

By: Overview and Scrutiny Manager

To: Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee – 5 November 2007

Subject: **SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW WORK PROGRAMME – UPDATE**

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: To receive an update on the current Topic Reviews and to invite the Committee to set out its priorities for the Work Programme for the period Autumn 2007 to Autumn 2008 including how the programme should be resourced.

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### **Current Phase of the Work Programme Spring 2007 to Autumn 2007.**

#### ***Flood Risk Select Committee***

1. (1) This Select Committee under the Chairmanship of Mrs S Hohler, held hearing sessions in August 2007. Its final report will be submitted to the Special Meeting of the Cabinet on 26 November 2007.

#### ***Alcohol Misuse Select Committee***

(2) Members will be aware that the Chairmanship of the Select Committee transferred from Mr J B O Fullarton to Mr D Hirst in the summer. Hearings to gather evidence from witnesses took place between mid June to the end of July and also in September 2007.

(3) The issue of alcohol misuse is extremely complex it involves working in partnership across a number of agencies which has led to a very challenging Select Committee process. All Select Committees are challenging and demanding with their own set of issues to be resolved but it is fair to say that this has been more demanding than some.

(4) If the conclusions and recommendations of the Select Committee are to have the impact and outcomes the Select Committee are seeking with multi agency support and ownership then the Select Committee feel that they require more time to complete their report.

(5) As the manager of the Overview and Scrutiny function I would not wish to see a report placed in the public domain which is not as complete as possible and does not have the support and willingness to deliver many if not all of the recommendations.

(6) The Select Committee would therefore like to seek the approval of this Committee to extend its time to complete its report before it is placed in the public domain. The current timetable is for this report to be presented to Cabinet on 3

December 2007. The Committee would ask for a short extension of time to enable it to report to cabinet in the first quarter of 2008. The Committees views are sought. Mr Hirst the Chairman of the Select Committee has been invited to attend the Select Committee.

### ***Support for Carers in Kent – Select Committee***

(7) This Select Committee, under the chairmanship of Mr L Christie, held its hearing sessions during July and August 2007. They met on 17 October 2007 to consider the first draft of their report. The Select Committee will be meeting with the Cabinet Member and Managing Director to receive comments on the report on 15 November prior to the report being submitted to Cabinet on 3 December 2007.

### **Topic Review Programme Autumn 2007 – Spring 2008**

2. (1) It was agreed at the last meeting of this Committee that the work programme for Autumn 2007 to Spring 2008 (in no priority order) to start as soon as resources become available should be:-

- (i) Accessing Democracy
- (ii) Vulnerable Children
- (iii) Access to Healthcare (an NHS Overview and Scrutiny Topic Review)

(2) The Committee are aware that the NHS Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a dedicated research officer so this item is included in this report as a matter of information so that the Committee has the overall picture of resources within the Overview and Scrutiny function for completeness and how that resource is deployed.

(3) In discussion I have had with individual members and the proposers of the Topic Reviews for Accessing Democracy and Vulnerable Children, Accessing Democracy is seen as the issue of greatest priority to start as soon as possible subject to this Committees approval.

(4) The Leader of the Council as the proposer of the review for Vulnerable Children has indicated to me that he is happy for this review to commence sometime in the New Year when resources become available.

### **Potential Two Year Work Programme**

(1) The topics which remain in the programme are set out below and the details we have for each of these topics are attached as Appendix 1.

- (i) Developing the Creative Curriculum
- (ii) Young People's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development, Values-based Educational Behaviour
- (iii) Consultation and Participation with Young People (Student Voice)

(iv) Provision of Activities for Young People.

(2) The Committee are asked to reaffirm which two reviews should be taken forward - one in the summer and the other in the Autumn when resources are available.

## **Operational issues for Managing the Topic Review Programme**

### ***Programming of Topic Reviews***

3. (1) The programming and focussing of Topics which Members wish to review continues to present my Team with the biggest challenge. Topics need to be clearly focussed not so broad which results in the loss of impact and added value to the County Council and the residents we serve. If the topic is complex then I would encourage the Committee to agree to a suite of reviews around the same topic.

(2) The Committee also needs to consider how effectively it can build flexibility into the Topic Review programme to enable it to deal with important issues as they arise, or, for a situation as set out earlier in this report where to achieve a quality outcome the Select Committee requires more time.

(3) For the first time this year we ran three Select Committees (Alcohol Misuse, Flood Risk and Carers in Kent) through late July and August when the majority of the sessions to gather evidence in person from witnesses were held.

