

Cabinet's Response to Scrutiny Review of Youth Services

Recommendation	Cabinet Decision <i>(Accepted/ Rejected/ Deferred)</i>	Cabinet Response <i>(detailing proposed action if accepted, rationale for rejection, and why and when issue will be reconsidered if deferred)</i>	Officer Responsible	Action by (Date)
1. That Children & Young People's Services develops a vision for Young People's Services as part of integrated teams, reflecting the importance of retaining a balance of non-formal education and generic working as well as providing targeted services to those most in need.	Accepted	Young People's Services are an integral part of Children and Young People's Services and as such are part of the broader vision as endorsed within Rotherham's Children Plan and Young People's Services Plan	Simon Perry	April 2009
2. That the current level of support given to Young People's Services is maintained.	Deferred	Whilst we welcome the recommendation, the issue of resource allocation is subject to the annual budget setting process.	Simon Perry	March 2009
3. That the Cabinet member for Children & Young People's Services commissions a strategy to modernise youth service facilities in the Borough reflecting the need to provide facilities across each locality. The strategy should address: <i>3.1) how we maintain the balance of generic and targeted services at current resource level</i> <i>3.2) how we will meet the Government's proposals around developing an Integrated Capital Strategy and potential partnerships with voluntary or private</i>	Accepted	Strategy to be produced. Where appropriate, incorporate the strategy into the BSF initiative, and Children & Young People's Services Locality Plans.	George Simpson	June 2009

<p>sector. 3.3) whether access to facilities can be widened to ensure that there is provision at peak times and during holiday periods. 3.4) the feasibility of maintaining the current number of buildings or whether services can be provided in localities in other ways. 3.5) the accessibility of facilities via public transport.</p>				
<p>4. As part of the Youth Offer Young People's Services conduct an audit at Area Assembly and Parish Council level to identify gaps or duplication of services.</p> <p>Each locality team should develop relationships with the Parish Councils in their area to establish whether services are being provided, the level of need and if there is scope for greater partnership working.</p>	Accepted	<p>Audit in conjunction with Area Assembly Managers, Extended Services Partnership Officers, Parish Councils and the Voluntary Youth Work Sector with regard to the identification of positive activities within each of the 7 localities. Young people will present the findings to schools, Locality Managers, Area Assembly Officers, Elected Members, Parish Councils, NHS Rotherham and Local Strategic Partnership.</p>	George Simpson	March 2009
<p>5. That further work is undertaken to integrate the Area Planning Process in Area Assemblies with the work of the Locality Teams to identify needs, circumstances and the aspirations of children and young people in their area. On the basis of their views, agree priorities, plan provision and identify the resources available across the partner agencies and the contributions they will make.</p>	Accepted	<p>Children & Young People's Services' Joint Leadership Team will request Locality Managers, Area Assembly Officers, Parish Council Representatives and Youth Officers organise an annual conference(s) in the first quarter of each year and use the information from the audit as a platform for young people in their respective areas to identify their needs and aspirations. The young people's feedback from the conferences and other supporting events such as the work of the Youth Cabinet, Rotherham's National Youth Parliament representatives, school councils and other fora responding to the needs of young people ie BME Youth Forum and Looked After Young People's Council, can then be used to agree priorities, plan provision, identify resources and the roles within partnership working. The results would be documented in Locality and Area Assembly plans for the forthcoming year.</p>	George Simpson	June 2009

<p>6. Agreement sought with partners and Directorates to address how youth work interventions to respond to issues of anti-social behaviour are funded.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>The establishment of Targeted Early Intervention Teams in each locality – whose role is to address the issues of socially excluded young people – signifies a partnership approach which includes staff from Police, Youth Offending Services, Connexions, Substance Misuse Services and NHS Rotherham as well as Youth Services. The work of these teams is informed By Youth Work principles. Joint ownership of anti-social behaviour agenda between SRP and CYPS, ensures that funding streams from a variety of sources are consistently applied, with C&YPS [Targeted Services] taking the lead.</p>	<p>Simon Perry</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>
<p>7. The focus of the service should remain on the 13-19 age group. Recognising that there is a need and desire for work with younger children, that Children and Young People’s Services assess the feasibility of working in partnership with voluntary sector and Parish Councils to provide services for children and young people.</p>	<p>Accepted</p>	<p>Youth Services work with target age range of 13-19 year olds. Targeted Services are currently leading on a review of services to 8-13 year olds in partnership with the VCS, the police and schools, particularly those children at risk of various aspects of social exclusion. This is on behalf of the Proud Theme Board and will inform the commissioning of services from NRF Transitional funding.</p>	<p>Simon Perry</p>	<p>March 2009</p>
<p>8. That work is undertaken to develop a Youth Work ‘Quality Charter’ to benchmark provision in the voluntary and community sectors. Local groups would be awarded the Charter after being assessed as meeting minimum standards in terms of curriculum, health and safety and safeguarding. The Charter could be advertised in the Directory of Services.</p>	<p>Accept in principle.</p>	<p>Children & Young People’s Services and VCS reviewing the resource implications in the context of added value.</p>	<p>George Simpson</p>	<p>September 2009</p>
<p>9. That resources are identified to support the further development and maintenance of the Directory of Services.</p>	<p>Accept in principle.</p>	<p>Review resource implications with partners including any potential contributions and sources of funding. There is a need for the Local Strategic Partnership, Local Authority, PCT, Voluntary and Community Sector and Children and Young People’s Services to identify the capacity to maintain, update and develop the directory of services.</p>	<p>George Simpson</p>	<p>March 2009</p>