

Supplementary Information

Inner North West Area Committee

16th December 2010

Agenda Item 10 – Woodhouse Community Centre Asset Transfer

1. Following the publication of the Area Committee papers, additional information relating to the above report is being made available to Members.
2. The main users of the centre are:
 - Caring Together in Woodhouse and Little London (CTWLL)
A voluntary organisation supporting older people to live independently
 - Central Leeds Learning Federation (CLLF)
Provision for young people not attending mainstream school
 - Workers' Educational Association (WEA)
Providing adult education and leisure activities
 - Leeds City Council Youth Service
Delivery of services to young people
 - Oblong
Providing a range of community activities and support for small voluntary organisations.
3. Under the Inner North West Area Committee's pricing policy, the organisations are charged the following letting fees:
CTWW: Not charged for activities or office space
CLLF: Charged £2.50 per hour
WEA: Charged the standard letting fee if users pay for the activity
LCC Youth Service: Not charged for activities
Oblong: Charged for use of office space and some activities
4. Oblong's business plan for the centre includes information on proposed charges to centre users. As described in the main report, LCC Youth Service will not be charged for its current use of 10.5 hours per week. All other users will be charged according to Oblong's lettings policy, offering discounts to the voluntary sector and not for profit organisations.
5. The organisation most impacted by the proposed changes is CTWLL. Under the new policy, they will be charged for the two offices they occupy a total of £3,500 for the first year. CTWLL have raised concerns with Oblong, Leeds City Council and Ward Members regarding their ability to pay this charge. The organisation currently receives funding from Social Services that covers approximately 20% of their annual running costs, with the remainder from a variety of grant funders. CTWLL argue that their current funding sources do not include provision for office rental, and that this new charge will have a negative impact on the services they can offer.
6. Oblong's business plan relies on rental income, and they are not in a position to waive CTWLL's fees. Oblong have offered support in securing grant funding for

the additional costs, and future core funding applications made by CTWLL will include provision for these.

7. CTWLL and Oblong have asked Leeds City Council for financial assistance to cover the office rental costs.
8. Members are asked to note the issues raised by Oblong and CTWLL when considering the recommendations in the main report.