

Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee

Agenda

Tuesday, 22 September 2020 at 6.30 pm

This meeting is being held remotely: youtu.be/8rs2LnJ2nBc

MEMBERSHIP

Administration	Opposition
Councillor Sharon Holder (Chair) Councillor Lucy Richardson Councillor Alexandra Sanderson Councillor Asif Siddique	Councillor Mark Loveday
Co-optees	
Eleanor Allen, London Diocesan Board for Schools Nandini Ganesh, Parentsactive Representative Nadia Taylor, Parent Governor Representative Matt Jenkins, Teacher Representative	

CONTACT OFFICER: David Abbott
Head of Governance
E-mail: david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk

Date Issued: 15 September 2020

Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee Agenda

22 September 2020

<u>Item</u>	<u>Pages</u>
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST <p>If a Councillor has a disclosable pecuniary interest in a particular item, whether or not it is entered in the Authority's register of interests, or any other significant interest which they consider should be declared in the public interest, they should declare the existence and, unless it is a sensitive interest as defined in the Member Code of Conduct, the nature of the interest at the commencement of the consideration of that item or as soon as it becomes apparent.</p> <p>At meetings where members of the public are allowed to be in attendance and speak, any Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest or other significant interest may also make representations, give evidence or answer questions about the matter. The Councillor must then withdraw immediately from the meeting before the matter is discussed and any vote taken.</p> <p>Where Members of the public are not allowed to be in attendance and speak, then the Councillor with a disclosable pecuniary interest should withdraw from the meeting whilst the matter is under consideration. Councillors who have declared other significant interests should also withdraw from the meeting if they consider their continued participation in the matter would not be reasonable in the circumstances and may give rise to a perception of a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Councillors are not obliged to withdraw from the meeting where a dispensation to that effect has been obtained from the Standards Committee.</p>	
3. MINUTES <p>To approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on 27 July 2020.</p>	4 - 9
4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION <p>This meeting is being held remotely via Microsoft Teams. If you would like to ask a question about any of the items on the agenda, either via Teams or in writing, please contact: david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk</p> <p>You can watch the meeting live on YouTube: youtu.be/8rs2LnJ2nBc</p>	

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| 5. | THE FORMATION OF THE GANGS, VIOLENCE & EXPLOITATION UNIT | 10 - 19 |
| | <p>This report provides an overview of the of H&F's new Gangs, Violence and Exploitation Unit. It outlines progress resourcing the team, the developing operating model and the work it intends to undertake within the wider council and strategic partnerships to reduce the harm caused to young people who are at risk from gangs, violence and other forms of exploitation.</p> | |
| 6. | UPDATE ON THE SKIDS STUDY - COVID-19 IN SCHOOLS | 20 - 22 |
| | <p>This item provides an overview of a national Covid-19 study from Public Health England that five of H&F's primary schools are taking part in.</p> | |
| 7. | SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE'S EMOTIONAL WELLBEING IN H&F DURING LOCKDOWN AND BEYOND | 23 - 32 |
| | <p>This item gives an overview of the impact of lockdown on young people's wellbeing and the support available.</p> | |
| 8. | YOUTH COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT | 33 - 35 |
| | <p>This paper summarises the engagement work with the Youth Council during the period of Covid-19, touching on the partnerships and future plans this will inform going forward.</p> | |
| 9. | RETURN TO SCHOOL UPDATE | |
| | <p>Officers will provide a verbal update on how the return to school is going.</p> | |
| 10. | DATE OF NEXT MEETING | |
| | <p>The next meeting is scheduled for the 9th of November 2020.</p> | |

Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee Minutes

Monday 27 July 2020

NOTE: This meeting was held remotely

PRESENT

Committee members: Councillors Sharon Holder (Chair), Lucy Richardson, Alexandra Sanderson, Asif Siddique and Mark Loveday

Co-opted members: Eleanor Allen (London Diocesan Board for Schools), Nandini Ganesh (Parentsactive Representative), Matt Jenkins (Teacher Representative) and Nadia Taylor (Parent Governor Representative)

Other Councillors: Councillor Larry Culhane (Cabinet Member for Children and Education)

Officers:

Jacqui McShannon (Director of Children's Services)
Mandy Lawson (Assistant Director SEN and Disabilities)
Bev Sharpe (Assistant Director of Family Services)
Dr Nicola Lang (Director of Public Health)
Phil Tomsett (Head of Early Years)
Keith Tysoe (Principal Advisor SEND and Inclusion)
Will Parsons (Strategic Lead)
Lesley Bell (Strategic Lead)
Tony Burton (Head of Finance, Children's Services)
Jo Pymont (Assistant director, performance and improvement)
David Abbott (Head of Governance)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. ROLL CALL AND DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair carried out a roll call of committee members to confirm their attendance.
There were no declarations of interest.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2020 were agreed as an accurate record.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A resident submitted a set of questions related to the Youth Council section (Item 4) of the minutes of the meeting held in January 2020. As they were unable to attend the meeting a written response was provided. The responses are copied below.

Q. Do the Youth Council engage with youth clubs?

A. Youth Council regularly engage with and host meetings at clubs prior to COVID. They host ballots for UK Youth Parliament and Youth Mayor elections and are actively involved in our events including Take Over Challenge and Youth Achievement Awards. We work alongside Young Hammersmith and their members (youth providers) on various projects and are planning a Youth Voice Network meeting with members in September.

Q. In terms of social isolation with youths and concern with knife crime - is there an action for follow up with Youth Justice in H&F?

A. An action plan has been produced to respond to young people's suggestions following workshops on knife crime and street safety at Take Over Challenge 2019 and shared with relevant professionals and teams. Our Member of Youth Parliament and London Youth Assembly Members are also working on regional and national campaigns on knife crime. The response to knife crime is obviously across various departments and teams. The focus for the Youth Council is to capture and share youth voice.

Q. Has there been an improvement with recycling in schools?

A. Recycling in schools is a focus of their manifesto. Ozan and Scarlett, our current MYP and Youth Mayor have worked alongside the borough's Recycling Team, to develop a list of the top 10 single use plastics items used by young people and alternatives and sharing of best practice for schools. This will be distributed to schools before the start of the next Academic year. The priority for them during COVID has been the youth focused communication and videos.

Q. Did the concern about young people finding teachers & other professionals intimidating get addressed?

A. Youth Council have covered this in their videos on the impact of COVID on young people, which have been shared with Head Teachers. Think this point was particularly in relation to the teaching of PHSE. Youth Council are also working on some core modules (they are referring to this as the 'curriculum for life') and it will include suggestions for teachers and the plan is planned is to share with all schools in September. We also have a framework for involving young people in interviews which can be re-shared with schools.

Q. Did the H&F alumni portal materialise?

A. Answer to be circulated.

5. CHILDREN'S SERVICES RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Jacqui McShannon, Director of Children's Services, introduced the report which provided an overview of the key changes made to the Children's Services operating model in response to Covid-19 and related challenges in the community.

