

Committee: Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel

Date: 4 September 2013

Wards: All

Subject: Update on CYP Scrutiny Panel task group reviews

Lead officer: Ben Sherlock

Lead member: Cllr Jeff Hanna

Forward Plan reference number:

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Recommendations:

- A. That the Panel consider any further performance management they wish to undertake and establish outcomes they wish to note from the reviews.
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1 *Purpose of report and executive summary*

- 1.1. To provide an update on the progress made on the CYP task group review topics since their conclusions in 2011 and 2012.

2 *Details*

2.1. Alternative Education (2010-11)

- 2.1.1 Education and Education Welfare teams provided an update on the action plan in April 2013.

- 2.1.2 This plan is included in Appendix 1 and details the original recommendations, proposed actions, timescales and progress to date.

2.2. Post-16 Pathways (2011-12)

- 2.2.1 Education and Education Welfare teams provided an update on the action plan in April 2013.

- 2.2.2 This plan is included in Appendix 2 and details the original recommendations, proposed actions, timescales and progress to date.

3 *Alternative options*

- 3.1. To leave the performance management of the task group reviews to officers.

4 *Consultation undertaken or proposed*

- 4.1. Officers approached and asked for progress updates (see appendices).

5 *Timetable*

- 5.1. To be considered at the Panel meeting on 17 September 2013

6 *Financial, resource and property implications*

- 6.1. None that were not considered at the time of the reviews.

7 *Legal and statutory implications*

- 7.1. None that were not considered at the time of the reviews.

8 *Human rights, equalities and community cohesion implications*

- 8.1. None that were not considered at the time of the reviews.

9 *Crime and Disorder implications*

- 9.1. None that were not considered at the time of the reviews.

10 *Risk management and health and safety implications*

- 10.1. None that were not considered at the time of the reviews.

11 *Appendices – the following documents are to be published with this report and form part of the report*

- 1: Updated action plan for the Alternative Education Task Group Review from April 2013
- 2: Updated action plan for the Post-16 Pathways Task Group Review from April 2013

APPENDIX 1

Children and Young people’s Scrutiny Recommendations: Alternative Education Action Plan

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation one (paragraph 39) We recommend that the Secondary Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships share good practice with behaviour co-ordinators about projects to support pupils at risk of exclusion.</p>	<p>We recommend that the Secondary Behaviour and Attendance Partnerships continue to share good practice across schools about projects and processes to support vulnerable pupils and fulfil the new Ofsted expectation on Behaviour & Safety.</p>	<p>Secondary Schools Behaviour and Attendance Partnership</p>	<p>Partnership review Autumn 2012</p>	<p>Transitions Working Party TAMHS Anti Bullying Showcase Transaction Analysis Training Schools’ officer – new model Restorative approaches at St Mark’s Nurture groups (Raynes/St Mark’s) Interdepartmental Inclusion Units</p>
<p>Recommendation two (paragraph 40) We recommend that there is a forum for teachers, particularly behaviour co-ordinators to meet and discuss behaviour and exclusion issues, this should place at least once a year</p>	<p>We recommend that annually the Secondary Behaviour and Attendance partnership looks at Borough wide Data on Attendance, Exclusions, Volume [SMART, Melrose, Alt Educ] and Outcomes. We recommend that there is a forum for teachers, particularly behaviour co-ordinators to meet and discuss behaviour and exclusion issues, this should place at least once a year.</p>	<p>Secondary Schools Behaviour and Attendance Partnership Virtual Behaviour Service</p>	<p>Annually from 2012 Summer 2012</p>	<p>B&A analysed data re exclusion and attendance and have requested more detailed data on outcomes tracking Volume and Outcomes built into the SMART/Melrose partnership Forum set up termly. Met in Summer: Equality/Homophobic Bullying/Data on behaviour and safety review group</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation three (paragraph 41) We recommend that schools are encouraged to draw on the support of Melrose and the Smart Centre for developing projects to deal with pupils with behavioural issues. Melrose and the Smart Centre should engage with schools to agree such projects</p>	<p>We recommend that schools are encouraged to draw on the support of Melrose and the Smart Centre for developing projects to deal with specific pupils with behavioural issues. Melrose and the Smart Centre should engage with schools to agree such projects.</p>	<p>Secondary Schools Behaviour and Attendance Partnership</p>	<p>Partnership Review Autumn 2012</p>	<p>Individual consultation taken up with Melrose from a range of schools. The Melrose/SMART partnership will take forward the brief requested by schools to meet their wider needs.</p>
<p>Recommendation four (paragraph 46) We recommend that all Targeted Youth Support Panel meetings should have a multiagency approach involving relevant internal and external partner</p>	<p>We recommend that all schools should agree a process to review their Targeted Youth Support Processes / Panels including outcomes and membership [looking at involvement of multi-agency and external partners].</p>	<p>School Standards and Quality / Youth Inclusion</p>	<p>Annually from 2012</p>	<p>The panels will be reviewed at the Behaviour and Safety leads network. School Panels are also reviewed when the LA undertaken base audits (2 schools so far). Two secondaries have independently reviewed their panels.</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation five (paragraph 47) We recommend that schools review processes to ensure early identification and planning aiming to reduce the use of fixed term exclusions.</p>	<p>We recommend that an annual school improvement “challenge” process should be set up where schools review their data on Behaviour and Safety [under the new OFSTED criteria], including Raise online exclusion data and agree actions school by school to meet the challenge of being outstanding re Behaviour and Safety.</p>	<p>School Standards and Quality / Youth Inclusion</p>	<p>Annually from 2012</p>	<p>All schools (not academies) receive at least 2 visits per year and where exclusions are high data is questioned and processes challenged. Schools who are likely to be inspected will explain all the Ofsted criteria in greater depth. New Ofsted framework has raised the bar on outstanding behaviour. School training has been done on the new Ofsted framework, including evidence of good behaviour</p>
<p>Recommendation six (paragraph 52) We recommend that training for teachers to deal with challenging behaviour and opportunities to consider different approaches is built into the supervision process</p>	<p>Training for Teachers would be identified on a school by school basis as part of the action under recommendation 5</p>	<p>School Standards and Quality / Youth Inclusion</p>	<p>Annually from 2012</p>	<p>CPD will be a product at schools internal monitoring and teaching (these are supported by the IA where required).</p>

