

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

OUTCOMES OF YOUTH SERVICE SCRUTINY REVIEW: PROGRESS UPDATE

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To report progress on the actions undertaken in response to the recommendations of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel in relation to the Review of the Youth Service.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Youth Service Scrutiny report was published in June 2007. The government further clarified its policy agenda with the publication of Positive Activities Aiming High A Ten Year Strategy (July 2007) and of Targeted Youth Support (June 2009). This set a direction of travel for the delivery of Youth Services in the context of a group of services, which make up Integrated Youth Support.
- 2.2 The work required to deliver the recommendations of the Youth Service Scrutiny Report were mapped against the actions required to deliver the government's required policy agenda. A combined approach was taken to achieve economy of effort.
- 2.3 The scope and scale of work to implement the recommendations and respond to the government policy required a whole systems review; the incorporation of the Connexions Service into the local authority; review and realignment of budgets and the alignment of the management arrangements for the newly configured Integrated Youth Support Service.
- 2.4 The Head of Integrated Youth Support Services reported progress to Children's Services Cabinet Member in September 2008. The service review process had to follow legal and human resources requirements. As a consequence there has been a delay in completing the action plan.
- 2.5 All of the service requirements have been completed which means delivery is congruent with resources and there has been no duplication of effort in responding to the actions required by the scrutiny panel and meeting government requirements.
- 2.6 The outcomes have been reported to and accepted by the scrutiny panel in March 2010. All service recommendations have been met.

2.7 The scrutiny process has been helpful. The recommendations will support continued improvement.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 There are no options associated with this report.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 There are no options for analysis.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 The implementation of the recommendations of the Scrutiny report has supported Youth Service in meeting its duty to provide positive activities for young people within allocated resources.

5.2 Staffing – The roles and responsibilities of staff will continue to be reviewed.

5.3 Property – Increased activity in the youth centres by the wider community will represent value for money.

5.4 IT – any ICT requirement can be met within budget savings already identified.

6. **OTHER IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, ENVIRONMENTAL, DIVERSITY, SECTION 17 - CRIME AND DISORDER, RISK AND OTHER)**

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998:- The duty for each authority to exercise its various functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions on and the need to do all that is reasonable to prevent crime and disorder in its area.

6.1 Over time the increase in capacity will provide diversionary activity, supporting the council in exercising its S17 duty.

6.2 Increased investment in the provision of activities would have immediate impact upon the capacity of the Integrated Youth Support Service to provide places to go and things to do providing both universal access and diversionary activities supporting the S17 duty.

Section 507b. Education Act 1996:- 'as far as reasonably practicable' secure for young people 'sufficient' educational and recreational leisure time activities which are 'for the improvement of their well-being'.

6.3 The reallocation of resources enables more efficient use of staffing and resources in order for the council to meet Section 507b duties.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The development of integrated youth support services has included all staff and partners in several consultation events.
- 7.2 Union representatives are being continually consulted no issues have been raised.
- 7.3 The outcomes of the scrutiny review have been reported into the scrutiny process.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 That Cabinet notes the report in relation to the review of the Youth Service.
- 8.2 That Cabinet supports that all reasonable steps be taken to successfully complete actions that are currently in progress.

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: Nil

YOUTH SERVICE SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS ACTION PLAN

RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	LEAD/RESPONSIBILITY	SET TIMESCALE	PROGRESS AND POSITION TO DATE – MAY 2010
<i>That resources within the Youth Service be reviewed to prioritise and extend service delivery to a Friday night.</i>	Youth service provision to be extended to include Friday and Saturday nights.	Head of Integrated Youth Support Services	Sept 2009	Achieved
<i>That the panel be kept informed about the 'Galaxy' event, and if successful, be reviewed with the possibility of using current resources within the Youth Service, to promote this event throughout North Lincolnshire on a Friday night.</i>	Resources to be made available to provide activities on Friday nights.	Head of Integrated Youth Support Services	Sept 2009	Achieved
<i>That the panel refers to this issue in (ii) above to the Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Panel, for them to carry out a more in-depth review on a wider range of issues concerning Friday nights.</i>	To agree a Memorandum of Understanding with Safer Neighbourhoods to agree how the Youth Service and Safer Neighbourhoods work together with agreed national indicators and performance .	Head of Integrated Youth Support Services	Apr 2009	Achieved

RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	LEAD/RESPONSIBILITY	SET TIMESCALE	PROGRESS AND POSITION TO DATE – MAY 2010
<p><i>That the possibility of the Youth Service provision to be investigated and made available and publicised, from a younger age group of 11-19 year olds.</i></p>	<p>To publish a brochure to be given to every young person (11-19) setting out summer activities programme.</p> <p>To use web based material as well as printed materials to publicise summer activities programme (11-19) to improve access to information.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services</p>	<p>May 2009</p> <p>June 2010</p>	<p>Achieved</p>
<p>That more work be carried out to promote the awareness and access to the youth service.</p>	<p>To review the roles and responsibilities of locality youth workers to include an explicit role on the promotion of the youth service to partner organisations and young people.</p> <p>To give local Connexions & Youth Offending Service and Police colleagues information on local Youth Service activities to be shared with the young people with whom they are working.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services</p>	<p>Sept 2009</p>	<p>Achieved</p>

RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	LEAD/RESPONSIBILITY	SET TIMESCALE	PROGRESS AND POSITION TO DATE – MAY 2010
<p>That more meaningful engagement and communication with young people be pursued. As well as methods of communication and advertising, using television radio, leaflets and posters available in places where young people really attend.</p>	<p>To explore new means of communicating with young people that have been successful in other authorities. To continue to use posters and leaflets but to make them available in places where young people go.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services</p>	<p>June 2010 January 2009</p>	<p>Achieved. The service has identified 'Plings' which is a web-based approach. (Places to go and things to do project). Achieved.</p>
<p>That prioritisation is given to a more 'joined-up' service, delivering objectives between the council services and their partners like voluntary groups, schools and other organisations.</p>	<p>Locality youth workers to broker the Summer Activity Programme working with local schools, the voluntary sector and other council services. To build on the programme annually.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services</p>	<p>June 2009 June 2010</p>	<p>Achieved Planning almost completed for summer 2010.</p>
<p><i>That the possibility of a 'fit for purpose' study be carried out on all the buildings used for youth service provision, along with the use of council owned community buildings.</i></p>	<p>To work with Property Services on opportunities to improve the use of or the quality of buildings.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services in partnership with Property Services</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>This is part of a wider review of Council properties.</p>
<p><i>That the 'Building Schools for the Future' project take into consideration this panel's report and findings, as it provides an excellent opportunity to develop youth service facilities in areas of North Lincolnshire where demand could be matched to improved facilities on offer.</i></p>	<p>To work with the Core Team from BSF to identify any opportunities as part of the 'Inclusion' element of the BSF scheme linked to services for young people.</p>	<p>Head of Integrated Youth Support Services in partnership with the Core BSF Team</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>There are opportunities as part of the design and consultation stage to explore with schools involved in the BSF scheme.</p>

RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	LEAD/RESPONSIBILITY	SET TIMESCALE	PROGRESS AND POSITION TO DATE – MAY 2010	
	<i>That future expansion of outreach work provision in North Lincolnshire is investigated.</i>	To expand outreach services as part of the Youth Crime Action Plan	Head of Integrated Youth Support Services	Apr 2009	Achieved
	<i>That this review be revisited in 12 months time.</i>	To update review to Cabinet.		Sept 2008 Mar 2010 June 2010	Progress was updated to Cabinet Member. Progress was further updated to Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel. Report to Cabinet.