

SCRUTINY INITIATION DOCUMENT (SID) – DRAFT

Title: Co-ordinated and joined up services for vulnerable adolescents

Scrutiny Review Committee: Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Directors leading the review: Lisa Arthey, Director of Youth and Communities
Finola Culbert, Director of Safeguarding and Family Support

Lead officers: Holly Toft, Head of Play, Youth and Post 16
Catherine Briody, Head of Youth and Community Services
Laura Eden, Head of Service – Safeguarding and Quality Assurance

Overall aim: To review how effective the council is in providing joined up services; and to ensure that there are effective processes and practices that ensure young people are involved in all aspects of their support and intervention

Objectives of the review:

- To further understand the current and future risks and challenges faced by our young people who are vulnerable and how the council is continually responding to these in Islington.
- To evaluate how the views and experiences of vulnerable adolescents are considered when planning and delivering services.
- To assess how the current transition arrangements for vulnerable adolescents between early help, targeted and specialist services are continuously effective in providing a seamless support and intervention service/approach.
- To assess if the support available to vulnerable adolescents from council services is sufficient, and how other support networks in the family, community, and peer groups can be developed to support further.
- To explore the support network of young people within the family, community and friendships, and how they can support council services for vulnerable adolescents to reach their full potential.
- To consider the effectiveness of partnership and integrated arrangements that the council has, if these achieve better outcomes, and to consider if further join up operationally and strategically would assist.

How is the review to be carried out?

Scope of the review

The review will focus on:

- The particular vulnerabilities and risks faced by young people in Islington
- The services provided to vulnerable adolescents in Islington
- The young person's pathway between preventative, early help and specialist services and how this is navigated.
- Engagement with young people across all services, and how effective this is in ensuring the voice of the young person is heard
- Different models of service delivery, including multi-disciplinary wrap-around services, and what works best for the young person in achieving change

Types of evidence

- Evidence from officers across Children's Services
- Evidence from partner organisations that work closely with vulnerable adolescents
- Visits to services, to enable the committee to interview young people and front-line staff
- Evidence from other local authorities which demonstrate best practice in terms of services for vulnerable adolescents and integrated and joined up services
- Documentary evidence on young people's vulnerabilities, best practice, and service performance.

Additional information:

For the purposes of this scrutiny review, adolescents are young people aged from the onset of puberty to 19 years. Focus will be given to young people aged 10-12, as this is a crucial age at which they transition from young people to teenagers and change schools.

In carrying out the review the committee will consider equalities implications and resident impacts identified by witnesses. The Executive is required to have due regard to these, and any other relevant implications, when responding to the review recommendations.

Programme

Key output:	To be submitted to Committee on:
1. Scrutiny Initiation Document	19 September 2017
2. Concluding Discussion	9 January 2018
2. Draft Recommendations	20 February 2018
3. Final Report	20 March 2018