

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee

The Cabinet

Date of Committee

17th November 2005

Report Title

Strategic Review of Services for Young People – Progress report

Summary

This report summarises progress to date since the last Cabinet report of 21st July 2005 and the publication of the Green Paper: Youth Matters.

For further information please contact:

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Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision]

No

Background papers

- Cabinet 9.12.04, 24.2.05 and 21.7.05
- A Response to the Green Paper "Youth Matters" – Cabinet 20.10.05

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

☐

Local Member(s)

☐

Other Elected Members

☒ Spokespersons for information:
Cllr Helen McCarthy
Cllr Richard Grant
Cllr Jill Dill-Russell – comments incorporated in the report

Cabinet Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cllr John Burton Cllr Izzi Seccombe Cllr Colin Hayfield Cllr Peter Fowler
Chief Executive	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jane Pollard / Richard Freeth – comments incorporated in the report
Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> David Clarke, County Treasurer – no comment
Other Chief Officers	<input type="checkbox"/>
District Councils	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health Authority	<input type="checkbox"/>
Police	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Bodies/Individuals	<input type="checkbox"/>

FINAL DECISION

NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

Further consideration by this Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Council	<input type="checkbox"/>
To Cabinet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
To an O & S Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
To an Area Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>
Further Consultation	<input type="checkbox"/>

The Cabinet – 17th November 2005

**Strategic Review of Services for Young People –
Progress report**

**Joint Report of the County Solicitor & Assistant Chief
Executive, County Education Officer and Director of
Social Care & Health**

Recommendations:

- (1) That Cabinet notes the contents of the Joint Report which describes the progress made since 21st July 2005.
- (2) That Cabinet agrees:
 - to support the general direction of travel with regards to the establishment of the new service in the context of the modernisation of the County Council, the Children Act 2004 and the Green Paper: Youth Matters
 - the consultation arrangements set out for the name and shape of the new service.
- (3) That Cabinet agrees that the options set out in paragraph 4.6 concerning the future of the Area Community Education Councils be considered further by the Council's Review of Relations with the Voluntary and Community Sector and also that the views of Area Committees are sought.

1. Introduction and context

Since the last Cabinet report, the Green Paper "Youth Matters" has been published. The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee had a full scrutiny session with a number of external presenters on 22nd September. The final response went to Cabinet on 20th October. The arrival of the Green Paper has been welcomed and it confirms that Warwickshire's approach is congruent with the set direction of travel.

2. Background information

2.1 The Cabinet made a number of decisions at its meeting on 24th February which related to:

- The establishment of a new service for young people incorporating Positive About Young People, Participation, Signposting Choice, the Youth Service and Outdoor Education, and giving further consideration to the location of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and the Children's Area Risk Management (CHARM).
- The name of the new service should be subject to wide consultation amongst partners and young people.
- The appropriate structure be developed for the service.
- The recruitment process for the Head of Service.
- The framework for development which should include:
 - A clear vision for the new service
 - A culture of putting children and young people first
 - All staff and volunteers signed up to the vision and living the culture
 - Delivering the five outcomes of the Children Act
 - A business plan to show how resources will be deployed to priorities
 - Identification of partners and lead responsibilities
 - Building on all good practice
 - Open access training to support best practice and networking
 - Targets for all aspects with rigorous monitoring and evaluation.
- Governance issues in the context of the Strategic Partnership Board for Children and Young People.
- Development of proposals on area working.
- Congruence with proposals arising from the reconfiguration of services in line with Every Child Matters outcomes.
- Subsidiary issues of the role of Area Community Education Councils and the use of funds and grants for organisations.
- Separation of Youth and Community from Adult Learning.

2.2 The purpose of the paper is to provide a report outlining further progress since the Cabinet decision of 21st July and to resolve any outstanding issues. At **Appendix A** is a list of the resolutions agreed by the Cabinet on 24th February 2005.

3. Progressing the Review and ensuring coherence with the County Council's approach to the Children Act

It has been of vital importance to ensure that these key issues are seen within the context of the work of the Children Act Project Team, the development of a Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) and other modernisation issues being addressed by the County Council. In this regard, it should be noted that there is full coherence between this Review and the work of the Children Act Project Team. The new service is now part of the work stream on developing enhanced support services.

4. Progress on the Review

4.1 Arrangements for the new Service for Young People

4.1.1 The Officer Steering group has continued to steer the Review. The Implementation Plan, which can be found at **Appendix B**, outlines notes on progress against each main area.

4.1.2 The Implementation plan divides the tasks into three:

- Consultation
- Structure and organisation of the new Service
- Governance arrangements.

4.2 Consultation

4.2.1 The review involves a range of colleagues and partners in the detailed development of the new service:

- An implementation group made up of service leaders and County Council officers to ensure that all actions required in relation to the organisational arrangements, membership and management of the new Service are undertaken. The terms of reference are also at Appendix B.
- An advisory group to ensure the full and active involvement of key partners and stakeholders in the development of the new service. A specific brief of this group is to help in the engagement of young people as well as staff in this process. Membership and terms of reference can be found in the Implementation Plan at Appendix B.

4.2.2 We have developed a Communication and Consultation strategy (**Appendix C**) to ensure staff, key organisations and young people are involved in the process. A major consultation on the name of the Service and a shared future will be carried out from November to January. A detailed list of organisations and young people to be involved is attached at **Appendix D**.

4.3 A shared future

4.3.1 On 14th July colleagues from both groups, plus young people, spent half a day thinking about how the new service would develop in the future.

4.3.2 The seminar aimed to share ideas about what the new service for young people might look like and to think our way into the future. The participants used these key words, amongst others, to capture the style of what they want from the new Young People's Support Service:

Exciting	Forever evolving	Young people centred/led	Reachable
Fun	More aware	Self-evaluating	Inclusive

4.3.3 Participants went on to consider what the new service should include if it is to deliver the five outcomes of Every Child Matters. It was clear that across all outcomes, young people want better communication and sign-posting, partnerships across providers and better accessibility whether it is to sports, health education or mentoring.

