

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....17th February 2011

1. Title of Item/Report

EIT Review of Youth Services

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet was reminded that a report relating to an Efficiency, Improvement and Transformation review of Youth Services was reported by the Children and Young People Select Committee to Cabinet on 16 December 2010. Cabinet approved the report and agreed the recommendations.

Members noted one of the resolutions: -

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 2 to assess the 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;

It was explained that ward councillors had been consulted through 4 separate meetings based on the Area Partnership clusters and 15 councillors attended. All councillors were given the opportunity for further discussion with officers, if they were not able to attend one of the briefings. A range of issues were identified by councillors in attendance. The key issues arising were about concerns for particular areas across the borough, where there would be a lack of presence of an actual youth

club setting, issues around accessibility of services from some of the rural areas and small villages and a need to ensure those settings with high usage continue. A particular issue arose around the impact on some settings, if the youth service element was no longer being delivered and whether the EIT review of assets should be more closely aligned with this review.

Cabinet noted that a final decisions had not been made around “myplace”, though it was anticipated that if it went ahead in some form, that an element of youth provision would be identified as part of the proposals. If it did not go ahead, then alternative arrangements would be considered to support delivery within the area.

The matrix of factors had been used to identify a rank order for prioritising which settings should be maintained for the delivery of universal services. Highest ranking across all the factors was presented first with the lowest ranking presented last. Consideration was given to the issue of the possible weighting of the factors in the matrix. The Children and Young People’s Select Committee agreed to the factors being equally weighted, but that consideration would also be given to other relevant factors, including finance, geographical spread and wider youth provision. In using the matrix and in consideration of those other factors, including the comments by ward councillors, proposals were identified and were presented to Cabinet for consideration.

Members were informed that the financial savings to be identified from this review were £210k.

RESOLVED that:-

1. the proposed settings for the continuation of the delivery of universal youth service, as identified in the body of the report, be agreed.
2. delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care, in consultation with the Cabinet member for Children and Young People, to progress a restructuring of universal youth services in line with supporting the identified settings and meeting the required savings, identified for this review.
3. prior to implementation, the Children and Young People Select Committee be consulted on the service reconfiguration at its meeting on 9 March 2011.
4. consultation take place with staff and union representatives on the proposals for restructuring of the service in line with due process, following the meeting of the Select Committee on 9 March 2011.

5. the proposals on restructuring of universal youth services be aligned with proposals on restructuring of the Integrated Youth Support Service, which is subject to separate reporting.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To ensure that the Council's universal youth services continues to deliver high quality services, in line with budgetary constraints.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councilor Lupton declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the item entitled EIT Review – Youth Services as he served on a Community Centre Management Committee.

Councilor Laing declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the item entitled EIT Review – Youth Services as he served on a Community Centre Management Committee.

Councillor Coleman declared a personal non prejudicial interest in the item entitled EIT Review – Youth Services as he served on a Community Centre Management Committee.

Councillor Mrs Beaumont declared a personal prejudicial interest in the item entitled EIT Review – Youth Services as she served on Kirklevington Village Hall Management Committee. Councillor Mrs Beaumont made a statement to Cabinet then left the meeting room prior to discussion and voting on the item.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

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

Midnight on 25 February 2011

Proper Officer  
21 February 2011