



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

**SERVICES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE  
LOCAL PREVENTION COMMISSIONING 2013-15**

**13 MARCH 2013**

**KEY ISSUE**

Services for Young People has been working with the Local Committee (Guildford) Youth Task Group as there is a need to re-commission the Local Prevention Framework and its associated elements for the period September 2013-15.

This report sets out the work undertaken by the Youth Task Group and advice to the Local Committee. The Local Committee is asked to agree the local specification for Guildford.

**SUMMARY**

The Local Prevention Framework has some proposed improvements following the first year of the commission countywide. These changes are outlined in this report.

1. The Youth Task Group was set up by the Local Committee for the purposes of providing local advice to the Local Prevention Framework. The Task Group has identified key priorities for Guildford to prevent young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). This report brings forward recommendations from the Task Group on how the local commissioning resource should be targeted.

2. Although the recommendations focus on key geographical neighbourhoods and community priorities the Task Group concluded that there should be borough-wide access to any commissioned services. Following a workshop held in February 2013 the Task Group discussed and identified key risk factors for Guildford and these have been drawn upon to produce a local specification for the Local Prevention Framework for 2013-15. See **ANNEXE A**
  
3. Should the Local Committee agree the recommendations in this report then proposals for work to address the identified priority areas and risk factors will be sought from local providers. The Services for Young People Commissioning and Development team will create a short-list of bids to bring before the Task Group. The Task Group will then consider the shortlist before final proposals for award of grant(s) are brought to the Local Committee. The commissioned services would then commence on 1 September 2013.

## **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

- i. Approve the allocation of £24,000 from the Local Prevention Framework funding for Individual Prevention Grants (see paragraph 1.3a for details).
  
- ii. Approve the Local Needs Specification at **ANNEXE A** agreeing that it be considered by providers focusing on the identified needs for Guildford and the geographical neighbourhoods prioritised by the Youth Task Group.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Local Prevention Framework is a commission aimed 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). The Local Prevention Framework is intended to commission opportunities for young people in school years 8-11. Delivered outside of core school hours and external of SCC youth centres, all year round.

- 1.1 The Local Prevention Framework has been in place across Guildford for the last 11 months. This service is currently delivered by The Youth Consortium.
- 1.2 Following the first year of the Local Prevention Framework, the Commissioning and Development team conducted a review of the procurement process involved in commissioning the Local Prevention Framework. The results of this were reported to the Education Select Committee on 29 November 2012.
- 1.3 Several improvements to the Local Prevention Framework were proposed. These include:
  - a) The inclusion of Individual Prevention Grants. This fund is to provide funding through the Youth Support Service to young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET to support them to participate in Education, Employment or Training. This is through the local purchase of items or services to support the individual. No funds will be provided directly to the young person, but spent by the Youth Support Service Team Manager on the individual's behalf. This will be allocated by the Local Committee from the Local Prevention Framework funding to the Youth Support Service.
  - b) To allow groups of young people (two or more) to apply through a recognised body for funding through the Youth Small Grants process to support projects or activities.
  - c) The retention of the Risk of NEET Indicators (RONI), but to move away from a specified list produced annually. This is to allow providers and all services engaged with Services for Young People and beyond to identify young people who exhibit these risk factors locally, rather than centrally. It is hoped that this will enable a more localised service and remove any perceived restrictions a central list could create. RONI lists will still be generated for the purposes of the year 11-12 transition programme.

**RONI risk factors are (not exhaustive list):**

- a. School attendance less than 60%
  - b. Excluded from school
  - c. Statement of Special Educational Needs, school action or school action plus
  - d. Living in an area with increased crime or anti-social behaviour
  - e. Engaged in anti-social behaviour
  - f. Poverty in the neighbourhood or household affected by multiple-deprivation
  - g. Family disruption, ineffective parenting
  - h. Young Carer
  - i. Young parent
- d) The purpose of Local Prevention is to solely focus on those at risk of becoming NEET young people from 1 September 2013 in school years 8 to 11.
- e) That the Local Prevention Framework should be awarded in the form of a Procurement Grant, rather than a contract as at present. This provides more freedom to local potential providers through less bureaucracy.
- f) The Local Prevention Framework would be awarded for two years from 1 September 2013. This is to allow providers more time to develop relations with local networks and young people locally.
- g) Previously, interested providers were required to bid for 100%, 50% or 33% of the available funds. From 1 September 2013 providers will be free to bid for any amount above 25% of the total fund available (under £5,000 to be met from Youth Small Grants. This should allow smaller organisations to bid for work from the Local Committee.
- 1.4 The amount allocated to each of the eleven Borough and Districts is reviewed each commissioning cycle and is based on the needs of each area based on current NEET and RONI cohorts. There is an adjustment for the number of youth centres to compensate boroughs or districts with fewer youth centres. For 2013-15 Guildford has been allocated £174,000pa.
- 1.5 The borough's allocation for Youth Small Grants remains the same at £27,000.

