



Policy Overview & Scrutiny Committee Review Scoping Report 2011/12

OBJECTIVE

Short title of review

RISKY BEHAVIOUR AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Aim of review

To offer positive recommendations to Cabinet on how the Council and its partners can intervene early to reduce risky behaviour in young people and improve life chances.

Terms of Reference

TBC by Members

Information

Risky behaviour by young people is a far reaching issue that touches not only on the Council, but other agencies and communities and is influenced considerably by wider societal and cultural changes.

Some risky behaviour is a normal and positive part of growing up. It can also support the development of resilience and enable young people to grow and aspire to make positive decisions about their lives and the world they live in.

However some risky behaviour can be harmful. It can reduce aspirations, increase vulnerability, cause physical and social problems, reduce opportunities and may promote criminal and anti social behaviour. It can cover activities such as unprotected sex leading to sexually transmitted infections or under-18 conceptions, substance misuse (including alcohol), poor emotional health and wellbeing, not being in education, employment or training (NEET) or even as first time entrance into the criminal justice system or re-offenders.

DRAFT

Often the young people who undertake in multiple risky behaviours are the same young people. These young people are often accessing fragmented services, costing significant amount of resources by public bodies (e.g. the Council or Police), who often are only able to help reduce the behaviour from escalating rather intervening earlier to improving their life outcomes.

Supporting the Cabinet & Council's policies and objectives

TBC once review area narrowed down.

INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS

Key Issues

TBC

Remit - who / what is this review covering?

A wide variety of organisations & partners, for example:

- All Council departments
- Police, Health and Probation Service
- Youth Offending Service
- Youth and Connexions Services
- Healthy Hillingdon
- Education Welfare Service
- Public Health

Connected work (recently completed, planned or ongoing)

In terms of what the Council has influence over, the Business Improvement Delivery programme led by the Leader and Deputy Chief Executive and Corporate Director of Planning, Environment, Education and Community Services is currently undertaking a project on all early intervention services within Children and Education Services which is expected to help mitigate some elements of risky behaviour by young people.

Members may feel that two reviews on this by the Council may lead to duplication of effort. In addition, given the huge scope of this area as a review topic Members may wish to narrow their focus on a particular area of risky behaviour that is well suited for review and within the remit of the POC.

Key information required

- What services are in place and how do young people access them?
- How do the schools interface with these services?
- How do services ensure the young person does not fall through the net?
- How do services monitor the long term progress of the young person?

DRAFT

- How is data shared across services and partners?
- How effective is the Common Assessment in ensure young people are assessed and receive the correct service.

EVIDENCE & ENQUIRY

The Committee could receive evidence from a wide variety of witnesses including:

- Managers of Services within the Council and Partner agencies
- Young People
- Young Offenders
- Etc...

Information & Intelligence

TBC

Consultation and Communications

An online questionnaire could be considered seeking the views of Young People on Risky Behaviours, possibly using new social media.

Lines of enquiry

TBC

PROPOSALS

Recommendations would be put forward following the witness sessions.

LOGISTICS

Proposed timeframe & milestones

Meeting Date *	Action	Purpose / Outcome
July 2011	Agree Scoping Report	Information and analysis
September 2011	Witness Session 1	Evidence & enquiry
October 2011	Witness session 2	Evidence & enquiry
November 2011	Draft Final Report	Proposals – agree recommendations and final draft report

** Specific meetings can be shortened or extended and additional meetings arranged to suit the review topic and needs of the Committee.*

Risk assessment

TBC