Jacqui McShannon took a moment to say how proud she was of Children's Services officers who showed initiative, courage and determination – and a real child centred approach – when responding to the pandemic and its impacts on children and families in the borough. The Council had been committed to co-production during the pandemic response and had worked closely with the Youth Council, care leavers, parents and carers. She highlighted the collaboration that had taken place across the whole Children's economy, noting that H&F's partnerships (including schools, safeguarding, the police, and commissioned services) had not just stood up but came together in dynamic and committed ways.

Jacqui McShannon explained that Children's Services had provided a coordinating response, mandated by central Government but not fully resourced. The department had stepped up – redeploying staff, requesting and receiving additional resources from the Council to be deployed in the best interests of serving children and young people in the borough.

She noted that the impact for children and young people was not over as most children were not yet back in school. Officers were continuing remote visits and were anticipating new challenges and a surge in demand in the Autumn.

Children's Social Care and Family Services

Bev Sharpe, Assistant Director of Family Services, gave a presentation on the response from children's social care and family services.

Councillor Mark Loveday asked what action had been taken in relation to care placements outside of the borough. What happened if carers were ill or self-isolating? Bev Sharpe said all carers had backup care arrangements in place. There was only one case where a carer fell ill and a child had to be moved to another carer temporarily.

Councillor Loveday noted that looked after children typically had a lower than average attendance rate at schools and asked what had been done to improve engagement during lockdown. Bev Sharpe said each child was allocated a virtual schoolteacher who links their educational needs with the school's provision. The virtual schoolteacher stays in regular contact and sets educational challenges each week. All looked after children had access to online learning.

Councillor Loveday asked if there was any feedback on how successful the virtual school had been. Bev Sharpe said young people were engaging well with the virtual school.

Matt Jenkins, noting the risk of a second wave of the pandemic, asked what preparations the Council could make to improve access to technology. Bev Sharpe said the Council completed a roll-out of 770 laptops by mid-July.

Councillor Lucy Richardson noted that a new restructure of mental health services had just been launched by Hammersmith & Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). She asked if young people had been engaged in the process. Bev Sharpe said Children's Services officers were meeting regularly with the CCG to look at service development and working together in different way. The Council was committed to co-production and wanted young people involved in shaping the services they used. Officers were also looking at internal mental health services and wanted young people involved in that too.

Councillor Richardson asked what programmes were in place for vulnerable teens, especially those with special needs, who were suffering from a lack of exercise and socialisation since the lockdown.

Councillor Richardson noted that the peer support for transition age students sounded good (video CV writing etc.) – and asked how many people had received the service and if there were plans to roll it out more widely.

Officers agreed to provide more detailed answers outside of the meeting.

ACTION: Jacqui McShannon / Bev Sharpe

Nadia Taylor asked how many face-to-face visits had taken place with children in need – and how that compared to normal service. Bev Sharpe said it was around 20 percent initially, with child protection cases being prioritised. That was for around six weeks at the start of lockdown, but the service quickly got back to seeing 100 percent of cases.

Education

Keith Tysoe, Principal Advisor SEND and Inclusion, and Phil Tomsett, Head of Early Years, gave a presentation on the education service.

Councillor Asif Siddique asked what SEND support had been provided to families during lockdown and if there had been a rise in domestic violence. Nandini Ganesh noted that Parentsactive had recently conducted a survey of parents and they were generally happy with the Council's efforts. There were some concerns though like the wide range of support from schools. Some parents also really struggled with the technology for remote learning. Jacqui McShannon noted that she chaired the Violence Against Women and Girls group, which had continued to meet during lockdown, and there hadn't been a local increase in domestic violence incidents.

Councillor Mark Loveday asked if there were up-to-date figures on school attendance. Officers explained that the data was incomplete as not all schools had made returns. Low attendance had been reported across London. The Committee asked for updated attendance figures to be circulated.

ACTION: Jan Parnell

Councillor Loveday asked if withdrawal of free travel for under-18s had made an impact on attendance. Officers said it probably wasn't a significant factor. Primary schools were generally within walking distance of pupil's homes.

Councillor Loveday asked what lessons could be drawn out on school attendance in this time of crisis. Officers said a key lesson was to ensure parents didn't feel stigmatised, and travel could become an issue in the Autumn. Dr Nicola Lang, Director of Public Health, added that five of H&F's primaries were taking part in a national Covid-19 study and they were commended on their organisation and engagement. There was a step change in attendance after the first batch of testing. Letters went out to parents explaining the evidence about infection and spreading risk in children. Schools also received 'Staying Safe in School' guidance and protective equipment for teachers. Officers had also reached and worked with groups in the community that had specific concerns about travel arrangements etc.

Nandini Ganesh said parents were anxious and there were concerns about the regularity of testing. Dr Lang said each school had done extensive risk assessments and created outbreak plans and put social distancing and hygiene measures in place.

Councillor Asif Siddique asked how many laptops had been allocated for remote learning. Officers said 1000 pupils had been identified from vulnerable groups and around 700 had been allocated.

Eleanor Allen asked for more information on the 16 plus cohort who should have done GCSEs and be going on to sixth form. Officers agreed to take this away and provide an answer by email.

ACTION: Jan Parnell

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Mandy Lawson, Assistant Director SEN and Disabilities, gave a presentation on the SEND service.

Nandini Ganesh noted that the Council ran remote sessions via Zoom with around 130 parents. She felt it was a good, dynamic piece of work. Lots of parents were engaged and had a chance to contribute and co-produce support services.

Councillor Mark Loveday asked about the outbreak at the Haven and where the children and young people were from. Mandy Lawson said there were 3 from H&F and 2 from RBKC.

Councillor Loveday asked how they became ill. Mandy Lawson said the infections had happened in the early days of the virus where there were high levels of infection in the community – and before staff were wearing PPE even if they had no symptoms.

Nandini Ganesh raised the concerns of parents about the temporary changes to EHCP legislation during the pandemic. Mandy Lawson explained that the temporary

changes were due to expire in September and the Government had no intention of renewing them.

Commissioning

Lesley Bell and Will Parsons, Strategic Leads, gave a presentation on the Children's Services Commissioning Service.

Family Support

Lesley Bell (Strategic Lead) gave a presentation on the Family Support Service.

Councillor Mark Loveday asked what the financial impact had been for the department and schools. Jacqui McShannon said the financial impact for the department had been relatively limited so far. But pent-up demand emerging in the Autumn could change this – just a few complex cases would have a significant impact on the budget. Schools had incurred additional costs from adaptations, deep cleaning etc. There was a scheme from Government to reclaim costs but not lost income. The Chair asked for an update on the final financial impact by the next meeting.

