

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)**

**DATE:** 24 June 2013

**LEAD OFFICER:** GARATH SYMONDS  
Assistant Director for Young People

**SUBJECT:** LOCAL PREVENTION FRAMEWORK – TASK GROUP  
RECOMMENDATION

**DIVISION:** ALL

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The recommendation for the award of funding is the culmination of several months' work by the Youth Task Group that 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 Not in Education Employment or Training (NEET) in Elmbridge.

The Local Committee is responsible for commissioning services to prevent young people becoming Not in Education, Employment or Training within their local area. The Youth Task Group has recently met and received presentations from two potential suppliers. This papers sets out their recommendation as to who the funding should be awarded to.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:**

Approve the Youth Task Group recommendation to award a funding agreement for a twenty four month period from 01 September 2013 to the following provider:

- (i) The Eikon Charity for 100% of the contract value (£103,000pa) to prevent young people from becoming NEET in Elmbridge.

**REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The recommendations will support the council's priority to achieve full participation; that is for 100% of young people aged 16 to 19 to be in education, training or employment.

**1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1 The Local Prevention Framework (LPF) is an allocation of £103,000 per annum (pa) to the SCC Local Committee in Elmbridge to commission

outcomes to work with young people most at risk of becoming NEET, prepare them for participation and prevent them becoming NEET. The allocation is based on the number of young people who are NEET or at risk of NEET in the borough/district with an adjustment for the number of youth centres. LPF provision is for services delivered outside of the school day.

1.2 The LPF delivers 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 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.

1.3 The purpose of the local prevention framework 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:



2.2 A needs assessment workshop was held on 25 January 2013 with representation from young people, elected members 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 LPF Specification for Elmbridge on 25 February 2013. This included the following key priorities:

- Mental Health – Projects to support young people with mental health needs, poor social skills, low self esteem, aspirations and motivation.
- Mentors and Role Models – Projects which offer young people highly developed role models, and mentoring opportunities to support them to make a successful transition post 16.
- Employability - Support for young people to develop employability skills and experiences to prepare young people for future work or education.
- Transport - Support for young people who are unable to access provision due to a lack of transport.
- Social Isolation - Support for young people who are experiencing isolation, particularly in Cobham and Field Common areas.
- Drugs and Alcohol - Support for young people where substance misuse is impacting on their future employability and resilience to remain in mainstream education.

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

- Cobham
- Molesey South
- St Johns' (Walton Ambleside)
- Field Common Estate
- Lower Green
- Hersham North
- Weybridge

2.5 In addition the Task Group asked that bidders met the follow key criteria when bidding:

- Projects must be preventative and demonstrate a strategy for promoting the project and engaging young people. Use of appropriate media to communicate with young people is desirable.
- Projects must work alongside the Supported Families Programme, Youth Support Service, Surrey Police, and create links with Youth Centres.
- Projects must deliver during the school holidays, weekends and evenings to young people in addition to term-time out of school hours.
- Projects should include provisions with specific workers who will engage and create positive relations with the young people.

- Projects should demonstrate how young people's leadership skills will be developed, and how the projects will lead to sustainable outcomes for young people and their communities.
- Projects should not duplicate existing provision within the Elmbridge area and should enhance or add value to existing services.
- Projects should have capacity for borough wide referrals, to ensure any at risk young person in Elmbridge can access the provider's service(s).
- Projects should be a mixture of long-term and short-term provision.

2.6 The Local Committee agreed the recommendation on needs and priorities as set out above at its meeting held on 25 February 2013.

2.7 Following the February committee the funding opportunity was published and widely publicised, reaching at least 96 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 for the North East was held on 18<sup>th</sup> March and was well attended. Four bids were received and two providers were short-listed for presentation to the task group on 14 May 2013.

The Task Group consisted of both County and Borough elected members. In addition young people, Youth Support Service, Commissioning and Development officers, Borough Council officers and local community stakeholders were present. The Task Group received presentations from each provider, followed by questions to each provider on their bid. Following the provider presentations a discussion was held to form the recommendation to the Local Committee.

2.8 The shortlisted bidders were The Eikon Charity and The Beat Project.

2.9 Following the two presentations the Youth Task Group recommended that:

The Eikon Charity should receive 100% (£103,000pa) of the funding available.

### **3. OPTIONS:**

3.1 The committee is asked to:

- a. Approve the award of 100% of available funding to the provider.

The Committee is asked to approve the award of funding to the provider as recommended by the Youth Task Group. This will ensure young people receive a service from September 2013.

Should the Committee opt not to approve the providers bid, SCC would need to reopen the bidding process, which would mean a delay in the appointment of a provider.

#### **4. CONSULTATIONS:**

- 4.1 There has been wide ranging consultation with young people, staff, and partner agencies. 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. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:**

- 6.1 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.

#### **7. LOCALISM:**

- 7.1 The Local Prevention Framework is at the heart of Services for Young Peoples commitment to localism. The LPF involves local young people, elected members and wider stakeholders in decision making.

#### **8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### **8.1 Crime and Disorder implications**

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

##### **8.2 Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications**

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 a grant for a twenty four month period from 01 September 2013 to the following provider:

The Eikon Charity for £103,000pa (100% of available funding)

[www.surreycc.gov.uk/elmbridge](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/elmbridge)

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

10.1 Following the anticipated approval by the committee there will be a five day 'stand-still' period, after which the grant for Elmbridge will be awarded to The Eikon Charity. This commission will start on 1 September 2013, 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 provider.

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### **Contact Officer:**

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### **Consulted:**

### **Annexes:**

**Sources/background papers: Item 9 Elmbridge Local Committee 25/2/13**

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