

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Agenda Item 45

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	<i>The Traveller Education Team Annual Report 2007/08 for Brighton and Hove</i>	
Date of Meeting:	28 th January, 2008	
Report of:	Director of Children's Services	
Contact Officer: Name:		Tel:
	<i>Jackie Whitford, Co-ordinator of Travellers Education Team, East Sussex and Brighton & Hove</i>	(01273) 482671
	<i>Hilary Ferries, Acting Senior Adviser Early Year and Primary</i>	(01273) 293738
	E-mail: Jackie.Whitford@eastsussex.gov.uk	
Wards Affected:	All	

FOR GENERAL RELEASE.

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This is the annual report 2007/08 outlining the work of The Traveller Education Team. Traveller Education works in consortium with East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove Council and it exists to support the educational entitlement of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller (GRT) children and young people. The Traveller Education Team works collaboratively with other departments within Children's Services and schools to improve health and educational outcomes for Gypsy Roma Traveller (GRT) population and to contribute to the local authority's responsibilities under The Race Relations Amendment Act and Community Cohesion".

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consult and approve the report.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 Lady Plowden initially acknowledged the plight of Traveller children - "Traveller children's needs are extreme and largely unmet". Plowden Report 1967.
- 3.2 National funding became available from the 1970s and via specific (ring fenced funding) from 1986. Local authorities were encouraged to submit bids for this funding.
- 3.3 A specialist and designated Traveller Education service covering East Sussex and Brighton & Hove has been funded since 1992. Following Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in 1997 Brighton & Hove agreed to enter into a consortium agreement with East Sussex to share the existing provision and funding. This arrangement has continued to date and is one of the few consortia arrangements (nationally) to have survived since 1997.
- 3.4 Following the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (with cessation of responsibility on LAs to provide sites) B&H saw an increase number of Travellers resorting to the City and in unauthorised encampments with an increase in highly mobile children to cater for.
- 3.5 In 1994 Traveller Education obtained funding from both East Sussex and Brighton PCT to resource an outreach unit "mobile clinic classroom" to provide some multi agency outreach health provision and early year's provision to highly mobile Travellers. This funding has continued."
- 3.6 Recent Ofsted and Joint Area Review (JAR) Inspections have been "good".

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Produced in consultation with lead officer from The Traveller Education Team, East Sussex County Council and Brighton & Hove Council responsible for those areas of service.
- 4.2 Brighton and Hove CYPT have a written consortium agreement/SLA with East Sussex council to provide Traveller Education Services. Jackie Whitford is the Head of the Traveller Education Service and is line managed by a senior manager (Tony Hill) within East Sussex council. The monitoring of the service in Brighton and Hove is the responsibility of the Advisory Service (Hilary Ferries/Linda Ellis) which is part of the Learning and Schools Branch of the CYPT led by Assistant Director Jo Lyons. A termly meeting is held with the Assistant Director and Head of the Advisory Service from Brighton and Hove, Jackie Whitford and Tony Hill from East Sussex council to monitor improvement of the service and to review the consortium arrangements. Funding is provided as agreed as part of the SLA and

reviewed on an annual basis. A report is provided on progress and areas of improvement on an annual basis.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The report updates on the work of the Traveller Education Team. In 2007/08 as part of the consortium agreement Brighton and Hove City Council paid East Sussex County Council £45k and it is important that the agreement is reviewed regularly to ensure there are no additional costs to the council.

Finance Officer Consulted: Paul Brinkhurst Date: 08th December 08

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Lawyer Consulted: Serena Kynaston Date: 08th December 08

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There is a gap between the achievement of this group and other groups in Brighton and Hove. This report demonstrates how Brighton and Hove have commissioned work to narrow the gap.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The improving pupils achievement increases employability

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 In the longer term, improved educational achievement for young people is likely to have a positive impact on reducing the level of crime and disorder.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 None.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 None.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. TET Annual Report 2007/08 for Brighton & Hove
2. TET Early Years Outreach 2007/08 Report

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None
2. None

Background Documents

1. None