

17 March 2014**Agenda Item: 5****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE****PROPOSED RESTRUCTURE OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE FROM 1
OCTOBER 2014 – RESPONSE TO PETITIONS****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update Members on the response to petitions about the proposed restructuring of the Young People's Service that were presented to the January 2014 meeting of the County Council as part of the budget consultation process for 2014/15, and to seek approval for proposed mitigating actions arising from this.

Information and Advice

2. The Outline Business Case for budget reductions to the Young People's Service approved by Council on 27 February 2014 set out the following proposals:-
 - To restructure the Young People's Service, including a reduction in the numbers of managers and changes to the deployment and working hours of youth work staff. This will be implemented from October 2014 and will deliver a locally-based youth work offer that operates from 31 Centres and 4 mobile facilities (reduced from 38 and 10 respectively) for 37 weeks of the year (reduced from 42), with the mobile provision operating on a County-wide basis in areas of the highest need that do not have local building-based provision. This will maintain a strong open access service for young people, with an increased focus upon the areas of highest need. There will also be an increase in support to the voluntary youth sector to mitigate the reduction of provision in some locations.
 - In addition, the Service will continue to offer strong specialist youth work services, including: participation work for children and young people, youth work services for Looked After Children, management of the Notts Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, vocational training for teenagers and specialist youth clubs for disabled young people (though this provision will reduce from 15 youth work sessions per week to 12 countywide).
 - The Service will decommission open access play provision.
 - The Service will seek to identify alternative arrangements for future delivery from the Young People's Centres listed overleaf, and will work with local communities and stakeholders to achieve this. If this cannot be achieved, the following Young People's

Centres may close from October 2014 - those selected are based on the criteria of; Multiple Deprivation Factors; number of young people in each district/borough; value for money (the capacity to engage the largest numbers of young people).

- *Balderton YPC - (Council building - currently closed for health and safety reasons)*
- *The Core YPC (Southwell) - (Council building - currently open 5 evenings per week)*
- *Collingham YC - (Community venue - currently open 1 evening per week)*
- *Winthorpe YC - (Community venue - currently open 1 evening per week)*
- *The Lodge YC (Arnold) - (Council building - currently open 2 weekend sessions)*
- *Bingham YPC - (Council building - currently open 4 evenings per week)*
- *Ruddington YPC - (Council building - currently open 5 evenings per week)*

3. Through the Council's Budget consultation exercise a number of petitions were received regarding:

- the proposed cessation of the Disability Support Team's holiday programme
- the potential closure of Ruddington Young People's Centre
- the potential closure of Bingham Young People's Centre
- the proposed termination of the open access play contract
- the potential cessation of the Ravenshead mobile youth work session
- the potential reduction of mobile youth work sessions in rural Bassetlaw
- the potential cessation of the Edwinstowe mobile youth work session.

Other Options Considered

4. Since the initial publication of the Service's budget reduction proposals in October 2013, there has been a large amount of consultation activity carried out by the Service. This is summarised at **Appendix A**.
5. As a result of this consultation activity, and as a consequence of the consideration given to the petitions received by the Council, a number of mitigating actions are proposed by the Service. These are set out below.

Mitigation Proposals

6. Give consideration to offering a fixed term 'full repair and maintenance lease' on a peppercorn rent to one or more voluntary organisations to ensure that youth work activities continue to be provided for young people from the following locations: Bingham Young People's Centre, The Core Young People's Centre (Southwell) and Ruddington Young People's Centre.
7. In addition, give consideration to the asset transfer of surplus vehicles, including up to five mobile youth centres and seven mini-buses to local voluntary sector providers of youth work activity; this will support continuity of provision in areas affected by the Service's revised delivery arrangements.

8. Change the location of one of the Bassetlaw mobile sessions from Woodbeck to Mattersey Thorpe due to the greater level of localised deprivation.
9. Develop a partnership with a local voluntary sector youth organisation to make use of a Church community building as a youth club one night a week in Balderton. This will release mobile capacity to maintain provision in Edwinstowe, utilising staff from one session at the Dukeries Young People's Centre (Boughton).
10. Support the charity Square Peg (formally Friends of the Disability Support Team) to develop an independent self-funded holiday programme in partnership with parents of disabled young people.
11. Support Winthorpe Youth Club to be volunteer staffed, with professional advice and guidance offered by the Service's Voluntary Sector Youth Development Worker.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. The Service is seeking to identify alternative arrangements for future delivery from the Young People's Centres and Mobiles at risk of closure, and will work with local communities and stakeholders to achieve this.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. The recommendations included in this report will not significantly compromise the service's ability to deliver its overall savings target; where individual proposals are implemented and do reduce the savings made, other compensating savings would be found. Where this is the case and these are material, a further report to Committee outlining these details would follow.

Implications for Service Users

15. The proposals set out in paragraphs 6-11 will support continuing access to youth work provision for young people.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the proposed mitigating actions set out in paragraphs 6-11 above be approved.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 26/02/14)

16. The Children and Young People's Committee has delegated authority within the Constitution to approve the recommendations in the report.

Financial Comments (KLA 04/03/14)

17. The financial implications of this report are set out in paragraph 14 above.

Background Papers and Published Documents

The Young People's Service Outline Business Case.

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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