

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 23rd FEBRUARY 2015



LEAD OFFICER: **GARATH SYMONDS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AWARD OF LOCAL PREVENTION WORK FUNDING IN ELMBRIDGE**

DIVISION: **ALL**

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The Local Committee is responsible for commissioning Local Prevention services to prevent young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) within their local area. The Local Committee Youth Task Group has recently met and received presentations from a range of potential providers. This paper sets out their recommendations for awarding Local Prevention funding.

The recommendation for the award of funding is the culmination of several months of work by the Youth Task Group and SCC officers that will result in services being commissioned by the Local Committee in response to local need. The work will be delivered by two commissions:

- The Local Prevention One to One Early Help contract which will build the resilience of young people and remove identified barriers to their future employability, as part of Surrey's early help arrangements.
- The Local Prevention in Neighbourhoods grant which will build the resilience of young people who are at risk of becoming NEET in local communities.

As a result of 2015-16 budget setting process Services for Young People (SYP) is facing an overall budget reduction of £2.6 million, subject to final decision by the County Council. It should be noted that funding amounts for Local Prevention in Neighbourhoods included in this paper reflect the current 100% allocation and may be subject to a reduction to 80% following final budget decisions by the County Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

1) Approve the Youth Task Group recommendation to award a contract for a 36 month period for One to One Work from 01 September 2015 to Surrey Care Trust for the value of £65,000 per annum (subject to future changes in SYP budgets). Within the contract there is the opportunity to extend the service for further two years, subject to budget changes, provider performance and any changes in the needs of young people.

2) Approve the Youth Task Group recommendation to award a grant for a 36 month period for Neighbourhood Work from 01 September 2015 to the following providers:

- (i) The Lifetrain Trust for 50% of the grant value
- (ii) Eikon for 50% of the grant value

Within this grant agreement there is the opportunity to extend the service for further two years, subject to budget changes, provider performance and any changes in the needs of young people.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The recommendations will support the Council's priority to ensure that all young people in Surrey are employable.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

1.1 Services for Young People Local Prevention has been operating in Elmbridge since 1 April 2012. The current grant comes to an end on 31 August 2015. It is necessary, therefore to re-commission for delivery to begin on 1 September 2015.

1.2 The Local Prevention allocation to the SCC Local Committee in Elmbridge is £125,000 per annum. This is the current budget allocation for the period from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, however it should be noted that this is likely to decrease as a result of a 20% reduction to funding for Neighbourhood prevention, subject to final budget decisions by County Council. It should also be noted that funding amounts beyond 2015-16 will be subject to future budget changes. The allocation is based on the number of young people who are NEET, at risk of NEET, involved in offending, and open-referrals to Children's Services in the borough, with an adjustment for the number of youth centres.

1.3 Local Prevention from 2015-2020 will be in two parts: Neighbourhood Prevention and One to One Early Help Prevention.

1.4 Local Prevention in Neighbourhoods is an outcome based grant to fund delivery of preventative services that build resilience of young people who are at risk of becoming NEET, through addressing locally identified needs and priorities. The grant is for £60,000 per annum (pa) for Neighbourhood Prevention (please note there is likely to be a 20% funding reduction to this grant). Awarding this funding through a grant affords bidders greater flexibility to respond to local needs and enables negotiation with bidders during the process to ensure the offer best meets local need.

1.5 Local Prevention One to One Early Help will offer one-to-one support to young people, building relationships to remove barriers and achieve positive behaviour change, preventing the need for specialist services in the future. Young people will be referred to the provider through the SCC Youth Support Service. The contract value is £65,000 pa (subject to future budget changes). Awarding the funding through a contract means the service requirements are more rigidly defined, which fits with the clear one to one offer required through this commission.

1.6 Local Prevention delivers against the County Council's expectation that where possible local youth services will be commissioned locally. In furtherance of this agenda the Local Committee convened a Youth Task Group to act in an advisory capacity through the procurement process with representation from young people, County Members, Borough Members, community stakeholders and support from County and Borough Officers, as set out in the Council's constitution.

1.7 The purpose of Local Prevention is to prepare young people for participation and prevent them becoming NEET. It works with young people of secondary school age, who are most at risk of becoming NEET and complements the functions of the Youth Support Service that has a clear focus on young people who are currently NEET or who are currently in the Youth Justice system.

2. ANALYSIS:

2.1 The provider solutions were sought in a competitive process involving four stages:

- Local Specifications seeking initial proposals from potential providers
- Mini competition for short-listed bidders to present their proposals to the Local Committee Youth Task Group
- Local Committee receiving recommendations from the Youth Task Group
- Award of Grant and Contract

2.2 The Youth Task Group met on 30 June 2014 to develop a needs assessment for Elmbridge. There were representations from young people, elected members (County Council and Borough Council), County Council and Borough Council officers, and other local stakeholders. The workshop was able to consider the data on NEET young people, young people at risk of NEET and youth offending, information from the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) and the perspective and experience of the workshop participants.

