

**Report of the ENE Area Leader**

**Report to: East Inner Area Committee**

**Date: 3<sup>rd</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 East Area Committee is £34,162 in 2013/14 and £68,323 in 2014/15.
3. Following the announcement of this funding at the June 20<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 East Area Committee:

1. Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Funding - £17,081 or £5,693 from each ward – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
2. Approve the splitting of the remainder of this year's Youth Activity Funding allocation - £17,081 – equally between the three wards that make up the Inner East Area Committee.

3. Approve the establishment of a Children's and Young People's Sub Group involving the Area Lead for Children's Services, Elected Members from each ward, Neighbourhood Managers and any partners/stakeholders deemed appropriate.

## **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 East Area Committee has been allocated £34,162 for 2013/14 and £68,323 for 2014/15.
- 2.3 The report presented to the June 20<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 A draft guidance note to be sent out to potential applicants for the Youth Activities Fund is attached at **Appendix A**.

### **3 Main issues**

- 3.1 The timescale pressures of spending the current year's Youth Activities Fund budget are significant. Given the Area Support Team's and partners recent experiences of commissioning youth activities, it is suggested that 50% of this year's allocation- £17,081 or £5,693 from each ward – be re-invested into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.
- 3.2 Should this recommendation be approved by the Area Committee, this would allow £17,081 of Wellbeing money already earmarked for like-for-like universal youth activities to be re-distributed equally back into the three Ward pots.
- 3.3 It should be noted that all three Ward pots have been significantly depleted as a result of the decision by the Area Committee to allocate of £30,000 for summer holiday activities in March 2013. Area Committee has previously expressed an ambition utilise the Youth Activity Fund to pay for some of the summer activities in 2013.
- 3.4 Using 50% of this year's youth activities allocation towards the 2013 Summer Holidays Activities programme is considered prudent by the Area Support Team given the deadline to spend this funding by April 2014. There is a very real risk that allocating the full amount of funding for 2013/14 - £34,162 or £11,387 for each ward – would not be achievable and a significant proportion of this money could be lost.
- 3.5 It is proposed that a Children's and Young People's Sub Group be set-up as a matter of urgency to help develop a process for allocating this funding both in 2013/14 and in future years.
- 3.6 It is recommended that this Sub Group consists of the Area Lead for Children's Services (Councillor Vonnie Morgan), Elected Member representatives from each ward, Neighbourhood Managers and any partners/stakeholders deemed appropriate. The membership of the Sub Group should be of a manageable size to help ensure fluidity and flexibility in light of timescale pressures.
- 3.7 It is suggested that the role of the sub group be purely a strategic one, helping to identify process and best practice. As per the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme, each Ward will have a strong degree of autonomy to develop its own approach to the commissioning youth activities albeit with an

overall steer from the Sub Group and involvement of young people in the decision making process .

- 3.8 As referenced in the report to Area Committee from Children's Services in June 2013, the Sub Group could start by building on existing consultation undertaken by both the Inner East and Seacroft Manston Clusters for the Summer Holiday Activities programme, as well as the subsequent feedback from these events, in order to identify best practice and where future spend should be targeted.
- 3.9 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.
- 3.10 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 East Leeds – are trained in supporting the commissioning process in localities and are involved in the Children's and Young People's Sub 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.

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>83678</b>	<b>250000</b>	<b>500000</b>

#### 4.5 Legal 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 East Area Committee:

6.1 Agree to re-invest 50% of this year's Youth Activity Fund allocation - £17,081 or £5,693 from each ward – into the 2013 Summer Holiday Activities programme.

6.2 Approve the splitting of the remainder of this year's Youth Activity Fund allocation - £17,081- equally between the three wards that make up the Inner East Area Committee.

6.3 Approve the setting up a Children's and Young People's Sub Group involving the Area Lead Member for Children's Services, Elected Members from each ward, Neighbourhood Managers and any partners/stakeholders deemed appropriate.

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

7.1 Inner East Area Committee 20<sup>th</sup> June 2013; Investing in Young People – Update of the Future Direction of Youth Services and delegated Functions for Area Committees.

7.2 Executive Board 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013; Investing in Young People: Future Direction for Youth Services in Leeds.

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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.