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<p>Recommendation seven (paragraph 53) We recommend that teachers can access information on reflective practices through on- line training, and material that can be downloaded from the internet</p>	<p>Online forums are available nationally and it would not be cost effective to develop materials on a local basis.</p>			<p>N/A</p>
<p>Recommendation eight (paragraph 54) We recommend that an on- line forum is developed so that schools can share good practice about how to improve behaviour in school.</p>	<p>There is not good evidence of takeup of online fora. It would not be cost effective to take forward this recommendation.</p>			<p>N/A</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation nine (paragraph 56) We recommend that each school determine the number and length of fixed term exclusions that will trigger an in- depth assessment of that pupil's situation. Schools should share the results of this process with the council. Advice should be sought from the Education and Youth Inclusion Manager on where the trigger could be set.</p>	<p>We recommend that each school review its processes for the identification, tracking and support of individuals or groups with particular behavioural needs, so the school can evidence improvements in behaviour over time [OFSTED].</p>	<p>Schools</p>	<p>Spring – Summer Term 2012</p>	<p>SIMS behaviour module (or similar) is used to track pupils and evidence for Ofsted.</p>
<p>Recommendation ten (paragraph 66) We recommend that schools are encouraged to maintain links with pupils and their families in alternative education and develop a plan to re-integrate them back into the school where possible. Attention should be given to the level of pastoral care that the pupil will require on re-intervention.</p>	<p>We recommend that schools review how effective their processes are for maintaining links with parents and pupils where they are placed out on alternative education.</p>	<p>Schools</p>	<p>Autumn term 2012</p>	<p>B&A partnership has discussed this issue. A full time pastoral worker is now in place at SMART. Pastoral support is a theme of the new SMART/Melrose partnership.</p>

