

## YOUTH AUDIT ACTION PLAN

May 2014

### INTRODUCTION

While youth involvement and participation have been priorities for young people's Services for quite some time, more recently the government's 'Positive for Youth' approach has established the need for all local authorities to evidence the active involvement of young people in assessing the quality of local provision.

As part of this approach, the Government expects every local area to have a body of young people that is able to represent the views of local young people and audit the delivery and quality of local services.

The Central Bedfordshire Youth Audit was the first in the country to examine the commissioned Youth Offer services, which are provided on behalf of and by Central Bedfordshire Council. In particular, the Youth Audit was asked to assess to what extent the Youth Offer translates from policy into practice.

That they are the first to complete such efforts is testament to their abilities, as well as to CBC's commitment to making genuine youth involvement a reality.

The level of partnership attained is demonstrated by the commitment of the Council to respond to the findings of the Youth Audit in a timely manner, and this action plan is the first step towards not only realising the aspirations of the young people taking part, but also to lay the foundations for future and further participative efforts. The following actions highlight the intentions of CBC to work with its partners in response to the Youth Audit.

### RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Recommendation One: Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) minimum standards adopted in all middle and upper schools**

Issues:

- Current provision appears limited and needs to be more structured, preventative, uniformed and consistent..

## Appendix 1

- The Council's response to NEETs is good but more work is needed to identify potential NEETs earlier and prevent young people from becoming NEET in the first place
  - 4YP is commissioned by CBC to deliver to post-16s when young people are already NEET
  - The pre-16 schools based (and schools-commissioned) provision is not universally delivered across all schools
  - The majority of people interviewed felt that IAG needed to be more structured, preventative, uniformed and consistent.

### Actions

1. Develop the Youth Support Team (YST) website to provide information on IAG.
2. Promote schools responsibility to secure impartial IAG services in all middle and upper schools.
3. Promote the Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) tool for use in all middle and upper schools
4. Engage all middle and upper schools and all relevant providers in establishing a minimum standard for IAG, based on DfE and Ofsted findings, particularly informed by the Inspiration Vision Statement.
5. Support all middle and upper schools to sign up to this minimum standard.
6. YST to work with the Economic Growth, Skills and Regeneration Team to coordinate efforts with schools and providers for the coinciding Careers Week and Apprenticeship Week and ensure activities and opportunities are effectively communicated to all stakeholders, including schools, young people and families

### **Recommendation Two: Expand the apprenticeship programme to be available to all young people**

#### Issues:

- The targets that inform the efforts of schools often do not accommodate the efforts of the local authority – in particular, schools-based targets often focus on the attainment of GCSEs, while CBC is tasked with identifying those young people at risk of becoming NEET – which may result in CBC and schools applying their limited resources on different young people, which could work against a coordinated approach to the educational needs of the youth population.
- 60% of young people who are NEET reside in the Houghton Regis, Dunstable and Leighton Buzzard areas (identified as NEET 'hotspots').
- Systems in place to identify and support young people who are NEET are generally effective. However, maintaining current performance criteria when compared to regional, statistic and national performance measures remains challenging

### Actions

1. Develop the 14-19 Strategy Group to identify areas of commonality between the efforts of schools, CBC and other partners in order to better inform joined-up working for the universal benefit of school-aged young people

## Appendix 1

2. YST to review the provision of services to young people in 'hotspot' areas – to ensure neighbourhood needs are being effectively identified and met.
3. YST to develop a NEET Improvement Plan that informs efforts around 'Intended Destinations', September Guarantee', and the 'Activity Survey' – and maintains a focus on performance improvement
4. Expand the LAC apprenticeship scheme to be more widely available to 16-24 year olds
5. Develop the YST website to promote apprenticeship opportunities to both young people and prospective employers
6. YST to be trained to promote the benefits of apprenticeships to schools and young people.
7. Develop the RONI tool to identify those pre-16 young people who may be reluctant to participate in academic opportunities post-16, and promote apprenticeships to these young people

