

## **Full Council - 16th November 2010**

### **Agenda Motion**

#### **Allocation of Top-up Transitory Funds for Youth Service Projects**

**Cllr David Speirs to move the following on behalf of The Labour Group:**

#### **This Council Notes:**

- 1) That the B&NES administration currently proposes that the Youth Service will have its spending reduced by £350,000 in the 2011/12 budget.
- 2) That the Radstock Youth Centre will have the number of sessions it runs reduced to a few hours a week and Keynsham Youth Centre (known as Time Out) will only receive funding from B&NES for the costs of maintaining its premises
- 3) That the B&NES administration currently proposes to end the £60,000 Council Grant to 'Off The Record' to run a youth counselling service.
- 4) That Parish and Town Councils are being encouraged to put aside funding to help finance youth activities within their areas.
- 5) That two priorities of the Council are a commitment to: "Improving the life chances of disadvantaged children and young people" and "Building communities where people feel safe and secure"<sup>1</sup>
- 6) That the B&NES Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2026 states that by 2012-15 "Young People's Centres [will] have been rolled to more areas where there are highest levels of deprivation"<sup>2</sup> and "Children and young people will have access to services within their community"<sup>3</sup>

#### **This Council Believes:**

- 1) That youth centres continue to play an important role in the provision of services for young people, along with detached and mobile youth workers and third sector organisations.
- 2) That it is reasonable to ask parish and town councils to make a contribution to youth services or activities within their area.
- 3) That in order to ensure stability and consistency of youth service provision in areas such as Radstock and Keynsham one-off top-up transitory funding should be made available for 2011/12.

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<sup>1</sup> Bath and North East Somerset Council's 'Visions and Priorities' accessed at: <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/councilanddemocracy/VisionandPriorities/Pages/default.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> Bath and North East Somerset 'Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2026' at p.25 accessed from: <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/SiteCollectionDocuments/Community%20and%20Living/Sustainable%20Community%20Strategy.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *ibid*, p.26

- 4) That a funding should be made available for a volunteer counselling service, to ensure the young people of Bath & North East Somerset have continued access to such a resource.

**This Council Resolves:**

- 1) To ask the Cabinet to allocate an additional **£53,000** of top-up transitory funding as part of the 2011/12 Council budget to be divided between services at Radstock Youth Centre, Keynsham Youth Centre (known as Time Out), and to provide bridging funding to support the 'Off The Record' Counselling Service.<sup>4</sup>
- 2) That the remaining **£53,000** from the **£80,000** identified in the 2010/11 budget to be spent at the discretion of the Council Leader and Deputy Council Leader, should be reallocated to the Youth Service for the purpose outlined above.
- 3) That the authority should work with the Primary Care Trust to supply match funding for a volunteer Counselling Service for young people, as part of a new integrated Primary Mental Health Service.
- 4) That the authority should continue to encourage Parish and Town Councils to set aside funding within their budgets for youth work in their respective areas.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The one-off bridging funding will enable 'Off The Record' to continue their counselling service for another twelve months, during which time it will seek finances from other sources. This funding will be a grant, not a loan.

<sup>5</sup> This includes Keynsham Town Council and the successor council's to Norton-Radstock Town Council.