(4) I would like to highlight some of the issues which arose during this summer holiday period:-

- Difficulty of engaging with witnesses – although the majority of witnesses invited managed to attend during this period a number had to cancel leave commitments or put pressure on themselves or colleagues during a busy period in order to do so. Those witnesses that did attend were often not available either before or after their sessions to get background or additional information as they had leave commitments.
- Availability of Members to attend hearing sessions – although all Select Committee hearing sessions were quorate there was often only a proportion of the Committee able to attend with some Members having to miss a number of sessions due to prior holiday commitments. Select Committees are more effective when all the Members are fully engaged in the process. Consistency and commitment to attendance is key to their success.
- Resources to support the review – supporting three Select Committees, working to similar timescales which included the summer period resulted in the resources of the Overview and Scrutiny team being overstretched and the availability of other officers to assist during the holiday period was limited.

(5) It is my view that to have three Select Committees running over the summer period is not sustainable. It is paramount that these reviews add value to the

County Council and the people we serve. I would therefore ask the Committee to reconsider whether they wish to hold hearing sessions for Select Committees during late July/August.

### **Resources to deliver the Work Programme**

4. (1) I have one and a half full time research officers supporting the Select Committee Topic Review Programme. In addition I have one additional research officer whose time is dedicated entirely to the NHS Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(2) As I reported at the last meeting, funding for the six monthly training posts from the Graduate Development Programme ceased at the end of September 2007 because of budgetary constraints. This in itself is not a reason that my Team is not currently hosting a Graduate from the Graduate Programme. I will submit a bid against the scheme for a Graduate in the Spring of 2008 if that is the Committees wish. My problem is there is no guarantee that my application will be successful and there is an excess of placement managers wishing to host a Graduate from the programme. Having said that the placement opportunity within my Team has always been recognised as an excellent placement.

(3) Therefore, just to re-emphasise the only available research resource that can be guaranteed at this stage for the non-NHS Topic Review Programme is one and a half full-time equivalent members of staff.

(4) In addition to research officer resources, there are three Democratic Services Officers to support the Policy Overview Committee and Select Committee activities.

### **Monitoring of Select Committee Recommendations**

5. (1) The Committee will be aware that the Constitution includes the process for the monitoring of Select Committee recommendations.

(2) The Leader of the Council has asked me to prepare a report for consideration at the Council meeting on 13 December 2007 setting out a summary of the Select Committees over the last 3 to 5 years and how the recommendations of Select Committees have been implemented or otherwise.

### **Recommendations**

6. The Committee are requested to:-

- (a) note the progress of the Select Committee Topic Reviews Support for Carers in Kent, Alcohol Misuse and Flood Risk;
- (b) approve the extension of the time-frame for the Alcohol Misuse Select Committee to enable it report to Cabinet in the first quarter of 2008;
- (c) agree that as soon as resources become available, Accessing Democracy should be the next Select Committee Topic Review to be

started and then as resources become available in early 2008, the Vulnerable Children Select Committee be commenced;

- (d) note that the dedicated NHS Research Officer resource will support a review into aspects of Accessing Health Care;
- (e) agree whether when setting the Select Committee work programme the summer period is included for Select Committee session or whether the programme is drawn up to exclude this period
- (f) give further consideration to those topics currently in the potential Topic Review Programme remaining or whether are any other topics that Members would wish to put forward for further consideration and assessment when resources become available; and
- (g) note that a report updating the Council on how the recommendations of Select Committees have been taken forward is to be presented to the County Council on 13 December 2007

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Background Information: *None*.



**ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW**

(\* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic)

<p><b>*Subject of Proposed Review :-</b></p> <p><b>Developing the creative curriculum through partnership working</b></p>
<p><b>*Reason for the Review :-</b> (see note 1 below) To consider how partnership working in Kent will contribute to enriching the quality of the curriculum and benefit children's learning, enjoyment and well being.</p>
<p><b>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mapping of current provision</li> <li>• Review of strategies to develop thinking skills and problem solving</li> <li>• Development of Creative Partnerships Kent</li> <li>• Working with external partners to meet ECM agenda.</li> <li>• Kent's contribution to the development of Index of Achievement</li> </ul>
<p><b>*Scope of the review:-</b> Working with partners:- Arts Council South east Jane Bryant Creative Partnerships National Paul Collard Creative Partnerships Kent Esme Chilton Aim Higher Felicity Dunworth Box Clever GOSE Dan Chadwick Chalkfoot and Channel Theatre Claudia Leas Canterbury ChristChurch University College Teresa Grainger, Jonathan Barnes Royal Opera Education Paul Reeve, Kevin Rainey Schools NACE Belle Wallace TLO/BLP Gillian Baxter ASK staff</p>
<p><b>*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-</b> To review current initiatives and developments To make recommendations about how creativity may enhance children's creativity and enrich the quality of curriculum, learning, enjoyment and wellbeing.</p>
<p><b>Proposer of the review</b> The Directorate's Senior Management Team &amp; Cabinet Members, and endorsed by the Policy Overview Committee in July 2006.</p>

