

Youth Services Strategy

May 2024 – April 2027

DRAFT

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the creation of this strategy, especially the young people who took the time to meet with us, influence and shape the final strategy.

Who is this strategy for?

This strategy is for young people, members of the community, professionals working with young people, youth work organisations, voluntary and community partners and everyone who work to improve the outcomes for young people in Bracknell Forest.

Associated Strategies

Bracknell Forest Council Plan 2023 – 2027, provides the overall ambition for what the council wishes to achieve for and with residents, businesses, and partners. The youth work strategy supports the following council ambition “*Children have quality education and opportunities to fulfil their potential*” and the measurement of “*increasing participation in universal youth service support*”.

The [Early Help Strategy 2023 – 2026](#) provides the framework for delivery of support and wider early help and prevention objectives are set out in the strategy.

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Foreword

We are delighted to introduce the new youth services strategy for Bracknell Forest which supports our Children and Young People's Plan and Early Help Strategy. Bracknell Forest and its partners recognised the need for a clear strategy to support young people and have given their commitment to maximising the potential of this strategy.

Our vision for early help is that *"Bracknell Forest is a place where children, young people and their families feel safe, have access to high quality education and well-being services, giving them the opportunity to live healthy and empowered lives in their community"* (Early Help Strategy, 2023). The youth offer is a vital component of the early help, and this strategy provides the strategic vision for the next three years. It supports the partnerships ambitions for children, young people and their families in Bracknell Forest and is entwined with the Early Help Strategy.

We are grateful to young people, families and practitioners from across the Bracknell Forest, who supported us to develop this strategy, contributing their ideas and views through consultation events that have taken place over the last six months. Communities, parents, carers, and practitioners all brought their ambitions for the youth offer to these sessions. This strategy reflects the feedback we have received from young people, professionals, communities, and families.

We will provide dedicated support for young people; this will include universal and targeted youth work provision. We are providing counselling and family support and will continue to review our offer. This strategy is just the beginning; we know there is more to do across Bracknell Forest to empower young people and shift the balance to our work is led by young people. We are eager to move quickly, but we recognise that this will take time, however we believe that this is the right thing to do for young people in Bracknell Forest.

This strategy will allow young people to hold all of us, across Bracknell Forest, accountable for its delivery, we are committed to supporting this strategy and ensuring that every young person in Bracknell thrives.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the development of this strategy.

Lead Member (Children's Services)

Executive Director – People (Director of Children's Services)

Youth Work in Bracknell Forest

The key focus of youth work is to *'enable young people to develop holistically, working with them to facilitate their personal and educational development, to enable them to develop their voice, influence and place in society and to reach their full potential'* (National Youth Agency , 2023).

Youth work offers young people opportunities for learning that are educative, expressive, participative, inclusive, and empowering. It is not simply providing activities and safe spaces, youth work at its core supports the development and wellbeing of young people. The voluntary and third sector, education and the council all contribute to youth work provision. Youth work in Bracknell Forest is based on the voluntary engagement of young people as empowered partners. It starts at whatever point young people are in their lives, recognises and seeks to develop and realise their potential, and is committed to equality and inclusion.

Youth work helps young people to understand and explore their values, beliefs, responsibilities, and rights. In Bracknell Forest, youth work includes specialist and universal youth groups, gaining of accreditations, opportunities to participate in volunteering and wider participation and much more.

Youth works enables young people to develop their voice, influence, and participation not only in Bracknell Forest but wider. Young people's voice and influence in key decisions in Bracknell Forest is central to how we will provide and deliver youth work.

(National Youth Agency , 2023)

Young people told us that the Youth Service was important to them because:

It gives us a safe place to go with friends and speak with a Youth Worker without a judgement.

You can access confidential advice and support, like the Sexual Health Clinics.

We can explore and discuss things that are important to us.

You can meet other young people and I like to get involved in the Youth Council as I want to make a difference.



Why do we provide a Youth Offer?

Young people are Bracknell Forest's future, it is imperative that collectively we ensure that their growing up (adolescent years) in Bracknell is positive and rewarding. Investing in our youth work provision now, will support young people to become the best version of themselves and future adult residents of Bracknell Forest.

Bracknell Forest is not alone in experiencing challenges, but we know that we can overcome these when we work together as ONE community. The pandemic demonstrated the resilience of our communities and workforce in coming together to deliver successful outcomes for young people. We know that this does mean we need to comprise, challenge, be patient, and commit, but that is what we do well in Bracknell Forest!