### **Recommendation Three: Positive Sexual and Relationship Education embedded from years 5/6**

#### Issues:

- Facilities to promote Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) provision are becoming limited – particularly the work with young men
- A focus on early provision of emotional wellbeing support will encourage children and young people to increase their aspirations and contribute, and expect more from, their relationships
- Provision of Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) 'needs to be better' including from years 5/6 (Tier 1)
- Central Government have acknowledged the need for SRE provision to be updated and are happy for schools to engage with service providers ('experts') to develop services appropriate to their needs. In particular, the Sex Education Forum, the PSHE Association and Brook (a local provider in Central Bedfordshire) will soon be releasing new guidelines around teaching SRE
- As with many areas of preventative provision, it is difficult to definitively identify those young people at risk of being affected by teenage pregnancy (both as mothers and fathers). However, it is recognised that issues of low aspiration are common amongst those 'at risk'.
- It is felt that services are not delivered in a way that promotes confidentiality and this could increase the risk of teenage pregnancies
- Young people whose parents were themselves teenage parents are more likely to become teenage parents themselves

#### Actions

1. Review the priorities for SRE provision (YST and the Commissioning Team)
2. YST to work with Public Health to identify emotional wellbeing training for staff
3. YST to work with Public Health to secure emotional wellbeing support for children and young people, with a focus on the support and information needs of young men

## Appendix 1

4. YST to work with young people to develop the YST website to promote services and advice for SRE
5. YST, the Commissioning Team, Public Health and schools to review current provision (the curriculum) of SRE and consider the forthcoming new recommendations
6. Develop the use of the YST Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) tool to target support to prevent teenage pregnancies – by identifying those young people with low aspirations.
7. YST and the Commissioning Team to work with Brook and schools to identify ways of promoting confidentiality in the delivery of SRE – this may include online booking systems for young people and improved signage/promotion.

### **Recommendation Four: Provide a wider variety of personalised and matched volunteering opportunities, including a balance of long term, short term and one day opportunities**

#### Issues:

- The opportunity to volunteer should be better promoted to ensure the maximum number of young people are able to benefit from this positive activity

#### Actions

1. Gather testimonials of young people who have volunteered with the existing Volunteering providers – CVS in the north and VCA in the south of the Central Bedfordshire area.
2. Include a volunteering target in all new contracts (as applicable) with commissioned providers. For example, this could be a target of 3 young people per year involved in a substantive volunteering opportunity (e.g. V10 or V50); applicable contracts would include – not exclusively - youth work
3. Work with young people to develop the YST website to promote volunteering opportunities and successes

### **Recommendation Five: Improved and wider promotion of drug and alcohol services**

#### Issues:

- There is a need to improve the promotion of provision in order to deliver better access to support and advice for those who need it.

#### Actions

1. YST to work with young people to develop the YST website to promote relevant services as well as healthy lifestyles and activities
2. Assess the quality and appropriateness of current promotional materials

## Appendix 1

3. Work with the Commissioned Services team to review current provision

### **Recommendation Six: Increase in accessible housing for homeless young people**

#### Issues:

- The availability of appropriate beds for young people at risk of homelessness is extremely limited
- Many young people who experience homelessness also lack the skills to live independently, such as budgeting and cooking
- The recent Homeless Link report – ‘Young and Homeless 2013’ established that:
  - a. The main cause of homelessness (nearly 50%) amongst young people is family breakdown to the point that parents no longer want the child at home
  - b. Around half of homeless young people are NEET
  - c. The needs of young homeless people are becoming increasingly complex – increasing the case for early intervention and prevention of family breakdown and young people becoming NEET – particularly in an environment of increasingly scarce resources