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

<b>Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2006/07?</b>	
<b>How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?</b> This will link to Excellence and Enjoyment and ECM agenda, personalised learning and alternative curriculum models.	
<b>Will the review support the achievement of PSA or LAA targets? If yes, please identify targets :-</b> Targets from the Kent Agreement (which relate to both LAA and LPSA): Outcomes 1, 2, 5, 6 and 7.	
<b>Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details :-</b> No.	
<b>How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?</b> Will inform creativity policy development in Kent and raise awareness of Kent's leadership in national self evaluation and school improvement tool (Index of Achievement)	
<b>How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?</b> Inform policy development	
<b>Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Strategic Director :-</b>  <b>Portfolio Holder's Signature :-</b>  <b>Strategic Director's Signature :-</b> 	
<b>Contact Officer :-</b>  Chris Davies	<b>Date :-</b>  01.08.06

## **(1) Young Peoples Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Values Based Education and Behaviour**

“Policy Overview Co-ordinating Committee

Values Based Education

I enclose this paper to assist the POCC in consideration of the possibility of a select Committee review of Values Based Education. This should be read as a supplement to original topic review paper (attached).

Review of Scope for Select Committee consideration:

**“It is through the values of the school that I and the school community live our lives – it is a code that the children relate to, which creates a very pleasant and positive learning environment which promotes achievement and good citizenship.” Eugene Symonds (Headteacher, West Kidlington Primary and Nursery School, Oxford).**

The key to values education is the promotion of quality teaching and learning through teaching children about core values (universally accepted principles that guide behaviour). These values are based on the qualities that an individual school considers its pupils need to develop in order to be good learners and citizens.

Schools will need to agree its values following discussions with staff, pupils, parents and governors. These core values can then form the basis and a common vocabulary for staff and children to use when considering ethical issues. The core values can be revisited at different points as children grow older, to provide a progressively deeper understanding.

Having agreed a set of core values, a programme can be established for learning about values. This may include: Assemblies, a monthly value to focus on, each teacher preparing one values lesson per month, prominent display to draw attention to the ‘Value of the month’, communications to parents to extend the focus to out of school learning.

Children can be encouraged to reflect on their behaviour in the light of the core values. Younger children can be helped to understand that if they think carefully about the values, their behaviour will become more positive and the quality of their learning will be enhanced. To enable this opportunity for reflection, specific activities and approaches can be taught and used to provide quiet, stillness and time for contemplation.

It is essential that all staff are conscious of the impact that their attitudes and behaviour have on children. They need to agree to model the values and work hard to maintain a calm, purposeful and happy ethos.

There are a number of current developments that are affecting schools, eg, ‘Building Schools for the Future’, Personalisation of Learning and the Curriculum, the introduction of SEAL (Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning) at Primary, and in the near future, Secondary phases, The Review of the Key Stage 3 Curriculum, Creativity, and the revised frameworks within the Primary National Strategy. Each of

these could provide the opportunity for schools in each phase to review its curriculum and revisit its underlying values to provide for a more values based approach to the curriculum.

A number of schools have expressed passionate sentiments about the transformation brought about by values education.

**Julie Duckworth (Headteacher at Cleohanger Primary School) talks about the experience as 'an amazing journey' that all schools could benefit from sharing.**

Similarly, Sue Woodward, Headteacher at Weobley High School, believes that values Education turned the school around. **"We came out of Special Measures in one year from first HMI Inspection to last, leaping from 41% A\* - C grades to 55% in one year. Behaviour is exemplary!"**

A Foster  
Lead Curriculum Adviser,  
Adviser for PSHE  
Advisory Service Kent.

1 February 2007.

## ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

### Subject of Proposed Review :-

**Young people's Spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development , values based education and behaviour**

### Reason for the Review :-

These issues were discussed at recent CFE POC in connection with 2010 targets

### Some background details

Events of the past year, since 7/7, have brought a closer focus on the issues of 'Britishness', and the need for us to identify and talk about 'our shared common values'. Recently, the Government established a review to identify whether 'core British values' should become a compulsory part of the curriculum for all 11 – 16 year olds in England.

The six month long review will seek to ask how all children can develop a strong sense of British identity by learning about Britain's culture and traditions, including the contributions from different communities.

Concerns about increasing incidents of anti-social behaviour, violent crime affecting young people, re-occurring disruptive behaviour in our schools, the high level of 'fear' of the 'yob culture' that exists within so many communities, and the continuing erosion of family influence on so many young people, dominate the media. These and many more similar trends must raise questions about the role that education plays in affecting influence over young people's attitudes and behaviours.

Although SMSC development is recognised as being at the heart of what education is all about – helping children grow and develop as people, there is also recognition that what is meant by the terms 'spiritual', 'moral', 'social and cultural' development has not always been made clear. Ofsted has prepared guidance and made training available, in response to careful consideration of legislative requirements, recent debates and matters of local and national concern.

A small number of secondary schools are developing a 'Values based approach' to their curriculum in response to an identification of student needs for a more focussed attention to this aspect of their development. A number of national organisations and charitable trusts are producing support materials for schools with a very clear 'Values Education' approach.

With this background, and these developments in mind it is now timely that KCC should consider the guidance that is provided to children and young people in Kent. In this modern world, young people need to exercise judgement in matters of ethics, morality and social justice and accept responsibility for their own actions. Values based education can make school environments safer and more supportive, helping students to develop social skills and build resilience.

Values education can be used to address issues such as school behaviour, discipline, bullying, violence and substance misuse. Such programmes can provide opportunities for students to aid the capabilities they need to become responsible informed citizens.

**Spiritual development is:**

‘the development of the non-material element of a human being which animates and sustains us and, depending on our point of view, either ends or continues in some form when we die. It is about the development of a sense of identity, self-worth, personal insight, meaning and purpose. It is about the development of a pupil’s ‘spirit’. Some people may call it the development of a pupil’s ‘soul’; others as the development of ‘personality’ or ‘character’.’

**Moral development is:**

‘the building, by pupils, of a framework of moral values which regulates their personal behaviour. It is also about the development of pupils’ understanding of society’s shared and agreed values. It is about understanding that there are issues where there is disagreement and it is also about understanding that society’s values change. Moral development is about gaining an understanding of the range of views and the reasons for the range. It is also about developing an opinion about the different views.’

**Social development is:**

‘young people working effectively with each other and participating successfully in the community as a whole. It is about the development of the skills and personal qualities necessary for living and working together. It is about functioning effectively in a multi-racial, multicultural society. It involves growth in knowledge and understanding of society in all its aspects. This includes understanding people as well as understanding society’s institutions, structures and characteristics, economic and political principles and organisations, roles and responsibilities and life as a citizen, parent or worker in a community. It also involves the development of the interpersonal skills necessary for successful relationships.’

**Cultural development is:**

“pupils’ understanding their own culture and other cultures in their town, region and in the country as a whole. It is about understanding cultures represented in Europe and elsewhere in the world. It is about understanding and feeling comfortable in a variety of cultures and being able to operate in the emerging world culture of shared experiences provided by television, travel and the internet. It is about understanding that cultures are always changing and coping with change. Promoting pupils’ cultural development is intimately linked with schools’ attempts to value cultural diversity and prevent racism.’

**Values Based Education is:**

Values education has been taken to mean all aspects of the process by which teachers (and other adults) transmit values to pupils. From a study of the literature on values, it became clear that:

- values include, but go beyond, the religious and moral areas of belief; ‘values’ refers also to other aspects of how our lives are sustained, organised

and experienced

- values may engage our cognition, emotions and behaviour

**\*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-**

- ▶ Mapping of current activity around SMSC, Spirituality and behaviour
- ▶ To identify and monitor closely those schools currently providing for a Values Based Education approach
- ▶ To investigate impact of a range of guidance / advice to schools, particularly in Church/faith schools.
- ▶ Make recommendations on the KCC advice and guidance to schools and settings with regard to these aspects.

