

**Report of the ENE Area Leader**

**Report to: North East Inner Area Committee**

**Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2013**

**Subject: Investing in Young People: Update on the Future Direction of Youth Services and Delegated Functions for Area Committees**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Burmantofts & Richmond Hill, Gipton & Harehills, Killingbeck & Seacroft	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. In March 2013 the Council's Executive Board approved a new allocation to the overall Area Committee budget ring-fenced for youth activities of £250k in 2013/14 and £500k in 2014/15.
2. As a result, the budget ring-fenced for youth activities allocated to the Inner North East Area Committee is £25,835 in 2013/14 and £51,670 in 2014/15.
3. Following the announcement of this funding at the June 17<sup>th</sup> Area Committee meeting, proposals for allocating this budget need to be worked up in conjunction with Elected Members, council officers, partners and young people.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Inner North East Area Committee:

1. Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Funding - £12,917 – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
2. Agree to the convening of a special Wellbeing working group to include representatives of School and Youth Councils to help develop a process for allocating the Youth activity funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.

3. Approve the allocation of the remaining £12,917 for 2013/14 to be done using consultation already carried out for the summer holiday programme.

## **1 Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Area Committee with proposals for spending the budget delegated to the Area Committee for universal youth activities.
- 1.2 Universal youth activities can be defined as activities offering opportunities for play, arts, sport and cultural activities with young people age 8-17 years enabling young people to play, have fun, get creative, and have new experiences both after school and during the school holidays.

## **2 Background information**

- 2.1 In March 2013 Executive Board agreed, as part of the new model for Youth Services a new allocation to the overall Area Committee budget ring-fenced for youth activities of £250k in 2013/14 and £500k in 2014/15, with a clear expectation that young people help to shape decision making around the spending of this resource, against an agreed set of outcomes. This funding is to support play, arts, sports and cultural activity for young people aged 8-17.
- 2.2 This budget has been split between the ten Area Committees based on NHS population data of young people aged 8 – 17. The Inner North East Area Committee is £25,835 in 2013/14 and £51,670 in 2014/15.
- 2.3 The report presented to the June 17<sup>th</sup> 2013 meeting of the Area Committee asked Elected Members to consider, in respect of the universal funding, how it could be delivered in each area building on the Breeze brand, how it can link to other funding streams and how children and young people will be involved throughout the planning, decision making and evaluation of the activity funding.
- 2.4 Organisations providing youth activities funded by the budget can be a community or voluntary group, a commercial organisation operating on a non-profit basis or a council department. All organisations must be registered with the Breeze Culture Network, and in registering will be required to submit their safeguarding and equality policies.
- 2.5 Providers will be required to keep registration forms and a register of attendance and have attendees fill out evaluation forms (which will be supplied). Providers must complete monitoring reports at agreed intervals, templates for which will be supplied and agree to unannounced spot check visits to check that safeguarding procedures are being followed. They will also sign a funding contract/SLA to agree the details of what will be delivered.
- 2.6 Providers are expected to capture data using young people's Breeze cards whenever possible and a hand held scanner for this method will hopefully be provided and utilised in the future.

- 2.7 Providers will be required to list their activity on the Breeze website through the Breeze Culture Network, provide information to be included in the Cluster 'What's on' guides, webpages and mail shots and agree to the council sharing information about the work supplied in reports or promotional newsletters with other statutory bodies, VCF organisations, for use in surveys and consultations. This may include the providers contact name and details.
- 2.8 In 2011 the Area Committee commenced organising a programme of summer holiday activities, in partnership with the Extended Services Clusters, and created a process by which they commissioned a full and varied timetable of activities for children and young people across the inner north east in consultation with local young people. This process has been used as a template for the recommendations which were agreed at Executive Board and which are detailed in paragraphs 2.4 to 2.7.

### **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 The timescale pressures of spending the current year's Youth Activities Fund budget are significant, particularly given the Area Support Teams experiences of the timeframes involved in commissioning youth activities. Given the resources that the Area Committee has already invested in young people's activities this year and the increasing pressures on the Wellbeing budget, it is suggested that 50% of this year's allocation- £12,917 – be re-invested into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
- 3.2 Should this recommendation be approved by the Area Committee, this would allow £12,917 of Wellbeing money, already earmarked for like-for-like universal youth activities, to be returned to the Area Wide budget and reallocated to other Area Committee priorities.
- 3.3 It should be noted that the amount the Area Committee has available to spend in its Area Wide Wellbeing budget has been significantly depleted as a result of the decision to allocate £35,267, or 25% of the available budget, to children & young people's activities. This decision was made by Area Committee in the absence of any money specifically for this purpose being available. Other Area Committees across the city have used the Youth fund for this purpose, where it has been available, or allocated some of it to cover Wellbeing fund spend in the manner suggested.
- 3.4 Using 50% of this year's youth activities allocation towards the 2013 Summer Holidays Activities programme is considered prudent given that the funding will be lost if not spent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014. There is a very real risk that spending the full allocation of £25,835 by April 2014 would not be achievable and a significant proportion of this money could be lost.
- 3.5 It is proposed that a special meeting of the Wellbeing working group is convened as a matter of urgency involving a number of young people who are representatives of school or youth councils in the area. This group will help develop a process for allocating this funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.

