

Decision Maker: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date: Thursday 30 January 2014

Title: BROMLEY YOUTH COUNCIL - MENTAL WELLBEING

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Chief Officer: Executive Director of Education, Care & Health Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1. Mental Health was identified as the key priority issue at the Youth Council's manifesto event in March 2013.
- 1.2. This report and a presentation to the board provides a summary and an update on the Bromley Youth Council's campaign on Mental Health. The campaign aims to break the silence amongst young people about mental health issues and to raise awareness amongst young people of the services available to offer support.

2. REASON FOR REPORT GOING TO HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

- 2.1. Public Health have supported this campaign. The Board is asked to note this report.

3. SPECIFIC ACTION REQUIRED BY HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD AND ITS CONSITUTENT PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

- 3.1. No specific action is required by the Board.
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Health & Wellbeing Strategy

1. Related priority: Children with Mental & Emotional Health Problems

Financial

1. Cost of proposal: n/a

2. Ongoing costs: n/a

3. Total savings (if applicable): n/a

4. Budget host organisation:

5. Source of funding: £4,500 from Public Health

6. Beneficiary/beneficiaries of any savings: n/a

Supporting Public Health Outcome Indicator(s)

4. COMMENTARY

- 4.1. Bromley Youth Council is the elected youth forum of the London Borough of Bromley, which enables young residents of the Borough to have a voice in local decision making and encourages young people to take part in campaigns and projects to address the issues that affect them. The work of the Bromley Youth Council is managed and supported by the Bromley Youth Support Programme's Youth Involvement staff team.
- 4.2. Bromley Youth Council (BYC) has an elected and co-opted membership of 29 young people aged 11-19 years old (up to 25 with a disability or special education need). Bromley Youth Council promotes key functions including youth leadership, volunteering, youth democracy, listening to young people and putting young people at the heart of decision making. The Youth Council hold biennial elections across Bromley Schools, colleges, Youth Clubs and Voluntary services. In addition the Youth Council has co-opted representatives from the Living in Care Council, Bromley Young Advisers. The Youth Council has representatives on the British Youth Council and the United Kingdom Youth Parliament.
- 4.3. Each year the Youth Council host a youth manifesto event, to which all borough secondary schools and colleges are invited to send representation. The event is planned, delivered and evaluated by youth councillors and supported by youth support work programme staff. Key decision makers in the borough, including elected members, officers and service managers are invited as guests, to listen to the views and concerns and answer questions from young people either living, being educated or growing up in Bromley. The outcomes from this event contribute to and complete the BYC Manifesto for the forthcoming year. A copy of the 2013/14 Youth Manifesto is available from the lead contact for this report
- 4.4. At the Manifesto event in March 2013, 81 young people from 15 schools and colleges identified their priority issues as a mandate for the Youth Council. Mental Health was identified as the key issue, with Youth Activities, Staying safe and Tuition Fees as the next most prioritised concerns. The initial identification of issues at the manifesto event formed the basis from which campaign plans for these concerns were drawn up by youth council members.
- 4.5. Mental Health was identified to be the Youth Council's primary campaign for 2013 with the others as secondary campaigns. BYC applied for funding to support this campaign from Bromley Public Health and were awarded this funding. BYC would like to thank Dr Ade Fowler, Dr Jenny Selway and Bromley Y for the support they have given to the campaign.
- 4.6. The Youth Council have produced a midterm progress report (Enclosure 1).
- 4.7. The campaign aimed to break the silence amongst young people about mental health issues and to raise awareness amongst young people of the services available to offer support. In addition BYC aimed to raise awareness in schools and provided copies of the leaflet they designed, along with a copy of the film they produced and a series of lesson plans to introduce the issue of mental health and wellbeing to all secondary schools in the borough. The official launch of the campaign was 10th October, 'World Mental Health Day'. BYC ran a stall and a 'green' ribbon campaign alongside this they launched their leaflet and film. BYC young people discussions with 628 young people and 239 adults about mental health and wellbeing and distributed over 1000 green ribbons. The film can be viewed on <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eq31G4F3MLE>
- 4.8. The Youth Council will also produce an End of Year Report which will look at the impact of the campaign as well as reporting individual and group outcomes and achievements. This will be available from March 2014.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Financial implications, Legal implications, Implications for other Governance arrangements, Boards and Partnership arrangements
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	