We know that effective youth work contributes to supporting young people and helps them to transition into adulthood. We provide support to young people because we know it's the right thing to do, and we want every young person in Bracknell Forest to reach their full potential. It is helpful to consider the local and national context in which the support is provided.

The Local Context

- The Children and Young People Plan, sets out the shared vision to keep children and young people safe, and ensure that they can thrive in Bracknell Forest. The plan sets out the strategic priorities for the partnership.
- The Early Help Strategy 2023 – 2025, developed by the local partnership and in conjunction with families sets out the vision for early help in Bracknell Forest and provides the ambitious framework for delivery.
- In 2019 the [Community Safety Partnership Strategic Assessment](#) was carried out and several priorities were identified including tackling exploitation of children, young people and vulnerable adults. The priorities are reviewed, and the plan is managed by the Steering Group.
- The [Youth Justice Plan](#) is currently being updated, the plan will set out the focus areas for the service, and work that will be undertaken to meet the priorities and highlight the key achievement and challenges.

The National Context

- The [Independent Review of Children's Social Care 2022](#) advocates for a fundamental shift in the way children's social care responds to families who need help. A central recommendation of the review is to bring targeted early help and work undertaken at Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 together.
- There is a duty on local authorities to secure sufficient youth services in their area, related to Section 507B of the [Education Act \(1996\)](#), as amended by the Education and Inspections Act (2006), which sets government expectations for local authorities when securing services and activities for people aged 13 to 19.
- [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018](#) outlines the legislative requirements placed on individual services, making it clear what they must do to keep children safe. It seeks to emphasise that effective safeguarding can only be achieved when children are at the centre.
- The [National Youth Agency](#) is the national body for youth work, and the Professional Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) for youth work in England. The NYA champions youth work at a national level, offers guidance, support, and training to the profession.

What do we know?

- **National Census 2021 told us that:**
 - Bracknell Forest had an estimated population of 124,165, of which 49.5 per cent (61,460) are male and 50.5 per cent (62,705) female.
 - Approximately 30.3 per cent (37,633) of the population were aged 0-24 years.
 - The population of Bracknell Forest is projected to rise to 131,262 by 2043 a rise of 5.7 per cent (7,097) however, the 0-24 years age group is estimated to reduce by 1.9 per cent (2,454) which would equate to a population of 0-24 years of 26.8 per cent (35,179) overall.
 - The population of Bracknell Forest is predominately, circa 88-90 per cent White British, with the next largest ethnic group being Asian/ Asian British (5 per cent), followed by Black/African/Caribbean/Black British and mixed/multiple ethnic groups (2 per cent) respectively.
- **Other data told us:**
 - Over the last three years (2020 – 2023) the top 3 requests into the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub for young people over the ages of 11 were abuse or neglect, socially unacceptable behaviour, and family in acute stress.
 - The three top agencies/people referring into Early Help include Schools, Children's Social Care and Police (youth services received the most requests for support from schools and colleges).
 - There has been an increase in referrals to Early Help each year between 2020 and 2023. Referrals for early help have increased year on year, there has been a 1% increase in 2021/2022, and 13% increase in 2022/2023 from the previous year.
 - Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of young people attending both individual and universal youth work sessions have increased over the last three years. In the 2022-2023 the increase is over 1,600 young people.
 - Youthline, a confidential counselling service, supported more young people aged 11-15 years old, than any other age group

What has everyone told us?

Our on-line survey and focused conversations with young people, families, professionals, and the wider community have influenced and shaped our mission and objectives in this strategy, below are the headlines from these.

Online Survey

- ❖ Over 50% of those who completed the survey, had or were previously involved with youth services as a young person, family member or professional.
- ❖ They had been in contact with the youth service weekly/several times a week when they were being supported by a youth worker.
- ❖ Supporting young people's mental health, providing safe spaces for young people to go, and offering a range of opportunities to support young people's transition to adulthood were areas that people wanted the youth service to have a focus on. The priority areas identified were 'bullying, crime, and anti-social behaviour'.
- ❖ Young people told us that they wanted more opportunities to speak with youth workers about these areas without having to be referred to the service.
- ❖ The delivery of activities for young people should take place at youth clubs, community venues and schools.
- ❖ Activities should be available 7 days a week, and young people were clear that clubs should be available straight after school and into the evening.
- ❖ Specific groups such as Young Carers were important and services for them should be increased so more young people can access them.
- ❖ Young people and families did not want to tell their story repeatedly to different professionals and wanted more joint working across teams and the people helping them.

