



<u>Committee and date</u>	<u>Item</u>
Bridgnorth, Worfield, Claverley, Alveley and Brown Clees Local Joint Committee Planning Meeting Wednesday 25 th February 2015	A

YOUTH COMMISSIONING AND PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION IN BRIDGNORTH, WORFIELD, CLAVERLEY, ALVELEY AND BROWN CLEES LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE AREA.

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1. Summary

Bridgnorth Youth Commissioning

This report summarises the 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 Bridgnorth, Worfield, Claverley, Alveley and Brown Clees Local Joint Committee.

2. Recommendations

The Committee are requested to recommend the following approach to the provision of youth activities to Shropshire Council at the Local Joint Committee meeting on 25th February 2015.

A. Core Youth Offer

That Bridgnorth, Worfield, Claverley, Alveley and Brown Clees LJC seeks to use its Specific Needs Contribution to fund two youth sessions for young people aged 10 – 12 years and 13 – 15 years. Also to allocate the "Rurality Contribution" to the core youth offer to support opportunities for young people within surrounding rural communities.

B. Targeted Diversionary Outreach Work

Alongside the core offer the LJC wishes to support some targeted diversionary outreach work at events and on other specific days depending on need in conjunction with Bronze Level Tasking / Bridgnorth-Community Alcohol Partnership, Bridgnorth Area Youth Partnership and other key local stakeholders.

C. Consultation and Procurement

That the LJC authorise on its behalf, the Bridgnorth Youth Commissioning Working group to conduct consultation and develop a procurement package based on recommendation A & B the core offer and targeted diversionary outreach work.

REPORT

3. Background

Vision and Outcomes Framework for young people

As a local authority, Shropshire Council has a duty to secure, so as far is reasonably practicable, equality of access for all young people to the positive, preventative and early help they need to improve their wellbeing.

The council must also take steps to gain the views of young people and to take them into account in making decisions about services and activities for them.

Shropshire Council's strategic aim is to ensure that as many young people as possible, can access a wide range of activities after school, at weekends and in school holidays. The purpose of these activities is to support young peoples well-being, development of personal and social education and preparation for adulthood

Outcomes

The provision of youth activities will contribute to the outcomes areas within the Shropshire Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014

1. Ensure all children and young people are safe and well looked after in a supportive environment
2. Narrow the achievement gap in education and work
3. Ensure the emotional wellbeing of children and young people by focussing on prevention and early intervention
4. Keep more children healthy and reduce health inequalities

Shropshire Council has allocated funding to LJC areas according to identified need. LJC's can use the funds to commission youth activities and to build sustainable capacity in the community for future activities. Shropshire Council have calculated an index for specific youth related need, based on 8 measures, best reflecting the outcomes sought by Shropshire Children Trust. The 9th measure considers rurality.

1. The number of 10-19 year olds = 2,274
2. The number of 10 -19 year olds with a learning disability = 32
3. The numbers of 10-19 year olds living in a deprived area = 176
4. The number of 10 -17 year olds offenders = 3

5. The number of 10 -19 year olds with poor school attendance = 78
6. The number of referrals to social care for 10 – 17 year olds = 106
7. Occurrence of anti-social behaviour for 10 -17 year olds = 678
8. Percentage of obesity of 10-11 year olds = 18.9%
9. Rurality = 173.6 10-19 year olds living per sq. mile

Bridgnorth LJC Area Allocation

Based on the above measures Bridgnorth LJC area is one of the 9 LJC areas with the highest specific need index to receive an allocation of £10,120 which is proportionate to its needs (8th highest need score). Bridgnorth LJC area is one of the 11 most rural LJC areas and also receives rurality allocation of £1,500 to support youth activities, particularly linked to the Brown Clee area.

Bridgnorth, Worfield, Claverley, Alveley and Brown Clee LJC

Bridgnorth, Worfield, Claverley, Alveley and Brown Clee LJC are now responsible for recommending the way forward for the commissioning of local youth services. Bridgnorth has been allocated funding of £10,120 and £1,500 totalling £11,620. **The budget is not intended to support or duplicate existing voluntary work** which will continue to be supported by the Shropshire Youth Association, the council's infrastructure support partner. The budget is allocated to target and address specific local needs and to provide better outcomes for young people.

