

**WILTSHIRE COUNCIL**  
**Trowbridge Area Board**  
**13 November 2014**

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## **Community-led model for youth activities**

### **Purpose of the Report**

To update the Area Board on the community- led model for the provision of positive activities for young people in the Trowbridge Community Area.

### **Background**

In May 2014 Cabinet agreed to adopt a community-led model for the provision of positive activities for young people. By delegating responsibility and resources to Community Area Boards for youth activities, Wiltshire Council is committed to supporting young people and their communities to come together to develop a responsive and locally driven positive activities offer for young people.

The community-led model commenced on 1 October 2014 and means the positive activities offer will develop differently in each of the 18 Community Area Board areas to reflect local needs. A positive activity can be any educational or recreational leisure-time activity that is arts, sports, leisure, informal education and community based which helps young people achieve healthy and safe lifestyle outcomes.

Area Boards will ensure that positive activity provision is inclusive and takes into account the needs of all vulnerable groups. It should be noted that the Trowbridge Area Board adopted in July 2014 that the Board prioritises supporting projects that will target young people in communities that have the highest poverty indicators.

Each Area Board will have delegated authority, a devolved budget and a dedicated Community Youth Officer (CYO) to support the implementation of the new model in its area. The CYO will be accountable to the Area Board for the delivery of agreed local priorities and the Area Board will be the responsible body for youth activities at a local level.

Each Area Board will establish and maintain a Local Youth Network (LYN), to understand local needs and make recommendations to the Area Board on how funding for positive activities should be deployed. The LYN will be an open network of organisations in the area that have an interest or involvement in the provision of positive activities for young people. The LYN will be supported by a smaller coordination group facilitated by the Community Youth Officer.

## **Current Position**

A CYO has not yet been appointed for the Trowbridge community area. Support is being provided to the Community Area Manager by Siobainn Chaplin for the interim. In the absence of the CYO the following activity has taken place:

- Trowbridge Area Board elected its representative for the LYN, Councillor Graham Payne
- Two drop in consultation events for young people have been run on 8<sup>th</sup> November and 13<sup>th</sup> November
- One to one consultation with vulnerable young people is planned
- Potential members of the LYN coordination group being are contacted with initial meeting set for 2 December 4pm – 5.30pm at The Hub, John of Gaunt School
- Results of consultation to be analysed and added to data from the community joint strategic assessment to start the process of drawing up priorities for provision for the community area

## **Future Activity to develop the service**

- Once the CYO has been appointed work will start on creating the wider LYN and sharing information widely
- Training for the LYN coordination group
- Events to be organised to bring together youth activity providers and young People

## **Recommendations**

1. To note the Leaders Guidance for Positive Activities (appendix 1) and Terms of Reference for Local Youth Networks (appendix 2)
2. In line with our approach with community area grants in respect of urgent matters that may arise from time to time between meetings that the Community Area Manager and Interim Community Youth Officer, in consultation with the Chairman & Vice Chairman plus 2 other Members of Trowbridge Area Board be granted delegated authority to approve expenditure not exceeding £500 from the youth budget which will be recorded at the next available Area Board meeting.

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