



<u>Committee and date</u> South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee Meeting  Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February Marton Village Hall 7.00 pm

<u>Item</u>  <b>3</b>  <u>Public</u>

## **YOUTH COMMISSIONING FOR THE SOUTH WEST SHROPSHIRE LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE AREA.**

### **Responsible Officer**

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### **1. Summary**

This report summarises the progress of development of the new youth commissioning model developed by Shropshire Council to deliver youth activities to young people across the county and the planned local implementation by South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee.

### **Recommendations**

- A That the Committee note that there is £1,680 remaining in the youth budget for 2017/18 financial year, and this needs to be allocated to projects and spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018
- B Applications 10.13 and 10.14 meet the LJC funding requirement and officer recommendation is to approve the applications. However, there is insufficient budget to fund both projects to the level requested by both projects.

## **REPORT**

### **2. Background**

From 2015/16 Shropshire Council changed the way in which it delivered youth services in Shropshire. This saw a move from Shropshire Council delivering front line services and employing staff directly, to a commissioning model. This saw funding devolved to Local Joint Committee's (LJC's). who then identified local needs and allocated their funding accordingly. Each LJC had different levels of funding based on identified local needs and the South West Shropshire LJC has received £3,000 in 2015/16 and a further £3,000 in 2016/17 and 17/18

The following grants were awarded in the 2015/16 financial year

- 10.1 – Worthen Youth Club £500 for outdoor activity courses
- 10.2 - Bishop's Castle Duke of Edinburgh Scheme new equipment £355
- 10.3 – St Johns Church Youth Group Bishop's Castle new equipment £500
- 10.4 – Bishop's Castle Youth Club (Irene Stelfox) Outreach Work £1,000
- 10.5 – SpArC Arts Youth Dance project £645

The following grants were awarded in 2016/17

10.6 – Bishop's Castle Scout Group £800

10.7 – Bishop's Castle Juniors £600

10.8 – Bucknell Youth Club £1,000

10.9 – Bishop's Castle Town Council AMP music - £600 (plus £400 from 2017/18 budget)

Grants awarded in 2017/18

10.10 – Bishop's Castle Town Council AMP music - £400

10.11 – Lydbury North PCC – Youth Group support - £500

10.12 – Worthen Youth Club – Outdoor activity course - £420

A Scrutiny review of the model for commissioning youth services is being carried out by Shropshire Council and this will form the basis for future policy and funding for youth activities in Shropshire beyond March 2018.

### **3. Considerations for the South West Shropshire Local Joint Committee**

The LJC has a total budget of £1,680 to allocate to youth activities in 2017/18. The Committee had previously agreed to award the funding through a grant making programme which groups who provide activities for young people can bid into. The maximum grant available is £1,000

The £1,680 budget for 2017/18 needs to be allocated by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018. Applications 10.13 and 10.14 are requesting a combined figure of £1,922.74 which would exceed the remaining budget.

#### **4. Applications received for consideration**

##### **10.13 Shropshire Youth Association – Young Health Champions Mental Health Project**

**Total Project Costs:** £1,122.74

**Grant Requested:** £922.74

The young health champion's project supports young people to engage and participate in developing and promoting services and awareness to increase good health for young people and their community. Therefore, not only does it aim to bring communities together and encourage a better understanding of different generations. But, instil good practices and benefits for positive health and well-being for all, whilst nurturing diversity, good values and boosting young people's confidence.

Shropshire Youth Association and have been supporting young people to strengthen links in communities by making positive contributions in a fun and safe environment. This has taken place in local areas through community events, local awareness and engagement of topics and most recently in Bishops Castle where young people are promoting mental health within lessons for other students at the community college.

This project is focused on supporting a group of young men to develop posters and an information pack about mental health issues to be distributed in schools and locations accessed by young people in Bishops Castle and the surrounding area. Mental health issues have been identified as a significant issue for young people in the area. A particular focus of the project will be to raise awareness of the effects of alcohol on mental health. The youngster will meet twice a month for 10 sessions, and the information packs will be accompanied by posters to promote the project.

The main costs of the project are Youth Worker Hours £572.74; Printing and design of packs £250.00; Stationery and USB memory sticks to share information £50 and refreshments £50. £200 of matched funding is being provided by the School.

#### **10.14 SpArC Arts Bishop's Castle – Street Dance Project**

Total Project Costs: £1,740

Grant requested: £1,000

SpArC Theatre aims to provide diverse arts provision for the local community. Our aim is to ensure accessible, sustainable and high-quality arts opportunities for south Shropshire in order to deliver tangible, meaningful benefits to local people and support regeneration of the area. The theatre also works closely with the neighbouring Community College.

We want to run a course of Street Dance Classes for Secondary and primary children in the spring/summer term of 2018.

It will run every 2 weeks to co-ordinate with Bishops Castle Community College enrichment programme.

Historically, there has been strong engagement with opportunities offered, particularly with dance. Up until summer 2014, a regular street dance class for children and young people was held in the evenings at SpArC Theatre but, although highly popular, the cost and time of travel meant the class was no longer sustainable for the choreographer who had to bring the classes to a close.

We secured Arts Council Funding for a year-long street dance provision similar to the project which we want to start – it ran until April 2016 the session proved popular with both Primary and Secondary children the feedback for both Primary and Secondary was very positive.

Previously similar projects were equally enjoyed and engaging for both genders. The secondary children chose to do the activity and equal numbers of boys and girls opted for it with one term's group being just boys.

The Secondary boys, following the film of their dance being shown to other peer groups in the Theatre, to a great response. The next term's group was twice as big.

The Secondary groups would continue to be accessed by self-selecting through enrichment. The college offer the students a wide range of activities to choose from but are very keen to have the Street Dance module again for enrichment as it offers a physical and creative activity the likes of which they do not have at present.

We would like to offer an after-school session to children to deliver these sessions. We would charge for and hopefully start an ongoing class advertised through the local primary schools and secondary schools. We hope the positive experience the local primary children have had through previous funded dance sessions will mean there will be interested, and help their transition to the Community College. At present there is no Urban Dance provision locally.

Securing funding for the sessions during the school day for secondary students means we can offer an after school session for Primary students which we can charge for at a more affordable rate of around £5 per sessions for 1hr class.

Primary sessions will be offered through the primary schools. All secondary students at the community college will have the opportunity to access the sessions through the enrichment module.

Costs are £1,200 workshops facilitation and course materials; £240 hire of theatre and studio space; £200 Administration costs; £100 teacher supervision

## **5. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal**

In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.

The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven youth activity in the LJC area.

<b>List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)</b>
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<b>Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)</b>
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Nick Bardsley
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<b>Local Member</b>
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Heather Kidd, Jonny Keeley, Nigel Hartin
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<b>Appendices</b>
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