



Agenda item:

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**Report of the Director of Children Services**

**North East (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009**

**Subject: Youth Services in Inner North-East Leeds**

**Electoral Wards affected:**

Chapel Allerton  
Moortown  
Roundhay

**Specific implications for:**

Ethnic minorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disabled people	<input type="checkbox"/>
Narrowing the gap	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Council  
function

Delegated executive  
function available for  
call in

Delegated executive  
function not available for  
Call In. Details set out in  
the report

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides an overview on the Youth Service in the Children Leeds Directorate, a summary of the current resources and delivery across Inner North East area and proposals for future joint commissioning arrangements to ensure the best use of resources to achieve outcomes set out in the Children and Young People's Plan and Inner North East Area Delivery Plan.

## **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1 The purpose of this report is to:
  - a) provide information on current services/activities for young people delivered and/or commissioned by youth services across the Inner North East area.
  - b) report performance against corporately agreed outcomes/targets for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2009/10.
  - c) provide information and transparency on how ward-based resources are being allocated by youth services to support youth work and commissioned activity
  - d) suggest ways that future services for young people across Inner North East can be developed and commissioned to meet priorities identified in the Area Delivery Plan, including potential joint commissioning with Area Committee.

## **BACKGROUND AND STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

- 2 The Integrated Youth Support Service (IYSS) was primarily established as a response to Government's 10 years strategy "The Youth Matters", Clause 6 of Education and Inspection Act 2006, localisation of Connexion's Service and the agenda of greater integration and partnership working.
- 3 In June 2007, the Executive Board agreed the following key components of IYSS:
  - youth offer (Breeze Youth Promise)
  - youth volunteering initiative
  - youth work
  - Information, Advice and Guidance Services and Connexions provision
  - Youth participation and engagement
  - Out of school activities
  - Positive activities for young people
  - Breeze card (in conjunction with City Development Directorate)
- 4 The Children Act 2004 requires all local authorities to produce a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).
- 5 The key strategic priorities from the Leeds CYYP are:

### **Improving outcomes**

- Improving outcomes for looked after children
- Improving attendance and reducing persistent absence from school
- Improving Early learning and primary outcomes in deprived areas
- Providing places to go and things to do
- Raising the proportion of young people in education or work
- Reducing child poverty
- Reducing teenage conception
- Reducing the need for children and young people to be in care

### **Working together better**

- Strengthening safeguarding
- Enabling integrated working

- 6 The Youth Service is contributing towards the achievement of these outcomes by:
- ⇒ Providing opportunities for young people to develop skills through informal learning
  - ⇒ Supporting young people to make positive choices and find solutions to the problems
  - ⇒ Working in partnership to make links between the different aspects of young people's lives
  - ⇒ Encouraging young people to learn positive standards of behaviour
  - ⇒ Keeping young people safe from physical and mental harm
  - ⇒ Encouraging young people to be active citizens and to be aware of their rights and responsibilities
  - ⇒ Sustaining young people's involvement over time.
- 7 The Leeds Youth Work Partnership (LYWP) was established in 2005. LYWP's membership consists of representatives from voluntary youth work organisation providers and officers from the Youth Service as an in-house provider. Increasingly LYWP is providing a mechanism to ensure joint service planning, delivery by a rich variety of providers, a wider view of resources brought to the table by partners, a shared approach to quality assurance, shared accountability for achieving targets, and framework for current and future commissioning of youth work provision.

## **RESOURCES AND MINIMUM PERFORMANCE TARGETS**

- 8 In Leeds, the budget allocated against each ward to deliver youth activities/work is distributed on the basis of 50% according to population and 50% according to social deprivation factors.
- 9 In previous years this has been presented in terms of available youth worker hours, but is now presented in budget terms to improve accountability/transparency and to support the flexibility of options that are available for its use.
- 10 The total amount allocated to the Inner North East wards is £389,623. This is broken down into each ward in *Appendix A*.
- 11 The resource is available to use to help deliver outcomes set out in the Children & Young People's Plan and local priorities expressed through the Area Delivery Plan (in particular the relevant promises set out in the Community Charter).
- 12 For 2009/10 the allocations come with minimum performance/delivery targets which are set corporately. Details for each ward with the performance targets to the end of quarter 3 and actuals as at end of October 2009 are provided in *Appendix B*.

