alderman (Principal Lawyer, Social Services and Education) advised the Committee that it did not have a remit to consider specific decisions outside the call-in procedure. It would therefore not be appropriate to present a report on the sale of the particular site, although the Committee could scrutinise any relevant broader issue of policy.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

W. MOTLEY
Chair

	<p>Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 13 July 2010</p> <p>Report from the Director of Children and Families</p>
<p>For Information Wards Affected: ALL</p>	
<p>Review of Children and Young People's Plan (2009-2011)</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Brent's second Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) was published in May 2009. The CYPP (2009-11) is a strategic document setting out the vision and priorities of the local Children's Trust, Brent Children's Partnership (BCP), for the delivery of services to children and young people in Brent.
- 1.2 Progress of the CYPP to date has been monitored by BCP, using quarterly and annual performance reports comprising national and local indicators. An annual assessment of needs and continuous listening to service users and carers through various forum such as Brent Youth Parliament has also informed performance monitoring of the actions and indicators contained in the CYPP.
- 1.3 The review has focused on progress against the priorities based on:
- key developments that form the delivery mechanisms for the actions contained in the CYPP
 - the four strategic priorities set out in the CYPP
 - Inspection information including; Ofsted annual review (December 2009)
 - The unannounced inspection of the Local Authority Contact, Assessment and Referral Centres for children's social care (November 2009)
 - the IDEA safeguarding children peer review (May 2010)

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Members of the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee are requested to note the progress that has been made against the priorities and actions set out in the CYPP in the first year of a two year plan

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The 2009-10 review and refresh of Brent's CYPP 2009-11 is a succinct summary of progress against the priorities and actions, which is appended to this report.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no direct financial resource implications arising from the review of the CYPP.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The content and context of both the CYPP and the governance and accountability arrangements supporting Brent's Children's Trust (Brent Children's Partnership) are underpinned by the legislative requirements of the Children Act (2004), Education and Inspections Act (2006) and the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning (ASCL) Act 2009.
- 5.2 The ASCL Act (2009) amends the Children Act (2004) in relation to Children's Trust arrangements and regulations supporting the preparation of CYPPs. The responsibility for producing, monitoring and reviewing the CYPP transfers from the Local Authority to the Children's Trust Board from 1st April 2010. All Children's Trust Boards are required to publish a new CYPP before or on 1st April 2011 to fulfil the new statutory guidance relating to Children's Trust arrangements and the CYPP that are contained in the ASCL Act (2009).

6.0 Diversity Implications

- 6.1 The Brent CYPP is reflective of our diverse community and therefore ensures that the priorities encapsulate these diverse needs. The plan further seeks to redress issues of equality to ensure that the needs of vulnerable children and young people are equally considered.
- 6.2 An Equality Impact Assessment was completed as part of the original CYPP (page 58 and 59) this also applies to the review. There is no adverse impact on any specific groups of people as a result of the CYPP review.

7.0 Staffing / Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

- 7.1 There are no staffing or accommodation implications arising from the review of Brent's CYPP.

Background Papers

1. Brent's CYPP 2009-11
2. 2010 CYPP Review and Refresh - appended

Contact Officers

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Brent

Children & Young People's Plan Review and Refresh 2010

BRENT CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-2011



**Brent, a great
place to
grow up in**



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1. Introduction

This is the first review of our two year Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2009-2011. The CYPP provides the strategic commissioning framework by which the local Children's Trust, Brent Children's Partnership (BCP), ensures that services that work collectively and as individual agencies to improve outcomes for children and families in Brent.

This review provides an analysis of the progress that has been made against the four priorities, identified as critical to improving outcomes for Brent's children and young people, set out in the CYPP 2009-11. The legal requirement to undertake this annual review supports our view that it is good practice to undertake a self assessment. This will ensure that all partners and stakeholders are clear about what Brent Children's Partnership (BCP) has achieved in relation to the four priority areas and what areas require further focus and attention over the coming year.

The review process further affords Brent Children's Partnership an opportunity to consider the potential impact of changes in the political and/or economic context as they relate to children's services. In doing so, BCP have noted that year two of the Plan will be a period when agencies in the Partnership will have a reduced resource base, resulting from a reduction in grants or the need to achieve substantial efficiencies, both in year and in future years. In this context, BCP aim to preserve preventative services as far as possible. However, the reducing resource base, across agencies, will necessitate an annual re-prioritisation of resources to priorities.

2. Context

2.1 Legal

The legislative context of the CYPP has changed recently in light of the Apprenticeships, Skills Children and Learning Act (ASCL) 2009 and the new statutory guidance on Children's Trusts, which contains regulations on the development of the CYPP. The responsibility for the CYPP has transferred from the Local Authority to the Children's Trust (BCP). The CYPP has become a joint strategy in which the Children's Trust (BCP) partners set out how they will co-operate to improve the well-being of children and young people in the local area.

The scope of the new CYPP includes all services that affect children and young people's well-being. Once the Children's Trust has identified its main cross-cutting priorities, the Plan should focus on what the partners will do together to deliver them. Responsibility for implementing the CYPP remains with the individual partners, who are under a duty to have regard to the Plan. The Children's Trust Board is responsible for monitoring the extent to which the partners act in accordance with the Plan and to publish an annual report which sets this out.

2.2 Local

The profile of Brent children, young people and their families remains consistent with the demographic statistics set out in the CYPP 2009-2011. This is confirmed by specific needs assessments undertaken to support locality structures, the Parenting Strategy and to inform the child poverty needs assessment. The emerging issues arising from the assessment of the local children and young people's profile indicates:

- a continued increase in the number of young people in the borough
- the continuing decline in the number of children from an Indian heritage
- an increase in children from a mixed or black heritage in the borough
- a notable increase in Somali young people

Following events in Haringey there has been a significant increase in referrals to children's social care, a substantial number of which are from the police and relate to incidents of domestic violence.

BCP have considered and reviewed the four priorities of the CYPP (2009-11) in line with the new strategic framework governing service delivery and concluded that the four priorities, listed below, remain important for Brent's children, young people and their families. BCP further concluded that the aims, vision and values, set out in Brent's CYPP 2009-11, remain equally important. The four priorities are:

- 1. Children and young people remain safe and protected**
- 2. Excellent education is available for all children and young people**
- 3. Access to the very best opportunities in and out of school**
- 4. Developing strong families to improve outcomes for children**

Brent Youth Parliament (BYP) was consulted on this review and agreed with the majority of the key achievements and areas identified for further development that this self assessment process has identified. Educational achievement was identified as being important and BYP is of the view that in order to improve outcomes some parents need support to help them to read to be able to do homework with their own children. BYP specifically acknowledged the following key achievements on 2009/10:

- the option of doing Diplomas or apprenticeships,
- healthy food in schools
- teachers are present at bus stops to help young people feel safe going home from school

BYP added that they think a lot of activities are available in Brent but there could be more sports activities and that publicity about opportunities could be improved.

3. Key Developments

An overview of progress against service activities to address children and young people's needs at each level of need; universal, targeted and specialist is provided in the succeeding paragraphs.

3.1 *Integrated Structures*

Our approach to achieving our priorities has been through developing integrated structures, processes and delivery mechanisms. The aim has been to bring together local services and create a common approach to identifying vulnerable children and young people early, assessing their needs and providing integrated support to them. Services have been designed so that effective support can be given when there are emerging difficulties in the lives of children and families.

We have recently integrated our Early Years, Extended Services and Integrated Services Support Teams. Early Intervention Locality based teams have been set up and are co-located with the Social Care Locality teams. Each team has a specialist worker to provide targeted youth support for 8-19 year olds. These teams provide locality based and integrated services which are organised in a manner that allows early intervention. This ensures the most vulnerable receive the right services at the right time and in the right place. A new "step up / step down" protocol means that families who have received intensive support from the social care team but no longer meet the criteria for this service can move to the early intervention team and vice versa.

The Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) continues to be the key forum to co-ordinate local safeguarding activities. The LSCB drives improvements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children more effectively. There is a strong commitment to keep Brent's children safe from harm and ensure that safeguarding is truly everyone in Brent's business. The Board has representation at a strategic level from across the partner agencies and pursues its functions by:

- developing policies and procedures from a multi disciplinary perspective
- participating in the planning of services for children
- communicating and raising awareness of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- establishing procedures to ensure a co-ordinated response to unexpected child deaths
- collating and analysing information to ensure steps are taken to avoid preventable deaths
- monitoring the effectiveness of initiatives to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- undertaking Serious Case Reviews to ensure that partners learn the lessons that emerge

The recent review of LSCB activity has demonstrated the successful workflow between the sub groups. For example, a recent serious case review indicated gaps in pre-birth assessments across the LSCB. The monitoring and evaluation sub-group commissioned

a multi-agency audit of children made subjects of child protections plans when concerns were raised during pregnancy. The findings of the audit informed the work of a pre-birth protocol task group, established via the policies and procedures sub- group and the learning and development subgroup picked up the learning element of the audit findings and protocol.

The LSCB established a multi-agency task group to address the requirements of NI 71, children missing from home or care. The task group has established a multi-agency protocol and "Missing Children Risk Analysis and Needs (RAN) group has been set up review data, identify themes and inform appropriate service provision.

Over the past year the LSCB has ensured single and multi-agency learning and development activities have been available to promote competence and confidence in safeguarding. The Level 1 training material was reviewed and continues to be rolled out through multi-agency training programmes to both statutory and voluntary agencies. The London Working Together Procedures have also been implemented in Brent to ensure alignment with best practice.

The LSCB works closely with BCP to provide an assessment of local safeguarding arrangements recognize successes and challenging the Partnership about gaps in when safeguarding arrangements. The LSCB is required (from April 2011) to produce an annual report to the BCP

The LSCB business plan (2009-2011) objectives link to Priorities one and four of Brent's CYPP 2009-11 as well as the national safeguarding priorities. The LSCB further identifies priorities by reviewing management information, audit findings, learning from serious cases, both locally and nationally and from government policy initiatives. The progress of the objectives are monitored by the LSCB and form part of the annual progress report to the BCP.

The key priorities identified for the forth coming year (2010-2011) are:

1. working together with adult service providers to safeguard children
2. thresholds and capacity
3. young people who harm other young people/engaged in risky behavior
4. transition to adult services

3.2 Delivery Mechanisms

To ensure excellent education and training is available for all children and young people, there are now 19 designated Children's Centres in Brent which provide a range of seamless services and information for children under 5 and their parents. This has meant that more families have access to the core offer of integrated early education and childcare, support for parents, and child and family health services.

In January 2009 5: Locality based children's social care teams were established. These social work teams provide the full range of social work services to Brent's children and

families and have achieved considerable success across the full range of outcomes for children during 2009/2010. The teams have strengthened professional networks and meet regularly with a broad range of partners to develop locality based working arrangements. A significant strength of The Locality Service is that there are a high proportion of permanent Social Workers and managers and we are on target to be fully staffed in August 2010. The newly established Early Intervention Teams are co-located with the locality social work teams. The teams work closely to provide a seamless service for children with complex and additional needs and have developed a system for transfer between the teams as children's needs change.

Jobcentre Plus has worked with Brent partners to reduce child poverty by helping young people and parents into work or training utilising the Childcare Affordability Programme (CAP); the outreach programme of Jobcentre advisers working in the borough's Children's Centres; and the promotion of Jobcentre Plus programmes to enable people to return to work.

The School Improvement Service in Brent has continued to make a strong contribution to positive outcomes for children and young people in Brent, through monitoring the performance of all schools and providing support and challenge according to need. School Improvement Partners (SIPs) and other staff of the service have provided effective advice, support and training across a wide range of areas including Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS); teaching and learning across all phases; good practice in assessment; the achievement of specific groups of pupils; SEN; personal development, health and well-being; RE and citizenship; the use of ICT; behaviour and attendance; and school workforce development. Education standards continue to improve in the EYFS and at Key Stage 1. At Key Stage 2, standards are close to national averages, with gaps in performance between girls and boys and FSM and non-FSM pupils narrowing. Standards continue to rise at Key Stage 3, with performance in English and mathematics now in line with national averages. Standards at Key Stage 4 remain high and exceed national averages.

Brent officially joined the transformational Building Schools for the future (BSF) programme in March 2010. BSF aims to improve and broaden opportunities for learning and 16 new forms of entry for secondary schools are planned by 2018. Brent will use BSF to create more flexible learning spaces for individuals and groups of children and young people. It is proposed to have welcoming areas for parents and carers and to have options for onsite health and therapeutic facilities.

In Brent, the multi-agency 14-19 Partnership Strategic Steering Group which includes representation from the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS), has undertaken much work over the past year to progress the opportunities for 14-19 year olds in Brent. The Foundation Learning (FL) Development Group has been established and is led and managed by the partnership's lead provider for FL. From September 2010, pre and post-16 FL programmes will be delivered at: the College of North West London; CCP

(the local training provider); Brent special schools and two mainstream secondary schools.

To increase the number of apprenticeships available to young people, information and training sessions have been provided to schools and local employers and the Council has introduced its own scheme. The 14-19 Partnership set up development groups for each of the 17 diploma lines. From September 2010, eight Diploma lines will be delivered in Brent with a further three planned for delivery from September 2011.

To improve the lives of disabled children good progress has been made to implement the Aiming High transformation programme. To keep parents informed on progress we have established an Aiming High website and produce an Aiming High for Disabled Children newsletter once a term which reaches over 1,200 families. The range of short breaks for disabled children and families has increased and includes more play schemes during school holidays and opportunities to attend extended school services. A Short Breaks Support Worker has been appointed to help families apply for direct payments so that they can arrange their own tailor made short breaks, which many of our parents prefer.

One Voice - the Disabled Children's Parents Forum was launched by parents in March 2010 to ensure parents and carers have an opportunity to inform service planning and delivery and to share knowledge and experience. A Youth forum has been established to enable disabled children and young people to participate and influence the way in which services are planned and delivered. This was launched in June at a conference at the Wembley Plaza Hotel which was attended by over 50 young disabled people.

The Brent Parenting Strategy (2010 – 2011) sets out how we are achieving our priority to develop strong families to improve outcomes for children and what we need to do over the next year. The strategy promotes embedding a Think Family approach to ensure that the support provided by children's, adults and family services is coordinated and takes account of how individual problems affect the whole family.

The Brent Family Information Service provides information about a range of services offered to parents in the borough. Services are offered in Children's Centres by Family Support Workers and Parent Support Advisors in Schools (PSA). These include parenting support programmes as well as Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHS) services. The strategy sets out Brent's priorities for parenting support, in line with the CYPP, under each level of need: universal, targeted and specialist. The way these will be achieved is set out in a clear action plan supporting the strategy.

As part of the parenting strategy a Family Intervention Project (FIP) has been set up to work intensively with vulnerable families who have multiple issues including safeguarding and anti-social behaviour. This will further contribute to Priority 4 "Developing strong families to improve outcomes for children". The FIP will have 5 key workers in post by July 2010 and each one will work with between 4 and 6 families. An Adult Mental Health worker will also work within the FIP to support adults. One of the priorities in the

Parenting Strategy is to ensure that the Family Intervention Project is identifying the most appropriate families to work with through clear referral and assessment protocols and processes.

The Triage programme is a joint initiative with the police and the Council's Youth Offending Service and has been very successful in diverting young people away from crime. The approach is based on giving the young person and their family an opportunity to participate in an intensive support programme organised by the Youth Offending Service to divert them from receiving a criminal sentence. Its success in Brent is contributing to a significant decrease in the number of young people receiving their first sentence for a criminal offence.

4. Assessing Our Performance

Locally we have assessed our performance by evaluating impact using key performance indicators, reviewing the demographics of the population, listening to service users and carers, considering activities undertaken to improve outcomes and their impact and by considering the outcomes of the Ofsted annual review.

4.1 Annual assessment

In December 2009 Ofsted confirmed that Brent's Children's Services were "good and exceeds minimum requirements". The overall effectiveness of the majority of inspected services and settings in Brent were reported as being good and the proportion of secondary and sixth forms that are rated as good or outstanding is greater than in similar areas and the national average. Performance against the large majority of national indicators, including those for staying safe and enjoying and achieving, were reported to be at in line with similar areas and broadly in line with or better than the national averages and comparator boroughs. The performance from Children's Social Care improved from the previous year based on a consistent improvement in all key indicators.

The annual unannounced inspection of the Local Authority Contact, Assessment and Referral Centres for children's social care took place in November 2009. The visit centered on the Harlesden Locality Social Care team, which resulted in very positive feedback. The Ofsted letter following the inspection cited clear thresholds, good management and decision-making about risk of harm, and effective partnership working. Some areas for development were identified and progress has been made on all of these.

