

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Cabinet	
MEETING DATE:	Wednesday 14 th March 2012	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
		E 2374
TITLE:	Youth Service Vision and Pledge to Young People	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report:		
The Youth Service Vision (Appendix 1)		
Pledge to Young People (Appendix 2)		

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 Following a Youth Service review in March 2011, it decided that the Youth Service should focus some of its resources on targeted youth work as well as the more traditional open access work.
- 1.2 The Youth Service Management Team also looked at ways to support the Voluntary Sector to meet any gaps in provision and provide a diverse range of provision that meet young people's ever changing needs so young people could make a positive difference to their own lives and that of their community, as well as to support them to reach their full potential.
- 1.3 We also looked at how we communicate this message to the young people and other interested parties. To this end we decided to update the Youth Service Vision (Appendix 1) and the Young People's Pledge (Appendix 2).

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet agrees:

- 2.1 That both the Youth Service Vision and Young People's Pledge are adopted in full
- 2.2 That both the Youth Service Vision and Young People's Pledge can be used as part of the publicity campaign to effectively communicate to young people, their parents and wider stakeholders what we aim to achieve when working with young people in Bath and North East Somerset Youth Service. It also states the outcomes we are planning in to delivery and the approach we will take.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There are no financial implications for this work as it will be covered through the Youth Service core budget.

4 CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

4.1 This work will support all 3 of the Council's corporate objectives, although it will link mostly to the first one.

- *Promoting independence and positive lives for everyone*
- *Creating neighbourhoods where people are proud to live*
- *Building a stronger economy*

5 THE REPORT

5.1 Following a Youth Service review in March 2011, it decided that the Youth Service should focus some of its resources on targeted youth work as well as the more traditional open access work.

5.2 The Youth Service Wider Management Team took this opportunity to look at what the aims of the service were to agree a Youth Service strapline and mission statement. We also agreed the outcomes that all staff and young people should be working towards.

5.3 The Youth Service Wider Management Team revisited their approach to youth work to support young people working to empower them helping to make a positive difference to their lives and communities.

5.4 The Youth Service Wider Management Team revisited their approach to support other stakeholders in the Voluntary Sector as appropriate, linking to the Localism agenda. Empowering local communities to deliver positive activities to young people, especially those 13 to 19 years old. Supporting local people to start up new projects offering hands on practical support whilst operating safe and needs led youth work.

5.5 This process has enabled staff to discuss what we do and why and has been a useful process as well as producing the two documents that you have attached the Youth Service Vision (Appendix 1) and the Young People's Pledge (Appendix 2).

5.6 These documents will be used to promote a clear message about the service and the work we do. They link into the Council's new vision and value work and compliment it by providing more specific information about an individual service, especially focusing on young people.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

6.1 The report author and Lead Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

7.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been completed for the Youth Service. No adverse or other significant issues were found.

8 RATIONALE

8.1 This work has been an on-going process over the last year; the work has been developed through a robust process and has been widely consulted upon. Much of the wording has come direct from staff and young people themselves. Therefore the Cabinet has been asked to adopt both documents in full.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

9.1 No other options were considered as this was a long process that led to the final documents that you have presented before you.

10 CONSULTATION

10.1 *Cabinet members; Parish Council; Town Council; Trades Unions, (as part of the Youth Service review); Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Community Interest Groups; Youth Council; Stakeholders/Partners; Other Public Sector Bodies; Charter Trustees of Bath; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer*

10.2 The consultation for this work started in 2011 which led up to the Youth Service review. Following on from that a full consultation programme was agreed by the Youth Service Management Team and they instructed the work to be carried out and monitored progress against the original plan. All young people who use the service had a chance to input into discussions, supported by qualified and experienced youth workers. All staff had a chance to input into this programme through staff team meetings in the autumn and a final opportunity at the Youth Work conference. Stakeholders and key Councillors including the Executive Member were asked at this time. They were invited to make comments by email and a small group of stakeholders were visited to feed in their thoughts over the consultation period.

10.3 The ideas that were feed in were discussed by the Youth Service Wider Management Team. Many of which were taken on board to form part of the final documents.

10.4 We were aware that many of the young people that had commented were users of the service therefore we also asked the Student Union from Bath College to discuss them to gain an outside perspective.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

11.1 *Social Inclusion; Customer Focus; Sustainability; Young People; Human Rights; and; Impact on Staff.*

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

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Sponsoring Cabinet Member	<i>Councillor Nathan Hartley</i>
Background papers	Equalities Impact Assessment
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	