#### Actions

1. Establish a youth homelessness working group to explore opportunities for increased joined-up working to meet the complex vulnerabilities experienced by young people at risk/experiencing homelessness
  - a. This working group should involve relevant CBC services, public sector partners, VCS agencies and faith groups
2. Explore the pooling of resources across YST/CSC/Early Intervention to develop an independent living project to cater for children at risk of homelessness, as well as Looked After Children (LAC)
3. Explore the development of systemic models of practice in relevant CBC (including YST) and partner services to prevent family breakdown leading to youth homelessness
4. Explore Partnership Triage options for early partnership responses, information sharing and joint allocation of resources, before initial incidents (substance use / domestic violence / conflict / etc) escalate to family breakdown
5. Review Children’s Services (YST/Early Intervention/CSC) & Housing provision for 16 - 19 year olds deemed vulnerable
  - a. Can we define ‘sofa surfers’ as vulnerable?
  - b. Understand their education, training and employment needs and identify / define their barriers to participation and feed these into joint plans
  - c. Identify and track all homeless young people (including ‘sofa surfers’) and assess needs through YST – make referrals to commissioned providers / CSC / Troubled Families as appropriate. If developed, make referral through Partnership Triage (above) as a universal referral pathway that eradicates duplication / gaps in provision.
6. Raise awareness of the Bedfordshire Housing Link ‘Night Owl project’ street-based support offer to 18/19 year olds.

# Appendix 1

## Recommendation Seven: Improved promotion of Youth Work and Positive Activities

### Issues:

- The offer is good but poorly promoted
- Provision is focussed on the younger age group (12-14)
- Issues with poor behaviour

### Actions

1. Establish a design and implement group with young people to develop the YST website that effectively promotes provision in an engaging, youth appropriate manner
2. Design, alongside young people, consistent signage and promotional material, as well as a name, for youth work – develop a brand identity
3. Behaviour protocols to be developed and agreed by YST/providers and young people
4. Continue the roll out of ICT facilities at youth centres
5. Implement a building maintenance programme to encourage high quality provision and improve the esteem of services
6. Implement the 'In Defence of Youth Work' evidencing model\* in future contracts.
7. In considerations for new commissioning models, YST to retain responsibility for defining and monitoring quality of provision in new contracts with youth service providers.
8. YST to develop a quality framework to be used in future delivery models
9. YST to support the formal relationship between the Youth Parliament, LAC's Children in Care Council, and other youth participation bodies in the Central Bedfordshire area

\*In Defence of Youth Work is a UK Government backed model that enables the subjective nature of youth work to be evidenced over time by storyboarding the relationships, engagements and interactions between youth workers and the young people they support. In so doing, the 'distance travelled' by young people can be evidenced in ways that a strictly outcomes-based model of evaluation may not be able to accommodate.

# Appendix 1

## ACTION PLAN

The action plan below sets our response to each of the recommendations raised in the youth audit. There is also an additional recommendation that outlines the actions required in order to:

- Inform future Commissioning of services for young people
- Deliver a sustainable approach to the delivery of the youth audit in future years

The plan is monitored on a regular basis by the Youth Services Team and progress reported as requested to the appropriate groups.

### Key;

**YA** – This action is to be presented to the Youth Auditors in response to their recommendations

**Op** – This action is to contribute to the operational work programme in the development of YST activities

**Strat** – This action is to inform the strategic activity of the Directorate and/or partnership

Recommendation 1	IAG minimum standards adopted in all middle and upper schools Youth Offer Theme – Information, Advice and Guidance			
Actions	Lead	Deadline	Progress and Next Steps	RAG Rating
Develop the YST website to provide information on IAG <b>YA / Op / Strat</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	April 2014	YST met on 18/02/14 to progress work on the corporate youth site. However, ICT do not currently have capacity to deliver training that would enable the YST to update the CBC web pages.  In addition, young people have stated they desire a standalone website. The challenge is to create something that appeals and engages young people, while also effectively promoting the work of YST / CBC to partners.  A business case has been drafted to develop a ‘standalone’ website and other options have been explored, including a	<b>Red</b>

