

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

17 September 2012

Report of the Chief Leisure Officer

Part 1- Public

Matters for Information

1 CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE UPDATE

Summary

This report updates Members on key areas of the Children and Young People work programme, including the Tonbridge & Malling Local Children's Trust Board, the Community Chest Grant, the Kent Youth Service Review and the Try Angle Awards

1.1 Local Children's Trust Board

1.1.1 The Local Children's Trust Board works as part of the Kent Children's Trust arrangements to secure improved outcomes for all children and young people in a District, in line with the Kent Children and Young People's Plan.

1.1.2 Members will be aware from previous reports to this Board that the Local Children's Trust Board for Tonbridge & Malling meets four times a year with the aim of making sure that services respond to local needs and that children and young people are listened to and are able to influence decisions made about them. The second meeting of 2012 took place on the 18 May at Tonbridge Castle Council Chamber. Topics included Emotional and Mental Health, Families and Social Care Commissioning, NEET and Youth Employment in Tonbridge & Malling, and a Kent Integrated Youth Service Update. The minutes of the meeting can be found at
http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/lctb_tonbridge_malling_meetings.cfm

1.2 Community Chest Grant

1.2.1 As part of the presentation from Families and Social Care Commissioning at the recent Local Children's Trust Board John Taylor, the KCC Commissioning Officer, explained the launch of the KCC Community Chest Grant. Managing national government funding through the Early Intervention Grant the Community Chest Grant aims to provide support to vulnerable children, young people and families across the Kent County Council area. The grant aims to provide short term, one-off funding to support local need identified in the Kent County Council Early Intervention Strategy and Local Children's Trust Board plans.

1.2.2 With an overall fund of £450k, Councils within Kent are able to submit proposals in three categories, up to £499, £500-£4,999 and £5,000-£14,999. Tonbridge & Malling's Local Children's Trust Board will therefore be given the chance to use the knowledge and information of its Members to shape what services are being delivered locally. The actual figure that will be aligned to Tonbridge & Malling is unclear at this time but is thought to be in the region of £35,000 - £40,000. It is also planned that the Community Chest Grant will also be open for the next two years.

1.2.3 Following a small working group and a number of discussions with Members of the Board, eight Community Chest proposals have been submitted by Tonbridge & Malling. These include:

- Emotional and Mental Health 1st Aid Training Programme
- Safeguarding Training (Eligibility and Threshold Criteria)
- Emotional and Mental Health Support Project for Girls (13-19)
- ASB Reduction and Prevention Scheme
- Parenting Programme for Adolescents
- Domestic Violence Support Programme
- Youth Diversion Scheme
- Substance Misuse Support
- Children & Young People Survey for Tonbridge and Malling

1.2.4 Once the Local Children's Trust Board has been notified of the outcomes of the above proposals details will be provided of how these proposals can be bid for, which can be sent to local organisations for consideration.

1.3 Kent County Council Youth Services Review

1.3.1 Further to previous reports to this Board, Members will be aware of the current review of Youth Services being undertaken by Kent County Council. Since the last meeting of the Board this Council has liaised with the Integrated Youth Services on the allocation of resources for the commissioning process and has proposed the following areas of focus:

- Young Mothers/Parents (Borough Wide) 15%
- Hadlow 15%
- Borough Green/Wrotham 20%

- Rural Areas 40%
- North Tonbridge 10%

1.3.2 The first stage of the Integrated Youth Services (Youth Work) Commissioning Framework went live in May on the South East Business Portal with all interested providers needing to complete the Pre Qualification Questionnaire by the 22 June 2012. Information on 47 commissioning lots for youth services across Kent was then published on the South East Portal on the 27 July 2012. 44 organisations have so far expressed an interest in delivering youth services across Kent with the deadline for the submission of bids being set for Friday 7 September.

1.3.3 The process for evaluating bids will begin on Monday 10 September and will run until Friday 12 October. Locality Boards or local representative Member groups will be involved in a 'task and finish' group working with representatives from the Integrated Youth Services. Youth Service Area Youth Officers will also be coordinating young people's involvement in the evaluation of bids. Recommendations from the above groups will then inform Mike Hill, Cabinet Member for Customer and Communities, in making his decisions on commissioned youth services in Kent with contracts being awarded towards the end of October.

1.3.4 The County Council has given an ongoing commitment to involve the Borough Council with regard to the development of detailed specifications linked to the commissioning of services and Borough Council Members will continue to be involved through meetings of the Joint Advisory Panel.

1.3.5 Members will also be aware that a number of changes have been taking place to youth provision within Tonbridge & Malling with a new Tonbridge Hub now being developed on the Adult Education site in Avebury Avenue. Ellen Shaw has now been appointed as the Senior Youth Work Practitioner for Tonbridge & Malling and interviews are due to be held shortly for a Part Time Youth Worker to support this role. Julie Shapter has also now joined the Tonbridge & Malling team as the Detached Youth Worker.

1.3.6 Interviews are also due to be held in September for a new Community Youth Tutor who will be based at Samays. This role will be funded 40% by the school and 60% by the Integrated Youth Services. Samays will continue to act as a centre of youth provision with Holmesdale Technology College taking responsibility for the building. Members will be updated once more specific information on the level of the youth work proposed has been established.

1.4 Try Angle Awards

1.4.1 The Try Angle Awards were introduced in 1994 to raise the profile of the vast majority of young people who really TRY, often with little recognition, to do their best! 2012 is a special moment in the country's history, with the Olympics and Paralympic Games coming to London. The Games represent sportsmen and

sportswomen from around the world coming together to TRY to do their best, and so these values were at the heart of this year's Try Angle Awards. The London 2012 Games have been deliberately designed to inspire young people across Britain and the world, and therefore this year through the Try Angle Awards each young person in Kent was given the chance for a place on the winner's podium – the Try Angle stage.

The most inspirational young people in Tonbridge and Malling received the special recognition they deserve at this year's Try Angle Award winners' ceremony which took place on Saturday 30 June 2012 at The Trinity Theatre, Tunbridge Wells. The Try Angle Awards are presented to young people aged 11 to 18 from Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells as well from as Tonbridge and Malling, who have overcome personal struggles in their lives and made an important contribution to their local community.

1.5 Legal Implications

- 1.5.1 The Council has powers to undertake this activity by virtue of Section 145 of the Local Government Act 1972.

1.6 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.6.1 None.

1.7 Risk Assessment

- 1.7.1 It is clearly important that the future provision of youth services in the Borough is based on identified need and the views of partner organisations are taken into consideration in making decisions.

1.8 Equality Impact Assessment

- 1.8.1 See 'Screening for equality impacts' table at end of report.

1.9 Policy Considerations

Healthy Lifestyles, Young People, Community, Crime & Disorder Reduction.

Background papers:

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Nil

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