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DATE: 27 April 2017

To: Members of the
EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE

Councillor Nicholas Bennett J.P. (Chairman)
Councillor Neil Reddin FCCA (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Kathy Bance MBE, Kim Botting FRSA, Alan Collins, Mary Cooke,
Judi Ellis, Ellie Harmer and Chris Pierce

Church Representatives with Voting Rights
Mary Capon and Joan McConnell

Parent Governor Members with Voting Rights
Emmanuel Arbenser
2 x Parent Governor Representative (vacancy)

Non-Voting Co-opted Members
Tajana Reeves, (Young People's Representative)
Alison Regester, (Pre-school Settings and Early Years Representative)

A meeting of the Education Select Committee will be held at Committee Rooms -
Bromley Civic Centre on **TUESDAY 9 MAY 2017 AT 7.00 PM**

MARK BOWEN
Director of Corporate Services

Paper copies of this agenda will not be provided at the meeting. Copies can be printed off at <http://cde.bromley.gov.uk>. Any member of the public requiring a paper copy of the agenda may request one in advance of the meeting by contacting the Clerk to the Committee, giving 24 hours notice before the meeting.

Items marked for information only will not be debated unless a member of the Committee requests a discussion be held, in which case please inform the Clerk 24 hours in advance indicating the aspects of the information item you wish to discuss

A G E N D A

PART 1 (PUBLIC) AGENDA

Note for Members: Members are reminded that Officer contact details are shown on each report and Members are welcome to raise questions in advance of the meeting.

STANDARD ITEMS

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 3 COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWING REVIEW OF CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION (Pages 3 - 22)**
- 4 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18 (Pages 23 - 28)**

DATES OF FUTURE EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

28 June 2017

17 October 2017

23 January 2018

27 February 2018

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EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at 7.00 pm on 23 March 2017

Present:

Councillor Nicholas Bennett J.P. (Chairman)
Councillor Neil Reddin FCCA (Vice-Chairman)
Councillors Kathy Bance MBE, Kim Botting FRSA,
Mary Cooke, Judi Ellis and Chris Pierce

Emmanuel Arbenser and Tajana Reeves

Also Present:

Councillor Peter Fortune, Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's
Services
Councillor Tom Philpott, Executive Support Assistant to the Portfolio
Holder for Education and Children's Services

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Alan Collins.

Apologies for absence were also received from Mary Capon, Joan McConnell and Alison Regester.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No additional declarations of interest were made.

3 MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD ON 17 JANUARY 2017 AND 15 FEBRUARY 2017 AND MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on 17th January 2017 and 15th February 2017 be agreed and that matters outstanding be noted.

4 QUESTIONS TO THE SELECT COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ATTENDING THE MEETING

No questions had been received.

5 QUESTIONS TO THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ATTENDING THE MEETING

No questions had been received.

6 PORTFOLIO HOLDER UPDATE

The Portfolio Holder gave an update to Members on work being undertaken across the Education Portfolio.

Inspections of the Bromley Adult Education Service and the Youth Offending Service had recently taken place. The provisional feedback from these inspections was that significant progress had been made and that although there was still a need for improvement, services were now well-placed to move forward. The second Ofsted monitoring visit of children's services had taken place in February 2017, and provisional feedback suggested that improved practice and pace had been identified and that in respect of the cases reviewed, no children were unsafe in Bromley. Work was now being undertaken to identify how children's services could best be represented through the Council's Portfolio arrangements from the 2017/18 municipal year. The Chairman led Members in thanking the Director: Education and the Head of Service: Adult Education for their excellent work in the reorganisation of the Bromley Adult Education Service and requested that the Head of Service: Adult Education provide an update to the next meeting of the Committee. In response to a question from a Member, the Portfolio Holder confirmed that he was a member of the Youth Offending Service Board and that measures had been introduced to support Board Members in better understanding the pathway for young people entering the service. The inspection reports for these services would be provided to the Committee when they were published.

The SHaW Futures Academy, which was an innovative 11-19 school specialising in science, health and wellbeing, was working closely with all partners to resolve any issues relating to its permanent site at Westmoreland Road, Bromley and was planning to open in September 2019. Planning applications for two other secondary schools had been considered by Development Control Committee at its meeting on 25th January 2017, at which planning permission had been granted for Eden Park High School, Beckenham. Following a vote by Members, planning permission for the proposed Bullers Wood School for Boys, Bickley had been refused by a narrow margin and the school's management was considering whether to appeal the decision or submit an amended planning application.

