

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VULNERABLE YOUNG PEOPLE TASK GROUP HELD ON THURSDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2018

MEMBERS: Councillors Clare De Silva, Elaine Hayward, Rick Jewell (Chair), Bernadette Lappage, Kate Anolue and Glynis Vince.

Officers:

Anne Stoker (Director of Children & Family Services), Angela Bent (Head of Service Practice Improvement & Partnerships, Children's Services), Harriet Potemkin (Strategy & Policy Hub Manager), Arzhang Yusefi (Policy & Strategy Officer), Andrea Clemons (Head of Community Safety) and Tariq Soomauroo (Governance & Scrutiny Officer)

Also Attending: Councillor Needs and Councillor Georgiou

674. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Councillor Jewell welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Vince, Anolue and Tony Theodoulou. Apologies for lateness received from Councillor Georgiou.

675. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

676. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on the 24th July 2018 were **AGREED**

Matters Arising

- Anne Stoker advised dates will be circulated to members regarding MASE (Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation) meetings which are convened monthly and police led to share information and intelligence
- The Chair advised the terms of reference of the Vulnerable Young People Task Group in the Councils Constitution have been amended to show the proportionality change of members for the group
- Anne Stoker informed the task group that she is in negotiations with Enfield Strategic Partnership to fund the theatre play "Chelsea's Choice" to be performed in schools, also Enfield Strategic Partnership have also been engaged regarding funding a production on "County Lines"

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- Councillor Lappage also advised the Task Group on a similar production company called Platinum Performing Arts based at the Millfield Arts Centre on key themes such as knife crime.

677. SECTION 11 AUDIT

Andrea Clemons, Head of Community Safety tabled the Contextual Safeguarding Report.

NOTED:

- Section 11 of The Children's Act 2004 requires that agencies have in place safeguarding arrangements
- To ensure that Enfield Council is meeting its obligation, the Chief Executive requested a self-audit and subsequent report by the Safeguarding Children's Board Chair and conducted an internal inspection of how services meet the Sect 11 requirement
- A panel comprising of The Chief Executive of the Council, Independent Chair of the Children's Safeguarding Board and Senior Nurse from NHS England provided challenge and scrutiny to the self-audit findings
- Andrea highlighted an example of Contextual Safeguarding work at Ponders End Park. Police Officers and ASB Officers investigated and agreed a response to disrupt drug dealing. Actions taken included Installation of CCTV and briefing staff, trimming trees and bushes, joint operation with the police, commissioning of Oasis to provide youth outreach work, removal of small covered shelters which was being used as cover
- Challenges going forward include having access to enough resources to meet increasing demand, with particular focus on early help
- Applications have been made for external funding, agencies are working more closely, and intelligence is shared more effectively to support young people and their families.

Andrea Clemons then invited the task group for questions and comments.

Q1.

When the five service leads were interviewed regarding how services met the Section 11 requirement. Were they happy to co-operate and keen to assist?

A.

Yes, all services assisted with internal inspections

A comment was made highlighting early intervention as a priority and advised the work at the Ponders End Park has made a big difference.

It was also highlighted that the work on fireworks night with trading standards to tackle underage sales had a positive impact on Turkey Street and Enfield Highway wards.

678. SAFEGUARDING ADOLESCENTS FROM EXPLOITATION STRATEGY

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Harriet Potemkin, Strategy & Policy Hub Manager and Arzhang Yusefi, Policy & Strategy Officer presented the Safeguarding Adolescents from Exploitation and Abuse Strategy.

NOTED

- Harriet Potemkin highlighted this was a multi-agency partnership strategy owned by ESCB and will be replacing the current CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) Strategy 2014
- Current context covers CSE, Criminal exploitation, School exclusion and Children missing from home, care & education.
- Consultations were held with 23 young people affected by exploitation and 25 parents who are members of PEP in summer 2018.
- Feedback from Young people and parents were gathered, and recommendations were made from both parties.
- Visions and Strategic Priorities were identified as prevention and early intervention, protecting and supporting victims and disrupting and stopping perpetrators
- Next steps to be taken were;
 - A. Present a refined version to the VYP Subcommittee of the ESCB on the 24th September
 - B. Conduct a partnership workshop to discuss and further develop strategy on the 28th September
 - C. Present the finalised version for approval at the ESCB meeting on the 3rd December
 - D. Launch the Strategy in January/February 2019.

Harriet Potemkin, Strategy & Policy Hub Manager and Arzhang Yusefi, Policy & Strategy Officer invited the task group for questions and comments.

1.

The Chair acknowledged the proposed vision but highlighted there is a group of victims we have missed e.g. before students leave school. Are they being advised about their rights and how to deal with being bullied or exploited?

A comment was also made supporting the chairs comments, adding that young women working in bars are being harassed. Have they been supported regarding their rights and dealing with these situations?

A.

Harriet Potemkin advised that this is valuable feedback and will investigate supporting the groups of young people and will feedback at the next meeting.

2.

It was highlighted former gang members are working with young offenders/victims at Albany Park and that working with the community to identify individuals who can be positive role models for young people have a huge impact on prevention and early intervention.

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It was also mentioned that as per the parents feedback it is vital that empowering individuals, families and communities to report incidents of violence and crime should be a primary focus.

3.

A comment was raised that an action plan should be devised at this stage and why does it take so long to implement strategy (January/February 2019)

A.

Following the week after the 28th October 2018, the Strategy will push for early implementation, the reasons for the delay was that there are many partners who are involved in the strategy and to also ensure that all areas are covered before putting strategy into place.

4.

It was raised that the structure is not clear and there isn't anything different to other strategies and projects that have been proposed in the past.

A.

Angela Bent advised that bringing in young people and parents as well as other organisations it's hoped will have a positive effect on the strategy.

Anne Stoker added that at present Enfield have a very strong CSE team and partnerships with community safety, gangs and county lines have never been stronger.

5.

It was advised that the order of the vision and strategic priorities were the wrong way around and that disrupting and stopping perpetrators should be first.

A.

Harriet Potemkin advised that strategy will be looked at taking the comments from the task group on board, the partnership workshop on 28th will allow her team to work with the organisations and businesses.

ACTION

Members are welcome to attend workshops, invitations to be sent out.

679. MISSING YOUNG PEOPLE ANNUAL REPORT

Anne Stoker (Director of Children & Family Services) Presented the missing young people annual report).

NOTED:

The Task Group thanked Anne Stoker for her informative presentation.
(Confidential)

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680. YOUNG PERSON STORY

Unfortunately, the Young Person was unable to attend today's meeting, Anne Stoker to reschedule the item accordingly.

681. ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2018-19

NOTED:

The Annual workplan was AGREED.

AGREED:

An additional item to be added to the next meeting (December)

- CAMHS Director to visit Task Group

682. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The dates of future meetings for the Vulnerable Young People Task Group are:

Wednesday 5 December 2018 and Thursday 7 March 2019.

688. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED in accordance with the principles of Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information)(Variation) Order 2006.

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