

Appendix 2

The Local Commissioning of Youth Activities

Proposed Funding Allocations in 2017/18

08 August 2017

Frequently Asked Questions

What do you mean by youth activities and outcomes for young people?

The “universal” provision of group youth work and other activities for young people aged between 10 to 19 years old and up to 25 for those with learning disabilities.

Our overall high level aim is to ensure that as many young people as possible can access a wide range of group activities after school, at weekends and in school holidays. The purpose of these activities is to support young people’s well-being, development of personal and social education and preparation for adulthood. We want young people to be involved in their development.

This work will contribute to two outcome areas in the Shropshire’s Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014, namely:

- No. 3 Ensuring the emotional wellbeing of children and young people by focusing on prevention and early intervention.
- No. 4 Keeping more children healthy and reducing health inequalities.

Locally outcomes will reflect the needs and circumstances of the particular area and should be linked to the long term sustainability of provision.

How do youth activities work alongside other services for young people?

Youth activities form part of “universal” provision for young people. Where there are specific additional needs of a young person or issues impacting on parental capacity that are relatively low level, youth activities workers or volunteers may be able to take swift action within the community to meet these.

If a young person’s situation is not fully understood or if there are indicators that a young person and family would benefit from more targeted support then the young person can be referred to Early Help for an assessment. Early Help can be provided within a range of support services including dedicated social workers, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, Substance Misuse Teams, Targeted Youth Services and Parenting Programmes. Access to Early help services is provided through a single point of access gateway, COMPASS, which provides a timely, appropriate response to all requests for support including professionally assessed and un-assessed needs and self-referrals.

How will you support community based youth organisations?

Shropshire Council has a contract with the Shropshire Youth Association, our Youth Activities Infrastructure Partner, to:

- Provide direct support for community based organisations which provide activities for young people
- Ensure that what is delivered is safe and of a set quality by providing training and support for providers where this is needed

It is proposed that, subject to a review, this contract will continue for up to a further two years from 2017/18.

For more information about SYA visit: <http://www.sya.org.uk/>

What progress has been made to date in commissioning youth activities locally?

Local Joint Committees supported by Community Enablement Team officers made recommendations for the commissioning of activities for young people within their communities. To date 72 separate awards have been made to 53 different providers in 18 Local Joint Committee areas. Awards range from small grants of less than £200, for example, for the purchase of equipment by community groups to large contracts to established youth activity providers. In Shrewsbury the full responsibility for the delivery / commissioning of youth activities has been transferred within a formal delegation agreement from Shropshire Council to Shrewsbury Town Council. The learning from the local commissioning of youth activities suggests that awards are making a positive difference to the lives of young people.

How much funding will be available in 2017/18?

Cabinet has confirmed within its Financial Strategy that 50% of the funding available to support the local commissioning of youth activities in 2016/17 will be available to support the local commissioning of youth activities in 2017/18; i.e. £117,475.

Currently the same level of funding, i.e. £117,475, is also proposed for 2018/19, but this will be kept under review in the context of the Council's financial strategy. No funding allocation has currently been identified beyond 2018/19.

For more details, visit the **Financial Strategy 2017/18 – 2019/20** at

<http://shropshire.gov.uk/committee-services/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=130&MId=3358&Ver=4>

How did you allocate money in 2015/16 and 16/17?

In 2015/16 and 16/17 money was allocated to individual LJs based on two factors:

- A youth specific Needs Assessment: A detailed list of statistics and information was gathered for each LJC area including information on numbers of young people, disabled young children, children living in deprived areas, ex-offenders, education access, referrals to social care, anti-social behaviour, childhood obesity, mental health. These data sets are used by the Children's Trust and by Children and Young People's Services to identify and suggest where there are vulnerable young people.
- Rurality based on the population density of 10 to 19 years olds

How do you propose to allocate money in 2017/18?

Our proposed approach to maximising the value of future funding is based on:

- Targeting funding to those areas where previous intelligence (see above) has confirmed that the "specific needs" are the highest
- Withdrawing all "rurality" funding allocations – funding largely relates to areas that have historically not been directly funded and that have reasonably well developed voluntary sector providers. Voluntary sector providers will continue to be supported by the Shropshire Youth Association and Energize (see above).

Alongside the above the aim in awarding funding in 2017/18 (and in 2018/19 subject to confirmation) to a limited number of areas will be to provide the best chance of encouraging long term sustainable local provision by:

- Encouraging the community to take "ownership" of local provision, for example through the creation of local youth forums, fund raising and even the direct employment of youth workers.

