

Children & Young People Select Committee

A meeting of Children & Young People Select Committee was held on Wednesday, 9th June, 2010.

Present: Cllr David Harrington (Chairman), Cllr Phillip Broughton, Cllr Mrs Ann Cains, Cllr Dick Cains, Cllr Julia Cherrett, Cllr Mick Eddy, Cllr Maurice Frankland, Cllr Miss Barbara Inman.

Officers: J.Humphreys, G.Carson, T.Frank, P.Seller, P.Surtees, D.Willingham (CESC); P.Diggins, D.Renn (DNS); N.Hart, M.Jones, J.Trainer (LD).

Also in attendance: Councillors Mrs Aggio, Beall, Cockerill, Mrs Craggs, Fletcher, Gibson, Mrs McCoy, Mrs O'Donnell, Perry, Rix, Mrs Walmsley; G.Davies (Governing Body representative).

Apologies: were submitted on behalf of Councillors Mrs Beaumont, Dixon, Faulks, Mrs Fletcher, Kirby, Patterson and Walmsley.

CYP 12/10 **Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Gibson declared a personal, non-prejudicial interest in respect of the item entitled 'Youth Services Review' as a result of his role as Chairman of a company providing youth services.

CONCLUDED that the Declaration of Interest be noted.

CYP 13/10 **Youth Services Review**

The Children & Young People Select Committee, along with other members of the Council invited to attend, received a presentation summarising the content and distinction between youth work and targeted youth support.

A definition of youth work had been provided to the Committee at its last meeting and it was noted that this work was generally located in youth clubs, in local youth projects, and through specialist projects delivering detached youth work, such as drugs education, citizenship in schools, sexual health, crime diversion etc. Targeted youth support was aimed at ensuring the needs of vulnerable teenagers were identified early and met by agencies working together effectively in ways that were shaped by the views and experiences of young people themselves. This provision was likely to be aimed at young people who had behavioural problems, were persistently absent or excluded from schools, had poor emotional, social or coping skills, had learning difficulties, lived in poverty or in a deprived area; or had other similar issues.

Members were advised of the structure of Integrated Youth Support in Stockton delivered via core services provided by Connexions, Youth Service and the Youth Offending Service (YOS); which included both universal services such as youth work, advice and information; targeted services for young people with issues/conditions described above; and specialist services including statutory services provided by the YOS. Examples of grant funded, time limited targeted programmes such as Youth Crime Action Plan (YCAP) which utilised Street Based Teams targeting anti social behaviour hot spot areas based on local intelligence. Members were also shown a DVD of a recent Beat the Boredom event held at the Arc including feedback from young people who attended.

Using data generated by the Council's GIS system, members were provided with an analysis of youth club attendance at all 24 youth clubs situated in the Borough, divided further down into attendance by ethnicity, by people with learning difficulties and disabilities, people known to the Youth Offending Service, and attendance details for the various nights the youth clubs were open. Members requested information on the attendance figures on a ward by ward basis; as well as the number of 13-19 year olds living within a mile radius of the youth clubs, as it would allow comparisons to be made against actual attendance. Representatives of the voluntary and community sector would be attending the Committee's next meeting on the 30th June 2010.

Consideration was also given to methods of communication and advertising of youth activities within the Borough and details were requested of the extent of 'after hours' provision currently made by schools. Members made reference also to the possible impact of the Government's imminent spending review and the need to identify a unit cost per footfall of current provision, and how many young people achieve accreditation or go on to FTE as a result of their experiences of youth service provision.

CONCLUDED that the presentations be noted and the further information requested ward based information and population of 13-19 year olds be provided to all members by the Council's GIS Manager.