The Improvement and Development Agency for local government (IDEA) undertook safeguarding children Peer Review for Brent in May 2010. Feedback acknowledged a strong commitment to safeguarding in Brent, examples of really good practice and openness to external challenge. Strategic leadership and governance in terms of clarifying responsibility and accountability for safeguarding as well as improving performance management were areas identified for development.

4.2 Summary of performance against the Priorities

A summary of performance against each Priority is shown in the table below. For each Priority we have provided information on progress and areas identified for further development. Some measures are collated biannually and are not available for this review. Some performance measures are obtained from user satisfaction surveys as indicated in the National Indicator set.

Priority 1 Children and Young People Remain Safe and Protected

Key Achievements 2009/10

- 90% of schools have been judged good or better by Ofsted for their work in relation to promoting pupils' personal development, health and well-being.
- All but one primary school and 70% of secondary schools and Pupil Referral Units are making good use of the published SEAL curriculum (social and emotional aspects of learning).
- Schools are giving appropriate priority to sex and relationships education.
- Effective Anti-bullying work has led to fewer children reporting incidents of bullying in and out of school (Tellus 4 survey)
- There has been a reduction in the number of young people who have committed a crime and been convicted for the first time from 246 in 2008/09 to 201 in 2009/10 .This suggests that the work of the Youth Offending Service, and in particular the work of the Triage project which diverts young people from being sentenced, is effective.
- Brent won a government award in 2009 from Government Office for London (GOL) for targeted work with vulnerable young people to prevent radicalisation
- Locality based children's social care teams are in place . There are also locality based Early Intervention Teams which are co-located with the Social Care Teams. These teams support children and young people with additional needs and those requiring statutory interventions.
- An increased level of police patrols has made children feel safer going to and from school. However , some young people still feel unsafe on public transport .This is supported by the Tellus4 survey results
- A dedicated 16 and 17 year old housing team was set up in March to support young homeless people. To date, 43 young people asked for help and have been supported to stay at home with only 2 being placed in temporary accommodation.
- The Crisis Intervention and Support Team has worked with 92 children this year to prevent them from being " Looked After " which is an increase from last year's figure of 75
- There has been significant improvement in the timeliness of assessments in Children's Social Care. In 2008/9 75% of assessments were completed within the timescales. From 1 April 2009 to end January 2010 this has been increased to 88% against our target of 75%. This is against a national indicator of 78% and our statistical neighbours who average 79.4%.

Areas for further development in 2010 /11

- To continue to work with the Safer Schools Partnership to help children feel safe on public transport during their school journey.
- To continue to develop services for children and families experiencing domestic violence

Priority 1 Children and Young People Remain Safe and Protected

as this is the reason a large proportion of children and families are subject to a child protection plan. There has been a significant increase of referrals in this area from police

- To continue to support families at risk through the Family Intervention Project, targeted services at Children's Centres and by embedding the locality early intervention teams
- To continue to improve the stability of LAC placements through increasing the level of local foster carers, commissioning placements for young people that meet their needs and supporting current placements.
- To continue to respond to the increased levels of referrals to Social Care
- To continue to promote the Healthy Schools programme, and Personal, Social and Health Education in schools, in order to promote knowledge and understanding about healthy, safe and active lifestyles

Priority 2 Excellent education and training is available for all children and young people

Key Achievements in 2009/10

- There have been continued improvements in the quality of early years provision, as judged by Ofsted.
- Diplomas have been introduced.
- Excellent progress has been made to increase the number of 17 year olds participating in education and work based training. This has increased from 88.8% in 2006 to 93.3% in 2008, this is evidence that the work of the connexions personal advisors is effective
- There has been a reduction in the proportion of 16-18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET). This reduced from 8.5% in 2004 to 4.6% in January 2010
- Secondary attendance has remained above the national average; primary attendance has improved and the gap between the Brent and the national average has narrowed.
- The number of "Persistent Absence" schools, particularly primary schools, has been reduced. In Primary schools the rate was 2.3% in 2007/08 and reduced to 1.6% in 2008/09, in Secondary schools the rate was 4.7% in 2007/08 and reduced to 3.7% in 2008/09
- Permanent exclusions from both primary and secondary schools has continued to decrease. In 2008 there were 78 pupils excluded, this was reduced to 62 in 2009
- Behaviour continues to be judged "Good" or "Outstanding" in most Brent schools.
- Results for Key stage 2, 3, 4 and 5 have improved and are at least in line with national averages. The Key stage 4 results for Brent are above the national average.
- The work of the LAC education team has been extremely effective in supporting young people, 25% of LAC achieved at least 5 GCSE's grade A-C which is higher than both the local and national average and represents a year on year improvement.
- Brent has launched the Building Schools for the future (BSF) programme, which aims to transform local communities and increase secondary school provision by 2018. In November Partnership For Schools (PFS) allocated £80m to Phase 1 of our BSF programme within a total allocation of £300m for investment for the secondary estate as a whole.
- There are 19 designated Children's Centres and good progress has been made with Early Years Foundation Stage learning objectives.
- The vast majority of 17 year olds are in education, employment or training. There has been an increase from 88.9% in 2006/07 to 93.3% in 2007/08

Priority 2 Excellent education and training is available for all children and young people

Areas for further development in 2010 /11

- Maintain the improvements in outcomes for pupils at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage and at the end of Key Stage 1.
- To continue working with families and schools to ensure sufficient primary and secondary school places for Brent children and young people.
- Continue to ensure that there is access to the full entitlement of Foundation Learning, GCSE and A levels, Diplomas and Apprenticeships for 14 – 19 learners.
- To continue to increase the take up of Diplomas and apprenticeships amongst all young people including LAC and care leavers.
- To increase the number of care leavers in Brent employed or engaged in education or training
- Improve primary attendance to bring it closer to the national average.
- Reduce further exclusions and the over-representation of Black Caribbean pupils within these figures.
- Whilst Information Advice and Guidance (IAG) to young people is strong overall , self evaluation has identified that we need to make the delivery of IAG more timely, improve consistency across institutions and support parents/carers with their understanding of IAG

Priority 3 Access to the very best opportunities in and out of school

Key achievements in 2009/10

- The TellUs 4 survey illustrates that compared to national averages a higher proportion of young people in Brent feel there is a good choice of activities in the borough .
- About 90% of pupils participate in two or more hours of PE/sport in schools each week, and about 50% in at least 3 hours of high quality PE and out of hours school sport. These figures represent a continuing trend of improvement.
- We have delivered 2 of the 3 Play Builder projects which have improved and developed the range of play spaces across Brent
- There are various forums in Brent which allow young people to influence strategic decisions; these include Brent Youth Parliament and its constituent groups such as Care In Action. Specific consultation and engagement events that occurred include NHS 'Better Services for Local Children', Development of NHS Brent's CSP initiative for children and young people, the proposed merger of Hay lane and Grove Park schools and the LAC review of consultation forms with recommendations for improvement
- In 2009/10 15 young people took part in and completed the Vtalent volunteer programme.
- 32 Grant makers of the Youth Opportunity Fund were trained this year .
- Achievements have been celebrated through borough-wide events including: Brent Youth Oscars, Generation X- Factor. Looked after children's Achievement Awards
- The range of activities available to disabled children and young people in and out of schools have increased through extended school provision and short breaks. As a result, there has been an increase in the uptake of short breaks from 240 in 2008/09 to 260 over the past year. There has also been an increase in the uptake of Direct Payments from 40 to 60 over the past year so that families can pay for and organise their own short breaks
- We have provided an extended schools subsidy for Looked After Children

Priority 3 Access to the very best opportunities in and out of school

Areas for further development 2010/11

- Implement the new short breaks domiciliary care service for parents and carers of disabled children and young people.
- Further develop the participation forums for disabled children and young people and their parents and carers
- Complete the Youth services review and use it to examine the offer of activities available to young people

Priority 4 Developing strong families to improve outcomes for children

Key achievements in 2009/10

- Developments have been achieved in relation to universal, targeted and specialist parenting support. In 2009/10, 50 practitioners were trained to deliver parenting programmes. There are currently 35 schools which have Parent Support Advisors through Phase 1 and a further 22 schools participating in Phase 2. To provide a holistic response to families identified as at 'risk', the Family Intervention Project has been established
- More families are accessing support for themselves and their children aged 5 and under. Over the past year, the number of children and families visiting Children's Centres has increased, between January to March 2009 6,101 children and families visited Children's Centres with a frequency of 17,646 times. For the same period in 2010 9,966 visits took place with a frequency of 29,183.
- Grant funding has been allocated to developing more education and prevention services to be delivered in schools improving awareness about issues such as sexual health, substance misuse, healthy choices and the environment. Annual data for under 18 conception rates suggests a decline in teenage pregnancy rates. The reduction against the baseline in 2007 was 9.4% in 2008 it was 17.3%
- The Marlborough Targeted Mental Health Support in Schools Pilot has demonstrated good progress in the first year by assessing 50 children for support between January and March 2010. To embed an understanding of family groups and general mental health, Early Intervention Workers have delivered briefing sessions in five schools about mental health issues reaching 250 teachers.
- To empower parents and enable them to be involved in decision making about their children, there have been 151 Family Group Conferences held this year. This is an increase from last year when 121 conferences were held.
- Brent has a higher level of obesity than local or national average. Interventions such as healthy food in schools and " Mend " programmes seem to be effective as the rate of obesity in Year 6 has stabilised. In 2007/08 22.5.% of children in Year 6 were reported to be obese and in 2008/09 this figure increased slightly to 22.9%.The national average is 18.3%.

Areas for further development in 2010/11

- To expand and embed the Family Intervention Project to ensure it works intensively with vulnerable families who have multiple issues including safeguarding and anti-social behaviour.
- To further develop extended services for children in care and those who are economically disadvantaged.
- To mainstream the targeted mental health support in schools to offer more early

Priority 4 Developing strong families to improve outcomes for children

intervention and prevention services relating to mental health issues which impede pupils' educational attainment outcomes.

- To continue to develop the core offer from Children's Centres involving co-location of health staff
- To continue to reduce the level of childhood obesity

4.3 Progress on areas identified for further development in the CYPP 2009-11

In the original plan we identified a number of areas related to the five ECM outcomes that needed further improvements. An update on progress is shown in the table below.

Be Healthy

We said we need to:	Progress
Reduce the numbers of young people engaging in risk taking behaviours such as substance misuse and early sexual activity	"Tell us Survey 4 "indicates that Brent's young people are a lot less likely to get drunk, less likely to smoke and less likely to take drugs compared with the national average. There is a government set target to reduce under 18 conception rates by 50% against the 1998 baseline, by 2010. The data for under 18 conceptions is 14 months delayed, however, annual data suggests we have seen a decline in teenage pregnancy rates, although these haven't been to the level we had hoped. In 2007 there was a reduction of 9.4% against the 1998 baseline in 2008 there was a reduction of 17.3%. This figure is better than the national average of 13.3% and London average of 12 %.
Halt the rise of obesity among primary school children	The total number of obese children in Reception has increased from 22.3% to 24.1%.However, the data shows early signs that obesity in Year 6 pupils has stabilised. We need to continue to work to improve this area.
Improve the timeliness of health assessments for Looked After Children and young people	81% of health assessments for Looked After Children were completed within timescales in 2009/10 which is slightly higher than last year's figure of 81%.
Improve the capacity of ,and access to, emotional health and well-being services for children and young people, particularly those with additional needs	The Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEAL) programme is being implemented in all but one primary school and 70% of secondary schools. The Targeted Mental Health in Schools project is being piloted in 8 Brent schools

Stay Safe

We said we need to:	Progress
Improve the stability of placements for Looked After Children and young people	There has been very close monitoring of Looked After Children changing placements during the year and this has resulted in year on year reductions in the numbers of children who are changing placements more than 3 times during the year. This activity is closely linked with Social Care's Invest to Save initiative and this has resulted in overall improvements in performance in comparison to last year. Our performance of 14.6% has resulted in us meeting the target of under 16% which the DFE views as reasonable. It should be noted that our local target of 13% was not met.
Improve the efficiency of the core assessment process for children in need	Performance on completing core assessments is positive at 83% in 09/10 compared to 70% in 08/09. This is higher than our statistical neighbours average which is 82% and the national average which is 70%
Increase the numbers of children adopted within 12 months	13 children have been adopted over the past year compared to 14 last year
Improve the timeliness of reviews for children and young people who have a child protection plan	Over the past year ,100% of reviews of Child Protection Plans have taken place on time compared to 99.3% last year.
Improve our ability to identify children and young people experiencing domestic violence and provide services to support them	Training on a locality basis has been commissioned to increase domestic violence awareness and knowledge of risk assessments.

Enjoy and Achieve

We said we need to:	Progress
Improve educational attainment at the end of Early Years Foundation stage(EYFS) and at Key Stage 1	EYFS attainment has improved as well as the quality of provision. Attainment at Key stage 1 has improved but it is below national averages. We need to continue to improve in this area
Improve further the educational attainment of Black Caribbean and Black African boys	The percentage of Caribbean pupils achieving 5 or more A to C GCSE, has increased from 32% in 2005 to 59% in 2009 .The performance for Somali pupils has

We said we need to:	Progress
	also improved from 34% in 2005 to 52% in 2009.
Reduce the number of statements of Special Educational Need through improved targeted support.	Proposals for earlier availability of funding without the use of statements has been agreed and will be introduced from September 2010

Make a Positive Contribution

We said we need to:	Progress
Reduce the numbers of young people involved in re-offending.	There is an increase in the rate of re-offending from 21%% to 41.1%. However, successful interventions provided by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) has reduced the number of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System. Additionally, there has been a reduction in the use of custodial sentences which has resulted in a smaller YOS cohort which is now focused on those most at risk of reoffending.

Achieve Economic Well-being

We said we need to:	Progress
Expand the range of work-based learning opportunities and access to apprenticeships	There will be 8 different Diploma lines available to young people from September 2010

5. Summary / Conclusion

The governance, resources and performance management approach to the CYPP remains the same as set out in the CYPP (2009-2011). In line with new statutory guidance, these are being reviewed to ensure compliance and strengthened partnership arrangements going forward.

Following the Election in May 2010, a new coalition government has taken office and this is anticipated to have significant policy implications over time. Policy shifts and the reduced resource base will be a critical factor for consideration in shaping future plans and priorities.

The Children and Families Workforce Development Strategy is still working towards ensuring generic skill set across the children's workforce. This will mean that BCP's collective workforce delivers more seamless services to children and families. We are

committed to using the One Children's Workforce toolkit to embed good practice to ensure that the BCP workforce is delivering key outcomes.


Over the past year, work has been undertaken in Brent using the One Children's Framework Tool. Areas of work have been identified as important elements of the strategy. These include developing a shared identity and communicating the vision of the one children's workforce more effectively; further enhancing multi agency working practices as well as communicating more effectively a common set of practice standards. Information sharing is another area meriting attention; this can be improved further by a range of processes such learning networks and a single resource website for the children's workforce.

The Children's Services annual rating is 3. This is defined as performance is good and exceeds minimum requirements. Progress has been made the majority of areas identified under the five ECM outcomes as needing further development in the original plan. Progress has been made on achieving the four priorities set out in the CYPP. However not all the identified activities set out to support the CYPP have been completed as this review reflects progress after one year, recognising that this is a two year plan. Areas identified for further development include : helping young people feel safe on public transport , strengthening safeguarding services such as those for domestic violence , improving Key Stage 1 results, implementing Domiciliary Short Breaks and Early Support for children with disabilities as well as increasing the take up of Diplomas .

Ensuring the priorities of the plan are achieved will require the full development of the partnership integrated structures, processes and delivery mechanisms. BCP will work as a collective and individually to support these to develop over the next year. A number of services such as the Early Intervention locality teams and a specialist housing team have recently been developed and will need time to embed. The Parenting Strategy which relates to the Think Family approach across child and adult services has been developed and will be implemented over the next year. The Child Poverty Act 2010 places a new duty on local authorities and other delivery partners in England to work together to tackle child poverty. In Brent a child poverty needs analysis is being undertaken that will be used to inform a Child Poverty Strategy.

In line with recent legislation, set out in section two, a new CYPP will need to be in place by April 2011. This CYPP must adhere to the requirements and regulations set out in the Statutory Guidance for Children's Trusts (April 2010). The developments outlined above together with the new statutory regulations governing the development and preparation of CYPPs will be used to inform Brent's CYPP in 2011.

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	<p style="text-align: center;">Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 13 July 2010</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Report from the Director of Children and Families</p>
For Information	Wards Affected: ALL
<p style="text-align: center;">Overview of the work of Brent Youth Parliament (BYP)</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report gives members an overview of the work of Brent Youth Parliament (BYP).
- 1.2 This report includes progress made by BYP with the 'Break the Stereotype, Fix the Impression' campaign aimed at challenging the negative stereotypes associated with young people.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are requested to note the achievements made by the BYP in its third year.