The Portfolio Holder had met with representatives of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark to continue discussions around the possibility of establishing a Catholic secondary school in the Borough to open in September 2018. A site had been identified that would require minimal capital works, and the Chairman requested that the Director: Education contact the Archdiocese for an update on the proposed scheme. A Member requested that the Portfolio Holder also work with James Dixon Primary School around

the need to meet an expected increase in the demand for school places in relation to a large residential development in the Crystal Palace area. The Portfolio Holder had met with Nick Gibb, Minister of State at the Department for Education to discuss funding pressures in the High Needs funding block for schools. The Chairman requested that the Portfolio Holder send a letter to Head Teachers, Governors and Members of the Council outlining the current position on the proposed national funding formula for schools which was likely to reduce the funding received by some primary schools, although the immediate impact of this would be mitigated by the minimum funding guarantee.

With regard to progress within the schools' academisation programme, the Portfolio Holder reported that there were nine primary schools, one secondary school and three special schools that had not yet become academies. The Local Authority continued to support schools to move towards academisation, including a recent event to promote the benefits of joining a multi-academy trust at which standalone academies and smaller multi-academy trusts had also been encouraged to consider joining a larger multi-academy trust. St John's Church of England Primary School was part of the Aquinas Trust and following a recent inspection by Ofsted, significant improvement had been identified at the school that was now rated as 'Requires Improvement'. The Chairman requested that an information item on the Ofsted ratings of Bromley schools be reported to the next meeting of the Committee, and that the papers for future meetings of the School Partnership Board be provided to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. The Chairman noted that St Olave's and St Saviour's Grammar School was the sole remaining Local Authority Maintained secondary school and requested that the appointment of the Local Authority representative to St Olave's Governing Body be progressed.

Lord John Nash had responded to the Leader's letter raising issues identified with elective home education through the review of the Education Select Committee on Alternative Education. In discussion, Members generally felt this response did not address the safeguarding issues raised and the Leader of the Council would be sending a further letter to highlight key concerns.

RESOLVED that the Portfolio Holder update be noted.

7 EDUCATION INFORMATION ITEMS

The Committee noted the minutes of the meetings of Education Budget Sub-Committee held on 31st January 2017 and 15th March 2017.

8 EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME

Report CSD17050

The Chairman advised Members that the meeting of the Education Select Committee due to take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 27th June 2017 would now be held at the later date of Wednesday 28th June 2017. It was proposed that this meeting focus on the theme of child protection and the significant

increase in the number of children looked after since May 2016. Possible witnesses could include the Chairman of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Board, the Chairman of the Bromley Children's Service Governance Board, the Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services and the Interim Director: Children's Services.

The Chairman proposed that an additional meeting of the Education Select Committee be held in May 2017 to consider the work programme for the 2017/18 municipal year and this was generally agreed by the Committee.

RESOLVED that the Education Select Committee Work Programme be noted.

9 THIRD REPORT OF THE EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE

Report CSD17051

The Committee considered the third report of the Education Select Committee that had been drafted following the meetings on 17th January 2017 and 15th February 2017. The theme of the enquiry had been to examine the reasons why some groups of pupils underperformed and what might be done to improve performance.

RESOLVED that the third report of the Education Select Committee be reported to Council to be referred to the relevant Portfolio Holders for consideration and response.

10 YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE UPDATE

The Committee welcomed Ms Betty McDonald, Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service who had joined the Local Authority in November 2016 after a number of years working as the Head of the Tri-borough Youth Offending Service for the Boroughs of Hammersmith and Fulham, Westminster, and Kensington and Chelsea to the meeting.

The Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service was pleased to report that following the recent full joint inspection of the Youth Offending Service led by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation, the inspectors had given positive feedback around progress made in improving the service over the past 15 months and the management capability to support continued progress, although it was identified that a number of issues still needed to be addressed. A range of work to drive improvement across the service was underway, including the development of staff and a continued focus on making a difference for young people. The inspection report would be published in April 2017.

