



AGENDA FOR THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Members of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee are summoned to a meeting, which will be held in Committee Room 4, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD - Islington Town Hall on, **9 July 2019 at 7.30 pm.**

Enquiries to : Jonathan Moore
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Despatched : 1 July 2019

Membership

Councillors:

Councillor Vivien Cutler (Chair)
Councillor John Woolf (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Santiago Bell-Bradford
Councillor Alice Clarke-Perry
Councillor Phil Graham
Councillor Clare Jeapes
Councillor Michelline Safi Ngongo
Councillor Flora Williamson

Co-opted Member:

Mary Clement, Roman Catholic Diocese
Vacancy Church of England Diocese

Quorum is 3 Councillors

Substitute Members

Substitutes:

Councillor Satnam Gill OBE
Councillor Mouna Hamitouche MBE
Councillor Sara Hyde
Councillor Roulin Khondoker
Councillor Nurullah Turan
Councillor Nick Wayne

A. Formal Matters

Page

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Declaration of Substitute Members
3. Declarations of Interest

If you have a **Disclosable Pecuniary Interest*** in an item of business:

- if it is not yet on the council's register, you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent;
- you may **choose** to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest that is already in the register in the interests of openness and transparency.

In both the above cases, you **must** leave the room without participating in discussion of the item.

If you have a **personal** interest in an item of business **and** you intend to speak or vote on the item you **must** declare both the existence and details of it at the start of the meeting or when it becomes apparent but you **may** participate in the discussion and vote on the item.

***(a) Employment, etc** - Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(b) Sponsorship - Any payment or other financial benefit in respect of your expenses in carrying out duties as a member, or of your election; including from a trade union.

(c) Contracts - Any current contract for goods, services or works, between you or your partner (or a body in which one of you has a beneficial interest) and the council.

(d) Land - Any beneficial interest in land which is within the council's area.

(e) Licences- Any licence to occupy land in the council's area for a month or longer.

(f) Corporate tenancies - Any tenancy between the council and a body in which you or your partner have a beneficial interest.

(g) Securities - Any beneficial interest in securities of a body which has a place of business or land in the council's area, if the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body or of any one class of its issued share capital.

This applies to all members present at the meeting.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
5. Chair's Report
6. Items for Call In (if any)

1 - 6

7. Public Questions

For members of the public to ask questions relating to any subject on the meeting agenda under Procedure Rule 70.5. Alternatively, the Chair may opt to accept questions from the public during the discussion on each agenda item.

B. Items for Decision/Discussion	Page
1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes - Scrutiny Initiation Document and Introductory Briefing	7 - 12
2. Quarterly Review of Children's Services Performance (Q4 2018/19)	13 - 30
3. Coordinated and Joined Up Services for Vulnerable Adolescents Scrutiny Review - 12 Month Report Back	31 - 36
4. Work Programme	37 - 38

C. Urgent non-exempt items (if any)

Any non-exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the remaining items on the agenda, it is likely to involve the disclosure of exempt or confidential information within the terms of the Access to Information Procedure Rules in the Constitution and, if so, whether to exclude the press and public during discussion thereof.

E. Exempt items for Call In (if any) **Page**

F. Confidential/exempt items **Page**

G. Urgent exempt items (if any)

Any exempt items which the Chair agrees should be considered urgently by reason of special circumstances. The reasons for urgency will be agreed by the Chair and recorded in the minutes.

The next meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

will be on 17 September 2019

Please note that committee agendas, reports and minutes are available from the council's website: www.democracy.islington.gov.uk

Agenda Item 4

London Borough of Islington

Children's Services Scrutiny Committee - Monday, 3 June 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee held at Committee Room 1, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD on Monday, 3 June 2019 at 7.30 pm.

Present: **Councillors:** Cutler (Chair), Woolf (Vice-Chair), Bell-Bradford, Graham, Jeapes and Williamson

Co-opted Member: Mary Clement, Roman Catholic Diocese

Also present: Councillor Comer-Schwartz, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families

Councillor Vivien Cutler in the Chair

89 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (ITEM NO. A1)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Ngongo.

90 DECLARATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS (ITEM NO. A2)

None.

91 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (ITEM NO. A3)

None.

92 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (ITEM NO. A4)

The Committee noted that it was queried at the previous meeting when the Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families would be attending meetings of the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee to answer questions from the committee and members of the public. It was advised that this matter was to be dealt with under Item B5, Scrutiny Topics and Work Programme 2019/20.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 April 2019 be agreed as a correct record and the Chair be authorised to sign them.

93 **CHAIR'S REPORT (ITEM NO. A5)**

The Chair advised that committee members had informally discussed scrutiny topics and the work programme for 2019/20 and a number of suggestions had been made. These would be considered further under Item B5.

94 **ITEMS FOR CALL IN (IF ANY) (ITEM NO. A6)**

None.

95 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (ITEM NO. 7A)**

A member of the public asked if the Council was assured that Islington schools were GDPR compliant. In response, officers advised that all local authority schools had received relevant training and data protection was taken very seriously by governing bodies and school leadership teams. It was advised that further details would be supplied in a written response.

A member of the public asked if Islington Council would be submitting bids to the Mayor's Youth Fund, noting that previously the council had not directly applied for funding, but had supported bids for other organisations operating in Islington. Officers advised that a written response would be sent.

96 **MEMBERSHIP, TERMS OF REFERENCE, DATES OF MEETINGS (ITEM NO. B1)**

RESOLVED:

That the membership of the Committee, the terms of reference and the dates of meetings for the municipal year 2019/20 be noted.

97 **EXECUTIVE MEMBER ANNUAL PRESENTATION (ITEM NO. B2)**

Councillor Comer-Schwartz, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families, presented to the Committee on her priorities for the 2019/20 municipal year.

The following main points were noted in the discussion:

- The Executive Member's three priorities for the year were: continual educational improvement, preventing the criminal exploitation of children and keeping Islington's children safe.
- 51% of the borough's primary schools were above the national and Inner-London average.
- 69% of pupils achieved the combined requirements for reading, writing and maths. The Inner-London average was 71% and the Executive Member wanted Islington's young people to exceed this figure.
- The Executive Member was concerned that Islington had one of the highest rates of primary school absence in the country. It was

commented that this could be an indicator of wider issues such as unemployment and poor health outcomes. Addressing absence was a priority for Children's Services as absence from school entrenched disadvantage. It was particularly concerning that neighbouring boroughs did not experience the same issues. Targeted work was underway with parents, school leaders and governing bodies to improve attendance.

- The Executive Member welcomed the Committee's review of exclusion from school and advised that the Executive would respond to the committee's recommendations in due course.
- The Executive Member was pleased with the progress made by pupils with special educational needs and learning disabilities (SEND), however expressed frustration with the lack of national funding for support services. Officers were reviewing Islington's offer to pupils with emotional needs. The Executive Member was also keen to improve provision for SEND pupils at post-16.
- The Executive Member was pleased with the quality of the borough's early years' provision but was concerned by the level of engagement, as the attendance of two-year olds was below target. A communications strategy was being developed to promote engagement.
- Islington schools performed well in terms of the attainment of disadvantaged pupils, however there was a gap in attainment for Black Caribbean pupils and White British pupils eligible for free school meals.
- The Committee noted the progress with the council's cultural enrichment programme, '11 by 11' which sought to give pupils 11 cultural experiences by age 11, and the World of Work programme, which would give pupils 100 hours' work-related by age 16.
- County lines was an ongoing London-wide and national issue. At the end of March 2019, 20 children had been identified as being at risk of county lines. The Executive Member emphasised the importance of working with partners across London and beyond to support vulnerable young people.
- The number of safeguarding referrals had decreased over the previous year and the Executive Member was challenging the reasons for this.
- The Executive Member welcomed that there had been a reduction in the number of child protection plans. It was suggested that this was a result of the council's family-centred approach.
- The Committee noted the work underway to support victims of domestic violence and prevent violence against women and girls. The IRIS project worked with GPs to help them identify and support victims of domestic abuse. Training was being provided to 25 GP practices and 200 women had been supported. The council also worked with perpetrators of abuse to challenge and change their behaviour. The Executive Member highlighted that the majority of programmes were funded on an annual basis and explained the challenges that this presented to support services. The council was hoping to access MOPAC funding as a more sustainable source of income for these services.
- The council's early help services worked with 2,533 individuals and 1,635 families in 2018/19. The council was working to expand early

help approaches into partner organisations to provide better preventative support to families and encourage referrals to early help services.

- A member asked about the variation in the performance of Islington schools. In response it was advised that there was a level of variation and targeted work with schools was carried out as necessary.
- In response to a question about primary school absence, it was commented that some schools had reported issues with families taking holidays in term time and others had reported unusually high levels of sickness absence for relatively minor ailments. Officers suggested that some schools needed to have challenging conversations with parents and the council was working with headteachers on this issue. The Committee queried why Islington had a high level of absence in comparison to neighbouring boroughs. In response it was advised that this was only an issue at particular schools and this affected the overall performance of the borough.
- The Committee welcomed that the borough's overall Progress 8 and Attainment 8 scores had improved over the past year.
- The Committee requested a detailed breakdown of spending on services for victims and perpetrators of violence against women and girls. It was advised that further information would be provided outside of the meeting.
- In response to a question, it was advised that Islington was a relatively high identifier of pupils with special educational needs and learning disabilities, however there was a degree of variation between schools.
- In response to a question, it was confirmed that schools were actively involved in work to support pupils at risk of county lines and domestic violence. All schools received training on these issues. Services also engaged directly with pupils to promote their resilience and empower them to seek support.
- A member of the public asked the Executive Member if the council would be encouraging schools to take part in the boycott of SATs. In response, it was advised that schools must meet their legal requirements, however the Executive Member shared concerns about the over-examination of children.