# Appendix 1

			<p>joint site with the Children in Care Council.</p> <p>A clear case and plan for the website will be agreed by the end of May.</p>	
<p>Promote schools responsibility to secure impartial IAG services in all middle and upper schools</p> <p><b>YA / Op / Strat</b></p>	<p>YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Rachel Felton / Peter Fraser / Schools</p>	<p>Sept 2014 (upper schools)</p>	<p>YST are working on the development of a 'Single Offer to Schools' from all partners that will include IAG, Public Health led PSHE and Economic Development. This work was delayed in line with anticipation of new statutory guidance on IAG from DfE.</p> <p>Promotion of the new Statutory Guidance (April 2014) has been delivered through the NEET Strategy Group (May 2014) and will be disseminated to all schools via the minutes. The work will now need to be prioritised by the revised 14-19 Strategy Group that will lead to partners in the development of a consistent approach to IAG and NEET provision.</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<p>Promote the Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) tool for use in all middle and upper schools</p> <p><b>YA / Op</b></p>	<p>YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Rachel Felton / Alex Szumski / Schools</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>All Upper schools are aware of the RONI and it has been piloted in five Upper schools so far. All Upper schools will have received sample RONI reports by 31/03/14. So far feedback is mixed, with some schools clear that they have their own systems in place, while others see the RONI as adding something positive to their efforts</p> <p>All Upper Schools are now aware of the RONI and are utilising its potential to varying extents.</p> <p>It will be necessary to expand this to all Middle schools as this has been identified, locally, as a gap that misses out years 7/8 – this could then inform more tailored careers advice to these age groups. Contact is now underway</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>



# Appendix 1

Engage all middle and upper schools and all relevant providers in establishing a minimum standard for IAG, based on DfE and Ofsted findings, particularly informed by the DfE Inspiration Vision Statement <b>YA / Op / Strat</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Peter Fraser / Schools	April 2014	Through the NEET Strategy Group, the YST has now identified partners to form a working group. This will build on efforts begun to build a universal/single offer to schools, and will engage schools in the development and maintenance of IAG minimum standards.  Draft minimum standards have now been drawn up by YST in anticipation of a starting point for discussions with schools.	<b>Red</b>
Support all middle and upper schools to actively sign up to this minimum standard.	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Peter Fraser / Schools	April 2014	Please see above	<b>Red</b>
YST to work with the Economic Growth, Skills and Regeneration Team to coordinate efforts with schools and providers for the coinciding Careers Week and Apprenticeship Week and ensure activities and opportunities are effectively communicated to all stakeholders, including schools, young people and families <b>Op / Strat</b>	YST/EGSR / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Peter Fraser / Lynn Davison / Donna Wilkinson	March 2014	This action was successfully delivered by all partners  4 Road Show events were held during National Careers Week, coinciding with National Apprenticeship Week, across the county, highlighting opportunities and pathways  Focussed events were held at Sandy, Redbourne, Vandyke, Samuel Whitbread, Harlington and Robert Broomfield Schools  4YP and Groundwork delivered themed activities in youth clubs throughout the week to engage young people in considerations of career pathways	<b>Green</b>

# Appendix 1

Recommendation 2		Expand the apprenticeship programme to be available to all young people Youth Offer Theme – Information, Advice and Guidance		
Actions	Lead	Deadline	Progress and Next Steps	RAG Rating
Expand the LAC apprenticeship scheme to be more widely available to 16-24 year olds <b>YA</b>	Workforce Development / 4YP	Sept 2014	YST have met with Barbie Calvert in May 2014 and established that a Level 2 apprenticeship will become available in September 2014. This opportunity will not require GCSE English and Maths for entry.	<b>Green</b>
Develop the YST website to promote apprenticeship opportunities to both young people and prospective employers <b>YA / Op / Strat</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	April 2014	As outlined in response to Recommendation 1	<b>Red</b>
Develop the RONI tool to identify those pre-16 young people who may be reluctant to participate in academic opportunities post-16, and promote apprenticeships to these young people <b>YA / Op</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Rachel Felton / Alex Szumski / Schools / 4YP	June 2014	As outlined in response to Recommendation 1	<b>Green</b>
Develop the 14-19 Strategy Group to identify areas of commonality between the efforts of schools, CBC and partners in order to better inform joined-up working for the universal benefit of school-aged young people <b>YA / Op / Strat</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Peter Fraser	Sept 2014	Draft Terms of Reference have been written and the Strategy Group is expected to meet in the Autumn Term.  A date for the Strategy Group is yet to be agreed	<b>Green</b>

