



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(GUILDFORD)**

LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

7TH DECEMBER 2011

KEY ISSUE

This is a progress report from the Youth Task Group. Priorities for the use of the commissioning budget under the devolved Local Prevention Framework have been identified and are submitted in this report for approval by the Local Committee.

SUMMARY

The Youth Task Group set up by the Local Committee has identified key priorities in Guildford to prevent young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) and to prevent young people from becoming First Time Entrants (FTE) to the youth justice system. This report brings forward recommendations from the task group on how the local commissioning resource should be allocated.

The conclusions of the task group are to target the prevention of young people becoming NEET in view of the strong overlap with the predictive risk factors associated with offending. The task group considered the data that pointed to over 80% of those at risk of becoming NEET living in either Ash or in neighbourhoods around Guildford (predominately in Westborough and Stoke wards.) The task group has concluded that the resource should be focused on Ash, Stoke and Westborough but that potential provider organisations will also be required to offer support for young people at risk in other parts of the borough

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Following approval of the Local Committee, proposals for work to address the agreed priorities will be sought from a long list of pre-approved providers. The Task Group will then consider a shortlist (on 9th February 2012) and final recommendation for award of contracts will be brought to the Local Committee on 21st March 2012 (or an earlier date if this can be arranged to give the successful supplier more lead in time). The commissioned services would then commence on 1st April 2012.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to:

Approve the recommendations in Section 7 for future commissioning of preventative services for young people through the Local Prevention Framework.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Services for Young People are undergoing significant reform to enable the County Council to respond to several significant drivers of change. These drivers include reducing costs by 30% over the 2009 baseline; modernising the offer to young people so that it is better integrated, more preventative and targeted; and for services to be delivered more locally.
- 1.2 The Local Prevention Framework (LPF) is an allocation of £151k to the SCC Local Committee in Guildford to commission services designed to prevent young people becoming NEET or entering the youth justice system (FTE). This allocation is based on the number of young people who are NEET and the number who are first time entrants to the youth justice system. Additionally, £27k is available for the Local Committee to allocate as grants.
- 1.3 It is anticipated that the LPF will deliver against the County Council's expectation that where possible local youth services will be commissioned locally, in line with the government's localism agenda. This is the first time that this approach has been tried anywhere in the country.
- 1.4 The purpose of the LPF is to *prevent* NEET and to *prevent* offending and antisocial behaviour. It complements the functions of the new Youth Support Service, which has a clear focus on young people who are currently NEET or who are currently in the youth justice system. The LPF should engage with young people who are *at risk* of NEET or *at risk* of offending and focus on reducing the risk factors that are correlated with NEET and offending. It should be noted that there is an existing Prevent & Deter partnership between GBC, SCC and the Police which aims to reduce anti social and offending behaviour by young people.
- 1.5 A needs assessment workshop was held for the Borough of Guildford on 1st November 2011 with wide representation including Members (Borough and County Council), Guildford Youth Council, school confederations, voluntary organisations, housing associations, police, youth development service and youth justice. The workshop considered the data on NEET and youth offending (including the predictive factors), as well as the perspectives and experience of the workshop participants.
- 1.6 Also under consideration by the Youth Task Group is the deployment of up to twenty sessions of outreach programme delivered by the Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development service. Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development (SOLD) provides a range of outdoor learning opportunities for schools, youth groups and youth organisations from its three centres at High Ashurst (Boxhill), Henly Fort (Guildford) and Thames Young Mariners (Ham) Additionally, SOLD has developed an outreach programme that can be delivered to young people in their local community and will focus on young people learning skills that increase

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protection from risk (especially soft skills around team working, trusting others and leadership). Guildford will have 20, three-hour sessions available with a capacity of up to 20 young people per session. These sessions can be delivered locally to any part of the borough.

- 1.7 The small grants allocation for Guildford is £27,000 for the year commencing 1st April 2012. Grants will be awarded by the local committee. Eligible organisations will be small voluntary groups who are reliant on volunteers to deliver services for young people. It is expected that most applications will be for amounts between £500 and £1,000 and in exceptional circumstances grants of up to £5,000 may be awarded. Guidance for potential applicants will be made available shortly.
- 1.8 There are two County Council youth centres in Guildford (The Discovery Centre Guildford and Ash Youth Centre). The new service will see the youth work delivered from each of these centres managed by a new organisation commissioned through the programme for Centre Based Youth Work. A Youth Club Advisory Group will be established for each centre chaired by a County Councillor (or his/her nominee) and with membership drawn from local young people, a Borough Councillor and community representatives. Nominations for a chairman will be put forward at a later meeting after the Terms of Reference for this group has been finalised.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Levels of NEET and offending by young people are generally low in Surrey and this is also true of Guildford. The data from the One in Ten needs assessment shows two clusters of NEET and FTE: one north of Guildford town broadly within the wards of Westborough and Stoke; and a second cluster around Ash..
- 2.2 The emerging work on the Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) by the Commissioning & Development Team of Services for Young People provides current case by case data on those young people in school years 8-12 who have one or more risk factors associated with becoming NEET post 16. The initial findings show that there are currently 573 young people across school years 8 to 12 (113 young people in the Year 11 cohort) who are identified as being at risk of NEET.