With regard to staffing, the Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service reported that there were 25 staff within the Youth Offending Service, which included 12 frontline practitioners. A number of staff members were inexperienced, particularly around the theoretical elements of their role, and

work to recruit qualified social workers would continue. A Member queried if the introduction of the 'Caseload Promise' within Children's Social Care services which aimed to allocate no more than 12-15 cases per social worker would assist recruitment. The Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service explained that caseloads worked differently in the Youth Offending Service, but that lower caseloads would be helpful in promoting the Local Authority as a good place to work.

In response to a question from the Chairman, the Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service confirmed that the Youth Offending Service worked closely with the National Probation Service as young people transitioned to adult services, but that there was a need to develop stronger links with the London Community Rehabilitation Company which had undergone a number of changes to its operational delivery model and had recently stopped providing the unpaid work service for the Youth Offending Service.

A Co-opted Member queried how data was used by the Youth Offending Service. The Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service explained that due to the process for analysing and authenticating reoffending data there was a delay of approximately 18-24 months before this information was provided to the Local Authority. To address this, the Youth Offending Service was gathering 'live' data to track the existing cohort young people within the Youth Offending Service to better understand their activity and identify effective interventions. The Youth Offending Service supported young people aged 10 to 18 years. In considering current caseloads, the largest group was young people aged 17 years, but young people aged 10 to 13 years currently made up 20% of the cohort which was a concern, and early intervention work was being undertaken to divert these young people away from offending.

With regard to the issue of parenting orders, the Head of Youth Support and the Youth Offending Service confirmed that parenting orders were still pursued where appropriate, but that the Youth Offending Service preferred to refer parents to early intervention services or parenting classes that could provide the required support outside the Court system.

The Chairman requested that a further update be provided to the Committee at its meeting on 17th October 2017.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

11 SEND UPDATE

The Committee welcomed Ms Debi Christie, 16-25 Commissioning Manager (SEND) to the meeting.

The 16-25 Commissioning Manager (SEND) gave a presentation to the Committee outlining the new SEND Ofsted and Care Quality Commission Framework that had been introduced by the Department for Education in April

2016 to evaluate how well local areas were implementing the reforms of the Children and Families Act 2014. Inspections under the Framework would concentrate on how the local area identified, assessed and met the needs, and improved the outcomes of children and young people with SEND from birth to 25 years. Of the inspections completed so far, 20 local area outcomes letters had been published, five of which required their local areas to produce a written statement of action on how performance would be improved, and there was an expectation that improvement plans would be developed by all local areas to maintain and develop the strengths identified through an inspection and to address any weaknesses.

The Local Authority and its partners had participated in a pilot inspection programme in October 2015 to support the Department for Education and its partners in refining the Framework. Preparations were now underway for the local area's formal inspection under the Framework which was expected to take place shortly. A proposed structure had been developed to support the governance of SEND provision which included the establishment of the SEND Reforms Governance Board that would be chaired by the Deputy Chief Executive and include representation from key partners from across the local area including the Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group, schools, the voluntary sector and parents and carers.

In response to a question from a Member, the 16-25 Commissioning Manager (SEND) confirmed that the 'local area' as defined within the Framework referred to the Borough's geographical area, and that should the local area be issued with a written statement of action to improve performance, the Local Authority and Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group would have joint responsibility for addressing the identified weaknesses. The Chairman underlined the need to identify best practice from high performing local areas, and requested that an update be reported to the Committee following the local area's formal inspection.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

12 NEET UPDATE

Report ED17043

The Committee considered a report providing an update on the Borough's performance relating to support for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) or at risk of becoming NEET and the strategies in place to increase the participation of young people in education, employment and training (EET).

The Education and Skills Act 2008 introduced a duty on all young people to participate in EET until their 18th birthday. Within this requirement, young people were able to choose from three options comprising full-time education (including school, college or home education), work-based learning with training (such as an apprenticeship) or employment, self-employment or volunteering with accredited training.

In Bromley, the NEET figures for 2016/17 demonstrated a significant improvement on the previous year for both the NEET and the 'Not Known' categories. The percentage of young people within this age group who were NEET had decreased from 1.8% to 1.7% between 2015/16 and 2016/17, and the percentage of young people whose EET status was 'Not Known' figure had reduced from 3.5% to 1.8% during the same period. The percentage of young people within this age group who were either NEET or whose EET status was 'Not Known' had reduced from 5.3% to 3.4% between 2015/16 and 2016/17.

RESOLVED that the update be noted.

