



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE  
(WOKING)**

**YOUTH SERVICE DELIVERY PLAN**

**28 MARCH 2011**

**KEY ISSUE**

To comment on and approve the Youth Service Delivery Plan for Woking.

**SUMMARY**

This report sets out the context against which the Delivery Plan is presented and a number of headline targets set against identified need. Full details of all the youth work planned for 2011/12 will be made available to Members on request.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Local Committee (Woking) is asked to agree that:**

- (i) Agree the targets and priorities for youth service delivery in Woking in 2011-12 as outlined in section 2 of this report

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 As part of Surrey County Council's commitment to Localism, Local Committees have been tasked with approving the annual Youth Delivery Plan.
- 1.1 The Woking Delivery plan for 2011/12 is set out against a backdrop of change, financial pressure and uncertainty.
- 1.2 There are 10,400 young people aged 10 to 19 in the Borough of Woking.
- 1.3 Most of the programmes offered in this plan are aimed at specific groups of young people categorised by need whilst others are delivered to young people directly referred to the Youth Development Service by partners.
- 1.4 Our commitment is to ensure that all young people have access to the Youth Centres in Woking and to the more generic programmes being offered.
- 1.5 The programmes on offer in this delivery plan are based on identified need and are outcomes based.
- 1.6 The majority of the outcomes achieved by young people are nationally accredited and validated.

## 2 ANALYSIS

### Youth Development Officer's comments:

- 2.2 It has been a year of uncertainty with anticipated changes subject to a major re-organisation across the county and across the Service. This has had a demotivating effect on staff.
- 2.3 Despite low morale, we have continued to deliver innovative and high quality programmes and projects with young people. It is to the team's credit that we have achieved an increase in positive learning outcomes for young people and demonstrates our motivation to meet the needs of our local young people.
- 2.4 Our statistics show that we have increased our recorded outcomes for young people and are exceeding government targets.
- 2.5 As is usual a number of part-time youth workers resigned and we had a recruitment drive to replace them. We now have a number of new workers in place across the borough who are keen to develop their youth work skills. Further recruitment may be hampered as we can now only offer fixed term contracts until December.

## 3. Highlights of 2010

- 3.1 Examples of ongoing good practice have been circulated to Members via our monthly 'Making a Difference' newsheet. This practice will continue in 2011.

**Lakers Youth Centre:** a new Neighbourhood Youth Worker was appointed in 2010 and has been making strong links with the community. The centre is now open for two after school clubs, for three evening as week and is used every day for either YDS schools projects or by voluntary organisations. The centre will specialise in urban activities and will boast a new state of the art climbing wall within the next few weeks.

**Sheerwater Youth Centre:** similar to Lakers, a new Neighbourhood Youth Worker was appointed last year and she has been getting to grips with working with a very challenging group of young people. The one thing they are all interested in is BMXing, therefore staff are developing a youth bike project where young people can learn how to maintain their bikes and teach others similar skills. Hopefully, this project - and others in development - will engage those young people who are known for causing anti social behaviour across the neighbourhood.

**Woking Youth Centre:** the highlight for WYC this past year has been the development of a daytime support project for young people who find themselves temporarily or permanently homeless. The project, based at WYC, aims to help young people find accommodation (if appropriate) and offers other services, like assistance to access education, training and/or employment.

**Woking Youth Arts Centre:** the team have been working hard to develop more arts based activities other than music for which it is renown: animation media tech, film-making, street-dance, cheerleading, circus skills have all made an appearance over the past year. Furthermore, strong links have been made with Winston Churchill School that will hopefully result in a daytime project of alternative education which results in an arts based accreditation.

**Schools Work:** strong partnership projects continue between YDS and Winston Churchill School, BDB School, Woking High School and the Park School; delivering several intervention and alternative education projects to students who may require additional support or have specific needs. All of the projects we deliver lead to a recognised accreditation of some kind that compliments the mainstream curriculum and provides a valuable qualification for those that participate.