# Appendix 1

YST to review the provision of services to young people in 'hotspot' areas – to ensure neighbourhood needs are being effectively identified and met <b>Op</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Jason Roth-Witty / Lisa Wright	June 2014	This action will be met through a broader 'mapping' exercise looking into the 'offer' to schools / the spread of learning and training providers / the provision of youth work across the county.  Work has already begun on these three strands and stakeholders have been contacted  Part of these strategies is expected to call for neighbourhood profiles for each area in which commissioned services are required. These profiles will inform commissioning decisions	<b>Amber</b>
YST to be trained to promote the benefits of apprenticeships to schools and young people <b>Op</b>	Jackie Squire/ Rachel Felton	January 2014	Completed – YST Officers have attended this training and it is now being implemented in practice	<b>Green</b>
YST to develop a NEET Improvement Plan that informs efforts around 'Intended Destinations', 'September Guarantee', and the 'Activity Survey' – and maintains a focus on performance improvement <b>Op</b>	YST / Jackie Squire / Tracey Smith	February 2014	NEET Improvement Plan is in place and is being regularly reviewed and monitored.	<b>Green</b>

<b>Recommendation 3</b>				
<b>Positive Sexual and Relationship Education embedded from years 5/6 Youth Offer Theme – Thematic Youth Support</b>				
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
YST to work with Public Health to identify emotional wellbeing training for staff <b>YA / Op</b>	Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Public Health	June 2014	Children's Services commission a service from CHUMS to deliver tier 1 awareness raising and training. An e-learning training package is provided by Central Beds LSCB. However, staff have not yet been able to access training and	<b>Amber</b>

# Appendix 1

			<p>there is a lack of clarity re access requirements.</p> <p>There is also a CAMHS strategy currently being developed to identify clear pathways to access services for professionals, parents and young people.</p>	
<p>Review the priorities for SRE and positive relationship education provision (YST and the Commissioning Team)</p> <p><b>YA / Op</b></p>	<p>YST / Commissioning Team / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Paula Fleming</p>	<p>April 2014</p>	<p>Provision for years 5 and 6 is not compulsory and so delivery is inconsistent and patchy – with some schools not delivering this at all to this age group.</p> <p>Public Health chaired a meeting of the PSHE Network on 26/02/14 to develop SRE / PSHE in schools. A launch event is planned for June 2014 and this network aims to improve provision across the county</p> <p>The Sex Education Forum has developed a template that is currently being disseminated to all schools which will inform provision</p> <p>Public Health meeting with Schools on 26/06/14 to recommend the use of the Sexual Health Forum curriculum</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<p>YST to work with Public Health to secure emotional wellbeing support for children and young people, with a focus on the support and information needs of young men</p> <p><b>YA / Op</b></p>	<p>Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Public Health</p>	<p>Sept 2014</p>	<p>The CHUMS and Talk Time services are based on self-referrals and delivered through commissioned providers (Relate and Sorted)</p> <p>However, there is an acknowledgement that work is needed to promote these services to target young men specifically – who may be less inclined to access support of this nature.</p> <p>Aspire is commissioned by Early Help and Public Health to deliver intensive programmes that promote emotional wellbeing and aim to help young people reach their potential through improved educational attainment and attendance. The programmes aim to build the self esteem and confidence of young people across years 8 and 9 and are targeted at</p>	<p><b>Amber</b></p>