- 3.6 For this financial year the group would use consultation carried out for the summer holidays to agree what types of activities should be commissioned.
- 3.7 Timescales mean that the group would need to bring recommendations for spend for Bonfire night diversionary activities to the next Area Committee meeting in October so that the money can be approved.
- 3.8 A key element of allocating any future monies will be the involvement of young people. The Sub Group could explore ways of involving young people in the commissioning of youth activities, be that via existing best practice such as a Youth Council or the National Citizen Service or by other means that could be developed in tandem with colleagues in Children's Services.
- 3.9 It is suggested that the group build on best practice already established with the summer holiday programme and that consultation events involving young people take place in quarter four of this financial year allowing a full programme of events for the year to be approved by Area Committee at its March/ April meeting in 2014.
- 3.10 The youth activity funding also creates further opportunities to link with area cluster partnerships, schools and other partners to maximise activity and opportunities for children and young people.

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

- 4.1.1 Further engagement with young people and partners are fundamental to any delegation model
- 4.1.2 Young people have been involved in training to support the commissioning process in localities through a range of workshops supported by the Children's Services Voice and Influence team, Youth Service and voluntary sector partners.
- 4.1.3 It will be the role of the Area Support Team to ensure that young people – particularly those from Inner North East Leeds – are trained in supporting the commissioning process and are actively involved in the funding working group.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

- 4.2.1 Youth activity funding delegated to Area Committees can support cohesion and integration in localities where identified as a local need with children and young people. The process envisaged encourages participation and engagement of young people and partners.

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

- 4.3.1 In order to support the delivery of the Children and Young People's Plan the activities will support the outcome: Children and Young People Have Fun Growing Up by providing play leisure, culture and sporting opportunity for all 8-17 year old across the city.

- 4.3.2 This process will also support the outcome: children and young people are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence, the activities fund will increase participation, voice and influence in localities around the city.
- 4.3.3 This process will also support the aim to make Leeds the Best City... for children and young people as set-out in the City Priority Plan for 2011 – 2015 and the Vision for Leeds 2011- 2030.
- 4.3.4 This process will also help make Leeds a Child Friendly City. The activities and projects provided need to support what children and young people have told us is important to them:
- There are places and spaces to play and things to do, in all areas and open to all
  - More staff in places and spaces children and young people go
  - Things to do all year round, not just during holidays
  - Families and young people informed about what is going on across the city and how to get there e.g. bus routes

#### 4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The 8-17 populations by wards have been based on data received from NHSLeeds. The data is based on addresses of children and young people registered with GP's. This has been shown to be the most comprehensive, accurate and up to date source of data for the population of children and young people. The number of young people per ward is as follows:

Ward	Area Committee	8-17 population	allocation
Burmantofts & Richmond Hill	Inner East	3107	9283
Gipton & Harehills	Inner East	4797	14332
Killingbeck & Seacroft	Inner East	3530	10547
<b>Inner East</b>		<b>1434</b>	<b>34162</b>
Chapel Allerton	Inner North East	2859	8542
Moortown	Inner North East	2469	7377
Roundhay	Inner North East	3319	9916
<b>Inner North East</b>		<b>8647</b>	<b>25835</b>
Alwoodley	Outer North East	2490	7439
Harewood	Outer North East	2309	6899
Wetherby	Outer North East	2062	6161
<b>Outer North East</b>		<b>6861</b>	<b>20499</b>
<b>East North East</b>		<b>26942</b>	<b>80495</b>

- 4.4.2 The budget allocation for each area committee is as follows:

<b>Local Breeze Activity</b>				
<b>Area Committee</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>8-17 population</b>	<b>2013 /14 allocation</b>	<b>2014/15 allocation</b>
<i>Inner East</i>		<b>11434</b>	<b>34162</b>	<b>68323</b>
<i>Inner North East</i>		<b>8647</b>	<b>25835</b>	<b>51670</b>
<i>Outer North East</i>		<b>6861</b>	<b>20499</b>	<b>40997</b>
	<b>East North East</b>	<b>26942</b>	<b>80495</b>	<b>160990</b>
<i>Inner South</i>		<b>8322</b>	<b>24864</b>	<b>49728</b>
<i>Outer East</i>		<b>9701</b>	<b>28984</b>	<b>57968</b>
<i>Outer South</i>		<b>10080</b>	<b>30116</b>	<b>60232</b>
	<b>South</b>	<b>28103</b>	<b>83964</b>	<b>167927</b>
<i>Inner North West</i>		<b>5986</b>	<b>17884</b>	<b>35769</b>
<i>Inner West</i>		<b>5423</b>	<b>16202</b>	<b>32405</b>
<i>Outer North West</i>		<b>9451</b>	<b>28237</b>	<b>56474</b>
<i>Outer West</i>		<b>7771</b>	<b>23218</b>	<b>46435</b>
	<b>West North West</b>	<b>28631</b>	<b>85541</b>	<b>171083</b>
		<b>83676</b>	<b>250000</b>	<b>500000</b>

#### **4.5 Approve the esLegal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

4.5.1 None.

#### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 A Project Plan will be developed for the Youth Activities Fund spend including identifying any potential risks and how they can be mitigated.

4.6.2 As part of the commissioning process, all prospective bids will be subject to the same scrutiny as other Wellbeing applications. Applicants will also be subject to rigorous checks regarding their safe guarding procedures.

### **5 Conclusions**

5.1 In conclusion, the Youth Activity Fund creates an opportunity to build on activity provided locally meeting identified need on a Ward by Ward basis. The process of involving children and young people in the decision making supports Leeds being a Child Friendly City and ensures children's needs are central to the process.

5.2 Locality budgets for activity will generate opportunity for creative ways to work across partnerships in localities.

### **6 Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Inner North East Area Committee:

6.1 Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Funding - £12,917 – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.

- 6.2 Agree to the convening of a special Wellbeing working group to include representatives of School and Youth Councils to help develop a process for allocating the Youth activity funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.
- 6.3 Approve the allocation of the remaining £12,917 for 2013/14 to be done using consultation already carried out for the summer holiday programme.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

- 7.1 None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.