In addition, there was support for:

(1) Enjoying and achieving

- more music, technology, arts and creativity
- equality according to social need
- a crime-free environment.

(2) Being healthy

- more visits to schools
- partnerships across providers
- more access, sign-posting and communication.

(3) Staying safe

- right locations and quality provision
- safe drugs – harm minimisation
- changing bad behaviour into positive actions.

(4) Making a positive contribution

- shift in culture – a Young People Committee with responsibility and budget
- mentors
- right job – right staff – right attitudes.

(5) Achieving economic well-being

- Resources, property and kit.

- 4.3.4 On 1st November, we will finish this work and turn it into products for consultation with the staff and partner organisations referred to in Appendix D. People are excited and challenged by the opportunities the new service will bring and we wish to be clear that we cannot set this up or consider the outcomes without the full involvement of young people from many organisations in Warwickshire and those who have been through Warwickshire's services and will have some input. We welcome the involvement of as many people in this process. The notes from our first workshop are attached at **Appendix E** and demonstrate the excitement and the possibilities that the new service will and must bring.

4.4 Structure and organisation of the new Service

- 4.4.1 Service leaders representing Positive About Young People, Youth & Community, Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and the Youth Offending Team are working together to produce:

- A coordinated strategic plan for 2006/08
- Structures which will be congruent with the vision and strategy for Warwickshire's Children's Services.

- 4.4.2 The plan is still in draft form and will be part of the consultation process.

The Vision is:

To work in partnership, particularly with young people through local communities, to encourage positive outcomes, prevent disaffection by enabling young people to make informed choices, to achieve their full potential and choose healthy lifestyles.

The Values of the Service:

The Service for Young People in Warwickshire:

is committed to promoting equality of opportunity in all aspects of its work

- believes that all individuals have the right to be heard and are respected partners in learning and decision making,
- builds on the values and experiences of all individuals,
- promotes challenge, excitement and enjoyment throughout its work,
- provides a secure and safe environment,
- recognises the dynamic nature of young people and will adapt services to meet their needs, and
- will promote the positive contributions made by young people to improve their image in Warwickshire.

The full draft can be found at **Appendix F**.

- 4.4.3 This plan will be part of the ongoing dialogue with young people. It is proposed that a new Head of Service will be recruited in January 2006, subject to the agreement by the new Director of Children's Services. It is currently anticipated that the new service will become operational from May 2006 subject to the agreement of appropriate partners and stakeholders engaged in its process.

4.5 Governance

Governance arrangements are being considered as part of the Review of Governance and Corporate Planning Arrangements for Children's Services in a work stream of the Children Act Project, which also integrates developmental work on integrated planning, commissioning, budgeting and performance management.

4.6 Subsidiary issues related to the Strategic Review – Review of Area Community Education Councils (ACECs)

- 4.6.1 With the establishment of the new service we need to justify the continuation of the ACECs in their current form or propose alternatives. Moreover it is vitally important that the County Council keeps the wisdom of the members of the ACECs, which reflects the local community. We also need to ensure coherence from one system to another and links with the Area Committees and local planning mechanisms.
- 4.6.2 Following the meeting on 6th July with the Chairs of Area Community Education Councils, an options paper was circulated. The options are:
- Distil the local wisdom found in the ACECs and reconstitute a Community Forum that has a reporting line to the Area Committees. This option would need to be considered in the context of governance issues.
 - Reconfigure membership and constitution, perhaps so they might develop support projects along the lines of a Youth Bank (this is referenced in the Green Paper).
 - Discontinue ACECs in their current form but consider Area Community arrangements as part of the Voluntary and Community Review.

Some of the points raised at the meeting are detailed at **Appendix G**.

- 4.6.3 Clearly the lack of management support and the removal of funds will make ACECs difficult to justify and sustain. However, their rich local knowledge of communities should, if at all possible, be maintained. It is proposed that, through the Review of the Council's relations with the voluntary and community sector, we should consider the notion of community panels. It is proposed that the views of Area Committees be sought on this proposal. We would recommend ACECs cease in their current format from March 2006. During the November round of meetings Area Committees will receive reports on the ACEC activity for this year.

4.7 Subsidiary issues related to the Strategic Review – Allocation of grants for the work of young people

- 4.7.1 Issues related to the streamlining of grants now links in to the County Council Review of the Community and Voluntary sector. The report will provide some direction since the streamlining of grants applies not just to services for young people but children, families and all other members of the community. The streamlining of grants is also integral to the review of Area Community Education Councils.
- 4.7.2 It is important that we also recognise the income which the Council receives from the Children's Fund towards services for young people, particularly Positive about Young People (PAYP) via CHARM. Within this context, the vital contribution which Warwickshire Council for Voluntary Youth Service (WCVYS) makes to the service delivery must be considered. The funds, which build capacity in the voluntary sector, should be part of the overall debate.

4.8 Separation of the Adult and Community Learning Service and the Youth Service

The Adult and Community Learning Service is in the final stages of restructuring. Following extensive consultations with staff and Unions a service structure has now been agreed by the County Education Officer which will ensure it is fit for the purpose as we move to formula funding from April 2006. The new Service will shortly have all new appointments completed.