3.0 Detail

Background

- 3.1 The BYP was established in 2007 with the aim of creating a robust youth participation structure that would encourage young people in Brent to have a voice and influence policy and decision making. The BYP provides ten to 19 year olds with a safe space to discuss issues that are important to them and have a say in decisions about services that have an impact on them.
- 3.2 Following a review of its work last year, it was agreed that the BYP would be extended to a two year term. It was felt that a one year term was not sufficient to improve outcomes and make changes that would benefit young people in the long term. BYP also increased its seat allocation from 63 to 72 seats, in line with guidance from the UK Youth Parliament (UKYP). This was to reflect the ratio of one BYP member per 1000 young people in the borough. Please refer to Appendix 1a for BYP structure/seat allocation, Appendix 1b for BYP representation and Appendix 2 for profile of BYP members.

Terms of Reference (TOR)

3.3 At the induction in November 2008, the elected Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) agreed the Terms of Reference for their term in office:

- A) To be the voice of young people in Brent**
- B) To have a say in decisions that are usually made by adults and to influence policy**
- C) To promote the work of BYP and celebrate the achievements of young people**
- D) To work with UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) and influence national policy**

These are outlined below along with progress made to date against each area:

A) To be the voice of young people in Brent

3.4 BYP ensures that it is the voice of young people in Brent by coming together at monthly parliament sessions to talk about issues that matter to young people and by attending meetings outside of the sessions to ensure that views of young people are always represented.

3.5 Attendance at the monthly parliament sessions has remained over 75% per session. The sessions are planned and facilitated by the BYP executive – chair, vice chair, secretary and UKYP representatives, to provide a space where young people can talk about issues that are important to them. The sessions also act as a consultative forum for policy makers.

Some of the items discussed at BYP parliament sessions so far have included:

- consultation on the establishment of the new youth website, BMyVoice
- debates on whether BYP should move to a two-year term
- the direct input of MYPs in the review of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP), ensuring that the views of young people are taken on board right from the beginning and that the issues raised have been addressed
- highlighting local issues that are of importance to young people in Brent and presenting these to local councillors and senior officers across different organisations
- presenting the BYP campaign summary survey report to the Brent Children Partnership and subsequently to the Council Executive for the approval of a 'media summit' in Brent
- progressing the BYP campaign, 'Break the Stereotype, Fix the Impression' to break the negative stereotypes of young people especially in the media by holding a 'media summit'
- creating a young, friendly comic version of the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)
- consultation on the NHS 'Better Services for Local Children' to gauge views on the potential changes and improvements being made locally to services

3.6 In addition to attending the monthly parliament sessions, BYP members have taken part in meetings outside of the sessions that require young people's input. They regularly attend the monthly Brent Youth Matters 2 forum to listen to the views of other young people.

Some of the work that MYPs have done outside of the parliament sessions includes:

- meeting regularly with the team of professionals responsible for the design of the Ark Academy in Wembley to ensure that the designs take into consideration the needs and desires of young people
- regularly consulted on the design of the state-of-the-art youth centre in Roundwood following the successful submission of the MyPLace Bid
- administering the BYP account on Facebook to communicate with non members
- BYP executive members attending fortnightly meetings to plan and set the agenda for monthly parliament sessions and provide strategic direction for the youth parliament
- planning and organising the 'media summit'
- attending and observing Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings to ensure that BYP members are actively involved in building better communication links with local councillors
- taking part in the consultation about the merger of Hay Lane and Grove Park school

Portfolios

- 3.7 To promote consistency and continuation, last term (November 2008 – October 2009) BYP selected five from the list of member portfolios that Councillors work to and identified one issue from each which they feel is a priority for young people in Brent.

Last term, letters from the chair of BYP were sent to the respective lead members and directors of departments requesting responses to the issues highlighted by BYP. Significant progress has been made following these letters, full details of which are listed in Appendix 3.

Campaign of the year 'Breaking the Stereotype, Fix the Impression'

- 3.8 MYPs voted for breaking the negative stereotypes of young people as their campaign for 2008-2010. The main focus of the campaign is to combat negative perceptions of young people in society by:
- publicising the good work that young people get involved in locally and nationally
 - planning and hosting the youth conference in November 2009 bringing together young people from across the borough, local and national decision makers and media representatives, to find ways of breaking down the negative stereotypes of young people and promoting positive images of young people.
 - conducting a nationwide survey between October and November 2009 with the aim of gathering data from all ages about how young people are perceived to gauge the way society as a whole views young people today:
 - the survey was done using a questionnaire in which respondents gave their views on a range of topics as they relate to young people; such as discipline and behaviour, respect and support from parents and cultural differences, as well as whether young people are aware of their rights and if they take their social responsibilities seriously.
 - in total 2,242 surveys were completed by members of the public, with 62% of respondents stating that they either live, work or study in Brent. The highest number of respondents were young people aged ten to 19 years old, who accounted for over 71% of the respondents.

- one of the survey's main findings showed that over 50 per cent of people thought the media did not show young people in a fair light. This has prompted BYP to plan and organise a media summit that will take place mid August with the council, police, youth organisations, local media and others, to tackle the issues surrounding the negative portrayal of young people in the press.

B) To have a say in decisions that are usually made by adults and to influence policy

3.9 BYP ensures that it has a say in decisions that are usually made by adults by having young people present at meetings attended by adults, by ensuring that policies for children and young people are brought to the attention of BYP for consultation and by getting involved in the recruitment of staff that work with young people.

Examples of this work include:

- BYP were invited to a focus group with the Civic Centre staff to ensure that views of young people were taken into consideration with the design as well as the usability aspect of the building
- Some professionally trained BYP members take part in interview panels to recruit staff working with young people (recent examples include; key workers for the Family Intervention Team in Social Care and Personal Advisors for Connexions).
- BYP members have attended meetings of the Brent Children's Partnership as well as Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting.
- Following the BYP's Annual report to Overview and Scrutiny in October 2009 it was recommended and has since been implemented that the chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee should have quarterly meetings with the BYP executive to discuss BYP as well as those that come to the attention of the Committee to ensure that young people are at the heart of discussions and decisions that are pertinent to services in Brent and also to strengthen youth participation.
- BYP were consulted on the borough's Sports and Physical strategy as well as on the development of a website for young people.
- One of the major pieces of work that BYP has influenced is the development of the Brent's Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) for 2009-2011. MYPs were asked at the beginning to identify key issues facing young people in Brent so these could form the basis of the plan and make it current, relevant and directly responsive to the needs of young people.

C) To promote the work of BYP and celebrate the achievements of young people

3.10 BYP ensures that it promotes the work of MYPs by regularly featuring in The Brent Magazine, updating the Brent Council's Youth website BMyVoice that has pages dedicated to BYP and articles on BYP have also featured regularly in the local press, radio and television. MYPs attend the monthly Brent Youth Matters 2 forum, with young people from across the borough, to give an update on BYP's work and to listen to any issues raised by other young people.

3.11 BYP members have regular communication with their constituents to update them on the work of BYP and feedback on any issues that may arise in the respective groups/areas they represent.

3.12 BYP members have progressed well with their campaign 'break the stereotype, fix the impression', which is aimed at tackling the negative stereotypes of young people that are often portrayed in the media. Last year BYP members produced stickers and a short film to publicise their campaign. They launched a survey that gathered views from across the age ranges about how young people are viewed in society today, and they planned and delivered their first youth conference to raise awareness of their campaign across a wide student audience who are non members, which also encouraged youth participation at a wider level.

3.13 In February 2009 last year BYP joined forces with Brent Youth Matters 2 and Brent Youth Volunteers to organise two celebration events:

Brent Youth Oscars: This was an Oscars-style event where the achievements of young people were recognised in 14 public award categories. The red carpet event was attended by 400 guests including the Mayor of Brent, the Leader of the Council, parents, carers, school staff and young people from across the borough.

Generation X- Factor: This event recognised Brent's musical talents across the generations. Trophies were handed out to the winner and the runner up. The event was also used to carry out a short survey gathering young people's views on service provision.

Both events attracted extensive positive publicity and were very well attended, with 700 guests across both events, including young people, parents and carers, council staff and local councillors. The events were made possible due to a successful bid to the Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), to pilot local celebration events that fostered positive perceptions of young people. BYP will be hosting a similar Oscars-style event in the early part of 2011.

D) To work with UK Youth Parliament (UKYP) and influence national policy

3.14 BYP currently has four seats on UKYP. Brent MYPs are active members of UKYP and attend regular meetings and events. Brent representatives have attended every annual sitting of the UKYP since BYP was established. The chair of BYP is currently a member of the national UKYP youth advisory board that was successful in winning the debate about UKYP having access to the House of Commons for their annual debate

The televised debate, which was a huge success, was the first time that any other body of people, young or old, would have sat on the green benches in the House of Commons, apart from MPs. Four MYPs from BYP were part of this historical event debating the five issues suggested and voted for by thousands of young people across the UK.

4.0 Monitoring the impact of BYP and supporting its members

4.1 Feedback is sought from MYPs at the end of each parliament session on the quality and content of the session. To date the overwhelming majority of the feedback has consistently been positive. The monthly evaluations are further supported by an in-depth end of year survey gathering BYP members' views about their satisfaction levels of the support provided to them by the council.

4.2 In order for young members to fulfil their duties as MYPs, robust structures are put in place to support them to develop their skills and knowledge. For example:

- all newly elected MYPs attend an all-day induction where they take part in team building activities, learn about the role of the youth parliament and decision-making in the council
- at every parliament session there is an ice breaker that helps MYPs develop skills e.g. taking part in a debate to improve public speaking skills
- MYPs are given opportunities to train as grant makers to support the distribution of Brent Council's Youth Opportunity Fund (YOF)
- MYPs are kept informed of local and national opportunities to further develop their skills.
- Each member has a Personal Development Plan (PDP) outlining the skills they wish to gain during their term time with BYP. The Strategic Youth Engagement Officer along with a member of the BYP executive monitors these plans and ensures opportunities are provided to BYP members to enhance their skills

5.0 Future plans

- 5.1 BYP is approaching the end of its two year term in office and the main focus for the remainder of the term is for a positive definitive outcome from the BYP campaign to actively break the negative stereotypes of young people in the media. The aim of the BYP media summit in August is to create a long term strategy that starts building positive relationships between young people and the media. This will begin the process of creating a positive attitude towards young people that will help create a better environment for everyone.
- 5.2 The BYP election process will start in shortly to recruit a new cohort of members for the next term. Elections for new BYP members will be held during local democracy week with publicity for prospective candidates and representative groups commencing in July 2010. New BYP members will formally commence their term in November 2010.
- 5.3 The Children and Families department will continue to support and build on BYP's achievements. The longer term objective is to further increase the proportion of children and young people in Brent given opportunities to influence local decisions whilst ensuring young people have a voice to influence policy and decision making.

Background Papers

Brent Youth Parliament, mid year progress report, October 2009-April 2010

Summary results of the BYP campaign survey 'Break the Stereotype, Fix the Impression' report, presented to the Executive on 12 April 2010

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John Christie
Director of Children and Families

**Brent Youth Parliament (BYP)
Structure and Seat Allocation**

Brent Children’s Partnership (BCP)

Chaired by the director of Children and Families, BCP is responsible for setting the strategic direction for services for children and young people in Brent and for working with other agencies to champion the interests of young people. The chair of BYP is a member of this group.

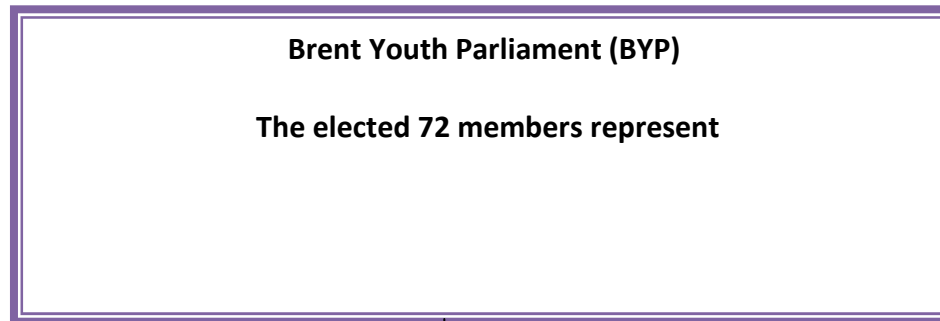
Brent Youth Parliament (BYP)

BYP was established in 2007 to give young people the opportunity to express their views and to have a say in decision-making that affects them. Members are aged between ten and 19 years and come from all walks of life.
(72 seats)

BYP Executive

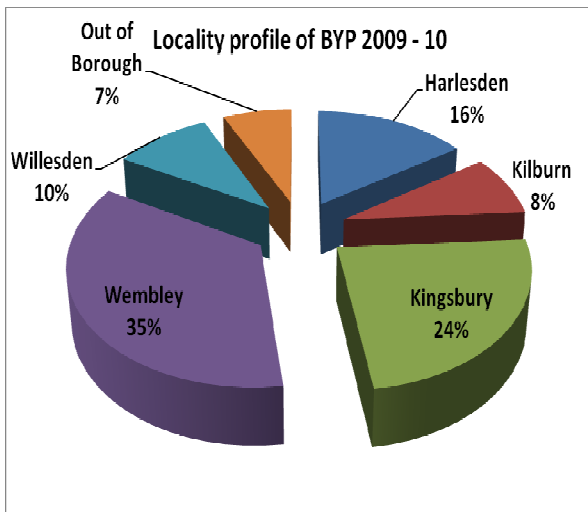
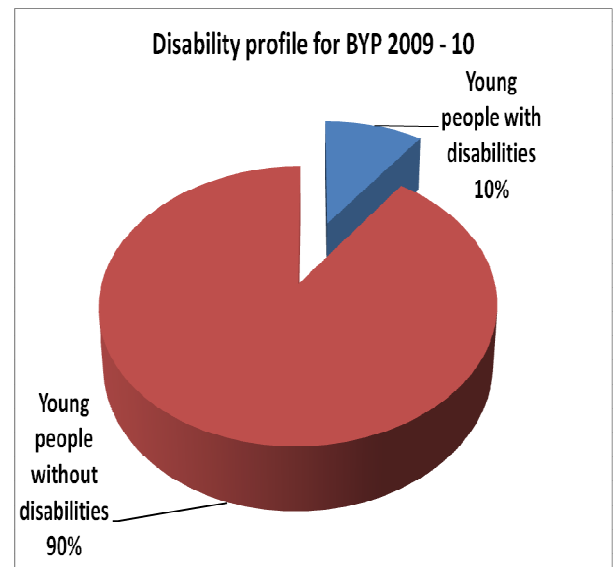
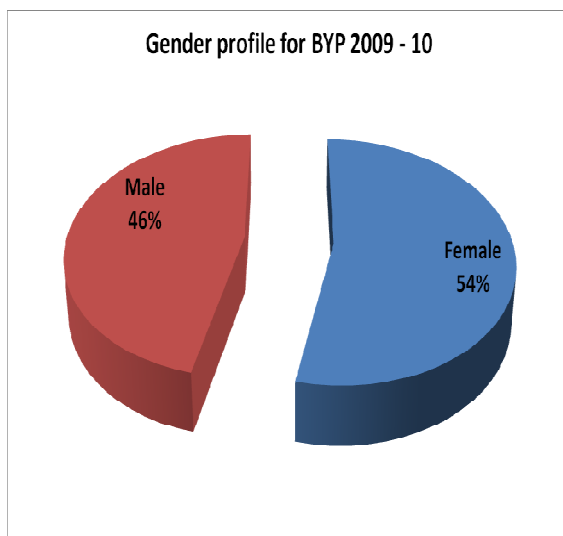
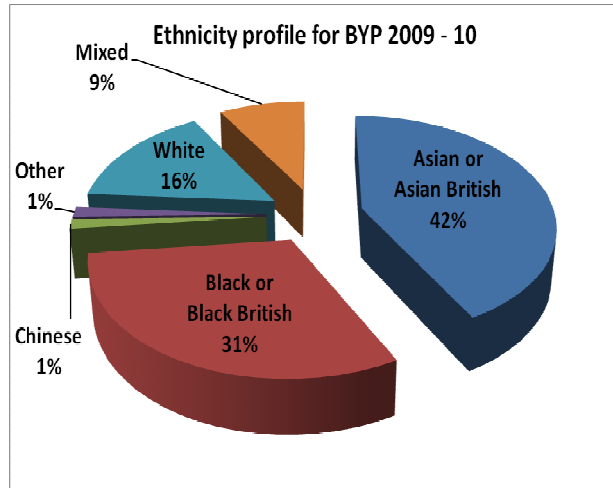
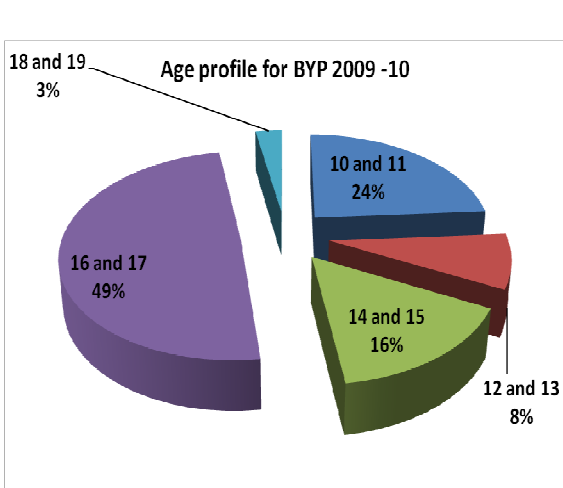
The executive is made up of the chair, vice chair, secretary, UKYP/deputy UKYP representative. The executive is responsible for leading BYP and facilitating the monthly sessions.