13 REVIEW OF SELECT COMMITTEE PROCESSES

The Committee considered an evaluation of Education Select Committee questionnaires which had been provided to all Members of the Select Committee, the Portfolio Holder for Education and Children's Services and the Executive Support Assistant for Education and Children's Services in March 2017, and aimed to assess the success of the Education Select Committee model which had been trialled for the 2016/17 municipal year. Questionnaires had also been provided to witnesses to the Select Committee, as well as to the Director: Education and the Clerk to the Committee.

The Chairman thanked Members who had responded to the questionnaire and requested that all other Members return their completed questionnaires by 5th April 2017. The Chairman requested that a further paper copy of the questionnaire be provided to witnesses to the Select Committee for their response.

RESOLVED that Members' comments be noted.

A CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION WITNESS SESSION

The Committee had been provided with written evidence in advance of the meeting that included a report giving an overview of children missing in education in Bromley and a briefing note on court action pursued by the Local Authority concerning children missing education. A written submission was also received from the Bromley Youth Council providing their views on why young people may not be attending school.

The Chairman was pleased to welcome Ms Jenny MacDonald, Senior Education Welfare Officer, Ms Linda King, Youth Support Programme Manager (Universal) and Ms Stella Marshall, NEET Support Programme Officer to the meeting.

Jenny MacDonald, Senior Education Welfare Officer

The Senior Education Welfare Officer advised Members that there were a number of reasons for children missing education, including families

frequently changing addresses. There were currently 300 Bromley families in temporary accommodation, many of whom were housed out-of-Borough, and work was being undertaken to develop a dual registration scheme with schools in the area where families were housed to support children in maintaining their education.

In response to a question from a Member about a tragic case in another local authority where a mother had hidden her deceased child for over a decade, the Senior Education Welfare Officer reported that there was no single database system that brought together information from all key partners to track children from birth to school age. An IT system that provided this safeguarding functionality had been decommissioned by the Government in 2010, and the Member underlined the need to develop a similar information sharing system for Bromley. Once a child had entered formal education there were systems in place to monitor their activity and a new requirement had been introduced from 1st September 2016 for all schools to work more closely with the Local Authority in tracking pupils as they moved schools, including where families were moving overseas. Additional discretionary powers had also been provided to the Local Authority to require the same information from schools about standard transition points, such as when a pupil left school at the end of their final year.

In considering attendance at school, the Senior Education Welfare Officer confirmed that schools were expected to notify the Local Authority of any child that failed to attend school for ten consecutive days who they were unable to trace. Schools were also required to notify the Local Authority on a termly basis where a pupil had attendance of 90% or below, including authorised leave. The Local Authority took action when needed to ensure that parents were held to account around their children's regular attendance at school, and had previously issued penalty notices for non-attendance where schools reported that unauthorised leave had been taken. The Education Welfare Service worked to support improved attendance at schools in the Borough; however academy schools could choose to buy in their own independent educational welfare provider and were not required by law to make referrals to the Local Authority where concerns were identified. Some parents who had been subject to court action by the Local Authority with regards to their child's attendance had subsequently chosen to electively home educate their child. This had been challenged by the Local Authority in Court for some cases on the grounds that there was no evidence that suitable education was being provided.

The Virtual Head Teacher closely monitored the school attendance of all children looked after. There were currently four children looked after who were missing from education which was due to recent changes to their placements and the need to identify specialist education provision, and one-to-one tuition was provided to all children looked after missing from education for up to 15 hours per week.

Ms Linda King, Youth Support Programme Manager (Universal)

The Youth Support Programme Manager (Universal) advised Members that all young people were classified as being NEET where they were not in education, employment or training up to the end of the academic year in which they turned 18 years, including young parents.

The NEET Support Programme worked with young people on a one-to-one basis to identify an appropriate route into education, employment or training; however, the Participation Formula used by the Department for Education to identify NEET status did not take young people's personal circumstances into account and young people accessing short courses or in part and full-time employment where the accredited training requirement was not met were classified as being NEET.

Young people were provided with a range of targeted services to support them in moving into education, employment and training including access to the Bromley Youth Employment Scheme, Bromley Education Business Partnership and work experience opportunities. Where appropriate, young people were also given the opportunity to participate in a mentoring arrangement.