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22 Northgate Street
Warwick

3rd November 2005

Strategic Review of Services for Young People Cabinet Resolutions – 24th February

- (1) That approval is given to the establishment of a new Service (the name of which should be decided following further consultation with young people and partner agencies but provisionally to be known as the Young People's Support Service) incorporating Positive About Young People, Participation, Signposting Choice, the Youth Service and the Outdoor Education Service.
- (2) That further consideration is given to the interim location of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and CHARM pending the further reorganisation of services in the light of the Children Act 2004.
- (3) That further consideration is given to the development of an appropriate management and operational structure for the Young People's Support Service.
- (4) That the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group, undertakes further preliminary work to lead to the establishment of the new Service at an appropriate time.
- (5) That the Chief Executive, in discussion with the Leaders' Liaison Group, is authorised to commence a recruitment process for the new post of Head of Young People's Support Service, the post-holder to be accountable to the Director of Children's Services (when appointed).
- (6) That the membership and remit of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board should be reviewed.
- (7) That the strategic role of the Positive About Young People Partnership Board should cease following the review of the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership Board and the full establishment of the Young People's Support Service.
- (8) That suitable arrangements regarding the oversight and implementation of the work of the Young People's Support Service at an area level will be developed in line with proposals to be developed in relation to the Children Act 2004.
- (9) That the Chief Executive, in consultation with the voluntary sector, other partner agencies and young people, will further develop proposals to streamline the allocation of grants for work with young people, these proposals to be considered by the Cabinet after May 2005.
- (10) That, after May 2005, proposals be brought forward to Cabinet to clarify the roles of the Area Committees and Area Community Education Councils.

- (11) That the important role of the voluntary and community sector in relation to the development and delivery of services to young people is re-affirmed.
- (12) That the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group, will ensure ongoing liaison and consultation with the voluntary and community sector pending the full establishment of the Young People's Support Service and the full development of the Warwickshire Youth Offer.
- (13) That, with immediate effect, the Adult and Community Learning Service is established as a separate service within the Education Department pending the establishment of new departmental arrangements in the light of the Children Act.
- (14) That, with immediate effect, the County Education Officer is required to develop an appropriate management and operational structure for the Adult and Community Learning Service in order to address the issues raised in the recent Inspection of the Service by the Adult Learning Inspectorate pending a broader discussion concerning the County Council's arrangements for adult services generally.
- (15) That the Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group, ensures ongoing liaison with young people, staff, trade unions and partner agencies (including the voluntary and community sector) pending the full establishment of the Young People's Support Service and the development of the Warwickshire Youth Offer and the establishment of the Adult and Community Learning Service as a separate service within the Education Department.
- (16) That, after May 2005, a further progress report is made to Cabinet at an appropriate time.

Implementation Plan for the Strategic Review of Services for Young People 2005
April – September 2006
Progress report – October 2005

	Cabinet Approved Recommendations 24/2/05	Success Criteria	Timescale	Responsibility	Progress
1. Consultation					
1a.	Approval given to establishment of new Service (the name of which should be decided following further consultation with young people and partner agencies but provisionally to be known as the Young People's Support Service) incorporating Positive About Young People, Participation, Signposting Choice, the Youth Service and the Outdoor Education Service.	Name of new Service agreed following consultation	December – January 2006	Implementation Group with staff from all services with input from advisory group	Workshops on 14 th July and 1 st November.
1b.	Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group, to ensure ongoing liaison and consultation with the voluntary and community sector pending the full establishment of the Young People's Support Service and the full development of the Warwickshire Youth Offer.	Advisory Group established	Ongoing	Advisory Group involved	Advisory Group working with local authority – includes: WCVYS Children's Fund CHARM YOT Connexions TPS (moving to Implementation Group)

	Cabinet Approved Recommendations 24/2/05	Success Criteria	Timescale	Responsibility	Progress
1c.	Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group, to ensure ongoing liaison with young people, staff, trade unions and partner agencies (including the voluntary and community sector) pending the full establishment of the Young People's Support Service and the development of the Warwickshire Youth Offer.	Ongoing consultation	Ongoing	Officer Steering Group to consider. A number of different groups involved. Separate plan to be developed.	Consultation strategy developed through the Implementation Group including young people and staff. Publication of Green Paper has given huge impetus to discussions on what services should look like.
2 Structure and organisation of the new service					
2a.	Further consideration given to interim location of the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and CHARM pending the further reorganisation of services in light of the Children Act.	Cabinet agrees upon the membership and location of the new service	November Cabinet paper	Officer Steering Group	TPS – be integrated into the new service CHARM – as an integral part of PAYP, be integrated into the new service
2b.	Further consideration given to development of appropriate management and operational structure for the Young People's Support Service.	Fully agreed service structure which will need to be subject of consultation	September 2005	Implementation Group to work on options. DCS/Head of Service to determine in conjunction with Officer Steering Group.	Sub-group of Implementation Group considering structures and co-ordinating planning. Next meeting 12/10/05. Green Paper has helped to focus on this.
2c.	Director of Children's Services to commence a recruitment process for the new post of Head of Young People's Support Service, to be accountable to the Director of Children's Services.	Agreed job description and recruitment process	January 2006	HR to determine in consultation with Director of Children's Services	Draft job description being developed for further consideration.

	Cabinet Approved Recommendations 24/2/05	Success Criteria	Timescale	Responsibility	Progress
2d.	Chief Executive, in conjunction with the Officer Steering Group and the Director of Children's Services (once appointed), undertakes further preliminary work to lead to the establishment of the new Service.	Portfolio of data and information in current services: staffing, budgets, premises, risks, performance management, management information policies.	Spring 2006	Implementation Group work to be steered by Officer Steering Group and Director of Children's Services	SIMU involved in developing the template to compile the simple portfolio of data as described. Green Paper has provided a potential list of services and important networks.
2e.	Suitable arrangements regarding the oversight and implementation of the work of the Young People's Support Service at an area level to be developed in line with proposals to be developed in relation to the Children Act.	Appropriate area working arrangements developed in line with locality working	Spring 2006	Implementation Group and Advisory Group and Children Act Project Team	Working closely with Pat Tate on the Enhanced Support Services work stream. YP Service represented on the Board. Structure issues to be resolved.
2f.	Further progress report to be made to Cabinet at an appropriate time.		July and November 2005	Officer Steering Group	21 st July report to Cabinet.
3. Governance arrangements					
3a.	Chief Executive to develop proposals to streamline the allocation of grants for work with young people ensuring appropriate consultation, coherence with current VCS Review and similar work being undertaken by Social Services regarding supporting work with adults.	Cabinet approval for streamlined grant process	November 2005	Chief Executive - Implementation and Advisory Group involved. Officer Steering Group to approve arrangements.	Report written and recommendations agreed and being followed through the VCS review (in action plan).

