

20 February 2017**Agenda Item: 06**

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE

YOUTH SERVICE UPDATE

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of the report is to update the Committee on the new structure and activity of the Council's Youth Service.

Information and Advice

2. From 1st April 2017 the Youth Service will have a more efficient management structure to ensure that the quality of youth work young people receive is of a high quality whilst delivering the approved budget savings. **Appendix 1** shows the staffing structure from 1 April 2017 for the Young People's Service which includes: the Youth Service, Outdoor & Environmental Education Service and the Schools Swimming Service.
3. The Youth Service delivers Nottinghamshire County Council's Youth Offer of high quality, safe and enjoyable positive social education activities outside of the school day. This is achieved through 149 weekly sessions of open access Youth Work and an additional 32 Early Help Group Work Sessions at a county wide network of 50 delivery points:
 - 29 Young People's Centres, including 12 Link Club sessions for those young people with disabilities
 - 4 Youth Clubs
 - 4 Mobile Youth Facilities.
4. The Service's open access youth work provision operates to an efficient 38 week opening pattern which maximises the attendance of young people through being available when the majority of them wish to attend the provision. Details of the provision are attached as **Appendix 2**.
5. The Service's open access youth work provision is complemented by the following two specialist teams:
 - i) Countywide Youth Work Team delivering:
 - a) Children and Young People's Participation (CYPP) – the team is responsible for the development and maintenance of the participation structures available to children and young people in Nottinghamshire. These structures include the Young People's Board, District Youth Forums and The Pioneers which is a

forum for disabled young people. The team facilitates, alongside both young people and Elected Members, the Annual 4Uth awards to raise the positive profile of young people in their local communities and the wider media.

b) The Young People Looked After (YPLA)- the team is responsible for the Children in Care Council (CiCC) and ensuring that young people looked after are represented at all levels in the Nottinghamshire system of Youth Participation. Work is underway to give unaccompanied young asylum seekers the opportunity to have a forum. The team also actively encourages and enables young people who are looked after, adopted or living in residential care, to engage in positive activities provided by the YPLA team and to independently access mainstream provision through the Platinum Card system of free entry to Young People's Centres. The team supports the young people of the CiCC to deliver the annual Awards for All Looked After Young People, to raise a positive profile in the media and increase individual young people's self-esteem and confidence.

c) Voluntary Sector Development - the team offers support to local communities to set up or further develop youth work provision. This can take the form of training or short term secondments to complete particular tasks for a voluntary group e.g. recruitment or policy development. The team also plays an active role in assessing Play and Youth grant aid applications, subsequently supporting and monitoring the development of organisations in receipt of funding.

ii) Commissioned Youth Work Team delivering the following three projects which are fully funded by Health partners:

a) the C-Card scheme which offers advice on appropriate relationships and sexual health. Following a comprehensive discussion and assessment by a trained C-Card worker, young people aged 13-25 years can be registered onto the C-Card scheme to access condoms and continuous sexual health advice and support.

b) ASSIST which is an evidence based smoking prevention programme, aimed at reducing smoking prevalence in Nottinghamshire amongst young people. ASSIST is a peer led intervention targeted at Year 8 students that aims to tackle inequalities in health through promoting and supporting the benefits of being smoke free.

c) a pilot scheme will commence in March 2017 to deliver Youth Work in Hospitals to support the transition of vulnerable young people, including those with mental health needs, to return to their communities, peer groups and other local agencies for appropriate ongoing support.

6. The Youth Service targets are set out in the revised Delivery Standards (**Appendix 3**) which detail the requirements for the effective delivery of positive activities using youth work methods and approaches at each unit of the Youth Service. Overall, performance is measured in two ways:

- Quality: operational visits by managers and anonymised case studies of a cross section of Youth Work with young people, to establish their individual progress within a group setting, through the added value that Youth Work interventions bring to their lives.
- Quantity: annual target of 16,000 individual young people making 160,000 attendances to Youth Work sessions. This year at Quarter 3 18,559 young people have attended 103,196 times. As Quarter 4 is normally the Youth Service's busy period, those annual targets not already exceeded are on track to be met.

Other Options Considered

7. The report is for noting only.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

8. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

9. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the update on the new structure and activity of the Council's Youth Service is noted.

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Constitutional Comments

10. As this report is for noting only, no Constitutional Comments are required.

Financial Comments (TMR 31/01/17)

11. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

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.

Changes to the staffing establishment in Early Help and Youth Justice Services – report to Children and Young People's Committee on 19 September 2016

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0931