

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)****DATE: 24th September 2014****LEAD OFFICER: Leigh Middleton, Lead Youth Officer (West Surrey)****SUBJECT: Creating Opportunities for Young People – Early Help****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

Services for Young People is re-commissioning services for 2015-2020 and the new service model will be presented to Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014. The current Local Prevention commission ends on 31 August 2015 and new funding agreements will be awarded for provision to start on 1 September 2015, subject to Cabinet approval of the new service model.

The Youth Task Group (YTG) has developed a set of priorities for Local Prevention in Guildford which is based on local needs. Providers who bid for Local Prevention will be asked to respond to the local needs and priorities identified in this specification.

The Local Committee is asked to approve the Guildford priorities so that the procurement exercise can start in October.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:****The Local Committee (Guildford) is asked to :**

- (i) Approve the local priorities (**Annex 1**), to be considered by providers, focusing on the identified needs of Guildford and the geographical neighbourhoods prioritised by the Youth Task Group.
- (ii) Note that approval is subject to approval of the Services for Young People model by Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014.
- (iii) Note the changes to the council scheme of delegation which provides increased decision making to local commissioning in relation to youth work and Surrey Outdoor Learning (SOLD) (**Annex 1a**).

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Local Prevention has been in place across Guildford since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012. It has contributed significantly to the reduction in young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). It is therefore recommended that this early help commission is re-commissioned for 2015-20.

These recommendations will:

- a) Support the Council's policy of Creating Opportunities for Young People.
- b) Support the Council's priority to provide early help for children, young people and their families.

## **1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

Local Prevention is a commission which aims to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for young people who are identified as being most at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). Local Prevention commissions preventative opportunities for young people in school years 8 to 11. The commission is delivered outside of core school hours all year round.

- 1.1 The first Local Prevention was awarded to The Youth Consortium and ran until 31<sup>st</sup> August 2013.
- 1.2 Re-commissioning took place in 2013 and a funding agreement was awarded to Guildford YMCA to deliver the provision.
- 1.3 Current provision is delivered outside youth centres but the new provision will be linked more closely to youth work delivery to provide a seamless service for young people at risk of becoming NEET.
- 1.4 In the last bidding round providers could bid for any amount above 25% of the funding available. Providers will now be able to bid for any amount above 10% of the funding available to encourage smaller providers of specialist niche services to bid.
- 1.5 The amount allocated to each of the eleven Boroughs and Districts is reviewed each commissioning cycle and is based on the needs of each area based on the NEET and Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI) cohorts.
- 1.6 Local Prevention targets priority neighbourhoods with the highest numbers of young people at risk of becoming NEET, who are NEET or who have offended. Providers must operate in these neighbourhoods.
- 1.7 The new provision will place a stronger emphasis on Early Help referrals and will build the role of the Lead Professional into the commission.
- 1.8 Services for Young People previously came to the Local Committee in summer of 2014 to seek views on increased delegation in relation to Centre Based Youth Work (CBYW) and SOLD. The Local Committee welcomed this change which is now being formally put to Cabinet for approval on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Changes will be made to council delegation. Please see **Annex 1A**.

## **2. ANALYSIS:**

- 2.1 Services for Young People's strategic objective is for all young people to be employable. Local Prevention contributes to this by reducing risk factors that may lead to a young person becoming NEET.
- 2.2 This provision improves outcomes for young people in response to the priorities identified by the YTG. It supports localism by providing highly targeted services in the Borough of Guildford.
- 2.3 It supports localism by providing highly targeted services in the Borough of Guildford.

- 2.4 The drop in minimum bids from 25% to 10% of funding available will open up the market for smaller organisations.
- 2.5 The Guildford Youth Task Group has identified local priorities for commissioning which are included in **Annex 1**.
- 2.6 The local priorities are based on an assessment of the local needs which are summarised below:
- Westborough had the highest number of young people who were NEET during 2013-14 (21), followed by Stoke (17), Worplesdon (14), Ash Wharf (13) and Stoughton (12). Westborough also had the highest number of young people who were identified as at risk of becoming NEET at 99, followed by Stoke (89) and Ash Wharf (47).
  - At 21, Westborough had the highest number of young people who received substantive outcomes or Youth Restorative Interventions (YRIs) as a result of offending behaviour, followed by Stoke (17) and Ash Wharf (13).
  - Westborough includes the most deprived area in the borough (Guildford 012D), which ranks 4<sup>th</sup> in Surrey.
  - Higher proportions of young people who were NEET have SEND and have also offended in Guildford than the Surrey average
  - Deprivation is a strong theme amongst the RONI cohort in Guildford, with 6 in 10 living in areas of relative deprivation and 6 in 10 eligible for free school meals. 1 in 4 young people had also experienced fixed term exclusions from school.
  - Guildford's 10-19 year old population is estimated at 16,900 in 2014 (12.7% of Surrey's 10-19 population), the largest population of young people in Surrey. This is forecast to grow by 6.3% in the next five years.\*

\*ONS 2012-based Subnational Population Projections

### **3. OPTIONS:**

- 3.1 The Guildford Specification has been developed by the Youth Task Group and identifies the key priorities for Guildford to prevent young people from becoming NEET.
- 3.2 The recommendations focus on key geographical neighbourhoods and community priorities. The Youth Task Group agreed that there should be borough-wide access to any commissioned services particularly for Early Help referrals.