The Committee thanked Councillor Comer-Schwartz for her attendance.

98 UPDATE ON THE TIMPSON REVIEW OF SCHOOL EXCLUSION (ITEM NO. B3)

Candy Holder, Head of Pupil Services, introduced the update on the Timpson Review of School Exclusion. It was advised that the report of the review had been published and included 30 recommendations which the government had accepted in principle.

It was noted that many of the recommendations and findings were consistent with the committee's own review of exclusion from school.

The Committee noted that the Timpson Review had not made conclusions on the reasons why particular demographic groups were disproportionately affected by exclusion. The Committee believed this to be a missed opportunity and was disappointed that the report did not address equalities issues in a satisfactory way.

The Committee expressed concern that the report did not condemn zero-tolerance approaches, which the committee thought could result in a high number of exclusions.

99 **THE ROLE OF ISLINGTON'S SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS (ITEM NO. B4)**

Jeff Cole, Head of School Improvement (Secondary), and Abed Moftizadeh, Community Learning Consultant, introduced the report which set out the role of mother tongue and supplementary schools in the borough.

The Committee noted that, following intense cost pressures on schools, the Schools Forum had decided to cease the funding of such schools from March 2019. Islington Council had worked to identify small amounts of interim funding for the 2019/20 year. Organisations were being signposted to alternative sources of funding.

The Committee expressed regret at the cuts to funding for such services. It was recognised that school budgets had been cut by central government and this resulted in the Schools Forum having to reassess and prioritise all spending. Officers also noted that schools had increasingly limited discretion in how they spent their funding as the number of ring-fenced funds had increased in recent years.

A member of the public asked if Islington's supplementary schools had been quality assessed. In response it was advised that the council's Community Learning Consultant was an assessor and the majority of the supplementary schools were rated 'bronze' on the national framework.

A member of the public asked if a resident impact assessment had been completed before the Schools Forum decided to end its funding of supplementary schools. In response, it was advised that 'resident impact assessments' are an Islington Council process and the Schools Forum is independent of the council. However, the Schools Forum did take equalities issues seriously.

Supplementary schools were generally run by a small number of dedicated volunteers and it was recognised that a decrease in funding would be difficult for them. It was commented that a significant amount of supplementary school funding was spent on expenses for volunteers.

It was suggested that Islington Council may be able to offer supplementary schools non-financial support, such as access to facilities and resources.

The Committee queried how the educational outcomes of pupils attending supplementary schools could be assessed. It was noted that one supplementary school was registered as a GCSE exam centre and supported pupils in sitting exams, particularly in mother tongue languages not offered by mainstream schools.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

100 SCRUTINY TOPICS AND WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20 (ITEM NO. B5)

The Committee agreed that its main review topic for 2019/20 would focus on educational equalities and attainment. In particular, the Committee would focus on the attainment gap experienced by Black Caribbean and White Working Class pupils.

The Committee wished for the review to include the relationship between demographic factors, such as protected characteristics, special educational needs and deprivation, and attainment and progress. The Committee would be keen to talk to young people, parents and community leaders as part of the review.

The Committee considered its proposed work plan for 2019/20. The following main comments were made:

- It was requested that the number of teenage pregnancies be included in the quarterly performance report.
- The Committee requested an additional report providing an overview of mental health provision in schools.
- It was agreed that the focus of the February meeting would be on Post-16 Education, Employment and Training. In particular, the committee wished to review the attainment of school 6th forms and colleges, the range of courses available and any related equalities issues. It was requested that the Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report be rescheduled to accommodate additional time for the consideration of the post-16 item.

RESOLVED:

- (i) That educational equalities and attainment be selected as the main scrutiny topic for 2019/20;
- (ii) That the proposed work programme be agreed, subject to the amendments proposed above.

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.50 pm

Chair

SCRUTINY REVIEW INITIATION DOCUMENT (SID)

Review: Equalities in Educational Outcomes

Scrutiny Review Committee: Children's Services Scrutiny Committee

Director leading the Review: Mark Taylor, Director of Schools and Learning

Lead Officers: Anthony Doudle, Head of School Improvement (Primary)

Overall aims:

To assess equalities in educational outcomes for Black Caribbean and White British pupils eligible for pupil premium funding, and to make recommendations to:

- Improve pupils' engagement in school and the wider community
- Improve pupils' progress and attainment across the key stages and into the world of work
- Raise awareness and commitment to action in educational settings and across service providers in Islington

Objectives of the Review:

- To analyse and clarify underperformance intersectionally in these key groups over the past 5 years both locally and nationally. This will allow the Committee to consider performance across all variables as well as individually and over a reasonable time-period.
- To use existing national research and literature to identify the barriers to improving educational attainment for these key groups in Islington schools
- To explore the ways in which school leaders drive up the progress and attainment of identified groups informed by best practice from schools that buck the trend
- To secure agreement and commitment on the strategies that will improve outcomes for these groups at each key stage and on into further education, employment and training
- To identify the causes of underperformance including the impact of factors such as attendance and exclusion
- Engage parents, pupils, communities and stakeholders in dialogue to find productive ways forward and guide future action
- To better understand the views of children and young people, parents and community groups on how performance for key groups can be improved
- To produce workable recommendations for the Council and schools to deliver sustainable improvements in educational outcomes across schools and beyond in Islington
- To call to action all the Council's services and functions to improve outcomes for identified groups
- To evaluate the work already underway to reduce the attainment gap and to identify how this could be developed further.

How this Review will be carried out:

The Committee will receive written and oral evidence; evaluate local and national research and practice; visit providers including schools; listen to the views of school leaders and listen to the views of children, young people, parents and the wider community.

Scope of the Review:

The progress and attainment of identified groups; the interrelationship of different factors which have an impact on progress and attainment in these groups; the identification of best practice.

The Review will focus on:

- The extent to which;
 - a child's background - including ethnicity, gender, culture, and social class and;
 - negative stereotyping and/or cultural bias can have an impact on the progress and attainment of identified groups
- The positive impact that schools can have on the progress that children make
- What children, young people, parents and the wider community think needs to be done to improve progress and attainment for identified groups
- The impact of school leadership, management and governance on attainment and equality
- The impact of support, monitoring, challenge and intervention mechanisms from the Local Authority/Academy sponsors on schools' culture and attainment practices.

Type of evidence:

The Scrutiny Committee will:

- Hear the views of children and young people to see what they perceive as the factors that support their engagement, progress and attainment
- Hear what parents and the community think can be done to improve outcomes for identified groups
- Receive evidence of alternative interventions and approaches that have been effective in improving outcomes for identified groups e.g. the interventions delivered by the Upward Bound Project
- Receive evidence from local authority officers and leaders in schools
- Receive oral evidence from key witnesses and analyses of relevant local and national performance data, including links between aspiration and academic attainment
- Receive written evidence from other interested parties
- Visit schools and examine first hand interventions that are in place for identified groups
- Receive expert witness presentation from national advisers.

Witness evidence:

It is proposed that witness evidence is taken from:

- Children and young people at school and beyond e.g. Youth Council
- Parents and carers
- The community and community leaders
- Representative headteachers and other school leaders
- Practitioners and researchers expert in the field both locally and nationally
- Local authority officers

Additional information:

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.

Indicative Witness Evidence Plan

The below plan is indicative and is subject to change with the agreement of the Chair.

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 9 July 2019

Who / What	Area of focus – Introductory Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny Initiation Document 	For the Committee to agree the aim, objectives and scope of the review.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Doudle, Head of School Improvement (Primary) with other relevant officers 	Introductory presentation: data, context; local and national position; work undertaken to date in Islington – Equalities 'Plan on a Page' and related documentation.

August

Who / What	Area of focus – Background Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Evidence 	Written evidence will be circulated to members over August. This will include background information and relevant research.

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 17 September 2019

Who / What	Area of focus – Short update on progress and attainment; the views of headteachers and best practice

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 17 September 2019	
Who / What	Area of focus – Short update on progress and attainment; the views of headteachers and best practice
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anthony Doudle, Head of School Improvement (Primary) with other relevant officers 	Update on data on progress and attainment for these key groups with national and local comparators where available.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A panel of Headteachers from Early Years, Primary and Secondary 	Best practice in schools, successes and challenges in implementing targeted approaches.

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 29 October 2019	
Who / What	Area of focus – The National Context
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National expert 	The bigger picture – national context and research. To be related to local considerations.

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 26 November 2019	
Who / What	Area of focus – Effective interventions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives who can provide evidence on innovative approaches and projects being used across schools. 	Effective approaches currently in place that have a demonstrable impact on improving outcomes for these groups and lessons to be learnt. This may include the approaches of other boroughs.

Committee Meeting – Tuesday 21 January 2020	
Who / What	Area of focus – Any outstanding matters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other information as requested by the Committee 	To consider any outstanding information requested by the Committee during the course of the review.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concluding Discussion 	For the Committee to discuss their thoughts and conclusions on the evidence received, prior to developing recommendations.

Committee Meeting – Monday 10 February 2020	
Who / What	Area of focus – Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft Recommendations 	To agree a set of draft recommendations that will form the basis of the Committee's report.

Committee Meeting – Monday 30 March 2020

Who / What	Area of focus – Recommendations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Final Report	To agree the final report, summarising all of the evidence received, and explaining the reasons for the recommendations. The report will then be submitted to the Executive.