	Cabinet Approved Recommendations 24/2/05	Success Criteria	Timescale	Responsibility	Progress
3b.	Proposals to be brought forward to Cabinet to clarify and review the role of the Area Committees generally, and the Area Community Education Councils.	Cabinet approval for April 2006 start	November 2005	<p>Chief Executive – Review to be commenced post May 2005.</p> <p>It is important to keep “area community wisdom”. Some of the funds ACECs allocated are for hiring schools, some are to enable the Youth and Community Service to meet its targets and some are for the Adult and Community Learning Service. Propose we ask the new administration to keep current ACEC members until March 2006.</p> <p>Funds could be allocated through sub group of Area Committees or Area Community Learning Partnerships.</p>	Chairs of ACECs met. Discussion document with options circulated in August. Liaise with VCS review on proposed options. Ties in with Children and Young People’s Strategic Partnership Board governance. Now part of VCS action plan. Portfolio holders briefed.

The roles of the Officer Steering Group, Implementation Group and Advisory Group April – September 2006

Name of Group	Purposes	Membership	Reporting Arrangements/ Accountability	Notes/Comments
Officer Steering Group	<p>Ensure overall coherence of the Implementation arrangements</p> <p>Ensure that implementation is complementary to the progress of the County Council's post Children Act arrangements</p> <p>Determine reporting arrangements to COMT, Cabinet and the County Council</p> <p>Ensure that issues in relation to the Strategic Partnership Board, the review of grant-making processes and the role of ACECs / Area Committees are undertaken through the Chief Executive's Department</p> <p>Oversee recruitment of Head of Service</p>	<p>David Carter</p> <p>Eric Wood</p> <p>Marion Davies</p> <p>DCS (when appointed)</p> <p>Elizabeth Featherstone</p> <p>Andrew Lawrence</p> <p>Nick Gower-Johnson (up to end May 2005)</p> <p>Dharmista Harkisan-Hall</p>		

Name of Group	Purposes	Membership	Reporting Arrangements/ Accountability	Notes/Comments
Implementation Group	<p>Ensure that all actions required in relation to the organisational arrangements, membership and management of the new Service are undertaken</p> <p>Develop draft organisational and operational structure for new service</p> <p>Assist in the development of arrangements for the work at an area level</p> <p>Advise on the development of consultation and communication arrangements</p> <p>Prepare single profile of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Key contacts - Budgets inc funding streams and grants paid/received - Support from HQ functions - Premises - Other resources/assets - Current Governance arrangements - Area structures - All staff (inc volunteers) - Terms and conditions - All Vision Statements, policies, processes and plans - QA processes - Curriculum and Programmes - Inspection and Performance - Management arrangements - MI systems inc benefits & issues 	<p>Elizabeth Featherstone (Chair)</p> <p>Nick Gower-Johnson (up to end May 2005)</p> <p>Dharmista Harkisan-Hall</p> <p>Jane Pollard</p> <p>Judith Coote (HR)</p> <p>Joanna Rhodes</p> <p>David Halsall</p> <p>Simon Lord</p> <p>Rachel Faulkner</p> <p>Rep from Advisory Group</p> <p>Mike Maguire</p> <p>Peter Hatcher</p>	<p>Via Elizabeth Featherstone to the Officer Steering Group with ongoing link to JMT</p>	<p>All work to be steered and approved by the Officer Steering Group via the Chair</p> <p>The single profile should include information in relation to the Youth & Community Service, Positive About Young People and Teenage Pregnancy Strategy</p>

Name of Group	Purposes	Membership	Reporting Arrangements/ Accountability	Notes/Comments
Advisory Group	<p>Ensure the full and active involvement of key partners and stakeholders in the development of the new Service</p> <p>Input to and review the work of the Implementation and Steering Groups generally</p> <p>Advise on consultation and communication methods/processes</p> <p>Engage young people and staff in the development of the new Service paying particular regard to the role of the County Youth Forum and local Youth Fora</p> <p>Identify and implement issues for <u>immediate</u> cross service collaboration</p> <p>Develop options for the name of the new Service and suggest consultation processes</p>	<p>Elizabeth Featherstone (Chair)</p> <p>Nick Gower Johnson (up to May 2005)</p> <p>Dharmista Harkisan-Hall</p> <p>Mike Bunn</p> <p>Graham Hollowell / Steve Stewart</p> <p>Vic Jones</p> <p>Diane Johnson</p> <p>Paul Thompson</p> <p>Amy Barnes</p> <p>County Youth Panel reps + support worker</p>	Via Chair of Group to Officer Steering Group	<p>Engage District/Town & parish Councils as appropriate</p> <p>CVS engaged by WCVYS via Local Development Agency Forum</p> <p>A budget may be required to support the involvement of young people</p> <p>Work should link with information sharing developments via Children Act Project Team</p>

Strategic Review of Services for Young People

Communication & Consultation Strategy

1. Background/Introduction

The Review reported to Cabinet in February 2005 and in July 2005. The Cabinet reports have been clear. The work of the Review must closely align with the work of the Children Act. This has meant keeping momentum whilst ensuring congruence with other work streams, particularly the Enhanced Support Service managed by Pat Tate.

2. Strategy

The principles of the strategy for engaging services, young people and families are:

- ♦ Listening to what young people say about how they want to be engaged.
- ♦ Information is relevant to young people
- ♦ Open access to all items so anyone who wants the information can access it
- ♦ Different levels of detail should reach different audiences:
 - a. as a broad sweep, everyone should have general information to raise awareness;
 - b. up-dates and policy developments should involve managers and staff;
 - c. targeted and appropriate information should be available to support involvement of young people, parent and families;
 - d. use the Green Paper: Youth Matters to engage broader elements involved in services for young people.