Focused Conversations told us...



Young People

- A Youth Worker is someone they feel most comfortable speaking to and asking for advice from.
- That they worry about being bullied at school and within their communities.
- That having a place to go after school and at the weekends was important as some young people would like to go straight to a youth club after school while other young people wanted to go to an evening club.
- Specialist youth groups, such as Young Carers and LGBTQ+ were important as they provide a safe, welcome, and comfortable space to talk and be themselves.
- They would like more safe spaces to go to meet friends and socialise. They wanted more opportunities to volunteer and be involved in groups where they can influence decisions.



Families

- That they would like to see more universal youth clubs and groups across Bracknell Forest for young people to access.
- That specialist youth groups have helped not only support young people but families.
- There should be a greater focus on offering groups and activities to young people with additional needs.
- Professionals should work together to support families.
- That online safety, risky behaviour (exploitation) and young people gaining a good education worried them.
- The promotion of the Youth Service was vital, and information should be easily accessible for young people and parents.



Professionals

- Universal and targeted support was essential for young people they were supporting.
- That the workforce should have a range of skills and knowledge to support the various needs of young people. This should include professionally qualified youth workers.
- We need to enhance our offer of support to Young Carers.
- A specification of support provided by the Youth Service should be published so everyone is clear.
- A focus of the youth service should include delivering key interventions to young people to reduce the risks of exploitation.
- There should be more opportunities for young people's voices to be heard.
- The voluntary sector have lots of experience and skills, and already have an offer to young people.

What do we want to achieve?

Our Vision

That all young people in Bracknell Forest will have access to youth work services to ensure that their teenage years are enjoyable, and no young person is left behind.

Our mission

That all young people in Bracknell Forest can be themselves, lead healthy lives, be safe, happy, and reach their true potential, and transition into adulthood positively.

Young people will benefit from high quality, responsive, and impartial youth work support. This will be through a high quality and responsive universal, targeted provision. Our workforce will be highly skilled, trained, competent, young person focused, and solution focused.

Early Help Key Enablers

We believe that getting our key enablers right, will support our work with young people across Bracknell Forest and will give us the best chance of achieving the outcomes set out within the strategy for young people.

Young People's Support

- When we listen and hear the experiences, wishes and feelings of young people, we can truly support young people. The impact of parental support is one of the most important factors in helping young people to lead successful and fulfilling lives. For some young people this support will be provided by professionals who develop positive relationships and working with them to provide the tools and approaches they need to deal with problems when they arise.

Positive activities

- Providing universal safe spaces for young people to access support and activities for them to enjoy themselves, have fun and become resilient young adults.

Building family resilience

- Giving families the tools to manage problems for themselves and knowing how to seek support when they need it. Whole family working, working with the wider family network to help identify strengths and build on their resilience to manage issues they face successfully.

Stronger Communities

- Youth work provision within communities, working with the voluntary sector, will ensure that networks of professionals, families and young people can come together to discuss the issues and needs facing communities and encourage young people to develop solutions for themselves. Localised decisions are powerful for ensuring best outcomes for young people.

Inclusion

- We will ensure that young people feel welcome, secure, and comfortable and that they are able to celebrate who they are and their identity. We know that there is rich diversity in Bracknell Forest and we want to ensure that every young person is able to be themselves and reach their potential.

Our Approach

Our support to young people and families is focused around our four components of successful practice. We know that we can deliver effective support if we work together and work within our framework.



Voice of Young People & Families

We will...

- be flexible in our approach, and ensure we use a variety of tools to support young people and families.
- respond to your young people and family's diversity need.
- listen to learn and understand young people and families' experiences.
- learn from feedback and take actions to develop.
- explore strengths, identify areas of challenge, and support you to make changes.

Right Conversations, Right Time

We will...

- ensure that we have a co-ordinated offer of support for young people, with clear pathways.
- support as early as possible to avoid worries and concerns escalating.
- have conversations that are solution-focused and are rooted in motivational interviewing.
- not make promises that we are not able to keep.
- respond to families and young people's needs in a timely way.
- provide effective, evidence-based support.

Coordinated Support

We will...

