

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)

DATE: 1 JULY 2013

LEAD OFFICER: LEIGH MIDDLETON

SUBJECT: YOUTH: 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 Runnymede.

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 presentation from a range of potential suppliers. This paper sets forth their recommendation as to whom the funding should be awarded.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee (Runnymede) 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) Eikon Charity for 100% of the contract value (£83,000pa) to prevent young people from becoming NEET in Runnymede

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 £83,000 per annum to the SCC local committee in Runnymede 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.
- 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 30 January 2013 with representation from, young people, elected members, borough and county officers. 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 Runnymede on 22 February 2013. This included the following key priorities:

- Young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, but do not have a Statement of Special Educational Needs
- Employability – innovative ways of engaging young people in Maths, English and ICT
- Mental health – young people with mental health needs, including social skills and self-esteem, as well as motivation and low aspirations
- Teenage parents
- Enterprise opportunities and support, to develop business and enterprise skills
- Mentoring and role models
- Substance misuse

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

- Pooley Green and Egham Hythe
- Middlesex Court, Surrey Towers and Green Lane (Addlestone)
- Englefield Green West Ward
- Addlestone
- Chertsey – Gogmore Farm Park
- Heathervale Recreation Ground
- Egham – Ripley Springs

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

- Strategy for **promoting services** and **engaging young people**, including the use of **appropriate media**
- Work alongside **key local partners**
- Should also deliver during **school holidays, weekends and evenings**
- Form strong links with **local schools and education providers**, as well as Education Welfare Officers and Police Truancy Patrols
- **Should not duplicate** existing support and should **enhance or add value to existing services**
- Focus on working with young people around **relationships** (e.g. friendships, peers, family and personal)
- Provision should be developed in one or more of the **identified neighbourhoods**, but should have capacity for **borough-wide referrals**

2.6 The Local Committee agreed the recommendation on needs and priorities as set out above at its meeting held on 22 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 West was held on 18 March 2013 and was well attended. Only one bid was received and therefore short-listed for presentation to the task group on 14 June 2013.

2.8 The shortlisted bidder was the Eikon Charity which is a not for profit organisation.

2.9 Following the presentation by Eikon Charity the Youth Task Group recommended that:

- Eikon Charity be awarded for 100% of the available resource.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 The committee has two options to consider:

- a. Approve the award of funding to provider(s) for 100% of the available funding.
- b. Decline to approve the grant for the LPF in Runnymede.

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.

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 EIA has been completed for this re-commissioning cycle.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The Local Prevention Framework is at the heart of Services for Young People's 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.

8.3 Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults 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 an award of grant for a twenty four month period from 01 September 2013 to the following provider:

Eikon Charity for £83,000pa (100% of available funding)

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

Following the anticipated approval by the committee there will be a five day 'stand-still' period. After which the grant for Runnymede will be awarded to Eikon Charity.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

Annexes: none

Sources/background papers:
