



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
Guildford**

LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

13 FEBRUARY 2012

KEY ISSUE

This report seeks approval from the Local Committee to approve SCC Officers' recommendations to provide local preventative services to young people in Guildford. SCC Officers are recommending provider solutions that have been evaluated via a competitive process overseen by the youth issues task group. The recommended bidder and their proposals are put forward in this report for approval of award of contract.

SUMMARY

The award of contract is the culmination of several months' work by the Youth Task Group which will result in services being commissioned by the Local Committee in response to local need. The focus of the work will be to reduce the risk factors that are predictors of young people becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) or becoming involved in the criminal justice system in Guildford.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee Guildford is asked to:

- 1.1 Approve SCC Officers' recommendations to award a contract for a twelve-month period to the following provider:

The Surrey Youth Consortium

2 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 The local prevention framework (LPF) is an allocation of £151,000 to the SCC local committee in Guildford to commission outcomes to prevent young people becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) or entering the youth justice system. The allocation is based on the number of young people who are NEET and the number of young people who entered the youth justice system (first time entrants).
- 2.3 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. In furtherance of this agenda the Local Committee convened a youth task group to act in an advisory capacity through the procurement process with representation from County Members, Borough Members, local young people and support from County and Borough Officers.
- 2.4 The purpose of the local prevention framework 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.

3 ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The provider solutions were sought in a competitive process involving four stages:
- (i) Approved providers selected using pre-qualifying questionnaires
 - (ii) Local needs assessment workshop assessing the needs of the borough
 - (iii) Submission of bids from providers on the approved list
 - (iv) Presentations by up to 5 providers at the mini competition stage
- 3.2 In June 2011 pre-qualifying questionnaires (PQQs) were issued to potential providers who had registered an interest in providing services under the local prevention framework. These PQQs were evaluated to ensure that they had sufficient legal, financial and technical capacity (including health and safety, safeguarding, and equal opportunity policies) to undertake a contract for the Council.

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3.3 A needs assessment workshop was held on 1st November 2011 with representation including young people, Members, schools, voluntary organisations, police, Guildford borough officers and county officers from youth development service and youth justice. The workshop was able to consider the data on NEET and youth offending (including the predictive factors), information from the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) and the perspective and experience of the workshop participants.

3.4 The task group concluded that::

The two broad areas of concern where 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.

The recommendation approved by the local committee was:

a) 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.

3.5 Following the December committee, invitations were sent out to approved framework providers requesting bids in response to the needs and priorities identified. Three bids were received and two bidders were short listed to present their bids to the task group on 9th February.

3.6 Following the presentation by the short listed bidders the Task Group considered the Surrey Youth Consortium bids met the needs of young people in Guildford and these are put forward for approval by the Local Committee.

Provider's Bid – Surrey Youth Consortium

3.6.1 The successful provider **Surrey Youth Consortium** is an umbrella organisation representing 11 Surrey-based voluntary and not for profit organisations, which work with young people.

Surrey Youth Consortium is uniquely placed to deliver without delay a range of high quality locally sensitive services through provider organisations embedded in the fabric of their communities that will share expertise, draw on consortium members' activities and deliver at a local level.

Surrey County Council's contract would be with the Surrey Youth Consortium. The Consortium's proposed local providers for Guildford are: Guildford YMCA, Matrix, Surrey care Trust, Peer Productions and GASP Motor Project. These services will be synergised with the wider offer that Consortium members currently make in the local community.

| Project | Project Information |
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| Mentoring Project | Matrix will deliver weekend, evening, and school holiday groups working with a specific focus around the arts, sport, and technical services. |
| Outreach Project | GYMCA will engage with young people where they congregate and on their terms. |
| Drama Project | Peer Productions will provide drama based workshops for young people covering interview techniques, confidence building and presentation skills. |
| Business Mentoring | Young people at risk will receive on-going support from a trained and supported adult volunteer, recruited from the local business community. |
| GASP Motor Project | A mobile version of the established programme delivering customised motor mechanics courses in local youth centres in school holidays. |
| Swingbridge boat courses | A mix of short courses on a community boat based on the River Wey. Courses include boat handling and environmental topics; and build self confidence, leadership and team working skills. |

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 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.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 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.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

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

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Local Committee is asked to approve officers' recommendation to award the contract for a twelve month period to the following provider:

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Surrey Youth Consortium (£151,000) 100% of the total contract value.

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The recommendations will 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

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 Officers will issue a purchase order to the successful organisations with a view to their commencing delivery from 1 April 2012.
- 10.2 Officers will issue SCC terms and conditions to the successful organisation.
- 10.3 The performance of the contract will be monitored by the Commissioning and Development Team within the County Council's Services for Young People
- 10.4 It is anticipated that the new provider will be in place for 1st April 2012.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: