

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

6 NOVEMBER 2008

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Children and Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Cunningham

YOUTH CAFÉ DEVELOPMENTS

1. Summary

In June 2006, Cabinet approved the first phase of Youth Café Developments. This saw the opening of the “Chill Zone” in what was the Connexions One-Stop-Shop on Bishopton Lane, Stockton-on-Tees.

A further report to Cabinet in October 2007 detailing proposals for further development of Youth Café Provision was approved. This recommended support for developments in Billingham, Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick.

This report summarises the work carried out in relation to the three sites and seeks Cabinet’s approval for possible future developments.

Capital funding has been available for developing these proposals through the government’s Youth Capital Funding Programme. This is a ring-fenced grant and is available over this next three years to March 2011. Grant monies have to be spent within year and only 5% is able to be rolled forward to future years.

2. Recommendations

1. Cabinet to note the progress on the developments of the Youth Cafes in Billingham and Thornaby.
2. Cabinet to note the progress on efforts to identify an appropriate site for a Youth Café development in Ingleby Barwick.
3. Cabinet to confirm the development of further Youth Café provision within the North Stockton Integrated Service Area, and agree delegated approval to proceed with lead Cabinet member consultation.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

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

The development of Youth Café provision in North Stockton would ensure delivery across each of the Integrated Service Areas and in an area of high levels of deprivation and limited resource availability.

Youth Capital Funding is available over the three years – 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11. It is ring-fenced and needs to be spent in each year, with a 5% carry-over allowed.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct (**paragraph 8**) and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item, he/she must then consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest (**paragraphs 10 and 11 of the code of conduct**).

A Member with a prejudicial interest in any matter must withdraw from the room where the meeting considering the business is being held -

- in a case where the Member is attending a meeting (including a meeting of a select committee) but only for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under statutory right or otherwise, immediately after making representations, answering questions or giving evidence as the case may be;
- in any other case, whenever it becomes apparent that the business is being considered at the meeting;

and must not exercise executive functions in relation to the matter and not seek improperly to influence the decision about the matter (**paragraph 12 of the Code**).

Further to the above, it should be noted that any Member attending a meeting of Cabinet, Select Committee etc; whether or not they are a Member of the Cabinet or Select Committee concerned, must declare any personal interest which they have in the business being considered at the meeting (unless the interest arises solely from the Member's membership of, or position of control or management on any other body to which the Member was appointed or nominated by the Council, or on any other body exercising functions of a public nature, when the interest only needs to be declared if and when the Member speaks on the matter), and if their interest is prejudicial, they must also leave the meeting room, subject to and in accordance with the provisions referred to above.

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SUMMARY

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This report summarises the work carried out in relation to the three sites and seeks Cabinet’s approval for possible future developments.

Capital funding has been available for developing these proposals through the government’s Youth Capital Funding Programme. This is a ring-fenced grant and is available over this next three years to March 2011. Grant monies have to be spent within year and only 5% is able to be rolled forward to future years.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Cabinet to note the progress on the developments of the Youth Cafes in Billingham and Thornaby.
2. Cabinet to note the progress on efforts to identify an appropriate site for a Youth Café development in Ingleby Barwick.
3. Cabinet to confirm the development of further Youth Café provision within the North Stockton Integrated Service Area, and agree delegated approval to proceed with lead Cabinet member consultation.

DETAIL

Background

1. In June 2006, Cabinet approved the first phase of Youth Café Developments. This saw the opening of the “Chill Zone” in what was the Connexions One-Stop-Shop on Bishopton Lane, Stockton-on-Tees.
2. A further report to Cabinet in October 2007 detailing proposals for further development of Youth Café Provision was approved. This recommended support for developments in

Billingham, Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick. Revenue costs will be met from within existing budgetary provision.

Billingham

3. Following consultation with Billingham Area Partnership, young people and Ward Councillors and consideration of a number of possible sites, a suitable shop front in the town centre was identified.
4. This has been refurbished, staffing resources identified and is due to open shortly. Young people have been involved in the design and are actively involved in the considerations around the services and activities to be delivered.

