

## ASSEMBLY

31 January 2018

<b>Title:</b> Barking and Dagenham (BAD) Youth Forum Annual Report 2017	
<b>Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Strategic Director</b>	
<b>Open Report</b>	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b> None	<b>Key Decision:</b> No
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<b>Accountable Director:</b> Jane Hargreaves, Commissioning Director for Education	
<b>Accountable Strategic Director:</b> Anne Bristow, Deputy Chief Executive & Strategic Director for Service Development and Integration	
<b>Summary</b>	
<p>The report at Appendix 1 encapsulates the work of the Barking and Dagenham (BAD) Youth Forum and Young Mayor for 2017. The report includes details about each of the Forum's sub-groups; their aims, achievements and the impact their work has made.</p> <p>The BAD Youth Forum is an inclusive programme which offers young people the opportunity to express their views, discuss local issues and ultimately take action and bring about change that positively impacts on the borough and its residents. Through annual democratic elections in schools, the project attracts a diverse group of young people with differing needs, backgrounds, views and experiences. The election process gives young people the chance to nominate themselves, complete a manifesto and experience the excitement of the election day itself. All Secondary Schools participated in the election process in 2017, with the exception of ELUTEC. Trinity School elect members through a more appropriate internal system, which has been the case since the school began working in partnership with the BAD Youth Forum in 2009. From the election process 60 new young people were elected to the forum.</p> <p>For the second year running, the Young Mayor was democratically elected by Youth Forum members and worked alongside a sub-group to secure adequate support from young people and workers to facilitate and host a range of fundraising events for their chosen charity. In 2017 this included various bucket shakes, non-uniform days, cake sales, activities at the Youth Parade, a Young Mayor sponsored event, and movie nights.</p> <p>At the start of the year, many issues were discussed as potential projects/campaigns to focus on by the campaigns sub-group of the Forum. These included issues such as health, crime, safety, equality and education. In 2017, young people made a decision that health and safety were of paramount concern. After further discussion the group engaged with Barnardo's and chose to focus their work on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and raising awareness about the grooming process. The aim of this work was to educate</p>	

young people of the dangers of CSE and where to find help if you are a victim. The group made an engaging and informative film that explains the grooming process, how to identify it (as opposed to a healthy relationship) and what help you can get if you are affected by CSE. The Forum plan to disseminate the film to school and the wider community via the Council's Youtube channel.

Since 2014, the Young Inspectors initiative has been a part of the BAD Youth Forum. The Young Inspectors are commissioned by Public Health to inspect pharmacies that offer the Come Correct Condom Distribution Scheme and improve the quality of the service delivered. To date (13 November 2017) 150 inspections have been completed in 2017. This year, inspection framework has been improved and a more strategic approach has been taken to ensure that underperforming pharmacies are assessed more regularly and those pharmacies that are good, continue to be good. LBBB C-Card scheme performance remains top in London for condom registrations and repeats and the scheme is seen as a 'best practice' example across London. The quality assurance visits that Young Inspectors complete are integral to the continued improvement the service has seen. In addition, it is important to note that teenage pregnancy figures continue to decline in the borough.

### **Recommendation(s)**

The Assembly is asked to note the Barking and Dagenham Youth Forum and Young Mayor report for 2017 and to ensure support for its work.

### **Reason(s)**

The Barking and Dagenham Youth Forum acts as the council's youth parliament and enables the council to fulfil its duties to listen to the views of young people as set out in the Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People's Well-being (2012). First established in 2001, the Forum works with secondary schools to annually democratically elect representatives that serve the borough via the Forum's campaigns, consultations and social action projects. The work of the forum supports the councils aim to encourage civic pride and enable social responsibility.

## **1. Financial Implications**

Implications completed by: David Folorunso (Principal Accountant)

- 1.1 The expenditure for Barking and Dagenham Youth Forum is currently met from the General fund budget allocated to the Integrated Youth Services. The service expenditure for 2017-18 is within the allocated budget and there are no additional financial implications resulting from this report.

## **2. Legal Implications**

Implications completed by: Lucinda Bell (Education Lawyer)

- 2.1 Legal Services note that the report is for information only and that no decisions are required. There are therefore no specific legal implications arising from this report.

**Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:** None

**List of appendices:**

- Appendix 1: BAD Youth Forum – Overview 2017