

Single Member Cabinet Decision**Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**

E2975

106 capital spend Midsomer Norton

Decision maker/s	Cllr Michael Evans Cabinet Member for Childrens Services Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Finance & Efficiency
The Issue	The use of S106 funding to develop youth hubs to serve the two wards of Midsomer Norton.
Decision Date	On or after 24th June 2017
The decision	The Cabinet Members agree that the following be approved for implementation: Link to existing capital programmes to approve the inclusion in the 2017/18 Capital Programme of £11,993.83 for the purchase and conversion of two shipping containers to become youth hubs placed in two areas of Midsomer Norton.
Rationale for decision	<p>With increased funding pressures, B&NES as the Unitary Authority has increasingly relied on the Town Council and voluntary sector to provide universal youth service coverage in Midsomer Norton. With the sale of the Laterz building next to Sainsbury's, Midsomer Norton Town Council stepped in and has funded the Norton Youth Club (NYC) in recent years, based in the Town Hall and operated by a working partnership of the Midsomer Norton Community Trust and the Wansdyke Play Association.</p> <p>However, feedback from extensive consultation with young people clearly shows that they are in need of a safe space. The Town Hall, whilst central and ideal as a meeting place, is not enough. Areas such as Orchard Vale, Gullock Tynning (by the Adventure Play and Skate Park), Radstock Road and Hillside have a greater need which is difficult to meet with a single central service provision in the Town Hall.</p> <p>This has further been borne out by feedback recently from the Writhlington Sports Trust who now operates the Midsomer Norton Sports Centre, Skate & Adventure Play Park. Their finding is that young people want outreach activity and the sense of a 'safe place' they can regard as their own -where they 'hang out'. However, without improved provision the Midsomer Norton Community Trust believes that the town is failing its young people.</p>
Financial and budget implications	S106 Developer Contributions for Youth provision in the Midsomer Norton area will cover the costs of this development. Revenue costs for staff will also be covered by Section 106 in the first year of the project

	<p>Midsomer Norton Community Trust will be responsible for the ongoing project and will be supported by section 106 funding. Once funds run out the trust will take responsibility for the ongoing running and staffing costs. There are no ongoing revenue implications to the Council from this work.</p> <p>Young people have been consulted regarding this Project - see separate consultation.</p>
Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)	Social Inclusion; Sustainability; Property; Young People; Corporate; Health & Safety; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Cabinet colleagues; Town Council; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Young People, Stakeholders/Partners; Finance Officer; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	<p>Young people – questionnaire and discussions.</p> <p>Town Council – project presented to Operations Working Party and then voted to support in principle at Full Town Council meeting.</p> <p>Police – discussion with police have welcomed this project particularly as there has been an increase in ASB in the area.</p> <p>Meeting held with the Midsomer Norton Community Association.</p> <p>Consultation Sessions - Residents (including Somer Court) and Agencies including Off the Record, Writhlington Sports Trust, Midsomer Norton Sports Centre in the form of two forum sessions in the Town Hall in April 2017.</p> <p>Planning permission is being sought for placement of the shipping containers following consultation with residents at Orchard Vale and Rackvernal Road and Somer Court.</p>
Other options considered	<p>To develop project centrally – the consultation showed this would not meet the needs of young people.</p> <p>To not carry out programme – although this is an option pressure from young people and communities regarding the needs of young people has made this a priority programme for the Midsomer Norton area</p>
Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:	None
Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	N/A

Signatures of Decision Makers	
Date of Signature	
Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision	