



**Children and Families Overview and
Scrutiny Committee
21 October 2009**

**Report from the Director of Policy
and Regeneration**

For Action

Wards Affected: ALL

Pupil safety on the journey to and from school final task group report

1.0 Summary

1.1 The final report of the Pupil safety on the journey to and from school task group

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 That the Children and Families Overview and committee agree the recommendations set out in the task group report.

2.2 That the report is forwarded to the Executive

3.0 Detail

3.1 On the 12 February 2008 the Children and Families Overview Committee agreed to set up a task group to consider concerns amongst young people about their personal safety on the journey to and from school.

3.2 The task group included the following members:

- Councillor Arnold
- Councillor Mistry (Chair)
- Councillor C.J Patel

4.0 The task group took evidence from a wide range of witnesses including:

The Community Safety Officer, Brent Council
The School Council, Wembley High Technology College,
The Behaviour and Attendance Consultant, Brent Council
The Transportation Team, Brent Council

Safer Schools Officers
Safer Transport Officers
Representatives from Transport for London, Metroliner and First, Bus Companies.
Undertook a desktop review of good practice from other local authorities

5.0 Key findings of the task group

- 5.1 The task group found that feedback from forums such as the Brent Youth Parliament and the responses captured in the TellUs2 and TellUs3 Ofsted surveys indicate that school pupils across the borough have concerns regarding their personal safety on the journey to and from school.
- 5.2 This is supported by crime data compiled by the council's community safety team which demonstrates that there are clear links between youth robbery, school locations, terms dates, travel times, routes and transport hubs.
- 5.3 The task group found that the council is tackling this issue and has been working with local partners to implement a range of projects including reducing pupil's vulnerability to becoming a victim of crime and escorts travelling on buses.
- 6.0 The final recommendations of the task group can be found on page six of the task group report

Contact Officers

Phil Newby
Director of Policy and Regeneration
Phil.newby@brent.gov.uk

Stella Akintan
Policy and Performance Officer
Stella.akintan@brent.gov.uk