



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE GUILDFORD

GUILDFORD YOUTH COUNCIL

27th SEPTEMBER 2007

KEY ISSUE

Discussions between Members of the Local Committee and members of the Youth Council.

SUMMARY

At the last meeting on 14th June 2007 SCC Local Committee (Guildford) agreed to invite members of the Guildford Youth Council to the next meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to:

- (i) Welcome members of the Youth Council to the meeting
- (ii) Hold a brief discussion and agree any next steps for further actions to improve services and facilities for the different groups of young people in Guildford.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

2. The Local Committee has demonstrated its commitment to youth issues in recent months in a number of ways:
 - a. hosting a partnership workshop event in November 2006 at Kings College to explore ways of improving facilities and services for young people
 - b. agreeing a theme of youth facilities and equipment for its capital allocation in 2006/7 and 2007/8 and committing around £50,000 on a number of different projects supporting young people in various ways
 - c. attendance by some Members at meetings of the Youth Council

- d. advocating at SCC's Executive for more resources for youth work, youth work communications and increased youth centre opening hours
 - e. engaging with local media (Surrey Advertiser) to improve the image of young people
 - f. participation in activities for Local Democracy Week in previous years, aimed at informing young people about the democratic process and local government.
3. The Guildford Youth Council is jointly resourced and supported by Guildford Borough Council and Surrey County Council's Youth Development Service. It now has a much increased membership, with representation from most schools across Guildford borough. It is engaged in a number of activities and, like the Local Committee, has responsibility for funding both revenue and capital projects, through the Youth Opportunities and Youth Capital Funds.
4. At the last meeting on 14th June 2007 Members agreed to invite members of the Guildford Youth Council to the next meeting with a view to further engagement between the two groups.
5. A few members of the Youth Council are expected to attend this meeting. Suggested subjects for discussion are:
- a. briefly sharing information on the role and activities of the respective groups (the Committee and the Youth Council)
 - b. following up on the issues raised at the November 2006 meeting and what further progress could be made
 - c. comparing the outcomes of the funding resources of each group (Local Committee allocations, Youth Opportunities and Youth Capital Funds of the Youth Council)
 - d. any potential future joint working of the two groups
 - e. recent discussions with the Surrey Advertiser (25th September)
 - f. advice from members of the Youth Council on activities that the Local Committee Members could take part in during Local Democracy Week (week commencing 15th October) that would effectively reach and engage a wide range of young people.

6. CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7. Members are asked to explore any ways in which the Youth Council and the Local Committee can work together to improve services and facilities for the different groups of young people in Guildford.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Local Committee (Guildford) reports 14-12-06, 14-6-07