



Community and Leisure Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel

Report of: Acting Scrutiny Officer
Date: 5th January 2006
Open

Update on Skateboarding Scrutiny Review and Youth Provision Scrutiny Review

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this briefing paper is to update Members on the progress of the Skateboarding Task and Finish Group and the Youth Provision Task and Finish Group since the Panel's last meeting on 17th November 2005.

2. Background

- 2.1 At the Panel's meeting on 14th July 2005, two Task and Finish Groups were established, one to concentrate on Skateboarding and the other to look at the District's Youth Provision in general.
- 2.2 There is no formal deadline for the Panel to report back to Cabinet with its proposed recommendations. The two Task and Finish Groups are still continuing with their reviews and have been requested to report back to this and future meetings by the Chairman of the Panel.

3. Skateboarding Task and Finish Group

- 3.1 The Group has met once since the last Panel meeting.
- 3.2 At the Group's fourth meeting on 2nd December 2005, the Group:
- Met and discussed skateboarding issues with the following stakeholders:
 - Councillor Fran Oborski, Chairman of the Wyre Forest Youth Strategy Group.
 - Liz Durnell, Programme Manager, Stourport Forward.
 - Peter Banford, The Community Housing Group

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- PC Andrew Brookes-Davis, Stourport.
 - PC Nigel Barter, Bewdley.
- Received feedback from the Cultural Services Manager on the Local Public Services Agreement (LPSA) Target 8 grant. She had advised the Group that the Council had reached its targets and therefore had received the reward grant, which consisted of 50% capital and 50% revenue. The capital element had been earmarked for use on recommendations from the Skateboarding and Youth Provision Task and Finish Groups and amounted to approximately £70,000.
 - Received an update on the Fun Box funding issue. The Home Office and relevant Government Department had agreed that the Fun Box could be sold and that it would be worth approximately £10,000. A group of young people would be consulted at the next meeting of the Task and Finish Group. An alternative to selling the equipment would be to permanently erect the equipment in an area where it had previously proved popular, although investigations would need to be carried out to see if this would be a feasible option.

3.3 The following background documents are being considered as part of the review:

Previous Minute Extracts:

- C&LS P&S Panel - 11th November 2004 (*Minute CM.416 refers*)
- Cabinet - 16th December 2004 (*Minute CM.580 refers*)
- C&LS P&S Panel - 6th January 2005 (*Minute CM.612 refers*)
- Cabinet Scrutiny Committee - 26th January 2005 (*Minute CM.686 refers*).
- C&LS P&S Panel - 10th March 2005. (*Minute CM.813 refers*)
- C&LS P&S Panel - 8th September 2005 (*Briefing Paper from the Acting Scrutiny Officer*)
- C&LS P&S Panel - (*Minute CLS.13.a refers*)
- Tribe Enterprises Ltd - Skate Park Report and Recommendations for Wyre Forest District Council (2003)
- 'Youthink' Survey dated October 2004, which gives a wide perspective of young people's thinking on a number of quality life issues

4. Youth Provision Task and Finish Group

4.1 At the Group's fourth meeting on 5th December 2005, the Group:

- Met and discussed Youth Provision issues with Terry Denslow, Deputy Head of Services of Youthworcs, Worcestershire Youth Services. Terry advised the Chairman of the Youth Services policies and priorities,

styles of work with youth people and the parameters for that work in terms of budget availability, purpose and context.

- 4.2 The next meeting of the Task and Finish Group will consider the Youth Opportunities Questionnaire, which will be circulated to local schools early in the New Year.
- 4.3 The following background documents are being considered as part of the review:

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- Community and Leisure Services Policy and Scrutiny Panel - 10th March 2005. (*Minute CM.813 refers*)
- C&LS P&S Panel - 8th September 2005 (*Briefing Paper from the Acting Scrutiny Officer*)
- C&LS P&S Panel - (*Minute CLS.13.b refers*)
- 'You Think' Survey dated October 2004, which gives a wide perspective of young people's thinking on a number of quality life issues
- Community Safety - Diversionary Activities (*Scrutiny report from Worcestershire County Council dated March 2005*)
- Diversionary Activities in Wyre Forest (*Document from the Community Safety Officer*)
- Results from the Hear by Right Survey from the National Youth Agency (NYA) - July 2005. (The survey sought information on organisations' awareness and use of Hear by Right (HbR), the NYA/Local Government Association standards for the active involvement of children and young people in decision-making and local democracy)
- Summary of Youth Matters Report
- Facilitating Play on Housing Estates (*Report written by Councillor R Wheway*)

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