Proposed Scrutiny Visits and Witness Evidence Sessions

Who / What	Area of focus
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Primary school / early years setting – preferably one with high levels of attainment for these groups	To observe practice and talk to school leaders, pupils, parents and/or community representatives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Upward Bound Project	To talk to pupils attending the Upward Bound project run in partnership with London Metropolitan University. Parents may also be in attendance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Islington Youth Council	To talk to members of the Youth Council about their views on equality in education.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Parents	To receive evidence from parents.

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**People Directorate
222 Upper Street, London N1 1XR**

Report of: Corporate Director, People

Meeting of:	Date:	Ward(s):
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	9 th July 2019	All

Delete as appropriate:		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: Children's Services Quarter 4 2018/19 Performance Report

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 This Quarter 4 performance report provides an update on progress against the relevant Corporate Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the relevant services within the People Directorate.
- 1.2 A Data Dashboard, showing performance against the KPIs, is included in a separate attachment. This report should be read alongside the dashboard for a full, rounded understanding of performance in each area.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To consider Children's Services performance in Quarter 4 2018/19.

3. Background

- 3.1 The main body of this report is set out under the outcomes within the Corporate Plan for 2018-22. Only those KPIs where new data is available at the time of writing are discussed in this report, to avoid repetition from previous performance updates.
- 3.2 Note that some of the numbers identifying particular indicators have been changed from previous reports, as a result of slight changes made to the basket of KPIs.

Outcome: Creating a safe and cohesive borough for all

1.1 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of young people (aged 10-17) triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system

83% of young people triaged in 2018/19 were diverted away from the criminal justice system. This is better than performance during 2017/18. The improvement was down to a high proportion of young people triaged in the second half of the year being diverted away from the criminal justice system, particularly in Q3.

The provision of robust and effective early intervention and prevention to children, young people and adolescents within the borough who are in need of support, help and protection has continued to be a significant focal point for the service. The remit of TYS has broadened and diversified in recent years so that a wider pool of vulnerable children and young people can be prioritised. Indeed, although young people can be referred via the duty system with Children's Services Contact Team (CSCT) which often leads to TYS being the lead agency supporting a young person, TYS are also co-working more cases which are held within Social Care. This helps to strengthen the quality of the wrap-around support that the young person is receiving. The quality of the relationship between the allocated TYS worker and the young person has also been an area of focus of late and we have continued to build upon the impressive rapport that many of the service users have with their worker through the embedding of the Trauma Informed and Motivational Practice models. These approaches are also used when staff take part in the detached youth work duty system, where staff engage with young people who may be loitering in borough 'hotspots'. The objective here is to keep young people off the streets by signposting them to services which can help them achieve long-term positive outcomes. The use of the TYS truck has been important in engaging young people in this regard.

A TYS lead has been allocated to be a conduit for most secondary schools in the borough to ensure that needs can be responded to more swiftly and that an offer of support can be provided when young people are in need. There has been continued prioritisation of schools whereby, through recommendations following the SPARK review of the top 25 most prolific YOS offenders, we have identified a group of young people for targeted support via the transitions project. This project is focussing on the transition of a cohort of young people from year 6 to year 7.

Based upon intelligence from the Police and the wider network, TYS has continued to deliver interventions to areas which have increased levels of need and where there have been serious incidents. For instance, there was an increased focus on providing support to young people (and the community) in the Cally area in Q4 due to the fatal stabbing of a young person. Staff are also delivering more group work sessions.

1.2 - Corporate Indicator - Number of first time entrants into Youth Justice System

There were 58 first time entrants in 2018/19, which is fewer than the number of first time entrants in 2017/18. This continues the ongoing trend of a decreasing number of first time entrants each year since 2015/16.

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) report on the rate of first time entrants for each local authority, to allow comparisons to be made between different areas. Islington's latest reported rate was 376 per 100,000 10 to 17 year olds, for October 2017 to September 2018. This is a 7% drop compared to the same period during the previous year, although the Islington rate remains above the London and England rates.

Islington has seen year on year reductions in the number of first time entrants and this is to be welcomed in the context of increased Serious Youth Violence across London and the prevalence of other social issues which are impacting on children and families locally and London wide. The number of first time entrants in a local area is seen by many commentators as a measure of how effective that area's early intervention and prevention and youth crime reduction strategies are. The commentary for 1.1 is also applicable to this indicator in terms of the work that is being carried out to divert young people from entering the criminal justice system in the first instance. In addition, the quality of the interventions which exist for young people

who are offered a Triage in respect of low-level offences has ensured that young people are assessed, screened and supported early on in their journey. Indeed, the intention is for there to be no further progression and for any problems to be resolved in union with the young person, their family and key professionals within the system. Some of these professionals include the Liaison and Diversion Nurse, who will screen young people for health conditions so that they can be referred to relevant workers where need be; IYPDAS the substance misuse team, who will provide education and awareness about the dangers of substance and alcohol use and support will also be offered in relation to education. In addition, the Integrated Gangs Team (IGT) also provide early help to young people who are at risk of offending and gang affiliation. We also continue to make use of the Youth Counselling Service for young people who require emotional support and of our commissioned organisations such as Safer London and Chance UK, who provide mentoring to young people who need support. The aforementioned has contributed to a good level of performance in relation to young people entering the Criminal Justice System.

1.3 - Corporate Indicator - Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s)

Provisional data shows out of the 44 young people in the cohort for 2018/19, 20 had reoffended during the year (45%). This is a lower percentage than what was reported at the end of 2017/18.

The YJB report on two different measures of reoffending, based on a rolling cohort of young offenders in one quarter, and their levels of reoffending over the following 12 months. This means that the figures are eighteen months behind. The Corporate Indicator is based on a fixed cohort of young offenders in one quarter of the year, with their reoffending being reported cumulatively during the following year. Additionally, the YJB allow a significant time lag in their reporting, to allow for potential delays in the recording of outcomes, nationally. The latest data for the YJB reoffending 'binary' measure is for the January – March 2017 cohort of offenders, 59.4% of whom reoffended in the following 12 months. This compares to 42.5% reoffending across London and 39.9% across England as a whole. The Islington figure represents an increase compared to the previous quarter. In relation to the YJB 'frequency' measure, Islington still ranks highly out of our comparators.

Our re-offending rates – whether using the Youth Justice Board or local formulae – remain higher than we would like due to the fact that we continue to have a small, but significant cohort of young men who ultimately continue to offend whilst subject to YOS supervision and monitoring. These are young people with significant and multiple vulnerabilities in line with the findings of the SPARK review of the 25 most prolific offenders – domestic abuse; broken attachments to carers; parental substance and/or alcohol misuse; chaotic school histories; speech and language difficulties and special educational needs, some of which are undiagnosed. In relation to the latter, the work of the Educational Psychologist is identifying various vulnerabilities with the cohort. Subsequently, because of the complex needs of the cohort and due to how entrenched their offending actually is, it has been more difficult to make a significant impact with the curtailment of this indicator. There is a lot of work and action taking place, however, to ensure that this cohort (and any potential newcomers) are provided with appropriate interventions via tailored support packages alongside enforcement. Indeed, the embedding of Trauma Informed and Motivational Practice is helping to strengthen the quality of the assessment, planning and interventions to all of our young people, but particularly to this group of young people who reoffend (almost all of whom have experienced significant traumatic events). We have also continued with our monthly joint supervision clinic with social care, which was cited as good practice in the Joint Area Targeted Inspection and have continued with our Clinical Specialist Panel, so that specialist staff can collectively decide on the best specialist intervention for young people. We also continue to work closely with police colleagues to ensure that enforcement is commensurate to each case

We are also continuing to use the Youth Justice Board's 'live tracker' tool to identify, track and monitor the cohort. This also helps us to identify who the next group of reoffenders may be. As we know that engagement in education, training and employment (ETE) is essential to keeping young people on the right path, we have recruited a permanent I-Work Employment Advisor into the YOS. Work is also taking place with colleagues from the Employment, Skills and Culture department to improve the overall ETE offer to the YOS cohort and other vulnerable adolescents within the borough.

Note – the comparison shown above is a snapshot at the end of the year. This measure actually gets refreshed during the year and is not totally reliable until sometime after the data is reported (as the outcomes of offences are confirmed throughout the year).

It is recognised that with a low First Time Entrants rate and over 50% reduction in the YOS cohort that those young people known to the YOS are likely to be entrenched in offending and have a multitude of complexities.

1.4 - Corporate Indicator - Number of custodial sentences for young offenders

After a large drop in the number of custodial sentences between 2016/17 and 2017/18, there was an increase in Q1 of 2018/19, compared to the same period of 2017/18, with 11 young people sentenced to custody in the quarter receiving 12 custodial sentences. However, there have been fewer young people sentenced to custody in the subsequent quarters, so the annual total for 2018/19 is 26 custodial sentences. This is above the number last year, although discounting Q1, the figures are broadly in line with each other each year.

The YJB report on custodial sentences based on rates per 1,000 10-17 year olds during a rolling 12-month period, to allow comparisons to be made between different local authorities. The latest data, for the 2018 calendar year, reports Islington's rate as 1.50 custodial sentences per 1,000 population, which is the same as the previous quarter. Islington's rate remains higher than the London (0.58) and England (0.32) averages.