Activity

- **Broad Information Sharing**

- Heads of Service have responsibility (agreed Summer 2005) to keep their staff informed – especially where staff and volunteers do not have access to ICT.
- Web-site: anyone can access the web-site.
www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cap
- Information will need to cover all areas of development, for example, the work on holding a broad consultation exercise on the name and vision for the new service from November to January.

- **Broad Engagement of Staff**

- On relevant and timely occasions, we will use one off articles and inserts in the CAP briefing series to keep people informed of progress. Chairs of ACECs and other key colleagues are kept informed of progress via meetings and use of email.
- Other information will be available on the website.

- **Specific consultation on the name and liaison for new service.**

- **There will be a need to develop an ongoing Communication and Consultation Strategy for the new service.**

Newsletter

Strategic Review of Services for Young People

What is the aim of the strategic review of services for young people?

The review aims to gain approval and general support for the establishment of a new service – the Young People's Support Service. This will incorporate all the relevant services for young people currently offered by the council, ensuring the full involvement of young people, parents, staff and other stakeholders.

Who is working on the Review?

The Strategic Review of Services for Young People Advisory Group ensures that key partners and stakeholders are fully and actively involved in developing the new Service. Representatives from Warwickshire Council for Voluntary Youth Service (WCVYS), Connexions, Warwickshire Association of Youth Clubs (WAYC), The Children's Fund, Youth Offending Team (YOT), Positive About Young People (PAYP), Teenage Pregnancy Strategy (TPS) and the County Youth Panel:

- identify areas for collaboration and service improvement
- engage young people and staff in the development of the new service including the name of the service.

The Strategic Review of Services for Young People Implementation Group ensures that actions about the organisational arrangements, membership and management of the new service are undertaken. The group, made up of various departments within the Council, will develop draft organisational and operational structures for the new service.

What have we done so far?

We have established the Adult and Community Learning Services as a separate service.

Youth and Community is now responsible for Outdoor Education, Signposting and Participation.

From the review, we have worked on a number of issues, including:

- analysing what we do with the various funds and grants allocated to services for young people and directing them for the future service;
- working with the Chairs of Area Community Education Councils. We need to keep their local wisdom and involve them in the overall County Council review of new arrangements with the voluntary and Community sector; and
- working across organisations and with young people, parents and families to provide a robust response to the long awaited Green Paper "Youth Matters". This went to Cabinet in October.

What does the new service look like?

A very successful half day seminar in July brought together young people, stakeholders and members of the Advisory and Implementation Groups. The seminar aimed to share ideas about what the new service for young people might look like and to think our way into the future.

The participants used these key words, amongst others, to capture the style of what they want from the new Young People's Support Service:

Exciting	Forever evolving	Young People centred/led	Reachable
Fun	More aware	Self-evaluating	Inclusive

Participants went on to consider what the new service should include if it is to deliver the 5 outcomes of Every Child Matters. It was clear that across all outcomes, young people want better communication and sign-posting, partnerships across providers and better accessibility whether it is to sports, health education or mentoring.

In addition, there was support for:

1. Enjoying & Achieving

- more music, technology, arts & creativity
- equality according to social need
- a crime free environment

2. Being Healthy

- more visits to schools
- partnerships across providers
- more access, sign-posting and communication

3. Staying safe

- right locations and quality provision
- safe drugs – harm minimisation
- changing bad behaviour into positive actions

4. Making a positive contribution

- shift in culture – a Young People Committee with responsibility & budget
- mentors
- right job – right staff – right attitudes

5. Achieving economic well-being

- resources, property & kit

And then time ran out – but the discussion will continue and be explored in more depth at the follow-up event in November.

What Next?

We are working on:

- the recruitment process for the new Head of Services, hoping to appoint in January 2006 and involve the new Director of Children's Services;
- discussing some early structures for the new service. Following the successful workshop in July, the next stakeholder event is on 1st November. Following this, we will consult with all the parties involved about their roles;
- consulting with young people on the development of the new service, using various means including as email, planned events and workshops e.g. SIGMA group meeting, County Youth Conferences and Anti-Bullying workshops. We will also be working with partners within Children's services to include disabled children, looked after children, BME groups and young carers, asylum seekers and refugees;
- governance issues that will be finalised during November and December; and
- the report to Cabinet for November.

Outline agreements

Our discussions, meetings and consultations mean that we still have much work on details to deliver the new service young people want, but we know that:

- the new service, with a name yet to be agreed, will operate from May 2006;
- it will take a few months for the new service to become formally established, as it needs to happen in line with developments around the Children Act 2004; and
- the Youth Service, the Outdoor Education Service, Signposting Choice, The Teenage Pregnancy Service and Positive About Young People will come together in a single new service.

Want to know more?

Contact Elizabeth Featherstone on

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Email: elizabethfeatherstone@warwickshire.gov.uk

Look at the CAP Website on www.warwickshire.gov.uk

The CAP Briefing series will carry articles and special inserts on this service for Young People. Issues are on the web-site or contact CAP Team for your own copy, 01926 412622.

Strategic review of services for young people

Consultation on shape and name of service

	Originator	Person Responsible	Actions	Notes/Progress
Advisory Group	Connexions	Graham Hollowell Fran Downes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consulted young people on Youth Matters paper - Database of 350 young people keen to get involved in consultation on development of the service - Consulting with young people on achieving economic well being outcome of ECM Framework (October 2005) - Each of the areas within the County now have a Young Person's Involvement Champion who will be responsible for gathering the views of young people at each of the local areas across the County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently gathering feedback that will be sent directly to DfES - To be contacted via email - Welcome pack sent out to each young person who registered interest in shaping Connexions - Connexions working towards Hear by Rights standard and young people who are involved will have completed one unit towards their Act by Right certificate - Consultation will be focused on service delivery and views of young people accessing services

