OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

YOUTH SERVICE PROVISION TASK GROUP - MONITORING UPDATE REPORT

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor Phil Mould, Portfolio Holder for Leisure and Tourism
Portfolio Holder Consulted	No, though Councillor Mould did participate in the Youth Services Provision Task Group review in 2011/12.
Relevant Head of Service	John Godwin, Head of Leisure and Cultural Services
Ward(s) Affected	All wards
Ward Councillor(s) Consulted	N/A
Non-Key Decision	

1. <u>SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS</u>

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with an update on the action that has been taken to implement recommendations made by the Youth Services Provision Task Group in April 2012. As part of this update a brief summary of the work undertaken by the Task Group has been provided for Members' consideration.
- 1.2 The report consists of two sections: a presentation from Worcestershire County Council on the subject of the positive activities programme in the county; and a written update from Officers relating to actions taken by Redditch Borough Council.

2. <u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

The Committee is asked to RESOLVE that

the report be noted.

3. KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 The Youth Services Provision Task Group was commissioned by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2011. Five Members were appointed to the review including Councillors Simon Chalk (Chair), Rebecca Blake, Andrew Brazier, Gay Hopkins and Phil Mould.
- 3.2 The exercise was launched at a time when Worcestershire County Council was reviewing youth service provision in the county. As part of the process the Task group responded to the County Council's consultation process concerning the future delivery of positive activities in Worcestershire. Evidence was obtained from a variety of sources including: representatives of Worcestershire County Council, representatives of the Voluntary and Community Sector, and Redditch

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Borough Council's Leisure Services and Community Safety teams. Young people were also consulted throughout the review.

- 3.3 At the end of the review the Task Group agreed ten recommendations, which were endorsed by the Council's Executive Committee on 24th April 2012 (Appendix 1). The Task Group's findings were also presented for the consideration of the Redditch Local Children's Partnership, a theme group of the Redditch Local Strategic Partnership, in May 2012.
- 3.4 Whilst some of the recommendations had implications for services delivered by Redditch Borough Council the majority of recommendations required action from Worcestershire County Council and the Redditch Commissioning Group, which was delegated with responsibility for commissioning positive activities in the Borough.
- 3.5 The first full operating year for the Redditch Commissioning Group occurred from May 2012 – April 2013. During this period the Commissioning Group commissioned positive activities for young people living in the Borough. The presentation from Worcestershire County Council on the work of the Commissioning Group and the action that has been taken to implement the Task Group's recommendations should therefore be considered timely.

Financial Implications

3.6 There are no direct financial implications to this report.

Legal Implications

3.7 There are no direct legal implications to this report.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.8 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee has a responsibility, as detailed in the Council's constitution, to review the implementation of recommendations made in a scrutiny report. Prior to the date of this meeting information had not been provided about the action that had been taken to implement the recommendations made by the Youth Services Provision Task Group. This report therefore contains the first update to scrutiny Members on the subject.
- 3.9 One of the Task Group's recommendations focused on the potential for Dial a Ride vehicles to be made available to transport young people to events and festivities. In October 2012 Members decided to make Dial a Ride vehicles available for external groups to hire. Members agreed at this stage that a monitoring update report, focusing exclusively on this subject, should be reported for the consideration of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee 12 months after the decision had been taken. For this reason further information about use of

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Dial a Ride vehicles to transport young people has not been provided in this report.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

3.10 There are no direct equality and diversity implications to this report.

4. **<u>RISK MANAGEMENT</u>**

No risks have been identified.

5. <u>APPENDICES</u>

Appendix 1 - Relevant extract from the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee on 24th April 2012.

Appendix 2 – Response to Recommendation 7 – Redditch Borough Council.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Youth Services Provision Task Group final report. (April 2012).

7. <u>KEY</u>

Positive Activities – Positive activities are activities that young people participate in which may have a positive impact on their health, family, school or college life and even on the local community. A range of activities can be considered positive activities including: sports, cooking, music, participating in youth clubs and the arts.

Redditch Commissioning Group – Responsibility for commissioning positive activities at the local level has been delegated by Worcestershire County Council to local Commissioning Groups. The commissioning groups comprise of each of the County Councillors representing a district, who have an equal vote on the commissioning of services.

AUTHOR OF REPORT

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