



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (WOKING)

LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

8 FEBRUARY 2012

KEY ISSUE

This report is asking the Local Committee to approve SCC Officers' recommendations to provide local preventative services to young people in Woking. SCC Officers are recommending provider solutions that have been evaluated via a competitive process overseen by the youth issues task group. The recommended bidders and their proposals are put forward in this report for approval of award of contract by the local committee.

SUMMARY

The award of contract is the culmination of several months' work by the youth issues task group which will result in services being commissioned by the local committee in response to local need. The focus of the work will be to reduce the risk factors that are predictors of young people becoming NEET or becoming involved in the criminal justice system in Woking.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Woking) is asked to:

- 1.1 Approve SCC Officers' recommendations to award a contract for a twelve month period to the following provider:

Surrey Youth Consortium for £114,000 to prevent young people from becoming NEET or first time entrants into the criminal justice system in Woking.

2 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 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.
- 2.2 The local prevention framework (LPF) is an allocation of £114k to the SCC local committee in Woking 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).
- 2.3 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. In furtherance of this agenda the Local Committee convened a youth issues task group to act in an advisory capacity through the procurement process with representation from County Members, Borough Members, the Woking Partnership, local young people and support from County and Borough Officers.
- 2.4 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.

3 ANALYSIS

- 3.1 The provider solutions were sought in a competitive process involving four stages:
- (i) Approved providers selected using pre-qualifying questionnaires
 - (ii) Local needs assessment workshop assessing the needs of the borough
 - (iii) Submission of bids from providers on the approved list
 - (iv) Presentations by up to 5 providers from the mini competition stage
- 3.2 In June 2011 pre-qualifying questionnaires (PQQs) were issued to potential providers who had registered an interest in providing services under the local prevention framework. These PQQs were evaluated to

ensure that they had sufficient legal, financial and technical capacity (including health and safety, safeguarding, and equal opportunity policies) to undertake a contract for the Council.

3.3 A needs assessment workshop was held on 1 November 2011 with representation including young people, members, schools, voluntary organisations, housing associations, police, CAMHS, Your Sanctuary, Woking borough officers and county officers from 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.

3.4 The task group concluded that:

Priority should be given to addressing risk factors associated with family and parenting difficulties, providing support for young people in school and ensuring their attendance, and addressing neighbourhood and peer group issues. Approaches which targeted families, schools, and neighbourhood issues would offer the best opportunities to address the variety of risk factors that place young people at greatest risk of involvement in offending or of becoming NEET. The issue of unaffordable transportation was also highlighted and this barrier to participation should be considered within any new provision commissioned.

The recommendations of the Task Group were:

3.4.1 50% of the funding (£57k) is used to target individual young people at risk of becoming NEET or entering the youth justice system for the first time, with a weighting to include an appropriate number of looked after children.

3.4.2 That the remaining 50% of funding is used to target the following geographic areas with a focus on parenting/a whole family approach and raising aspirations, with the funding split weighted towards the number of young people in each area:

- Goldsworth Park and Lakeview
- Sheerwater and Maybury
- Byfleet
- South Woking (specifically Old Woking, Kingfield and Westfield and Barnsbury)
- Knaphill

3.5 The Local Committee agreed the recommendation on needs and priorities as set out above at its meeting held on the 7 December 2011.

3.6 Following the December committee invitations were sent out to approved framework providers requesting bids in response to the needs and

priorities identified. 1 bid was short listed for presentation to the task group on 25 January 2012.

3.7 The shortlisted bidder was Surrey Youth Consortium which is an umbrella organisation of a number of voluntary and not for profit organisations.

3.8 Following the presentation by the shortlisted bidder the Task Group considered that the following bid met the needs of young people in Woking and is put forward for approval by the Local Committee:

3.8.1 Surrey Youth Consortium is well placed to deliver without delay a range of high quality locally sensitive services through provider organisations embedded in the fabric of their communities that will share expertise, draw on Members' activities and deliver at a local level.

3.8.2 Surrey County Council's contract would be with Surrey Youth Consortium. The Consortiums proposed local providers for Woking would be Eikon, Lifetrain Trust, Peer Productions, Surrey Care Trust and Woking YMCA. Services will be synergised with the wider offer that Consortium members currently make in the local community such as: Woking YMCA's, Eikon's and Peer Productions' work in local secondary schools; and Surrey Care Trust's Woking Learning Centre for 14-16 years olds not in mainstream education.

Activity	Notes
Reaching Out	Detached/outreach youth workers will be engaging three nights a week engaging with young people where they hang out, with particular attention to the local areas of concern.
'Connect' Family Project	Co-produced 7 week programme designed for higher risk families.
Peer Mentoring	Training young people who have experienced and overcome difficulties, to support other young people at risk. Issues such as offending behaviour, homelessness, alcohol & substance misuse, school exclusion and family upheaval will be addressed.
Strengthening Families	A preventative programme to support the families of young people aged 14 -16 at risk of becoming NEET or offending living in the target areas.
Stay in Touch Mentoring	Young people at risk will receive on-going support from a trained adult volunteer, recruited from the local community.
Peer Productions Film Project	A weekend family film course, which involves parents working with their children to make a short film.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 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, and partner agencies. Members have been consulted through the county council's PVR Member Reference Group.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 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.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The devolved commissioning budget is likely to be targeted on groups who are vulnerable or at risk.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

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

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The Local Committee is asked to approve an award of contract for a twelve month period to the following provider:

Surrey Youth Consortium for £114,000

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 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

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 10.1 Officers will issue a purchase order to the successful organisations with a view to their commencing delivery from 1 April 2012.

10.2 Officers will issue SCC terms and conditions to the successful organisations

10.3 The performance of the contract will be monitored by the Commissioning and Development Team within the County Council's Services for Young People

10.4 It is anticipated that the new provider will be in place for 1st April 2012.

LEAD OFFICER: Garath Symonds, Assistant Director for Young People
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 0208 541 9023

E-MAIL: Garath.Symonds@surreycc.gov.uk

CONTACT OFFICER: Anthony Durno, SW Area Manager, Youth Support Service
TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01372 371619

E-MAIL: Transformation.team@surreycc.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS:

Version No. 2 Date: 31/1/12 Time: 1915 Initials: AD No of
annexes: 0