2.3 The Local Committee approved the Local Prevention Specifications for Elmbridge on 08 September 2014, this included the following key priorities:

- Transport – young people being able to access services and youth provision that already exists
- Young people's mental health
- Careers advice and work experience – enabling young people to understand and adjust when moving from education to employment.
- Young people with caring responsibilities
- Lack of designated youth spaces in parks

2.4 The following key identified neighbourhoods were highlighted by the Task Group:

- Molesey South
- Hersham North

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- St Johns, Walton Ambleside, Walton North
- Cobham Fairmile, Cobham and Downside
- Thames Ditton

2.5 In addition the Task Group identified a need for projects that fulfil the following key criteria:

- Work with the local business community to help with careers advice and work experience.
- Projects should increase the number of things to do and places to go.
- Provision should be at the point of need wherever possible rather than asking young people to travel to the provision.
- Projects should be mobile.
- Projects should make good use of resources that already exist in Elmbridge – specifically this relates to village halls and mini buses that are owned by schools, but could extend to other community resources.

2.6 The funding opportunity was published and widely publicised, reaching at least 100 voluntary organisations across the County, inviting as many bidders as possible to submit bids in response to the needs and priorities identified. A provider event was held on 16th October 2014 and was well attended.

2.7 Two bids were received for One to One work and were both short-listed; three bids were received for Neighbourhood Prevention and two were short-listed. Those organisations who were short-listed presented their proposals to the Youth Task Group on 14 January 2015.

2.8 The Task Group consisted of both County and Borough/District elected members. In addition officers from Surrey County Council and Elmbridge Borough Council were present. The Task Group received presentations from each provider, followed by questions to those providers on their bid. Following all the provider presentations a discussion was held to form the recommendation to the Local Committee for both Neighbourhood Prevention and One to One Early Help Prevention.

2.9 The shortlisted bidders were as follows:

Neighbourhood Provision:
Eikon
The Lifetrain Trust

One to One Provision:
Eikon
Surrey Care Trust

2.10 Following the presentations the Youth Task Group recommended that:

The Lifetrain Trust should receive 50% (£30,000pa) of the funding available for Neighbourhood Provision.

Eikon should receive 50% (£30,000pa) of the funding available for Neighbourhood Provision.

(NB – there is likely to be a 20% reduction in funding for Local Prevention in Neighbourhoods, subject to final County Council budget decisions)

and

Surrey Care Trust should receive 100% (£65,000pa) of the funding available for One to One Provision.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 The Committee is asked to approve the award of funding to the providers as recommended by the Youth Task Group. This will ensure young people receive a service from 1 September 2015.

Should the Committee opt not to approve the providers' bids, SCC officers will work to develop a further solution in conjunction with the Youth Task Group, which may mean a delay in the start of the commission of 1 September 2015.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 There has been wide ranging consultation with young people, staff, and partner agencies. A Services for Young People Project Board (including Elected Members, Surrey County Council officers and young people) has been established to oversee re-commissioning for 2015-20. Members have been consulted through the Local Committee Youth Task 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.

5.2 Funding is subject to the annual budget setting process for the County Council and is subject to change.

6. LOCALISM:

6.1 The Local Prevention Commissions are at the heart of Surrey County Council's commitment to localism. Local Prevention involves local young people, elected members and wider stakeholders in decision making.

7. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

7.1 The devolved commissioning budget is likely to be targeted on groups who are vulnerable or at risk. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed for this re-commissioning cycle to assess the impact of this commission on young people with protected characteristics.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

- a. It is anticipated that this commission is likely to target young people in this priority group.

8.2 Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

- a. It is anticipated that this commission is likely to target young people in this priority group.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 The Local Committee is asked to approve the recommendation of the Youth Task Group for the award of two Neighbourhood Prevention grants and a One to One contract for a 36 month period from 01 September 2015 (subject to future budget changes) to the following providers:

- Neighbourhood Grants:

The Lifetrain Trust for £30,000pa (50% of available funding)
Eikon for £30,000pa (50% of the available funding)

(NB – there is likely to be a 20% reduction in funding following final County Council budget decisions)

- One to One Early Help Contract:

Surrey Care Trust for £65,000pa (100% of available funding)

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 Following the anticipated approval by the Committee, the decisions will be published. After publication these Local Committee decisions are subject to a 5 day 'call in' period, after which the grants and the contract for Elmbridge will be awarded to The Lifetrain Trust, Eikon and Surrey Care Trust. This commission will start on 1 September 2015, ensuring a swift start to delivery of services to young people. The Youth Task Group will have the option of meeting twice per year, where updates will be provided on the performance of the providers.

Contact Officer:

Jeremy Crouch, Lead Youth Officer - 07968 832437.

Consulted:

Services for Young People Project Board
Service users have been consulted as part of the Local Prevention re-commissioning process.

County Council Cabinet Member

Linda Kemeny, Cabinet Member for Schools and Learning
Clare Curran, Cabinet Associate for Children, Schools and Families

Annexes:

No annexes

Sources/background papers:

Services for Young People report to Elmbridge Local Committee – 8 September 2014
Creating Opportunities for Young People: Re-Commissioning for 2015-2020 (Cabinet Paper)
– 23 September 2014