

29 September 2014**Agenda Item: 8****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, YOUTH, FAMILIES AND CULTURE****UPDATE AND FUTURE OPERATING MODEL OF THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S
SERVICE AND PETITION ABOUT THE YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE
RESTRUCTURE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek approval for a revised management and staffing structure for the Young People's Service from 1 October 2014. The report highlights that the proposed structure is based in part on the inclusion of the Outdoor Environmental Education function of the Council within the Service from June 2014 and the transfer of the Skills for Employment Team to the Libraries, Archives and Information Service from October 2014.
2. To update Committee, as agreed at the Children and Young People's Committee in March 2014, on work to implement the budget reduction for the Service agreed at Full Council in February 2014, from 1 October 2014, and resultant mitigating actions.
3. To note the response to a petition about the previously agreed Full Council decision of 27 February 2014 regarding the restructuring of the Young People's Service from 1 October 2014.

Information and Advice

4. As part of a range of budget savings across the Council approved by Full Council at its meeting on 27 February 2014, the Young People's Service was required to make savings of £1,350,000 (30%) by April 2015.
5. It was agreed that these savings would be achieved through:
 - a restructure of 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 would be implemented from October 2014 and would deliver a locally-based youth work offer operating 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 did not have local building-based provision. This would maintain a strong open access service for young people, with an increased focus upon the areas of

highest need. There would also be an increase in support to the voluntary youth sector to mitigate the reduction of provision in some locations

- in addition, the Service would 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 Nottinghamshire Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme and specialist youth clubs for disabled young people (though this provision would reduce from 15 youth work sessions per week to 12 countywide)
- the Service would decommission open access play provision
- the Service would seek to identify alternative arrangements for future delivery from the Young People's Centres listed below, and would work with local communities and stakeholders to achieve this. If this could not be achieved the Centres would close from October 2014:

Balderton YPC - Council building - closed for health and safety reasons

The Core YPC (Southwell) - Council building - open 5 evenings per week

Collingham YC - Community venue - open 1 evening per week

Winthorpe YC - Community venue - open 1 evening per week

The Lodge YC (Arnold) - Council building - open 2 weekend sessions

Bingham YPC - Council building - open 4 evenings per week

Ruddington YPC - Council building - open 5 evenings per week.

Mitigating Actions

6. The Service has sought to identify alternative arrangements for the future delivery of youth centres faced by potential closure. This has entailed significant amounts of liaison work with local communities and voluntary youth organisations. Surplus vehicles have also been offered to voluntary youth activities providers to ensure the most efficient use of these assets. The current situation is as follows:
 - **Balderton Young People's Centre:** the Centre has been closed for over a year for health and safety reasons. The disproportionate cost of repairing the premises makes remediation unviable. The property will now form part of the redevelopment of the former Grove School site under the Priority Schools Building Programme that will see new premises established for the Newark Academy. Youth work provision will be maintained through a one night a week youth club operated in partnership with a local church, and operated by Service staff
 - **The Core Young People's Centre (Southwell):** the Library Service will assume responsibility for the Centre premises, which adjoin Southwell Library, and will utilise the space for service delivery throughout the week. This will support continuing use of the Centre by Southwell Young People's Art Club, the Young Farmers Club and children's counselling services. Southwell Diocesan Youth Office has, in addition, agreed to provide a point of contact for local voluntary youth groups who wish to use the Centre for youth activities on up to three evenings per week. Young people who currently use the centre have been crucial

in encouraging groups to come forward. At present there is a local organisation that is keen to work with current youth service volunteers and young people to establish provision with the support of the Youth Service's Voluntary Sector Development specialists

- **Collingham Youth Club:** the Management Committee of this one night per week voluntary youth club has been supported by the Service's Voluntary Sector Development Specialist, but has chosen to close the Club with effect from October
- **Winthorpe Youth Club:** the Management Committee of this voluntary youth club has been supported by the Service's Voluntary Sector Development Specialist and has decided to continue its one night a week provision with Youth Service trained volunteers. The Committee also intends to open a new youth club at Besthorpe with the same support from the Service
- **The Lodge Youth Club (Arnold):** a mobile youth vehicle will operate one evening per week in this area of Arnold. It is anticipated that the premises will be used by another Council service, though this is yet to be confirmed
- **Bingham Young People's Centre:** the premises are leased from Toot Hill Academy. Negotiations are continuing to hand back the premises whilst allowing the Bingham Scouts Group to remain using the property as its regular meeting place. These negotiations are ongoing; officers are hopeful of a favourable resolution
- **Ruddington Young People's Centre:** work has been undertaken to formally secure a provider to assume responsibility for the Centre building under a 10 year lease and provide a minimum of three evenings of youth activities for at least 38 weeks a year, with support from the Service's Voluntary Sector Development Specialist. A partner has now been identified and appointed, Project Body UK, and is set to commence operating from the Centre in October. Should the selected partner cease to deliver the required youth work activity, then the lease will be subject to forfeit
- The Service has also sought to asset transfer surplus Mobile Youth vehicles and minibuses to local voluntary sector youth providers in order to support continuity of provision. In consequence, the availability of the vehicles was widely advertised to Nottinghamshire third sector youth activities providers. A formal application and selection process, coupled with appropriate transfer agreements designed to ensure that the vehicles are used appropriately for youth activities, has ensured that the voluntary groups awarded a vehicle will operate youth activities for the benefit of the young people of Nottinghamshire. The groups are as follows: 7th Retford Scouts, 3rd Star (Rainworth), Mansfield Woodhouse Youth Project, Carlton-in-Lindrick Youth Club, Radcliffe-on-Trent Methodist Youth Group, 1st Cropwell Bishop Scouts, Take Over Radio (Sutton in Ashfield) and Real Education (County Wide).

Service Structure

7. The revised Service structure, which reflects the inclusion of Outdoor Environmental Education along with the need to ensure capacity is available to carefully consider the most efficient and effective long term delivery model for the Council's Youth Work, is attached as a series of **appendices** to this report.

Petition

8. A 76 signature petition, without contact details, was received regarding adjustments to the delivery programme for the Broxtowe mobile vehicle youth work sessions, known locally as the 'Motivator'. The petition was presented to Full Council on 15 May 2014. It is recommended that, in response to the petition, the Full Council decision, made on 27 February 2014, regarding the future delivery arrangements for the Young People's Service from 1 October 2014 be noted.

Other Options Considered

9. None. The budget reductions, and associated alternative business cases were considered as part of the Council's Budget Consultation Exercises and were then approved at both Full Council and the Children and Young People's Committee.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

10. To enable the implementation of the revised Service structure set out in the appendices accompanying this report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

11. 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 only), 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.

RECOMMENDATION/S

That:

- 1) the revised Young People's Service structure be approved from 1 October 2014
- 2) the actions taken by the Service to mitigate the impact of the budget reductions agreed by Council in February 2014 be noted
- 3) in response to the received petition, the previously agreed Full Council decision of 27 February 2014 regarding the restructuring of the Young People's Service from 1 October 2014 be noted.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 03/09/14)

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

Financial Comments (KLA 10/09/14)

13. The financial implications of the report are described in paragraphs 4 and 5 above.

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.

Young People's Service and Outdoor Environmental Education Outline Business Cases
Autumn 2013

Savings Proposals 2014/15 – 2016/17 – report to Policy Committee on 13 November 2013

Annual Budget 2014/15 – report to Full Council on 27 February 2014

Proposed restructure of the Young People's Service from 1 October 2014: response to petitions – report to Children and Young People's Committee Meeting on 17 March 2014

'Keep the Motivator' petition

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

C0487