

REPORT OF ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Positive Activities for Young People 2008/09 Programme

1 SUMMARY

This report informs members of activities organised in year 2007/08 through Positive Activities for Young People funding and seeks approval for financial support in year 2008/09.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

Members are asked to agree a £6,000 contribution to support the delivery of the Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) programme in year 2008/09.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Positive Activities for Young People programme is a targeted programme which has provided diversionary activities since April 2003. Young people across the country aged 8 – 19, who are at risk of social exclusion and community crime, are able to participate in positive activities during the school holidays and access out of school activities throughout the year. Those young people who are most at risk are encouraged to:-

- participate in a wide range of positive sport/art/youth provision during each school holiday;
- be supported to access out of school activity throughout the year;
- be supported to engage in learning and/or employment with those most at risk.

3.2 The programme was initially targeted to reach those young people most at risk. Youth Offending teams, Connexions partnerships, behaviour improvement programme, schools and other agencies working with at risk young people were given the responsibility to identify the target group of young people in the referral process.

3.3 In the West Area it was decided to set up a Strategic Youth Partnership whose aim is to encourage agencies to work collectively in meeting the needs of local young people. Connexions were keen to engage with the West Area Strategic Youth Partnership in delivering the PAYP programme.

3.4 Connexions agreed to provide the West Area Strategic Youth Partnership with £50,000 to undertake a wide range of quality sport/art/youth based activities, primarily focussed on Bilborough to work within the extended school programme at Hadden Park High School. The programme was scheduled to be delivered from the 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008, during school holiday periods only.

3.5 The West Area Team worked with the Partnership in establishing a process for the submission of funding applications by potential service providers able to meet the strict criteria for PAYP. In adopting this approach the PAYP was successfully delivered with increased outcomes compared to previous years. It is for this reason that Connexions are keen to adopt a similar approach so that the PAYP programme can be implemented learning from previous good practice and mistakes that have been made.

3.6 Examples of activities delivered in year 2007/08 include:-

- football in the community;
- 'Bike Right';
- dance residency;
- educational visits;
- arts and crafts;
- computer club;
- 'Baby Think it Over';
- prison workshop.

In total approximately 1300 young people benefited from the programme. Many of whom accessed more than one activity. In 2008-2009 the PAYP budget will be managed by the West area Team.

4 PROPOSALS

It is proposed that members agree to the request in section two of this report.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The £6,000 can be met by an equal contribution from the Aspley, Bilborough and Leen Valley uncommitted balances.

6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

The PAYP programme works with young people excluded from mainstream service provision and living in extreme poverty/deprivation.

8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

There are no risks attached to this report subject to the availability of funds requested from this committee.

9 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This report will support the City Council's corporate priorities of:-

- Respect for Nottingham;
- Young Nottingham;
- Active and Healthy Nottingham;
- Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods;

10 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

The project will impact considerably in reducing crime and anti-social behaviour in the West Area. Many of the activities organised by the PAYP are targeted at young people considered as a priority 1. That is to say those young people who are at risk from being involved in crime or antisocial behaviour.

11 VALUE FOR MONEY

By providing £6,000 the West Area Committee will complement £50,000 of PAYP activities thus, increasing the scope and effectiveness of the programme.

12 List of background papers other than published works or those disclosing confidential or exempt information

None

13 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

None

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