- place the young person at the centre of our work.
- develop one plan that everyone works towards.
- embed the team around the young person approach and ensure the right person acts as the Lead Professional.
- build resilience in young people and their families by using a range of tools, and language in the home, schools, and other settings to reduce school and home breakdown, reducing harm, and increasing social inclusion. This will include working systemically with families, to recognise that each family is unique with individual parts influencing each other. Systemic practice will be underpinned by trauma informed and restorative practice.

Behaviours and culture

We will...

- ensure that relationship-based practice is at the heart of how we work with each other, families, and young people.
- ensure that our behaviours match our values of respect and diversity.
- develop relationships with young people and families that are based on respect, trust, and honesty.
- ensure our workforce is skilled, competent, and confident, recognising the strengths of families and communities and works alongside them to build resilience.

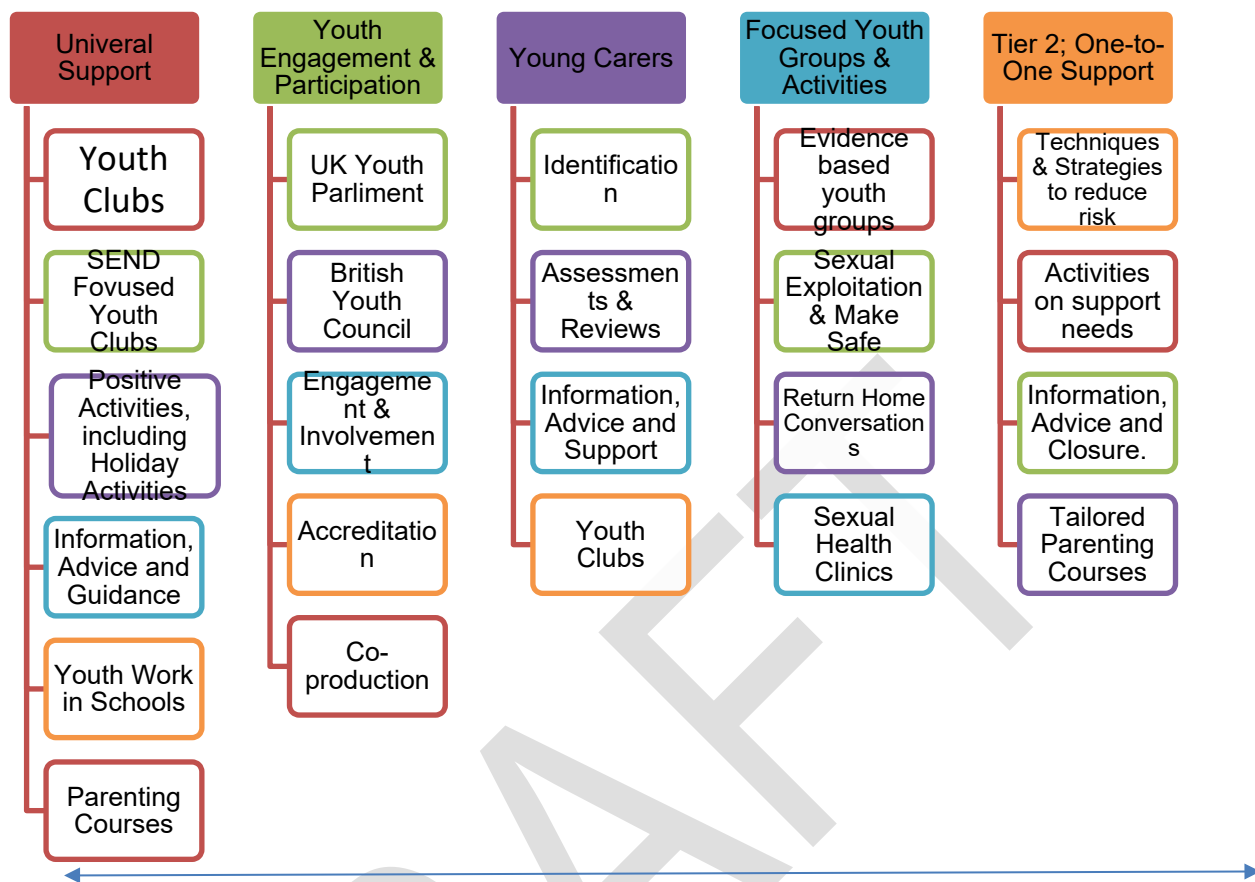
Young People Views

Young people told us what was important for them when working with professionals from across the partnership. We recognise that we can only deliver our objectives if we work in collaboration with young people.