**\*Scope of the review:-**

- ▶ to investigate the potential causes for anti-social behaviour and attitudes of young people across Kent
- ▶ to review the provision and quality of actions by schools to support SMSC development in Kent schools and other settings
- ▶ to investigate the role of a range of relevant professionals such a clergy, youth and community, police etc could play in improving the SCSM development of young people
- ▶ to conduct a desk search review into best practice, both locally, nationally and internationally.
- ▶ To assess the effectiveness of current services provision to meet the targets listed in section 5 below
- ▶ To make recommendations for future policy and delivery

**\*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-**

To examine schools' approaches to developing SMSC and the attitudes and behaviour of young people, in order to consider whether additional guidance, support etc is needed to effect greater influence on behaviours.

Adequacy and coherence of support and advice provided by CFE and other agencies

**Proposer of the review**

The Directorate's Senior Management Team & Cabinet Members, and endorsed by the Policy Overview Committee in July 2006.

**Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2006/07?**

(see note 2 below)  
none known

**How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?**

Towards 2010 identifies a number of targets which are directly and indirectly: Raising standards, improving young people's behaviour, raising aspirations, promoting social skills etc.

Additional links to Kent Primary Strategy targets – 47, 48

Kent CYP 2006-09  
LAA2, LAA4, LAA5, LAA7

**Priorities:**

**6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16**

**Will the review support the achievement of PSA or LAA targets? If yes, please identify targets :-**

See above

**Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe ? If yes, please give details :-**

No

**How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?**

- ▶ The recommendations will be used to inform future support and guidance to schools in line with Children's and Young People's Plan
- ▶ The recommendations of a select committee would be used to determine whether additional support materials for SMSC development are provided
- ▶ The recommendations could provide for the initiation of action research activities into the linkage between 'Values Based Education' and anti-social behaviour of young people.
- ▶ The report has the potential to be used for influencing the national debates around the 'Britishness' and 'Respect' agendas

**Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Strategic Director :-**

**Portfolio Holder's Signature :-**



**Strategic Director's Signature :-**



**Contact Officer :-**

Allan Foster

**Date :-**

**01.08.06**

## **(2) Student Voice**

At the meeting of the Communities POC on 17 November 2006 when receiving an update on the Young People's Participation Strategy they also sought Members' contribution to the development of the proposed Select Committee Topic Review "Student Voice" consultation and participation with children and young people.

Members were asked to comment on the scope of the proposed Topic Review and made the following comments/suggestion:-

- Need to look at other services not provided by KCC.
- There is no timing suggested on the assessment form.
- Need to measure the effects.
- Need to include disabled and troubled youngsters.
- There seems to be a detachment between the Youth Forum and the Kent Young County Council, the relationship needs to be cemented.
- This should be a joint review (ie, Children, Families and Education and Communities)

Set out overleaf is a revised Assessment Form which has been prepared by Chris Carter Children, Families and Education Directorate and Judy Edwards, Communities Directorate.

## ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

(\* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic)

<p><b>*Subject of Proposed Review :-</b></p> <p><b>Consultation and participation with children and young people. (Students Voice)</b></p>
<p><b>*Reason for the Review :-</b></p> <p>The need to engage with children and young people and take on board their views in the delivery of services is a key theme of Every Child Matters. It is also a major principle underpinning the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.</p> <p>It is important that KCC develops a culture that is receptive to and learns from customer feedback - including the views of children and young people.</p> <p>The amount of participation and consultation is increasing but there is a need to determine how it is impacting on the way services are provided.</p>
<p><b>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Produce an overview of current consultation activity.</li><li>• Review the strategic impact of the consultation.</li><li>• Make recommendations on the KCC approach to consultation/participation with children and young people.</li></ul>
<p><b>*Scope of the review:-</b></p> <p>The Select Committee would focus on the use of feedback to inform the planning and review of services. This would be cross-directorate to cover CFE and elements of the Communities Directorate (including the Youth Service and Young Offender Service).</p>
<p><b>*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-</b></p> <p>To review how the views of children and young people (including children whose views are seldom heard) obtained via the consultation and participation arrangements (such as Student Voice, the Kent Youth Council, the youth forums and the pupil survey) are used to inform service delivery and planning. To make recommendations regarding how the approach to consultation and participation might be further developed</p>

### (3) Provision of Activities for Young People

At the meeting of the Communities Policy Overview Committee on 17 November 2006 the Committee supported the suggested refocusing of this review to include both successful and unsuccessful activities and why this was the case. The review would also concentrate on identifying additional activities young people would like to see provided. If the POCC decide to include this topic in the work programme further work on refocusing this topic will be carried out a copy of the original assessment sheet for this review is attached.

