

**TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**LEISURE and ARTS ADVISORY BOARD**

**9 December 2013**

**Report of the Director of Street Scene & Leisure**

**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 Activate, the Summer Playscheme, the Y2 Crew programme, the Local Children's Trust Board, Every Day Matters: Kent's Multi-agency Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2013–2016 and the Youth Forum.**

**1.1 Activate**

1.1.1 The 2014 Easter Activate programme will run from Monday, 7 April to Thursday 17 April and will offer young people aged 8-16 the chance to try out a range of more unusual activities. The programme will again be split into four categories to make it easier for parents and young people to find the activities that they would like to do. Outdoor activities will include windsurfing, kayaking, junior rangers and the bike fun day. Sports will range from fencing and dodgeball to trampolining. Creative arts will include djing and music technology as well as magic and special effects and character make-up workshops. Emergency first aid and cookery will form part of the Council's Life skills option.

1.1.2 Art in the Park, cheerleading and website/game design will also be on the programme this Easter with additional activities also being offered in partnership with Rock UK, Carrot Wood. These will include abseiling, geo-caching, team task day, pedal karting, archery, rafting, bushcraft, high ropes, bmxing and climbing, with Leisure Pass discounts offered on all courses allowing Fair Access to All. Building on the success of the Summer Production of Oliver an extended performing arts programme will also be on the agenda for 2014 starting with an Easter Drama and Presenting Workshop. The workshop will conclude with a performance of Bugsy Malone on the Friday afternoon allowing the young people to showcase the skills that they will have developed, as well as developing their confidence, self-esteem and experience of delivering to an audience.

- 1.1.3 The Easter Activate brochures will be distributed towards the end of February 2014, and parents will be able to use the online booking system. Further promotional leaflets, banners and billboards will be utilised during March.

## **1.2 Summer Playscheme**

- 1.2.1 The 2014 Playscheme will run for three weeks from Monday, 4 August to Friday, 22 August 2014 at 13 venues across the borough, catering for children between 4 and 11 years. Members will be aware that this Council funds two weeks of the Playscheme, with contributions for one week being provided by Parish/Town Councils. Letters have now been sent to the relevant Parish/Town Councils.
- 1.2.2 In terms of delivery, partners involved in the Summer Playscheme, Rainbows (Hildenborough, Snodland, West Malling and Tonbridge Baptist Church), Poppy Pre-School (Aylesford) and Barnies (Hadlow) have all formally confirmed their availability to operate these venues once again in 2014.
- 1.2.3 Letters have now been sent to all staff that worked on the 2013 Playscheme to formally invite them to return in 2014. Members will be updated at the next meeting of the Board as to the progress on this and any further developments.

## **1.3 Y2 Crew**

- 1.3.1 The 2014 scheme will operate from Monday, 28 July to Friday, 22 August and, subject to funding, will include trips, courses and activity days (including accredited courses where possible) with a number of key agencies offering information, advice and guidance throughout. Building on the success of the partnership with Ridgeview, a special school for children with profound, severe and complex learning difficulties, the Y2 Crew programme will again aim to ensure its inclusiveness and the option for young people with disabilities to attend with a 1:1 Support Assistant.
- 1.3.2 Members will be aware that the scheme is organised and funded by a number of partner agencies and the programme will be reviewed by the first multi-agency meeting in January, to ensure that it is operating as cost effectively as possible. Changes/improvements to be considered include types of activities, venues and staffing arrangements. External funding letters and application forms are currently being sent out to a number of organisations to secure the 2014 programme.

## **1.4 Local Children's Trust Board**

- 1.4.1 The Local Children's Trust Board has worked as part of the Kent Children and Young People's Joint Commissioning Board whose principal function is to improve outcomes for children pre-birth to 19 years (24 for Looked After Children and disabled young people), through the effective commissioning of services in partnership with a range of agencies, ensuring resources are prioritised according to need and where they achieve the most impact.

