

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee **Children, Young People and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

Date of Committee **25th April 2007**

Report Title **Youth Work Development Grants / Former Area Community Education Councils – funding arrangements**

Summary This report seeks Members' views on agreeing a way forward following the Cabinet (7.12.06) decision to refer this item back to Overview and Scrutiny.

This report seeks support from Members for the Youth Work Development Grants proposal, as an alternative to the previous allocation process using the residue monies from the former Area Community Education Councils. This report relates only to the funds used to support work with 0-19 year olds. The 19+ funds will be the subject of a separate report.

For further information please contact: Hugh Disley
Head of Service – Division for Young People
Tel: 01926 742578
hughdisley@warwickshire.gov.uk

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the Budget and Policy Framework? [please identify relevant plan/budget provision] No

Background papers

- Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy 2006
- Strategic Review of Services for Young People – Cabinet reports 24.2.05, 21.7.05, 17.11.05 and 13.7.06
- Area Committees – May 2006
- Area Community Education Councils : Funding Arrangements – Cabinet report 7.12.06

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

- Other Committees
- Local Member(s)
- Other Elected Members Chairs of Area Committees:
Cllr Sarah Boad, Cllr Ray Sweet, Cllr George Atkinson, Cllr John Vereker, Cllr Barry Longden – comments incorporated in the report

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

Cllr Katherine King
Cllr John Whitehouse
Cllr June Tandy
- Cabinet Member For information:
Cllr Izzi Seccombe
- Other Cabinet Members consulted For information:
Cllr Colin Hayfield
Cllr John Burton
Cllr Alan Cockburn
- Chief Executive
- Legal Victoria Gould / Sarah Duxbury – comments incorporated in the report
- Finance
- Other Strategic Directors
- District Councils
- Health Authority
- Police
- Other Bodies/Individuals Michelle McHugh, Scrutiny Officer

FINAL DECISION

NO

SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:

Details to be specified

- Further consideration by this Committee
- To Council
- To Cabinet
- To an O & S Committee
- To an Area Committee
- Further Consultation

**Children, Young People and Families Overview and
Scrutiny Committee – 25th April 2007**

**Youth Work Development Grants / Former Area Community
Education Councils – funding arrangements**

**Report of the Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families**

Recommendations:

- (1) That Members recommend to Cabinet that the Youth Work Development Grants proposal is implemented from April 2007 as an alternative to the previous process using the residue monies from the former Area Community Education Councils.
- (2) That Members recommend that the formula used in 2006/07 is adopted, allocating the amounts each district receives and ensuring that the ratios per district remain constant.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 On 7th December 2006 Cabinet referred to this Overview and Scrutiny Committee the consideration of local involvement in grant allocation for monies previously distributed by the Area Community Education Councils (ACECs) to support work with 0-19 year olds. The original recommendation was:

“...that officers from the Services to Young People Division work with a small a group of elected Members consisting of representation from each party and representatives of the Youth Parliament, acting as a Task and Finish Group”.

- 1.2 Under the County Council's previous structure the Education Department's Youth and Community Education Service had responsibility for this area of work and ACECs distributed funds for both young people and adult groups. Following the 2006 restructuring the adult part of Community Education went to the Adult, Health and Community Services Directorate with the remainder transferring to the Children, Young People and Families Directorate. This report relates only to the provision for the 0-19 year olds. The 'Youth

Development Grants' proposal within this paper relates to the youth work activity previously supported through the ACECs.

- 1.3 In 2006/07 there was no structure in place to provide local input into the decisions regarding the distribution of these funds and a framework for these must be implemented swiftly if it is to be effective for 2007/08.
- 1.4 At the December 2006 Cabinet meeting the main reasons for referring this item back to Overview and Scrutiny were as follows:
 - (i) It was suggested that the Area Committees should remain responsible for allocating the funding. The current arrangements made the funding more accessible and enabled local input.
 - (ii) Members were advised that both the Nuneaton & Bedworth and the Warwick Area Committees did not support the proposals for centralisation of the ACECs' funding.
 - (iii) The proposal would involve consideration by local youth workers.
 - (iv) A particular problem was that not every local organisation had a good set up, constitution, etc.

2. Purpose of the Youth Work Development Grants

The important issues to be considered are:

- (i) That the Youth Work Development Grants are seen as an important and continuing way to commission positive activities for young people at a local level.
- (ii) These grants need to work to meet the gaps and identified need.
- (iii) Service level agreements with voluntary organisations as part of the Youth Offer are essential in helping them to plan ahead and have the ability to lever other funding.
- (iv) These will be local grants that can respond to issues that arise during a year or in support of new organisations or innovative work.

3. 2006/07 budget allocation

- 3.1 There has been an agreed formula used for some time by the previous ACECs and this same formula was used for 2006/07. This determined the amounts each district received. The table below represents the agreed actual budget for 2006/07 for the five areas having removed an additional £82,000 that was included in the original figures used in the Cabinet paper which was for

2005/06. The £55,000 was agreed for 2006/07 leaving the £199,000 for youth work development. A standstill budget is agreed for 2007/08. This means that in 2007/08 there will be £199,000 to allocate.

Budget allocation	County	North Warwickshire	Nuneaton & Bedworth	Rugby	Stratford	Warwick
Districts 25 – Ext.Ser 30 – Adult 199 – Youth	£254,000	£29,500	£63,000	£45,500	£52,000	£64,000
%	100%	12%	25%	18%	20%	25%
2007/08 Youth Dev Grants	£199,000	£23,880	£49,750	£35,820	£39,800	£49,750

The formula was based on:

60% total population 10% FSM 10% BME 10% Rurality 10% Benefit claims

- 3.2 £25,000 would go directly to Extended Services in the Family & Community Division.
- 3.3 £30,000 would be administered through the Adult, Health & Community Services Directorate.

4. Proposed way forward

Comments made by Members in Cabinet and the five Area Committee Chairpersons reflect a strong desire to keep the funding allocation decisions local and to involve Area Committees. In light of this the following funding allocation process is proposed:

- (i) Monies are allocated on the set formula as above regarding the distribution to the five areas.
- (ii) Youth Opportunities Funding Forums (which already hold and distribute funds at a local level) will provide a holding account for the moneys.
- (iii) In each area six young people from the local Area Youth Forum (to include a Member of the Youth Parliament in relevant areas) and three Area Committee Councillors will meet quarterly to consider allocation of the funds, and provide recommendations to the Area Committee who will approve them on a quarterly basis.
- (iv) There would be an Annual Meeting of the Area Committee Chairpersons and representatives from the County Youth Panel that would determine the **three-year** Service Level Agreements to Voluntary Youth Organisations that are contributing to the 'Warwickshire Youth Offer'. This group would also monitor their overall performance.

- (v) The Area Committee Chairpersons and County Youth Panel would convene to discuss any countywide decisions regarding how the funds are allocated. Recommendations of any significant changes in the way funds are allocated would be made to Cabinet following consultation.

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 That Members recommend to Cabinet that the Youth Work Development Grants proposal is implemented from April 2007 as an alternative to the previous process using the residue monies from the former Area Community Education Councils.
- 5.2 That Members recommend that the formula used in 2006/07 is adopted, allocating the amounts each district receives and ensuring that the ratios per district remain constant.

MARION DAVIS
Strategic Director for Children,
Young People and Families

Saltisford Office Park
Ansell Way
Warwick

16th April 2007