ACTION: Tony Burton

Matt Jenkins asked what measures had been taken to protect vulnerable members of staff. Jacqui McShannon said schools have produced risk assessments and plans for social distancing and outbreak management etc. Officers had met with headteachers and unions to help them understand their responsibilities and provide support.

The Chair summarised the discussion and noted the following actions:

1. An item on the schools Covid-19 study (sKIDs) for the next meeting
2. Information on the 16 plus cohort
3. Information on digital engagement during lockdown
4. An update on mental health support
5. Figures on school attendance during lockdown to be circulated
6. An update on the financial impact on each service

6. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was noted as 22 September 2020.

Meeting started: 6.30 pm
Meeting ended: 8.41 pm

Chair

Contact officer David Abbott
 Head of Governance
 E-mail: david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk

Report to: **Children and Education Policy & Accountability Committee**

Date	22 September 2020
Classification	Information
Title of report	Report into the formation of the Gangs Violence and Exploitation (GVE) Unit
Report of	Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit
Decision /Decision maker	No
Report author(s)	Gideon Springer – Strategic Lead for Safer Streets Beth Morgan – Community Safety Policy and Service Development Officer

1. Summary

This report provides an overview of the of LBHF's new Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit. It outlines our progress with resourcing the team, the developing operating model and the work we intend to undertake within the wider council and strategic partnerships to reduce the harm caused to our young people who are at risk from gangs, violence and other forms of exploitation.

In order to do this effectively there is a need to look holistically at the way we deal with vulnerable young people. This approach will also include the involvement of those within Children's Services, Housing, the Voluntary Sector and employment to provide a better future for our young people.

2. Proposed Outcomes

As part of earlier corporate discussions relating to gangs, youth violence and exploitation the following outcomes framework was proposed as an approach to help organise our workstreams. The work of the new Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit will fall mostly into the 'Protection' outcome: But will aim to work in partnership to address the other five outcomes outlined below:

2.1 Participation

Our communities particularly our young people, are engaged and active in designing young people's services.

2.2 Community Support

Communities and families are well supported to tackle issues of exploitation and know where to look for help.

2.3 Prevention

Our young people are provided with the best youth services in London which encourage positive activities and appeal to all.

2.4 Early Intervention

All LBHF service provision is trauma informed and targeted at dealing with vulnerabilities early to reduce the impact of adverse experiences on our young people.

2.5 Protection

We will use all available legislation to ensure our communities are protected from criminal behaviour.

2.6 Community Resilience

Working with communities and the third sector to build an anti-violence culture.

3. Performance Measures

The headline performance measures are proposed as follows:

3.1 Key Performance Indicators

- To reduce the number of violent crimes committed by young people;
- To reduce the number and seriousness of injuries caused by youth violence;
- To reduce the number of robberies and drug related offences committed by young people;

3.2 Qualitative Measures

- To identify, disrupt and enforce against specific gangs that operate in H&F;
- To identify and respond to young people 'associated' with gangs;
- To provide safe routes out of gang association;
- To identify and respond to the needs of females associated with youth violence;
- To establish and maintain a longer-term sustainable framework based on early intervention, disruption and prevention to ensure that young people involved in low level criminality are successfully diverted from more serious crime
- To provide support for victims.

4. The Experience of Vulnerable Young People Within Hammersmith and Fulham

Some young people in the borough (and nationally) have been conscripted into gangs and gang culture by organised crime leaders. It is our duty to safeguard young people from this and prevent others from being drawn into this form of criminal activity. We also need to ensure that those who are the perpetrators of this form of exploitation are brought to justice.

Our number one priority is to keep people safe and our residents need to know that we are doing everything in our power to prevent their children and young people being victimised and exploited by those involved in organised crime. In order to address these issues we have created the borough's first ever dedicated unit to tackle gangs, violence and exploitation.

In addition to the very real harms caused by gang activity, fear of crime and gangs is pervasive and something which must be tackled. We will be tough on gangs, but as a compassionate council, we will also be tough on the causes of gangs, which means addressing the underlying issues.

This will involve a significant amount of joint working at a senior level to ensure that Hammersmith & Fulham develops leading practice in relation to establishing new early intervention approaches, improving case management and bringing about reductions in the number of young people involved in violent incidents.

5. The Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit (GVEU)

The Leader of the council was instrumental in developing this ground-breaking agreement between the Council and the Metropolitan Police. Hammersmith and Fulham will fund Police Officers to work together with specialist council staff to bring the full weight of criminal legislation to bear on gangs and gang leaders operating in the borough. Whilst at the same time delivering greater initiatives to engage with and divert vulnerable young people away from gangs, violence and exploitation.

This new dedicated Unit will consist of 11 LBHF employed officers and 6 Metropolitan Police Officers (17 FTEs). The total annual cost of the unit is £983,000.

The GVEU will lead a strategic portfolio of work to deliver Hammersmith & Fulham's approach to supporting young people out of gangs, violence and exploitation. This will involve a significant amount of joint working at a senior level to ensure that Hammersmith & Fulham develops leading practice in relation to establishing new early intervention approaches, improving case management and bringing about reductions in the number of young people involved in violent incidents.

6. Progress in establishing the Gangs Violence and Exploitation Unit.

Approval for the recruitment to the GVEU was received in June 2020, interviews were held on 25th & 26th August. Following interviews we have now recruited the Team Leader and 3 of the 4 Gangs Workers. They will take up their posts between the 7th and 14th September 2020 when the Unit will become operational. The final Gangs Worker post has been offered to a candidate and they are in the process of being onboarded.

The next phase of recruitment will be for the four ASB Coordinators which have been approved by RMB and will start in September. This will be followed by the final stage to recruit the Researcher and Analyst Posts (2 x FTEs) later in the month following RMB approval.

Police have identified 4 officers to work in the GVEU and are looking to identify an additional 2 officers who will work alongside them but focus on operational delivery with the Youth Offending Team. The contract for these posts is with the Police for consideration and we are anticipating this will be finalised in September. In the interim, the officers will be on loan to the council in order to develop their operational practices within the GVEU.

Office space for the GVEU has been identified within 145 Kings Street and this will form the physical base for the team once they have approval to return to operating in the Borough.

The terms of reference and operating procedures for the team are being developed through stakeholder consultation and a series of workshops. It is envisaged that the team will operate alongside the Youth Offending Team and Family Assist to identify vulnerable young people who do not yet reach the threshold for statutory intervention but are nevertheless at risk from gangs, violence or exploitation.

By intervening with these children at an early stage, the GVEU will be able to work with them, their families to divert them away from risky behaviour. GVEU Officers will utilise some of the services already available within the Borough but will also work in a different way to support vulnerable young people and develop different approaches.