The YOS continues to dissuade courts from imposing custodial sentences on young people unless necessary. Indeed, in many cases the risk that young people pose to the public can be managed in the community and the YOS has the resources available to it to facilitate this. This does not subsequently mean that the courts will always follow the YOS's recommendations, however. In the main, this is due to the fact that we have a group of persistent offenders (as demonstrated by our reoffending rates) who are more likely to receive custodial sentences and because those young people who are sent to custody have perpetrated serious offences. In such circumstances, courts (particularly Crown Courts) will often sentence young people to custodial sentences. It is positive to note, however, that the significant work on this area has continued, despite the blip in Q1. Indeed, in recent times, a number of young people have been sentenced to community penalties when custody was seriously being considered by the courts. Due to the high quality of the Pre-Sentence Reports and the advocacy skills of the caseworker/s on behalf of the young person, custody has been avoided for a number of cases. In addition, the offer of the Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Programme has also helped to prevent further custodial sentences. We are also benefiting from the embedding of Trauma Informed Practice in the YOS and across the partnership and this shared ethos is contributing more towards the court's understanding of the level of trauma that many of the YOS cohort has experienced.

BAME young people are over-represented in the youth justice system and in the secure estate and we continue to work to tackle the disproportionality issues that exist. We are using a sentencing tracker to help us monitor sentencing patterns on the basis of race. We also have a presence at a multi-agency, cross-borough YOS steering disproportionality group and we were successful in securing funding from the Youth Justice Board to facilitate a project which will focus on tackling and curtailing disproportionality in our borough and in Haringey (as the project is a joint one).

1.5 - Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours

There were 11 children missing from care for more than 24 hours during March 2019. This is slightly higher than the number during March 2018 (9), but slightly lower than the number during December 2018 (13). However, this measure was first set when, historically, the number of children missing from care was higher at around 20 children each month, so these are relatively small changes compared to the fall that has occurred over the longer term.

The data evidences that there has been a slight increase in the number of children missing from care for more than 24 hours when compared with the previous quarter. Work has been completed with placements and supported accommodation providers and we are of the view that this has increased provider's knowledge of the missing process and likely impacted on the timeliness of children being reported missing from care.

Islington's demographic profile remains similar – in terms of the boys (67%) more likely to go missing than girls (33%), and children aged 16 and 17yrs going missing from care more frequently.

Protection from harm whilst children are missing from care or from home, starts with a multi-agency response using Strategy meetings to ensure there is a robust safety plan in place. During quarter 4, 12 missing strategy meetings were chaired independently by the Exploitation and Missing Team. The process regarding safeguarding missing children has continued to be embedded within Social Work teams, meaning strategy meetings do not always require an independent chair. The council and its partners have developed the missing person notifications and alerts system to support the child being found as quickly as possible.

All missing children are cross referenced to see if there are links to child sexual exploitation (CSE), gang affiliation, serious youth crime or criminal exploitation. This ensures that risks are assessed at the earliest opportunity and safety plans are developed which are multi-agency. In Q1 and Q2, the data identified that 21% of missing episodes were for children identified at risk of CSE and 40% of episodes were children identified as gangs at risk or gang nominal. In Q4, it remains the same with 21% of children missing from care being identified as at risk of CSE. However, 58% of children missing from care in Q4 have been identified as gangs at risk or gang nominal which is a significant increase from Q1 and Q2. This data demonstrates that a large number of children who go missing from care are 16 or 17-year-old males who are affected by gangs. The Exploitation and Missing Team identify that further analysis in relation to this cohort of young people is required, in order to build on the intervention and support available to young males, and prevent them from being groomed into exploitation.

In November 2018 the child's database system launched a flagging system for those young people who are involved in 'County Lines'. This was to enable further analysis and cross referencing between children who go missing from care and children who are identified as at risk of exploitation through County Lines. In Q4, the data shows that 6% of children reported missing from care were identified as at risk of County Lines, this equates to 42 missing episodes. However, as this data is representative of the year to date and the County Lines hazard has only been active since November 2018, it is likely that this percentage will grow. Further analysis of this data in the next quarter will provide a clearer picture in terms of the correlation between children who go missing from care and those at risk of County Lines and any patterns or trends.

As supported by the data outlined above, there is significant correlation between children who go missing from care and children who are at risk of exploitation. The Exploitation and Missing Team provide consultations to the social work teams and support with risk assessment and safety planning. The team also chair gangs, CSE and exploitation strategy meetings where required.

Most children and young people stay in touch with a professional whilst being missing and once they return they are offered a 'Return Home Interview' by an independent person who explores why they went missing and what harm they may have come to whilst missing.

The Exploitation and Missing Team continue to provide training across the council and through the Islington Safeguarding Children Board which explores the link between children that go missing and risk of exploitation. There is continuous scrutiny and senior management oversight of children who do go missing with briefings provided every Friday to senior leaders and council members.

Outcome: Delivering an inclusive economy, supporting people into work and helping them with the cost of living

Corporate Indicators and associated targets relating to Employment, Skills and Culture are generally reported to the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee. However, any of these measures that relate particularly to children and young people will also be reported to Children's Services Scrutiny.

2.2 - Percentage of 16 & 17 Year old Residents NEET or Not Known

Islington Council has a statutory duty to track and report on all 16-17 year olds and to have an up to date destination for this cohort, ensuring they are engaged in education, employment and training (EET).

For those young people unable to access EET due to social & emotional health issues and other significant barriers, there is support provided through the Islington Council Progress Team. There is a re-engagement offer that provides 1-1 support and a stepping stone approach for the most vulnerable young people in Islington.

The Progress team works on an annual cycle of reporting that includes:

- Early identification in year 11 of young people who are 'at risk' of becoming NEET. This enables the Progress Team to work with schools to plan early interventions and provide year 11 transition support and engagement during the summer period to ensure young people have an offer of education, employment and training.
- Intended destination data to ensure young people in Year 11/12 have a Post 16 pathway plan.
- September Guarantee information which enables the Progress Team to identify young people who do not have a pathway plan and to engage with them during the summer and at GCSE results day to plan and access EET opportunities.
- Annual Activity Survey and Post 16 Destinations. The Activity Survey collects the learning activities of the previous academic year's Year 11 Islington school leavers. Post 16 Destinations collects information on the destinations of previous academic year's Year 12 and 13 leavers.
- NEET/Unknown reporting between December and February, this is used to provide an average NEET/Unknown figure.

Good working relationships with schools across Islington has provided an opportunity to further extend support to young people 'at risk' by providing a link adviser who can caseload and engage with young people when schools break up ensuring transition support is in place. The link adviser attends on GCSE results day. In August 2018 a total of 105 young people were seen on results day and provided with support to apply and access EET activities.

97.9% of all year 11 Islington school leavers were reported to have moved into an EET destination at the Annual Activity Survey 2018. This information includes re-engagement activities and employment without training.

Based on the data collecting exercise carried out from December to February to arrive at an average NEET /Unknown figure ,the proportion of Islington 16 & 17 year old residents who were NEET or whose status was not known, increased from 3.5% in the previous year to 5.5% (based on an overall cohort of 3,157).

There was a marked improvement toward the end of the short reporting window (from 7.3% in December to 3.7% in February), and Islington had better overall figures than other Central London Boroughs.

It should also be noted the annual NEET figure remained low at 1.8% in comparison with 2.6% in Camden and 2.2% in Hackney.

Reasons for the short term dip in performance during the first half of the reporting window were, a reduced team due to sickness absence and a higher than anticipated number of unknowns being identified for follow-up on their current destination.

As part of planning for the next reporting period, a detailed analysis of this year's data has been undertaken. It has highlighted a need for better information on the destinations of Islington residents attending Capital City College group of colleges and those who are not with education providers, but are in employment or training.

The measures underway to strengthen future performance include:

- A link adviser for Capital City Group of colleges.
- An additional resource within Islington Youth Offending Service.
- Increased collaboration with teams working with vulnerable groups for early identification of those young people's support needs.
- Appropriate cover arrangements to maintain team capacity during key reporting windows
- Mapped home visits to unknowns.

2.4 – Corporate Indicator: Number of schools that have expressed an interest in the Cultural Enrichment Programme (11 by 11) by March 19

11 By 11 is a commitment to providing all children and young people in Islington with 11 outstanding cultural experiences by Year 11 in school. It is a programme which aims to ensure equality of access to enrichment activities, particularly targeting those who are disadvantaged. This new corporate plan priority and recommendation of the Fair Futures Commission is an evidence-based response to enhancing life skills through engagement with cultural activity. We have met the target to have 30 schools express an interest in the programme by the end of March 2019.

Developments to date include:

- 59/67 (88%) schools have engaged with 11 by 11 since Autumn 2018. 50 schools were represented at the 11 by 11 launch by a school leader or governor; 25 schools have applied for cultural activities from the 11 by 11 Activity Menu; 34 schools have nominated a Cultural Lead teacher; 31 schools have had a 121 meeting about the initiative
- 43 cultural organisations have submitted offers on the primary, secondary or both 11 by 11 Activity Menus for the summer term. In total, the 11 by 11 Activity Menus had enough opportunities for 408 classes to be offered an activity. 11 new cultural organisations will be contributing an offer to the activity menu for the new academic year.
- 2,553 primary school pupil experiences have been offered for the summer term; 195 for EYFS (8%), 676 for KS1 (26%) and 1,682 for KS2 (66%).
- Using the census data and FSM/Pupil premium data from September 2018, 694 of the 2,553 primary pupils offered an 11 by 11 activity are FSM. This means that 27% of the 11 by 11 opportunities that were offered to primary aged students will reach pupil premium students.
- 483 secondary school pupil experiences have been offered for the summer term. 95% of these experiences were for Y8 or Y9 pupils.
- The Cultural Enrichment Team has used the November 2018 Cultural Enrichment schools survey, individual meetings with secondary schools and liaison with Schools Improvement Service to identify 24 target schools. Of the 24 target schools, 2 are secondary, 13 are primary, 3 are alternative provision/PRU and 3 are special. 17 of the target schools have had at least one engagement with 11 by 11. 3 target schools have had no engagement with 11 by 11- St Joan of Arc, The Family School and Blessed Sacrament RC Primary
- The most engaged wards are Clerkenwell, St Georges, Bunhill and Junction (with between 80-100% of schools in each of these wards fully engaged.) The least engaged wards are Caledonian, Finsbury Park,