## ASSESSMENT OF A SELECT COMMITTEE TOPIC REVIEW

(\* - sections to be filled in by the proposer of the topic)

<p><b>*Subject of Proposed Review :-</b></p> <p><b>Activities for Young People</b></p>
<p><b>*Reason for the Review :-</b> (see note 1 below)</p> <p>KCC in its agenda for the future have identified that provision and activities for young people should be increased by over 20% in what is regarded as in their leisure times. This means, evenings, weekends and holidays.</p> <p>Young people are being demonised and criminalised for being young and doing what young people have always done. They are being acted against, sooner than being provided for.</p>
<p><b>*Issues to be covered by the Terms of Reference:-</b></p> <p>An audit of out of school provision across the county should be undertaken and an accurate mapping exercise provided. This will identify gaps.</p> <p>Proposals to fill gaps should be presented. Young people should be involved at every stage of process.</p>
<p><b>*Scope of the review:-</b></p> <p>To identify what activities and facilities are available for young people to access countywide in their free time.</p> <p>Produce local mapping of local opportunities and provisional gaps. To develop a strategy, in partnership with other agencies to plug gaps in provision.</p>
<p><b>*Purpose and objectives of the Review:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To offer young people positive, real alternatives, to ASB and provide them with an adrenaline buzz through positive activity sooner than negative actions.</li><li>• To turn young people away from alienation from within their local communities to acceptance as positive contributors to their local communities.</li><li>• To redirect from ASB and criminality.</li></ul>
<p><b>Proposer of the review</b></p> <p>...Geoff Rowe.....</p>

To be completed by the Directorate/Cabinet Member(s)

**Are there any reasons why this review should not be put forward for inclusion in the work programme for 2006/07?**

(see note 2 below)

It is suggested that this review is delayed for one year as many of the identified strands will start to fall into place (see next question).

The Service will be preparing for an inspection by OfSTED next Autumn as a part of the APA and has committed itself to go for the National Youth Agency national Quality Mark over the next year. The Youth Service is also implementing a new computerised bar-code attendance system over the next year which will involve all staff in training and its deployment.

Alongside the above the Service is leading on the distribution, over the next two years, of both the Youth Opportunities Fund and the Youth Capital Fund. These too are major pieces of work which have to involve young people at local and county levels.

**How will the review contribute to corporate objectives and priorities?**

If the review could be delayed to 2008/9 this would help as all the Districts will have been carrying out mapping for the 'Youth Officer' which comes from the Government's Youth Matters white paper and the Service would certainly be involved in leading on this. Mick Price has already been in discussion with District Council Officers about mapping this need. In addition the money being spent from the 'Youth Opportunities and Youth Capital Funds' will have begun to bear fruit and could be reported on too.

Currently the Service is working in partnership with the Kent Council for Voluntary Youth Services and Kent Youth to develop a joint database of affiliated voluntary youth organisations countywide but, again, this will not be operational until the 2007/8 financial year and reporting on it will also be possible for 2008/9.

**Will the review support the achievement of PSA or LAA targets? If yes, please identify targets :-**

**The Kent Agreement - Children and Young People**

1. To promote the physical, emotional, social and intellectual development of young children so they flourish at home and at school.
4. To improve the behavioural, emotional and social stability of children.
7. To improve participation and engagement by all the children and young people in youth, cultural and community activities.

**Does the review need to be completed within a specific timeframe? If yes, please give details :-**

No

**How will this review have an impact on KCC policy development and/or help to influence national policy?**

KCC has an interest in young people and through the Youth County Council has developed a route for both dialogue and consultation which links with the Cabinet, Local Members' Boards, Area Youth Advisory Groups and Senior Officers. Similarly, the Districts have been developing youth forums and consultation activity. The recommended mapping exercise would help all to have a clearer picture of what is currently available and help point to some of the gaps. Consultation with young people is now a national and local government requirement which is generally welcomed by all.

**How will this review add value to the County Council and residents of Kent?**

Social inclusion and a positive image for young people are often talked about and this review would be a positive reinforcement of that belief.

Any additional comments from the Portfolio Holder/Strategic Director :-

Portfolio Holder's Signature :- Mike Hill

Strategic Director's Signature :- Amanda Honey

Contact Officer :-  
Alan Bernstein for  
Mick Price  
Head of Youth Services

Date :-  
26th July 2006