#### 4. Targets for 2011/12

| 4.1 Provide safe places to meet and things to do |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Where</b>                                     | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Arts Centre   |
| <b>How</b>                                       | Ensure that each Youth Centre is open to all 13-19 for a minimum of 3 evening 'open access' sessions a week.<br>Provide an exciting and structured programme of activities delivered and supported by a team of appropriately trained youth workers |

| <b>4.2 Provide alternative accreditation and learning opportunities to young people at risk of exclusion from school or struggling with curriculum or who are NEET</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Where</b>   | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre<br>Winston Churchill School<br>Woking High School<br>Park School  |
| <b>How</b>   | Deliver a range of Accredited Learning Opportunities in partnership with Schools (on site and off site)<br>Daytime partnership project with Surrey Alternative Learning Project at Sheerwater YC |

| <b>4.3 Provide learning opportunities and support to teenage parents</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Where</b>   | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre  |
| <b>How</b>   | Regular sessions with young women offering support and information concerning teenage pregnancy<br>Parenting skills course<br>Accredited 'Babysitting Course' |

| <b>4.4 Deliver a range of projects and activities aimed at promoting Healthy and Safe Lifestyles</b> |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Where</b>   | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Arts Centre  |
| <b>How</b>   | Healthy cooking project leading to a competitive 'cook off'<br>Sex & Relationship and Drugs Ed programmes<br>Weekly sessions on keeping fit and reducing obesity |

| <b>4.5 Deliver a range of projects and activities aimed at promoting and increasing resilience, self esteem and employability.</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Where</b>   | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Arts Centre   |
| <b>How</b>   | Construction Bus<br>Self esteem project with YP from BDB<br>Life-skills programme<br>Every effort is made to ensure that every 'journey' and/or achievement a young person undertakes/attains with the YDS is accredited in some format |

| <b>4.6 Deliver a range of projects and activities aimed at increasing young people's access to creative and cultural experiences.</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Where</b>  | Lakers Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Centre<br>Sheerwater Youth Centre<br>Woking Youth Arts Centre   |
| <b>How</b>  | Wide range of creative activities and new skills at WYAC<br>Development of radio station in Sheerwater<br>Urban Dance & cheerleading project<br>Woking Youth Circus |

## **5 Potential New Developments and Opportunities for Young People in Woking in 2011**

| <b>5.1 Provision of a new 'Off Piste' Bike trail</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Where</b>   | Horsell Common  |
| <b>How</b>   | Partnership project Horsell Common Preservation Society |

| <b>5.2 Installation of a new indoor climbing wall</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Where</b>  | Lakers YC   |
| <b>How</b>  | Exploration of partnership with 'Craggy Island' and 'S.O.L.D.' to offer young people new experience that may lead to recognised qualification |

| <b>5.3 Explore and progress options for youth provision in Kingfield, Barnsbury and Westfield area.</b> |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Where</b>  | Kingfield, Barnsbury and Westfield area.  |
| <b>How</b>  | Work with partners from WBC and the voluntary sector to support / enhance provision for young people. |

| <b>5.4 Develop a provision to support those young people who are homeless or in 'unsafe housing'</b> |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Where</b>   | Woking Youth Centre                                 |
| <b>How</b>   | Partnership project with internal partners from SCC |

## **6 OPTIONS**

- 6.1 Members are asked to consider the targets set out in section two and comment on the prioritisation of the targets should budget reduction reduce capacity to deliver.

## **7 CONSULTATIONS**

- 7.1 This Draft Plan has been put together as a result of a number of consultations.
- The Area Manager and Borough Youth Officer met with the Local Committee (Woking) in November 2010 and January 2011.
  - Members were invited to visit local youth centres and projects.
  - Young people across the borough have been consulted including the Woking Youth Council.
  - Views have been sought from stakeholders and partners.
- 7.2 Note has been taken of the findings in the 'One in Ten' needs assessment produced by the Services for Young people Transformation Team.

## **8 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 This plan will deliver high quality outcomes for those young people in the borough who are most vulnerable or at risk
- 8.2 The delivery of the targets set out in the plan is dependant on budget allocation for 2011/12. At this time the Youth Development Service has not been allocated its budget.
- 8.3 There are indications that in-year cuts are probable. Any size cut will have a proportionate effect on the capacity to deliver the targets in this plan.

## 9 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The results of the needs assessment and consultation process clearly identifies a range of disproportionate outcomes for young people in both vulnerable and minority groups. The targets developed for young people in this plan reflect this inequality and seek to redress it.

## 10 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Much of the targeted youth work is interventionist in nature. Whilst not directly responsible for Crime and Disorder issues, the youth work delivered through this plan will have a positive impact on some of those young people most at risk of engaging in criminal or anti social behaviour, or of being victims of criminal or anti social behaviour.

## 11 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 The recommendation is that members approve the Youth Delivery Plan for Woking, but take note of the fact that it may not be possible to deliver it in it's entirety should financial pressures impact negatively on capacity.

## 12 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 12.1 The targets set out in this plan and the resulting outcomes will benefit those young people in the borough most in need as well as providing a range of activities and opportunities for all young people who choose to access them.

## 13 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 13.1 Subject to approval from members, resources will be allocated and the programme of projects and activities will start in April 2011.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** Borough Delivery Plan

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