7. Operating Model

Framework

- The GVEU We will work in conjunction with all departments within the Council and does not replace any of the existing services. The police are part of the GVEU and will be co-located in 145 King Street
- Every vulnerable young person referred to or identified by the Unit will be evaluated in relation to the level of risk and given a RAG status. Progress with that young person will be monitored via monthly multi-agency casework conferences.
- If GVEU in conjunction with other agencies feel that risk / criminal activity is increasing (change in RAG status) a multi-agency decision will be made about who is best placed to work with the young person.
- GVEU workers will work with a broad range of cases – this could be the most high-risk or young people that are coming to the attention of the CJS but who are not currently engaged by any statutory agency. The ultimate aim will be to support the young person into education, employment, training, and any other pathways likely to work for that individual.
- We will work with social landlords when young people are coming to their attention due to GVE issues and work with them around enforcement and support
- When our efforts to support and divert a young person have not been successful and all options have been exhausted we will consider all enforcement options such as tenancy action, injunctions, Closure Orders etc. This work will be carried out in conjunction with the police and relevant agencies will be consulted. Enforcement action does not mean that support will be withdrawn.
- We will have an analyst and business support role to assist the unit. The analytical work will be crucial to developing the work of the unit and informing us where we need to focus our work.

Other deliverables:

- The GVEU will look to operate a duty service similar to other operational areas of the council where the mailbox and phone line are staffed
- We will develop online reporting tools similar to ASB and hate crime whereby a family / person can refer to us about concerns they may have about GVE issues so they can seek assistance. We will work with Children's / Family Services re: any safeguarding concerns and we can signpost the family / person / offer support. Additionally, there will be a reporting tool for people to report issues of concern around gangs, violence and exploitation. We will make it clear this should be reported to the police if an emergency and give details of services available. This will help to develop the local intelligence picture around this area of work.
- We will publicise the GVEU via LBHF's social media.
- Where there is an intelligence picture being built of areas requiring outreach work due to congregation / ASB, the GVEU will deliver outreach work in these areas with the assistance of our partners - police, CCTV, NWS and Parks police
- The GVEU will work with the community via community groups, faith groups and TRA's to build on existing relationships and develop new ones. This will be for the purposes of encouraging families / young people to seek advice support and developing intelligence
- Developing the Council's response with our internal / external partners to our young people who are involved in County Lines activity – developing intelligence, response and assistance.
- We will be a part of the consultation meetings that have been developed for practitioners to seek assistance around GVE concerns and this will be done on a rotational basis by the GVEU workers.

8. Statistical Information

Appendix 1 below sets out some of the critical statistical information that sets the borough context for the GVEU in relation to the following three core factors: (1) first time entrants to the criminal justice system, (2) re-offending data, (3) the recommendations of the Lammy Review and data on disproportionality within the youth offending cohort in H&F.

Appendix 1

1. First Time Entrants into the Criminal Justice System

Historically, Hammersmith and Fulham Borough has seen higher rates of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System than the National Average and the London Average.

However this rate now lies below both the London average of 264 per 100,00 and the National average of 215 per 100,00 of local 10-17-year olds. The actual number of FTE's dropped by 2 from 31 to 29 (rounded).

Hammersmith and Fulham remain favourably at 4th place in our YOT 'family' for 2018/19 FTEs.

However as can be seen from the below charts Hammersmith and Fulham still have considerable challenges when it comes to Children and Young People sentenced to custody and Children and Young Peoples reoffending rates which remain higher than all those in our YOT family.

2. Children and young people sentenced to custody

	Use of Custody - Baseline			Use of Custody - Latest Data		
	Apr 18 - Mar 19			Apr 19 - Mar 20		
	Number	2018 Population	Rate per 1,000	Number	2018 Population	Rate per 1,000
Hammersmith and Fulham	7	14,086	0.50	11	14,086	0.78

New YOT Family

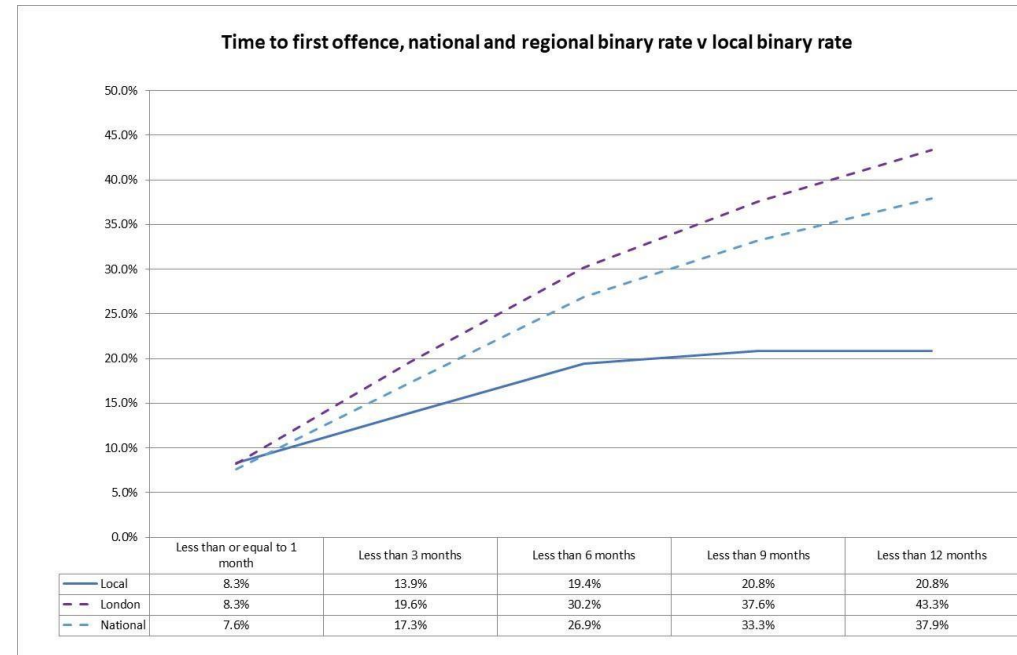
Camden	7	21,377	0.33	1	21,377	0.05
Wandsworth	3	22,363	0.13	1	22,363	0.04
Westminster	5	19,014	0.26	3	19,014	0.16
Islington	23	16,616	1.38	6	16,616	0.36
Kensington and Chelsea	5	11,706	0.43	2	11,706	0.17
Haringey	10	24,826	0.40	N/A	24,826	-
Greenwich	17	26,380	0.64	13	26,380	0.49
Southwark	8	24,912	0.32	9	24,912	0.36
Manchester	54	47,861	1.13	31	47,861	0.65
Merton	1	17,948	0.06	4	17,948	0.22
Family Average	13	23,300	0.57	8	23,300	0.33

3. Hammersmith and Fulham's Reoffending Data:

Apr 17 - Mar 18

Live Reoffending Data April 19-Mar 20

	Reoffences per reoffender	Reoffences per offender	% Reoffending
Hammersmith and Fulham	4.45	2.28	51.4%
Camden	3.89	1.66	42.7
Wandsworth	3.67	1.64	44.7
Westminster	3.49	1.42	40.7
Islington	4.23	1.99	47.1
Kensington and Chelsea	2.61	0.85	32.7
Haringey	3.31	1.35	40.9
Greenwich	2.93	1.10	37.6
Southwark	4.36	2.02	46.3
Manchester	4.78	1.75	36.7
Merton	3.41	1.55	45.5
Family Average	3.87	1.60	41.4



Hammersmith and Fulham data for the 12-month cohort Apr17-Mar18 shows the proportion of reoffenders increasing on the previous year, up from 46.7% to 51.4%. Hammersmith has the highest reoffending rate within its YOT family, and the rate lies above the London average 41.9% and the National average 38.4%.