Holloway, St Mary's and Highbury East (with between 40-60% of schools in each of these wards full engaged). See below table for ward engagement:

Ward	No. schools	No. schools engaged	% schools engaged
Clerkenwell	2	2	100.0%
St George's	2	2	100.0%
Bunhill	7	6	85.7%
Junction	5	4	80.0%
Tollington	4	3	75.0%
Barnsbury	6	4	66.7%
Highbury West	3	2	66.7%
Hillrise	3	2	66.7%
Mildmay	3	2	66.7%
St Peter's	6	4	66.7%
Caledonian	5	3	60.0%
Finsbury Park	5	3	60.0%
Holloway	4	2	50.0%
St Mary's	6	3	50.0%
Highbury East	5	2	40.0%

- In consultation with School Improvement Data Team, a monitoring and evaluation framework is being developed to track engagement of schools.
- A New Direction and the Dame Alice Owen Foundation have each committed £25,000 of funding to Culture Bank, a series of teacher development opportunities and a youth voice framework and programme that will support 11 by 11. The 11 by 11 Culture Bank will provide youth leadership and teacher development opportunities, including a network of Cultural Leads across Islington Schools. Culture Bank will help widen the impact of the 11 by 11 Pledge to ensure that all children and young people in Islington schools and education settings have a great cultural education and 11 inspiring cultural enrichment experiences by Year 11.

2.5 – Corporate Indicator: 100 hours of the world of work - Number of secondary schools committed to an outline plan for implementation by March 2019 and

2.6 – Corporate Indicator: Sectors with a local business leader committed to supporting the 100 hours initiative by March 2019

The council has committed to ensuring that all young people in Islington benefit from 100 hours' experience of the World of Work by age 16. This builds upon the work that has been in action since the recommendations of the Employment Commission in 2014 to develop a high quality careers offer in schools that is industry led, in order to create change for the next generation. The 100 hours World of Work programme will engage children and young people from the early stages of primary school through to secondary school, to prepare for their future careers and gain an understanding of the breadth of career options that are available locally.

Islington schools have been consulted on the approach and we have initiated an overall programme design in collaboration with head teachers through the Islington Community of Schools and with businesses we currently work with. Key developments over the last year include:

- Development a web-based menu, which offers a simple way for schools to book employer led career activities that are brokered and collated by the council.
- Delivery of employer led career activities across all secondary schools, brokered by iWork, including employability days, workplace visits and assembly talks.

School	Number of activities	Pupil experiences
Arts & Media Islington	5	840
Central Foundation Boys School	7	600
COLA Highgate Hill	7	387
COLA Highbury Grove	1	120
COLA-I	1	140
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson	4	350
Highbury Fields School	12	1100
Holloway School	7	691
New River College	5	108
Samuel Rhodes School	10	74
St Aloysius	15	965
St Mary Magdalene Academy	5	1160
The Courtyard	1	20
Total	80	6555

- Planning for activities with primary schools in the Summer term, including Careers Carousels, visits and classroom talks. These will inform a wider programme of activity with primary schools in 2019/20 academic year.
- 30 businesses have signed up to offer activities through the 100 hours World of Work online menu, across the following sectors:

Sector	No. businesses
Apprenticeship support	1
Construction & Engineering	4
Creative Production	4
Financial and Professional	3
Health & Social Care	3
Higher Education	1
Hospitality	1
Media and journalism	1

Public Services	2
Retail	2
Sports, leisure, travel	3
STEM	2
Tech/Digital	3

- A further 14 businesses have supported career related activities in schools over the last year, and we will continue conversations to establish a standing offer from these businesses through the 100 hours World of Work menu.
- Collaboration with the Richard Reeves Foundation to support schools in accessing grant funding. This will build capacity within schools to deliver careers education and experiences of work. iWork has also secured a direct grant, to provide additional consultancy for schools to develop programmes of employer led activities that support the 100 hours World of Work alongside a plan for achieving the Quality in Careers Standard.
- Secondary school Careers Leaders are engaged through a council-convened network that meets on a termly basis to share practice and deliver relevant CPD.

Bespoke offers for priority groups are being developed, and a schedule of activities has been agreed with the Virtual College, with the first activity to commence in July 2019 during school summer holidays.

A new relationship has been established between Ted Baker and New River College PRU. A programme of activity began in March 2019 with T-shirt production workshops and follow up sessions have been held with a visit to Ted Baker head offices scheduled for June 2019. Ted Baker have committed to supporting NRC next year including further workshops and donations of equipment.

Outcome: Making Islington the best place for all young people to grow up

Performance across many of these indicators should be considered in the context of the current priorities set out in the refreshed service plan for Learning and Schools. In line with the school led self-improving system, these have been shared with headteachers, leaders and governors in schools. Current provisional data indicates that these are the correct priorities and action across the priorities is now being taken.

- Narrowing the gap in attainment between Black-Caribbean pupils and the LBI average at KS2 and KS4 (KS2 gap in percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths. KS4 gap in Progress 8)
- Narrowing the gap in attainment between White British pupils eligible for FSM and the LBI average at KS2 and KS4. (KS2 gap in percentage of pupils achieving the expected level in Reading, Writing and Maths. KS4 gap in Progress 8)
- Improving attainment and progress measures at every stage so that they are closer to, at, or above the inner London average (particularly for SEND pupils at KS4)
- Ensuring that all schools are good or outstanding
- Reducing the number of primary school children who are persistently absent and increasing attendance to be at or above the inner London average
- Reducing exclusions so that they are at or below statistical neighbours
- Continuing to secure high quality provision for children and young people with SEND – evidenced in the SEND self-evaluation
- Increasing the percentage of 2year old places taken up by low income families, children with SEND or who are looked after
- Effectively supporting the Islington Community of Schools, so that it continues to develop as a school led self-improving system

Many of the educational outcome measures are reported under this Corporate Plan outcome. However, as many of these measures are reported based on the academic year, rather than the financial year, only a limited number of these are included within the Q4 Performance Report. Provisional academic results will be reported again in future Quarterly Performance Reports in the Autumn and Spring terms.

3.5 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of primary school children who are persistently absent and

3.6 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of secondary school children who are persistently absent

Locally, we have collected the Autumn term attendance data for 2018/19. This shows that the persistent absence rate in Islington primary schools was 9.5%, which was lower than the rate during the Autumn term of the previous year. It was also lower than the national average for 2017/18, and in line with the London average for that year. The persistent absence rate in the Autumn term was lower than the persistent absence rate for the borough across 2017/18 as a whole.

The persistent absence rate for Islington secondary schools in the Autumn term was 13.1%, which is marginally above the rate for the same term the previous year. However, it is lower than the overall rate for 2017/18 as a whole, and lower than the England average for the Autumn term of 2017/18.

Work with partner agencies is in progress to agree a joint working approach around the role of key practitioners working with children/young people and families where poor attendance is an issue, including how best they can support them and provide appropriate challenge.

School attendance audits are being carried out with schools with the highest persistent absence levels. This is being followed up with further analysis of the effectiveness of school's processes and procedures, recognising the significance of whole school approach.

Improving attendance is a key priority. An Attendance Strategy 2018-2020 is in place. Attendance has been a focus in briefings for headteachers and governors in the spring and summer term. There is a targeted programme work being delivered with 10 Primary schools. It is proposed (for discussion at the next headteacher briefing in June) that performance in relation to attendance will be a key evaluation point in the Autumn 2019 categorisation of schools delivered through the Work in Support of Schools document WISS. The Attendance Strategy has 4 key deliverables:

- All parents meet their responsibilities to ensure their child attends school regularly
- All schools have effective leadership and management of attendance in place
- All partners provide needs based support to improve attendance at school
- The Local Authority continues to challenge and support schools to ensure measures taken to improve attendance are effective.

3.13 – Number of children in Alternative Provision

The number of pupils in Alternative Provision (AP) at the end of Q4 2018/19 was 76 pupils. This is the same number as at the end of Q3. This KPI has been amended for 2018/19 to now look at all pupils in Alternative Provision, including AP directly commissioned by schools. Previously, the figure was based on those pupils in Alternative Provision that was managed and commissioned through the Alternative Provision Team based at New River College (NRC). At the end of Q4 in 2017/18, there were 48 pupils in Alternative Provision managed by New River College. The equivalent figure for the same schools 2018/19 is 44 pupils, so there has been a slight fall. Based on trends for the previous measure, we would expect a gradual increase in the numbers of pupils in Alternative Provision throughout each academic year, before a drop as pupils leave at the end of Year 11.

From September 2018, schools are responsible for monitoring the attendance, progress and outcomes for any student placed on AP. Schools still have the option to purchase the services of NRC to broker placements,

including the undertaking of a risk assessment, but can choose to do this themselves. AP provision and processes around it continues to be a focus in the secondary headteacher briefings. Headteachers support the premise that only in exceptional circumstances should children and young people not be provided for in a mainstream setting.

Local and national data confirms that mainstream schooling offers the best outcomes and life chances for most students. Islington schools are therefore committed to only placing students on AP in exceptional circumstances. To this end, the Secondary Securing Education Board will continue to monitor the number of students attending AP. All of our Secondary schools have identified a contact person to facilitate the sharing of data in relation to students attending AP. This information is collected on a monthly basis prior to the Securing Education Board meetings and the LA pupil database updated accordingly in line with GDPR requirements.

