



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK: UPDATE FROM THE WAVERLEY YOUTH SERVICES TASK GROUP

16 September 2011

KEY ISSUE

This is a progress report on the work of the Youth Services Task Group and an update on the changes to the proposed provision of centre-based youth work in Waverley.

SUMMARY

1. The Youth Services Task Group set up by the Local Committee has met on two occasions and has now co-opted an initial two young people. The focus of the task group is to oversee the implementation of the local prevention framework in Waverley bringing key decisions to formal committee as required. The local prevention framework provides a local commissioning budget of £116,000 to prevent young people becoming NEET (not in education, employment or training) and to prevent young people becoming involved in crime and anti-social behaviour.
2. Waverley has a single County Council Youth Centre (The Wey Centre in Haslemere) which is one of the 32 County Council centres across Surrey for which the council is seeking a voluntary sector partner in accordance with the Fit for the Future strategy for centre-based youth work. There are three further principal locations in Waverley where the council delivers youth work from premises operated by other organisations: 40 Degreez, Farnham (including the Sandy Hill detached project); Cranleigh Youth Centre and in Godalming/Farncombe. The youth work programme delivered from these three centres will continue under the *Fit for the Future* proposals which will be implemented from 1st April 2012.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to:

- (i) Note the establishment of the Youth Services Task Group and the needs assessment workshop which will be held on 21st September 2011.
- (ii) Confirm the appointment of Mr Elliot Nichols as a Waverley Borough Council representative on the Task Group, succeeding Mr Stephen O'Grady.
- (iii) Note that Surrey County Council will continue to support the centre-based youth work programme that is delivered from 40 Degreez, in Cranleigh and in Godalming/Farncombe..
- (iv) Note that the costs of delivery of Surrey County Council youth work from 40 Degreez, in Cranleigh and in Godalming/ Farncombe will now be met centrally and that the youth work will be supervised by the managing agent for the Wey Centre.

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 £116k to the Local Committee in Waverley 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). Potential providers will be pre-approved following a quality and technical assessment of each organisation's suitability to deliver services for young people. Once approved, providers will be available to be commissioned by the Local Committee, and one or more will be recommended for award of contract on the basis of the presentations made to the Task Group in response to the needs and priorities identified.
- 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 local prevention framework is to *prevent* NEET and to *prevent* offending and anti-social 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.
- 1.5 A separate small grants fund of £27,000 will be available to the Local Committee for the purpose of supporting small voluntary organisations who rely on volunteers and who work to deliver outcomes for young people that is consistent with local needs and priorities. Grants are likely to be in the range of £500 to £1,000. Guidance for local committees is being developed and will be available in October.
- 1.6 At its meeting on 17 June 2011 the Local Committee was asked to note that the costs of delivering youth work from youth centres at 40 Degreez, Cranleigh and in Godalming/Farncombe would be met from the LPF allocation during the first transitional year. Following a countywide review of the costs of County Council youth work delivery from centres not owned or operated by the council, a way forward has been agreed. The costs of delivering the existing face-to-face programme at each of these three centres in Waverley (including Sandy Hill as a satellite of 40 Degreez) will be met centrally. The full-time neighbourhood youth worker posts linked to Cranleigh, 40 Degreez and Godalming/Farncombe will be integrated into the Youth Support Service team for Waverley. This means that the full allocation of £116k is available for local commissioning.
- 1.7 The Committee is reminded that Waverley has a single centre owned by the County Council at the Wey Centre in Haslemere. This will have a full-time youth worker and sufficient resources to offer a youth work programme of three sessions per week. The Council's third sector partners will provide a complementary offer so that County Council-owned centres will be offering at least six sessions of youth work and youth activity per week by the end of 2013. To accommodate the special circumstances in Waverley, it is proposed that the managing agents for the Wey Centre will also manage the youth work delivery from Cranleigh, Godalming/Farncombe and 40 Degreez, Farnham (see 1.5). The three full-time neighbourhood youth worker posts linked to these three locations will over time become more closely aligned with the targeted work of the Youth Support Service and will form part of the Service's borough team.
- 1.8 The Youth Services Task Group was established by the Local Committee at its meeting on 17 June with the following membership: Mr David Munro and Mr Steve Cosser from the County Council, Mrs Carole King and Mr Stephen O'Grady from Waverley Borough Council.

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At the first meeting of the group Mr David Munro was elected as Chairman. Mr Stephen O'Grady has subsequently expressed a wish to stand down from the group and Mr Elliot Nichols has been nominated as an alternative: the Local Committee is asked to confirm this appointment.

- 1.9 The Task Group has now met on two occasions. Two young people have been co-opted onto the group and it is planned that two further young people will join the task group in time for the next meeting.
- 1.10 The Task Group has been briefed on the requirements of the local prevention framework and explored how this will be applied in Waverley. A needs assessment workshop is planned for Wednesday 21st September from 5pm to 8 pm. Members of the Local Committee are invited to this event which will include representatives from schools and colleges, Police, youth justice, youth service, NHS, voluntary organisations, Waverley Borough Council and Surrey County Council. (Invitations will be sent out in the week commencing 5th September.)
- 1.11 The Task Group has made good progress on fulfilling its objectives. A number of issues remain to be addressed fully and will be reported on in more detail in due course. These include the following areas of work:
 - (i) Consideration of arrangements for allocating this "small grants" budget.
 - (ii) The involvement of Members and young people in the procurement process.
 - (iii) A short programme of visits to local youth facilities.
 - (iv) The allocation of outdoor learning resources within the borough.
 - (v) The Chairmanship of the advisory group at the Wey Centre, Haslemere.
 - (vi) The relationship between the managing agent at the Wey Centre and youth work delivered from 40 Degreez, in Cranleigh and in Godalming/Farncombe.

2 CONSULTATIONS

- 2.1 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.

3 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 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.

4 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The devolved commissioning budget will be targeted on groups who are vulnerable or at risk.

5 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

6 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- (i) Note the establishment of the Youth Services Task Group and the needs assessment workshop which will be held on 21st September 2011.
- (ii) Confirm the appointment of Mr Elliot Nichols as a Waverley Borough Council representative on the Task Group, succeeding Mr Stephen O'Grady.
- (iii) Note that Surrey County Council will continue to support the centre-based youth work programme that is delivered from 40 Degreez, in Cranleigh and in Godalming/Farncombe.
- (iv) Note that the costs of delivery of Surrey County Council youth work from 40 Degreez, in Cranleigh and in Godalming/Farncombe will now be met centrally and that the youth work will be supervised by the managing agent for the Wey Centre.

7 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 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

8 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 8.1 The next step will be to convene a needs assessment workshop with local partner agencies to identify priorities within Waverley. This is scheduled for 21st September 2011.
- 8.2 Following the needs assessment workshop the task group will bring forward recommendations on priorities to the Local Committee to approve prior to provider organisations being invited to submit proposals to address the needs identified.
- 8.3 It is anticipated that the new provider(s) will be in place for 1st April 2012.

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