Ms Stella Marshall, NEET Support Programme Officer

The NEET Support Programme Officer advised Members that the participation status of 'Not Known' within the NEET statistics applied to young people who had been recorded as being within the Borough in academic year in which they turned 17 and 18 years old, but whose current whereabouts were unknown. The NEET Support Programme worked with partners to locate these young people but could not remove them from Bromley's NEET cohort until their new address had been confirmed, and there were 90 young people classified as 'Not Known' in Bromley in January 2017. The 'Not Known' classification regarding EET status, was entirely different to children identified as being missing from home whose cases was taken forward as a priority by the multi-agency Atlas Team.

The Local Authority was performing in the top fifth of London Boroughs in supporting young people into education, employment and training and was in the top two-fifths for identifying the status of 'Not Known' young people, but as the NEET cohort grew smaller it would be more difficult to deliver this continual reduction.

The Chairman thanked Ms Jenny McDonald, Ms Linda King and Ms Stella Marshall for their excellent contribution to the Children Missing Education witness session.

RESOLVED that the witness session be noted.

14 COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee agreed that a further meeting of the Committee be arranged once the minutes had been published to enable Members to contribute to the report that would be presented to the next meeting of the Council.

The Meeting ended at 9.17 pm

Chairman

EDUCATION SELECT COMMITTEE
23rd March 2017

CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION
Bromley Youth Council Written Evidence

Views on why young people are not attending school

- Bullying
- Peer pressure
- Lack of support from school
- All ability schools
- Friendships
- Loneliness
- Schools putting grades and achievements before learning and wellbeing
- Not being heard
- Schools limiting lower students options
- Students forced to take unwanted subjects
- Lower achieving students not supported to learn
- Family life/problems for students of all abilities
- Having a baby
- Exam pressure/stress/depression/anxiety
- No free time
- Can't be bothered
- Too much study pressure
- Not getting along with teaching staff
- Being judged/categorised on past mistakes
- Feeling like no one cares.
- Feeling unwanted by schools and peers.

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LB Bromley Children's Services Improvement Governance Board

Subject:	16+ CLA NEET
Date:	21 st April 2017
Lead Officer:	Helen Priest, Head Teacher, Bromley Virtual School
Contact Officer:	

1. Purpose of the report

The purpose of this report is to address the current 16+ CLA and Care Leaver cohort of young people who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) and the strategic and operational work currently being undertaken with them as well as the short and medium term plans to improve engagement with this age group of care-experienced young people.

2. Recommendations

Members of the Governance Board are invited to consider and comment on the contents of this report.

3. Background

There are 18 Bromley CLA aged 16-18 who are not engaged in education, training or employment (as at 13/04/2017). Characteristics of this group of young people are shown in table 1, below.

Characteristics	YR12	YR13
Whole cohort number	30	59
Number and percentage of NEET	7(43%)	11 (20%)
Number of YP with identified SEN	1	5
Number of Young people with YOs involvement	3	3
Number of young parents/pregnant YP (G6)	2	2
Number with physical/mental health problems (G4)	0	1
Number who became CLA after YR11	3	7
Type of accommodation	Foster care 4 Semi-ind 3	Foster care 0 Semi ind 11
Number actively seeking ETE	4	3

Table 1. showing characteristics of NEET Cohort

Analysis

These young people have a high level of special and additional needs, often not properly addressed during their school careers. Most of them are became CLA in YR11 or later, though they have often been known to social care for many years.

In the YR12 NEET group, only one young person had been in the care of the local authority for the whole of YR 11, with all of the others becoming CLA late in the academic year or since the end of the school year 2015/16. One young person is an unaccompanied minor, who arrived in March 2016, but the remaining young people n cohort had all missed large periods

at school during KS4 and most did not finish YR11. The Virtual School provided 1:1 tuition in school for only young person to facilitate attendance and the young person successfully finished the year and sat exams.

Only 1 of the current group of YR12 NEETs started the academic year without education provision; that young person was already a young parent. All 5 of the young people who started the academic year in FE colleges had left the course or had been off-rolled within 2 months, mostly as a result of poor or non-attendance issues. One young person, in an alternative post-16 provision also failed to attend and has subsequently started and stopped several other programmes. He continues to battle with mental health problems and is engaged in frequent low-level criminal activity.

