



Committee and date
Highley and Chelmarsh
Local Joint Committee

15 July 2015

7.00pm

Item

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Public

UPDATE - FUTURE COMMISSIONING AND PROVISION OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN HIGHLEY AND CHELMARSH LJC AREA

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1. Summary

This report summarises progress and next steps on changes to youth services and activity within the Highley and Chelmarsh LJC Area.

Following a period of public and stakeholder consultation, the commissioning model for youth activities was developed.

Local Joint Committees (**LJCs**), together with young people and supported by the Community Enablement Team (**CET**), are responsible for commissioning youth activities in their area. A county-wide infrastructure support partner will provide commissioning practice support to LJCs and capacity building support to existing and new activity providers.

LJCs will locally commission youth activity in their areas and will receive SC funding for this. 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 and to work with officers in their role as local commissioners.

The provision of youth activities will contribute to the following outcome areas in the Shropshire's Children, Young People and Families Plan 2014:

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

Local outcomes will be developed that reflect the above and the needs and circumstances of the particular area. Outcomes should also be linked to the long term sustainability of provision.

A funding mechanism for future youth activities to respond to specific areas of unmet need in LJC areas has been developed and Highley and Chelmarsh LJC area has been allocated £1,500 linked to its rural make-up and will also be available for 2016/17.

2. Recommendations – The need in this area for the money is to provide activities that don't currently exist and to give more opportunities to the 12 year + as there are currently activities, clubs and groups for the younger children. Some young people around the village have been asked what they would like and suggestions include: activities in the holidays, disco's and youth club

2.1 That £100 is set aside for the provision of holiday activities in Chelmarsh, to be run by the Severn Centre from Chelmarsh Village Hall.

2.2 That £500 is set aside to assist with restarting Highley Swimming Club to assist with training coaches and replacing equipment

2.3 That the remaining £900 is available as grants to provide activities or equipment for young people in the LJC area.

- Each grant cannot exceed £250
- The applications will be evaluated by local young people with the Local Joint Committee
- This money is targeted for young people aged between 10 and 19 (up to age 24 with additional needs)
- And must meet at least one of the criteria listed above
- Priority will be given for activities for 12+ giving new opportunities
- Application forms are from vicky.turner@shropshire.gov.uk or 07990 085 265
- The closing date for applications will be Wednesday 30th September

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 In determining these recommendations the LJC has considered reputational risk and the course of action minimises this risk.
- 3.2 The recommendations contained in this report are compatible with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 3.3 The proposals under consideration will improve the levels of community based and community driven activity in the LJC area.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The funding devolved to the LJC is to be used for youth activities over the year to address local priorities. Funding by the LJC must comply with the general Financial Rules for LJC's.