

Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of Keighley Area Committee to be held on 17th of October 2019

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Subject:

Youth Service Update – Keighley

Summary statement:

This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley area in the past 12 months and outlines the direction of travel for the next 12 months.

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Portfolio:

Neighbourhoods and Community Safety

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley Area in the past 12 months and outlines the direction of travel for the next 12 months.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Bradford Council Youth Service is part of the wider Bradford District Youth Offer that aims to ensure the provision of a range of activities and services that take place in safe spaces, where young people can develop a sense of belonging, socialise with their peers and develop relationships with adults they can trust. It recognises that with the right supportive relationships, strong ambitions and good opportunities all young people can realise their potential and be positive and active members of society.
- 2.2 The Youth Service Vision statement is to work with partners to ensure that young people grow up healthy, happy, informed and aspiring; proud of who they are, where they come from, and actively involved in their community.
- 2.3 Youth Service priorities reflect the priorities of the Youth Service and are aligned to the five Key Elements of the Bradford District Youth Offer. They are KPIs

Youth Offer Element 1 – Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG)

Increase the numbers of young people accessing IAG through digital media.

Youth Offer Element 2 – Voice and influence

Increase the numbers of young people participating in Youth Voice opportunities at all levels.

Youth Offer Element 3 – Open access

Deliver a diverse youth offer through working in partnership with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) and local communities.

Youth Offer Element 4 - Targeted provision

Increase the number of specific interventions to address the needs of vulnerable young people.

Youth Offer Element 5 - Active citizens and young people's contribution to community life

Increase the number of young people having a positive impact on their community.

- 2.4 In terms of staffing, the Youth Service is managed as one service. Staff are contracted to the Youth Service and are allocated to Areas. Appendix C outlines the current allocation of Youth Service staff across the District.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Open Access Youth Provisions

Open access youth provision is delivered within all Wards in Keighley, these sessions create a safe space for young people to engage in positive informal educative activities. Young people have the opportunity to engage in the planning, delivery and evaluation of the twelve week programmes building their skills and aspirations whilst working towards achieving accreditations. Appendix A – Keighley Youth Service 'What's On Guide' details the current provisions being delivered within the Wards in Keighley. Appendix B – 'Bradford Youth Service Keighley Wards Update' gives some examples of the different types of youth work being delivered in Keighley.

3.2 **Voice and Influence**

Ten young people from Keighley have completed training to become Young Inspectors. The Inspectors programme (funded by the Bradford Opportunity Area grant) involves young people going into educational establishments including schools and completing audits on the delivery of grant based projects. This gives young people an insight into grant processes, delivery of programmes, the opportunity to meet other young people whilst working within educational establishments to develop skills, gain experience, being empowered to make decisions and offer information, advice and guidance. In addition to the Inspectors programme young people who attend all of our provisions are supported to engage in Voice and Influence programmes including planning of provisions, attending scrutiny committees, becoming Ambassadors and the interviewing of senior council candidates, all of which develop their pathways into future educational and employment opportunities.

The Keighley Ambassadors have been consulting with their peers in addition to completing an on line survey to gather young people's view and opinions. We have found that this creates a strong working partnership between the ambassadors and them connecting with the different areas/communities across the constituency. They are currently organising a Youth Summit which will take place on the 1 November 2019 at Keighley College.

3.3 **Constituency Wide Provisions**

Keighley currently leads on the delivery of 13 constituency wide sessions on a weekly basis. These are themed to suit young people's needs, interests and increase our Youth Offer. Our Inclusion provision for the area has a current membership of 107 young people. This provision supports young people with additional needs to engage in positive activities with their siblings and peers whilst being supported to engage in universal open access provisions. Information regarding the Keighley area constituency wide provisions can be found in both Appendix A and Appendix B.

3.4 **LGBT+**

The Keighley team ensures LGBT + based work is delivered within all of our provisions and two sessions are regularly delivered to ensure that young people are supported. In September 2019 Keighley hosted its first 'Pride' and the Youth Service ensured that young people were actively involved in the planning and delivery.

3.5 **Buddy support as part of Youth In Mind**

Building on the continued success of the 'Buddies' work, and our partnership within the Youth In Mind (YIM) initiative, the Youth Service has been re-commissioned to deliver 'Buddy Support' to young people across the District.

Youth Workers receive referrals from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), School Nurses & other professionals, the Youth Workers then act as Buddies to the young people. Their role is to befriend them,

support them using the 'Signs of Safety' approach and navigate them to the various support opportunities available to them.

All full time youth workers hold an additional caseload in schools, delivering one-to-one work on a weekly basis developing young people's confidence, self-belief and resilience. This supports working towards reducing the demand on specialist services.

3.6 **Other work targeted at young people with specific needs including CSE**

The Youth Service continues to provide direct support to young people at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation. Youth Workers support the young people referred on a 1:1 basis and engage them in support opportunities available. Through engagement and follow-on support young people have reported on feeling safer, have an increased support network and due to engaging in local provisions young people are feeling more connected within their local communities. Keighley currently runs a number of female only provisions and Youth In Mind groups all of which offer young people a safe space to engage in positive informal educative activities.