Live reoffending data for the Apr19-Mar20 cohort has moved from 12.9% to 20.8% reoffenders since last quarter. From the current cohort total of 72 young people, 15 have reoffended (offences proven), while 6 more have offences pending which if all proven would increase the binary rate to 29.2%. Live reoffending data for 2019-20 is showing this rate as tracking below London and national rates, however this rate will not be finalised until January 2022

4. The Lammy Review

David Lammy MP published his final review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) individuals in the CJS in September 2017. H&F Youth Offending Service (YOS) contributed to this review.

The review aimed to 'make recommendations for improvement with the ultimate aim of reducing the proportion of BAME offenders in the criminal justice system' and covered the role of the CPS, courts system, prisons and young offenders institutions, the Parole Board, the Probation Service and Youth Offending Teams (YOTs).

The review highlighted that BAME people represent:

- 14% of the population;
- 25% of the prison population; and
- 40% of young people in custody.

Black people represent:

- 3% of the population;
- 12% of the prison population; and
- more than 20% of young people in custody.

The review also found that:

- Arrest rates are higher for BAME people;
- BAME people are more likely to plead not guilty;
- There is evidence of differential treatment - for example, BAME people are more likely to receive prison sentences for drug offences;
- BAME people report poor experiences of prison (including discrimination); and
- Young BAME people in prison through the youth system are less likely to have recorded mental health needs, learning difficulties or troubled family relationships, suggesting they have unmet needs.

The review identified that if BAME people were not disproportionately represented in our CJS there would be 9,000 fewer prisoners (equivalent of 12 average prisons). It also estimates the economic cost of this overrepresentation in the courts, prisons and probation service as £309 million a year.

YOTs were established in the Crime and Disorder Act (1998) with a view to reducing youth offending and reoffending. The Lammy review acknowledged the success of the youth justice system in reducing the numbers of children and young people overall but cited:

- The BAME proportion of young people offending for the first time rose from 11% year ending March 2006 to 19% year ending March 2016;
- The BAME proportion of young people reoffending rose from 11% year ending March 2006 to 19% year ending March 2016; and
- The BAME proportion of youth prisoners had risen from 25% to 41% in the decade 2006-2016.

5. The Hammersmith & Fulham Picture

Data

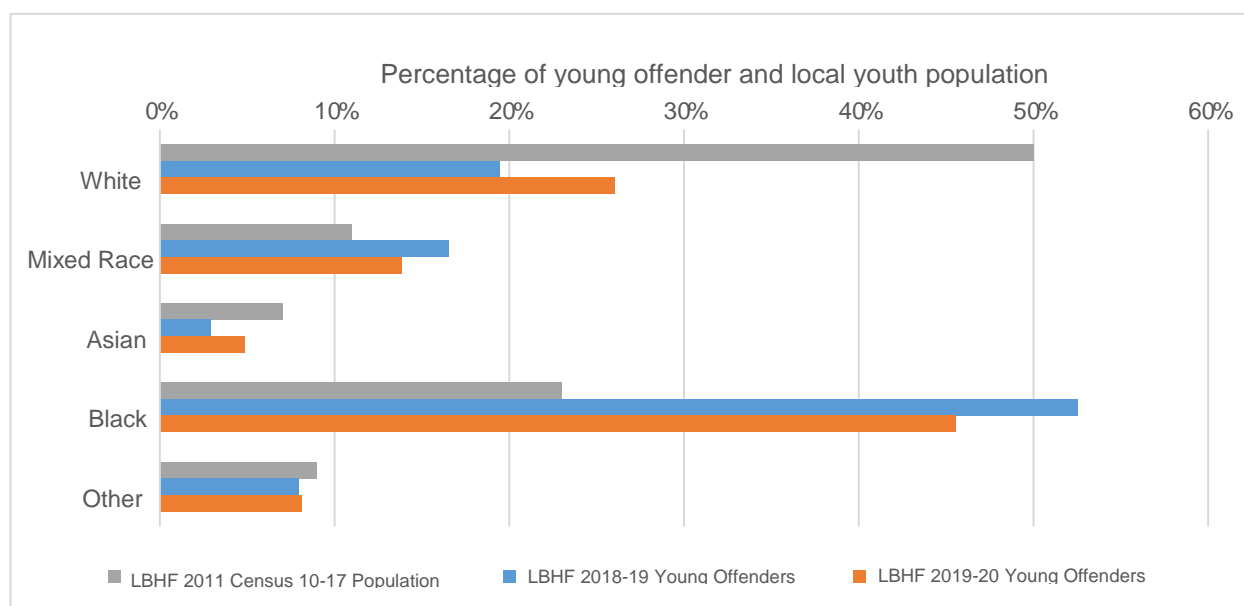


Figure 1 - H&F local youth population and young offender population by ethnicity

Figure 1 shows a significant overrepresentation of the Black group of young offenders compared to local youth population in H&F, while the White group is significantly under-represented. The Q4 period for 2019/20 shows that the overrepresentation of the Black group has decreased on the previous year. In H&F the rate of overrepresentation of BAME young people has been above the London and National rates. However, Q4 of 2019/20 saw the rate of overrepresentation reducing to below the London and National rates.

A recent stocktake of offences falling under the Youth Justice Board's (YJB) definition of serious youth violence robbery, violence against the person and drug offences showed Black and mixed heritage (Black and White) young people as overrepresented in this cohort. All recorded robbery offences in the year to March 2019 were committed by Black and mixed heritage children and young people.

- The live reoffending tracker 2019/20 shows of the current cohort of **73** young people **49** are BAME.
- Of the **8** young people currently in either a secure training centre (STC) or Young Offenders Institution (YOI) all bar **1** are Black or of mixed heritage.
- There are **54** young people open to the YOS currently of which **14** are LAC and **12** of whom are Black or mixed heritage.

Data from Children's Services also highlights that BAME children are overrepresented in terms of permanent school exclusions.

It is the aim of the GVEU to address this disproportionality by way of early intervention and diversion of young people who are involved or on the periphery of involvement with

gangs Violence and exploitation. Within the Borough, this cohort is predominantly young BAME males who often see that they have no other option but to be drawn into this lifestyle.

The GVEU will work with these vulnerable young people to provide that alternative future and by working in partnership with all other statutory and non statutory agencies operating within the Borough the team will start to affect the lives of these young people in a positive manner.

