

Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	12/10/2020
Subject:	Public
Pan London Children in Care Council	
Report of:	For Information
Sharon Long, Strategic Director, Partnership for Young London	
Report author:	
Sharon Long, Strategic Director, Partnership for Young London	

Summary

This report updates Members on the work being undertaken by Partnership for Young London facilitating the Pan London Children in Care Council (CiCC), this is contracted by the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS) and the City of London Corporation. The work has been underway for 11 months and the purpose of this report is to provide an:

- update on the work completed to date
- overview of forward plans for the CiCC.

Recommendations

Members are asked to:

- receive this report for information and endorse its content
- note the changes in delivery that have been introduced since COVID-19.

Main Report

Background

1. Partnership for Young London has been contracted to deliver the Pan London CiCC from October 2019 to October 2021. This work builds on previous work undertaken by the City of London, and it aims to:
 - facilitate regional CiCC meetings with representation from across London
 - support the Pan London Children in Care Participation Network meetings
 - facilitate training sessions for young people and associated staff
 - facilitate roundtables with colleagues to improve outcomes for young people who have experience of being in care.

2. The work is supported by two part-time members of staff, a development worker from Partnership for Young London, and a young person with experience of being in care, who leads on the outreach and research work.

Current Position

3. Since October 2019 the completed work includes:
 - CiCC sessions – these have taken place with the following leads: National Community Lotteries Fund, NHS England, Greater London Authority (GLA), My Covenant (Care Leaver Covenant), EY Foundation. These sessions enabled the young people to have voice and influence over the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) review for NHS England, input to the National Community Lotteries Fund on their funding streams, and also to shape the development of the work programme at EY Foundation for care-experienced young people.
 - Training sessions – we have facilitated three training sessions on a range of subjects, including: asset-based stories with the Speakers Trust, public speaking, and Young People's Manifesto for Mayoral Elections. We have also worked with the National Young Inspectors training programme funded by the Government, and 16 people have been trained as a result. A more in-depth pilot is being planned with London Borough of Brent.
 - Research – we have facilitated two pieces of research with care-experienced young people. A review of the impact of the suspension of the under-18's travel card (400 responses) and digital poverty (90 responses) The feedback has been shared with the recovery process for London, with the GLA and other partners, and will form part of a roundtable with Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport with the National House project and young people from across the country, looking at the impact of COVID-19 on young people's digital inclusion.
 - Roundtables – the CiCC outreach worker has presented their feedback and research to the Deputy Mayor for Transport, and London Councils to highlight the impact on care-experienced young people. Young people have also fed into the CAMHS review and presented to the Children and Young People's Mental Health Recovery Board for London, asking for the NHS to provide a youth offer of work to care-experienced young people. There is now a separate plan being developed with North East London Sustainability and Transformation Partnership on work for care-experienced young people under the remit of Healthy London Partnership. Additionally, work has taken place with the GLA on the revised care leaver's covenant targets.

- Partnerships – the project has developed links with a range of key partners including regional and national government, key charities such as Coram, Barnardo's, the National House Project, Catch 22 and Become.
 - Participation Workers Network – this group provides peer support on a monthly basis and enables the workers to share ideas and approaches. It brings in key speakers to update on policy news and has enabled staff to access a range of training sessions. A key focus has been on moving meetings online and engaging young people in activities.
4. Since March 2020, all work has been moved online and we have ensured that all services are via teams-based online platforms and other secure online platforms.

Proposals

5. The forward plans for the work are to:
- continue to develop the CiCC meetings on a quarterly basis
 - publicise the launch of the research on digital poverty
 - provide support for the workers' training on race and identity, (the first pilot will commence in October 2020)
 - continue to work on the programme of support on routes into work with the NHS, Healthy London Partnership and the GLA
 - facilitate the Young Inspectors pilot, and roll-out of training programmes across other boroughs.
6. Key developments are as stated above, and a detailed work plan will be submitted to the commissioning lead at City of London Corporation. There are no budget implications outside of the contracted programme.
7. There are no additional proposals for this work, other than those stated above.

Implications

8. The key implication for this work will be on how we sustain engagement using online platforms due to COVID-19. This work has all been migrated onto teams, and we are using secure platforms for all engagement work, pending any reduction on lockdown rules. We will re-evaluate as we move forward.

Conclusion

9. The report outlines work underway and planned for the CiCC until 2021.

Appendices

- None

Sharon Long

Strategic Director, Partnership for Young London

T: 07780 674311

E: sharon.long@cityoflondon.gov.uk