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- 2.3 Additionally, wider research has shown that the following risk factors are significant in increasing the likelihood of a young person becoming NEET or FTE:

School attendance less than 60%

Exclusion from school

Engaged in anti social behaviour

Statement of Special Education Need or school action/school action plus

- 2.4 In July 2011 there were 73 young people identified as NEET (aged 16-19) in Guildford.

- 2.5 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (produced by the Department for Communities and local Government) is constructed from a set of indicators which include employment deprivation, health deprivation and disability, education, skills and training, barriers to housing and services, crime and the living environment. This provides an index of relative deprivation for sub divisions (lower super output areas) within electoral wards in Guildford. The table below shows the ten sub divisions that rank lowest in the borough:

Ward in which LSOA is located	Guildford ranking	Surrey ranking amongst 709 LSOAs
Westborough	1	4
Stoke	2	8
Ash Wharf	3	11
Westborough	4	28
Stoke	5	34
Friary and St Nicolas	6	39
Ash Wharf	7	41
Stoke	8	53
Stoke	9	59
Westborough	10	60

- 2.6 This table shows some correlation between the location of young people who are NEET and First Time Entrants with levels of deprivation identified in the IMD.

- 2.7 On offending behavior there is a marginally higher proportion of first time entrants in Guildford 0.78% of the 10-19 population compared to Surrey as a whole (0.72%) [Source: *One in Ten*]. Offending and anti social behaviour has not been presented as a particular concern in task group meetings or in the workshop.

- 2.8 The workshop identified two broad areas of concern –the availability of work experience and apprenticeships; and the availability and cost of public transport. There was agreement on the geographical areas presenting with the highest levels of need – the areas around North Guildford (Stoke and Westborough) and to a lesser extent, Ash.

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Particular focus on specific geographical areas

- 2.9 The Youth Task Group drew on the needs analysis data and workshop discussions to develop an approach that would combine Borough-wide resource with a more targeted approach for particular communities. A Borough-wide preventative approach was favoured, with specific outreach facilities to provide services that address the risk factors highlighted above. These services would be expected to complement the existing Prevent and Deter approach.
- 2.11 In relation to the allocation of places on SOLD, the Youth Task Group considered that these places should be responsive to local need. The Youth Task Group recommends these resources are delegated to Youth Support Service officers to enable a swift response to need. The resources would be expected to be allocated in response to need, drawing on the risk factors highlighted in this report. Additionally the task group expects these resources to be targeted on those at risk of NEET or offending and are not intended to become part of the core YSS programme.

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The local prevention framework is one of several delivery models, which have been developed by the Services for Young People *Fit for the Future* transformation programme. There has been wide ranging consultation with groups of young people, staff, and partner agencies. Members have been consulted through the county council's PVR Member Reference Group. Additionally, local engagement has taken place through the Local Committee Youth Task Group and the Workshop held on 1st November.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is anticipated that local commissioning will offer better value for money in that the outcomes commissioned will be more closely aligned to local need.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The devolved commissioning budget is likely to be targeted on groups who are vulnerable or at risk.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Local commissioning aims specifically to reduce offending and anti social behaviour and to increase participation.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Following the needs analysis, workshop and Youth Task Group meeting on 7th November 2011, the following recommendations are proposed.

7.1 Deployment of the commissioning budget

That the local prevention framework priority for Guildford is to prevent NEET across the borough of Guildford but with a particular focus on areas of need identified as Ash, Stoke and Westborough and that the commissioning budget is deployed to commission outcomes in accordance with this prioritisation

7.2 Proposal to delegate SOLD allocations

Note the allocation of SOLD resources to young people will be delegated to officers in the Youth Support Service to arrange provision that addresses the identified risk factors and areas of geographical priority.

7.3 Small grants allocation

Note that the Guildford local committee has a Small Grants allocation of £27,000 for the year commencing 1.4.12. This will be available to support small voluntary youth organisations with grants of £500 to £1,000 and exceptionally up to £5,000.

8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The recommendations will:

- a) Support the council's priority to achieve "zero NEET" that is for 100% of young people aged 16 to 19 to be in education, training or employment.
- b) Support the council's priority that more young people are safe from crime and anti-social behaviour
- c) Increase delivery of youth work locally

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

9.1 The next steps will be for officers to draft a commissioning specification to invite proposals from the framework suppliers.

9.2 A mini competition will take place on the 9th February 2012 where short listed suppliers will present their proposals to the task group. A recommendation on award of contract will be brought to the next meeting of the Local Committee for approval.

9.3 It is anticipated that the new provider(s) will be in place for 1st April 2012.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Services for young people in Guildford – briefing for elected members (issued May 2011)