

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Review of co-ordinated and joined up services for vulnerable adolescents

WITNESS EVIDENCE PLAN

To review how effectively the council is in providing joined up services for Adolescents; and to ensure that there are effective processes and practices that enable young people to be involved in all aspects of their support and intervention

Scope of the review:

- The changing vulnerabilities and risks identified by the young people themselves and professionals working in Islington
- The current services provided to vulnerable adolescents in Islington
- The young person's pathway between preventative, early help and specialist services and how successfully this is navigated.
- A closer look at the engagement with young people across all services, and how effective this is in ensuring the voice of the young person is heard and acted upon.
- Different models of service delivery, including multi-disciplinary and wrap-around services, and exploration what works best for the young person in achieving change

Theme	Related SID Objective
From risk to resilience	SID Objective 1: To further understand the current and future challenges and risks faced by our young people who are vulnerable and how the council is continually responding to these in Islington.
The network of support for vulnerable adolescents	SID Objective 3: 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. SID Objective 4: To assess if the support available to vulnerable adolescents from council services is sufficient across the age range and demographic of the borough SID Objective 5: 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.
Working collaboratively with adolescents, across the council and with partners	SID Objective 2: To evaluate how the views and experiences of vulnerable adolescents are considered when planning and delivering services. SID Objective 6: 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.

Suggested Work programme

Given the breadth of the subject area chosen, the committee has identified a number of areas for the review to focus on. These are:

- vulnerable adolescents who are missing from home, care, or education;
- young people aged 10 to 13 years (but not exclusively);
- the issues faced by vulnerable young adults and what services or actions would have helped them as younger adolescents;
- the 'child's voice' and how the council ensures that services for vulnerable adolescents are tailored to their specific needs;
- the specific local causes of vulnerability.

1. Witnesses

Tuesday 19 September: Witnesses	
Who / Organisation	Area of focus
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lisa Arthey, Service Director of Youth and Community Services, Catherine Briody, Head of Youth and Community Services Laura Eden, Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance 	Scene-setting / introduction to vulnerable adolescents and what is currently in place to support and work with this age group.

Monday 30 October: Witnesses	
Who / Organisation	Area of focus – Preventative services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finola Culbert, Service Director of Safeguarding and Family Support Lisa Arthey, Service Director of Youth and Community Services 	Overview of how services for vulnerable adolescents are structured.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from a young person: Simone Headley, Chair of the In Care Council. 	A young person to share their experiences and give their views on council services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspector Kier Newman – Police representative for Safer Schools and Youth Engagement Freddie Hudson – Community Manager, Arsenal in the Community Abi Billingham – Founder and Director of ABIANDA Sheron Hosking – CAMHS, Head of Children's Joint Health Commissioning 	Services provided and/or procured
	Involvement of young people in planning/commissioning/reviewing services or support
	Use of other support networks - family, community, and peer groups
	Different models of service delivery and what works best for delivering change
	How effective are these services? How can we measure if they are effective or not? Are services joined up?

Documentary evidence:

- Early Intervention and Help Strategy for Islington, 2015-2025
- Mapping of preventative services / resources in the borough for adolescents
- Working together to safeguard young people in Islington - Youth Crime Plan, 2017-20
- Recommendations & Executive Summary of Policy and Performance Scrutiny Committee report on Knife Crime, 2015/16
- CAHMS transformation plan

Tuesday 28 November: Witnesses	
Who / Organisation	Area of focus – Early Help & Specialist Services Part 1 <i>Instability in the family / anti-social and criminal behaviours</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curtis Ashton – Head of Targeted Youth Services and Youth Offending Service Abi Onaboye – Head of Early Help Children Skills and Employment Services Holly Toft – Head of Play, Youth and Post-16 Helen Cameron – Health and Wellbeing Manager (Trauma Informed Practice) 	Services provided and/or procured - Step up from early help / step down from specialist
	How the child's voice can be heard throughout service commissioning and delivery.
	Involvement of young people in planning / commissioning / reviewing services or support where risk behaviours are identified
	Use of other support networks - family, community, and peer groups and how they support the young person
	How effective are these services? How can we measure if they are effective or not? Are services joined up?

Tuesday 9 January: Witnesses	
Who / Organisation	Area of focus – Early Help & Specialist Services Part 2 <i>Abuse and neglect / missing from home, care or education</i> <i>Child Sexual Exploitation / Edge of care work</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laura Eden – Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Naomi Bannister – CSE lead Sarah Whelan – Safeguarding Gangs Lead for Children, Employment and Skills Gabriella Di-Sciullo – Head of Admissions & Children Out of School 	Services provided and/or procured - Step up from early help and how to support where risk is identified that impacts on the young person's level of vulnerability
	How the child's voice can be heard throughout service commissioning and delivery.
	Involvement of young people in planning / commissioning / reviewing services and how this translates to actions
	Use of other support networks - family, community, and peer groups
	How effective are these services? How can we measure if they are effective or not? Are services joined up?

Documentary evidence:

- Islington Safeguarding Gang Protocol and procedure 2016

Tuesday 20 February: Concluding Discussion and Draft Recommendations for approval	
Who/Organisation	Area of focus – Conclusions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Detective Superintendent Treena Fleming, Metropolitan Police 	Information on the work of the Islington Safeguarding Children Board Exploitation Sub-Group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lisa Arthey – Service Director, Youth and Community Services Finola Culbert – Service Director, Safeguarding and Family Support 	To assist the Committee in forming conclusions and to provide updates on any outstanding matters. To provide comparative information on how other authorities deliver their services.

Documentary evidence:

- Briefing Note on Contextual Safeguarding

2. Visits

Visits			
Who	Organisation/remit	Area of focus	When
Young people: <ul style="list-style-type: none">CAIS representatives	Looked after children	What works or could work better for them re: <ul style="list-style-type: none">SupportInvolvement in planning or reviewing services	February 2018

3. Report

- 20 February 2018:** Draft recommendations
- 20 March 2018:** Draft report