

Consultation Response	Theme/Area	Action take
Request - add Homophobia into the challenges we face	Community Safety	Whilst we appreciate that this unfortunately does occur within the community more evidence is required to add it in as a key challenge our young people face. It has been noted and is something that under 'Hate Crime' we need to look closer at when we update and review the strategy in 2020.
Request - add Self harm into the challenges we face	Health and Wellbeing	Whilst the national picture shows that this is an issue from young people, locally there doesn't seem to be evidence that this is a real challenge, however WHBC is funding a project at Bishops Hatfield School to understand more the local picture
Comment - That the data and evidence in the strategy is not accurate	Date and evidence	Provided no commentary on specific areas on areas that were missing/inaccurate
Comment - that Building young people's resilience is integral so that they are able to cope pressures/issues/situations when they arise and this could be built into health and well being	Health and Wellbeing	Agreed and an additional paragraph added to this part of the strategy to incorporate the importance of resilience
Request - add Transition percentage from 6th form in to higher education. And the Level of SENCO provision in local schools.	Education	At this time these data is not available to us however when the strategy is updated in 2020 this will be date that we will try to ensure that we can access
Request - add affordability and availability of local youth diversionary activities.	Community Safety	Paragraph included within the Youth Provision – The Future and Our Actions

Request - add affordability and availability of local youth diversionary activities.	Youth Provision and Engagement	Paragraph included within the Youth Provision – The Future and Our Actions
Request - add increase in childhood obesity levels in Year 6	Health and Wellbeing	Whilst we acknowledge this is an issue, year 6 students fall outside the scope of the strategy. However we have requested data for this age group and should it be provided then it will be added to provide an additional reason to increase physical activity and weight management activities within the borough at a young age
Request - to include providing more leisure facilities for out of school, at a lower cost as a priority. A leisure park like Stevenage is needed. Not much for teenagers to do in Welwyn Hatfield, which then increases groups of kids hanging around the streets and causing a nuisance.	Priority setting	Whilst this would be a great thing to have in the borough and would be a great asset, this is just not a realistic option. There is simply not the population demand or economic demand to make this possible, especially considering that Stevenage is so close and accessible.
Request - add Entrepreneurial skills through creativity and voluntary activities.	Education	Added under The Future and Our Actions, also added to the action plan
Request - add better use of urban spaces - regarding hangout places.	Community Safety	Added
Comment - it is not clear about how big the 'increase' is within the period of time.	Community Safety	No specific details made on exactly what stats is being disputed
Comment - no mention of Social inclusion awareness	General Comment	Comment noted and is something that will be address when reviewing the strategy in 2020
Comment - I do not believe there is nearly enough youth	Youth Provision and	Comment has been add to try

provision and I would add that costs exclude MOST young people.	Engagement	make sure that new provision is affordable and accessible. Most youth provision is provided with external agencies and therefore it is difficult to manage costs
Comment - there is virtually no supported living accommodation for young people with mental health or learning disabilities. Social Care and support for young people is extremely limited and almost impossible to access. I am speaking from the personal experiences of my son.	Health and Wellbeing	These comments have been passed onto the Herts Young Homeless Team and the County Council to look to address. Whilst we appreciate the difficult circumstances that have been faced with regards to this example we would require more data. This is something that we would look into for the 2020 update
Comment - I think providing considerable support to access to Mental Health Services should be the number 1 priority. If a young person is struggling with mental health they cannot even begin to access further education, work or anything else. I am speaking from witnessing the experiences of a friend's 19 year old son.	Priority setting	Addition made within the overall strategy as well as within the objectives and outcomes
Comment - these teenager are usually part of families no enough is being suggested to help families.	General Comment	Constant work is being done around families however this specific strategy looks mainly at the young person, however it is noted within the strategy some of the project work being down around the family setting.
Add - 1. Challenges faced by children of single parent families 2. Challenges faced by children from ethnic minority families	Education	Whilst this might or might not be the case there is no evidence being provided by those who own the dates to suggest this. However the point is noted and can be reviewed

		when addressing the strategy again in 2020
Add - 1. Challenges faced by children and adolescents from broken families (single parents/divorce/death) 2. Children from families/parents who abuse drugs and alcohol	Community Safety	Similar to the above comment, we unfortunately don't have any data to support this
Comment - must seek to include this issue in to the syllabus at schools.	Youth Provision and Engagement	Whilst we would like to be able to influence the schools syllabus this is outside of our control
Add – the decline in levels of unhappiness amongst children and adolescents due to disconnection in society. More opportunities for networking, mentoring must be created.	Health and Wellbeing	There is no evidence to support this, whilst some evidence came about of the youth strategy in 2018, we will review the 2019 data and include a more detailed response in the 2020 strategy update on happiness and emotional wellbeing
Add – more work with young people to increase levels of emotional awareness and insight about their issues and teach them strategies to overcome personal challenges including through meditation, yoga and personal mentors.	Priority setting	We have added something into the strategy and into the action plan around resilience which we feel covers this comment. The positive pathways project is also something that looks to address emotions for our most vulnerable and troubled young people
Comment - no evidence from the children of single parent families and/or ethnic minority backgrounds relating to the challenges they face.	Data and Evidence	Unfortunately we have no data
Add/Comment - I would still add knowledge of opportunity. A lot of my young people who aren't academic feel they are failing within a system as they only have an understanding of academic employment. If they don't want to go into plumbing/brick laying/	Education	Paragraph added plus we feel this is already slightly covered by the delivery of Facts and Futures Fair and Year 10 Careers Event