- 1.4.2 In April 2013 the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board was established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and was set up to lead on work to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Kent through joined up commissioning across the NHS, social care, public health and other services. Since then the Board has established a series of sub-committees known as local health and wellbeing boards whose principal function is to advise on the development of Clinical Commissioning Group level integrated commissioning strategies and plans, ensure effective local engagement and monitor local outcomes.
- 1.4.3 As part of the new structure the existing 12 Local Children's Trust Board model will be discontinued. The 7 Clinical Commissioning Group (CCGs) Health and Wellbeing Boards will adopt new responsibilities for the welfare of children and young people. At the district level, Children's Operation Groups will be created with one of its members represented on the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure effective linkages between the two groups. The purpose of the Children's Operational Group will be to ensure effective child and family centred local engagement by partners, promote collaboration between organisations with the aim of improving the wellbeing of all children through the effective implementation of strategies, planning, joined up commissioning and effective service delivery. Any local issues of concern, including views about how services operate on the ground, will be referred to the West Kent CCG Health & Wellbeing Board.
- 1.4.4 The last meeting of the Tonbridge & Malling Local Children's Trust Board took place on 12 September at the Council Offices in Kings Hill. Topics included the future development of the Local Children's Trust Boards and the move towards the Children's Operational Group, the shaping of the future Children's Centres and an update on the Family Focus (Troubled Families) Programme. The minutes of the meeting can be found at [http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/lctb\\_tonbridge\\_malling\\_meetings.cfm](http://www.kenttrustweb.org.uk/kct/lctb_tonbridge_malling_meetings.cfm)

## **1.5 Every Day Matters: Kent's Multi-agency Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2013 – 2016**

- 1.5.1 Introduced by the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board and Children and Young People's Joint Commissioning Board Every Day Matters: Kent's Multi-agency Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2013-2016, is the overarching plan that informs partner organisations that operate in the children's services arena. It aims to bring organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors together to deliver seamlessly integrated services and the best possible outcomes for all children and young people in Kent.
- 1.5.2 The overall four outcomes at the heart of Kent's integrated children's services are to keep all children and young people safe, promote the health and wellbeing of all children and young people, raise the educational achievement of all children and young people and equip all young people to take a positive role in their community.

1.5.3 The agreed five priorities during the period of the strategic plan cover the following key areas:

- safeguarding and protection
- early help, prevention and intervention
- learning and achievement
- community ambition, health and wellbeing, and
- better use of resources

1.5.4 Every Day Matters details where Kent is now, where it needs to be in the future, and what needs to happen so that every child and young person is able to reach their full potential in life, whatever their background. The full policy document can be found at  
[http://kent.gov.uk/your\\_council/priorities,\\_policies\\_and\\_plans/priorities\\_and\\_plans/social\\_care\\_and\\_health/every\\_day\\_matters.aspx](http://kent.gov.uk/your_council/priorities,_policies_and_plans/priorities_and_plans/social_care_and_health/every_day_matters.aspx)

## **1.6 Youth Forum**

1.6.1 The TM Youth Forum is a panel of young people between the ages of 11-18 representing the views of young people who live in the area of Tonbridge & Malling. The objectives are to provide a forum for discussion on the issues that concern young people, to involve young people in the development of the Council's youth programme and to create a positive image of young people within Tonbridge & Malling.

1.6.2 The Youth Forum has recently undergone elections with the following key positions appointed:

- Chair: Dillon Lancaster
- Vice Chair: Zoë Poole

1.6.3 This winter, the TM Youth Forum plan to start work in partnership with ITV fixers who funded by the Big Lottery, help young people take on any issues that matter to them and help them find a creative way to do something about it and make a positive change to their communities and the world around them. Members are currently encouraging other young people to come along to the next meeting of the forum to start work on this project and explore what matters to young people.

## **1.7 Legal Implications**

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

## **1.8 Financial and Value for Money Considerations**

1.8.1 The cost of the Council's 2014 Summer Activities Programme for young people is met from the existing revenue budgets, and through partnership funding for the Y2 Crew. In addition to income from charges, external funding is received from a number of sources, most notably relating to Parish/Town Council support for one week of the Summer Playscheme.

## **1.9 Risk Assessment**

1.9.1 A risk assessment of all the activities and venues is undertaken in liaison with the Council's Health & Safety and Insurance Officers. Each of the facilities used will be requested to produce adequate insurance certificates and risk assessments. The Summer Playscheme venues are all registered with OFSTED and comply with the Early Years and Childcare Registers.

## **1.10 Policy Considerations**

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

Background papers:

contact: Stephen Gregg

Nil

Robert Styles

Director of Street Scene and Leisure