



## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

### LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

14 SEPTEMBER 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 arrangements have been identified and are submitted in this report for approval.

#### SUMMARY

1. The youth task group set up by the Local Committee has identified key priorities in Mole Valley to prevent young people becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) and to prevent young people from becoming involved in the youth justice system. This report brings forward recommendations from the task group on how the local commissioning resource should be allocated against need.
2. 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 a number of priority neighbourhoods where clusters of young people who are NEET and first time entrants are to be found. The conclusion reached is to take a district wide approach but one that will draw providers' attention to particular areas of need: Goodwyns, Leatherhead North, Westcott, Bookham North and Fetcham East.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to:**

- i. Agree that the local prevention framework priority for Mole Valley is to reduce NEET across Mole Valley, but with a particular focus on areas of need identified as Goodwyns, Leatherhead North, Westcott, Bookham North, Fetcham East and that the commissioning budget is deployed to commission outcomes in accordance with this prioritisation;
- ii. Note the deployment of the Surrey Outdoor Learning outreach programme on a district wide basis with referrals managed through the Youth Support Service Mole Valley team;
- iii. Note that the costs of delivery of SCC youth work from the Bookham Centre will now be met centrally and the youth work will be supervised by the managing agent for the Mulberry (Malthouse) Centre;
- iv. Note the nominations for the new youth club steering groups will be the county councillor in whose constituency the youth centre is located, as follows: The Malthouse (Cllr Hazel Watson); the Bridge (Cllr Tim Hall) and Ashted (Cllr Chris Townsend).

## 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 £98k to the SCC local committee in Mole Valley 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).
- 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 and Mole Valley is at the forefront of this development within Surrey.
- 1.4 At the June meeting the local committee was asked to note that the costs of delivering youth work from Bookham Youth Centre would be met from the LPF allocation during the first transitional year. Following a countywide review of the costs of SCC youth work delivery from centres not owned or operated by the council, it has been agreed that these costs will be met centrally, meaning that the full £98k is available for local commissioning.
- 1.5 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.
- 1.6 A needs assessment workshop was held on 27 May 2011 with wide representation including young people, members, schools, voluntary organisations, housing associations, police, 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.
- 1.7 Also under consideration by the task group is the deployment of up to twenty sessions of outreach programme delivered by the Surrey

Outdoor Learning and Development service; and the chairmanship of the steering groups for the three county council youth centres in Mole Valley.

- 1.8 Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development (SOLD) provides a range of outdoor learning opportunities for schools, youth groups & youth organisations from its three centres at High Ashurst (Boxhill), Henly Fort and Thames Young Mariners. Additionally SOLD has developed an outreach programme that can be delivered to young people in their local community and will focus on learning skills that will increase protective factors for young people at risk. (especially soft skills around team working, trusting others and leadership) Mole Valley 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 district.
- 1.9 There are three county council youth centres in Mole Valley (Ashted, The Bridge and the Malthouse). The new service will see the youth work delivered from each of these centres managed by a third sector organisation. 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 district councillor and community representatives.

## **2 ANALYSIS**

Within Mole Valley the likelihood of a young person becoming NEET or entering the youth justice system is correlated with young people who have one or more of these predictive risk factors:

- i. School attendance less than 60%
  - ii. Excluded from school
  - iii. Engaged in anti social behaviour
  - iv. Statement of Special Education Need or on school action/school action plus
- 2.1 Levels of young people who are NEET and offending by young people are generally low in Surrey and especially so in Mole Valley. However, based on the findings of the workshop and the supporting data it is apparent that there are two geographical areas where need is most concentrated (Goodwyns and Leatherhead North) and three further areas where a cluster of need can be identified (Bookham North, Westcott and Fetcham East).
  - 2.2 The task group concluded that the commission should take a district wide approach focused on the outcome of improved participation by young people in education, training and employment but noting the particular needs of Goodwyns, Leatherhead North, Westcott, Bookham North and Fetcham East.

- 2.3 It is important to note that this proposed focus on the *prevention* of young people becoming NEET will also reduce the likelihood of young people becoming involved in antisocial and criminal behaviour as there is a strong overlap in the predictive factors between these two groups. This approach will not in any way dilute the work of the Youth Support Service in Mole Valley aimed at reducing offending behaviour by young people in the youth justice system.
- 2.4 On the question of how the SOLD outreach programme could most effectively benefit young people in Mole Valley the task group were keen to ensure that this resource was also aligned to the strategy of preventing NEET and preventing offending. The task group concluded that the targeting of this resource is best left as an operational decision to be taken by officers with coordination and referral handled by the Youth Support Service district team.
- 2.5 Nominations for the chairmanship of the three SCC youth centre advisory groups will be the county councillors in whose constituencies the youth centres are situated.

### **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, partner agencies. Members have been consulted through the county council's PVR Member Reference Group and the member reference group under the Mole Valley Localism Pilot.

### **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**

- 7.1 Note that the costs of delivery of SCC youth work from the Bookham Centre will now be met centrally and the youth work supervised by the

managing agent for the Mulberry (Malthouse) Centre

- 7.2 Agree that the local commissioning budget is assigned to the prevention of young people becoming NEET
- 7.3 Agree that the commissioning budget is deployed to commission the outcome of reduced NEET across Mole Valley but with a particular focus on areas of need identified as Goodwyns, Leatherhead North, Westcott, Bookham North and Fetcham East..
- 7.4 Approve the deployment of Surrey Outdoor Learning outreach programme on a district wide basis with referrals managed through the Youth Support Service Mole Valley team.
- 7.5 Note the nominations for chairmen of youth club steering groups. These are:  
Malthouse – Cllr Hazel Watson  
The Bridge – Cllr Tim Hall  
Ashtead – Cllr Chris Townsend

## **8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 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

## **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 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 will be in place for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

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### **BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

Version No.      Date: 24/08/11      Time: 1014      Initials: TW      No of  
annexes: 0