

## SCOPE OF YOUTH SERVICE/YOUTH PROVISION REVIEW

The purpose of the scoping document is to provide headline information to inform the development of the Efficiency and Improvement Review Programme. It is not intended to be a large and in depth piece of work. It will be used again in the Challenge module and as such it can be expanded and refined at that time.

Service / function / theme	Youth Service/Youth Provision Review/CESC
Responsible Head of Service	Peter Seller, Head of Children and Young People's Strategy
Responsible Cabinet Member	Alex Cunningham
Applicable legislation	<p>Legal duty on the local authority to provide positive activities, so far as is reasonably practical to young people aged 13 to 19 and for young people with a learning disability, up to 24.</p> <p>Local authority must also secure that the facilities for primary and secondary education include adequate facilities for recreation and social and physical training, including for those who have not reached the age of 13.</p> <p>There is also a range of guidance from central government on the development of integrated youth support services and targeted youth support.</p> <p>Government has published a 10 year strategy – aiming high for young people- a ten year strategy for positive activities.</p>
Local policy decisions	<p>The Children and Young People's Plan, 2009-2012 sets out the priorities for the Children's Trust Board and its partner agencies.</p> <p>Key priorities include;</p> <p>"increase the range of accessible culture, leisure, sporting and social activities for children and young people by developing services across statutory, voluntary and independent sectors"</p> <p>"enhance the involvement and participation of children and young people, parents and carers in community life, positive activities and in the development of services to meet identified need"</p> <p>Young People's participation in positive activities(NI110) is also part of the Local Area Agreement.</p>
Service configuration	<p>Local Authority provision; youth services are part of integrated services. They are deployed as part of the integrated services area provision through integrated youth support teams, along-side Connexions workers and as a centrally based Integrated Youth Support Service, providing specialist input across the Borough and including Youth Offending Services.</p> <p>The voluntary and community sectors provide a wide range of services and provision to young people across the whole borough. Services are provided through a mix of funding streams.</p> <p>There is also a range of national organisations</p>

	<p>providing such as scouts, guides etc.</p> <p>All organisations and services also support a wide range of volunteering, both of young people and adults working with young people.</p>
Community focus & demographic change	<p>Services and provision is open and available on a universal basis across the whole borough. Some services are targeted on specific group based on national guidance and local need.</p>
Recent scrutiny and other review activity	<p>Scrutiny review took place on youth services in 2006.</p> <p>As part of the Joint Area Review, there was an inspection of youth services in December, 2007.</p> <p>There is ongoing self assessment re Targeted Youth Support Services, most recent completed in January, 2009.</p>
Possible review outcomes	<p>Possible outcomes will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-rationalisation of buildings and other assets</li> <li>-proposals for commissioning of services, rationalisation of providers</li> <li>-proposals on local authority staff terms and conditions</li> <li>-identification of gaps in service and recommendations for addressing these</li> <li>-proposals on levels of service to be provided.</li> </ul>
Cost profile	<p>Local authority budgets for youth services are now part of the integrated service provision. It is difficult therefore to completely identify them as separate costs. The youth service budget, prior to integration was £1.7 million and the Connexions budget was £1.9 million. There is also funding into a pooled arrangement for PAYP of £177,000.</p> <p>There is a range of commissioned services providing a wide range of activities through the voluntary and community sectors. Funding is also secured by the voluntary and community sectors from other sources such as national grants.</p> <p>Some elements of universal provision are funded nationally and by individual contributions and fees.</p>
Assets	<p>A wide range of buildings are used to provide youth services and youth provision across the borough, with a mix of ownership(local authority, community, private). Some buildings are used for direct provision, others are used as a staff base and some have a mixed use.</p> <p>There is a range of transport and equipment available.</p>
Performance	<p>External inspection by Ofsted (last in 2007, linked to JAR) – overall outcome ‘good’. Now part of future Ofsted annual assessment arrangements for Children’s Services, as part of CAA.</p> <p>National benchmarking, via REYS (Resourcing Excellent Youth Services) standards, and via annual NYA (National youth Agency) audit (based on data returns from LAs).</p>

	<p>LAA measure for 'Young people's participation in positive activities' (NI 110) – new measure, so no trend data. Current position (from 2008 TellUs survey) places Stockton (65%) behind national average (70%).</p> <p>Other national measures (NYA annual audit) cover: rates of contact with, and participation by, young people with services; recorded and accredited outcomes for young people as a result of youth work.</p> <p>Trends over last 3 years (up to 07-08):</p> <p>Contacts: moved from below to above national benchmark; improved to 70<sup>th</sup> of 119 LAs returning data.</p> <p>Participation: has remained above national benchmark, but has reduced a little; now 84<sup>th</sup> of 119.</p> <p>Recorded outcomes: good improvement to above national benchmark; 54<sup>th</sup> of 120.</p> <p>Accredited outcomes: slower improvement, still below national benchmark; 102<sup>nd</sup> of 121.</p>
Any other information	<p>Review is already in progress following decision at Cabinet, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2008.</p> <p>Consideration will need to be given to issues around sustainability, both within local authority provision and within the voluntary and community sectors</p> <p>There are issues around the balance in provision around young people's views on what should be there and what is possible to deliver</p> <p>Given the nature of the review, there is a high level of political interest</p>