

Central Bedfordshire Council

Children Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee – Tuesday 18th October 2016

Securing economic, personal and social Success for Young People – The Youth Support Service annual report (2015/16)

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Purpose of this report

To provide a summary of work managed by the Central Bedfordshire Youth Support Service (YSS), including:

- The responsibilities the YSS has to young people
- The range of services the YSS delivers and manages across Central Bedfordshire
- The current performance of the YSS
- The future priorities of the YSS

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Children Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

1. Consider the findings of the YSS Annual Report for 2015/16 and feedback on current progress
2. Include on the committee forward plan for 2017/18 to receive the YSS Annual Report for 2016/17

Background

1. The Youth Support Service (YSS) directly deliver and manage a range of services with young people across Central Bedfordshire. These services meet a number of statutory responsibilities but also local aspirations of young people. However, there is no one central reporting process for the YSS that captures the range and scope it is involved in on a day to day basis.
2. In response to the above, the YSS has agreed to develop a regular Annual Report. The report is designed to clearly demonstrate:

- Our Aspiration as a YSS
 - Our Responsibilities to young people
 - Our Principles and how we are driven by the needs of young people
 - Our Delivery - including support for the most vulnerable
 - Our Performance
 - Our Future Priorities
 - Our Monitoring
3. The Annual Report was developed with staff from across the YSS in June 2016. It has been shared with colleagues from across Children's Services and externally with partner agencies.
 4. The full report can be found in **Appendix A**

Council Priorities

The work delivered by the YSS and its partners is contributing to Council Priorities outlined in its 5 year plan, in particular:

Improved Education and Skills:

- Young people will be supported to **learn** and improve their **educational attainment**, make progress and achieve their goals. They will have appropriate knowledge and skills to enter and succeed in their careers
- Young people will have higher aspirations that are supported by their families. They will be offered a range of services, including **early help and support to improve their life chances**

Protecting the vulnerable: Improving Well-being:

- We will **protect vulnerable young people**. They will feel safer and are happier as a result of the intervention they receive
- Young people will be more positive and feel more **emotionally and physically healthy**. With support, they will be able to make informed choices and understand the impact of the risks they take

Corporate Implications

There are no Corporate Implications that result from this report.

Legal Implications

The YSS helps ensure the council can meet a number of its statutory responsibilities, including:

- Education and Inspections Act (2006)
- Education and Skills Act (2008)
- Education Act (1996, 1997 & 2011)
- Crime and Disorder Act (1998)
- The Children and Families Act (2014)

Financial Implications

There are no Financial Implications that result from this report.

Equalities Implications

Central Bedfordshire Council has a statutory duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and foster good relations in respect of nine protected characteristics; age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

The YSS supports these statutory duties by:

- Supporting young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities to make informed decisions regarding their future careers
- Enabling access to learning for young people who are seeking asylum and being looked after by Central Bedfordshire Council
- Promoting the voice of all young people in active decision making across our services

Conclusion and next Steps

In order to meet our statutory responsibilities and local aspirations, the YSS continues to deliver and manage a range of services with young people across Central Bedfordshire. The YSS annual report sets out these responsibilities and aspirations, our performance and the future direction of the service. This approach will be replicated by the YSS and made available to partners by July 2017.

Appendices

Appendix A – Youth Service Annual Report 2015/16