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<p>Recommendation eleven (paragraph 67) We recommend that schools should also consider whether a pupil would benefit from bi-weekly/monthly meetings within the school with the alternative education provider for an agreed period of time once they have completed a period of alternative education and whether such an agreement would reduce the need for longer term exclusions.</p>	<p>Action in recommendation 10 will review how each school maintains links with its parents and pupils when a child is on alternative education. Schools already attend regular review meetings for timed intervention at SMART centre where pupils are placed on alternative education for a fixed period there should always be review meetings. The majority of alternative education placements are in year 11 so the young person is not returning to mainstream.</p>			<p>Under discussion with schools and other providers. To be considered as part of re-commissioning of alternative education.</p>
<p>Recommendation twelve (paragraph 68) We recommend that the Council should consider finding ways of making schools carry more of the financial burden if pupils are in alternative education for more than six months. This will have the effect of encouraging schools to re-integrate pupils back into school as quickly as possible</p>	<p>Alternative education placements made through the Youth Service are subsidised through a top slice of the direct schools grant. If schools make direct placements they pay 100% of the cost of the placement thus all the costs of alternative education are met from within the DSG or Academy funds.</p>			<p>Funds for alternative education are with schools and in the high needs block. The commissioning role at SMART/Melrose will look to achieve better value for money.</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation thirteen (paragraph 73) We recommend that Merton Schools jointly commission alternative education provision, where this can be demonstrated to be more cost effective and focussed on the needs of pupils.</p>	<p>Melrose, SMART Centre and Alternative Education will meet to consider the cost effectiveness of joint commissioning some of their placements.</p>	<p>Melrose, SMART, Youth Service</p>	<p>Summer Term 2012</p>	<p>Joint commissioning is part of the new SMART/Melrose project.</p>
<p>Recommendation fourteen (paragraph 76) We recommend that the lead for alternative education in all schools should also be involved in quality assuring the alternative education process and be consulted on what form alternative education should take.</p>	<p>Quality Assurance of alternative education is undertaken on behalf of schools by the 14-19 strategy manager. Alternative Education leads are already invited on an individual basis to undertake specific quality assurance visits.</p>			<p>Q/A visits carried out regularly on alternative education provision. Visits do include school staff. All visits are joint visits including cross borough.</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation fifteen (paragraph 77) The council should consider if more alternative education could be provided from within the authority if this is cost efficient.</p>	<p>If the Council were to provide additional alternative education places this would require either an expansion of the SMART centre or setting up of a new PRU. At present an expansion of the SMART Centre would need to be agreed by schools forum.</p> <p>Alternative Education provided by private providers are set up within the market where there is demand from schools. There has been a significant expansion over the last 4 years within this market.</p>			<p>There has been an expansion of providers who have been quality assured and are part of the 14-19 partnership.</p> <p>Number of places in alternative education were reviewed in establishing the new funding of SMART Centre. Medical provision has been expanded.</p>

Recommendations	Proposed Action	Lead Responsibility	Timescale	Progress and Position to date
<p>Recommendation sixteen (paragraph 84) We recommend that Merton Council increase the number of apprenticeships in the borough, by developing further links with local businesses and within council services and by reviewing incentives for business to take on apprentices from Merton. Merton to seek innovative ways to encourage council departments and other service providers to take on apprentices through the commissioning process and by other means.</p>	<p>We recommend that this action is to be taken forward at the 16+ Scrutiny Task group.</p>	<p>Scrutiny</p>	<p>Jan 2012</p>	
<p>Recommendation seventeen (paragraph 85) We recommend that thought should be given to creating a post to support the creation of links to business and creation of apprenticeships</p>	<p>We recommend that this action is to be taken forward at the 16+ Scrutiny Task group.</p>	<p>Scrutiny</p>	<p>Jan 2012</p>	

Recommendation 2					
Council to engage relevant departments and seek to increase the number of apprenticeships and opportunities available to young people through the Tendering process; Community Plan; Regeneration Plans for Merton; Family Poverty Strategy and Action Plan; and Existing links with schools					
<p>Tendering Process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider options within CSF procurement processes and schedules Consider options with corporate team Ensure that LA officers liaise with 14-19 Apprenticeship Group when planning and delivering new Apprenticeship offer <p>Community Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Liaise with CMT lead and consider options for inclusion in CP Develop and incorporate feasible options <p>Regeneration Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with Environment and Regeneration AD to discuss Follow up actions as 	Oct 2012	CSF JM/YS	Other Council departments engaged through strategic plans and procedures	Apprenticeship week activities held at LA, Merton Priory Homes	
	Nov 2012	CSF			
	Jan 2013	JM/TP	Increase current 2013 Merton LA Apprenticeship target from 30 to 60 in 2014	Merton and Sutton joint Apprenticeship Forum established	
			PB/TP		
	Oct 2012	JM/YS	Increase Merton resident apprenticeship starts from 956 in 2011-12 to 1100 in 2013-14		
	Nov 2012		JM		
Jan/Feb 2013					
		YS/AJ			