## **CURRENT YOUTH SERVICES WORK IN INNER NORTH EAST**

- 13 The current programmes and details of work delivered by the Inner North East Youth Service Team is provided in *Appendix C*. The area programme is split by ward to help demonstrate what is being delivered locally.
- 14 There have been a number of staffing changes within the Inner NE area over the last few months. This includes the successful recruitment of a new Senior Youth Manager for the North East area. The changes have strengthened the capacity of the service to help ensure continued improvements in delivering youth work

programmes in the area. The details of these changes have been discussed with elected members at the committee's youth sub-group and in separate ward member meetings which local senior youth workers now attend on a regular basis.

- 15 The youth work programmes in the Inner North East area have continued to reach good numbers of young people and achieve success in positive participation in organised activity. An analysis of the numbers provided in appendix B shows that the service is above the agreed participation targets for Chapel Allerton and Moortown ward and on track for other participation and reach targets for this point in the year. However, due in main to the focus from the service to prioritise the establishment of new, local activities/programmes (as agreed through discussion with member of the Area Committee), the quarter 2 targets for recorded outcomes and accreditation have not been achieved. It is anticipated that this will improve as the benefits of the new activities and young people reached develop into recorded outcomes and accreditation later in the year.
- 16 General feedback from Inner NE elected members is that progress is being made in developing the service/team and delivering more relevant and targeted local activity.
- 17 In the Roundhay ward feedback from local ward members is very positive. A particular success has been the development of joint activities and working with local high schools. Thirteen new sessions have been added to the ward programme this year.
- 18 In Moortown, feedback from Members remains cautious but improvements have been made in the number of local sessions delivered – up by eight this year.
- 19 In Chapel Allerton ward there have been twelve new local sessions offered this year. In addition, management support is being provided to local voluntary sector organisations to develop their capacity to deliver activities for young people and help bring in further resources to the area. This includes clarification about what is youth work and the roles and responsibilities of the organisations – covering such issues as the importance of financial management/planning, safeguarding/child protection policies and proper rental/lease agreements for premises and facilities.
- 20 A common feedback from all three wards is that lessons need to be learnt from the recent summer holiday programme of activity. It is felt that young people numbers could have been greater if there had been better coordination between agencies/organisations to avoid duplication and being smarter about the days/times activities were provided. This will be picked up through the new Area Youth Partnership and Extended Services clusters for next year and included in the local joint commissioning process.
- 21 At a strategic level, the Area Youth Service has become more involved with the North East Divisional Community Safety Partnership. The service has contributed to preventative work particularly by involving difficult to engage young people on specific programmes linked to the gang-prevention strategy work. Starting in September 2009 is a new “Revizit” activity, which seeks to address young people’s behaviour. Youth work programmes have also been delivered to contribute towards tackling health inequalities.

