

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....25th October 2007

1. Title of Item/Report

Youth Cafe Development in Billingham, Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick

2. Record of the Decision

Members noted that initial youth café developments were supported by the Youth Capital Funding from central government in 2006/07.

Cabinet in June, 2006 had approved the development of a youth café in the Connexions one stop shop on Bishopton Lane, Stockton. This was opened in June, 2007 and Cabinet supported the development of further youth café provision to be made elsewhere in the Borough

It was explained that the Youth Capital Funding for 2007/08 was £157,000. The Children's Trust Board, in March, 2007 recommended consideration of developments in Billingham, Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick and that consultation should take place with Area Partnerships and young people.

In June, July and August 2007 a comprehensive consultation process had been undertaken. This had been achieved through partnership working with the Area Partnership Boards and both statutory and voluntary organisations involved with young people. This draft report had also been shared with elected members from the areas identified. Comments received were provided to Members.

Cabinet was informed that young people had provided a vision for the developments and both Area Partnership Boards were supportive of the consultation outcomes and recommendations. These showed that young people residing in all three areas would ideally like a youth café centrally situated in their town centre. Due to the timescales for town centre developments in Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick (the development of Romano Park) this was not achievable, given that the Fund had to be spent in this financial year. Further options had been considered; for Ingleby Barwick it was proposed to develop provision at Beckfields Community Centre, which would also compliment Children's Centre developments at the same site; in Thornaby, it was proposed to develop one of four possible options in South Thornaby and consultations were

continuing. Within Billingham, it had been possible to identify a shop front in the town centre that could meet requirements.

The next stage in the development process would be to commission the construction work to develop the three café sites, with the active participation of local young people paramount to the project's success. Negotiations would also take place with local authority providers and the voluntary and community sectors over the development of operational services to support the youth cafes. The development of youth cafes would also be integrated into the wider development of integrated youth support services and embedded in cultural provision, for example, within the new café provision in the Green Dragon Music Studio.

During consideration of this matter it was suggested that a review of the success of the youth Cafes should be undertaken after 12 months of operation, with a view to developing cafes in other areas.

RESOLVED that

1. the proposals for the development of the three youth cafes in Billingham, South Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick, be agreed
2. the commissioning of the youth cafes through the commissioning principles and frameworks process, agreed by the Children's Trust Board, be agreed
3. a review of the success of the provision of youth cafes be undertaken in 12 months time with a view to developing cafes in other areas, subject to resources being available.

3. Reasons for the Decision

The Children and Young People's Plan identifies the development of new youth provision as a priority and these development will contribute to that target area.

The three areas identified Billingham, South Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick have limited youth provision compared to other areas, demonstrating the need for the location of these developments.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

By no later than midnight on Friday 2nd November 2007

Proper Officer  
29 October 2007