



<u>Committee and date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Ludlow & Clee Area Local Joint Committee	9
27 th July 2010	

LUDLOW AND CLEE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE: REPORT ON ENGAGING & SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE

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Summary

The Ludlow & Clee Local Joint Committee have discussed how best to engage with young people and to support projects and activities that work with young people in the area.

This report provides some initial thinking drawing on examples of other Local Joint Committees and national examples of best practise.

This report needs to be considered in the context of the current budgetary position of the Council and the review of services.

Report

1.0 Youth Engagement

Engaging young people with formal meetings of any kind is challenging and a different approach is often required to do this successfully. There are some examples of success amongst Local Joint Committees:

- The Five Perry Parishes LJC entirely designated its January 2010 meeting to young people, using the meeting to discuss their needs through a series of youth friendly consultation/ involvement mechanisms. Over 100 people attended and the results have provided clarity on how the LJC needs to support young people.
- Wem & Shawbury LJC engaged with the Youth Parliament Representative for the area who has advised the committee on project ideas and the functioning of the Committee to better engage with young people.
- The Cleobury & Rural LJC have formed a separate group, the Cleobury Youth Partnership, chaired by the LJC Chair. This group brings together delivery partners and young people to discuss issues and to develop youth projects. This group then reports back into the LJC and advises the committee on project ideas and the potential for funding support.

The recent LJC evaluation demonstrates that many of the LJC’s are concerned about engagement with the wider community, particularly the “harder to reach” or “harder to hear” of which young people are a significant element. More effective engagement with the community is a key part of the development of the Community Working service and is a fundamental part of the Council’s Transformation agenda in working towards the Governments’ Big Society goals.

1.1 How to progress youth engagement in the Ludlow & Clee LJC Area:

At the Ludlow & Clee LJC planning meeting on the 6th July the Committee discussed current youth issues in detail with the Shropshire Youth area manager, Mandy Brindle. It was agreed that there was a need to confirm what local needs are and the idea of holding an event on international youth day (12th August) was agreed to be an ideal opportunity.

The event will be led by Shropshire Youth and the Community Working Team and will be designed to provide a snapshot of issues for young people in the area and to ask young people how they would consider becoming involved with the Committees' activity.

It is recommended that the Committee agree to fund this event to a maximum of £150.

2.0 Funding

LJC's have supported many projects that support and benefit young people. The mechanisms used by the Committees have differed however by:

- Direct support through grants - either a community chest small grant or larger grants
- Ringfencing an amount for young people's projects based on this being an agreed priority for the Committee.
- Delegating a sum of money to a separate youth committee, often supported by Shropshire Youth, who manage a grant scheme and make decisions on projects supported on behalf of the Committee.

The common factor in each of the LJC's that have followed a ringfence or delegation approach is that they have undertaken some form of prioritisation of their budget and in some cases have gone further to analyse and consult specifically on young people's needs.

As part of the review of Locality Working it is being recommended that there is greater consistency in approach of the LJC's funding procedures. This process may make recommendations on funding for young people.

In light of both of these factors it is recommended that no decision is made by the Committee on the specific allocation of funding for young people until the results of both the international youth day event and the review of locality working are reported back. It is anticipated that these results will be available for the October meeting.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information) Checklist for involving young people in LJC's
Human Rights Act Appraisal No conflicts with the Human Rights Act have been identified.
Environment Appraisal Not applicable.
Risk Management Appraisal All funding applications are assessed against agreed criteria which will minimise any risks associated with these projects.
Community / Consultations Appraisal Decisions on allocation of funding are subject to approval by the Ludlow & Clee Joint Committee as representatives of the local community.

Cabinet Member: Cllr Gwilym Butler

Local Members:

Shropshire Council:

Cllr Rosanna Taylor Smith, Cllr Martin Taylor Smith, Cllr Tracy Huffer, Cllr Richard Huffer

Appendices:

- 1.
- 2.