Agenda Item 6

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Children's Policy & Accountability Committee

Date: 22/9/2020

Subject: Update on sKIDS study – Covid in schools (PHE)

Report of: Dr Nicola Lang, Director of Public Health

Responsible Director: Jacqui McShannon, Director of Children's Services

Summary

In June, five of Hammersmith and Fulham's primary schools were offered the opportunity to take part in a national surveillance study from Public Health England (PHE) called the sKIDS study. The schools were selected if they had more than 75% of children of Black and Minority Ethnicity, as they are often underrepresented in research.

Recommendations

'For the Committee to note and comment on the report'.

Wards Affected: all

H&F Values

Please state how the subject of the report relates to our values – delete those values which are not appropriate

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Doing things with local residents, not to them	Working with children from BME backgrounds and their families

Contact Officer(s):

Name: Dr Nicola Lang
Position: Director of Public Health
Email: nicola.lang@lbhf.gov.uk

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

DETAILED ANALYSIS

1. PHE recruited 138 schools across England, including 89 schools that are participating in the weekly swab study and 47 schools having swabs and blood tests done at the beginning and at the end of the summer term.
2. Hammersmith and Fulham primaries (Avonmore, Normand Croft, St Mary's, Addison and Melcombe) participated in the latter model - with a combination of swabs and antibody tests done at the start and end of the Summer term of 2020, and a repeat in October. All primary schools in H&F had negative swab tests to date. There has been a slight wait for the antibody test results, but they have now been shared.
3. The key findings of the national sKIDS study are found here:
4. **“Background** There are limited data on SARS-CoV-2 infection and transmission in educational settings. This information is critical for policy makers and practitioners to ensure the safety of staff, students and the wider community during the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. **Methods** Public Health England initiated enhanced national surveillance following the reopening of educational settings during the summer mini-term on 01 June 2020. COVID-19 related situations in educational settings across England were reviewed daily and followed-up until 31 July 2020. SARS-CoV-2 infection and outbreak rates were calculated for staff and students attending early year settings, primary and secondary schools during June 2020.
6. **Findings** There were 67 single confirmed cases, 4 co-primary cases and 30 COVID-19 outbreaks during June 2020, with a strong correlation between number of outbreaks and regional COVID-19 incidence (0.51 outbreaks for each SARS-CoV-2 infection per 100,000 in the community; $p=0.001$). Overall, SARS-CoV-2 infections and outbreaks were uncommon across all educational settings. Staff members had an increased risk of SARS-CoV-2 infections compared to students in any educational setting, and the majority of cases linked to outbreaks were in staff. The probable transmission direction for the 30 confirmed outbreaks was: staff-to-staff ($n=15$), staff-to-student ($n=7$), student-to-staff ($n=6$) and student-to-student ($n=2$).
7. **Interpretation** SARS-CoV-2 infections and outbreaks were uncommon in educational settings during the first month after the easing of national lockdown in England. The strong correlation with regional SARS-CoV-2 incidence emphasises the importance of controlling community transmission to protect educational settings. Additional interventions should focus on reducing transmission in and among staff members”.
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/911267/School_Outbreaks_Analysis.pdf

8. Participating in this national study has anecdotally been positive for parents, with one school noting a definite increase in children's attendance in June due to the study taking place.

Our secondary schools have now been offered the chance to participate in sKIDS plus – we await the outcome from Headteachers.

9. The results from the national work have also informed our approach to **'back to school' in Hammersmith and Fulham**, with positive information for parents, Head teachers and social workers.

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/articles/news/2020/09/returning-school-safely-hammersmith-fulham>

Supporting young people's emotional wellbeing in Hammersmith & Fulham - during lockdown and beyond

**Young people's experiences, our services and plans going
forward**

Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Young Peoples mental health – Beginning of lockdown vs Summer 2020

National data* suggests a shift towards the edges: 9% more Children and Young People rating their MH as much worse, a slight increase in those reporting an improvement (from 7% to 11%) and a reduction in 'no difference' (9% > 5%).

Results from July 2020:

Previous results from March 2020

32% agreed that it has made their mental health much worse
51% agreed it had made their mental health a bit worse
9% agreed it had made no difference to their mental health
6% agreed that their mental health had become a bit better
1% agreed that their mental health had become much better

41% agreed it had made their mental health much worse
40% agreed it had made their mental health a bit worse
5% agreed it had made no difference to their mental health
8% agreed that their mental health had become a bit better
3% agreed that their mental health had become much better

*Source: Young Minds, July 2020. (2,036 young people aged 13-25 who sought mental health support took part, including 1,081 CYP who had accessed MH support in Jan – March.)

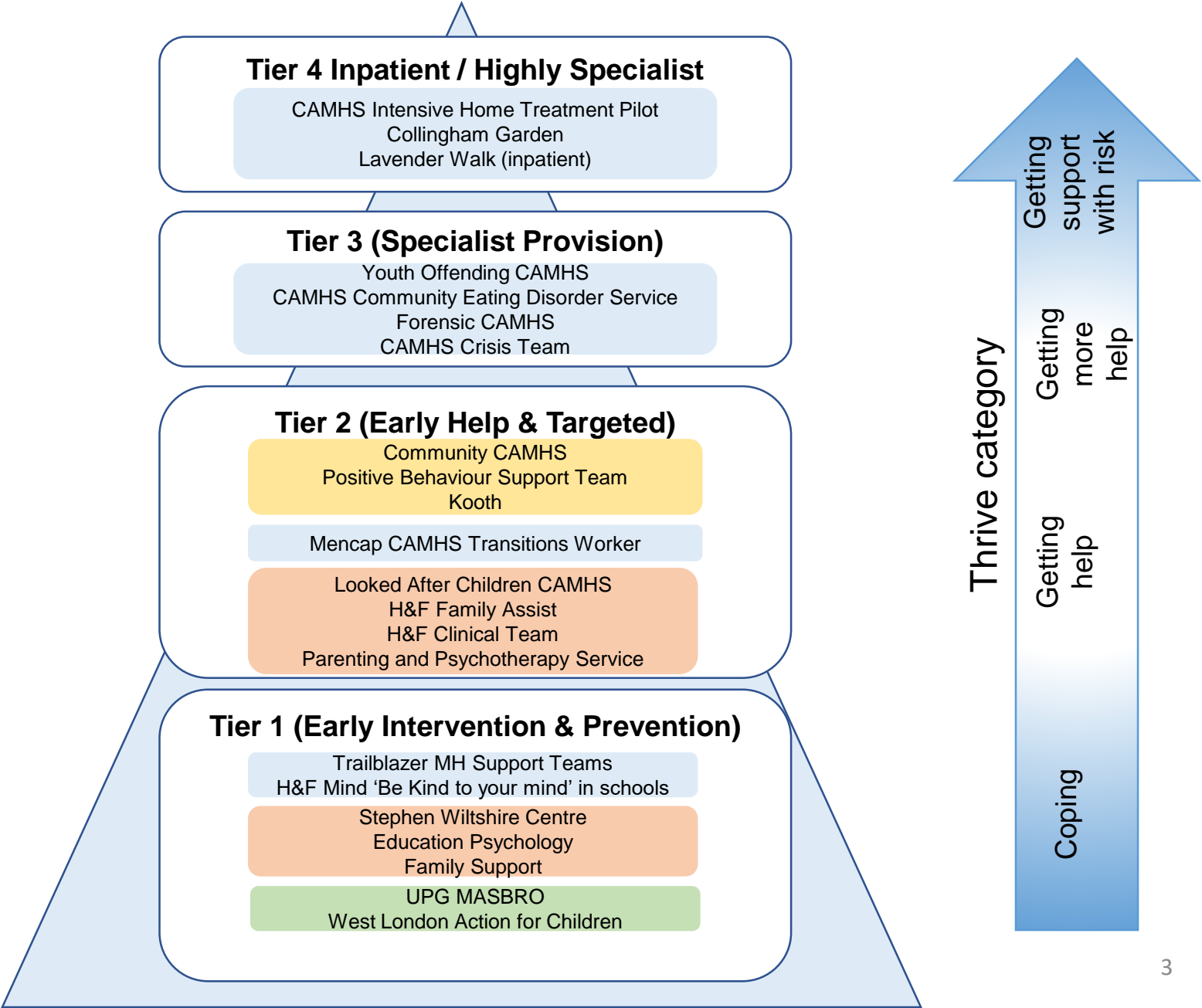
Services supporting young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health during and beyond COVID