3.18 - Corporate Indicator: Participant rate for Islington Youth and Play settings - 5 to 12 year olds

And

3.19 - Corporate Indicator: Participant rate for Islington Youth and Play settings - 13 and older

60.6% of young people aged 5 to 12 years old who attended Islington Youth and Play settings in 2018/19 when on to become 'participants' – that is they went to attend the same project five or more times during the year. This compares to 65.3% in 2017/18. The 2018/19 represents 4,596 5-12 year olds who attended settings, 2,784 of whom attended the same project five or more times.

52.2% of young people aged 13 to 25 years old who attended Islington Youth and Play settings in 2018/19 when on to become 'participants'. This is a larger proportion than the 44.7% in 2017/18, and is also above the target of 50% set for the year. The number of participants in 2018/19 was 2,763, compared to 2,486 the previous year.

The 2 participant rates for Islington Youth & Play settings are new measures, based on the proportion of children and young people who have attended Youth & Adventure Play settings and who go on to become 'participants', i.e. have at least 5 attendances at any particular setting throughout the year. It is pleasing that the KPI for the 13+ participant rate has been exceeded as the 50% target was considered to be stretching. This represents a significantly higher figure than those achieved historically for the 13-19 age range, which was more typically nearer to 30%. It suggests that the youth offer in Islington is of a high quality in that the majority of young people whom it contacts go on to attend multiple times. The figure for 5 to 12 year olds has been significantly affected this year by challenges in maintaining the safety of 2 adventure play sites, MLK and Crumbles Castle. Both of these sites have been closed most of the year due to their buildings being unsafe and beyond repair. This has impacted on the participant rate in this age range. Crumbles Castle re-opened at Easter and plans are in place to provide a temporary building at MLK in the near future and we are confident that the participant rate for this age range will improve in 2019-20.

3.20 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months

This indicator relates to children who have had a social care assessment and intervention which has resulted in their case being closed and who have then been referred again within 12 months of the case closure. Our auditing of these cases suggests that the majority of these children relate to children living with domestic abuse and where either the level of risk has apparently diminished or where the family no longer wants social work intervention and the needs are not so great as to warrant statutory child protection processes being instigated. Audit of the cases when they are referred is indicative of new incidents of domestic abuse or an escalation of the original concerns.

For the last few years our re-referral rate has remained fairly constant at about 20%, which has been similar to the national average. However, the proportion of re-referrals within the last 12 months has reduced from

16.8% at the end of 2017/18 to 16.3% at the end of 2018/19. The reduction in the re-referral rate is an early indication that the Motivational Practice approach is now having a sustainable and longer term impact on the wellbeing of children and their families, as improvements in this indicator have been sustained for two years.

3.21 – Corporate Indicator - Percentage of children who become the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time

The proportion of children who became the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time increased from 15.7% in 2017/18 to 21.3% at the end of 2018/19. However, this is less than the proportion reported at the end of quarters 2 and 3 during the year, as the monthly proportions for January to March 2019 have shown a reduction.

The figure for 2018/19 as a whole is based on 47 out of 227 children becoming the subject of a plan for the second or subsequent time. The number of children becoming subject to a plan for a second or subsequent time in 2018/19 is only slightly higher the number during the previous year. However, the total number of plans starting has fallen significantly, which has meant the overall percentage for this measure has increased. The number of repeat plans in 2018/19 includes a significant number of young people in family groups, which have a disproportionate effect on the headline percentage.

A preliminary audit had been undertaken of repeat plans part way through the financial year. Domestic violence and abuse remains by far the most common reason for repeat plans. A continuing theme is the difficulty in engaging fathers with the child protection process in a meaningful way. 19 plans had a gap of over 3 years between plans. 6 of the repeat plans concerned children who had previously experienced trauma from domestic abuse and were now at risk due to contextual abuse such as serious youth violence.

This audit is being revisited now that the full-year data is available.

3.22 - Placement stability - short term - Proportion of looked after children with 3 or more placements over the course of the year

Provisional data shows that 37 out of Islington's 313 looked after children had had 3 or more placements during the year 2018/19, which is 11.8% of the total. This is a reduction on 2017/18, when 12.7% of Islington's looked after children had 3 or more placements during the year, but above the London and England averages for 2017/18.

The improvement in performance on this measure is encouraging. The improved stability for children recently entering care indicates we are making improvements in matching children to the right placement and reflects our robust planning.

3.23 - Placement stability - long term - Percentage of children who have been looked after for more than 2.5 years who have been looked after in the same placement for at least 2 years or placed for adoption

Provisional data shows that at the end of 2018/19, 59.5% of Islington's looked after children who had been looked after long term were in stable placements. This is above the proportion at the end of the previous quarter (57.7%), but below the proportion for 2017/18 (62.8%).

The long-term stability of placements continues to remain a challenge, despite the increase in the proportion in stable placements shown in Q4. We hope that the further embedding of our practice model will promote greater stability for our looked after children, leading to improvements on this measure in the coming years.

3.24 – Number of looked after children

At the end of 2018/19 there were 313 children looked after by Islington. This represents a reduction of 8% across the year, from 339 at the end of 2017/18. The reduction in the numbers of children looked after is very positive and an indication of the impact of our motivational Practice model.

Outcome: Continuing to be a well-run council, making a difference despite reduced resources
6.1 - Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings

The latest published data (as at the end of 2018) shows the proportion of Islington's settings on the Early Years Register judged good or better has increased again to 94.3%, up from 93.7% at the end of August 2018. This is above the London average, but below the England average. Islington remains in the third quartile, nationally, although this is better than previous performance - historically Islington had tended to be in the bottom quartile for this measure. To show how tightly grouped together the figures are for each local authority, if just 7 more of Islington's 192 settings improved their inspection judgement, Islington would be in the top quartile of local authorities, nationally.

There continues to be an overall increase in the percentage of providers judged as good or outstanding in their early years Ofsted inspection. As at the end of December 2018, there was one inadequate setting and ten settings with a requires improvement judgement. The inadequate setting has since resigned its Ofsted registration. The ten settings with a requires improvement judgement were comprised of an out of school club, a playgroup, a private nursery and seven childminders.

Islington's rate of outstanding provision is well above both England and London averages at 28.1% compared with 19.6% and 17.5% respectively. Provision classed as non-domestic (i.e. not childminders or group childcare in people's homes) is particularly good with 44.6% judged as outstanding compared with 22.1% across London and 23.5% in England. 93.0% of private, voluntary and independent nurseries were judged to be good or outstanding.

6.2 - Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools

The proportion of schools judged good or better stood at 91.0% at the end of March 2019, a slight reduction from the 92.5% at the end of 2018. This change was due to the result of Prior Weston's inspection in January 2019. Islington remains above the England average (85.3%) in terms of inspection outcomes, but is slightly below the London average (92.0%). Despite this slight fall, Islington remains in the top quartile, nationally.

Three secondary and one primary school are currently requiring improvement. These schools are receiving robust support and challenge to secure rapid improvement leading to a good or better judgement at the next inspection.

The breakdowns by school phase (good or better) are:

- 100% of nursery schools (3/3)
- 93.3% of primary schools (42/45)
 - 97.5% of local authority maintained primary schools (39/40)
 - 60% of academies and free schools (3/5)
- 70% of secondary schools (7/10)
 - 66.6% of local authority maintained secondary schools (4/6)
 - 75% of academies and free schools (3/4)
- 100% of special schools (5/5)
- 100% of Pupil Referral Units (4/4)

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

Not applicable.

4.2 Legal Implications:

Not applicable.

4.3 Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

A Resident Impact Assessment has not been completed because, although there are some equalities data-monitoring measures within this report, this is part of a regular set of reporting and no major changes to service provision have been recommended. A Resident Impact Assessment would be completed if there was a recommendation or decision to make a substantial change to an existing service, or to launch a new service, in light of the findings of this report. The information contained within this report may, however, form part of the evidence base for future Resident Impact Assessments as required.

5. Reason for recommendations

5.1 In accordance with its remit:

Scrutiny Committee is asked to discuss the progress set out in the report.

Appendices

- Appendix A: Data Dashboard for Q4 2018/19

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Carmel Littleton, Corporate Director for People Date