# Appendix 1

			<p>'hotspot' areas such as Houghton Regis and Dunstable</p> <p>Significantly, a conscious decision has been made to deliver separate provision for boys and girls</p>	
<p>YST to work with young people to develop the YST website to promote services and advice for SRE</p> <p><b>YA / Op</b></p>	<p>YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Young People</p>	<p>April 2014</p>	<p>As outlined in response to Recommendation 1</p> <p>YST have met with Public Health in order to improve young people's input into commissioning</p> <p>A new website on sexual health for young people was launched on 01/03/14 with new branding called 'Sex in Beds'</p> <p>Young people have informed the development of this online information service</p> <p>Promotion will be tied into a re-launch of the 'C-Card' access to contraception facility</p>	<p><b>Red</b></p>
<p>YST, the Commissioning Team, Public Health and schools to review current provision (the curriculum) of SRE and consider the forthcoming new recommendations from The Sex Education Forum, the PSHE Association and Brook – when published</p> <p><b>YA / Op</b></p>	<p>YST / Commissioning Team / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Paula Fleming / Public Health / Schools</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>This work is ongoing and is part of a national agenda to have local provision informed by 'experts'.</p> <p>In addition, last year, Public Health reviewed and audited PSHE and SRE provision across middle and upper schools to check consistency and quality. A Steering Group for this PSHE Network has been established and Terms of Reference drafted in order to improve support to schools and map provision</p>	<p><b>Green</b></p>
<p>Develop the use of the YST Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) tool to target support and identify those young people at</p>	<p>YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Alex Szumski /</p>	<p>June 2014</p>	<p>As outlined in response to Recommendation 1</p> <p>On Hold – the priority within YST is to establish the RONI as a NEET preventative tool. Further work will be required to</p>	<p><b>Amber</b></p>

# Appendix 1

risk of being affected by teenage pregnancies – by identifying those young people with low aspirations. <b>YA / Op</b>	Jackie Squire / Paula Fleming		<p>establish its use as a more general prevention tool – or indeed to explore broader approaches to prevention</p> <p>There is a Teenage Pregnancy Risk Assessment Tool which Paul Olaitan will distribute to YST</p>	
YST and the Commissioning Team to work with Brook to identify ways of promoting confidentiality in the delivery of SRE – this may include online booking systems for young people and improved signage/promotion <b>YA / Op</b>	YST / Commissioning Team / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Paula Fleming / Brook / Public Health	June 2014	<p>There is an acknowledgement by Brook that confidentiality is a challenge in their school-based drop in centres, as capacity does not allow for provision during break times, so children have to ask to be excused during lesson times.</p> <p>However, other Brook provision delivered in non-school spaces are confidential – more publicity is needed to promote these services</p> <p>There is also an acknowledgement that services should continue to be delivered in schools as this makes them accessible to some of the most vulnerable young people who could perhaps struggle to access off-site services (perhaps due to transport or other issues). This is also seen as a way of challenging the stigma often associated with SRE services – an attempt to keep them mainstream</p> <p>So a mix of school-based and off-site provision is required to meet the diverse needs of young people</p>	<b>Green</b>

<b>Recommendation 4</b>	<b>Provide a wider variety of personalised and matched volunteering opportunities, including a balance of long term, short term and one day opportunities</b> <b>Youth Offer Theme – Youth Work and Positive Activities</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress to date and next steps</b>	<b>RAG rating</b>
Work with young people to develop the YST website to	YST / Youth Services	April 2014	As outlined in response to Recommendation 1	<b>Red</b>

# Appendix 1

promote volunteering opportunities and successes <b>YA / Op</b>	Commissioning Manager / Young People			
Include a volunteering target in all new contracts (as applicable) with commissioned providers. For example, this could be a target of 3 young people per year involved in a substantive volunteering opportunity (e.g. V10 or V50); applicable contracts would include – not exclusively - youth work <b>YA / Op</b>	YST / CVS / VCA	March 2015	To be considered in the new commissioning/procurement programme currently being developed by YST	<b>Green</b>
Gather testimonials of young people who have volunteered with the existing Volunteering providers – CVS in the north and VCA in the south of the Central Bedfordshire area <b>YA / Op</b>	YST / CVS / VCA	Sept 2014	Case studies are already provided as part of the quarterly monitoring process. Information from these can be integrated into the new YST website (when completed) to assist with the promotion of volunteering in Central Bedfordshire	<b>Green</b>