The diagram details the emotional wellbeing support services available across Hammersmith & Fulham which are represented using a colour code to indicate how these services are funded.

Page 25

Key:

- CCG NHS/Commissioned
- Joint Commissioned
- Local Authority
- Community grants



Mind:

Trailblazer MH Support Teams – Team have been trained to provide targeted interventions in schools for young people presenting with anxiety or early signs of trauma. YouTube style mental health and emotional Wellbeing online channel went live on 13th July. <https://www.my-mind.tv>

H&F ‘Be Kind to your mind’ programme, commissioned by some secondary schools is continuing.

Stephen Wiltshire Centre's Integrated Keyworker Service: has remained open to provide services for young people with complex needs and will reopen with a full offer as school return to full opening. Integrated key worker service has continued to support young people and families throughout the pandemic.

Education Psychology: continued to work with schools in delivering psychological support to young people and staff. Extensive training provided on a range of topics e.g. welcoming pupils back to school and loss, grief and bereavement. The training has been accompanied by a range of guidance documentation for school with links to resources. Provided a framework for developing a policy following critical incident in school.

CLCH school nurses have completed mental health training and can assess children and if there are concerns will escalate these to other support services.

Family Support: provided counselling for young people, webinars and ‘brain in hand’ app, sharing the science training and have introduced a virtual centre including a channel, AlbyTV, that featured wellbeing activities.⁴

Community CAMHS: shifted to a telehealth model to continue to provide early help and targeted services to children and young people (0-18).

Kooth: an online text-based counselling service for adolescents delivered via an app, Kooth increased service capacity to complement the need for an expanded virtual offer.

Looked After Children CAMHS: shifted to a telehealth model, and RAG-rated cases, cross referencing against **H&F's Looked After Children (LAC) Team** and working with the **Clinical Team** on LAC and Leaving Care Managers review conversations.

H&F Family Assist work to reduce the number of children and young people entering care, providing crisis intervention and family mediation. Their CAMHS & AMP practitioner has provided consultations to young people on their Mental Health during COVID.

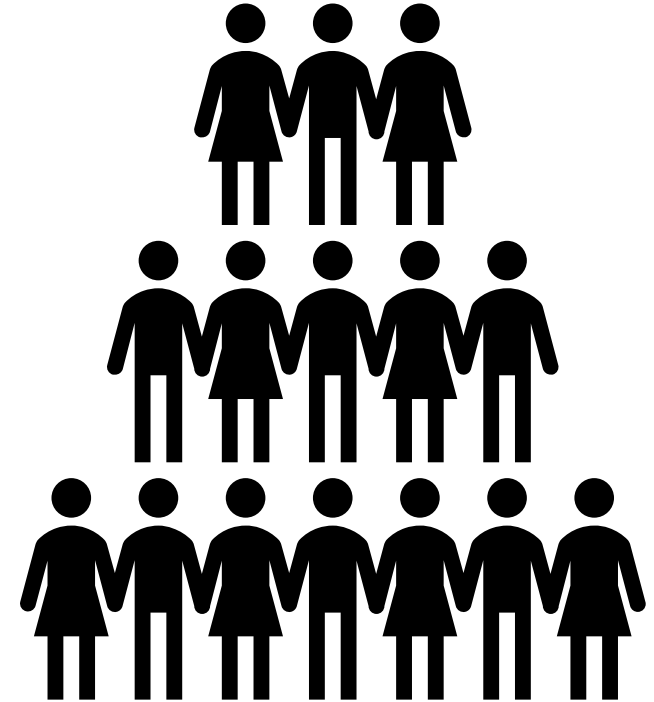
Parenting and Psychotherapy Service shifted to time-limited behavioural and counselling interventions and skills building in response to emerging needs as a result of COVID19 and lock-down.

Positive Behaviour Support Team – In development, beginning October 2020, a joint-commissioned multi-disciplinary behavioral support service for children and young people with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism who are at risk of Tier 4 hospital admission or residential placement.

- *These are primarily CCG / NHS England commissioned services.*
- Throughout the pandemic the service prioritised Tier 3 urgent referrals into the service; managing those young persons deemed most at risk
- CAMHS are continued to see and assess children, reviewing all children and prioritising which children should be seen face to face and which via the telephone/virtually.
- Maintained critical contact points – main telephone lines and out of hours support for young people and parents presenting with a range of issues from anxiety to bereavement.
- The Alliance team worked to facilitate remote working. Priority Tier 2 escalated worrying cases as needed to their Tier 3 colleagues, who in turn discussed with the CAMHS Alliance team if crisis management/support was required to avoid Tier 4 admission.
- DAWS/Turning Point provide support for young people self-medicating for substances, also support with mental health.

The Youth Council have been producing:

- 'Youth focused' comms on COVID 19
- Information on social distancing
- Big focus on well-being and 'surviving isolation'
- They are about to produce their 5th edition
- Videos illustrating top tips for coping during COVID19
- Learning shared with Head Teachers



- “We’re losing so many social connections – It’s still so much harder to try and interact with someone, it’s not the same and that’s really important for mental health”
- “There’s a lot that happens in schools that we mostly took for granted, even small things like chatting in the corridor”
- “The beginning of lockdown was fine but once we got into it having no routine has been really difficult”
- “...anxiety about the future and anxiety about the present...having exams cancelled was so stressful” (H&F’s Youth Council, <https://youtu.be/hG0ySDmTZqo>)

Although not COVID related, the Young Hammersmith & Fulham Foundation have produced a report on community provision to support the mental health of children and young people of the African diaspora.