- Encouraging partner financial contributions that support on-going provision, for example via local town and parish councils, businesses, etc.
- Encouraging and supporting the role of qualified volunteer youth workers working alongside paid youth workers where appropriate
- Supporting a creative and innovative approach to provision that maximises positive outcomes for young people, reduces costs and maximises income

2017/18 (and 2018/19) should be viewed as a transition year towards the long term local sustainability of clubs in the future, without the need for Shropshire Council funding. Community Enablement Officers will work with town and parish councils and voluntary organisations to help progress opportunities.

The table at the back identifies the proposed funding for individual areas in 2017/18.

How have you arrived at the proposed funding allocations for Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Market Drayton, Whitchurch, Ludlow and Bridgnorth?

The proposed funding is approximately sufficient funding for the employment of two youth workers per session. Currently in most cases existing sessions are supported by three youth workers and this remains best practice with regard to safe and supportive operating practices for busy town based sessions with a high volume of participants.

Therefore, for existing youth clubs to continue operating safely in 2017/18 additional funding, equivalent to approximately £1,250 per club, will be required in order to employ a third member of staff and / or trained and skilled volunteers will need to be recruited.

How have you arrived at the proposed funding allocations for Minsterley, Weston Rhyn, Gobowen and Wem?

Within these areas there remains a need to build on existing financial support within the context of developing local sustainable provision independent of Shropshire Council. The funding proposed in 2017/18 is based on the "Shropshire Youth Association Partnership Offer" to provide one youth worker alongside a local management committee and the active involvement of volunteers.

For more information contact SYA at:

Telephone: 01743 730005

Email: info@sya.org.uk

How have you arrived at the proposed funding allocations for Westbury, Ford, Nesscliffe, Great Hanwood, St Martins and Shawbury?

Youth club provision within these communities is now well established with strong prospects of being maintained locally. A small funding allocation will further increase the prospects of long term sustainability without Shropshire Council funding.

How do you intend to allocate money in 2018/19?

The allocation of funding in 2018/19 will be kept under review both in the context of the review of the Councils Medium Term Financial Plan and a review of progress made in 2017/18 on the development of locally suitable youth activity provision.

For further information contact:

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Appendix: Proposed LJC funding allocations 2017/18

LJC Area	Specific Needs Score	2016/17 Total Funding (including rurality allocations where appropriate)	Summary of Main Existing Contract and Grant Values 2016/17	2017/18 Funding Derived through Specific Needs Formula	Recommendation as a result of Local/Working Knowledge and Experience	2017/18 Proposed Funding
Shrewsbury	2.48	£81,500	Shrewsbury Town Council = £81,500	£47,372	50% of the current budget; equivalent to the approximate cost of the employment of the Community Development Officer role	£40,750
Oswestry	0.75	£24,640	Fusion Arts = £21,960	£14,326	Funding provides parity with Market Drayton, Whitchurch, Ludlow and Bridgnorth	£11,500
Market Drayton	0.73	£24,060	Shropshire Youth Association = £16,706	£13,994	Based on the approximate cost of providing two term time sessions per week employing a Leader in Charge and Youth Worker + On costs + accommodation costs + contingency (ref SYA)	£11,500
Whitchurch	0.47	£15,580	Shropshire Youth Association = £16,459	£8,978	As above	£11,500
Ludlow and Clee area	0.33	£10,850		£6,304	As above	£11,500
Bridgnorth, Worfield, Alveley and Claverley	0.31	£10,120	Shropshire Youth Association = £12,685	£5,992	As above	£11,500
Total		£166,750		£96,845		£98,250

Longden, Ford, Rea Valley and Loton	0.42	£16,630	Shropshire Youth Association = £13,396 Ford Parish Council = £1,199 Nesscliffe Parish Council = £1,199 Great Hanwood = £1,199	£8,023	No rurality funding in 2017/18 Aim to make Minsterley Youth Club sustainable by providing support for one youth worker @ £4,000 (Ref SYA Partnership Offer) Limit support in Westbury, Ford, Nesscliffe and Hanwood to £500 each (all youth clubs have good prospects of being sustainable outside the Council)	£6,000
Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martin's, and Weston Rhyn	0.37	£12,120	Fusion Arts = £1,880 (Weston Rhyn & St Martins) New Saints FC = £6,429 (Gobowen)	£7,068	Aim to make Weston Rhyn & Gobowen youth clubs sustainable by providing support for one youth worker @ £4,000 (Ref SYA Partnership Offer) Limit support for youth provision in St Martins to £500 (St Martins already has an independently provided youth club)	£8,500
Wem and Shawbury	0.29	£12,450	Shropshire Youth Association = £10,358 (Wem & Shawbury)	£5,539	No rurality funding in 2017/18 Aim to make Wem Youth Club sustainable by providing support for one youth worker @ £4,000 (Ref SYA Partnership Offer) Limit support for youth provision in Shawbury to £500 (Shawbury should be sustainable with volunteers)	£4,500
Total		£41,200		£20,630		£19,000
Grand total		£207,950		£117,475		£117,250