<p>appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Merton Priory Homes to commence Apprenticeship programme for 50 Merton residents <p>Family Poverty Strategy/Action Plan:</p> <p>Troubled Families team to develop new Apprenticeship offer</p> <p>Links with Schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop current apprenticeship CEIAG and offer in schools • Explore further opportunities and funding options to develop offer • Continuation of Adult Education pre-Apprenticeship programme 	<p>Nov 2012</p> <p>Nov/Dec 2012</p>	<p>KES/ PMcG</p>		<p>MPH program commenced</p> <p>Merton Apprenticeship Ambassador facilitated CEIAG events at schools during Apprenticeship week and arranging follow up bespoke activities.</p> <p>LA officer identified to provide CEIAG Apprenticeship support to schools</p>
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Recommendation 3				
Council to act as a point of contact for voluntary and community sector groups seeking to engage with the apprenticeship and citizenship opportunities, where possible using appointed champions in the council				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Apprenticeship lead officer in HR and receive updated information on current position. • Liaise with 14-19 Apprenticeship group • Liaise with National Apprenticeship Service(NAS) • Review existing plans to develop apprenticeships and identify possible further options • Work with officers to support relevant groups considering apprenticeships. 	Oct/Nov 2012	CSF JM		<p>Continuation of VCM sixth form volunteer program in sixth forms for 60 pupils.</p> <p>NAS represented on Apprenticeship Forum</p> <p>TRP identified as Merton Apprenticeship Ambassador</p> <p>LA Apprenticeship event for Managers in March 2013</p>

Recommendation 4				
Council to audit and bring together the range of initiatives currently delivered across the borough to ensure a cohesive service is offered online and ensures improved access to information for young people, parents, carers and schools.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review on line current offer and links to other services. • Review current improvement plans • Schools to share plans for on-going CEIAG delivery • All schools receive training on UCAS Progress(16-19 Prospectus) • Update the Merton 16-19 prospectus 	<p>Dec 2012</p> <p>Oct 2012</p> <p>Sept 2102</p>	<p>CS/CSF</p> <p>PMCG</p> <p>JH</p>	<p>All young people have access to online CEIAG resources.</p> <p>Schools to work in partnership to deliver CEIAG offer</p> <p>All pupils are aware of 16-19 offer at schools, South Thames College Merton, and training providers</p>	<p>Achieved. All schools have access to resources via LGFL</p> <p><i>Some</i> secondary schools share use of careers advisor</p> <p>16-19 Merton prospectus updated Sept 2012. All providers have course details on UCAS progress</p> <p>All secondary schools have a participation support officer to work with pupils at risk of NEET</p> <p>LA RPA workshop held Jan 2013</p>

Recommendation 5				
Schools to be encouraged by the Council to build upon the existing positive collaboration between institutions to further improve the vocational offer at sixth form.				
Merton schools 6 th Form forum to lead on this – to consult with heads first In preparation for RPA, schools and colleges to develop vocational offer at entry and level1-2	Nov 12 ongoing	SOH/ PMcG	All pupils have access to entry to level 3 16-19 local offer	Schools have reviewed their 16-19 offer for 2013 in light of RPA Continuation of vocational offer at South Thames College Melrose and SMART centre consultation document

Recommendation 6				
A dedicated officer to be identified to develop relationships with local businesses to increase the support and opportunities available to young people.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through discussions with corporate colleagues and DMTs identify the resource within departments • Co-ordinate working group around these resources • Seek to develop further through service reviews/ restructures trying to identify part of officers roles which support this work • Liaise with FutureMerton to engage with businesses and preparing and employment and skills strategy 	Jan 2013	JM	One LA officer acts as key liaison with local employers.	Designated LA officer in Future Merton appointed to broker links between employers and schools and young people
	Nov 2012			

Recommendation 7				
Council to look to develop a mutually beneficial partnership approach with local businesses to encourage them to offer apprenticeships, sponsor school events, advise on career paths, undertake a mentoring role and to sit on school governing bodies.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See above • Governor support service to promote opportunities through website and contacts • Headteachers supported where possible in seeking community Governors for their schools and sponsorship from local businesses • Headteachers consider further options for mentoring • FutureMerton and the Economic Wellbeing Sub-group of the SCTP Partnership to develop opportunities with local businesses 	Oct 2012	JC		<p>Economic Well Being Group established, with elected member representation</p> <p>Merton Chamber of Commerce launching Take One” campaign in April 2013.</p> <p>TRP(Merton Apprenticeship Ambassador) represented on Schools Forum</p> <p>Schools hosted employer events, e.g. Speed Careers/Careers Academy</p> <p>UK Career Academy at South Thames College</p>
	Nov 2012	JM		
Further Aims				
Raise awareness with CSF Lead Members in order to facilitate discussions with Cabinet Colleagues				