hairdressing they struggle to find information or opportunities in other practical work skills with little/no GCSEs		
Add - gang involvement. Knife crime - Lots of our young people carry knives or weapons	Community Safety	Paragraph specific to this area added.
Comment - There is close to no youth provision in this borough. Young people aren't going to 'come' to youth provision - it goes completely against their culture. We need to take youth provision to them.	Youth Provision and Engagement	Within this section it has been updated to highlight that street work is undertaken and is constantly reviewed
Comment - Young people accessing food in the school holidays when there's no free school meal scheme is a huge problem for many of our young people. They will eat 1 meal a day if that.	Education	It is noted that this is an issue for young people and the project to try and address this is the Fit, Fed and Read programme. It is understood thought that there are more young people on free school meals than can access this project.
Comment – sex education is lacking especially in the school system - we can't be surprised when young girls get pregnant if we're not teaching them about healthy relationships and safe sex.	Education	Sexual health is covered within the curriculum at all six secondary schools and is also covered through the YC Herts and YMCA youth work programmes
Comment - obesity is a huge problem for some of our young people.	Education	Data around this has been requested, if not included within the 2019 strategy it will be added for the 2020
Comment - more provision is needed for young people around mental health outside of youth provision, and 'helpline' hours.	Education	This has been included within the health and wellbeing part of the strategy and also included within the action plan
Comment - they are all huge goals though. It has to start on the ground and in the communities. There aren't many of us as full time youth workers and the challenges can feel overwhelming. It's not fair to cut funding and	Priority setting	It is felt that this comment has been address through the strategy by some of the changes already made and elements of the strategy

<p>then complain there's a problem when so many of us are so stretched. Opportunities are key. So is crime. Mental health and wellbeing. But a huge issue I see in Peartree area particularly (or my young people who come from that area) is poverty. Financial poverty, Poverty of health, Poverty of opportunity.</p>		<p>that already addressed these concerns. It is noted that a specific area is mentioned however the strategy is a little more broad and looks at the borough as a whole. We are not in a position to comment on budgets and finances</p>
<p>Add - a challenge around consistency of teaching across schools to prepare pupils for 6th form.</p>	<p>Education</p>	<p>It is felt that within this strategy we are not in a position to comment on the quality of the teaching or the schooling</p>
<p>Comment - you should include university and university involvement. Some young people, just because they are not top of the class in academic subjects may not know what other opportunities there are.</p>	<p>Priority setting</p>	<p>It is felt that this comment is address now within the strategy and within the action plan. It has been added that young people need to be given maximum opportunities to understand what possible next steps they can take whether educational, vocational or professional.</p>
<p>Comment - If physical health is important, why are you even considering building on the skate park? Youngsters should know that it is OK not to be good at sport. Schools tend to concentrate on the pupils who are good enough to go in the team. The others could come to enjoy the sport if not made to feel inadequate.</p>	<p>Priority setting</p>	<p>We believe that this comment is in relation to Hatfield Skate Park. Currently there are plans and funding for a Link Drive car park development for housing however the skate park is currently still part of those plans and will not be altered.</p>
<p>Comment - I feel youngsters should learn to respect their environment. Not drop their empty food containers in the street or engage in graffiti. If they learnt to respect their environment and each other that could lead to</p>	<p>General Comment</p>	<p>Agreed but we don't feel there is a place within this strategy to add this at this time</p>

wanting to improve their chances in life.		
Comment - We need to provide these services to those who don't have the money to pay	Youth provision and engagement	Agreed and has been added by recommendation that additional services are affordable and accessible
Comment - the strategy is very relevant but besides naming many of the obvious issues, what are the practical plans for trying to rectify these challenges?	General comment	Hoped that the Action Plan provides the detail on how as many of those challenges the borough faces will be managed/tackled
Comment - the only way to meet these challenges, is to go to where they are - educate the parents as well as the younger people. One example - hospitalised because of drink, what is the follow up? Looking into the reason why it is happening and identify ways of changing lifestyle habits - maybe having to pay back in kind/time for the damage and time taken up by our rescue services.	General comment – Action Plan	Understand the issues with regards to drinking but this is not something where we can access data on. There are programmes within schools and youth services which look education young people on decisions such as drinking and drugs
Comment - the strategy is good. There is a need to carry parents along with it. Young people will respond better if they develop within sound and encouraging environments.	General Comment	Agreed, however this strategy does look at the young person. This comment has been made a few times and some projects do look holistically however it is noted that parental education needs to be addressed for the 2020 update
Comment - Involve the family	General Comment	As above
Comment – I firmly believe educational achievement is greatly enhanced by parental involvement and interest in their children's education. I have grandchildren and I am amazed how many of their friends' parents seem to have no direct interest in their children's schoolwork. An obvious example is parent/teacher evenings. Do you, as an authority, for example have figures from schools	Education	We unfortunately don't hold this data is not something that we can access

