

Report of the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on 16th September 2015

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Subject:

Youth Service – South Area

Summary statement:

This report gives an update on the Youth Opportunities Fund administered by the Youth Service in Bradford South. It also gives details of ideas generated through New Deal conversations with young people in Bradford South.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:
Children's Services



1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report gives an update on Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF) administered by the Youth Service in the South Area. It also gives details of ideas generated through New Deal conversations with young people in Bradford South.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Bradford South Youth Opportunities Fund has supported youth led applications for grants of up to £2,000. Since 2012 YOF grants have supported several youth groups in Bradford South to provide a range of youth activities.
- 2.2 In September 2014 the Youth Opportunities Panel and members of Bradford South Area Committee successfully administered a fund of £10,000 which saw several different youth groups awarded grants for youth activities.
- 2.3 Bradford South Area Committee agreed on the 26th March 2015 to commit again £10k of the activities fund for a further round of the Youth Opportunities Fund in 2015-16.
- 2.4 At the Bradford South Area Committee on 26th March 2015 the positive contribution that young people can make to embedding aspects of the New Deal were recognised.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

New Deal Conversations with Young People in Bradford South

- 3.1 As part of the New Deal initiative, conversations took place with young people from all six Wards during February 2015. These took place at:
- Buttershaw Youth Centre (Wibsey and Royds Wards)
 - Holmewood's TFD Centre (Tong Ward)
 - Queensbury Victoria Hall (Queensbury Ward)
 - Delph Hill Centre (Wyke Ward)
 - Great Horton Village Hall and Scholemoor Community Centre (Great Horton Ward)

In total across the six sessions, one hundred and thirty eight (138) young people aged 11-19 participated in conversations with a total of seven local Councillors. Discussions were wide ranging and included:

- Young people's perceptions of Bradford Council
- Understandings of the wide range of services delivered by the Council
- Views on what services should be prioritised
- Anything the Council should stop doing
- How much money young people thought the Council has
- Given the situation, ideas of what young people can do to help



In general terms, at the start of the conversations young people had fairly negative views of the Council but once they had explored the wide range of services offered tended to be very supportive of the services offered. Some young people believed that Council budgets were actually increasing and most were surprised to hear about the scale of the cuts to Council and public sector funding.

Young people did not find it easy to suggest any services that were no longer required. Participants were particularly vocal about the need to maintain support for older people as well as for young people.

Young people had many ideas on what young people could do to help the situation. These included:

- Not dropping litter and to encourage other young people not to drop litter
- To recycle themselves and to talk to their parents about the importance of reducing waste
- Help the elderly, invite them for meals with young people and offer to help them with tasks like shopping
- To be friendly and smile more
- Volunteer to help at youth sessions
- Fundraise themselves for youth sessions and other needs
- Look out for people in the community including Neighbourhood Watch
- Help clear snow from paths
- Contribute towards the cost of youth sessions
- Keeping yourself fit and healthy

Many of the young people who participated in the conversations said that they personally would be willing to do more to help. Generally they engaged very positively and expressed an interest in not just talking about the issues but also doing something practical to improve the places and communities where they lived.

- 3.2.1 As a result of the ideas suggested by young people through the New Deal conversation young people have been engaged in a summer programme that has encouraged young people to participate not only in activities but also fundraising and community action initiative. Examples from the summer include young people helping to plan, organise and run Bierley Youth Festival, litter picks in Wibsey Park, intergenerational tea parties and workshops on healthy relationships. In addition to this young people have volunteered to support disability bike riding events.

PLANNING

- 3.3 In March 2015 Bradford South Area Committee noted *'the potential, for young people in the area to make a positive contribution to embedding aspects of the New Deal'*.
- 3.4 The Youth Service priorities are now moving more towards supporting young people to take community action and seeks to support all youth groups with additional resources to assist them in making each ward in Bradford South a safer



and cleaner place to live. The service would like to fund community action that sees young people helping to: reduce isolation, support vulnerable groups, promote community cohesion and provide help in times of need. As a result we would hope to inspire youth groups through the YOF to provide community action projects such as Christmas meals for the elderly, helping hands for community tidy ups, litter picks, gritting, leaf clearing and other seasonal needs.

