

## CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

**AGENDA ITEM**

**REPORT TO CABINET**

**16 DECEMBER 2010**

**REPORT OF CHILDREN AND  
YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT  
COMMITTEE**

### **CABINET DECISION**

**Children and Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Ann McCoy**

#### **EFFICIENCY, IMPROVEMENT AND TRANSFORMATION (EIT) YOUTH SERVICE REVIEW**

1. Summary

This report presents the findings of the Children and Young People Select Committee following the EIT Youth Service Review.

The review examined the Council's universal youth services provided through core funding from the Council, delivered primarily through the Council's 24 youth clubs.

2. Recommendations

1. **That, taking into account any emerging Government guidance and the impact of the comprehensive spending review, and recognising that targeted youth services have proven to be more effective and have provided better value for money and more positive outcomes for young people than universal youth services, delivery of targeted youth services be prioritised over universal services to ensure that this success is further enhanced.**
2. **That, recognising that there are currently a large number of universal youth club settings with several of these being poorly attended:**
  - a. **the provision of universal youth services be reconfigured around a smaller number of high quality settings; those settings to be identified through the application of the matrix at Appendix 11 to assess sustainability based upon factors which include attendance, footfall, footfall costs, potential reach and deprivation;**
  - b. **final decisions on service reconfiguration be made by Cabinet taking the matrix into account but also other relevant factors including available finance, geographical spread and wider youth provision;**
  - c. **prior to implementation, Children and Young People Select Committee be consulted on the service reconfiguration at its meeting on 9 March 2011 (or earlier if appropriate), together with an action plan as part of the monitoring of the review.**
3. **That premises/ lettings arrangements for youth activities be reviewed by the Asset EIT review to ensure they provide value for money.**

4. That contractual arrangements for youth services staff are reviewed in order to ensure consistency across the service, to implement single status and to move to more substantive contracts (i.e. increased hours) for youth service staff.
5. That officers pursue opportunities, where appropriate and subject to funding, for increased collaboration with the voluntary and community sector and private sector in providing universal services, including consideration of commissioning opportunities.
6. That serious consideration is given to pursuing a more flexible use of the capital funding for *myplace* to support youth service delivery across the Borough, if this is allowable under the terms of the agreement and further advice from Big Lottery and DfE and that, in the absence of this, the Select Committee recommends that the *myplace* development should not be progressed as it is presently planned.
7. That the future involvement of young people on the Children and Young People Select Committee be formalised through the introduction of appropriate engagement mechanisms to be introduced for the 2011/12 municipal year.
8. That, subject to safeguarding issues, officers explore the further use of social media to engage with young people.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

To ensure that the Councils' universal youth service is delivering high quality, value for money services.

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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PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE**

**CABINET DECISION**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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## **DETAIL**

1. The attached report presents Cabinet with the findings of the EIT Youth Service Review undertaken by the Children and Young People Select Committee between February and November 2010.
2. The review formed part of a three year programme of EIT (Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation) reviews covering all services provided by the Council. The programme aims to ensure that all services are reviewed in a systematic way to ensure that they are provided in the most efficient manner, provide value for money and identify opportunities for service improvements and transformation. The Select Committee review examined the Council's universal youth services. The overall aims of the review were:
  - To identify options for future strategy/ policy/ service provision that will deliver efficiency savings and sustain/ improve high quality outcomes for SBC residents. Specifically:
    - Proposals on level of service to be provided taking into account the views of young people
    - Identification of gaps in service and recommendations for addressing these
    - Identification of resources to deliver *myplace*
3. Following consideration by Cabinet an action plan will be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations will be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4. Financial implications to be determined and dependent on the outcome of the reconfiguration of youth setting as outlined in recommendation 2 of the report.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. There may be staffing implications arising from final decisions on service reconfiguration as well as legal implications in respect of the use of community buildings. Consultation with affected employees and Unions will also need to take place in respect of recommendation 4 – review of contractual arrangements.

## **CORPORATE PARENTING IMPLICATIONS**

6. The youth club survey which was undertaken as part of the review was promoted through attendance at the Council's In Care Council meetings. The review relates to universal youth clubs and does not affect the Council's statutory obligations in respect of looked after children.

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

7. This report is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS**

8. The review supports Children and Young People Improvement Priorities.

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

9. The recommendations have been subject to an Equality Impact Assessment and the recommendations have, at this stage, been assessed as being neutral. A copy of the impact assessment has been placed in the Members' Library. It will be important, however, to review the impact of the recommendations as part of the monitoring of the Select Committee Review.

## **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

10. Consultation has taken place with young people, the voluntary and community sector, employees, all Councillors and Unions. Full details are set out in the Select Committee report.

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### Background Papers

None

### Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Not ward specific

### Property :

None