

**London Borough of Bromley**

**PART 1 - PUBLIC**

**Briefing for**

**Education Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee  
Tuesday 18 March 2014**

**ANNUAL UPDATE ON YOUTH SERVICES - 2013**

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1. Summary

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the work of the Borough's Youth Services for the calendar year 2013.

**2. THE BRIEFING**

2.1 The scope of the Borough's Youth Services and the statutory responsibilities that they are intended to meet are detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.

2.2 These services contribute to meeting Council responsibilities to:

- a. support young people to remain in Education, Employment and Training
- b. promote and provide things for young people to do outside of school time
- c. deter young people from anti-social and offending behaviour
- d. safeguard and support young people if they do offend and enter the youth justice system
- e. manage work experience and educational visits

2.3 The Bromley Youth Support Programme (Targeted and Universal), Education Business Partnership and the Youth Offending Service Teams are situated within the Education, Care and Health Services Children's Care Service Division. Together these services employ 67 full time equivalent staff who are located at the Civic Centre, 4, Masons Hill and at the 4 Youth Centres across the Borough.

2.4 The Bromley Youth Music Trust, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, Youth Council, Summer Activities Programme, Bromley Mentoring Initiative and the Borough's Youth Centres are examples of services that fall within the area of the Council's services to Young People. Additionally, officers within the service have a role to play in supporting and promoting private and voluntary sector youth services.

2.5 Service performance reports are presented each year for the Bromley Youth Support Programme (Targeted and Universal), Bromley Youth Council, Duke of Edinburgh Awards,

Youth Offending Team and Bromley Youth Music Trust. From 2014, the Education Business Partnership will also be producing an annual performance report.

2.6 This report provides an update on the work of the Bromley Youth Support Programme (Targeted and Universal).

## **2.7 Bromley Youth Support Programme (BYSP) Headline Attendance and Participation Numbers**

2.8 From January 2013 to December 2013 The Bromley Youth Support Programme has had contact with 4,486 individual young people with these young people participating in activities 17,961 times. This is an increase on last year with 945 more young people accessing BYSP centres and projects.

## **2.9 UNIVERSAL YOUTH SUPPORT**

### **2.10 Duke of Edinburgh Award**

2.11 Delivery of the Award across the borough is at an all-time high, with over 21 schools and groups delivering to 2,500 young people currently undertaking the Award and over 400 young people due to receive Awards this March. The award raises young people's aspirations, builds their resilience, informs their decisions – and thereby reduces teenage pregnancy, risky behaviours such as substance misuse, and involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour.

2.12 The current level of participation is representative of over 7,000 hours of volunteering that connects young people with their communities, enabling them to belong and contribute to society, through volunteering and supporting them to have a voice in decisions which affect their lives.

### **2.13 Youth Involvement**

2.14 The work of the Youth Involvement Team includes the running and development of Bromley's Youth Council and associated activities.

2.15 Bromley Youth Council (BYC) is currently undertaking its biennial elections in Schools, Colleges and associated groups. In 2012, 8946 young people in the borough voted in the Youth Elections, and a higher number is expected in 2014.

2.16 The Youth Council held its Annual Manifesto Event in March 2013 to which representatives from all secondary schools and colleges were invited. This event informs the campaign areas run by the Youth Council for the year. In 2012 BYC ran a highly successful Anti Bullying campaign with all schools across the borough signing up to the BYC Anti Bullying Pledge. In 2013, the Youth Council has run an equally successful Mental Health and Wellbeing Awareness campaign; with BYC lesson plans and a BYC awareness film being used in PSHE lessons across the borough.

2.17 Bromley Youth Council enables young people to have a say in how local services are organised and connects them with local democracy. The Youth Council meets regularly to discuss issues which are relevant to young people in Bromley and works to influence policy and development within the local authority on behalf of young people. In addition BYC has representatives on both United Kingdom Youth Parliament and British Youth Council.

- 2.18 Youth Council representatives are co-opted members on Public Protection and Safety PDS, Recreation and Renewal PDS, Care PDS and Education PDS. The Youth Council are in the process of establishing representation on Bromley Safeguarding Children's Board and Police Youth Advisory Board.
- 2.19 During the current two year period, young people have been represented from 13 schools alongside representatives co-opted from Living in Care Council and Bromley Young Advisers.

## **2.20 Detached and Mobile**

- 2.21 This year has seen development of the mobile and detached team to undertake both more targeted delivery, and also to undertake external contracts, via a partnership with Affinity Sutton Housing Association. The team also takes the leading role in the organisation of the BYSP summer parks programme.
- 2.22 This targeted extension has resulted in the team delivering three Information, Advice and Guidance drop in sessions for young people each week. These are delivered at the central library, and two from Bromley college campuses, with the aim of supporting young people to stay in EET.
- 2.23 The team has successfully undertaken a one year contract with Affinity Sutton, primarily delivering to young people in Mottingham and Penge areas. Negotiation of a further contract is currently underway.
- 2.24 The mobile and detached team have worked on the streets with 818 individual young people between April and December 2013 and have recorded 2046 attendances by young people (not counting all young people seen via summer programmes).

## **2.25 Phoenix youth group**

- 2.26 This group is open to young people with special needs aged between 10 and 25 years. The service operates on two evenings per week, and this year delivery has been split into age appropriate sessions, with one evening for 10 – 15 yr olds, and one for 16 plus age range.
- 2.27 For many of the group members the club is the only social activity they undertake each week, offering an invaluable opportunity to participate and engage in social and informal educational activities. In addition it offers valuable respite for parent and carers.
- 2.28 The project has worked with 94 individual young people between April 13 and December 13. This represents 1588 actual attendances and a sessional average attendance of 23 people.