## **2.0 ANALYSIS**

- 2.1 Services for Young People's strategic objective is 100 % participation in Employment, Training and Education. The Local Prevention Framework contributes to this by reducing risk factors that may lead to a young person becoming NEET.
- 2.2 Seven of the 10 most deprived wards in the borough are in Westborough and Stoke. Westborough has over 100 young people who have been identified as at

risk of becoming NEET and 28 who were NEET during 2011/12. Stoke ward has the highest number of NEET (30 young people during 2011/12).

- 2.3 A high number of NEET young people in Guildford have learning difficulties or disabilities. Nearly 30% had a School Action Plus plan when they were in school and almost 20% had a statement of special educational needs.
- 2.4 86% of young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET in Guildford have some form of learning difficulty or disability
- 2.5 Key overrepresented groups amongst the RONI cohort are the 13% who are identified as members of the traveller community and the 22% who received fixed-term exclusions when in school.
- 2.6 Guildford's 10-19 year old population is: 16,413 (12.1% of Surrey's 10-19 year old population).

### **3.0 CONSULTATION**

- 3.1 The Local Committee Task Group met on the 14 February 2013 to consider the needs of the borough and to set the needs assessment and spec for Guildford.
- 3.3 Local Committee Chairmen were consulted on the 22 January 2013. Consultation will be ongoing throughout the procurement process.
- 3.4 The proposed improvements to the Local Prevention Framework were considered and supported by the Education Select Committee on the 29 November 2012.

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

- 4.1 It is anticipated local commissioning will offer better value for money in that the outcomes commissioned and work delivered will be more closely aligned to local need.
- 4.2 The Local Prevention budget for 2013/14 has already partially been allocated by the Local Committee to extend the present providers contract to 31 August 2013. £72,500 has been allocated to The Youth Consortium as agreed by the Local Committee on the 28 November 2012.
- 4.3 The remainder (£101,500) will be allocated for the period 1 September 2013-14 and a further £174,000 for the period 1 September 2014-15. Subject to Cabinet and Full Council budget decisions in 2014-15. Any reductions in the 2014-15 will be passed on to the providers. This will be made clear to all providers at the bidding stage and award stage.

## **5.0 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

## **6.0 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The purpose of Local Prevention is to prevent young people from becoming not in education, employment or training (NEET), evidence shows that young people who are fully participating are less likely to commit crime.

## **7.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 In response to feedback and the Education Select Committee report, officers recommend amendments to the Local Prevention Framework. The aim of the strands of the Local Prevention Framework, including Youth Small Grants and Individual Prevention Grants, is to promote 100% Participation. The local specification has been developed in consultation with the Youth Task Group to ensure that ids are tailored to meet local needs.

The Local Committee is asked to:

- i. Approve the allocation of £24,000 from the Local Prevention Framework funding for Individual Prevention Grants (see paragraph 1.3a for details).
- ii. Approve the Local Needs Specification at **ANNEXE A** agreeing that it be considered by providers focusing on the identified needs for Guildford and the geographical neighbourhoods prioritised by the Youth Task Group.

## **8.0 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 These recommendations will:

- a) Support the councils priority to achieve 100 % participation for young people aged 16 to 19 to be in education, training or employment.
- b) Increase the delivery of youth work locally.
- c) Increase the access of the Local Prevention Framework to small voluntary organisations.
- d) Speed up the process for awarding Small Grants.
- e) Increase the access of the Local Prevention Framework through the use of a grants based commissioning process.

## 9.0 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 The next step will be for officers to develop a prospectus which will provide those organisations who wish to bid the necessary local information.
- 9.2 Officers will invite organisations to bid and those bids will be short-listed by the Commissioning and Development Team.
- 9.3 A mini competition will take place where the short-listed providers will present their proposals to the Youth Task Group.
- 9.4 A recommendation regarding the award of grant(s) will be brought to the next meeting of the Local Committee for approval.
- 9.5 It is anticipated that the new provider(s) will be in place for 1 September 2013.

**LEAD OFFICER:** Garath Symonds, Assistant Director for Young People

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 01372 833543

**E-MAIL:** [Garath.symonds@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:Garath.symonds@surreycc.gov.uk)

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Leigh Middleton, Contracts Performance Officer

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 07854 870 393

**E-MAIL:** [leigh.middleton@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:leigh.middleton@surreycc.gov.uk)

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** N/A

Version No. 1.0      Date: 03/09/12      Time: 13:00 Initials:      No of annexes: 1

This page is intentionally left blank