Young people asked us to, and we have agreed to pledge to:

- Always champion and celebrate you!
- Treat you with respect, valuing you and your individuality.
- Give you a warm and friendly welcome to youth clubs and when we are working together.
- Provide the right support at the right time, without delay.
- Never judge you; we will listen to you and help you make choices.
- Work with you, putting you at the centre of our work, we want to hear about you and your needs.
- Always be honest with you; we will explain our decisions in a clear way.
- Be ambitious for you, giving you lots of support but also challenge you to step out of your comfort zone.
- Ensure that you are supported by a skilled, competent, knowledgeable, and friendly practitioner.

Youth Services Offer (Universal, SEND & Targeted)



The provision includes a SEND Offer.

Universal Offer

We know that the early prevention is critical if we are to support young people and their families respond and manage the problems that they are facing. Research by both the [University of Edinburgh](#) and [Youth & Policy](#) outlined the positive impact that youth clubs had on young people. This included supporting positive outcomes for health and wellbeing, contributing to education outcomes, employability, and self-development.

Youth clubs and groups will be available for all young people to attend to meet other young people, learn new things, volunteer or to speak with a member of the youth services for advice and support.

Parenting classes delivered by the youth service will support parent/carer's learn new skills, gain confidence, and connect with other parent/carer's who share similar challenges and goals. Parenting classes can also provide information and guidance on how to deal with specific issues that may arise during the different stages of child and young person's development.

Young people will be able to access information, advice, and guidance from the youth service whether this be in the community, school or at a youth centre. Professionals will be able to assist with accessing support and providing signposting information.

Working with partners, we will support all young people to make healthy choices and will ensure that education on key topics such as drugs, alcohol and smoking is provided. In

addition, we will ensure that young people have access to confidential and highly trained sexual health practitioners.

Targeted Youth Support

Targeted youth support in Bracknell Forest consists of four main components which support young people and their families depending on their needs.

Our targeted work will focus on the following priority areas:

- Managing feelings and emotions,
- Building positive family relationships
- Support with attending education/training
- Self-esteem & confidence
- Healthy relationships
- Peer influence and decision making
- Support for emerging mental health needs (e.g., anxiety, low mood, self-harm)
- Substance mis/use education
- Understanding identity and diversity
- Exploitation awareness/prevention
- Online safety
- Preventing criminal/anti-social behaviours
- Support for parenting teenagers (1:1 & group programmes),

We will strengthen our offer of targeted provision to young people. We will continue to develop our targeted youth support offer to young people in Bracknell Forest. We know that targeted support is more than one-to-one intervention with a professional.

Pathways to the Youth Services Offer

The pathways to access youth service in Bracknell Forest is dependent on individual needs. Young people and families can speak with any professional who will support a family to identify the presenting needs and through conversations, support can be provided, through accessing service directly or it may be appropriate to complete an early help assessment. Through the assessment, we can establish who is best to support the young person to address their concerns in a timely way, to prevent escalation and ensure a positive outcome.



Our Five Priorities

Our five priorities will inform a detailed multi-agency action plan.

We want to keep young people safe and intervene early to prevent and reduce harm.

What are we going to do?	What outcome are we seeking?	How will we know we are making a difference?
<p>Increase the awareness of universal youth clubs across Bracknell Forest for all young people.</p> <p>Increase awareness of support for young people and their families, using data and intelligence to ensure we respond to emerging needs. This will include the use of equality, diversity, and inclusion data.</p> <p>Develop a clear offer of support around anti-bullying, which include targeted intervention and upskilling the early help workforce.</p> <p>Provide targeted 1:1 support session that bring together everyone who is supporting young people, through a team around the young person approach.</p>	<p>All young people and their families will feel better supported and have confidence to access youth work support.</p> <p>Families have a greater resilience, improved confidence, and capacity to recognise and respond to their own needs.</p> <p>Young people are safer from harm and have their needs met as early as possible.</p> <p>Families know how to access information, advice and guidance and receive seamless support from early help services.</p> <p>Young people's needs are met by a whole family approach, building the wider networks resilience to manage situations as they arise in the future.</p>	<p>Young people are regularly attending universal youth clubs and their feedback demonstrates the positive impact the sessions have on them.</p> <p>80% of young people who have accessed Youth Services report being happier and feeling safe.</p> <p>Youth services represent the communities they service.</p> <p>Increase young people's attendance at youth clubs over the last three years, benefiting from Youth Clubs and accessing support.</p> <p>A robust procedure for stepping young people up and down from/to social care/YJS/Make Safe to ensure young people receive appropriate support.</p>

We will support young people to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.