Secondary schools (14 seats)	Primary schools (10 seats)	Targeted groups <i>(Seats for young people (YP) with disabilities, YP in care, YP not in education or employment, YP with refugee status or seeking asylum, YP from special schools and PRUs)</i> (10 seats)	College of North West London (CNWL) (2 seats)	Local groups/sports clubs (16 seats)	Brent Youth Matters 2 (BYM2) (5 seats)	Returning MYPs <i>(Reinstated for their excellent contribution in the previous year)</i> (15 seats)
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<p>Secondary schools</p> <p>(14 seats)</p>	<p>Primary schools</p> <p><i>Two members from each Locality</i></p> <p>(10 seats)</p>	<p>Targeted Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ability/Grove park school ▪ St Michaels ▪ Care in Action (3) ▪ MENCAP ▪ MOSAIC ▪ YP in care ▪ YP with disabilities ▪ YP with refugee status <p>(10 seats)</p>	<p>College of North West London (CNWL)</p> <p>(2 seats)</p>	<p>Local groups/sports clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Inclusion Programme (YIP) ▪ Anti Bullying Council (ABC) ▪ Strength in Numbers ▪ Swaminarayan Youth group (BAPS girls, BAPS boys) ▪ Granville Youth Club ▪ Kenton Cricket club ▪ Senior Citizens panel ▪ Paiwand Afghan Association ▪ Green Team ▪ Brent River Park ▪ The Orchard group ▪ Harrow Sea Cadets ▪ Wembley Sea Cadets ▪ Brent Youth Volunteers <p>(16 seats)</p>	<p>Brent Youth Matters 2 (BYM2)</p> <p>(5 seats)</p>	<p>Returning MYPs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Copland High ▪ Kingsbury High ▪ St Gregorys RC (2) ▪ Wembley High (3) ▪ Out of Borough (6) ▪ Northwick park youth club ▪ South Kilburn Youth Board (SKYB) <p>(15 seats)</p>
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Appendix 2
Profile of BYP members elected for 2009 – 2010



Note: In order to be a member of BYP, young people have to either be a resident in Brent or go to school in the borough. The locality profile is based on where young people live, regardless of the groups/areas they represent. Therefore, the 7% out of borough members, as shown above, are the ones that live out of borough but go to school in Brent.

Appendix 3
BYP portfolios

Portfolio	Issue raised by BYP
Crime prevention and public safety	BYP raised lack of street lighting in certain areas as a concern. Details of these areas were provided to the street care team who have subsequently resolved the issues where possible. Regular contact is maintained with the street care teams.
Health and social care	<p>BYP raised concerns with the quality of health education and health provision within schools. In addition to a detailed letter received by BYP from the Chief Executive of NHS Brent outlining details of the health provision for young people in Brent and focus group that was set up to discuss preventative and treatment aspects of Chlamydia, BYP also responded to the national consultation on PSHE reforms proposed by central government. The response was shared with colleagues at the School Improvement Service. BYP were also consulted on the borough's Sports and Physical Activity strategy.</p> <p>To address the concerns raised relating to lack and cost of fitness facilities available for young people BYP joined forces with Vale Farm Sports centre to offer a Free 'Taster day' at their centre on 2 June 2010 for up to 100 children and young people (aged 8 and above) to be given the opportunities to try out various activities such as dance, badminton, basketball and football for free. This included a free pass to visit the sports centre again. A Healthy Eating workshop was also delivered by a Brent Council Officer jointly. A similar event will take place at Willesden Sports Centre in the coming months.</p>
Environment and culture	<p>BYP highlighted litter dropping and the need for more educational initiatives as a concern. The assistant director for Environment and Culture attended one of the parliament sessions and informed BYP members of local initiatives in place to educate young people about environmental issues as well as services available to encourage local residents to recycle. BYP is in contact with his team to inform them about areas where they felt litter dropping was a problem.</p> <p>In addition, BYP will be consulted on the Waste Collection Strategy in the coming months.</p>
Regeneration and Economic Development	BYP highlighted the lack of open spaces and buildings that could be used by teenagers and requested to be involved in the consultation on new developments in the borough. As a result of a letter from BYP, a group of young people were consulted on the design of the Civic Centre and further plans are in place for future regular consultation with BYP members on the project, especially now that the plans have now been approved.
Children and Families	<p>BYP raised concerns about the lack of careers advice given to young people in schools.</p> <p>Several members of BYP have been professionally trained to deliver CV writing skills to other young people in Brent and on Wednesday, 28 April they held a free session at Brent Town Hall which gave students from every secondary school an opportunity to learn top tips on effective CV writing from other young people. BYP hosted this pilot training with a view to it becoming a regular training programme for young people.</p>

	<p>Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee 13 July 2010</p> <p>Report from the Director of Children and Families</p>
<p>For Information Wards Affected: ALL</p>	
<p>Education Standards in Brent 2009</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The report outlines key trends in education standards for 2009 achieved by schools in Brent at the end of each key stage.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are invited to note continuing improvements in education standards in Brent.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 Please see the attached report.

Background Papers

N/A

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Education Standards in Brent 2009

FINAL July 2010

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

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Education Standards in Brent 2009

1.0 This report outlines key trends in education standards for 2009 achieved by schools in Brent at the end of each key stage.

2.0 Summary of assessments, national performance indicators and expectations

This chart summarises the assessments for each stage up to Key Stage 5:

Key Stage	Age at end of key stage	Assessment	Expectation / Key performance measure
Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)	5	<p>EYFS practitioners carry out observations and assessments of pupils in nursery and reception classes across six areas of learning. At the end of Reception, teachers record their judgements on pupils' attainment for the Foundation Stage Profile. A nine-point scale is used to assess each strand of each area of learning. Children with six or more points in all scales are working securely within the Early Learning Goals.</p> <p>There are 13 assessment areas covering the six areas of learning, namely Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED); Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL); Problem-solving, Reasoning and Numeracy; Knowledge and Understanding of the World; Physical Development; Creative Development.</p>	<p>Children should be working securely within the Early Learning Goals.</p> <p>One of the two key statutory targets for the LA is based on the percentage of children achieving 78+ points across all areas of learning with at least 6+ in each strand of Communication, Language and Literacy (CLL) and in Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED).</p> <p>The other statutory LA target relates to the narrowing of the gap between the achievement of the lowest performing 20% of children and the rest.</p>
Key Stage 1	7	Teachers assess pupils' attainment in reading, writing, mathematics and science using National Curriculum levels and sub- levels	<p>Pupils should achieve at least Level 2.</p> <p>Attainment at Level 2b+is a key predictor of attainment at Level 4+ at the end of Key Stage 2.</p>
Key Stage 2	11	Tests in English, mathematics and science using National Curriculum levels	<p>From 2009, schools and the LA have been required to set statutory targets based on:</p> <p>Level 4+ in English <u>and</u> mathematics combined</p>

Key Stage	Age at end of key stage	Assessment	Expectation / Key performance measure
			At least 2 levels of progress from Key Stage 1 in English and in mathematics
Key Stage 3	14	Teacher assessment only (from 2009) in English, mathematics and science using National Curriculum levels	<p>Statutory targets for 2009, are no longer required.</p> <p>Based on teacher assessment, the performance indicators are achievement at:</p> <p>Level 5+ and Level 6+ in each of English, mathematics and science</p> <p>Level 5+ and Level 6+ in English <u>and</u> mathematics(combined)</p>
Key Stage 4	16	GCSE examinations or equivalent	<p>The key performance indicator is success in achieving:</p> <p>5+ A*- C grades (including English <u>and</u> mathematics) at GCSE (statutory target for schools and the LA)</p> <p>For 2011 onwards, schools and the LA are required to set statutory targets for the proportion of students making the equivalent of 3 levels of progress from Key Stage 2 in each of English and mathematics</p> <p>Other indicators include:</p> <p>5+ A*-C grades (any subject) at GCSE</p> <p>5+A*-G grades (any subject) at GCSE</p> <p>At least 1+ A* - G grades at GCSE</p>
Key Stage 5	18	<p>Students follow courses at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level 1 (qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSEs D-G) • Level 2 (qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSEs A*-C) • Level 3 (qualifications equivalent to two A levels A-E) 	<p>No statutory targets; National Indicators set out expectations of LAs for achievement at Levels 2 and 3 by age 19.</p> <p>The LA sets targets for Level 3 Average Points Score per learner, Level 3 APS per entry and ALPS value-added grade.</p> <p>The LA will also set targets for success rates from next year.</p>

3.0 Executive Summary

3.1 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

- In 2009, attainment continued to rise in all six areas of learning, and although Brent is still below national averages, the gap is narrowing.
- The key indicator used by the national agencies is the percentage of children scoring 78+ points across all areas of learning, including 6+ points in PSED and CLL. Against this measure, attainment rose by 4 ppts from 2008.
- The second key indicator is the gap in attainment between the lowest performing 20% of children and the rest. Due to the results from one primary school going astray, the published results suggested that Brent's performance was worse than in 2008 and that the gap had increased. However, when the figures for this school are included in the calculation, the gap narrows by 5 ppts from 2008, bringing our performance almost into line with the national average. Despite the intervention of the National Strategies on Brent's behalf, the DCSF was unwilling to change the published figure.
- The performance of all groups of children with the exception of White British and Asian Indian children improved, but the attainment gaps in respects of FSM, gender and ethnicity continued to be in evidence.

3.2 Key Stage 1

- Following a strong focus, driven the School Improvement Service, on raising standards at Key Stage 1, attainment at Level 2+ showed a pleasing rise in all subjects, bringing Brent figures closer to the national average. Attainment at Level 2B+ remained steady in reading, and rose in writing and mathematics. At Level 3, unlike the national picture, attainment remained steady or decreased. This was attributed by schools to teachers' greater caution in awarding a Level 3 to pupils on the Level 2A/3 borderline.
- Although girls continue to outperform boys in all subjects and at all levels except Level 3 mathematics and science, the performance of both groups improved across the board at Level 2+.
- The gap between FSM and non-FSM pupils has narrowed and the performance of FSM pupils was better than the national average for that group in all subjects.
- The highest performing ethnic groups were again Asian Indian and White British pupils, while Somali and White Other pupils were the lowest performing.

3.3 Key Stage 2

- Attainment at Level 4+ remained steady in both English and mathematics so that standards are in line with or just below the national average. At Level 5, standards in mathematics remained above the national average and an improvement in English means that the Brent figure is only just below the national one.

- For the key indicator of English and mathematics combined, the Brent figure is now in line with the national average at Level 4+ and above it at Level 5+. Only two schools remain below the government floor target of 55% against this measure at Level 4+.
- The gap between girls and boys and between FSM and non-FSM pupils at Level 4+ has narrowed. At Level 5+ the gap between girls and boys narrowed in English and English and mathematics combined; in mathematics boys maintained their lead over girls.
- The percentage of pupils making two levels of progress from Key Stage 1 in English and mathematics increased this year, increasing the extent to which Brent exceeds the national average.

3.4 Key Stage 3

- 2009 was the first year that national SATs tests were non-statutory for secondary schools, and therefore comparisons with attainment data from previous years should be treated with caution. Nevertheless, attainment in all three core subjects did rise, and performance in both English and mathematics at Level 5+ is now in line with national averages. However, performance in science remained below the national average, despite a substantial rise in attainment from 2008.
- The performance of both girls and boys improved in all three subjects, but a significant gender gap exists in English, with girls outperforming boys, and a substantial gap continues to exist in the performance of pupils eligible for FSM compared to those who are not in receipt. In terms of analysis by ethnicity, White British and Asian Indian students outperformed the Brent average, while Somali pupils underperformed.
- Attainment at Level 6+ showed similar patterns, although attainment in English against this indicator did rise substantially from 2008.
- Although there is no national data for 2009 to compare performance to, it should be noted that the proportion of pupils who attained Level 5+ or Level 6+ in both English and mathematics remains lower than the attainment in the separate subjects, and it is on this indicator where the attainment of pupils entitled to FSM is lowest.

3.5 Key Stage 4

- Standards remain high at Key Stage 4, with Brent pupils surpassing the national average on all key threshold measures; Brent is ranked 28th out of 150 LAs for the attainment of 5+ A*-C GCSEs including English and mathematics.
- However, as at Key Stage 3, a gender gap continues to exist, with girls outperforming boys, although the gap did close between 2008 and 2009, due to a good rise in boys' attainment.
- A gap also remains in terms of the attainment of pupils eligible for FSM and those who are not eligible, and this gap increased between 2008 and 2009, although Brent is still graded as 'good' by the Department for Education on this indicator and remains in the top 30 LAs. In terms of analysis by ethnicity, unlike at Key Stage 3, White British students perform below the Brent average, although their attainment was above that of White British students nationally. Black Caribbean and Black African

students also attain below the Brent average. Conversely, Asian Indian pupils substantially outperform the Brent average.

- As Key Stage 3 SATs are no longer statutory, the focus of the Department of Education is now on progress throughout the secondary phase. Schools are now required to set statutory targets for 'expected' progress in English and mathematics from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4. The measure of expected progress is built on the principle that pupils achieving at Level 4 in English and/or mathematics at Key Stage 2 should be expected to achieve at least a grade C in that subject by the time they reach the end of Key Stage 4. Pupils with other starting points are also included in this measure if they have made the equivalent or better progress.
- The proportion of pupils making expected progress in both English and mathematics is well above the national averages, although a lower proportion of boys make expected progress in English than girls. The proportion of students making better than expected progress also exceeds national averages substantially.

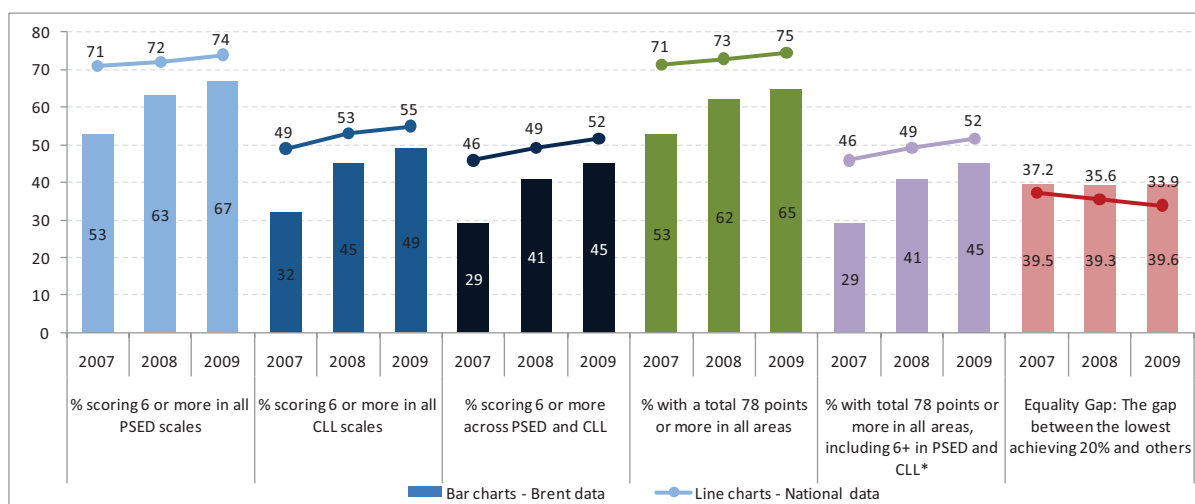
3.6 Key Stage 5

- Attainment by age 19 remains high compared to national averages. Brent is ranked 22nd out of 150 LAs for attainment at Level 2 and is ranked 24th for attainment at Level 3. However, the proportion of young people attaining levels 2 and 3 did not increase in 2009.
- The attainment gap between students who are eligible for free school meals and those not eligible for free school meals is narrower than the national gap. However, the gap remains significant at Level 3. The gap at Level 2 is ranked 14th lowest out of 150 LAs compared to the Level 3 gap which is ranked 61st.
- The Level 3 average point score per entry remains above the national average. The average point score per student increased significantly in 2009 but continues to be well below the national average.
- A Level value-added is above the national average.