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Appendix A - Data Dashboard

CS PI No.	Corporate Indicator?	Indicator	Current Figure (Period covered)	Previous Figure (Period covered)	Figure at end of previous year	Direction of travel	London	England	National quartile
CES OBB Outcome: Creating a safe and cohesive borough for all									
1.1	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of young people (aged 10-17) triaged that are diverted away from the criminal justice system	83% (2018/19 FY provisional)	80% (2017/18 FY)	80% (2017/18 FY)	↑	n/a	n/a	n/a
1.2	✓	Corporate Indicator: Number of first time entrants into Youth Justice System	58 (2018/19 FY provisional)	60 (2017/18 FY)	60 (2017/18 FY)	↓	n/a	n/a	n/a
1.3	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of repeat young offenders (under 18s)	45% (2018/19 FY provisional)	54% (2017/18 FY)	54% (2017/18 FY)	↓	YJB measure on reoffending uses a different cohort so is not comparable		
1.4	✓	Corporate Indicator: Number of custodial sentences for young offenders	26 (2018/19 FY provisional)	17 (2017/18 FY)	17 (2017/18 FY)	↑	n/a	n/a	n/a
1.5	x	Number of children missing from care for 24+ hours	11 (March 2019)	13 (December 2018)	8 (March 2018)	↑	n/a	n/a	n/a
CES OBB Outcome: Delivering an inclusive economy, supporting people into work and financial independence and helping them with the cost of living									
2.2	x	Percentage of 16 & 17 Year old Residents NEET or Not Known	5.5% (Dec 2018 - Feb 2019)	3.5% (Dec 2017 - Feb 2018)	3.5% (Dec 2017 - Feb 2018)	↑	4.8% (2018/19)	5.5% (2018/19)	2nd from bottom
2.4	✓	Corporate Indicator: Number of schools that have expressed an interest in the Cultural Enrichment Programme by March 19	59	n/a	30	-	n/a	n/a	n/a
2.5	✓	Corporate Indicator: 100 hours of the world of work - Number of secondary schools committed to an outline plan for implementation by March 2019	6	n/a	5	-	n/a	n/a	n/a
2.6	✓	Corporate Indicator: Sectors with a local business leader committed to supporting the 100 hours initiative by March 2019	8	n/a	8	-	n/a	n/a	n/a
CES OBB Outcome: Making Islington the best place for all young people to grow up – where children and families can thrive and reach their potential									
3.5	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of primary school children who are persistently absent (below 90% attendance)	9.5% (Autumn term 2018/19)	10.8% (Autumn term 2017/18)	11.0% (2017/18 AY)	↓	8.8% (Autumn term 2018/19)	9.2% (Autumn term 2018/19)	2nd from bottom
3.6	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of secondary school children who are persistently absent (below 90% attendance)	13.1% (Autumn term 2018/19)	12.9% (Autumn term 2017/18)	13.9% (2017/18 AY)	↔	10.9% (Autumn term 2018/19)	12.7% (Autumn term 2018/19)	2nd from bottom
3.13	x	Number of children in Alternative Provision	76 (Q4 2018/19 FY)	76 (Q3 2018/19 FY)	Not comparable	TBC	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.18	✓	Corporate Indicator: Participant rate for Islington Youth and Play settings - 5 to 12 year olds	60.6% (2018/19 FY)	65.3% (2017/18 FY)	65.3% (2017/18 FY)	↓	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.19	✓	Corporate Indicator: Participant rate for Islington Youth and Play settings - 13 and older	52.2% (2018/19 FY)	44.7% (2017/18 FY)	44.7% (2017/18 FY)	↑	n/a	n/a	n/a
3.20	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of re-referrals to Children's Social Care within the previous 12 months	16.3% (2018/19 FY provisional)	15.6% (2018/19 Q3)	16.8% (2017/18 FY)	↓	16.7% (2017/18 FY)	21.9% (2017/18 FY)	2nd from top

CS PI No.	Corporate Indicator?	Indicator	Current Figure (Period covered)	Previous Figure (Period covered)	Figure at end of previous year	Direction of travel	London	England	National quartile
3.21	✓	Corporate Indicator: Percentage of children who become the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time	20.7% (2018/19 FY provisional)	21.3% (2018/19 Q3)	15.7% (2017/18 FY)	↑	14.9% (2017/18 FY)	20.2% (2017/18 FY)	Top
3.22	x	Placement stability - short term - Proportion of looked after children with 3 or more placements over the course of the year	11.8% (2018/19 FY provisional)	7.3% (2018/19 Q3)	12.7% (2017/18 FY)	↓	11.1% (2017/18 FY)	10.5% (2017/18 FY)	Bottom
3.23	x	Placement stability - long term - Percentage of children who have been looked after for more than 2.5 years who have been looked after in the same placement for at least 2 years or placed for adoption	59.5% (2018/19 FY provisional)	57.7% (2018/19 Q3)	62.8% (2017/18 FY)	↓	67.2% (2017/18 FY)	69.8% (2017/18 FY)	Bottom
3.24	x	Number of Looked After Children	313 (2018/19 FY provisional)	327 (2018/19 Q3)	339 (2017/18 FY)	↓	Not comparable	Not comparable	n/a
CES OBB Outcome: Ensuring our residents can lead healthy and independent lives									
CES OBB Outcome: Making Islington a welcoming and attractive borough and creating a healthy environment for all									
CES OBB Outcome: Continuing to be a well-run council, making a difference despite reduced resources									
6.1	x	Percentage of good and outstanding early years settings	94.3% (End December 2018)	93.7% (End August 2018)	92.7% (2017/18 FY)	↑	92.6% (End December 2018)	95.2% (End December 2018)	2nd from bottom
6.2	x	Percentage of good and outstanding Islington schools (all phases)	91.0% (Q4 2018/19 FY)	92.5% (Q3 2018/19 FY)	95.3% (Q4 2017/18 FY - not directly comparable)	↓	92.0% (Q4 2018/19 FY)	85.3% (Q4 2018/19 FY)	Top



Report of: Corporate Director for People

Meeting of:	Date	Ward(s)
Children's Services Scrutiny Committee	9 July 2019	All

Delete as appropriate		Non-exempt
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SUBJECT: Vulnerable Adolescents – One Year On

1. Synopsis

- 1.1 The Executive received a report from the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee which reviewed how effective the council is in providing joined up services and whether there are effective processes and practices that ensure young people are involved in all aspects of their support and intervention. The scrutiny report proposed 14 recommendations to further improve the co-ordination and join up of services for vulnerable adolescents. This report updates the committee on the actions taken in response to the vulnerable adolescents' scrutiny.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the progress on actions taken in response to the Vulnerable Adolescents Scrutiny Review.

3. Background

- 3.1 During 2017/18, the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee conducted a review on the co-ordination and join up of services for vulnerable adolescents. Overall the Committee was impressed with the wide range of support services available for vulnerable adolescents. The Committee considered several examples of different services and agencies working together to provide co-ordinated services for the benefit of young people. It concluded that the council and its partners recognise that providing joined up services is the best approach to supporting vulnerable young people. However, the Committee advocated for further improvements which related to a greater strategic join-up between services; working differently by adopting new practices, such as trauma informed and contextual safeguarding approaches; closer work with the Police around domestic violence and the sharing of intelligence; making the most of existing resources; and communicating more effectively with young people and the professionals that support them.

4. Scrutiny Committee recommendations – One Year On

- 4.1 **Recommendation 1. A borough-wide pledge to support vulnerable young people should be developed by Summer 2018. Ownership of this pledge at Chief Executive level will help support accountability cross the council. All council services should commit to working collaboratively to reduce the risks to young people and improve their wellbeing. Partner organisations should also be encouraged to commit to the pledge. This would assist in developing more joined up early intervention approaches.**

Recommendation 2. It is suggested that the delivery of the pledge should be incorporated into the terms of reference and work plans of all relevant multi-agency forums. These forums should monitor delivery of the pledge through their work. A member of the Children’s Services Scrutiny Committee should be invited to observe relevant meetings. In addition, the Youth Council and CAIS should be invited to undertake an annual review of the effectiveness of the Pledge and report their findings back to the Chief Executive.

Work has begun on transforming the Children and Families Board to become the successor to the Fair Futures Commission. Its first task is to co-design and launch the ‘Islington Guarantee’ or ‘Promise for Young People’ for those living and/or studying in Islington with young people by next Summer. We have begun to build elements of the Pledge such as 11 by 11, the guarantee of 100 hours experience of the world of work and a recent refresh of the charter for children in care.

- 4.2 **Recommendation 3: To foster a more effective and joined-up approach to safeguarding across London, Children’s Services should seek to work with neighbouring boroughs and other agencies to develop a contextual safeguarding approach. This approach is focused on reducing risks and vulnerabilities and promoting safeguarding by intervening in the social environments experienced by young people, rather than focusing interventions on individuals. As part of this work, the council should lead on the development of protocols across borders with neighbouring local authorities focusing on risk management and the sharing of good practice.**

Islington continues to be the comparator group for Hackney’s contextual safeguarding model and work is underway with the researchers, including interviews with practitioners, questionnaires and focus groups with young people. This is an ongoing project for which feedback is received.

The Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) remit has been widened to encompass other areas of exploitation including gangs, serious youth violence, HSB, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Modern Slavery/Trafficking (including criminal exploitation). The MASE has been re-named Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE).

Other partners have joined the MACE including community safety. This has opened up the discussion around patterns, themes, locations (hot-spots) identified across all areas of exploitation and contextual safeguarding. It also enables resources across the partnership to be identified and deployed.

The Exploitation and Missing Team has recruited a new analyst who is making links with neighbouring boroughs, including Camden, Hackney and Haringey. We plan to develop these links and have regular cross-borough meetings to share information and discuss areas where contextual safeguarding risks are identified in order to deploy resources.

- 4.3 **Recommendation 4: Subject to the results of the trauma-informed approaches pilot, Children’s Services should work with the community of schools to encourage schools to engage with these approaches and adopt related screening tools. This may assist in identifying a range of issues, including the diagnosis of mental health issues, at a much earlier age. The five schools engaging in the ARC pilot project should be asked to support in cascading this approach.**

Following an event held last year, and subsequent discussions with schools, six primary schools and two secondary schools joined Wave 2 of the Islington Trauma-Informed Practice in Schools (iTIPS) pilot. All schools that were recruited completed Year One of iTIPS and are committed to continuing into Year Two. Wave 3 schools have been recruited with four primary schools and one secondary school starting iTIPS in September 2019. In addition to the 14 schools that were trained as part of iTIPS, a further 11 schools (two secondary and nine primary schools) have had the three-hour trauma-awareness training facilitated by one or more members of the working group. The multi-agency project team continues and has been joined by the Speech and Language Service.

4.4 Recommendation 5: A trauma-informed approach to working with young people should be embedded in multi-agency training through a review of the Safeguarding Children Board training offer.