What are we going to do?	What outcome are we seeking?	How will we know we are making a difference?
<p>Help all young people and families recognise the importance of health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Work as a whole system, to ensure that young people and families are supported to achieve positive health and wellbeing, support cohorts of young people where there is an identified need.</p> <p>Increase information, advice, guidance provision for young people who are accessing sexual health support.</p> <p>Ensure all youth workers are trained to provide sexual health advice to young people.</p> <p>Provide opportunities and resources for young people to explore their identities and connect to their communities.</p>	<p>Young people and their families can access support early and respond to their health and wellbeing needs.</p> <p>Whole system processes are developed and understood by everyone supporting young people.</p> <p>Young people set out in their own plans the information and support they need in relation to making informed decisions.</p> <p>Young people have access to impartial and confidential information around their own health and wellbeing.</p> <p>A safe, inclusive, and welcoming Bracknell Forest to all people.</p>	<p>Provide sexual health clinics where all young people can access in safety, and their equality and diversity needs are met.</p> <p>Increased awareness and support for young people and families around wellbeing and mental health, with families feeling confident to meet needs.</p> <p>Working as a whole system to ensure support is provided through a single assessment and plan, reducing multiple requests/referrals.</p> <p>Deliver parenting courses to parents/carers of young people to support their confidence in parenting.</p>

We will develop a multi-agency offer of support for Young Carers.

What are we going to do?	What outcome are we seeking?	How will we know we are making a difference?
<p>Review how we identify and support young carers, so that we can ensure we are meeting their needs through accessible support.</p> <p>Undertake a diagnosis of the current support to Young Carers, so we can understand what else we need to do and reach out to local authorities and charities to help us develop and get this right.</p> <p>Create safe, welcoming, and fun sessions for Young Carers to access support and information.</p> <p>Completing an annual survey to young carers to hear about their experiences of support.</p>	<p>A simpler process for Young Carers who are asking for support, ensuring that support is provided in an accessible format.</p> <p>A focused and committed early help partnership, raising, and promoting the profile of Young Carers.</p> <p>Safe and confidential spaces for Young Carers to meet other Young Carers, to support, encourage and be connected.</p> <p>Bracknell Forest communities and services are supportive and Young Carer focused.</p>	<p>Young Carers are identified early, and the response is robust.</p> <p>An increase of Young Carers accessing specialist and universal Youth Clubs.</p> <p>A 50% increase in 'review' plans being created for Young Carers, ensuring that their needs are being meet.</p> <p>Annual survey results for young carers show an increase on satisfaction with the service and approach.</p>

We will create more opportunities for young people to participate in democratic engagement activities across their communities.

What are we going to do?	What outcome are we seeking?	How will we know we are making a difference?
<p>Strengthen young people’s participation across the youth service and invest in approaches such as the UK Youth Parliament and British Youth Council.</p> <p>Run Member of Youth Parliament elections across Bracknell Forest.</p> <p>Involve young people and families in decision making process for the youth service e.g., Braccan Walk</p> <p>Work with communities, business, and charities to provide opportunities for young people to participate in volunteering.</p>	<p>More young people through their education settings are involved in the election of their Member of Youth Parliament.</p> <p>The Member of Youth Parliament is supported and has the resources to be able to undertake their responsibilities.</p> <p>A clear database of volunteering opportunities for young people and develop relationships with business and charities to increase volunteering opportunities.</p> <p>A youth service where young people make decisions.</p>	<p>Increase of young people volunteering year on year.</p> <p>The number of hours young people have volunteered year on year increases and young people report the benefits of volunteering.</p> <p>20% of all young people volunteering are supported to gain a formal accreditation for volunteering.</p> <p>Over 500 young people will vote for a Member of Youth Parliament in 2024-2025, rising by 12% by 2026 – 2027.</p> <p>By 2026-2027 20 young people will form the Youth Council for Bracknell Forest.</p>

We will invest in the workforce to support youth workers/professionals and develop pathways for young people to have a career in youth and early help work.