4.0 Further detail

4.1 Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

- In 2009, there was a rise in all key measures of attainment. Although Brent's performance continued to be below the national average for each measure, the gap is narrowing.
- A rise of 4 percentage points (ppts) in the percentage of children achieving 6+ points in PSED has narrowed the gap between Brent and the national average from 9ppts to 7ppts. A similar picture is seen for the percentage of children achieving 6+ points in CLL.
- The percentage of children scoring 78+ points across all areas of learning, including 6+ points in PSED and CLL (this is a national indicator defining 'a good level of progress') continued to improve in 2009 but not at the same rate as was seen the previous year. A rise of 4ppts in this measure now means that the gap between Brent and the national average is 7ppts.
- The published gap in attainment between the lowest performing 20% of pupils and the rest increased by 0.3ppts to a level slightly higher than was seen in 2007. This, combined with a national narrowing of the gap, means that the published gap for Brent now stands at 5.7ppts.



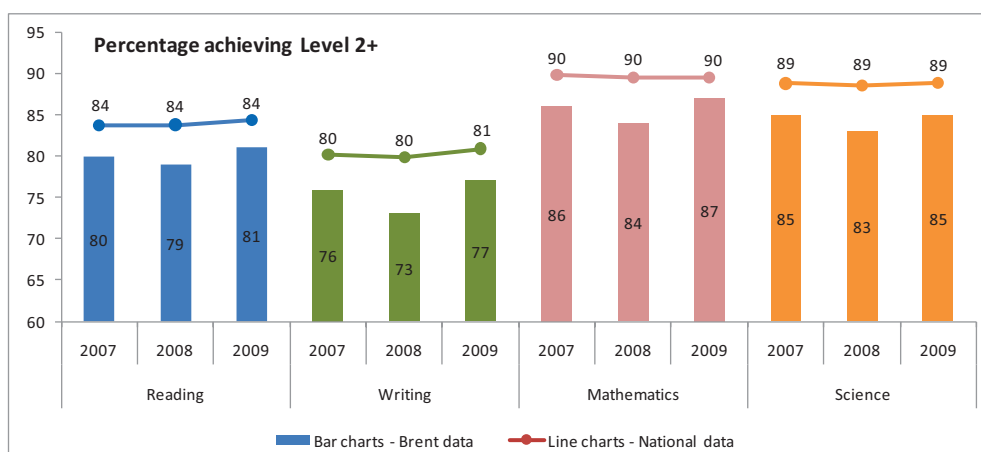
- The table below shows the performance of specific groups based on the key measure of 78+ points across all areas of learning, including 6+ points in PSED and CLL. Groups are coloured in red or green according to whether their performance is above or below the Brent average.
- Girls and non-FSM pupils continue to perform above the Brent average. Both groups saw an improvement on 2008 results.
- As in 2008, Asian Indian and White British pupils continue to perform above the Brent average, in spite of a fall of 4ppts for White British pupils. Asian Pakistani pupils now perform above the Brent average with a rise of 11ppts on 2008.
- The Asian Pakistani group is the only group to perform above the national average in 2009.

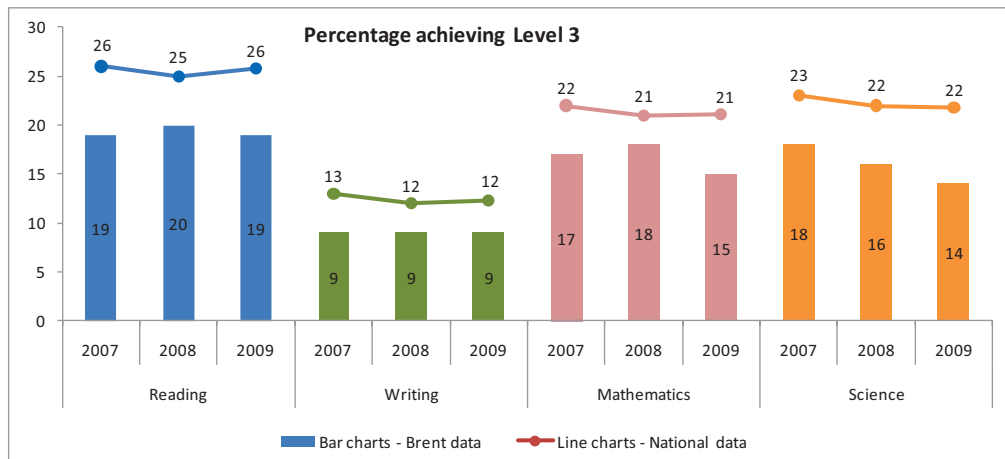
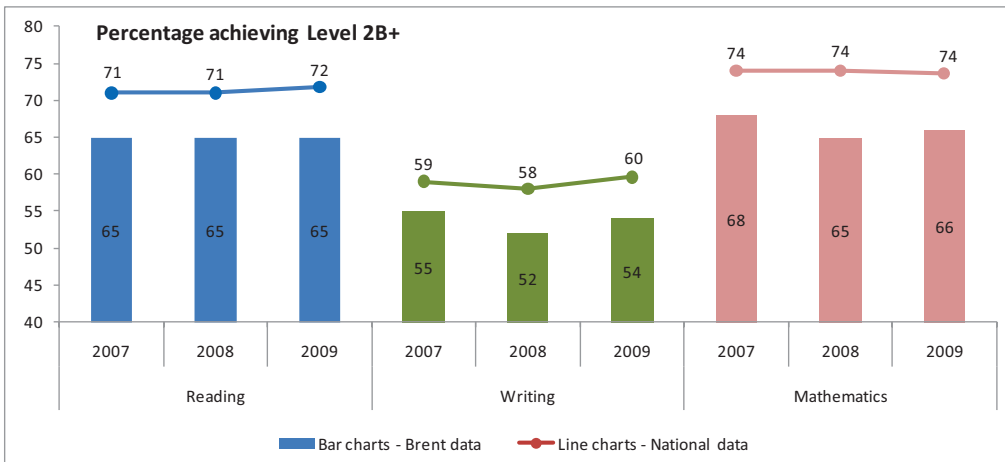
% scoring 78+ points in all areas, inc. 6+ points in PSED and CLL	Brent		National
	2009	Change since '08	2009
Male	39	↑ 5pp	43
Female	51	↑ 3pp	61
FSM	35	↑ 4pp	35
No FSM	49	↑ 4pp	55
EAL	43	↑ 4pp	42
English	49	↑ 3pp	54
Asian or Asian British, Indian heritage	52	↔	56
Asian or Asian British, Pakistani heritage	46	↑ 11pp	39
Black or Black British, African heritage	41	↑ 8pp	44
Black or Black British, Caribbean heritage	43	↑ 4pp	43
Black or Black British, Somali heritage	37	↑ 9pp	-
White, British heritage	51	↓ 4pp	54
White, Other heritage	37	↑ 1pp	45
All pupils	45	↑ 4pp	52

Key
This group is below the Brent average
This group is above the Brent average

4.2 Key Stage 1

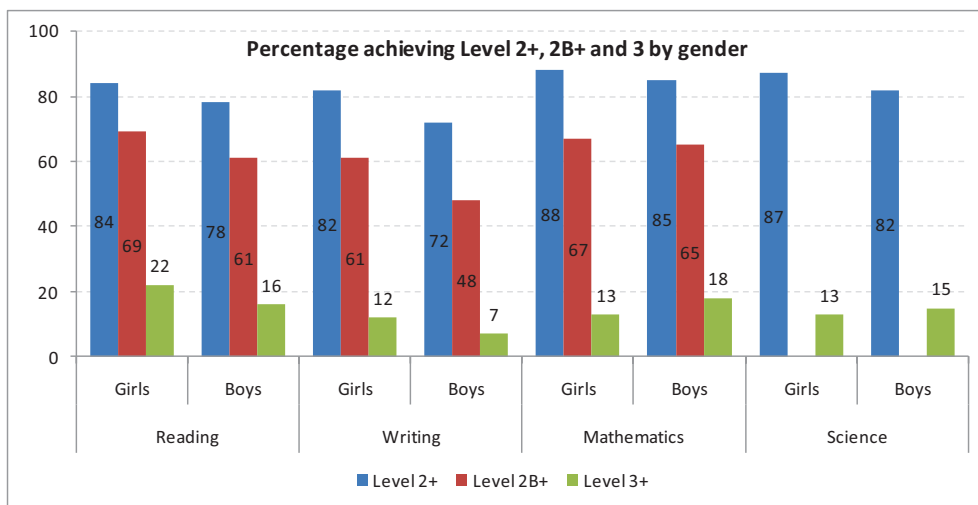
- Attainment at Level 2+ (the key national benchmark) rose in all subjects in 2009 but remains below the national average. Attainment nationally remained steady in most subjects, meaning that the gap between Brent and national figures has narrowed this year.
- The percentage of pupils achieving Level 2B+ has remained steady in reading, increased by 2ppts in writing and 1 ppt in mathematics. The gap between Brent and the national average has increased to 7 ppts in reading, remained steady at 6 ppts in writing and reduced to 8 ppts in mathematics.
- Attainment at Level 3 has either remained steady or declined in 2009 in Brent, whereas nationally performance has either remained steady or increased. The biggest decline was 3 ppts in mathematics, meaning the gap between Brent and the national average is now 6 ppts.

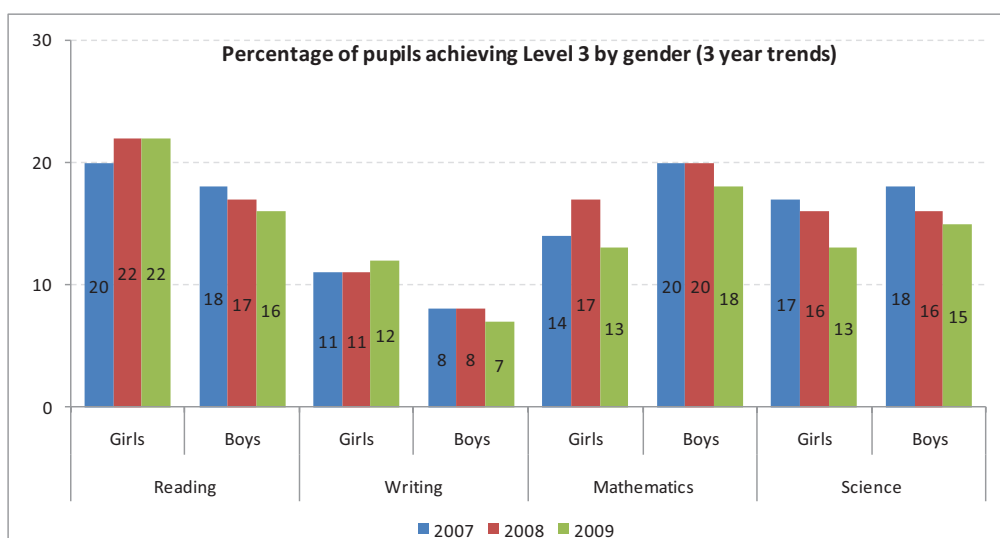
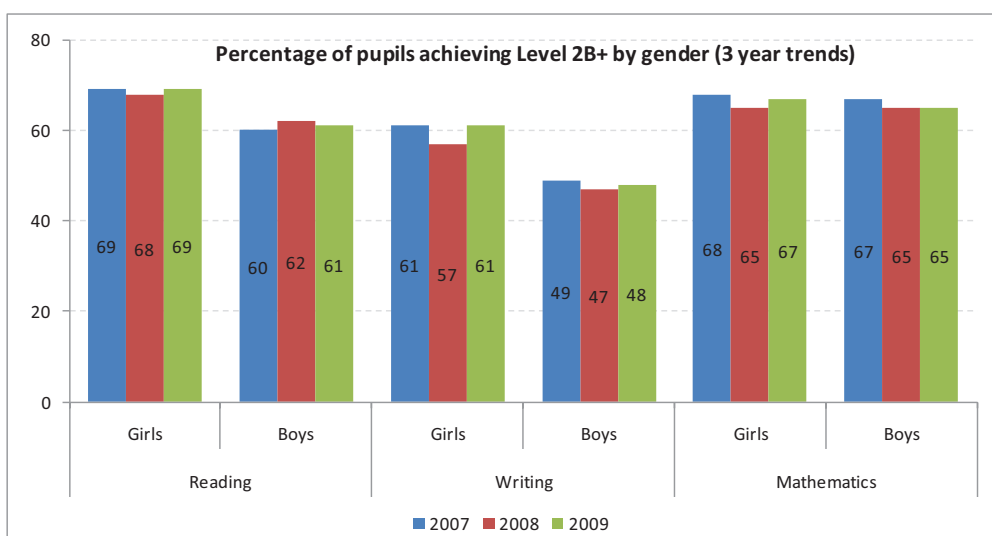
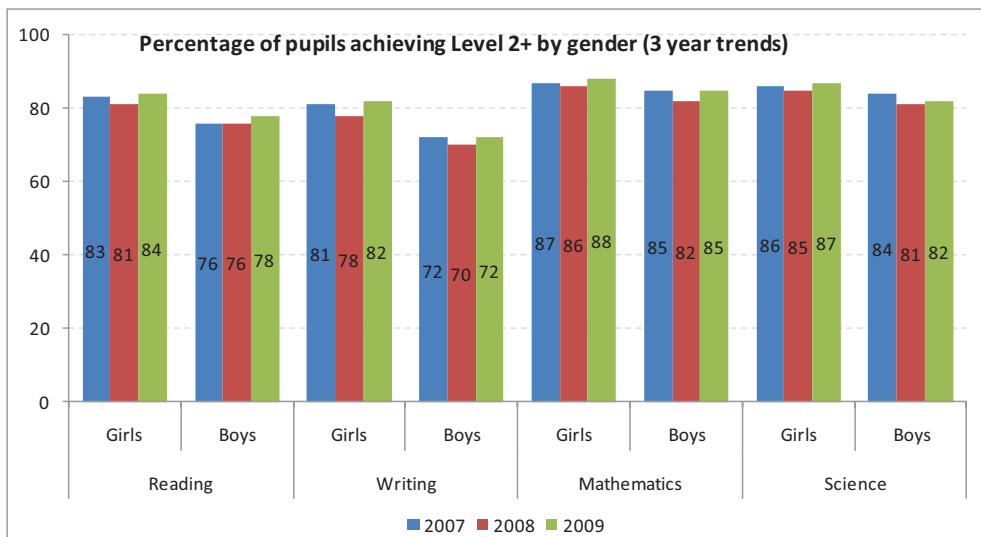




4.2.1 Gender

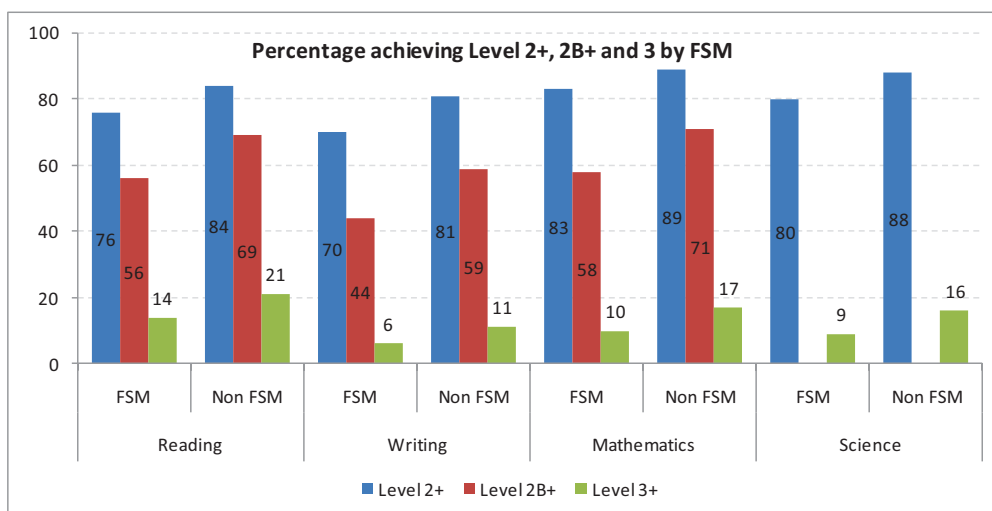
- The attainment of girls continues to be higher than that of boys at Level 2+ and 2B+. At Level 3, the performance of boys is higher in mathematics and science.
- Attainment for both girls and boys rose in all subjects at Level 2+. At Level 3, both girls and boys saw a decline in performance in mathematics and science of between 1 ppt and 4 ppts. This decline in the performance of boys in mathematics was also seen nationally.