3.7 **Early Help**

Bradford Youth Service continues to work with the Early Help Team and supports the area based panels. Through these panels young people are referred to the Youth Service and are supported by the area Youth Workers to engage in localised youth provisions, YIM (Youth In Mind) groups and for those who require it an offer of one-to-one support. The young people referred have been supported around a number of issues including non-engagement in education, anger management, family breakdowns, Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) & domestic abuse. The support given by the Youth Service helps to prevent young people from entering the social care system and supports them into a positive destination.

3.8 **Changing Places and Community Integration**

The Youth Service plays a pivotal role in supporting cohesion of young people across the District; Keighley has allocated a link worker to champion the Changing Places programme. This innovative programme is focused on young people from new migrant communities including those with refugee status. Keighley runs a very popular session on a Saturday afternoon with over 48 young people engaging. Appendix B gives an example of a recent social action project.

4. **FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

- 4.1 Following the budget decision at Full Council in February 2019 the Youth Service has a budget cut of £513,000 to implement from 1st April 2020 onwards. This equates to approximately 25% of the current Youth Service base budget.

- 4.2 The Youth Service is working towards minimising the impact of the cut to base budget through accessing external funding and operating as a traded service. Currently the following funded projects are being explored to be in place from the 1st April 2020 to mitigate the loss of base budget and maintain the core of the service:
- Youth In Mind work with young people with mental health issues which is funded by the Clinical Commissioning Groups.
 - Breaking the Cycle project with young people at risk of criminal exploitation and is funded by the Home Office/ West Yorkshire Police.
 - School based work where schools are funding the Youth Service to deliver wellbeing support on a traded service basis.
 - External funding to maintain open access provision in neighbourhoods with lower numbers of young people 13-19.
- 4.3 In addition to finding external sources of funding there will be some reductions to staffing. These are the deletion of an Advanced Practitioner and two 16-19 Youth Worker Posts. The staff reductions will contribute £118k of the required base budget saving.
- 4.4 As a consequence of the staffing reduction there will be one Advanced Practitioner who will cover Keighley and Shipley Areas and report to the Keighley Area Co-ordinator.
- 4.5 There will also be a need to align 16-19 Youth Workers and 20-23 Youth Workers to where the demand emerges from the traded service work with schools.
- 4.6 The potential secondary implications of changes to funding from 1 April 2020 are:
- Youth Workers may have less time to deliver Youth Work within community settings and this may impact on the neighbourhood based delivery of open access sessions.
 - There is likely to be a reduction in open access sessions delivered
 - The service is increasingly targeted on the specific requirements of funders.
- 4.7 The District-wide budget for sessional part time staff and casuals in 2019-20 is £490k. Of this £90k is allocated to Keighley. In 2020-21 the base budget in Keighley will reduce by £23k to £67k for sessional youth work. These reductions will contribute £75k towards the required based budget savings. They are proportionate to the number of young people living in each Constituency.

Areas	16-19s	% Total	Budget current	Budget 2020-21	Difference
Bradford East	12,497	25%	£110,000	£105,000	−£5,000
Bradford West	13,231	26%	£110,000	£109,200	−£1,000
Bradford South	9,407	19%	£90,000	£79,800	−£10,000
Keighley	8,008	16%	£90,000	£67,200	−£23,000
Shipley	6,842	14%	£90,000	£58,800	−£31,000
	49,985	100%	£490,000		−£70,000

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

The implementation of the planned budget savings for the Youth Service is subject to the internal risk management plan of the Council and progress is reported to the Place Departmental Management Team.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

No issues.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The Youth Service as part of the Council's commitment to the District has a responsibility to ensure that the service is accessible to all young people and that participation in the service reflects this approach.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Youth Service delivery enables local initiatives to be supported, encouraging groups and individuals to undertake activities that improve the social, economic and environmental well being of their communities.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Greenhouse gas emissions and wider environmental impacts was a consideration of the Buildings Review.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Young people from across Keighley engaging in weekly open access and specialist provisions are directly and indirectly involved with supporting and developing community safety within their local area. Voice and influence is central to youth work delivery ensuring young people's ideas, suggestions and thoughts are heard.

The strengthened approach to the devolution of the Youth Service as will allow for:

- an increased sense of local democracy for both young people and communities
- young people to be more active in democratic, decision-making processes alongside their political representatives

- the voice and influence of young people to remain central, meaningful and paramount in identifying and addressing needs and issues in their communities
- the requirements of the localism/devolution agenda to be met effectively and efficiently

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no direct Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations below.

7.6 TRADE UNION

All budget proposals are subject to consultation with the Trade Unions.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The information in this report is related to all Wards in the Constituency and Appendix B outlines the Youth Service projects and activities delivered across Keighley.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 That Keighley Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report.

9.2 That Keighley Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report, with amendments.

9.3 That Keighley Area Committee decides not to accept the recommendations outlined in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley Area as detailed in this report be welcomed.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A: Keighley Youth Service – What’s On Guide

11.2 Appendix B: Keighley Youth Service – Examples of Youth Work

11.3 Appendix C: Bradford Youth Service Staffing Structures

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 Youth Service – Keighley Area, Document “K”, Keighley Area Committee, 18th October 2018.