### **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 The proposals for re-commissioning Services for Young People including Local Prevention were published on the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2014 for response by 31<sup>st</sup> July 2014 in the document Creating Opportunities for Young People, Re-commissioning for 2015 to 2020, Engagement Paper.

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- 4.2 During July 2014 engagement events were run to obtain feedback from all Services for Young People staff (full and part time), partners, providers, elected members and young people in target groups.
- 4.3 A survey was carried out on the Surrey Says website.
- 4.4 A Provider Conference was held for existing and potential new providers to get feedback on the Engagement paper.
- 4.5 170 people attended the events mentioned above.
- 4.6 The Engagement Paper feedback was presented to the Creating Opportunities for Young People Project Board and as a result of this the decision to closely align Local Prevention to Youth Work provision was made.
- 4.7 On the 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014 the Services for Young People model will be presented to Cabinet for approval.

### **5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:**

5.1 The re-commissioning of service addresses planned savings included in the MTFP 2014 - 2019. The model also includes flexibility in the eventuality of future savings being required either for 2015-16 or subsequent years. All contracts include standard break clauses and the ability to revise funding level if budget changes occur.

### **6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 Guildford's devolved commissioning budget is targeted to groups who are vulnerable or at risk of becoming NEET.
- 6.2 Young people are expected to benefit from a holistic service model which has been developed informed by experience, good practice and feedback from a range of stakeholders.
- 6.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) has been prepared for the new Commissioning model and this will accompany the report to be presented to Cabinet for approval on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014.
- 6.4 The EIA has highlighted that localised decision-making might disadvantage those who have protected characteristics because of the small number of young people with protected characteristics in each borough / district resulting in their needs being missed. It is proposed, therefore, that priority is given to young people with protected characteristics, where this impacts negatively on their employability when allocating individual grants and youth small grants. This would enable specialist organisations to secure funding to provide services for these young people.

### **7. LOCALISM:**

The following areas have been identified by the Youth Task Group as communities which would benefit from Local Prevention delivery: Stoke, Stoughton, Westborough, Worplesdon, Ash, Ash South, Tongham, Bushy Hill

<b>8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:</b>	
Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	Set out below.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	Set out below.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	Set out below.
Public Health	Set out below.

#### 8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

Evidence shows that young people who are participating in education, training or employment are less likely to commit crime

#### 8.2 Sustainability implications

By commissioning local organisations, it is anticipated that there will be a reduction in the need for travel. This will contribute to the reduction in carbon emissions.

#### 8.3 Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

Young people who are looked after are a key target group for Services for Young People.

#### 8.4 Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults implications

Services for Young People plays a key role in safeguarding vulnerable children and young people in Surrey.

#### 8.5 Public Health implications

Services for Young People deliver a number of services that improve the health of young people in Surrey, in particular providing them with information so that they make informed choices about healthy lifestyles, including sexual health.

### **9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The local specification has been developed in consultation with the Youth Task Group to ensure that bids are tailored to meet local needs.

The Local Committee is asked to:

- a) Approve the Guildford local priorities (Annex 1) to be considered by providers focusing on the identified needs of Guildford and the geographical neighbourhoods prioritised by the Youth Task Group.
- b) Note that approval is subject to approval of the Services for Young People model by Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014.

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- c) Note the changes to the council scheme of delegation which provides increased decision making to local commissioning in relation to youth work and Surrey Outdoor Learning (SOLD).

### **10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

- 10.1 The Services for Young People model will be presented to Cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> September for approval.
- 10.2 Subject to approval by Cabinet, officers will develop a prospectus to provide those organisations who wish to bid with the necessary local information.
- 10.3 Officers will invite organisations to submit bids which will be short-listed by the Commissioning and Development Team.
- 10.4 Bidder presentations will take place where the short-listed providers will present their proposals to the Youth Task Group.
- 10.5 A recommendation to award Guildford Local Prevention funding agreements will be brought to the first meeting of the Local Committee in 2015 for approval.
- 10.6 It is anticipated that the new provider(s) will be in place for 1 September 2015.

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**Consulted:** Officers, members, public, stakeholders, partners.

#### **Annexes:**

Annex 1 – Guildford Local Priorities  
Annex1A - Proposed amendments of Constitution Part 3. Executive Functions of Local Committees

#### **Sources/background papers:**

N/A

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