	Originator	Person Responsible	Actions	Notes/Progress
Advisory Group (continued)	WCVYS	Mike Bunn	Consultation with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scouts Network - Young Farmers' Clubs - North Warwickshire Rural Youth Project - Bradby Club, Rugby - Connexions/VCS NEETS Project - County Voluntary Youth Officer Forum - WYCVS review day – some of discussion will include relevant parts of the consultation - Include debate about consultation in next WCVYS Executive agenda - Birmingham Catholic Youth Service - Diocese Youth Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Now out of membership age but wish to continue links with Scouts - Use well-organised meeting structure to act as a 'sounding board' - Allows us to contact isolated groups of young people in ex-coal mining areas of North Warwickshire - Link in with Connexions, PAYP, YOT - Five in operation at the moment funded by Connexions, managed by WCVYS: possible involvement of one other - Next meeting 15th December - 3rd December - Date TBA - Date TBA - Date TBA
	VCS – Children's Fund	Victoria Jones	Consultation events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SIGMA Group meeting - County Youth Conference - Anti-Bullying Workshops - One-off consultation events with partners within Children's Services to include disabled children, looked-after children, young carers - BME groups from contacts with Positive Images Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - October - November - November - December/January - Two events covering North and South Warwickshire

	Originator	Person Responsible	Actions	Notes/Progress
Implementation Group	Youth & Community	Peter Hatcher	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation with County Youth Panel - Consultation forms through youth workers with young people re Green Paper - Discussion at full-time staff meeting - Discussion item at Management Team meeting - Discussions at 5 x Area Youth Forum - Can undertake wide-ranging consultation with young people when some firm proposals/choices known - Agenda item on County multi-agency Participation Group - Discussion at 5 x area part-time youth worker events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - November - Returns by end of October - 8th December - 23rd November - Throughout November - When available - 6th December - January - The draft Young People's Involvement Framework is being developed in conjunction with the voluntary sector

	Originator	Person Responsible	Actions	Notes/Progress
Implement- ation Group (continued)	PAYP	Michael Maguire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultation with Senior Officers - Discussion at full team meeting - Discussion at Team Development Day - Discussion with young people at PODS - Parenting groups currently in Rugby and Nuneaton (which also covers North Warwickshire) - Introducing group to Warwick and Leamington (also to cover Stratford district) - Young Persons' Groups in all five districts, both formalised programmes and drop-in - Individual work and one-off consultations with individual parents/ young people - Forest Schools Group - CHARM Panels. Multi-agency consultation in all five districts which covers agencies such as: Social Services, Education, YOT, Youth Service, Young Persons Substance Misuse Service and District/Borough Councils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June, July and October - Next Senior Officer meeting 21.11.05 - July and September - Next Team meeting 17.11.05 - During November and December - Weekly meetings - January 2006 - Regular meetings - Regularly - 24th-29th October 2005 - Six weekly x 5

	Originator	Person Responsible	Actions	Notes/Progress
Implement- ation Group (continued)	TPS	Amy Barnes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Via Implementation Group looking at Teenage Pregnancy Strategy and Action Plans and integrating into new service proposal linking with other plans - Link into the Leaving Care Forum and County Participation Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attended meeting 12.10.05 to look at vision, values, aims and objectives and priorities within the new service - Document produced and forwarded to Elizabeth Featherstone
	YOT	Rachel Faulkner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed at Management Team meeting - Consultation with YOT - Youth Matters Green Paper tabled at Youth Justice Management Board by Diane Johnson - Member of Implementation Group sub-group to draft Strategic Plan for the new service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - August 2005 - 19.10.05 - 12.10.05 (and subsequent meetings)
	Schools	Elizabeth Featherstone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary Heads Policy Group – Community Learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next meeting of group is 11.10.05

Warwickshire Support Service for Young People

A report summarising the key points from a half-day seminar (held on 14 July 2005) bringing together young people and other representatives from the existing delivery organisations in the County and other members of the Advisory and Implementation Groups

Objectives of the session:

- to work together
- to think our way into the future
- to share ideas about what the new service for young people might look like
- to have something that might form the basis for wider discussion with young people and other stakeholders

Participants were asked to describe the strengths of their existing services to young people:

well trained, representative and elected, enthusiastic, diverse, informed, organised, good attitude towards young people, volunteers, good at teamwork, dynamic, good leadership, experienced, friendly, confident, equipment, qualified staff, helping people and groups to learn, money, working together, chances and opportunities, doing things differently, planning together, sign- posting for people who need help, support volunteers, retraining and recruitment, good track record working with voluntary organisations, workers, sharing others views, dedication of workers and young people, workers different skills, learning opportunities e.g. challenge award, happy, friendly, respectful, educational, organised, leadership, potential, money, workers, equipment, good attitude to young people, qualified staff, helping people to learn, other peoples views, life experience, diversity, heart in the right place, effective, property advice, informative, organised, team building, well organised and partnership, well known, networking, popular, relationships, approachable, real, effective, positive, quick response, prove what we do, diversity, delegation, personal experience, life/family, high level of commitment to working with young people, knowledge of multi-agency co-located team, comforting, organisation strengths, give people somewhere to hang, positive role models, teaches respect, show kids can aspire to something, gives kids information on sex disease etc, listening, guidance and support, prove what we are doing

Participants were asked to describe the opportunities inherent in their existing services:

for Young People	for Change	for the Services we offer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job opportunities • Outdoor sports • Learning Opportunities • Travel • Training Opportunities • Media opportunities – to get young people heard • Diverse so all cultures feel they can be heard and noticed. • Give more things to do. • Freedom to be yourself • You can get what you want • One stick will snap, all together we don't break. • More people heard more • Engagement with young people • Visioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Start from scratch • Youth clubs open more and used more • To rethink future • Access to everything • Everybody got same ideas means we should work together • Faster organisation • More people so you can get heard • To make change • More inclusion of ethnic minorities – e.g. cultural sensitivity • New start. • Change and development • Listen to young people and each other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How we deliver services • Aim high service resources • Input ownership • Better co-ordination, better use of resources • Effective use of expertise • Mis - development • I.T. Infrastructure • Stream lining

The next part of the exercise required participants to think as though the new support service was already in existence and to describe it: –

inclusive,
 understanding,
 changed,
 uniform,
 united,
 co-ordinated,
 enlightened,
 fun,
 exciting,

forever evolving,
 more cultured,
 more aware,
 more involved,
 user friendly,
 responsive to need,
 perfected,
 reachable,
increased use/access to technology,
 reflective,
 accepting,
 bureaucratic-free,
 all embracing,
 young people centred/led,
 effective,
 streamlined,
 reformed,
knowledgeable,
 focussed,
 determined,
 self-evaluating,
 ethereal,
 grounded.

It was generally agreed that these descriptors did **NOT** apply to the existing different services and that they begin to capture what should be aimed for in the new Young People's Support Service.

Participants, working in small groups, were given the task of listing the different bits and pieces that might comprise the new support service; they were able to include existing services as well as thinking of entirely new services for young people. Each group was then asked to locate their idea against the 5 Outcomes of Every Child Matters as follows:

1. Enjoying and achieving:

- ❖ Marketing,
- ❖ Equality according to social need
- ❖ Extended Schools,
- ❖ more music,
- ❖ more technology,
- ❖ a crime free environment
- ❖ Arts, creative and imaginative

2. Being Healthy:

- ❖ More visits to schools,
- ❖ better communication – advertising activities
- ❖ Culture,
- ❖ Wider range of accessible activities e.g. sports,
- ❖ All partnerships,
- ❖ All sign posting to young people – sexual health,
- ❖ All one to one support,
- ❖ All strategy,
- ❖ All more access – Health education etc.
- ❖ Better communication – advertising activities

3. Staying safe:

- ❖ Communication – internal and external,
- ❖ Unity,
- ❖ Right location and good quality e.g. skate parks,
- ❖ Safe drugs (harm minimisation),
- ❖ Change bad behaviour into positive actions

4. Making a positive contribution

- ❖ Right job - right staff - right attitudes,
- ❖ Younger staff,
- ❖ The big conversation – young people – adult people ideas,
- ❖ Shift in culture,
- ❖ Easier access to different services – flexible – mobile,
- ❖ Young People Committee – more responsibility including budget,
- ❖ Mentors,
- ❖ International visits.

5. Achieving economic well-being

- ❖ Resources, property and kit etc.

Time ran out at this point. It would have been good if the group could have

- a) thought of more activities under each of the 5 Outcomes; then
- b) to have sorted them against the five sub-headings of each of those:

e.g. for Making a positive contribution –

- ❖ Engage in decision making and support community and environment,
- ❖ engage in law abiding and positive behaviour,
- ❖ develop positive relationships and no bullying and discrimination,
- ❖ develop self confidence and deal with life changes and challenges,
- ❖ develop enterprising behaviour,

The point of this part of the exercise is twofold:

1. to begin to identify what the new Service might comprise so that
2. outcomes and outputs can be anticipated.

SERVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

STRATEGIC PLAN 2006 – 2008

FIRST DRAFT - OCTOBER 2005

This work has been informed by the Children Act 2004, the Green Paper 'Youth Matters', the Strategic Review of Services for Children and Young People and the work of the Warwickshire Children Act Project Team and significant contributions of the Youth & Community Service, Positive About Young People and Teenage Pregnancy Partnership.

VISION

To work in partnership, in particular with young people through local communities, to encourage positive outcomes, prevent disaffection, enabling young people to make informed choices, to achieve their full potential and choose healthy lifestyles.

VALUES

The Service for Young People in Warwickshire:

is committed to promoting equality of opportunity in all aspects of its work

- believes that all individuals have the right to be heard and are respected partners in learning and decision making,
- builds on the values and experiences of all individuals,
- promotes challenge, excitement and enjoyment throughout its work,
- provides a secure and safe environment,
- recognises the dynamic nature of young people and will adapt services to meet their needs, and
- will promote the positive contributions made by young people to improve their image in Warwickshire.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure the active participation of young people in the specification, governance, management, delivery and quality assurance of services.
2. To significantly contribute to strategic leadership for all those organisations working with young people.
3. To maximize resources to provide an efficient and flexible service, taking into consideration pooled budgets, multi-agency commissioning and match-funding.

4. To secure coherent provision across the County through delivery and partnership arrangements with the voluntary and community sectors, Health, Police, District and Borough Councils and other agencies.
5. To create effective information sharing arrangements to support service delivery to young people in Warwickshire
6. To take a lead role in representing the interests of young people at local, regional, national and global governmental levels.
7. To provide high quality work with young people in settings where the Service is uniquely placed to make direct provision.
8. Ensure safe environments supervised by competent, skilled and caring workers providing a service in which the community has the utmost confidence.
9. To prevent disaffection amongst young people in Warwickshire and remedy this where it occurs.
10. To provide a range of dynamic services including tailored, individual and group services, responding to the informed needs of young people and engaging with other services as necessary.
11. To ensure access to impartial information, advice and support for all young people and families in Warwickshire.

SERVICE PRIORITIES

BEING HEALTHY

- Encourage young people to lead healthy lifestyles, particularly in relation to drug prevention, smoking cessation, alcohol abuse, sexual health and reducing under-18 conception rates.
- All young people receive quality Sex and Relationships Education within Personal Social and Health Education in schools and out of school settings including those in post 16 education.
- Parents feel confident and skilled in talking to their children about sex and relationships.
- All young people know about sexual health and contraceptive services in their areas.
- All young people have access to young people friendly contraceptive and sexual health services appropriate to their needs in statutory and non- statutory settings.
- All young people have access to free pregnancy testing and counselling and speedy referral to NHS funded abortion or maternity services.
- Teenage parents have access to antenatal and postnatal services tailored to their needs to improve the physical and mental health outcomes for them and their children.