Findings included the need for greater: **awareness of, diversity within,** and **collaboration between** the large number of emotional wellbeing support services within Hammersmith & Fulham.

Targeted focus on:

- Delivering the DfE **Wellbeing for Education Return programme**. This will be delivered via twilight sessions by the Educational Psychology service.
- **Emotional literacy training programme** for Teaching Assistants (ELSA) will be available for schools
- Schools will be introduced and supported to deliver the **Recovery Curriculum** via the SENCO networks targeting:
 - leadership and management
 - core curriculum
 - safeguarding and safety
 - personal development
 - teaching and learning
- Supporting **schools** to develop plans for blended learning in the event of a second wave, reflecting lessons learnt from review undertaken on remote and blended learning in H&F schools.
- **MIND** will continue to deliver in 26 schools a cycle education mental health support programme
- **Family Support** providing transitional support to schools and ongoing support to young people and their families. Phase 2 of the transition project for year 7 and year 8 .

Services will be working towards normalising delivery as much possible, supported by necessary modifications such as digital technology and gradually increased face-to-face contacts.

- **Supporting young people adapting** to social distancing and the ‘new normal’ and associated challenges.
- Every H&F school has a **named educational psychologist**, and a **named advisor from the school improvement team** to support emerging emotional wellbeing and mental needs.
- **Adapting working practices and communication systems to meet changing needs:** meeting more frequently to understand the different challenges that families are facing and respond quickly.
- **Co-production with children and young people and families** to further understand their experience of services, and revise and improve mental health pathways.
- A **whole-system review of mental health pathways for young people in H&F** to ensure a jointly commissioned mental health offer that effectively manages their needs by targeting and coordinating appropriate, timely services across the multi-agency partnership.

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Report to: Children and Education Policy & Accountability Committee

Date: 22/09/2020

Subject: Youth Council Engagement

Report of: Helen Green, Interim Head of Local Offer

Responsible Director: Jacqui McShannon, Director of Children's Services

Summary

This paper summarises the engagement work with the Youth Council during the period of COVID-19, touching on the partnerships and future plans this will inform going forward.

Recommendations

'For the Committee to note and comment on the report'.

Wards Affected: all

H&F Values

Please state how the subject of the report relates to our values – delete those values which are not appropriate

Our Values	Summary of how this report aligns to the H&F Priorities
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Doing things with local residents, not to them	Co-production with children and young people to understand and capture the voice of the young people in the borough.

Contact Officer(s):

Name: Brenda Whinnett
Position: Youth Voice Coordinator
Email: brenda.whinnett@lbhf.gov.uk

Background Papers Used in Preparing This Report

None

1. The Youth Council are a group of youth representatives (aged 13-19) who live, go to school in, or are looked after by Hammersmith & Fulham. As the voice of the young people in the borough, the Youth Council create innovative ways to get their views and present them to decision makers. They also give their opinion on policies, activities and services and are involved in the recruitment of professionals that work with young people.
2. During COVID -19, the Youth Council have hosted a variety of provision to understand the effects of the pandemic on young people and how to engage their views in future delivery.

Inclusive youth council and comms

3. The Youth Council have held weekly virtual meetings since the outset of the pandemic. With packed agendas and guest speakers attending to address young people. Discussions have focused on the 14-15 strategy, the Black Lives Matter movement, the impact of COVID-19 on young people, under 18s travel, peer abuse and the PHSE curriculum. These weekly virtual meetings have resumed again from September following a summer break.
4. During this period, there has been a large amount of guidance and advice released to the public. This guidance can be confusing, lengthy and difficult to engage with. Recognising this barrier and seeking to overcome it to ensure effective communication to young residents, the Youth Council have published a total of five youth focused comms during this period. Editions have focused on relaying crucial guidance and updated advice in clear and accessible language and relaying the importance of testing and contact tracing. Comms have also paid significant attention to the wider social and mental impact of COVID-19 on young people by providing advice and support on things to do, home-schooling and well-being.
5. The Youth council have also produced a number of short videos addressing the impact of COVID-19 and their views on how this should shape local development moving forward. The first video sees members outlining their suggestions for what schools should focus on to support their students with the impact of COVID 19. Their insightful comments and reflections set out a strong agenda urging schools to focus on mental health support, gradual reintegration, catch up support for those struggling with home learning and continued emphasis on digital skills. A second publication considered the impact of the pandemic on young people's mental health, with members sharing their thoughts and experience during this time. The video focuses on the mental health issues brought about by COVID and the social isolation experienced by young people during this period through the closure of school settings, and associated anxieties and concerns around examinations and transition periods between schooling.
6. Members have also been involved in joint working with other bodies across the council, including hosting a joint questionnaire with Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation Peer Researchers, asking 500 young people about

their experiences growing up in Hammersmith and Fulham, and the impact of COVID-19 on their lives. The Youth Council have also joined and presented at LBHF committees, conferences and Head Teachers Forums to share the lived experiences of young people during this time.

Partnerships and future plans

7. The experiences and opinions shared through the inclusive use voice will assist in informing recovery planning as we move away from a crisis phase of service delivery. Members are planning for increased inclusion to the Youth Council to add value through diversity, using communication platforms and strategies to expand the voice within the borough. The inclusive apprentices are also involved in developing this inclusive youth voice through coordinating and networking across the borough. Throughout the summer period, training sessions will be held for new members as part of building a more inclusive Youth Council. Additionally the Youth Council are developing a Youth Voice Network throughout LBHF as part of their ambition to become a more inclusive and proportionate Youth Council.
8. The Youth Council will continue to adapt their ways of working to overcome the challenges and enable every young person to participate. This will be assisted by the introduction of a 'buddy system' and other approached seeking to support the inclusive youth voice.
9. A Youth Voice Network meeting will be held in September in collaboration with Young Hammersmith and Fulham Foundation Members. This joint working will provide the opportunity to create actionable ways that the Youth Council and various youth boards can work together to expand the network and shape change in the borough.
10. Planning is currently underway to host a virtual 'Youth Take Over Challenge' focusing on COVID-19, Black Lives Matter and inclusive opportunities. The event will be held in conjunction with a range of partners, local services and organisations, hosting activities and challenges to gather the views of young people and encourage opportunities for involvement in wider youth projects. Plans for Mental Health Awareness day are also currently underway within the Youth Council.
11. As a result of COVID-19, the UKYP, Youth Mayor and London Elections have been postponed and will be held in November 2020.
12. As we move towards a phase of recovery, both in the short/medium and long term, the development of co-production with young people remain at the centre of service delivery, integrated in 'the way we do things.'