Thornaby

5. The initial views of young people were to have a town centre site for the Youth Café development. This was not possible to identify due to the town centre developments and the timescales associated with the Grant Funding
6. A small number of potential sites were identified and following consultations with young people, discussions with the Eastern Area Partnership and Ward Councillors, development within Thornaby Community School was confirmed. Work is planned to be completed by the end of October 2008. As with Billingham, young people have been involved in the design and are actively involved in considerations around the services and activities to be delivered.

Ingleby Barwick

7. Work on the identification of a suitable site for the Youth Café has been ongoing for some time. This has involved the Eastern Area Partnership, Ingleby Barwick Town Council and discussions with Ward Councillors.
8. At the present point in time, a number of options are subject to necessary further feasibility work. It is likely that further developments will run into the next financial year. As a result the recommendation being sought from Cabinet is that funding of the Ingleby Barwick site is considered within the overall grant funding period in order to give some flexibility, whilst ensuring that capital funds are spent appropriately within each year.

North Stockton

9. With the developments of Integrated Service Areas now in place, each of the areas will have a Youth Café development apart from North Stockton. Given the levels of social deprivation within the area and the relative lack of provision, it would seem appropriate to consider siting a further Youth Café provision within this area.
10. This would be in line with other similar developments, such as Surestart Children's Centre which had an initial targeting at the most deprived areas, with subsequent roll-out across all four Integrated Service Areas.
11. Consultations will take place with young people, the Area Partnership and with ward councillors on possible sites and young people would then be involved as with previous developments, on the design and services to be delivered.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

12. The Youth Capital Fund allocation for the next three years is as below;

2008/09- £113,200

2009/10- £113,200

2010/11- £113,200

13. The Youth Capital Fund is ring-fenced and time limited. It is anticipated that this year's Youth Capital Fund (£113,200) will be spent on existing developments. There is also funding of £120,000 from previous years available within the Medium Term Financial Plan for the proposed developments.
14. Revenue costs for supporting the Youth Café provision are to come from existing budgets and through appropriate partnership working arrangements with the third and independent sectors. Members are also aware that a review of Youth Provision is currently being undertaken.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

15. There is no statutory requirement to develop youth café facilities. However under the Children Act (2004) Local Authorities have a statutory requirement to provide youth provision.

RISK ASSESSMENT

16. The youth café is deemed to be a medium risk development. Existing management systems, and routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk but good forward planning is essential to ensure that allocated budgets are spent in a timely and cost effective way.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

17. These developments are a priority in terms of supporting the key theme of children and young people in the Sustainable Community Strategy through delivery of a good range of youth activities and facilities.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

18. The Council is committed to carrying out Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) of all its policies and functions. As the Youth Cafes are new developments within Stockton Borough Council an Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and submitted to the Diversity team. No negative potential impacts were identified in the assessment.

CORPORATE PARENTING

19. Council has agreed that all reports to Cabinet and Council, appertaining to Children and Young People issues, and any other reports should contain corporate parenting implications to ensure consideration is given to looked after children's needs.
20. Youth Café developments will be available to all young people residing in the areas, where they are being developed, and will be inclusive of young people in the looked after system.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

21. Over the last two years a number of consultations have been undertaken with young people that were relevant to the development of youth provision.
22. Relevant consultations included:
 - Adult Viewpoint Questionnaire; Parks Survey, September 2005
 - The EzeeLive Questionnaire; October 2005
 - Youth Viewpoint Questionnaire; Parks And Community Survey, October 2005
 - Findings form the 'Youth Matters' Seminar; October 2005
 - 'Somewhere to Go? Something to do?' DfES Questionnaire on Youth Matters; October 2005
 - Consultation on Youth Cafes; March 2006

- Learning Together Event; July 2006
- Student Councils Events; November 2006
- Youth Viewpoint Questionnaire; Play Areas Survey, November 2006
- Corner House Youth Project-Interim Report and findings January 2007
- Adult Viewpoint Questionnaire; Twentieth Viewpoint Survey Results (Play Areas), February 2007.
- Student Councils Event; March 2007
- Stockton Youth Assembly; May 2007
- Youth Café consultation in Billingham, Thornaby and Ingleby Barwick (June and July 2007)
- Voluntary & Community Sector
- Stockton Parent Support (Children with Disabilities)

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Background Papers

None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors

All