

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TASK GROUP HELD ON THURSDAY, 8TH MARCH, 2018

MEMBERS:

Councillors Patricia Ekechi, Elaine Hayward, Doris Jiagge, Glynis Vince and Jansev Jemal

Officers:

Anne Stoker (Assistant Director Children's Social Care, Schools and Children's Services), Tariq Soomauroo (Governance & Scrutiny Officer)

12. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR - WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Councillor Jansev Jemal was appointed as Chair for the Committee.

Councillor Jemal welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Caliskan, Councillor Orhan and Tony Theodoulou (Director of Children's Services).

Apologies for lateness had been received from Councillor Ekechi, Councillor Jiagge and Councillor Hayward.

13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Noted:

There were no declarations of interest.

14. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Noted:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 December 2017 were **AGREED**.

15. SAFER LONDON IMPACT REPORT

Received:

Safer London Impact Report

Anne Stoker (Assistant Director, Children's Social Care) presented the Safer London Impact Report on behalf of Sarah Goodwin (Project Manager –Safer London) and highlighted the following recommendations;

- All Staff in public spaces such as shopping centres should be trained in safeguarding, including how to respond to CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation)

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- Policies and procedures on safeguarding and CSE are needed in all shopping centres, including designated safeguarding leads and CSE champions
- All public spaces should have a designated and clearly signposted safe place for young people which they can go to should they feel unsafe or concerned
- Places where young people, particularly young women, go to when they feel unsafe (such as cafes, shops or toilets) should have information readily available with details of safe spaces, advice and helplines
- Businesses operating in public spaces need to be engaged and encouraged to participate in the creation of safe spaces, working alongside and involving young people
- A public awareness campaign is needed to build a better understanding of CSE and challenge some of the negative attitudes towards young people, especially young women.

Anne Stoker invited the task group for a discussion on the presentation.

Q.

A question was asked if shops like Pearson's and M&S have information available regarding safe spaces, and if we can get this information circulated to more shops in Enfield shopping centre.

A.

Anne Stoker advised used to have local CHPS (community help point scheme) which was being led by adult safeguarding suggested contacting the Head of Safeguarding Adults for an update about CHPS and find out what is in place

Q.

Is the Local Government Association's (LGA) help point and transport for London help point still running?

A.

There are safe spaces and help desk at present, but will find out regarding information bulletins, web contents and if the schemes are still running.

16. PROTECTION IN PUBLIC SPACES

Received:

A report on Enfield's response to protection in public spaces

Andrea Clemons (Head of Community Safety) went through the Youth Work provision & Activities carried out (Report attached on Agenda).

Noted:

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- Enfield has one the best CCTV centres, with high quality cameras providing invaluable evidence saving police time and supporting victims of crime.
- Police operation (Sceptre) undergoes regular weapon sweeps across the borough targeting key locations and habitual knife carriers for the removal of weapons.
- Oasis have dedicated youth support officers located at A&E North Middlesex hospital, this project provides support for young people who have come in due to youth-on-youth violence. Since the project has been running we have had over 500 young people referred, around 15% of which have engaged in long-term mentoring support.
- There are targeted sessions at Albany youth centre, cooking, (planning hairdressing and music) but these have temporarily stopped due to the doors at the centre are not working; ongoing repair work is being completed.

Andrea Clemons invited the task group for any discussions.

Q.

Are there any focus groups in place?

A.

Yes. Oasis youth service includes employment training for young people to provide practical alternatives for those susceptible to joining a gang.

St Giles trust mentoring SOS project has been commissioned to provide mentoring to young people at high risk of involvement in gangs. They continue to work with the individual and families to prevent, support, educate life choices they may be involved in.

Q.

A comment was received regarding sending questionnaires to school councils, also to send out general questionnaires regarding public safety.

Anne Stoker advised at that the Enfield Safeguarding Children Board carry out section 11 audits and this includes internal departments such as Community Safety etc. Feedback from audits to be brought to the next meeting.

17. ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2018-19

RECEIVED:

Anne Stoker tabled a blank work programme taking earlier work programmes into account for discussion.

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NOTED:

With Local elections taking place in May it was decided the task group was to decide the agenda items for June/July's meeting only.

AGREED:

The following items to be discussed at June/July 2018 meeting

- Annual Child Sexual Exploitation Profile
- Section 11 audit of L.A community services
- Agree annual workplan

18. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting of the Vulnerable Young People Task Group formally known as, Child Sexual Exploitation Task Group will be Thursday 5th July 2018.

19. A.O.B

Councillor Jansev Jemal (Chair) thanked everyone for their hard work; Councillor Jemal advised she will not be standing at the local elections but expressed how valuable and important this meeting has always been for her.

Councillor Vince also highlighted the importance of this meeting and how much she has enjoyed working within this task group.