

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 14 September 2015



**LEAD OFFICER: Cheryl Poole,
Community Partnership & Committee Officer**

SUBJECT: ELMBRIDGE YOUTH TASK GROUP TERMS OF REFERENCE

DIVISION: All Elmbridge

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

Surrey County Council (SCC) and Elmbridge Borough Council (EBC) are developing a Joint Youth Strategy for the borough of Elmbridge and in order to involve the established Local Committee Youth Task Group in the work, a new version of the terms of reference for the task group is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to agree:

- (i) The terms of reference for the Youth Task Group attached in annex A.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The new terms of reference widen the remit of the task group to allow it to additionally oversee the implementation of the new Joint Youth Strategy.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 The Local Committee agreed on 20 June 2011 that a youth task group was established to assist and advise the local committee in relation to youth issues and the future delivery of youth provision locally.
- 1.2 Since 2011 the Local Committee has annually reviewed the youth task group's terms of reference and appointed Members of SCC and EBC to the group.
- 1.3 In June 2015 the following Members were appointed to the group:
SCC - Mrs Margaret Hicks, Mrs Mary Lewis and Mr Ernest Mallett
EBC - Councillors Mary Sheldon, Kim Cross, Peter Szanto.
- 1.4 Commissioned by SCC and Walton Charity, with the support of EBC, 'Streets Apart' was the start of work to find innovative approaches to support vulnerable young people and their families in Elmbridge. The Streets Apart report looked specifically at the impact of social exclusion and wider inequalities on young people in Elmbridge and considered what could be

done differently to improve the situation of the most disadvantaged. Through 'Streets Apart' EBC and SCC have been working together with voluntary, community and faith organisations, which has highlighted the benefits of joined up support provided to young people and SCC and EBC felt all young people could benefit from a more joined-up approach which has led to the development of a joint youth strategy.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 The joint youth strategy and its priorities are being developed by SCC and EBC through engagement with young people and through workshops working with a range of organisations that provide services to young people in Elmbridge, including schools, local voluntary, community and faith organisations, Surrey Police, Surrey Fire and Rescue Services and Xcel Leisure Centre. It sets out how SCC and EBC will work together to support the young people. The intention is to continue to engage with more partners over time, encouraging the organisations to sign up to delivering the priorities of the strategy.
- 2.2 Young people will be consulted on the wording of the strategy to ensure it is young-person friendly and it is purposely quite short so it can be used to engage with young people. To work alongside the strategy a more detailed action plan is being developed.
- 2.3 The new strategy is due to be agreed by the EBC Cabinet in October 2015 and will also be shared with SCC Cabinet Members with responsibilities for children and young people in Surrey.
- 2.4 Both County and Borough Councillors have attended the workshops and a reference group was required to oversee this important work. As a well established group consisting of equal numbers of both SCC and EBC Councillors already existed in the form of the Elmbridge Youth Task Group, it was a logical step to seek to extend the remit of the group.
- 2.5 The new terms of reference for the group are attached as annex A. They widen the remit of the group to allow it to oversee the implementation of the new Joint Youth Strategy, monitor the achievement of priorities for collaborative work undertaken by county services and partners and offer advice, guidance and local knowledge to support the strategy and assist in ensuring its success.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The agreement by the Local Committee to the new terms of reference as detailed in annex A will ensure the task group's involvement in the new youth strategy which will work to offer every young person the opportunity to participate in activities and be supported to develop skills they need for the future.
- 3.2 Alternatively the terms of reference can remain as they are currently, thereby limiting the involvement of local Members in the implementation of the new strategy or requiring the establishment of a separate group.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Both EBC Leisure Services and SCC Children, Schools and Families officers have been consulted on the new Terms of Reference. A large number of partners agencies, including schools, community, voluntary and faith organisations and Surrey Police, have been consulted on the new draft strategy, which details the role of the youth task group.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 There are no financial implications of the new terms of reference for the youth task group.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 Equalities issues are considered within individual groups and specific considerations of high priority will be reported to the Local Committee.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The work which the youth task group oversees and on which it advises affects young people in all communities in the borough.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

| Area assessed: | Direct Implications: |
|--|---|
| Crime and Disorder | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions) | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults | No significant implications arising from this report. |
| Public Health | No significant implications arising from this report. |

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 The Local Committee is asked to agree the new terms of reference for the youth task group so as to widen the remit of the task group to allow it to oversee the implementation of the new strategy, monitor the achievement of priorities for collaborative youth work undertaken by county services and partners and advise on youth matters in the borough.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 If agreed, the new terms of reference will take effect immediately with the next meeting of the youth task group, scheduled for 24 September 2015.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:
See 4.1 above

Annexes:
Annex A Terms of reference youth task group
