

Committee and dateMarket Drayton and Rural
Area Local Joint Committee2nd March 2015**Item****3****YOUTH COMMISSIONING AND PLANNED IMPLEMENTATION IN
MARKET DRAYTON AND RURAL AREA LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE
AREA.****Responsible Officer Nicola Fisher****Email: Nicola.fisher@shropshire.gov.uk****Tel: 07990 087 035**

1. Summary

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. This report contains the recommendation from the Market Drayton and Rural Area Local Joint Committee to Shropshire Council to inform future provision in the area.

2. Recommendations

That the Market Drayton and Rural Area Local Joint Committee seeks to use it's funding of £24,060 as set out below:

- a. To provide a minimum of two evening youth club sessions per week (term time only) targeted at those young people of highest need.
- b. To Provide targeted outreach work to address need
- c. To provide a small grant scheme for youth clubs in the area administered by the LJC committee

3. Background

The role of public services is changing. Shropshire Council is moving rapidly to

become a council that commissions activity with less direct delivery of services. The Council will continue to meet its statutory duty and work to improve outcomes for young people in a sustainable way by developing a commissioning mode. This is based on a locality approach, allowing management of the budgets the council has, alongside other existing provision in a community, based on evidence and outcomes, and closely integrated with other support for children and young people.

The overall aim is to ensure that as many young people aged between 10 – 19 years, can access a wide range of group youth activities. This approach combines working at a local level with increased participation from young people and the community.

LJCs will inform and direct the commissioning of youth activity in their areas. This reflects the council's ambition for LJCs to become local governance structures that enable local councillors, town and parish councils, communities and partners to shape and influence how public money is spent locally.

Money has been allocated to individual LJCs based on two factors:

- **A youth specific Needs Assessment:**

A detailed list of statistics and information has been gathered for each LJC area including information on numbers of young people, disabled young children, children living in deprived areas, ex-offenders, education attendance, referrals to social care, anti-social behaviour,. This data is used by the Children's Trust and by Children and Young People's Services to identify and suggest where there are vulnerable young people. In the case of Market Drayton and Rural Area £24,060 has been provided

- **Rurality based on the population density of 10 to 19 years olds**

Market Drayton and Rural Area Local Joint Committee has not been awarded funds based upon a rurality assessment.

It is important to be aware that the Council's voluntary sector infrastructure partner, the Shropshire Youth Association, has the responsibility for supporting the voluntary sector.

Any youth activities that are supported locally will need to demonstrate how they meet the following outcomes in the Shropshire's Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014:

- a. Ensuring all Children and Young People are safe and well looked after in a supportive environment
- b. Narrowing the achievement gap in education and work
- c. Ensuring emotional wellbeing of Children and Young People by focusing on prevention and early intervention
- d. Keeping more Children and Young People healthy and reducing health inequalities.

4. Current youth provision and engagement with young people

There are numerous youth opportunities in the area run by voluntary organisations. Consultation has taken place with young people attending The Grove School and young people attending the current youth club sessions.

5. Next steps

In order to maximise the benefit of the funding available, it is proposed that:

- Further consultation with young people and the community be undertaken if appropriate
- An invitation to tender document is developed and issued
- A panel is established to assess received tenders
- Tender awarded

6. Financial Implications

It is anticipated that this approach will lead to an overall net increase in spend to support youth activity in the LJC area due to the increased voluntary activity and ability to be able to generate match funding.

7. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and any 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.

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) Cllr Anne Hartley
Local Members Cllrs Simon Jones, Chris Mellings, Pauline Dee, Karen Calder and Brian Williams
Appendices None