The Islington Safeguarding Children Board (ISCB) agreed in July 2018 that trauma-informed practice will be adopted by the partnership's as a way of working. The training and workforce development sub-group amended the training strategy, now requiring all partners to ensure that their staff receive training or briefings in trauma informed practice. All ISCB multi-agency training now reference trauma-informed practice as a way of working in Islington. The ISCB and partners have developed multi-agency trauma-informed practice briefings which remain ongoing for the partnership. These have been very well received.

In the autumn, the ISCB will carry out a training audit to ensure that:

1. Partners included trauma-informed practice in their local training strategies; and
2. Staff are attending the ISCB briefings.

4.5 Recommendation 6: A high number of vulnerable adolescents have experienced or witnessed domestic abuse earlier in their lives. It is crucial that these young people receive support at the earliest possible opportunity. It is recommended that the council and police work together to develop stronger and earlier interventions on domestic abuse. This work should include the development of Operation Encompass in schools and a focus on partnership work through Islington Safeguarding Children Board.

Following the successful bid to the Ministry for Communities and Local Government for 'Earned Autonomy under the Troubled Families Programme, a multi-partnership prototype was put in place to develop effective ways to work with domestic abuse and parental conflict. This focuses on 'Prevention, Protection and Repair.' The team became operational on 7 January and includes specialisms seconded from across the partnership including a Police Officer, a Housing DV worker, perpetrator services, mental health, a substance misuse specialist, Early Help Practitioners and Social Care practitioners. The University of Bedfordshire are working alongside the innovation team to shape the practice and evaluate the outcomes of the pilot.

[Operation Encompass](#), which includes the guidance policy around information sharing between the police and schools, is live. Most schools are now signed up. Operation Encompass will be fully up and running by September.

4.6 Recommendation 7: Children's Services should review if greater information can be shared between agencies to develop a more joined up approach to working with vulnerable adolescents. The Council should work with Police to ensure that lower level non-criminal concerns about young people are reported to the school via the Safer Schools Officer, so that young people's behaviour can be monitored and they can be referred to appropriate support services as appropriate.

Work to develop appropriate, effective and proactive information sharing continues to be ongoing and remains a priority for the Missing & Child/Adolescent Exploitation Sub Group of the ISCB.

4.7 **Recommendation 8: The Committee considers that greater use could be made of Safer Schools officers. The promotion of Safer Schools officers and their role in safeguarding children should be reiterated through Islington's community of schools.**

Safer Schools Officers continue to engage proactively with schools. The feedback to date is satisfaction with this engagement and the Police will continue to prioritise this relationship.

4.8 **Recommendation 9: The council should ensure its strategic and commissioning priorities for vulnerable adolescents are shared with the voluntary and community sector and that priorities between the council and voluntary and community sector organisations are aligned. This could include the alignment of grant funding to these priorities.**

Recommendations 10: Children's Services should continue to work closely with voluntary and community sector organisations and develop these relationships further as appropriate. This may assist in generating referrals, normalise accessing support, and help to ease transitions between services.

Youth and Community Services continue to work with the voluntary and community sector to agree commissioning priorities for vulnerable adolescents. There are several consultation events planned in Summer/Autumn 2019 as part of the review of the Working Together for a Safer Islington plan. The new plan will be launched in April 2019 and set out the council's strategic and commissioning priorities for reducing the exploitation of vulnerable adolescents.

Concise and collated information is pulled together on services for vulnerable adolescents including referral mechanisms and contact details particularly in 'hot spot' areas. These are shared via the Children and Young People's Voluntary and Community Sector Forum and Voluntary Action Islington's network, as well as through networks of commissioned youth, play and support service providers in priority locations.

Following a workshop held in June 2018, 20 programmes were funded through the Young Londoners Fund which will provide over 2,200 places in sports, arts, leisure and targeted support services for vulnerable Islington young people. Youth and Community also presented at a recent workshop for this year's round of the Young Londoners Fund. Officers will continue to raise awareness about the ISCB training offer and encourage successful providers to access these.

Commissioners have engaged with children's social care, early help and community safety colleagues to run several sessions with local third sector play and youth providers to identify information sharing opportunities and smooth pathways between services. Consideration is being made of setting up a network for Designated Safeguarding Leads in play and youth providers to ensure effective referrals and enable earlier intervention when required.

4.9 **Recommendation 11: The council should work to improve its communications to young people. The Council should lead on the development of a multi-purpose young people's app/website to ensure a wider reach for communicating targeted messages and information about health and wellbeing and support services.**

Recommendation 12: Children's Services should review the feasibility of allowing young people to contact their social worker through instant messaging.

The local Islington page on NHS Go, a confidential health advice and information service for young people, is live and currently includes local information on emotional health and wellbeing. We are planning to expand local information to cover key areas which can impact on emotional health and wellbeing including drugs & alcohol and sexual health.

Social workers have been allocated smartphones to enable contact and engagement via WhatsApp with young people.

4.10 Recommendation 13: The council should review its directory of services and ensure it is proactively promoted to professionals in the health, education, and voluntary and community sectors to raise awareness and understanding of the range of support services available to vulnerable adolescents.

The Family Directory is reviewed and promoted regularly to ensure and incorporate the range of support services available to young people and their families. The team are working with the Young People's Participation Officer to incorporate feedback from individual young people on the user journey for the appropriate directories.

4.11 Recommendation 14: The council should review if support services for young people are sufficiently flexible and accessible and should consider the appropriateness and feasibility of providing evening and weekend support services, if such services are not already available.

Support services for young people continue to be kept under review in order to respond to changing needs and preferences.

In line with young people's needs, a wide range of services are currently available in the evenings including detached youth work, open for all youth provision and one to one targeted youth work. Detached youth work and open for all youth work is also available on Friday evenings across the borough. There is an offer of mentoring for up to 30 vulnerable adolescents (aged 11+) which is delivered in the evenings and at weekends depending on the interests of the young people taking part.

Over the past year as a result of ongoing work with young people, services have continued to flex and respond, for example, the Rose Bowl Youth Club will be opening on Friday evenings for young people 13+. 'Summer Saturday' evening openings at Lift and Platform were piloted last summer. There is further work to do to better understand young people's preferences and motivations around their attendance at services in the evenings at weekends. The Islington Youth Council will be leading a series of sessions with their peers in late June / early July at Lift, Platform, Rose Bowl and Soapbox to further understand what young people want from their youth services.

The Youth Council led the successful 'YouthFest19' event on Friday 5th April at Lift, which attracted nearly 200 young people. The event was fun and participative and showcased a range of support services available in the borough, including those that can help young people to stay safe. The Youth Council will be leading 'Summerfest' in early July at Platform as a result of the success of this event.

A review of the Zone youth club was completed and moved into Targeted Youth Support. Open at least three times a week in the evening, targeted youth support workers are embedded to carry out detached youth work. Programmes were recently extended to run during the half term and Easter holidays with a Summer programme lined up from July. The service is looking at how it can incorporate emotional wellbeing services to ensure that vulnerable adolescents can access this through The Zone.

4. Implications

4.1 Financial implications:

All activity in response to the Vulnerable Adolescents Scrutiny Review is being managed within existing budgets, with the exception of Recommendation 6, where funding has been received from the Ministry of Communities and Local Government for earned autonomy under the Troubled Families Programme. This funding runs until the end of this financial year.

4.2 Legal Implications:

Under the Children Act 1989, the Council has a duty to take action to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and to investigate and take appropriate protective action when a child is suffering,

or is likely to suffer, significant harm. A duty of care can be owed by local authorities when undertaking their social welfare functions (*CN v Poole Borough Council*, Supreme Court, 6th June 2019). The Council is required to secure sufficient services and activities for young people aged 13 to 19, and those with learning difficulties to age 24, to improve their well-being (section 507B Education Act 1996).

5.4 Resident Impact Assessment:

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

5. Reason for recommendations

5.1 This report details the progress on actions taken in response to the recommendations from the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee.

Appendices: None

Background papers: None

Final report clearance:

Signed by:

Carmel Littleton, Corporate Director of People

Date xxx

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CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

Monday 3rd June 2019

1. Membership, Terms of Reference, Dates of Meetings
2. Executive Member Annual Presentation
3. The role of Islington's supplementary schools
4. Update on the Timpson Review of Exclusion from School
5. Scrutiny Topics and Work Programme 2019/20

Tuesday 9th July 2019

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Scrutiny Initiation Document and Introductory Briefing
2. Quarterly Review of Children's Services Performance (Q4 2018/19)
3. Coordinated and Joined Up Services for Vulnerable Adolescents Scrutiny Review – 12 Month Report Back

Tuesday 17th September 2019

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Witness Evidence
2. Child Protection Annual Report

Tuesday 28th October 2019

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Witness Evidence
2. Response to Timpson Review of School Exclusion
3. Quarterly Review of Children's Services Performance (Q1 2019/20)
4. Executive Member Questions

Tuesday 26th November 2019

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Witness Evidence
2. Update on the Fair Futures Commission recommendations – One Year On
3. Overview of Mental Health Provision in Schools
4. SACRE Annual Report

Tuesday 21st January 2020

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Witness Evidence and Concluding Discussion
2. Quarterly Review of Children’s Services Performance (Q2 2019/20)
3. Islington Safeguarding Children Board: Annual Report

Monday 10th February 2020

1. Update on Scrutiny Review of Post-16 Education, Employment and Training
2. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Draft Recommendations

Monday 30th March 2020

1. Equalities in Educational Outcomes – Draft Report
 2. Quarterly Review of Children’s Services Performance (Q3 2019/20)
 3. Education Annual Report
 4. Executive Member Questions
-

Tuesday 2nd June 2020

1. Membership, Terms of Reference, Dates of Meetings
2. Executive Member Annual Presentation
3. Scrutiny Topics and Work Programme 2020/21