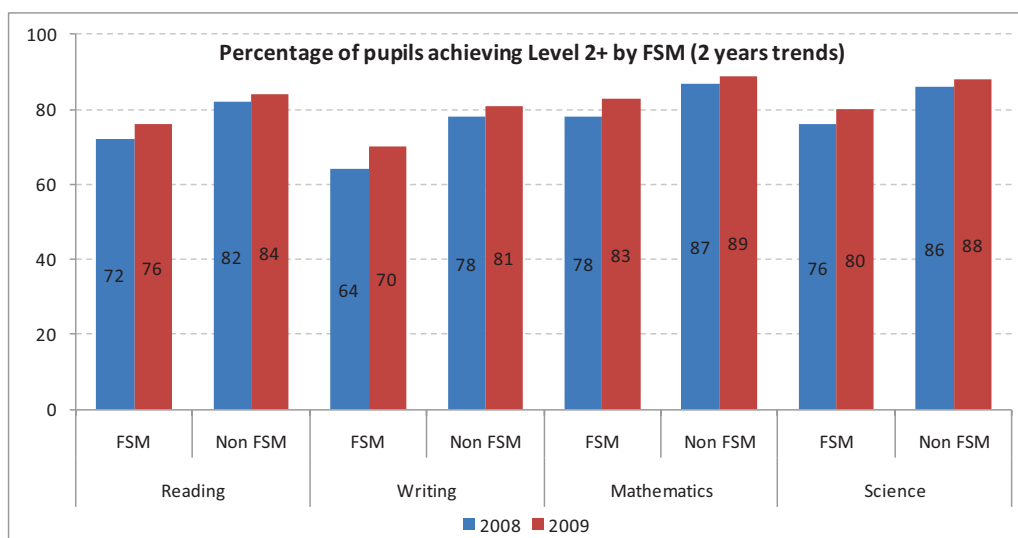


4.2.2 FSM

- Although the attainment of FSM pupils continues to be below that of non-FSM pupils, at Level 2+ the rate of improvement of FSM pupils since 2008 is greater, so the gap has narrowed in all subjects.
- Although overall attainment is lower than the national average, the attainment of FSM pupils is higher in all subjects: 5ppts in reading (71% nationally), 4 ppts in writing (66% nationally), 3 ppts in mathematics (80% nationally) and 2 ppts in science (78% nationally).



- Brent gap is narrower than national gap.



4.2.3 Ethnicity

- As was the case in 2008, the attainment of Asian Indian and White British pupils was in line with or above the Brent average in all subjects and for both genders. Somali pupils performed consistently below the Brent average again this year.
- The attainment of girls from all ethnic groups was above that of boys with two exceptions: Somali boys and White Other boys performed better than girls in mathematics.

	Reading			Writing		
	All	Girls	Boys	All	Girls	Boys
Asian or Asian British, Indian heritage	89	92	85	85	88	82
Black or Black British, Caribbean heritage	81	85	76	76	80	72
Black or Black British, Somali heritage	77	79	74	67	71	63
White, British heritage	89	91	87	85	91	80
White, Other heritage	71	75	67	67	71	64
Brent	81	84	78	77	82	72
National	84	89	81	81	87	75

	Mathematics			Science		
	All	Girls	Boys	All	Girls	Boys
Asian or Asian British, Indian heritage	93	94	91	87	91	82
Black or Black British, Caribbean heritage	82	86	79	87	90	83
Black or Black British, Somali heritage	80	79	82	76	80	71
White, British heritage	91	93	88	93	95	91
White, Other heritage	86	86	87	83	83	83
Brent	87	88	85	85	87	82
National	90	91	88	89	91	87

Key
Below the Brent average
Above the Brent average
In line with the Brent average

4.2.4 Average points scores

- Despite an increase in the percentage of pupils achieving Level 2+ in mathematics and science, average point scores have either dipped slightly or remained steady in these subjects. This is because the percentage of pupils achieving Level 3+ has declined. A similar dip in mathematics has been seen nationally. However, average point scores for reading and writing have shown a pleasing improvement, bringing Brent figures closer to the national average.

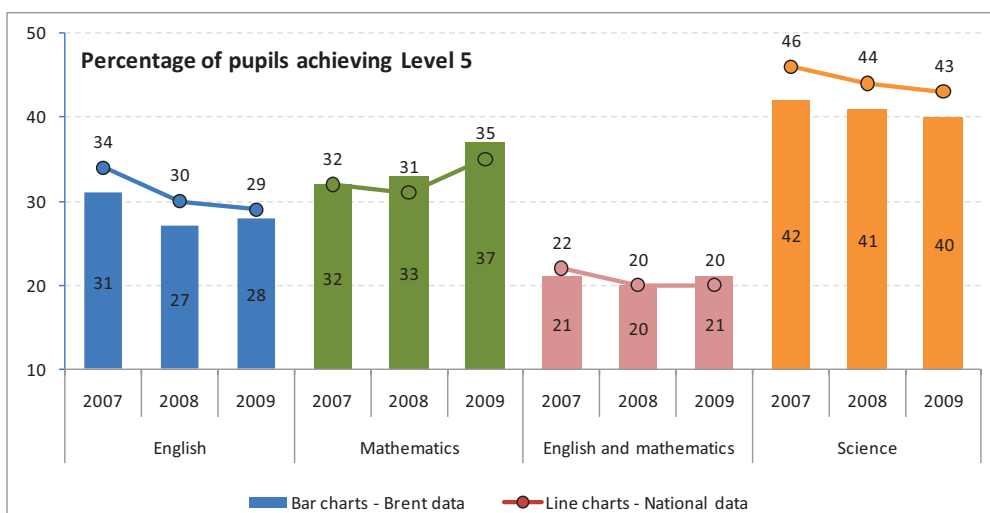
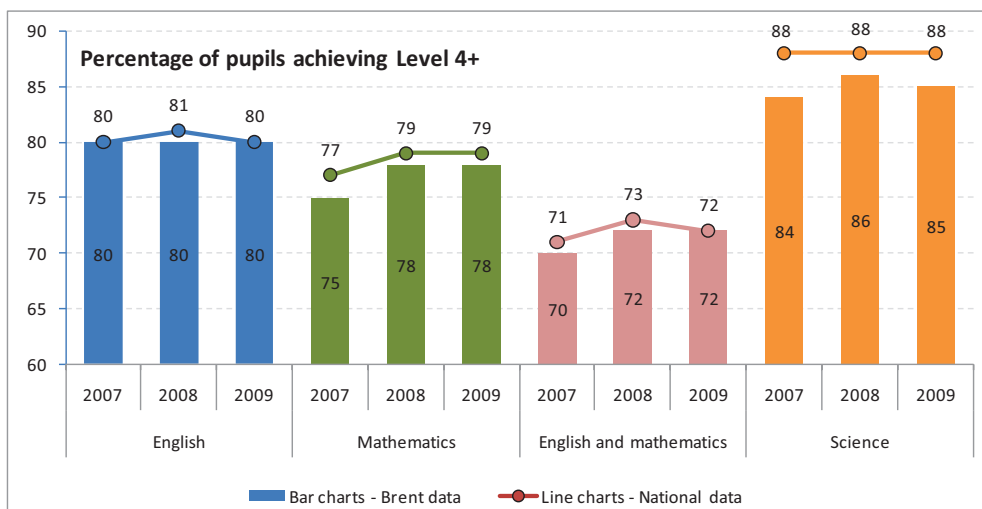
	Brent			National		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
Reading	14.8	14.7	14.9	15.6	15.6	15.7
Writing	13.7	13.5	13.9	14.2	14.2	14.3
Mathematics	15.2	15.1	15	15.8	15.8	15.7
Science	15	14.8	14.8	15.6	15.5	15.6

4.3 Key Stage 2

- Attainment at Level 4+ in English remained steady and is now in line with the national average, which dropped by 1 ppt this year. Attainment at Level 5, however, rose by 1 ppt, narrowing the gap between Brent and national figures to just 1 ppt.
- Attainment at Level 4+ in mathematics remained steady both in Brent (78%) and nationally (79%). Attainment at Level 5 saw a significant rise, however, to 37% (↑4 pts) in Brent and 35% (↑4 pts) nationally.
- The percentage of pupils achieving Level 4+ in English and mathematics combined is now in line with national figures, after Brent remained steady at 72% and national figures saw a fall of 1 ppt. Attainment

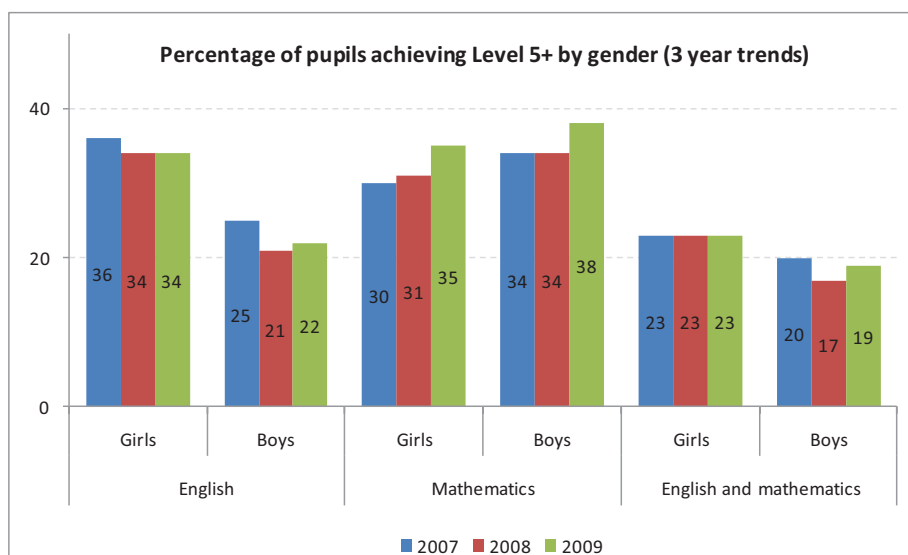
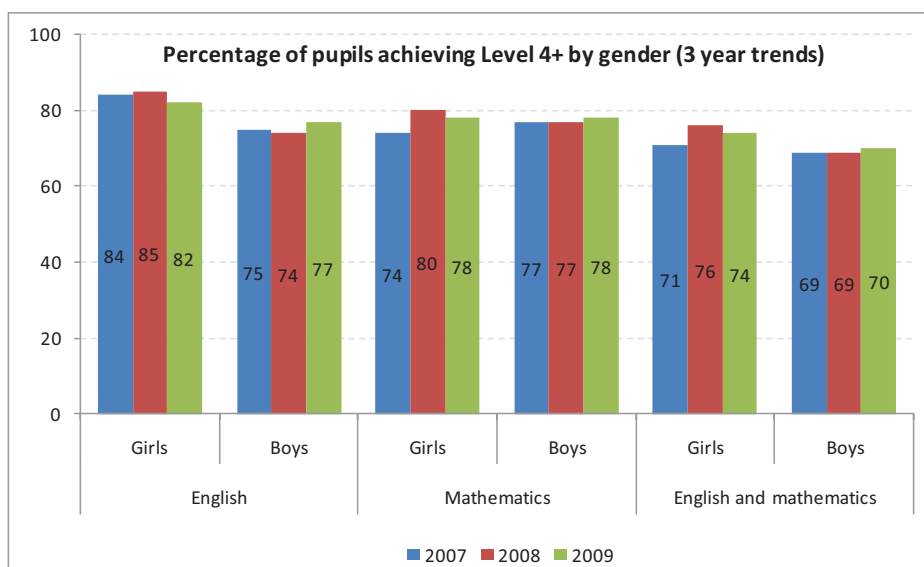
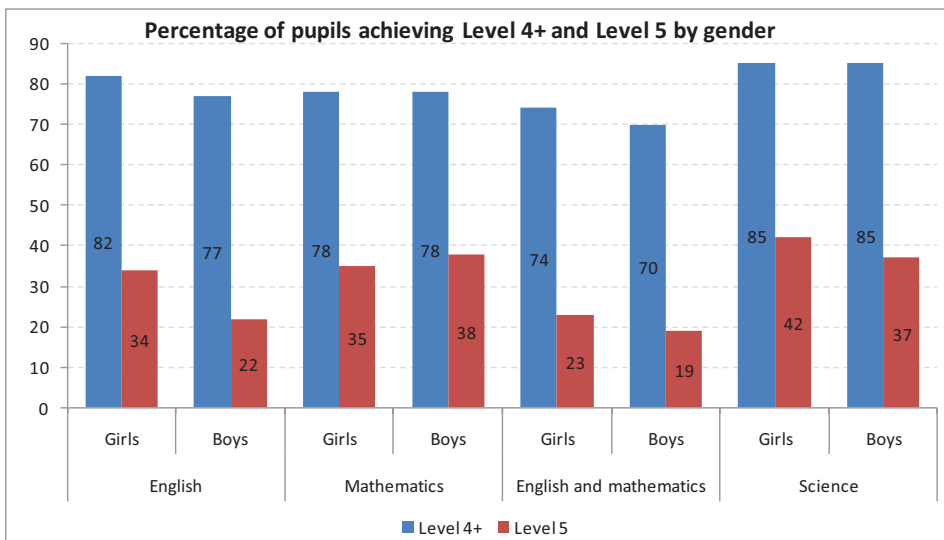
at Level 5 has also improved against this measure, by 1 ppt to 21ppts and now exceeds the national average.

- Science is the only subject to see a dip in performance this year, by 1 ppt against both the Level 4+ and Level 5 measures.



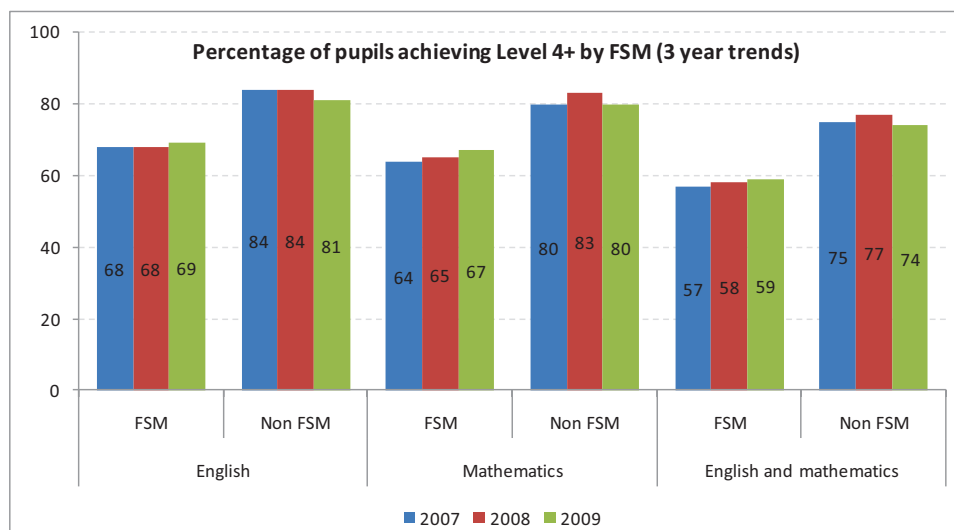
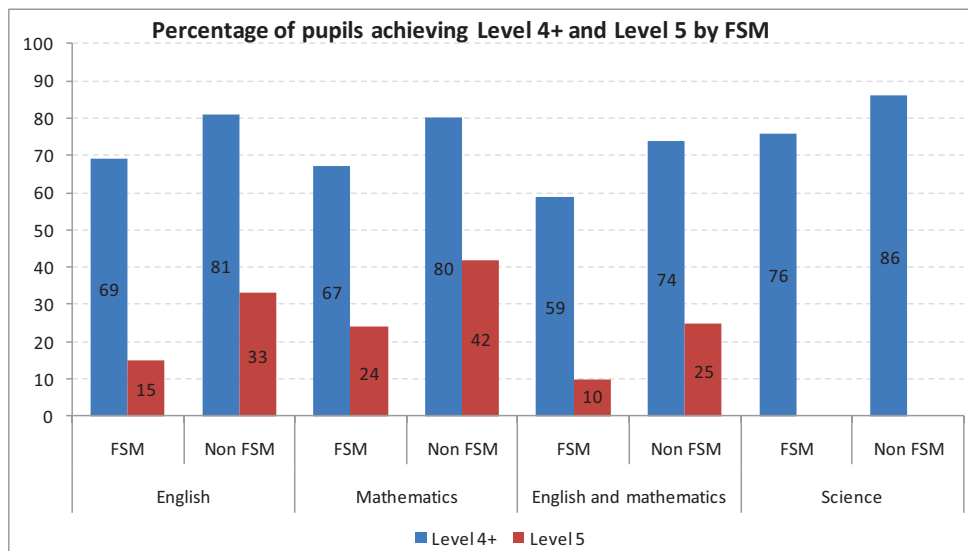
4.3.1 Gender

- The gender gap at Key Stage 2 continued to narrow in Brent in 2009. Attainment at Level 4+ was the same for boys and girls in both mathematics (78%) and science (85%). Girls performed better than boys in English (82% vs. 77%) and English and mathematics combined (74% vs. 70%).
- The attainment of girls at Level 5 was better than that of boys in English, English and mathematics combined and science. The attainment of boys was 3 ppts higher than that of girls in mathematics.
- Girls saw a dip in performance in all subjects at Level 4+ whereas that of boys saw an improvement.