## **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS – INCLUDING COMMISSIONING**

- 22 The service is currently looking at the extent of voluntary sector commissioning in the area, scope for further developments, identification of other potential providers, required capacity building and related resource issues. A series of meetings have taken place with local voluntary sector organisations to ascertain best value, capacity and partnership work in the area.
- 23 The Integrated Youth Support Service has set up a Leeds Youth Work Partnership (LYWP) with the voluntary sector and set up a commissioning process. LYWP is currently undertaking a review to clarify the elements that need to be in place to ensure the proper delivery of youth work; this includes representation at wedge level, registration of organisations and policies on safeguarding which will be part of any contractual agreements within future commissioning processes.
- 24 In Inner North East, the current funding from the youth services' ward allocations that support the Chapeltown 10-2 Club (£35,000 p.a.) and Leeds Reach (£17,115 p.a.) will need to be subject to the new funding/service level agreements for 2010/11.
- 25 When this preparatory work is completed the proposal is to meet with Area Management and bring joint-commissioning proposals through the Youth Sub-Group to the Wellbeing Member Working Group to consider.
- 26 All funded activity in the area must help contribute towards achieving outcomes set out in paragraph 5 which relate to the CYYP. The Area Delivery Plan (as expressed through new Community Charter) will identify Area Committee priorities from this list of outcomes. For example, the 2009/10 ADP/Community Charter includes a promise to "provide local activities for young people, particularly in school holidays". This clearly links with the CYYP outcome of "providing places to go and things to do". In this case, an opportunity would clearly exist for joint-commissioning of activity between youth services and the Area Committee.
- 27 The proposals for joint-commissioning in Inner NE will include how the North East Area Youth Partnership is used as the prime mechanism to engage with registered organisations and to ensure there is no duplication of activities/target groups. Consideration will also need to be given as to the role of Extended Services clusters and opportunities to link to the Activities Fund. These mechanisms will consider how support is given to smaller organisations in the area, to deliver specifically targeted pieces of work; for example – arts and crafts, holiday programmes and work with young people to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- 28 The proposal will set out an Area Committee commissioning timetable for 2010/11 which will be along the lines of:
  - ⇒ Dec 2009 – draft Area Committee priorities identified for 2010/11 ADP in relation to activities for young people – opportunities for joint commissioning discussed and agreed with Youth Services and Extended Services.
  - ⇒ Jan 2010 – invitation to apply for Wellbeing to deliver the local activities in 2010/11 sent to local organisations through the area youth partnership and extended service clusters.
  - ⇒ Feb 2010 – shortlisting of applications for consideration by Member Wellbeing Working Group, to be considered alongside Youth Services and Extended Service clusters' own spending plans for 2010/11
  - ⇒ Mar 2010 – Area Delivery Plan for 2010/11 presented to Area Committee for

approval, including recommendations from Member Working Group for funding of activities for young people from Wellbeing.

30 North East Youth Services team already have ideas for next year that they would like to explore and include in proposals for spend in 2010/11. An early view from Area Committee would be helpful. These are:

- School Holiday work/programmes for 2010/11 delivered by youth services
- Engaging with a national charity such as LEAP who have expertise in confronting conflict. LEAP are considering potential involvement in cohesion and conflict resolution work within the Leeds area.
- A group of young people the Youth Service is working with have applied for funding towards a mobile provision to plug the gap, where there are no buildings and hard to reach young people. If successful Area Committee could enhance this initiative by helping buy equipment for use in the provision.
- Establish a young persons cohesion programme with schools. Schemes such as piloting the Children in Peace work, specifically targeting young people to become mentors in schools and their community, could be supported. Pilot work has started with young people at South Leeds High School.
- Additional, targeted work with Voluntary Sector Organisations to build capacity in establishing Child Protection, Equality Policies, Curriculum, Quality Assurance, Financial Management and Reporting mechanisms. This can be initially daunting for smaller organisations but the benefits are important in establishing and valuing their contribution to work with young people and the wider community.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

31 The Area Committee is asked to:

- a) Note the information provided on current services/activities for young people delivered and/or commissioned by youth services across the Inner North East area.
- b) Note the performance against corporately agreed outcomes/targets for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2009/10.
- c) Note how ward-based resources are being allocated by youth services to support youth work and commissioned activity in 2009/10.
- d) Note the work being undertaken by youth services to support local organisations in building their capacity and ability to deliver activities for young people, in particular the importance of ensuring that proper policies and checks are in place for financial management, safeguarding and child protection.
- e) Agree to the proposed approach to how future services for young people across Inner North East can be developed and commissioned to meet priorities identified in the CYYP and Area Delivery Plan, including potential joint commissioning with Area Committee, as set out in paragraphs 22-28.
- f) Comment on the ideas set out in paragraph 29 for proposals to be worked up by Youth Services