TIMESCALE

- 3.5 Applications for YOF would have a deadline of 31st October 2015 with the Grant Advisor Group/ YOF Panel meeting to approve applications within two weeks of this deadline.
- 3.6 Successful groups would receive funding by end of November 2015 with a view to completion of community action projects by 31st March 2016.
- 3.7 The Bradford South Area Coordinator will oversee the grants and provide a report to Bradford South Area Committee on their impact in the summer of 2016.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 Each Area has an allocation of £33,000 to be divided between funding for Area-wide activities, including school holiday activities, and the Youth Opportunities Fund (YOF). The recommended split is an allocation of £10,000 to the YOF and £23,000 for activities. The YOF funding should be used to fund initiatives which are led by young people and where young people are involved in identifying, agreeing and allocating funds alongside Area Committee members.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

The focus on community action may make the YOF less appealing to some youth groups with potentially fewer groups willing to apply for grants. Youth groups may have limited capacity to deliver community action outside their service remit.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

The Council has a responsibility to co-ordinate and offer support for the Health and Well Being of Young People set down in Statutory Guidance issued in 2012. The duty is to secure equality of access for all young people to the positive, preventative and early help they need to improve their well-being. This includes youth work and other services and activities that:

- Connect young people with communities so they contribute to society including through volunteering and ensure they have a voice in decisions affecting them



- Offer young people opportunities in safe environments so they develop a sense of belonging, socialise safely with their peers, enjoy social mixing, experience time with older people and develop relationships with adults they trust
- Support the personal and social development of young people to build capabilities needed for learning, work and the transition to adulthood
- Improve young people's physical and mental health and emotional well-being;
- Help those at risk of dropping out of learning or not achieving their full potential to engage and attain in education or training; and
- Raise young people's aspirations, build resilience and informs their decisions – particularly to address risky behaviours

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

Equal Rights legislation has been considered as part of the detailed proposals for the devolution of services. 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

A number of youth projects are either directly or indirectly concerned with improving community safety within local communities. The increased involvement of young people in local decision making has the potential to improve community safety. The Youth Service plays a key role in ensuring that young people's voices 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

There are no implications for Trade Unions arising from this report.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Youth Service projects, activities and YOF support young people and communities within all the Wards in the area.

7.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

Youth Service projects and activities support priorities within the Bradford South Area Committee Action Plan 2014 -17.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

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

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

9.3 That Bradford South Area Committee decides not to accept the recommendations outlined in this report

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That Bradford South Area Committee welcomes the opportunity to use the Youth Opportunities Fund to support young people in the area to make a positive contribution to embedding aspects of the New Deal.

10.2 That the Bradford South Area Committee requests that the Area Coordinator sets up a special meeting of the Grant Advisory Group that will include a panel of young people to make recommendations on youth groups to fund using the Youth Opportunities Fund.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A: Youth Service Budget 2015/16



Appendix A

Youth Service Budget 2015/16

Full time staffing	East	South	West	Shipley	Keighley	Total Neighbourhood Budget	Children's Services Budget	Total Youth Budget
1 x Commissioner							£53,000	£53,000
Finance posts (1.5fte)							£53,700	£53,700
Pension Cost							£12,100	£12,100
5 x Advanced Practitioners	£44,096	£44,096	£44,096	£44,096	£44,096	£220,478		£220,478
5 X Senior Youth Workers	£37,542	£37,542	£37,542	£37,542	£37,542	£187,710		£187,710
2 X Senior Youth Workers- Info Shop & Kly Connexions			£37,542		£37,542	£75,084		£75,084
28 X Youth Workers (inc 1 info shop)	£167,563	£201,075	£201,075	£201,075	£167,563	£938,352		£938,352
2.92 x Information officers - Info Shop & Kly Connexions			£47,776		£21,977	£69,752		£69,752
Part time staffing								
32 x 24hrs per week	£91,082	£106,262	£91,082	£106,262	£91,082	£485,769		£485,769
Buildings								
Constituency Building	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	£136,000		£136,000
Rent in each Constituency	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£50,000		£50,000
Administration								



Mile claims, DBS etc X £10K per area	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£50,000		£50,000
Resources / Detached bus	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£5,000	£25,000		£25,000
Activities (PAYP & Short Breaks)								
YOF / Activity Funding /PAYP for the 5 Areas	£33,000	£33,000	£33,000	£33,000	£33,000	£165,000		£165,000
District-wide support							£10,000	£10,000
Total	£410,282	£488,975	£571,112	£477,975	£464,801	£2,413,146	£118,800	£2,531,946

Budget Available						£2,424,900	£118,800	£2,543,700
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Surplus						£11,754	£0	£11,754
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