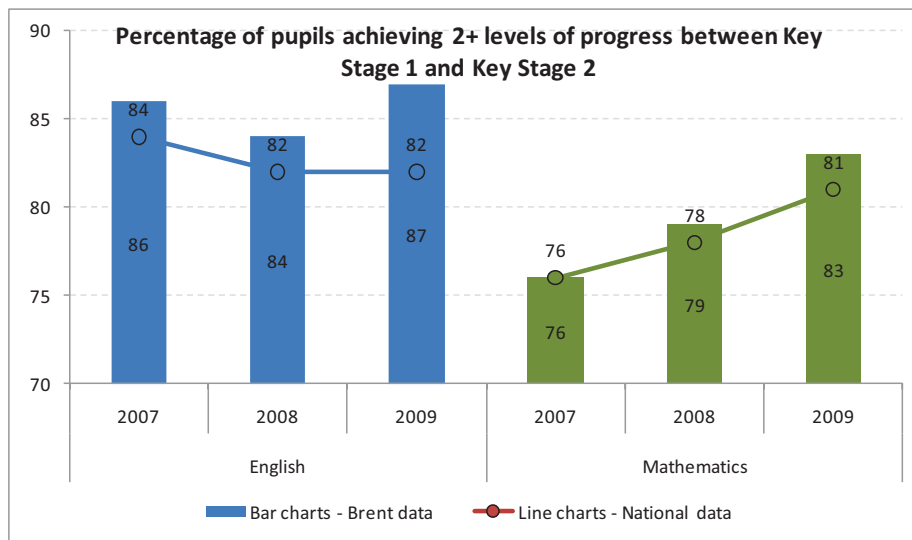
4.3.2 FSM

- As was the case at Key Stage 1, there were considerable differences in attainment between FSM and non-FSM pupils.
- The gap at Level 4+ between these two groups was 12 ppt in English, 13 ppt in mathematics, 15 ppt in English and mathematics combined and 10 ppt in science. This gap has narrowed in all subjects because of an improvement in the performance of FSM pupils and a decline in the performance of non-FSM pupils.



4.3.3 Progress

- The percentage of pupils making 2+ levels of progress between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 has increased by 3 ppts in English and 4 ppts in mathematics. Nationally, these figures have remained steady in English and increased by 3 ppts in mathematics. As a result, Brent figures continue to exceed national averages in both subjects.
- The improvement in boys' performance against this measure was even better than that of girls.

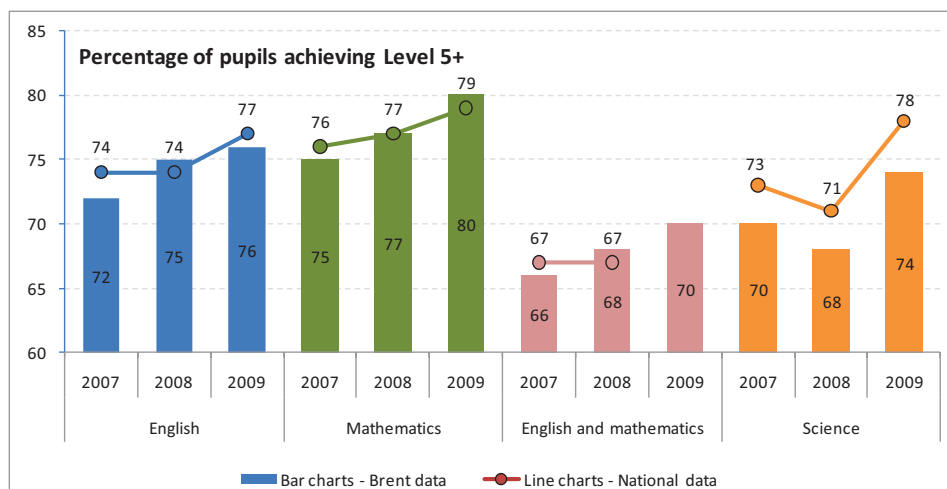


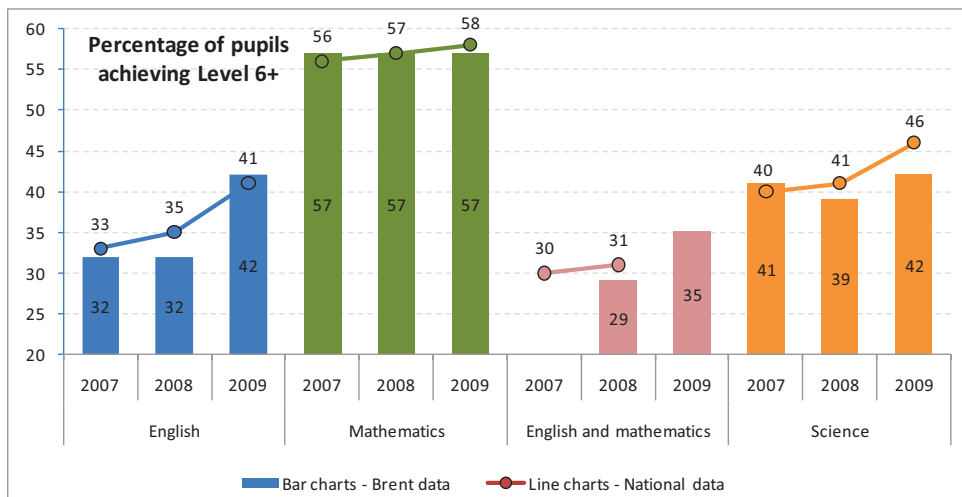
4.3.4 Low performing schools

- In 2009, there were 2 schools with results below 55% on the English and mathematics combined measure, a significant improvement from 5 schools in 2008 and 9 schools in 2007.

4.4 Key Stage 3

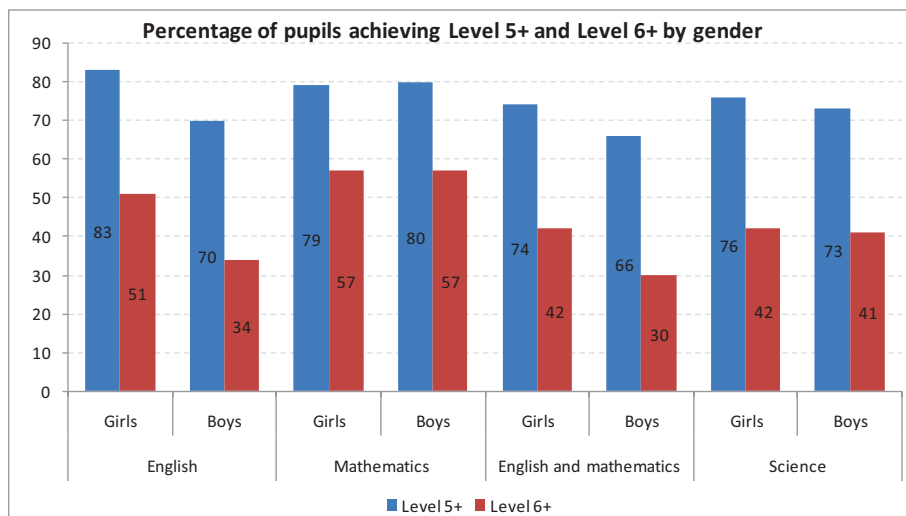
- Comparisons with historic data should be made with caution since 2009 data is based on teacher assessment whereas 2007 and 2008 figures use test data.
- The percentage of pupils achieving Level 5+ increased in all subjects in Brent in 2009, to 76% (↑1 ppt) in English, 80% (↑3 ppts) in mathematics, 70% (↑2 ppts) in English and mathematics combined and 74% (↑6 ppts) in science. Increases in attainment in all subjects were also seen nationally.
- Attainment at Level 6+ rose significantly in English to 42% (↑10 ppts) and rose in science by 3 ppts to 42%. Attainment in mathematics remained steady at 57%. Significant increases were also seen nationally.





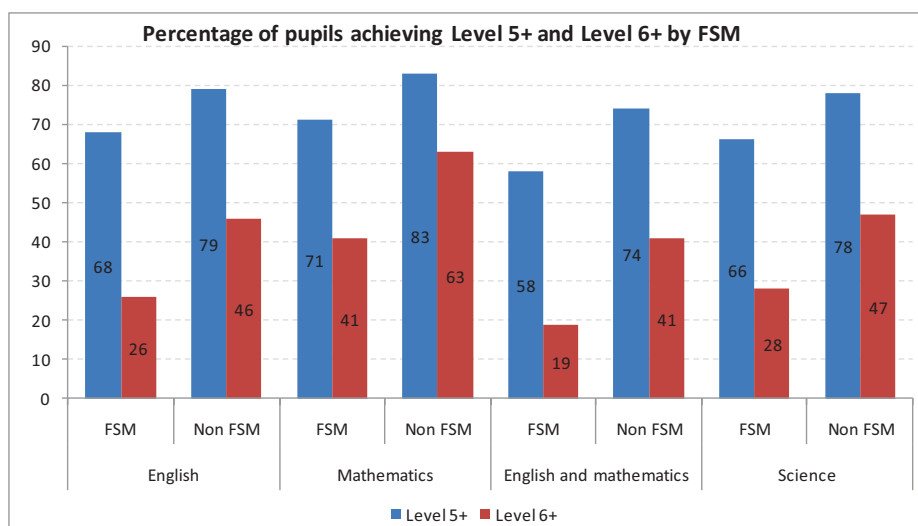
4.4.1 Gender

- The attainment of girls at Level 5+ in English was well above that of boys (83% vs. 70%). The gender gap was narrower for English and mathematics combined (8 pts) and science (3 pts). The attainment of boys in mathematics is 1 ppt higher than that of girls (80% vs. 79%).
- The gender gap at Level 6+ is similar to that at Level 5+.
- There was an improvement in performance of both boys and girls in all subjects compared to 2008.



4.4.2 FSM

- As at other key stages, there were considerable differences in attainment between FSM and non-FSM pupils.
- The most significant difference was against the Level 5+ and Level 6+ indicators in the combined English and mathematics measure.



4.4.3 Ethnicity

- Asian Indian and White British pupils continued to perform above the Brent average in all subjects in 2009. Conversely, the performance of Somali and White Other pupils continued to be below the Brent average.
- The attainment of girls was better than that of boys across all ethnic groups against both the English and the English and mathematics combined measures.

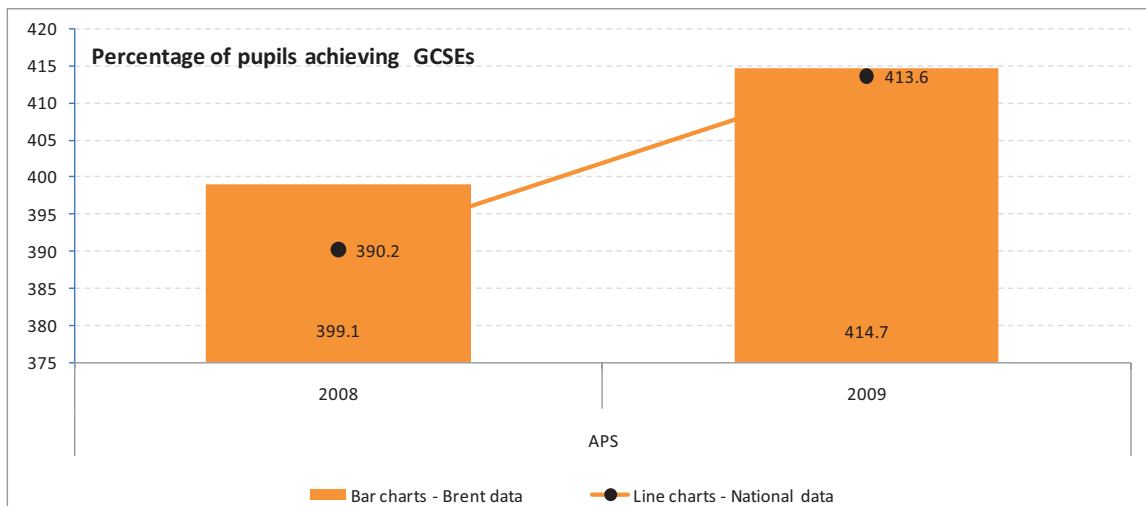
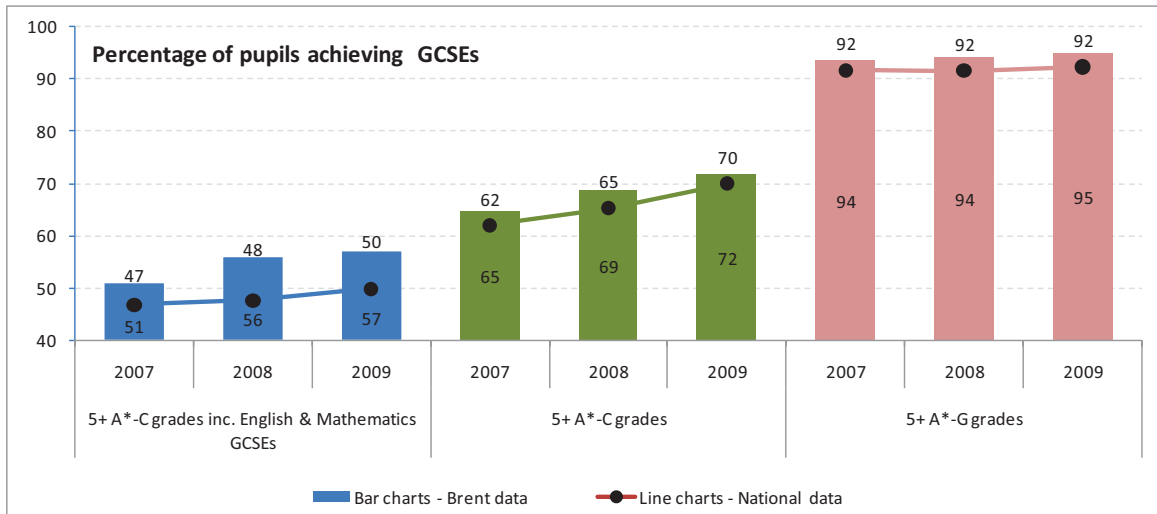
	English			Mathematics		
	All	Girls	Boys	All	Girls	Boys
Asian or Asian British, Indian heritage	81	88	74	88	89	87
Asian or Asian British, Pakistani heritage	73	79	69	74	69	78
Black or Black British, African heritage	69	75	64	72	71	74
Black or Black British, Caribbean heritage	74	85	66	70	72	69
Black or Black British, Somali heritage	63	67	58	66	63	70
White, British heritage	85	88	83	84	82	87
White, Other heritage	64	79	54	75	80	72
Brent	76	83	70	80	79	80
National	77	84	71	79	80	79

	English & mathematics			Science		
	All	Girls	Boys	All	Girls	Boys
Asian or Asian British, Indian heritage	78	86	72	81	83	79
Asian or Asian British, Pakistani heritage	65	66	65	72	66	77
Black or Black British, African heritage	62	64	60	66	67	65
Black or Black British, Caribbean heritage	62	69	57	68	77	62
Black or Black British, Somali heritage	56	56	55	57	57	57
White, British heritage	80	82	78	86	86	86
White, Other heritage	56	71	47	64	70	60
Brent	70	74	66	74	76	73
National	78	79	76	78	79	76

Key
Below the Brent average
Above the Brent average
In line with the Brent average

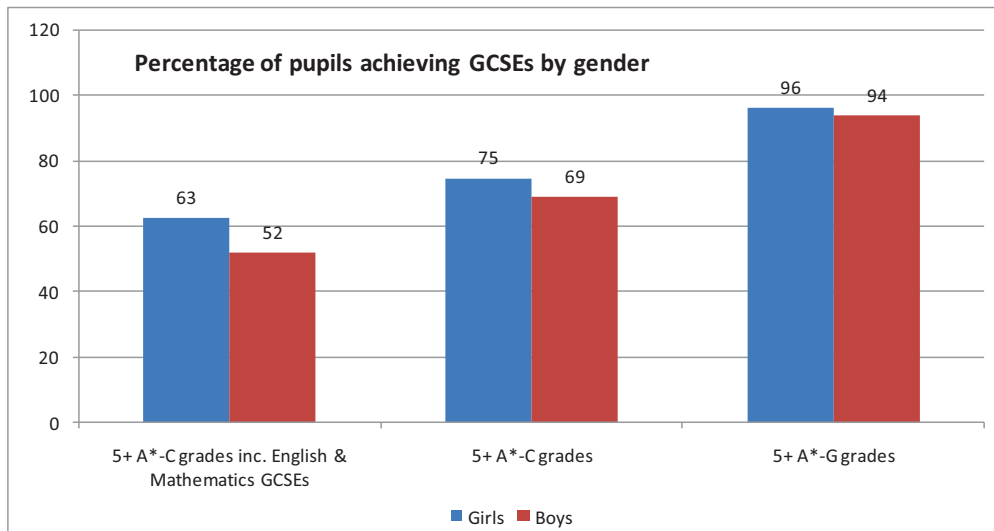
4.5 Key Stage 4

- The performance of Brent pupils improved again in 2009 and exceeded national figures for 5 or more A*-C grades including English and mathematics, 5 or more A*-C grades, 5 or more A*-G grades and average point score per pupil.



