

Youth work Staffing Allocations 2010/2011

Executive Summary

This report provides an update to the verbal presentation made to the Children's Services Select Committee on 28 January 2010 following the request from Cllr Helen Osborn for further explanation regarding the Members' Briefing Note, No. 23, dated 4 December 2009. This briefing note had outlined the proposed changes to the allocation of staffing following a fair and equitable formula approach based upon the following criteria:

- 25% of the total budget as a fixed core funding for each community area
- 50% based upon the numbers of 13-19 year olds in each community area
- 10% based upon deprivation using the indices of multiple deprivation
- 10% based upon rurality/sparsity
- 5% held centrally to cover emergency and/or training/maternity cover.

The current situation described by community area is contained in Appendix1.

Proposal

That the Committee:

Notes the content of the report and comments as appropriate on the current implementation of the staffing funding formula.

Reason for Proposal

To ensure that Members have the latest information regarding the implementation of the youth work allocation staffing funding formula and the opportunity to gain a wider understanding of the current implementation.

Author: David Whewell, Head of Youth Work

Contact: 01225 713772 david.whewell@wiltshire.gov.uk

Purpose of Report

1. To ensure that Members have the latest information regarding the implementation of the youth work allocation staffing funding formula and the opportunity to gain a wider understanding of the current implementation.

Background

2. A Members' Briefing Note (No. 23) detailing proposed changes to the youth work staffing allocations were circulated in December 2009. At the meeting of the Children's Services Select Committee on 28 January 2010 questions were raised about the implementation of this funding formula approach and the intended implementation of it for the year 2010/2011. Following detailed discussions Member's asked for a further update to be made to the September meeting of the Select Committee. Subsequently the Chair of the committee asked for this update to be brought forward to the July meeting.

Main considerations

3. Attached at Appendix 1 is the detail of the current situation with regard to the allocation identified by community area. This has followed the detail of the staffing allocation contained within the Members' Briefing note and indicates the phasing of this allocation within some of the community areas.
4. In the Salisbury Community Area significant work has been undertaken to address the reduced allocation and external funds have been identified to ensure that current levels of delivery are maintained.
5. In the Marlborough, Pewsey and Tidworth Community Areas the allocation is being phased in as the boundary changes implemented as a consequence of 'one council' may have an impact upon the population of 13 – 19 year olds. The Office of National Statistics will release the latest update on 24 June and these new figures will determine the final allocation.
6. In the Wootton Bassett and Cricklade Community Area, local Members have been working with officers to address the potential reduced allocation and are in the process of close negotiations with the town Councils to consider alternatives.
7. In the Bradford Community Area negotiations are underway to address the historical funding of a local group in one of the villages to deliver youth work.
8. The implementation of temporary contracts for assistant part-time youth workers since September 2009 has allowed this transition to be managed.

Environmental Impact of the Proposal

9. At this stage there are no specific or known environmental impact as a result of the implementation of this staffing funding formula.

Risk Assessment

10. At the point of developing this approach to a funding formula it was designed to be delivered within known and available resources and within the existing policy framework. It is also in line with the Council's desire for a transparent and local approach to the delivery of services.

Financial Implications

11. As identified within the risk section of this report the allocation was developed in line with known financial resources. The potential changes required by central government may have a subsequent impact but these are not known at present.

Legal Implications

12. The approach currently enables the Council to meet its statutory responsibilities contained within the Education Act 1996 as amended by the Education and Inspections Act, 2006.

Conclusions

13. This update offers Members of the Committee the opportunity to be further informed regarding the implementation of this staffing funding formula and ask further questions as appropriate.

CAROLYN GODFREY

Corporate Director, Department for Children and Education

Report Author: David Whewell, Head of Youth Work

Unpublished documents have been relied upon in the preparation of this report: None.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Update on Staffing Funding Formula – June 2010.

Update on Staffing Funding Formula – June 2010

The implementation of the Staffing Funding Formula is being implemented on a phased basis until September 2010 due to the revision of population statistics in some Community Areas, caused by boundary amendments but workers are continuing to develop plans. Final population figures will be available on 1st August 2010 and revised allocations will be published shortly after. All part time vacancies have been on a temporary basis since September 2009 to assist with the transition.

Community Area	Current Status
AMESBURY	There is a difference in budget which is due to the transfer of responsibility for Amesbury Leisure Centre to Leisure Services. The actual allocation for youth work has increased.
BRADFORD	There is currently a proposal to reduce the contribution to Holt Youth Club (voluntary sector) from 6 hrs pw to 3 hrs pw. Understandably the local committee is not happy with the decision and we are currently in negotiations over the timescale for implementation.
CALNE	There will not be an impact on the actual level of service delivery.
CHIPPENHAM	There will not be an impact on actual level of service delivery.
CORSHAM	Historically this area was under spent so the reallocation of the formula will not impact on the level of service delivery.

Community Area	Current Status
DEVIZES	There will not be an impact on actual level of service delivery.
DOWNTON	There has been a significant Increase in the formula allocations and plans are to extend the service to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery.
MALMESBURY	There has been a slight increase which will extend delivery into rural villages.
MARLBOROUGH	Awaiting outcome of revised data on boundary changes with Pewsey Community Area, but likely to be an increase and the plan is to extend services into rural villages not currently receiving youth work.
MELKSHAM	There will not be an impact on actual level of service delivery.
MERE	There has been a significant increase in the formula allocations and plans are to extend service delivery to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery.
PEWSEY	Awaiting outcome of revised data on boundary changes. Discussions are underway to withdraw staffing support for the school based breakfast and lunch clubs with the potential for local parents to volunteer to operate these.
SALISBURY	Significant decrease in formula funding allocation which would have reduced service delivery. Staff have identified partnership funding to meet shortfall this financial year only but in the long term, youth work hours will be reduced unless external funding continues.
TIDWORTH	The reduction in the staffing allocation will not have an impact on actual level of service delivery as the current professional worker is a worker in training and there is a saving on her salary.

Community Area	Current Status
TISBURY	Increase in allocation will extend service delivery to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery.
TROWBRIDGE	Increase will consolidate service delivery in the Court Mills Centre and provide street work in Trowbridge which has been short term funding previously.
WARMINSTER	Increase will extend service delivery to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery.
WESTBURY	Increase will extend service delivery to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery.
WILTON	Significant Increase in staffing allocation and plans are to extend service delivery to rural villages not currently receiving youth work delivery as well as increasing service delivery in Wilton Town through the provision of new youth club building provided by sale of Middle School site.
WOOTTON BASSETT & CRICKLADE	Significant decrease in staffing funding formula. Plan is to move Senior Youth Worker from Malmesbury and to appoint a Rural Outreach Worker in Training post to be based in Wootton Bassett to provide youth work in rural parts of the community area to include Purton, Cricklade and Lyneham. This has implications for current delivery in Purton and Cricklade and we have been discussing with local Members for Cricklade and Purton other options to secure funding to enable provision to continue to deliver 2 evenings per week.