



## **BOOKHAM YOUTH CENTRE UPDATE**

**Local Committee for Mole Valley  
21 June 2006**

### **KEY ISSUE**

To update on the current position and future of Bookham Youth Centre.

### **SUMMARY**

Following Surrey County Council's Business Delivery Review, the original proposal was to close services provided from the Bookham Youth Centre. This was met with concern from local young people and as a result the new proposal was to offer a 6-month period for local groups to produce plans to run the centres on the proposed closure list. In Bookham a community group was established to explore a way forward and is currently preparing a business plan for consideration by the county council in the autumn 2006.

### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Committee is asked**

- (i) To note the progress of the community forum addressing a sustainable future for youth services through the Bookham Youth Centre.**
- (ii) To agree that the Local Committee supports this work as the shape of youth services in Bookham becomes clear.**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Under the County Council's Business Delivery Review, looking to find savings across the organisation of £50 million, a consideration was made to close Bookham Youth Centre. This would allow reconfiguration of youth services in Bookham, building on established and strong voluntary sector activity.

This proposal would release youth workers to work in the future on youth provision in the community, enabling revenue savings of £28,371 minus income of £9,337, a net revenue saving of £19,034.

There is a high level of community use in the building, youth services being only part of that.

## **2.0 COMMUNITY RESPONSE**

Following concern from the local community at this proposal, and a petition presented to the county council, a number of meetings were called and a community group established to address the issue. Future services were considered in the light of service need, existing community facilities and resources required.

## **3.0 NEXT STEPS**

The community group, with key stakeholders including residents and community associations, county and district council representatives and young people, is currently preparing a business plan and exploring the setting up of a community trust or similar.

Youth service and property advisors are involved in providing information to support the group with this proposal, which will be passed for consideration to Cllr Andrew Crisp, Executive Member for Schools, Children and Youth Services in the autumn of 2006.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

## **6.0 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

## **7.0 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

## **8.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

**CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

Youth services in Bookham need to be reconfigured following the recent county council Business Delivery Review. This brief paper updates members on the current work underway to find a sustainable service for the future and requests that the Local Committee supports this work as the shape of youth services in Bookham becomes clear.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

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