

## **Project Plan**

### **Bullying of children and young people in Southwark**

Children's services and education scrutiny sub-committee

September 2006

#### **Purpose**

To investigate the bullying of children and young people in Southwark

#### **Key issues for consideration**

- Is the council doing what it should about bullying? What systems does it have in place to identify, report, prevent and address the consequences of bullying? How does this compare with other London boroughs?
- What do we know about the level of bullying in Southwark?
- Is the council's anti-bullying policy guidance – dated January 2006 – effective?
- Is the role that parents typically play in the identification and prevention of bullying picked up by the carers of looked-after children?
- Is there consistency between the views of teachers, governors and children and young people around bullying?
- Are there examples of good practice – ideally in Southwark - which have positively impacted on levels of bullying and should be promoted?

#### **Collecting information**

- Questionnaire to schools about their anti-bullying policies. Purpose is to establish how useful they find the council's anti-bullying policy guidance and whether they employ what the council considers to be 'effective' approaches to anti-bullying policies (section 12 of the council's anti-bullying guidance)
- Hear from officers about
  - what the council is doing around bullying

- what the council does to ensure that carers of looked after children identify/prevent bullying
- what data currently exists in Southwark around bullying
- Find out what other inner London boroughs require from schools around bullying
- Compare schools with low, high and average levels of reported bullying to find out if there are any areas of learning. Involves site visits to schools to talk to students (school council?) / key staff / governors
- Seek views from looked after children via 'Speaker Box' – voluntary group which voices views of looked after children?
- Contributions from staff/students who have been involved in anti-bullying exercises?

### **Review timeframe**

Review to formally commence on 11 October 2006

Aim for completion by March 2007

### **Intended outcomes**

- To obtain a clear picture of the level of bullying in Southwark and what the council is doing to reduce this
- To prompt the sharing of best practice across Southwark schools around anti-bullying
- To make recommendations to Executive around addressing any identified gaps

### **Financial costs**

None outside existing budgets