## **2.29 Summer programme**

- 2.30 Between Saturday 20 July and Sunday 1 September 2013, the BYSP ran a 36 day programme in parks across the borough which was a collaboration between universal and targeted youth support services. The programme was aimed at young people aged between 10 and 19 (or up to 25 for those with disabilities). It included activities such as sports; football, basketball, hula hoops and rounders; creative activities including henna tattoos, jewellery making, nail art, paper mache statues and smoothie making. Delivery

was through a combination of commissioned and directly delivered services organised by the Bromley Youth Support Programme.

2.31 The programme was set a performance target to exceed the level of participation achieved by the previous years' programme by 20%. As total participation in the previous year's programme had been 6,451 with an average of 179 people attending each individual event a target of 7,500 was set.

2.32 At the end of this year's programme 11,293 people had attended the programme with an average of 314 attending each event. 5,278 under 8's attended and 6,015 over 8's attended. Given that many of the under 8's also attended with their parents we can reasonably assume that roughly 5,000 parents also attended the park days.

2.33 The programme successfully met its key objectives of:

- increasing individual participation
- encouraging community participation
- providing a diversion from anti-social and criminal activity
- providing an opportunity for Council partners to reach more people
- increased participation in other services provided by Bromley Youth Support Programme

#### **2.34 Targeted Youth Support Programme (TYSP)**

2.35 TYSP has provided direct one to one support for 1,701 young people through 2,020 face to face interventions. This is an increase of 829 compared to the same period last year. Detailed below are the specific areas where direct support has been provided to vulnerable young people.

#### **2.36 Support for young people at risk of becoming Not in Education Employment and Training**

2.37 A key part of BYSP's support is the identification of young people who are Not in Education, Employment and Training (NEET). Last year schools and partners referred 39 young people in year 11 for one to one support where they considered the young person to be at risk of becoming NEET on leaving Year 11, of these 39 young people who received one to one support 77% are now in some form of EET.

2.38 TYSP also provided tailored group work packages in school (Power to Progress) for young people at risk of becoming NEET as identified in year 11 by schools. In the last academic year 28 young people were supported through this programme across 3 schools. These young people were followed up in Year 12 and of the original 28, 96% are in some form of Education Employment or Training.

#### **2.39 Drop in Sessions**

2.40 Each week BYSP provides 7 Information, Advice and Guidance drop in sessions for young people who are NEET across the borough. These are delivered at each of the 4 Hubs, Bromley College (at both Orpington and Bromley campus) and the Central Library. Last year 543 young people received advice and support in finding training, college courses or work through these sessions.

## **2.41 Targeted Youth Activity Provision**

2.42 Each Hub runs 4 youth work sessions each week. In the last year from January to December 2013 TYSP supported 2,433 young people who attended local Hubs 16,922 times. Evening provision is directly linked to the one to one and targeted group work by encouraging the young people worked with during the day to engage in evening activities. This means that they benefit from further informal education but also get on-going support and the opportunity to build positive relationships with youth support professionals. The informal education offer includes project work that ranges from planning an allotment and cooking the produce to writing and performing a music track that describes living in their local area. It also covers key issues relevant to young people including, drugs and alcohol, sexual health, mental health, Black History. In addition young people have been involved in working with their local community on a wide variety of projects but most notably the development of the skate park in Biggin Hill and the BMX facility in Mottingham.

## **2.43 Support for young people at risk of entering the criminal justice system and at risk of exclusion.**

2.44 BYSP provides one to one support for young people from Year 6 upwards. This will involve anything from primary to secondary transition support, anger management, access to positive activities or support to access other voluntary sector providers. In the last year 262 referrals were received from other services for this type of support which has resulted in outcomes such as young people making successful transitions from primary to secondary school to being better able to deal with their anger in school.

## **2.45 LAC NEET Support**

2.46 This support focusses around monthly meetings with key managers in LAC, Leaving Care and the Virtual Head to identify and provide support to LAC and Leaving Care young people who are at risk of becoming or who are NEET. This work will assess the best type of support for a particular young person whether it is mentoring provided by BEBP, the Youth Contract or one to one IAG support. In the last year TYSP has worked intensively with 17 LAC/Leaving Care young people who were referred to the service by social care of these 23% are currently NEET.

## **2.47 YOT NEET Support**

2.48 Within the YOT, BYSP provides 2.5 days a week of IAG support. This means that all post 16 young people in the YOT who are NEET get to meet a Youth Support Worker and are supported to find a suitable EET offer. BYSP also holds monthly YOT NEET panel meetings. These meetings review all the current post 16 YOT NEET to ensure that all young people are being effectively supported and engaged and that where blockages are occurring concerns are escalated to other services to see if additional support can be provided.

## **2.49 NEET contact**

2.50 BYSP have a responsibility for contacting NEET young people and providing them with support into Education, Employment or Training. This support has developed over the last year to the extent where the team produced its best ever September Guarantee result with just 68 young people who did not have a confirmed Education, Employment or Training destination.

## **2.51 Tracking of young people's participation in EET**

2.52 BYSP also tracks all young people between the ages of 16 and 19 to ascertain what they are doing and if they need any support to enter or remain in EET. In the last year our tracker alone updated the destination and made contact with 6,814 young people. Where a young person is Not Known and they are not responding to letters and telephone calls a home visit is undertaken to ascertain if they are still living at the address or have moved out of the area and the nature of the support they require.