A larger proportion of young people in the YR13 group have been CLA for longer, with 4 of them actually in care during YR11. Of those 4, however, 3 young people failed to complete the academic year or sit examinations, either because of refusal to engage with school or because of periods missing from home or care. Most of the young people have been accommodated since the end of YR11 and were NEET before they become CLA. The pattern of disengagement has continued for a number of young people, some of whom have never engaged with education, training or employment since YR11. Several of the young people have been offered and even started numerous courses with a range of providers but have been unable to sustain engagement.

One remarkable feature that the young people across both these year groups have in common is that most of them live in semi-independent or supported housing. Only 4 of them in YR12 are in foster homes (2 in mother and baby placements). It is easy to conclude that 16 and 17 year-olds living in semi-independent accommodation, often with chaotic lifestyles are not capable of sustaining engagement and attendance in education or training without significant additional support. Some of these young people might fare better in a school environment rather than a much larger FE college, but 6th form entry is restricted to children who have achieved 5 A*-C or, in some cases 5 As and Bs. Most would benefit from another year in KS4, enabling them to focus on core subjects and achieve some level 2 qualifications, without the pressure of deciding on a vocational option and then combining both in their first year of college while navigating the unknown waters of living independently.

Although young people have an allocated Social Worker until they are 18 years old and are then provided with a Young Person's Adviser, these professionals do not have the skills or the knowledge base to provide careers information, advice and guidance. A worker from TYS (Hayley, managed by LK) spends 5.5 days a fortnight supporting young people from the leaving care team on NEET issues, identifying pathways to EET. The rest of her time is spent in the youth service. She is much valued but finding this dual role very stressful. All agree that resourcing of this area needs to be reviewed in order to offer the level of support required for the approximately 60 young people aged 16-18 and 180 young people 18+ in the service.

Understanding Need

Analysis of this cohort shows that young people coming into care in mid-late adolescence have high levels of previously unidentified needs. These include:

- Unidentified special needs
- Frequent school changes because of exclusion (or the threat of it), or relocation
- Poor attendance leading to disengagement
- Family dysfunction/domestic abuse
- Mental and emotional health issues

The act of accommodation and the provision of a safe place to live are not sufficient to ensure re-engagement. Despite the intervention of professionals, these young people fail to secure qualifications at the end of KS4 and do not have the skills to motivate themselves or the confidence to plan their futures.

There is no lack of college and alternative provision for YR12 starters; courses are available at every level. Almost all of the cohort had a YR12 destination and enrolled on their courses in September. Regular attendance is an issue for many despite warnings that they will lose their places. For young people dealing with trauma and shame, each day away makes it harder to return and young people sabotage their placements by disengaging before they are off-rolled or excluded. Because their funding is linked to attendance, education and training providers are not able to be sufficiently flexible to allow young people to get back on board without being penalised.

When working with the ETE support in the Leaving Care Team, many of these young people express a wish to find an apprenticeship rather than attend a college course. Although some have genuine vocational goals, this is generally because they find classroom situations stressful (but do not know that they will have to undertake a training or classroom element) or because that they want or need to be earning. Whatever the reason for wishing to go down this route, what they find is that there is a shortage of level1 and level2 apprenticeship places. Competition is strong and their CVs are thin and their interview and assessment skills let them down. The apprenticeships on offer through the local authority programme are likely to require higher levels of literacy and numeracy than these young people can offer at this stage. This group of young people need intensive IAG support along with preparation for interviews. Work experience and apprenticeship searches through BEBP will continue to be of value.

CLA and care leavers who are NEET occasionally ask for support to re-take their GCSEs or even for an opportunity to take them for the first time. There is no provision for this in Bromley at present. Even at YR12, young people can only undertake GCSEs or functional skills alongside a vocational programme. Though it is possible to find an alternative provider that is willing to register a young person as an examination candidate, there is no provision for tuition or enrolment on an actual course and enrolment for retakes is dependent on finding a an institution registered for the same examining boards.

There are 2 key factors underlying all of the issues described above:

- A lack of the sort of support that good parents provide for their children, even into their twenties. It is hard for family life to be recreated for this group and many of them would reject it if it was. Additional key-work or outreach support can work, however, in supporting young people to improve their daily routine and to fill some of the gaps that exist for young people who do not live in a family home.
- The need for an education provider that will allow young people to engage for short,

intensive revision programmes, preferably with high levels of support and enrolment for examinations, at points in the academic year other than September. This provision would need to be flexible enough to allow young people to re-engage if they fail to attend for a few days or weeks.