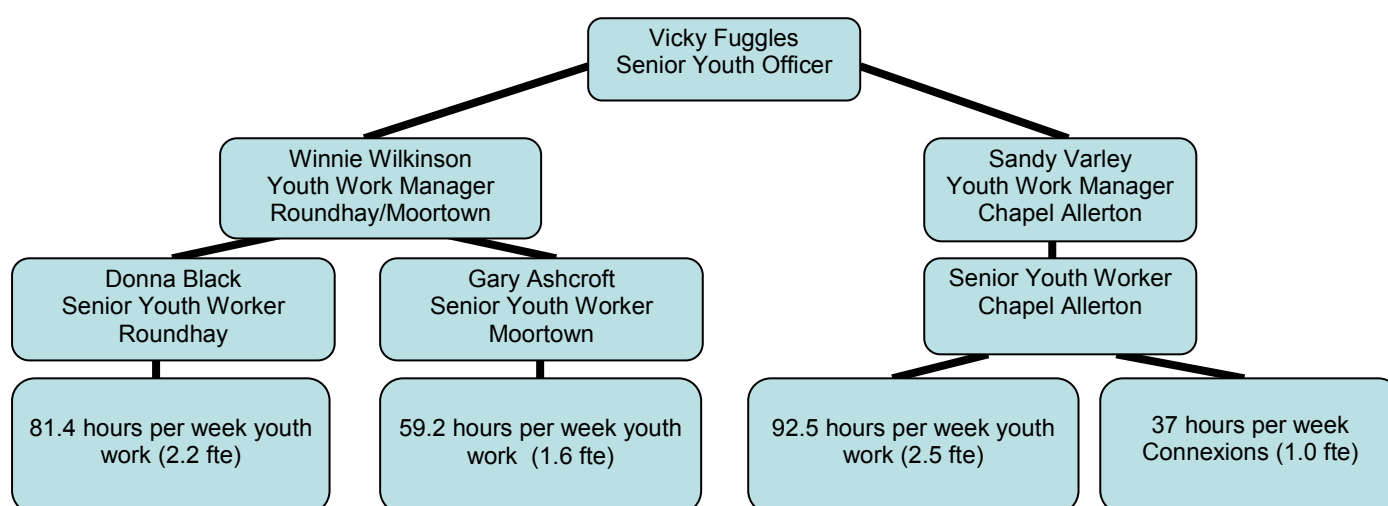
*Background information/reports:*

*Para 3: The Future of Youth Services in Leeds – Report to Executive Board 13<sup>th</sup> June 2007*

## Inner North East Youth Service Budget and Team Structure

2009/10 Inner NE Area Youth Service Budget	
Ward	Total (£)
Chapel Allerton	*187,436
Moortown	93,362
Roundhay	108,825
<b>Total</b>	<b>389,623</b>

(\*Includes activities commissioned from Chapeltown 10-2 Club and Reach)



### \*DETAIL ON COMMISSIONED ACTIVITIES

#### (a) Chapeltown 10-2 Club (£35,000)

Activity	Location/Base	Year Group	Days/Times	Lead Staff
10-2 After school Club Support with homework. Access to computers	Mandela Centre Chapeltown Rd Leeds LS7 3HY	11-16	Mon-Thurs 5-8pm	Yes Cyber Staff
Youth Club (Project 7)	Mandela Centre Chapeltown Rd Leeds LS7 3HY	13-19	Tues and Thurs 7-9pm	Andy Wilson 07891 279983 Claude Hendrickson

#### (b) Reach Project (£17,115)

Activity	Location/Base	Year Group	Days/Times	Lead Staff
Reach Support for young people who have difficulties in mainstream Education with Health and literacy and law and order	Chapeltown Road	11-19	Mon-Fri	Reach staff

**INNER NORTH-EAST YOUTH SERVICE PERFORMANCE**  
**(Covering the period April-Oct 2009)**

Ward	Reached		Participation		Recorded outcomes		Accreditations	
	Target to end of Qtr3	Input to Oct	Target to end of Qtr3	Input to Oct	Target to end of Qtr3	Input to Oct	Target to end of Qtr3	Input to Oct
Chapel Allerton	573	499	344	485	206	66	45	6
Moortown	379	285	227	278	136	69	30	31
Roundhay	452	245	271	198	163	27	35	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,404</b>	<b>1,029</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>46</b>

**Key:**

**Target** is the agreed minimum number of young people by the end of quarter 3 (i.e. 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009) that the service should be aiming to record in that category.

**Input** is the number of people actually recorded by the end of October 2009 (i.e. the period April-Oct 2009) in that category

**Reach** is the number of different young people worked with during the year (25% of population of young people).

**Participation** is where a young person is assessed by the Youth Worker to have participated in a youth work session rather than just attended).

A **Recorded Outcome** is where a young person has shown progression as a result of youth work.

**Accreditation** is where a young person completes an activity that results accredited learning.