



EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - 23RD SEPTEMBER 2014

SUBJECT: CAERPHILLY YOUTH SERVICE STRATEGY 2014-2019

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise Members of the Education for Life Scrutiny Committee on the allocation of the additional revenue funding to underpin the delivery of the Caerphilly Youth Service Strategy.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report details the progress on the delivery of the draft Youth Service Strategy (CYSS) for Caerphilly County Borough Council (CCBC) for the period 2014-2019.
- 2.2 The report provides details on the use of the additional £100,000 during the 2013/14 financial year.
- 2.3 The report also includes proposals for the allocation of the additional £100,000 revenue budget for the Youth Service for 2014/15.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The report links directly the 'Learning' section of the Single Integrated Plan for Caerphilly, linking into the L1 - Improve the level of basic skills and the number of achieved qualifications (formal and non-formal) to improve the life opportunities for families, L2 - Develop a multi-agency approach to address the impact of poverty on pupil attainment, and L3 - Children, young people and families have the skills and resources to access job opportunities.
- 3.2 All proposals have a direct link with the Welsh Government National Youth Service Strategy 2014-2018 and also deliver on the Youth Engagement and Progression Framework.
- 3.4 The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Welsh Government Extending Entitlement Guidance in terms of ensuring opportunities for young people to participate and influence the development of services.

4. THE REPORT

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The statutory Youth Service in Caerphilly currently engages over 7,800 young people predominantly between the ages of 10 to 19 which is equivalent to 20% of the youth population. Youth provision is managed and delivered by 31 full-time and 200 part-time staff, operating in up to 100 different locations, 28 of which are premises that house youth centre and club provision.
- 4.1.2 The Youth Service budget is £2,862,990, of which £1,225,681 is made up from external grants. This includes additional funding from the Welsh Government, Families First and Community First. This budget provides a platform for the development of a broad and progressive range of youth work methods which are delivered through an extensive partnership structure.
- 4.1.3 A review of the Youth Service was conducted in December 2012 by an independent contractor in order to identify good practice, areas for improvement and opportunities for innovation. This was presented to Scrutiny on the 6th November 2013. This information provided a framework for the development of the draft CYSS.
- 4.1.4 The draft Caerphilly Youth Service Strategy was written and presented to Scrutiny in March 2014. Officers then ensured that the allocation of additional funding would underpin the delivery of the CYSS.

4.2 The Youth Service Strategy Update

4.2.1 Consultation

- 4.2.2 The Youth Service has undertaken a rigorous consultation process on the draft Youth Service Strategy between April and June 2014. This has involved the following groups:
- 4.2.3 Young People - A series of Workshops were held in April which involved over 100 young people. Officers translated the priorities of the service into a young people friendly version and sought their views on all 12 priorities and objectives.
- 4.2.4 Staff – A conference was held in February which involved over 120 youth workers at all levels of the Service.
- 4.2.5 Partnerships – A total of 12 key organisations were provided with a copy of the draft documents and asked to make comments and recommendations.
- 4.2.6 Parents – A consultation event was held with parents on Friday 20th June.
- 4.2.7 Elected Members (EM) – Strategy circulated to all EM and two workshops held which were attended by 6 Councillors.

4.3 Allocation of the additional 100K Revenue during the 2013/14 Financial Year

- 4.3.1 Officers analysed the youth centre/club attendances to determine the membership, frequency of visits and needs of young people.
- 4.3.2 A youth centre banding system / suitability survey was introduced in April 2014 which highlighted fit for purpose facilities, premises which needed upgrading and facilities which were not adequate for the delivery of youth work. This information was utilised to make informed decisions about the refurbishment of Rhymney, New Tredegar and Ynys Ddu as a priority because these facilities were utilised in the day and evening or required urgent attention due to Health and Safety issues.

4.3.3 An analysis of the location of the current Youth Centre and Clubs in line with the 2011 Census youth population is in the process of being completed.

4.3.4 The allocation of the budget was then utilised for the following purposes to expand provision and improve the quality of services.

4.3.5 Allocation of resources for 2013/14

	Allocation	Detail	Amount
1	Summer Programme Abertyswg Cefn Hengoed Crosskeys Crumlin Fochriw Lansbury Pantside Penllwyn Risca Tyn Y Wern Ynysddu	Increase access to provision during the summer months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Youth Centres • 7 Youth Clubs • 4 Outreach programmes 	Total = £40,000
2	Upgrading Youth Centres and Clubs to ensure fit for purpose Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Tredegar • Rhymney Clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ynys Ddu 	Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New flooring • Kitchen fittings • New Heaters • Toilet facilities • Modified a large storage space into a 1.1 Counselling room • Guards on light fittings • Security • Compliance with Health and Safety regulations • Decorating 	Total = £31,000
3	Purchase additional equipment, resources and materials to expand curriculum all 29 centres and clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate furniture • Equipment and materials all 28 centres and clubs • DDA suitability 	Total = £29,000
	Total		£100,000

4.3.6 Allocation of resources 2014/15

	Allocation	Detail	Amount
1	Summer Programme Centres and Clubs Abertyswg Cefn Hengoed Crosskeys Crumlin Fochriw Lansbury Pantside	Increase access to provision during the summer months <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Youth Centres • 7 Youth Clubs 9 additional provision on an outreach basis Aberbargoed Abercarn Bedwas	Total Centres = £35,000 Total Outreach = £25,000 Grand total = £60,000

	Penllwyn Risca Tyn Y Wern Ynysddu	Blackwood Caerphilly Town Centre Cwmcarn Nelson Phillipstown Senghenydd	
2	Upgrading Youth Centres to ensure fit for purpose	Improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refurbishment • DDA suitability Bedwas Crosskeys Crumlin The Hanger Risca <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	£20,000
3	Purchase additional equipment, resources and materials to expand curriculum all 29 centres and clubs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate furniture • Equipment and materials all 28 centres and clubs 	£20,000
	Total		£100,000

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Youth Service Strategy, operational plan and project management templates will have a holistic commitment to equality of opportunity.
- 5.2 The Youth Service will be required to demonstrate its contribution to the inclusion agenda in line with the Council's Strategic Equality Objectives, via targets, consultation and monitoring in the Youth Service Strategy, the Directorate's Service Improvement Plans and information provided for inclusion in the annual monitoring and improvement reports for Equalities and Welsh language to the relevant Commissions.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Elected Members have made available an additional revenue allocation of £100,000 to strengthen the delivery of the Youth Service. The 2013/14 allocation has been utilised effectively in preparation for the commencement of delivery of the draft Youth Service Strategy.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no personnel implications as a result of this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1 All comments received are contained within the report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Members note the content of the report.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To ensure that members are aware of the outcomes of the consultation process.
- 10.2 To apprise Members of how the additional funding has been allocated across the borough.

11. STATUTORY POWERS

- 11.1 Extending Entitlement: supporting young people in Wales.
- 11.2 The Learning and Skills Act 2000.
- 11.3 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2010, Equalities Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011, Welsh Language Measure (Wales) 2011.

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