What are we going to do?	What outcome are we seeking?	How will we know we are making a difference?
<p>Undertake a training needs analysis for the workforce across Bracknell Forest which informs future delivery of training.</p> <p>Provide training and education opportunities for practitioners, working with the voluntary and third sector to develop a high-quality training offer to the workforce.</p> <p>We will promote youth work as a career and explore opportunities for young people to take part in an apprenticeship in youth work.</p> <p>Develop talent within the borough by supporting residents and young people to volunteer in youth work in the borough.</p>	<p>A local training plan is produced and implemented informed by the training analysis.</p> <p>Consistent workforce that supports young people, who are suitably qualified.</p> <p>Co-produced training and delivery for the workforce and pooling of resources to maximum impact.</p> <p>Apprentices in youth work offered in Bracknell Forest for young people to enter the sector.</p> <p>Young people interesting in a career in working with young people are aware of youth work as a career.</p> <p>Volunteers support young people who are attending universal youth work provision.</p>	<p>Attendance of the workforce at training events and evaluation feedback. Young people feedback demonstrates that skill base of workforce makes a difference to them.</p> <p>Comprehensive training offer that is funded by all partners and is responsive current and developing needs.</p> <p>One apprenticeship post is appointed too across the borough during the lifetime of this strategy.</p> <p>Increase of young people taking youth work qualifications at all levels.</p> <p>At least 20 volunteers complete the agreed training and volunteer in youth work provision. Collectively providing over 200 hours of volunteering.</p>

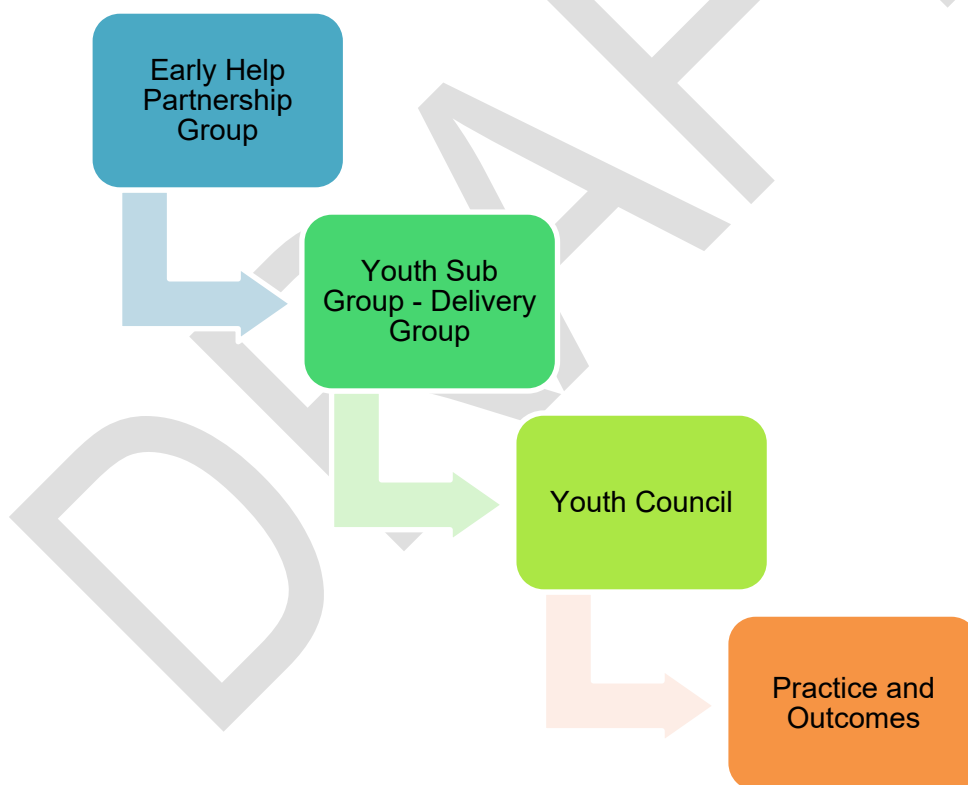
Governance

To ensure that we are making progress on the priorities we have listed we need to ensure that we have a good framework of governance so that everyone can celebrate progress but also be held accountable too.

The Youth Service sits within Early Help & Resources in Bracknell Forest and the 'Early Help Partnership Group', which is made up of a range of partner agencies, which has partnership oversight. This group will be responsible for providing the strategic oversight of the strategy and support the Young People's Operational Delivery Group in affecting the required changes.