Strategies for reducing NEET numbers among post-16 CLA

There are a number of strands to this work, some of which are already underway.

- Compilation of a directory of provision by the Preparation for Adulthood team, as part of the local offer. This will be a useful tool for all professionals working with and providing guidance to CLA and care leavers.
- A review of resourcing and ETE support for 16+ CLA and care leavers, with a view to increasing the hours provided by the current ETE worker (currently providing 5 days per fortnight).
- Bromley Apprenticeship Programme has a focus on care leavers with our own young people being targeted for places. The Virtual School and the 16+ Leaving Care Team are working with managers across the authority to assess the accessibility of the various offers and to identify apprenticeship-ready young people. Young people will be supported to apply and attend interviews. Further support, at whatever level is appropriate will be provided for any young people who are successful in achieving an apprenticeship in the local authority as well as to their line managers and training providers
- Investigation of possible access to the KS5 vocational provision for SEMH in Bromley. This, smaller provision might be more suitable for CLA aged 16-18 and would also provide the required access to level 2 academic qualifications.
- The creation of a local Functional Skills Partnership with a local SFA funded provider or with an alternative provider (possibly ESF funded). The provider would enrol young people only as examination candidates. This would enable young people to access opportunities for tuition and examinations in qualifications at level 2 and below without being on roll in a school or engaging in a vocational programme. This will require higher level of outreach and support work but has the potential to create opportunities for success for young people who have not, so far, experienced any.
- Our relationship with Bromley College (LSEC) needs developing. IT has been agreed to explore a possible 'Pathways to Engagement' project with Bromley College or other provider. A payment-by results project, this would be a 6-8 week roll-on/roll-off scheme, possibly using an existing provider for individual support for young people. The programme would help young people to acquire skills for work with possible pathways into mainstream college, apprenticeships or employment.
- Following a model used in other authorities, the Virtual School Head Teacher is considering using top-sliced Pupil Premium Plus funding to employ an information, advice and guidance (IAG) specialist to attend all Personal Education Plan (PEP) meetings for YR11 CLA. This will ensure that there is a greater focus on transition for these young people and a clear pathway to post-16 engagement is identified for each.

4. Supporting Documents

Table showing circumstances of individual NEET CLA aged 16-18.

Identifier	Gender	In/Out of Borough	Type of accommodation	Current situation	KS4 Outcomes	SEN	YOS Triage/ Order	Notes
YR12								
1	F	IN	Semi Independent	NEET	1 GCSE, English (c)	No needs identified.	Order	Applying for construction courses for September 2017
2	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET G4	No quals.	Statement	Order	Offered tuition by VS. Did not engage. Various alternative provisions started and abandoned
3	F	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET	no quals.	No SEN	Triage	Hopes to re-take GCSEs
4	F	IN	Foster care (mother and baby)	NEET G6	Eng D Maths E	No SEN	No	Pregnant
5	F	IN	Foster care	NEET	5xA*-C (not Eng/Maths) Btec L2 pass	No SEN	No	Working with Hayley. Turned down JACE opportunity but has applied for work and another preparation for work programme
6	M	OUT	Foster care	NEET	No quals. UASC late entry	No SEN	No	Working with Hayley, BEBP and Affinity Sutton. Looking for an apprenticeship/work experience and looking for a college place next year. Punctuality is an issue.

7	F	OUT	Foster care	NEET	2xGCSE (not Eng/Maths)	No SEN	No	Young parent
YR13								
1	F	IN	Semi Independent	NEET	Btec level1 Health and social care	No	No	Being encouraged to meet with Hayley.
2	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET	No quals. Frequent periods missing education	No	No	Met with TWIN apprenticeship on the 19/01/2017 who went through his options, including; art, design, music and construction opportunities. will meet again in March to meet a tutor to discuss his options. Lee has shown an interest in photography and stated that he wants to become a Vglogger. Alos wishes to re-take GCSEs.
3	F	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET G6		No	No	Young parent
4	M	IN	Semi Independent	NEET	No quals	School action Plus	Order	Currently not engaging in any constructive activity. Not wanting to do education or training and wants to do construction. Youth support worker at YOS (Andrew) is linked in . But has been breached to return to court on the 18th April and likely to be given custodial sentence.
5	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET	6xGCSEs Maths C	No	No	Disengaged