<p>regarding how many parents do actually bother turning up to those events? I would like to see more publicity aimed at parents to encourage them to support their kids at school.</p>		
<p>Comment - I keep reading about anti-social activity, which I personally have never experienced. However I rarely read about positive initiatives many of our young people are taking regarding various issues that concern them. Many people in my age group (70's) seem absolutely terrified when they see a group of young people. I believe this is largely caused by the continual reporting of what in my days was considered "naughtiness" as anti-social behaviour. Furthermore in any generation inadequate parenting and poor parent role models are, in my view, largely responsible for such behaviour.</p>	<p>Community Safety</p>	<p>Comment noted</p>
<p>Comment - with regard to the issue of homelessness we are all aware of the level of house prices in our borough. Prices continue to outstrip earnings which is difficult to address without the building of serious numbers of new, affordable, homes. However better use of subsidised social housing stock would help alleviate part of this problem I believe. I personally know of 3 elderly couples living in 3 bedroom social housing despite their children now being grown up and moved out long ago. There are also I believe a number of purpose built flats suitable for retired couples standing empty. Surely this is a conundrum which CAN easily be addressed by simple relocation.</p>	<p>Community Safety</p>	<p>Comment noted but unfortunately housing process and housing law is not something that can be address within this strategy</p>
<p>Comment - can't say I disagree with the CHALLENGE but, again, inadequate parental involvement in children's upbringing needs to be addressed in my view. Self-harming, pregnancy and lack of sporting participation are</p>	<p>Health and Wellbeing</p>	<p>Comment noted</p>

surely issues which should be identified, and addressed, in the home? It is difficult to see what a local authority can do when many parents simply do not take any interest in their children's lives.		
Comment - I would prefer to see more data relating to parental background where children are under achieving. In my experience (I was involved in voluntary youth work for many years in the 70's through to the 90's) children who under achieve are normally the ones who suffer from having inadequate parental role models. Paradoxically as a general rule of thumb for example the long term unemployed, despite by definition having more spare time available, devote minimal time to their children in comparison with busy working couples.	Data and evidence	Comment noted but this data does not exist
Comment - I think it is a commendable strategy and initiative but would like to see more emphasis on targeting, let us say, parental involvement.	General comment	Comment noted
Comment - I would remove poor take up of entry into 6 th form	Education	Important that it is noted that this borough has a lower proportion of young people going to sixth form. Whilst this statistic doesn't directly say anything about the quality of our education options locally it is important to note.
Comment - there needs to be more of a focus on helping young people obtain a council house.	General Comment	Comment noted and has been passed onto the housing team within the Council to see what can be done to address and provide a better service for young people
Comment - I do not believe that the youth really understands the requirements and impact of voting and the expectations of their vote. Their concentration as a younger member of the population involves different	Youth provision and engagement	Comment noted

responsibilities to those of the adult population and I personally feel that we should not allow or expect anyone who is not legally classed as an adult to get involved with or make decisions that can heavily impact the adult population		
Comment - I do not feel that anyone who is not classed as an adult should be involved with democratic decisions.	Priority Setting	Comment noted
Comment - www.educateandcelebrate.org - be worth looking at this organisation for LGBTQ+ issues / support / collaborative working	General Comment	Comment noted and shared with the youth council
Comment - I agree on the areas of concern identified and was surprised to read the stats for some of the priority areas as it is only ASB over the last couple of years that I have seen has increased (though I can only speak for the town centre as I spend most of my time in Handside and not the other wards mentioned). Having worked with young people in the past (careers advising) I would comment that apprenticeships can be a route that is very positive for many young people leaving at year 11 and the higher apprenticeships option after year 13 as an alternative to University. It would also be good to raise awareness of the huge amount of employment and training opportunities in London which some Welwyn Hatfield young people may be interested in pursuing outside of the borough.	General comment – action plan	Comment noted and we hope that the projects, events and programmes that are funded by the Council and its partners go some way to delivering of educating young people on the opportunities that exist for them.
Comment - as a CSP, Youth provision/safeguarding is an area that has been worked on effectively within the partnership and with external partners, but has not, up until this point been drawn together into a Youth Strategy. This document pulls all this work together into a simple document.	General comment	Comment noted
Comment/Add - I would like to see some specific points noted under objective 4 on young people and domestic	Community Safety	A recent domestic abuse conference was held which focused

violence		on services available to young people, we have tasked the local domestic abuse forum to review objective 4 and add to it. Nothing to note to until they return with comments to add
Comment/Add – I would like to see linkage made on hunger and eating issues to various local partners - in the retail and voluntary sectors (eg: food banks) for instance	Health and Wellbeing	This something that needs to be considered and reviewed for the 2020 update