<b>Recommendation 5</b>	<b>Improved and wider promotion of drug and alcohol services Youth Offer Theme – Thematic Youth Support</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress to Date and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
YST to work with young people to develop the YST website to promote relevant services as well as healthy lifestyles and	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	April 2014	As outlined in response to Recommendation 1	<b>Red</b>

# Appendix 1

activities				
<b>YA / Op</b>				
Assess the quality and appropriateness of current promotional materials	Young people / YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Commissioning Team ./ Providers	Sept 2014	The main drugs and alcohol commission has been awarded to Plan B with a re-focus on Tier 1 delivery in schools to promote preventative education. This includes a requirement to develop new promotional materials.	<b>Green</b>
<b>YA / Op</b>				
Work with Commissioned Services to review current provision	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Commissioning Team / Paula Fleming / Providers including Plan B	Sept 2014	The main drugs and alcohol commission has been awarded to Plan B with a re-focus on Tier 1 delivery in schools to promote preventative education. This commission will be monitored through a new performance management schedule that will look at, for example, the numbers of young people who have received an assembly in school  YST Senior Youth Workers have met with Public Health to look into commissioning priorities for substance misuse provision	<b>Green</b>
<b>YA / Op</b>				

<b>Recommendation 6</b>	<b>Increase in accessible housing for homeless young people Youth Offer Theme – Targeted Youth Support</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
Explore the pooling of resources across YST/CSC/Early Intervention to develop an independent living project to cater for children at risk of homelessness, as well	Peter Fraser / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / CSC	March 2015	Work yet to begin	<b>N/A</b>



## Appendix 1

as Looked After Children (LAC) <b>Strat</b>				
Establish a youth homelessness working group to explore opportunities for increased joined-up working to meet the complex vulnerabilities experienced by young people at risk of/experiencing homelessness - This working group should involve relevant CBC services, public sector partners, VCS agencies and faith groups <b>Strat</b>	Peter Fraser/ Youth Services Commissioning Manager	March 2015	Work yet to begin	<b>N/A</b>
Explore the development of systemic models of practice in relevant CBC (including YST) and partner services to prevent family breakdown leading to youth homelessness <b>Strat</b>	Peter Fraser / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	March 2015	Work yet to begin	<b>N/A</b>
Explore Partnership Triage options for early partnership responses, information sharing and joint allocation of resources, before initial incidents (substance use / domestic violence / conflict / etc) escalate to family breakdown	Peter Fraser / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	March 2015	Work yet to begin	<b>N/A</b>

# Appendix 1

Strat				
<p>Review Children's Services (YST/Early Intervention/CSC) &amp; Housing provision for 16 - 19 year olds deemed vulnerable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can we define 'sofa surfers' as vulnerable?</li> <li>• Understand their education, training and employment needs and identify / define their barriers to participation and feed these into joint plans</li> <li>• Identify and track all homeless young people (including 'sofa surfers') and assess needs <b>N/A</b> through YST – make referrals to commissioned providers / CSC / Supported Families as appropriate. If developed, make referrals through Partnership Triage ('The Hub') (above) as a universal referral pathway that eradicates duplication / gaps in provision</li> </ul>	<p>Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Peter Fraser / Fiona Side / Sacha Rymell</p>	<p>March 2015</p>	<p>Work yet to begin</p>	<p><b>N/A</b></p>

# Appendix 1

<b>YA / Strat</b>				
Raise awareness of the Bedfordshire Housing Link 'Night Owl project' street-based support offer to 18/19 year olds. <b>Op (HPU)</b>	Homeless Persons' Unit	April 2014	YST have discussed this with Housing on 26/02/14 and emailed this action, as requested on 26/02/14	<b>Green</b>