6	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET	No quals. School refuser	Statement	No	Has a diagnosis of conduct disorder and autism. He believes that now he's moved to out of borough, his local connections will secure him a job.
7	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET G4	No quals	Statement Autism	Order (Probation)	Recently released from YOI
8	M	OUT	Semi Independent	NEET	No quals. Frequent placement changes.	Statement Autism	Order	Lifelong Learning Traineeship commencing on 24/04, with Wandsworth Skills Project. 4 days p/w plus work placement
9	M	IN	Semi Independent	NEET	No quals.	No	No	Missed meetings with Hayley. Trying to establish contact. Cannabis use.
10	F	IN	Semi Independent	NEET G6	No quals.	EHC	No	Young parent

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Report No.
CSD17070

London Borough of Bromley

PART ONE - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: Education Select Committee

Date: 9th May 2017

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE EDUCATION, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2017/18**

Contact Officer: Philippa Gibbs, Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 020 8461 7638 E-mail: philippa.gibbs@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Mark Bowen, Director of Corporate Services

Ward: Borough-wide

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 This report seeks recommendations for item to be considered by the Education, Children and Families Select committee in 2017/18.
-

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 **Members of the Education Select Committee are invited to make recommendations on the Work Programme for the Education, Children & Families Select Committee in 2017/18.**

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy: As part of the Excellent Council stream within Building a Better Bromley, PDS Committees should plan and prioritise their workload to achieve the most effective outcomes.
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People: To secure the best possible future for all children and young people in the Borough, including a clear focus on supporting the most vulnerable children and young people in our community.
-

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Democratic Services
 4. Total current budget for this head: £335,590
 5. Source of funding: Council's Base Budget
-

Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 8 posts (7.27fte)
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: N/A
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: No statutory requirement or Government guidance:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable
-

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): This report is intended primarily for members of this Committee to use in controlling and reviewing their ongoing work.
-

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments: Not Applicable

3. COMMENTARY

Work Programme

- 3.1 Appendix 1, sets out the meetings of the Education Select Committee, Education Budget Sub-Committee, SACRE, and Schools' Forum which have been scheduled for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.
- 3.2 The purpose of the work programme is to reference future work and enable it to be amended in the light of future developments and circumstances.
- 3.3 Members and Co-opted Members of the Education Select may wish to recommend items for consideration and scrutiny by the Education, Children and Families Select Committee during the 2017/18 Municipal Year.
- 3.4 The Terms of Reference for the Education, Children and Families Select Committee will be tabled at the meeting on 9th May 2017.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy, Financial, Legal and Personnel Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	

Education Programme 2017/18

Education Select Committee	9 May 2017
Children Missing Education – (to include consideration of written evidence submitted by Bromley Youth Council)	Review and Recommendation Session
Education Select Committee	May 2017
Work Plan for 2017/18	
Education Select Committee	28 June 2017
Adult Education Update	Short Item
Child Protection and the Causes of the big increase in Children in Care (to incorporate Child Safeguarding): All Councillors to be invited in their capacity as Corporate Parents Witnesses: Chairman of the Bromley Safeguarding Children’s Board Chairman of the Bromley Children’s Service Improvement Governance Board Executive Director: Education Care and Health Services Interim Director: Children’s Services	Substantive Item
Schools’ Forum	29 June 2017
SACRE	12 July 2017
Education Budget Sub-Committee	18 July 2017
Item	Status
Capital Programme Outturn	
Budget Closedown 2016/17	
Schools’ Forum	21 September 2017
Education Budget Sub-Committee	26 September 2017
Capital Programme – 1 st Quarter	
Budget Monitoring 2017/18	
Education Select Committee	17 October 2017
Item	Status
YOS Update	Short Item
	Substantive Item
Schools’ Forum	23 November 2017
SACRE	6 December 2017
Schools’ Forum	11 January 2018
Education Budget Sub-Committee	17 January 2018
Capital Programme – 2 nd Quarter	
Budget Monitoring 2017/18	
Education Select Committee	23 January 2018
Item	Status
Follow Up on Under Performing Pupils	Short Item
	Substantive Item
Education Select Committee	27 February 2018
Item	Status

	Short Item
	Substantive Item
Education Budget Sub-Committee	28 March 2018
Capital Programme - 3 rd Quarter	
Budget Monitoring 2017/18	

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