

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

### DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

**Sue Chandler,  
Cabinet Member for Children’s integrated Services**

### DECISION NO:

**20/00016**

Unrestricted

Key decision: YES

**Subject: Section 106 Funding**

#### **Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Integrated Children’s Services, I propose to:

- i. Agree to the introduction of four dedicated area based detached youth work teams, using S106 funding to cover staffing and associated equipment costs.
- ii. Agree the allocation of £2k per district to each Local Children’s Partnership Group (LCPG), to be spent over two years, to ensure the inclusion of young people’s voice across the district (total cost of £24k). This spend is to be agreed by LCPG and overseen by the Area Partnership Managers.
- iii. Acknowledge that whilst some of the S106 will be spent on youth capital costs, this will not be in replacement of Total Facilities Management/Property and Infrastructure budget and responsibilities.
- iv. Agree the remainder of the S106 funding to be considered to provide additional capacity in youth teams and any local district projects. This may also include costs associated with a Fleet Review.

#### **Reason(s) for decision:**

- 1.1 Kent County Council (KCC) currently has £1.3m of Section 106 (S106) funding allocated to be spent on youth provision created as a result of new housing developments.
- 1.2. Due to the historical nature of some of this money, the main criteria for use of the funding is “to meet needs of young people from the district where the new homes have been built”, which provides opportunities to be creative in how we approach this and best utilise the resource. Monies need to be used towards the impacts of new developments and consideration must be given to the specific locations of developments (e.g. supporting Parish Councils where demand and need for youth services has been identified as an impact of new homes in the area).
- 1.3. Historically, there were assumptions that this funding can only be spent on Capital expenditure. However, upon reviewing the agreements in place, it has been confirmed that this is not the case. In regard to the funds available, only £13k must be spent on Capital and £12k on resources. The remainder of the money, £1.27m, can be spent on areas that Integrated Children’s Services (ICS) is able to identify as benefiting from this resource.
2. **Proposals for Use of Section 106 Funding in Integrated Children’s Services**
  - 2.1. ICS have identified the following proposals for consideration, which have been approved, in principle, by the Developer Contributions Team:
    - i. Working with Property and Infrastructure, ICS will ensure all current youth property demands are met by the relevant budget, with a balance of spend met by S106 funding, Infrastructure budgets and Total Facilities Management contracts, where appropriate.
    - ii. To develop and recruit four dedicated area-based detached youth work teams. These teams can be responsive to Adolescent Risk Management Panels and ensure our youth work is delivered in line with contextual safeguarding approaches. In addition to the salary costs, it is anticipated that there will be costs in the region of £20k for IT equipment, mobile phones and cost associated with a fleet review.

- iii. To provide each Local Children's Partnership Group (LCPG) with £2k, to be spent over a two-year period, to allocate funds to local partners to ensure that young people's voice is heard and is fed into the development of plans (total county cost of £24k). To ensure consistency, a county proposal will be designed to support the LCPGs to manage this locally.
- iv. ICS has also secured £50k from the Violence Reduction Unit initiative, led by Kent Police and Crime Commissioner, to support the setting up of detached youth work teams in Kent.

### **Financial Implications**

Whilst the S106 funding releases additional budget, it is noted that future receipts are not guaranteed. The programme aims to ensure that this is continually reviewed every 18 months in regard to sustainability post the 2 years initial aim.

£1.3m S106 funding allocated to be spent on youth provision. Historically, there were assumptions that this funding can only be spent on Capital expenditure. However, upon reviewing the agreements in place, it has been confirmed that this is not the case. In regard to the funds available, only £13k has to be spent on Capital and £12k on resources.

The remainder of the money, £1.27m, can be spent on areas that ICS is able to identify as benefiting from this resource (within the criteria that there is additional demand on services created as a result of new housing developments).

£582k has been requested but not yet approved. Once approved this figure can be added to the above figure of future receipts.

In addition to the secured S106 funding, ICS have a projected income stream of £1.5m. This is the money that has been allocated to KCC as housing developments have been approved. However, future receipts cannot be guaranteed, at this stage, as relies on development build.

### **Legal Implications**

The 1990 Town and Country Planning Act (as amended by the Planning and Compensation Act 1991) established the statutory framework for developer contributions in the form of Section 106 planning obligations. Our Development Contributions team within Economic Development department ensure that our requests comply and have appropriate governance in place.

### **Equalities Impact Assessment**

An EqIA has been completed as part of this proposal and has been considered as part of the decision-making process. Analysis from the assessment showed that the proposed use of Section 106 funding to support youth provision across the county is expected to have positive impact in areas identified as having increased demand on services, due to local housing developments. Engagement with Local Children's Partnership Groups and district Contextual Safeguarding Networks, which will facilitate input from young people and partners, will help to ensure that the resource is able to deliver services in the right areas.

The EqIA can be found via this link:

### **Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee will consider this proposal on 11 March 2020.

### **Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

As part of the review of S106 funding for youth services, consideration was given to the option of commissioning this work to an external provider, rather than delivering the provision in-house. Due to the considerations and integration with current in-house teams and links with the Violence Reduction Unit funding received into KCC, it is considered that the preferred option is to create in-house teams. However, the proposed detached youth work teams will work alongside in-house and commissioned youth providers.

**Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:** None

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**signed**

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**date**