<b>Recommendation 7</b>	<b>Improved promotion of Youth Work and Positive Activities Youth Offer Theme – Youth Work and Positive Activities</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress to Date and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
Establish a design and implement group with young people to develop the YST website that effectively promotes provision in an engaging, youth appropriate manner – this work to mirror the efforts being made through the Children in Care Council website project <b>YA / Op</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Young People	April 2014	As outlined in response to Recommendation 1	<b>Red</b>
Design, alongside young people, consistent signage and promotional material, as well as a name, for youth work – develop a brand identity <b>Op</b>	Corporate Comms / YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Jason Roth-Witty / Lisa Wright	March 2015	Please see response to Recommendation 1 – The approach will need consistency with the website development	<b>Red</b>
Behaviour protocols to be developed and agreed by YST/providers and young	YST / Youth Services Commissioning	Sept 2014	Providers have now developed behaviour protocols. However, there remain issues of consistency which YST will continue to monitor through the inspection and monitoring	<b>Green</b>

## Appendix 1

people <b>YA / Op</b>	Manager / Jason Roth- Witty / Lisa Wright / commissioned youth work providers		systems	
Continue the roll out of ICT facilities at youth centres <b>Op</b>	YST / Jackie Squire	June 2014	Ongoing  - Biggleswade and Leighton Buzzard youth clubs have now been fitted with Broadband - Arlesey, Sandy and Bedford Square are in the process of being fitted  New Computer equipment has been ordered for all of these centres.	<b>Green</b>
Implement a building maintenance programme to encourage high quality provision and improve the esteem of services <b>Op</b>	Peter Fraser / Jackie Squire	March 2015	Work no yet underway	<b>N/A</b>
Implement the 'In Defence of Youth Work' evidencing model in future contracts*  <a href="http://indefenceofyouthwork.com/the-stories-project/">http://indefenceofyouthwork.co m/the-stories-project/</a>  <a href="http://indefenceofyouthwork.files.wordpress.com/2010/11/20252-youth-stories-report-2011_4th-1.pdf">http://indefenceofyouthwork.file s.wordpress.com/2010/11/202 52-youth-stories-report- 2011_4th-1.pdf</a>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Providers / Jason Roth- Witty / Lisa Wright	March 2015	New commissioning strategies are currently being developed	<b>Green</b>

# Appendix 1

<b>Op</b>				
In consideration for new commissioning models, YST to retain responsibility for defining and monitoring quality of provision in new contracts with youth service providers <b>Op</b>	Peter Fraser / Youth Services Commissioning Manager	March 2015	New commissioning strategies are currently being developed	<b>Green</b>
YST to develop a quality framework to be used in future delivery models <b>Op</b>	YST / Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Jason Roth-Witty / Lisa Wright	March 2015	This is being developed within the new commissioning strategy currently being completed by YST	<b>Green</b>
YST to support the formal relationship between the Youth Parliament, LAC's Children in Care Council, and other youth participation bodies in the Central Bedfordshire area <b>Op</b>	Youth Services Commissioning Manager / Jason Roth-Witty / Lisa Wright / Paul Andrews	Sept 2014	A model integrating all youth participation bodies has been developed by YST. This model will now need be formalised with the Youth Parliament and promoted across Central Bedfordshire	<b>Amber</b>

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>To ensure that findings of the youth audit influence future commissioning of services for young people</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
Youth Audit recommendations and report to be sent out to prospective tenders during the commissioning cycle	YST	March 2015	To be included in the tendering process for new contracts beginning in April 2015	<b>Green</b>

<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>To ensure that there is a sustainable approach to deliver future audits of the youth offer</b>			
<b>Actions</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Progress and Next Steps</b>	<b>RAG Rating</b>
Interview skills and probing	YST / Lisa	Sept 2014	Current and on-going	<b>Green</b>

Appendix **1**

techniques to form the basis of future Youth Parliament training <b>Strat</b>	Wright / Jason Roth-Witty			
--	------------------------------	--	--	--