STAYING SAFE

- The provision of service to reduce anti-social behaviour and crime, prevent family breakdown, maximise take-up of education opportunities, reduce community tensions and increase community safety.
- All services and practitioners working with young people understand their duty of confidentiality to young people but are able to identify abuse and exploitation of young people and refer appropriately - linked to the Common Assessment Framework.
- Through partnership, assist in the creation of safe environments and reduce the fear of crime.

ENJOYING AND ACHIEVING *(to be extended and subject to review)*

- All young people have opportunities to build self-esteem and aspirations to fulfil their potential and minimise risk-taking behaviour.
- Encourage achievement and higher aspirations amongst young people through the accreditation and validation of their experience.
- Enjoy and have fun by being involved in a range of activities.
- Participate in planning and leadership activity.

MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION

- Engage young people in local decision-making, service design and delivery, through democratic and participatory activities that encourage active citizenship.
- Working to improve the image of young people in Warwickshire by sharing positive news and changing local perceptions.
- Young people representative of the local community are involved in the needs assessment, planning, delivery and monitoring of work to prevent teenage pregnancy, improve sexual health, and support teenage parents.
- To develop and consolidate a range of volunteering opportunities for young people in Warwickshire.

ACHIEVING ECONOMIC WELLBEING

- Promote a culture of collaborative and partnership working to continually assess and respond to the needs of young people thus ensuring equality of opportunity, inclusion and social cohesion.
- Service providers employ local people, where possible, to deliver community based services, thereby improving capacity building at neighbourhood level.
- Ensure access to impartial information, advice and support for all young people in Warwickshire.
- All teenage parents are provided with a co-ordinated package of support, including considerations of education, accommodation and childcare.

REFERENCE MATERIAL

This plan is the overarching strategic statement for the Service to Young People in Warwickshire. For further details, including specific set targets, please refer to the following:

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Youth Service Ofsted Action Plan, May 2005

OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

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Youth Service Ofsted Action Plan, May 2005

OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

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Strategic Review Of Services For Young People

REVIEW OF AREA COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCILS **(Item Governance 3b of Implementation Plan)**

REPORT TO THE OFFICER STEERING GROUP – 6th SEPTEMBER 2005

1. The Implementation Plan – Governance item 3b

The Implementation Plan for the Strategic Review sets out the following:

- Proposals to be brought forward to Cabinet to clarify and review the role of the Area Committees and the Area Community Education Councils. The timescale is set to ensure any new arrangements commence from April 2006.

2. Consultation with Chair of Area Community Education Councils

I met with the Chair of Stratford ACEC, Margery Pickering, on 5th July 2005 and the Chair of North Warwickshire, Alan Smith, Rugby, Martin Eversfield, Warwick, Jayne Longfield and the vice-chairman of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Michael Watson on 6th July. The portfolio holders, Izzi Seccombe and Peter Fowler, were also in attendance with officers, Jane Pollard, Peter Hatcher and Dharmista Harkisan-Hall.

3. Discussion Points

3.1 Area Working

How did the ACECs work with the LSPs?

It was thought LSPs were variable, while ACECs represent local communities and have local knowledge. Their constitutions are tight-reflecting membership from County/Borough and District/Parish Councils. Organisations were affiliated. Other representatives reflected under 8s, 8-13s, teenagers and adults.

3.2 Funds

It was generally agreed that if current funds that help the Youth & Community Service meet its targets were centralised into a pot only for young people, then ACECs members would not see themselves as having any role. It should be noted that Youth and Community is now separate

from Adult and Community Learning, and there is no formal ACEC role with regard to ACL grants.

- 3.3 ACECs give small (£500) but significant sums to groups working with older people. This would be lost if ACECs did not continue. The budget was applied flexibly. There was a quick turnaround. Applicants were not bogged down with overwhelming paperwork.

3.4 Role of Area Committees & ACECs

ACECs should report to Area Committees in March with their plans and review their progress in October. This year the cycle was missed due to the new structure.

The option of being a sub-group of Area Committees was discussed. It was felt that local representation must continue if this was to be pursued (rather than County Councillors.)

It was felt that communities could be marginalised by the move to Commissioning and Children Act arrangements.

3.5 ACECs provide Best Value

ACECs Chairs believe that, as members are volunteers, the function is good value and reaches small Community Groups. Support to run the ACECs from Youth & Community Area officers may need to be factored into this.

3.6 Management of ACECs

With the establishment of the new Service for Young People, and no Community Education, there will be no service structure to ensure co-ordination and consistency.

3.7 Extended Schools

These schools would become an important part of delivering services to Communities. There are a number of issues around the community use of schools and the funding should support extended schools.

The local authority will be considering the development of Education Improvement Partnerships where Schools and Communities work together to provide for their Communities. How does the Authority resolve the dilemma of developing new ways of working without losing the strength that ACECs have brought in terms of Community diversity? These partnerships will be very different from the grant giving which has been traditionally an ACEC role.

New Local Community Forums for young people were not seen to be the answer, as they would just reinvent ACECs.

3.8 Membership

Many ACECs found difficulties with recruitment and attendance. Young people had been involved but tended not to be frequent attenders.

However, ACECs are strong on working with partners. It has a constitution to have 24 members.

3.9 Future Options

- Distil the local wisdom found in the ACECs and reconstitute a Community Forum that has a reporting line to the Area Committees. This option would need to be considered in the context of governance issues.
- Reconfigure Membership and Constitution, perhaps so they might develop support projects along the lines of a Youth Bank (this is referenced in the Green Paper)
- Discontinue ACECs in their current form but consider Area Community arrangements as part of the Voluntary and Community Review

These options to be considered in the context of:

- The Children Act 2004 implementation arrangements on area working
- The recently published Green Paper, Youth Matters
- The establishment of an integrated service for young people and funding arrangements
- The County's review of the links with the voluntary and Community Sector including WREP which is likely to report in the autumn
- The County's Review of Local Strategic Partnerships and the establishment of the Warwickshire Strategic Partnership.