Bridgnorth Youth Commissioning Working Group

To this end and bearing in mind the timescales involved, a Bridgnorth Youth Commissioning Working Group (membership includes: Shropshire councillors, Bridgnorth Town Clerk and town council representatives, representatives from the current youth service, the volunteer youth service provider in Bridgnorth and the community enablement team) has been set up. This group has met four times and will continue to meet regularly with a remit to identify current need to formulate recommendations for the LJC to take forward on the core offer, to facilitate consultation and to develop a procurement package.

LJC are being requested to recommend proposals to Shropshire Council for targeted youth provision that delivers the four specific outcomes described above.

Please note it has been confirmed that the WHO Club (a group designed to meet the needs of a specific range of users) will continue to be funded by Shropshire Council outside of this budget and therefore will not be the responsibility of this LJC.

It is important to note that although Shropshire Council are covering the building and maintenance costs of the Youth Centre in Innage lane in the first year outside the budget. Additional rental costs will need to be factored into costing in future years.

It is also important to note that the success of the recommended approaches will be subject to the commitment of competent volunteers to support the youth workers. Securing volunteers will be an integral part of the consultation process and will be an on-going imperative both for the local community and the new provider partners.

Match funding opportunities will be sought to further support the approach outlined here and to enable the scope of activities to be potentially widened and further improved. This could help to fund additional activities, materials, days out etc. and will be an ongoing priority to help to support the success of the overall provision.

In order to support a viable business model going forward that maximises value to young people opportunities to seek a contribution towards running costs will also be considered.

At the last Youth Commissioning Working Group held on 27th January the group decided to recommend to the LJC the following options which are based on identified need:

(a) Core Youth offer

The core youth offer is to fund two youth sessions for 10 – 12 year olds and 13 – 15 year olds in term time only and that the rurality element should be incorporated into this offer, following confirmation that the current attendance at the youth clubs are not only from Bridgnorth but that significant numbers travel in from outlying rural areas.

(b) Targeted Diversionary Outreach Work

That the LJC factor in some targeted diversionary outreach work for events and other specific days depending on need in conjunction with BLT / B-CAP and other key local stakeholders and the Bridgnorth Area Youth Partnership.

(c) Formal Consultation

That formal consultation with current users of the service on the proposals be undertaken, starting at the end of February for up to six weeks. Following which a formal procurement process will commence with a contract with a new service provider being in place sometime in the new financial year.

4. Bridgnorth Youth Centre – Innage Lane – Community Asset Transfer

From April 1st Shropshire Council's Property Management Service have confirmed they will be responsible for the building. Therefore, the status quo remains over the next 12 months regarding access for youth activity, utility bills, rent, ongoing maintenance, health and safety issues e.g. broken windows etc.

As the building is currently listed on the Community Asset Transfer list any Expressions of Interest for this building will need to be submitted by the end of March 2015. An information pack is accessible on submission of an EOI. If there is no successful community asset transfer during the 12 months from 1st April Property Management Services may look to other disposal options.

It is understood that Bridgnorth Town Council have put in an Formal Expression of

Interest for Community Asset Transfer (11/02/15) on the behalf of the Bridgnorth community to be run by a board of trustees and Bridgnorth Town Council. Development of this proposal will be reported back in due course.

1. Bridgnorth Area Youth Partnership

In addition to this work, the group are also bringing together a Bridgnorth Area Youth Partnership. This will be separate group, but it will be established to help move forward a wide variety of youth aspects, working in a partnership to shape future needs but also looking at potential funding opportunities. Currently in the south Ludlow, Broseley, Cleobury Mortimer and Craven Arms all have very successful youth partnerships and this is seen as an opportunity for Bridgnorth Area youth groups to work together towards supporting better outcomes for young people.

2. Financial Implications

It is anticipated that this approach will enable Bridgnorth to adequately support youth activity in the LJC area alongside increased voluntary activity the development of a new youth partnership and the ability to be able to generate match funding.

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

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Cllr Anne Hartley

Local Members

Cllrs Christian Lea, John-Hurst Knight, William Parr, Les Winwood, Michael Wood, Tina Woodward & Robert Tindall

Appendices

None