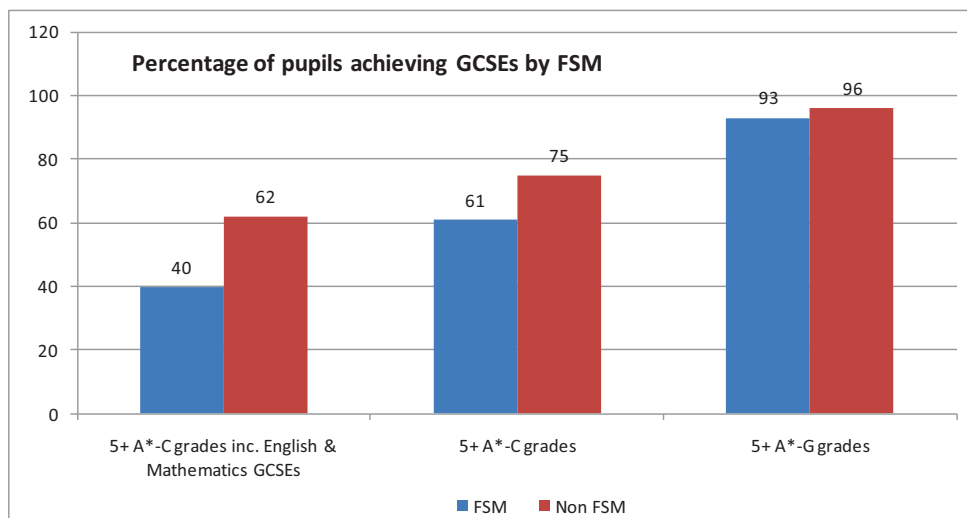
4.5.1 Gender

- Girls continued to perform better than boys at Key Stage 4. The attainment of both girls and boys continued to be above the national averages for girls and boys across all measures.



4.5.2 FSM

- As at other key stages, there were significant gaps between the performance of FSM and non-FSM pupils across all measures.
- The performance of FSM pupils in Brent is significantly better than that of FSM pupils nationally.



4.6 Progress from Key Stage 2 to Key Stage 4

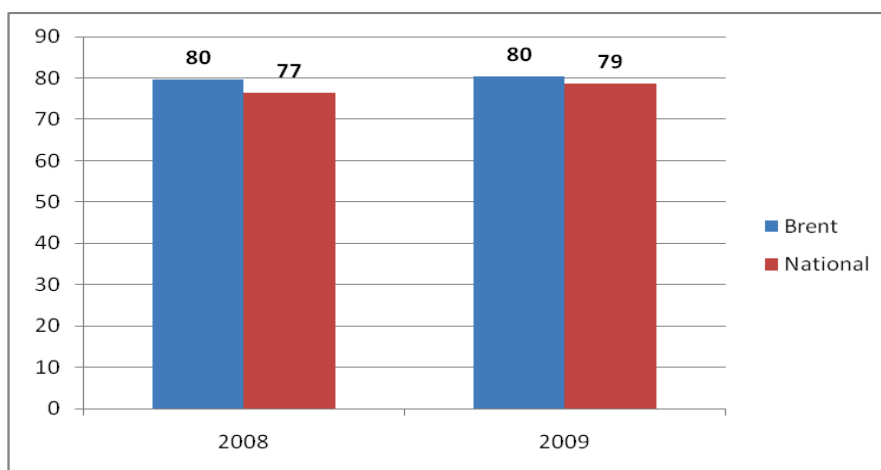
- The percentage of pupils progressing from Level 4 at Key Stage 2 to a C grade in each of English and mathematics is shown in the table below.

- The proportion of boys making expected progress in each of English and mathematics rose, whereas the proportion of girls making expected progress in English fell but remained steady in mathematics.

	Brent			National		
	2007	2008	2009	2007	2008	2009
All pupils						
English	72	73	74	61	64	66
Mathematics	69	73	74	55	57	59
Girls						
English	79	82	78	68	70	71
Mathematics	70	75	75	57	59	60
Boys						
English	64	65	70	54	59	60
Mathematics	67	71	74	53	55	58

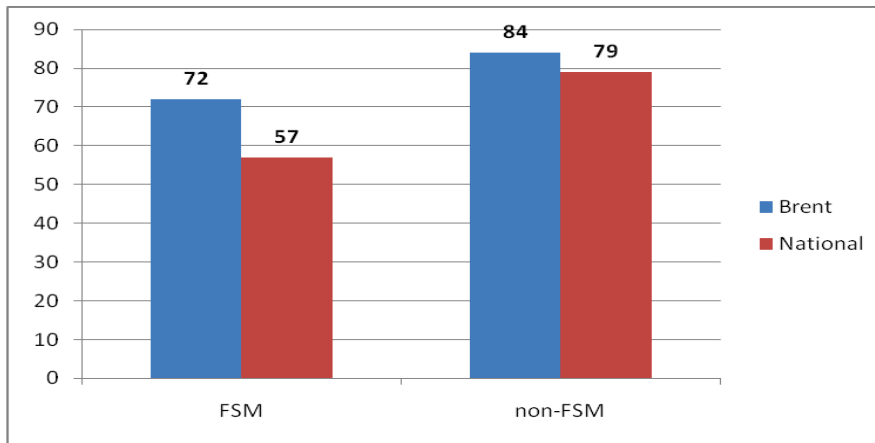
4.7 Key Stage 5

4.7.1 Level 2 by age 19



Percentage of students attaining Level 2 by age 19

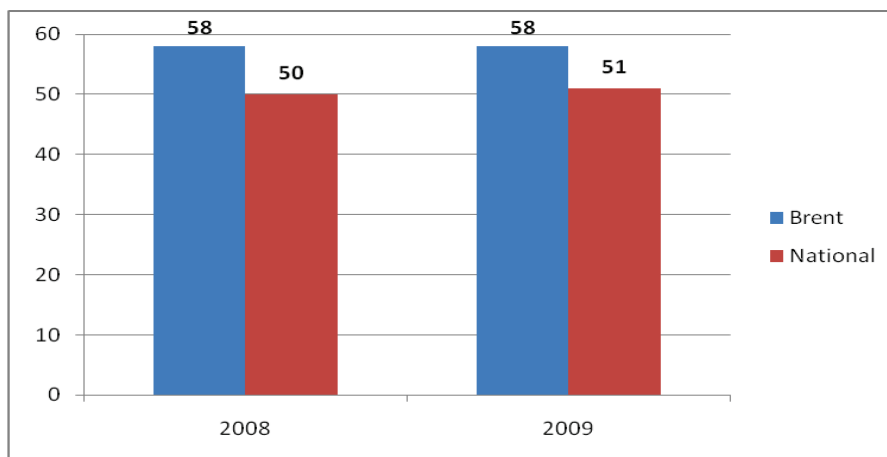
- The proportion of young people attaining Level 2 (five or more GCSE equivalent qualifications at grades A*-C) by age 19 stayed the same in 2009 compared to 2008. Brent's performance remains above the national average.



2009 percentage of students attaining Level 2 by eligibility for free school meals

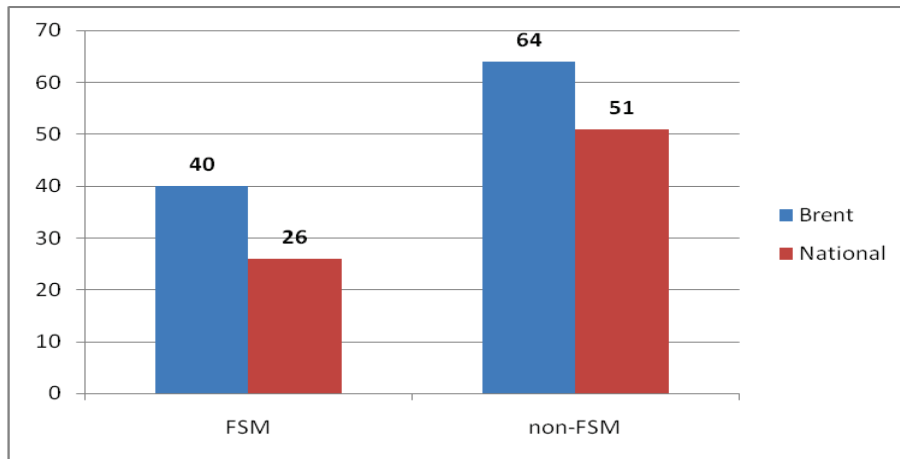
- In 2009, the proportion of Brent's young people eligible for free schools meals (FSM) attaining Level 2 by age 19 in 2009 was high compared to the national average. However, the attainment gap (12% points) between young people eligible and not eligible for FSM was well below the national gap (22% points).

4.7.2 Level 3 by age 19



Percentage of students attaining Level 3 by age 19

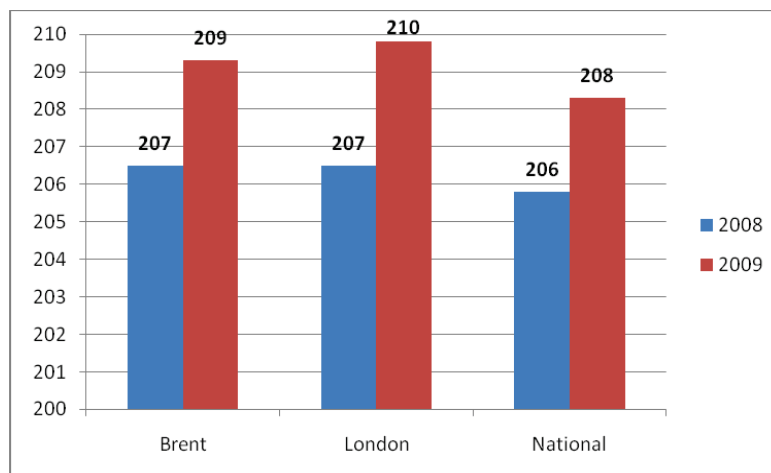
- The proportion of young people attaining Level 3 (two or more A Level equivalent qualifications at grades A-E) by age 19 stayed the same in 2009 compared to 2008. It remained above the national average.



2009 percentage of students attaining Level 3 by eligibility for free school meals

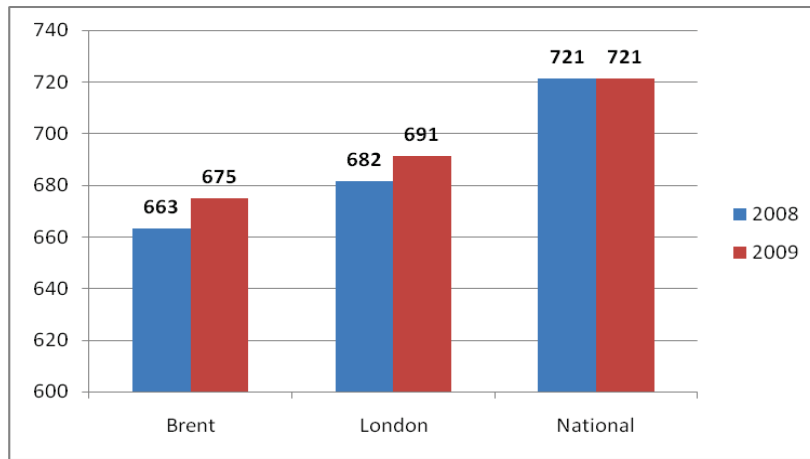
- In 2009, the proportion of Brent's young people eligible for free schools meals (FSM) attaining Level 3 by age 19 was high compared to the national average. The attainment gap (24% points) between young people eligible and not eligible for FSM is just below the national gap (25% points).

4.7.3 Level 3 point scores



Level 3 average point score per entry

- Brent's Level 3 average point score per entry (one A Level equivalent) increased in 2009 and remained above the national average.



Level 3 average point score per student

- Brent's Level 3 average point score per learner was below the national and London averages. However, the rate of improvement in performance was better than the rate of improvement for London. In addition, the gap between the Brent average and the national average narrowed. Brent's point score is approximately one A Level grade below the London average and 1.5 grades below the national average.

4.7.4 Level 3 A Level Value-added

- In 2009, A Level value-added was graded 4 (Very Good) by the Advanced Level Performance System (ALPS). Brent is within the top 40% for value-added nationally.



Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

13 July 2010

Report from the Director of Policy and Regeneration

For Action

Wards Affected:
ALL

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out a long list of items for inclusion in the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee work programme in 2010/11.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee decide which items they would like to include in their work programme for 2010/11.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 A well planned committee work programme is a critical component of a successful overview and scrutiny function. A programme of carefully selected topics can help engage the public, connect with the council's priorities and community concerns, and also has the potential to add value to the work of the council. It is important that this committee's work programme is developed and agreed by its members.
- 3.2 The committee can choose to scrutinise different subject areas in different ways depending on the subject size and the depth of investigation required. For example, it can set up in depth task groups, hold issue specific meetings, or take short, discrete agenda items. In all cases the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to require the attendance of the council's Executive and officers to answer questions at their meetings. Overview and scrutiny committees also have the power to require information from 'relevant partner organisations'.
- 3.3 It is possible that the committee will have more subject areas that it would like to consider than time and resources available. To help prioritise the

committee should consider the following criteria:

- Whether overview and scrutiny investigation will lead to an effective outcome / impact
- The degree of fit with corporate or community strategy priorities
- Public concern
- Stakeholder or partner concern
- Scope for efficiency gains
- Whether it duplicates other work
- Time and resources

3.4 To assist the development of a work programme for 2010/11 a number of suggestions are set out in Appendix A. Some of the items follow up on previous work or are requests made by the committee during the last municipal year.

3.5 Committee work programming is an on-going process and members are strongly encouraged to suggest items for review as and when they arise. Suggestions can come from;

- Ward issues that are also relevant across the borough,
- The local impact of a major national issue, for example the concerns around Baby P prompted concerns around safeguarding which was subsequently reviewed by the this committee on a number of occasions.
- Members of the public.

3.6 In order to accommodate emerging issues it is also important that there is room for flexibility within the work programme so new agenda items can be slotted in.

4.0 Youth offending task group

4.1 In October 2009 this committee commissioned an in-depth piece of work on youth offending. This work is in the very early stages having only held one meeting and made one visit. In considering the work programme a number of issues has emerged that brings into question whether this is the best time to continue with this work. Issues to be taken into consideration are as follows:

- The impetus for the review was largely based around the council's difficulty in meeting Local Area Agreement target N1 111 - Reducing first time entrants into the youth justice system. This indicator is now on track and meeting its aims.
- Since the review has started there has been a change of government. The new government may have a different approach to dealing with youth offending, the committee may wish wait until the future direction of this area is clearer before deciding a focus for scrutiny
- As there has been a significant change in the membership of this committee and within the wider political climate, members may feel that there is another task group topic that is more pertinent. Members

should note that the committee is only able to have one task group running at a time.

4.2 The committee should decide whether to:

- Continue with this work in its current form
- Look it at as a agenda item later in the year
- Convene a new task group with a different focus.

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