



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
SPELTHORNE**

MEMBERS FUNDS

24th November 2008

KEY ISSUE

To update Members with additional information since the publication of the main report.

SUMMARY

In the report previously circulated (paragraph 2.8 Youth Café) reference was made to negotiations taking place for the co-ordination of the Youth Café in Staines and that an addendum report would be made with further information. This report provides more detailed information to enable Members to take a decision.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee Spelthorne is asked to agree that:

- (i) £3553 be granted to Ashford Congregational Church to co-ordinate the youth café in Staines and if approved Members determine who would support this and for how much..

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 **Staines Youth Cafe** – The Café has been a popular venue for young people aged 13 years to 17 years to meet on a Friday evening from 7pm – 9.30pm. The average attendance is 60 young people. The project has the support of Surrey Police, Spelthorne Borough Council, the Two Rivers Management, Staines Town Centre Manager and A2Dominion

Housing. Thus far the youth development service has run the café but this is no longer possible as part of the current youth offer. Given the success of the youth café, inquiries have been undertaken to ascertain if another organisation would be able to take over responsibility for managing the co-ordination of the youth café and following discussion with Ashford Congregational Church they have offered to do this. Partner agencies previously supporting the Café have agreed to continue to contribute and this will include the youth development service holding monthly sessions on particular topics and Surrey Police also contributing to a monthly programme.

2 OPTIONS

Neither the Surrey Youth Development Service nor the Borough Leisure Service can run the youth café and therefore investigations were made of the voluntary sector. Ashford Congregational Church has agreed to co-ordinate the youth café through the Youth Worker previously attached to Staines Congregational Church but now attached to the Ashford Congregational Church if funding were provided.

3 CONSULTATIONS

Coffee Republic are willing to allow the exclusive use of their premises for the Friday Youth Café and the partner agencies are willing to continue their support.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

The cost of security, premises, a Co-ordinator and Youth Worker assistant is £3553. A2Dominion Housing has offered £500 towards the costs of producing the publicity leaflets. Borough Councillor Napper has also offered £200 from her Neighbourhood Grants funding and is making inquiries of some of her other Borough colleagues if they too would be willing to contribute.

It is suggested that if the Committee agree to support this grant approval be for £3553 minus any contributions when formally confirmed by Spelthorne Borough Council.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Youth café is open to all young people and is accessible to people with disabilities.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Police fully support the Youth Café and provides a safe meeting place for young people.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 The youth café is a popular venue for young people and it is hoped this may be continued for this season. .

8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To enable the youth café to be re-opened for this season.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

9.1 Ashford Congregational Church will open the café before Christmas.

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