

SCRUTINY: YOUTH ASB TASK AND FINISH GROUP	AGENDA ITEM 5
DATE OF MEETING: 17 th November 2016	
REPORT OF: The Early Help & Advice Hub	
REPORT AUTHOR: Catherine Barrett TEL : 07725 606765	
SUBJECT: Partnership arrangement between the Early Help team and Luton soLUtiONs ASB Team	

PURPOSE

1. To advise Members of the partnership arrangement between the Luton soLUtiONs Anti-Social Behaviour Team and LBC Early Help & Advice Hub.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Task and Finish Group is recommended to note the contents of the report and discuss any points with officer present.

REPORT

3. The rationale for the national Troubled Families Programme (known as Stronger Families in Luton) launched in April 2012, was the government's estimate that 120,000 of the most troubled families account for £9 billion of public spending. £8 billion of this was spent on reacting to the problems these families have and can cause in their communities and only £1 billion being spent on preventing those problems from occurring in the first place.
4. In June 2013, the government announced plans to expand the Troubled Families Programme for a further five years from 2015 to 2020. The inclusion of families into the TF Programme is based upon a cluster of six headline problems:
 1. Parents and children involved in crime or anti-social behaviour;
 2. Children who have not been attending school regularly;
 3. Children who need help;
 4. Adults out of work or at risk of financial exclusion and young people at risk of worklessness;

5. Families affected by domestic violence and abuse;
 6. Parents and children with a range of health problems;
5. Since January 2015, Luton has successfully evidenced 'significant & sustained' progress or 'continuous employment' for 252 Luton families and is on target to achieve our nationally set target of 1940 by 2020.
 6. The LBC Prevention & Early Intervention Service has embedded its Stronger Family Programme within its Early Help & Advice Hub. The Hub was developed in September 2015 to coordinate and deliver an early help response to Luton families at Levels 2 and 3 in line with Luton Thresholds Framework. Families in need of Level 2 services identified through an Early Help Assessment (EHA) receive coordinated support via the 'team around the family' (TAF) approach, while those identified at Level 3 receive dedicated support from an Early Help Team Family Support Worker.
 7. The Early Help team will not support a young person in isolation from the rest of the family members in the household, where such, tailored specific support is required an internal allocation is made to the Targeted Youth Support Service.
 8. Research on anti-social behaviour identifies the traditional response by agencies tends to focus on measures to deal with the ASB problem rather than identify the underlying causes of anti-social behaviour. The studies that have considered the characteristics of perpetrators (Brown et al, 2003, Dillane et al, 200, Nixon et al, 2000) found that perpetrators of ASB are often vulnerable, many have mental health problems and community care needs and may themselves be victims of ASB. ASB tends to be associated with wider social exclusion and problems including poverty, family stress, drug dependency, truancy and social exclusion (SEU,2000).
 9. This better understanding of why ASB is perpetrated provides an opportunity to enhance the work of the Integrated ASB team through the allocation of an Early Help Family Support Worker (FSW) to support the earlier identification of families either as victims or perpetrators of ASB. The seconded FSW will support the wider Integrated ASB team to understand the ethos of the Luton Early Help/Stronger Families Programme and support all ASB team members to adopt the 'whole family' model of working when working with families either as victims or perpetrators of ASB.
 10. Specifically the partnership approach which goes live on Nov 1st 2016 will seek:
 - to address ASB , both directly and indirectly through the provision of wider support;
 - to promote a key worker model as pivotal in providing challenge and support to families;

- to support a multi agency/co location approach to enable all aspects of the perpetrator or victim and their family needs to be taken account of as a whole;
- to enable and promote strong relationships between local agencies to react quickly and devise pragmatic solutions to address families needs;
- to promote appropriate information sharing to enable a comprehensive understanding of the issues in a family thereby informing better support plans and ultimately more positive outcomes.