

Appendix 1

Select Committee on Provision of Activities for Young People: Membership, Terms of Reference and Recommendations

1. Membership

Mr Alan Chell - (Committee Chairman and Conservative Member)
Mr Jeff Curwood - (Conservative Member)
Mr Godfrey Horne MBE - (Conservative Member)
Mr Michael Northey - (Conservative Member)
Mr Geoff Rowe - (Liberal Democrat Member)
Mrs Elizabeth Tweed - (Conservative Member)
Mr Terry Birkett – (Non-Committee member, but held a Supporting Role.
Labour Member)

2. Terms of Reference

- 2.1 To explore national and local policies and strategies in relation to the provision of (leisure-time) activities for young people.
- 2.2 To examine recent consultations and consult with young people during the review, with an emphasis on young people who may not currently engage with services, and motivational aspects.
- 2.3 To explore how the range of activities available to young people is communicated to them and whether there are opportunities to make this communication more effective
- 2.4 To examine collaborative and partnership work taking place between KCC and other organisations particularly through Youth Advisory Groups, and any opportunities to develop this further.
- 2.5 To examine whether existing funding streams for provision of activities for young people could be used more creatively to benefit young people and communities.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 Recommendations run in numerical order with the committee's priorities shown in bold text. The Chairman will also be consulting with young people to find out which recommendations they feel will make the most significant difference in Kent, given the financial constraints which currently prevail.
- R1 That, as part of the comprehensive review of community library services, Libraries and Archives consider the role of mobile libraries as a means of engaging more young people in positive activities, and whether a change of timetable is a practical way of facilitating this.
- R2 That KCC particularly through the Kent Youth Service and Extended Services continue to encourage and support schools in**

their efforts to develop extended services that compliment and supplement those already available in their local communities as an essential part of Integrated Youth Support in Kent. To facilitate this, the Extended Services Team should explore how available funding could be utilised to ensure that schools are supported in their efforts to develop up to and beyond the core level of extended services.

R3 That KCC together with district and borough councils should:

- a. proactively engage with rail travel providers in Kent to determine the feasibility, cost and business benefits of incorporating off-peak rail travel into the Freedom Pass to enable more young people to make use of existing activities and facilities.**
- b. proactively engage with bus travel providers to determine the feasibility, cost and business benefits of adding integrated (perhaps specific nights of the week) later bus services to enable more young people to make use of existing activities and facilities.**
- c. consider the benefits and potential cost savings of combining the Freedom Pass with any (future planned) Leisure Card and for example, Library card. This should be considered alongside the concept of rewards for positive activities (e.g. encouraging use of healthy activities).**

R4.

- a. That to fully utilise available transport KCC directorates should co-operate to produce a register of passenger carrying vehicles (minibuses) that could potentially be shared with the youth service and/or voluntary sector organisations for individual trips or on a more regular basis and that guidelines be produced for the use of such vehicles.**
- b. That the Youth Service liaise with the Rural Regeneration Officer to determine whether links could be made to existing community transport schemes to provide assistance with transporting young people to leisure activities, or to investigate whether any joint funding arrangements could be of benefit.**
- c. That there be a drive to recruit certified PC V drivers employed by KCC and partner organisations in Kent to register for occasional voluntary driving duties (subject to satisfactory CRB disclosure being in place) to assist the Youth Service's provision of sports/leisure activities to young people. Once established the Youth Service should assess the viability of extending the scheme to include affiliated and non-affiliated voluntary organisations.**

R5 That the Youth Service and in particular the Diversity Team should liaise with the Analysis and Information Team to determine how Mosaic could enhance their work in terms of community profiling and targeting information. That the Analysis and Information Team determine whether Mosaic could incorporate data on Traveller communities.

R6 That KCC (Youth Service and others) should work with district partners including those in the voluntary and community sector to build upon the success of events such as Gifted Young Gravesham, those organised by Blade and Youth of Generation and explore opportunities to hold similar events elsewhere in the county.

R7 That KCC adopts a policy of promoting positive language, perceptions and expectations of young people in all KCC publications and communications and encourages and engages with partners and the media to further this aim.

R8

- a. That meetings which are to involve young people are planned and structured in a young person-friendly format.
- b. That Youth Advisory Groups focus on strategic planning in their districts and extend invitations to, and renews efforts to engage, private and voluntary sector facility and activity providers as well as potential funders, in order to create opportunities for mutually beneficial discussions at YAG meetings.
- c. That KCC Members be encouraged to contribute towards local young people's transport funds from Members' Community Grants (and other available sources) to finance organised trips for young people from their local area, focusing on those who attend youth groups and projects.

R9

- a. That projects with an intergenerational theme should receive a high priority in decisions about funding in Kent in order to break down barriers and build community cohesion.
- b. That KCC should consider how intergenerational activity could be supported in other ways such as through the Staff Club and Staff Discount schemes.

R10 That there should be increased opportunities for well motivated young people to shadow community leaders in order for them to gain experience of political life and leadership and that Members of Kent County Council should take a lead in facilitating this.

R11 That Kent TV continues to provide young people with the opportunity to broadcast their interests and concerns and gain experience of TV and film production through the apprenticeship programme and the development of a dedicated broadcasting unit.

R12 Development of Togogo could include: Clear links to leisure listings for specific areas of interest such as cycling, parks, sports venues and meeting times. How to contact local Kent Youth County Councillor and Local Members of the County Council (by postcode look-up), and the facility to vote on youth-related proposals.

- R13 That KCC Innovations Team works with young people, supported by professional advisers to produce a policy and guidelines for the safe use of social networking sites (Facebook, Bebo etc) by young people, and that KCC work towards developing protocols for effective and appropriate use of social networking sites by youth work practitioners, other KCC staff and Members as well as members of Kent Youth County Council.**
- R14 That KCC should investigate the implementation of an SMS texting service to notify young people of discounts and offers of free access to leisure activities.
- R15 That KCC should consider providing support to Oi! (provided there is a sustainable business plan) to enable more young people to benefit from the work experience and personal development it offers and for the magazine to reach and involve a greater number of young people across the county. This support might take the form of a regular advertising slot paid for by the Kent Youth Service and other directorates/service (particularly CFE Extended Services) to: publicise activities and the availability of other local youth provision, and get across important messages e.g. links to advice on internet safety.**
- R16 That the Youth Service increases its engagement with the diverse range of services provided by the voluntary and community sector to ensure that the contribution of this sector can be fully acknowledged, mapped and taken into account in planning positive activities within an area.**
- R17 That KCC, with its partners, considers how to increase the proportion of activities, as well as information advice and guidance, provided to young people in young-person centred surroundings, in locations accessible during evenings/weekends.