We will establish a 'Young People's Operational Delivery Group', that will be made of a range of partner agencies and young people, to ensure that the strategic aims of the strategy are translated into practice. This group will be responsible for the day-to-day operational implementation of the strategy.

We will work with young people to establish a 'Young People's Committee' so that we are able to consult, develop and co-produce with young people at the start.



Performance Measurement, how will we further know that this strategy is making a difference?

Priority
We want to keep young people safe and intervene early to prevent and reduce harm.
We will support young people to make informed decisions about their health and wellbeing.
We will develop a multi-agency offer of support for Young Carers.
We will create more opportunities for young people to participate in democratic engagement across their communities.
Evidence
Early Help Scorecard
Youth Services Audit Activity Reports
Young People, Families and Communities feedback.
Overall Measures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Increase in the number of young people and families supported through a multi-agency early help plan. b) Increase in young people accessing identified information, advice, and guidance by attending universal Youth Clubs c) Improved school attendance for young people, with few absences relating to health and wellbeing needs. d) 80% of young people and families supported through early help report that the support/intervention they received made a positive difference to them and their family. e) A reduction in the number of young people being suspended or excluded from school. f) Increase in the number of young people and families making progress towards the goals in their early help plan, and positive scores on Outcome Star. g) Increase in the number of families who are satisfied with the support they receive.

Glossary of Terms

Young person-centred practice

Working in a young person-centred way, places young people at the centre of the work in which they are actively participating and ensuring that individual needs, interests, and strengths are built upon. It also includes listening and taking account of young people's needs and wishes when decisions are being made and giving young people the opportunity to form their own view about what they want and need.

Trauma-informed practice

Trauma-informed practice is a strengths-based approach, which seeks to understand and respond to the impact of trauma on people lives. This approach emphasises physical, psychological, and emotional safety for everyone and aims to empower individuals to re-establish control of their lives.

Strengths based approach.

A strengths-based approach to working with young people is about 'how' we work, not 'what' work we do. A strength-based approach is a way of working that focuses on abilities, knowledge, and capacities rather than deficits. The approach recognises that young people are resilient and are capable of growth, learning and change.

Systemic practice

Systemic practice is a way of working which focuses on people's relationship as a way of making sense of their experience. It doesn't consider the 'problem' to be inside a particular person, but that the 'problem' exists and is maintained in relationships between people.

Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP)

An Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is a legal document that is established to describe the needs, detail the provision, and name an educational placement for a child or young person.

Early Help Assessment (EHA)

An Early Help Assessment is an initial assessment and planning tool that facilitates and coordinates multiagency support. It helps everyone to look at the strengths and areas for support and focuses on what support might be required. The assessments focuses on everyone within the family.

Team Around the Family

Is a meeting between a child, young person, their family, and the group of practitioners who are working with the family. The purpose of the Team Around the Family meeting (TAF) is to share information and to create a solution focused plan that will support the needs of the child, young person, and their family.

Lead Professional

A lead professional is usually appointed when there are different services supporting a child, young person, or family. A lead professional acts as a single point of contact for the family and coordinates the package of support and monitors progress and achievements.

Interventions

Intervention is about putting a particular service or plan in place to help a family get through their problems. An intervention will be short to medium term and will involve a plan for what happens when the intervention finishes. It could be something like attending a course or going through a specified programme of support.

Multi-agency

When a team consists of professionals from more than one agency or more than one skill, they are known as being multi-agency or multidisciplinary.

Outcome/Youth Star

An evidence-based tool for measuring and supporting change when working with children and families.

Partnerships

Partnership is often about agencies working together with each other, but it can also be about agencies working together with families.

Restorative practice

While traditional methods of conflict solution start by seeking blame and administering punishment, restorative solutions start by seeking understanding. Restorative practice is a way of behaving rather than a theory or process. Restorative practice offers a chance to rebuild relationships that have been broken, giving everybody a chance to explain their actions and building solutions together for the future.

Strategy

A strategy is a high-level document outlining a vision for where we want to be and how we want to work.

Whole Family Working

Families being supported by early help, including youth services, will have one family plan which will be coordinated by one Lead Professional. In the context of the youth service this means, that a youth worker will deliver support as part the family plan or be a Lead Professional where appropriate.

DRAFT

End of Strategy