



Cabinet

23 October 2013

Report Title	Re-configuration of Youth Services, Centred on Youth Zone and Targeted Youth Support	
Classification	Open	
Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility	Val Gibson Children and Families	
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Originating service	Community	
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1.0 Description of Savings Proposal

In order to make savings it is proposed that a new structure is established to deliver the youth offer for young people in Wolverhampton based on:

1. Wolverhampton Youth Zone being the sole provider of open-access delivery on behalf of the Local Authority,
2. A strategic youth work lead and integrated targeted team directly managed through Multi-Agency Support teams (MASTs).

This proposed structure would enable the full additional savings of £1.1 million to be made in 2015/16.

In order to fulfil the current 2014/15 savings target of £500,000 the service will defer the current savings plan to implement alongside the 2015/16 savings. Savings will be implemented midway through 2014 in order to achieve the target savings (Autumn 2014). This also assumes that the grant for Youth Zone is commenced from January 2015 and that a payment of £100,000 is made in relation to 4th Quarter of the year to the charity.

The voluntary and community sectors will be encouraged and stimulated to provide open-access youth provision themselves in suitable accommodation across the city (e.g. church halls, Community Hubs, etc.). A budget of £100,000 would be made available for small grants to local community organisations and some voluntary sector re-provision of local open access youth provision across the city and specific pieces of targeted needs led work.

2.0 Table Setting out Financial Proposal

2.1 Total base budget savings

	Year 2014-2015 £000	Year 2015-2016 £000	Year 2016-2017 £000	Year 2017-2018 £000	Year 2018-2019 £000	5 year total £000's
Total base budget savings	0	1090	0	0	0	1090

2.2 Staffing Implication

	Year 2014-2015 £000	Year 2015-2016 £000	Year 2016-2017 £000	Year 2017-2018 £000	Year 2018-2019 £000	5 year total £000's
Full Time Equivalent (FTE)	0	76	0	0	0	76

3.0 Communications Strategy Implications

3.1 The Communications Strategy Implications of this proposal represent some risk as detailed below. The Council has recently announced how this service will be delivered as a result of the current savings proposal. This proposal will change the service delivery.

4.0 Corporate Landlord Implication

4.1 The voluntary and community sectors will be encouraged and stimulated to provide open-access youth provision themselves in suitable accommodation across the city (e.g. church halls, Community Hubs, etc.). Voluntary Sector Organisations (VSOs) could consider asset transfer opportunities through the Council's Community Asset Transfer (CAT) Strategy to help build financial security. The CAT Strategy creates a single gateway approach that provides a clear point of contact for VSOs with asset transfer enquiries and will act as a conduit and a source of information and support. The Corporate Landlord strategic pathway and effective use of the Asset Management Plan will assist with this process.

5.0 Customer Implications

5.1 The implications for customers of this proposal represent a considerable risk as detailed below. This proposal will reduce the youth service provision significantly. Open access will be provided through one central location (Youth Zone) and targeted support by one worker per MAST area.

6.0 Economic Implications

6.1 There are economic implications in respect of the impact on direct jobs. However the proposal has built in potential for positive economic implications through supporting delivery through the third sector. It is not clear whether the support lost would impact on support for young people to move into employment, education or training.

7.0 Environmental Implications

7.1 It may require the disposal of a number of buildings surplus to requirements. The Environmental Implications can all be dealt with through the asset management & planning processes. These include issues such as properties being left vacant, biodiversity, open space, energy efficiency, energy management, traffic congestion & air pollution. They relate to the possible demolition, change of use & redevelopment of premises.

8.0 Equality Implications

8.1 An equalities analysis screening has been undertaken, a full analysis is required.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 The Financial Implications in terms of savings and investments are as described in the proposal above. The timing of realising this saving may be contingent on the timing of the Youth Zone becoming operational. It should be noted that this proposal reflects the deferral of £500,000 (full-year effect) savings from 2014/15 to 2015/16 (this is in addition to the £1.1 million, but is already reflected in the MTFS).

10.0 Health Implications

10.1 The Health Implications of this proposal are minimal assuming the significant reduction in service provision does not have an impact on access to health related advice via youth services.

11.0 Legal Implications

11.1 The Legal Implications of this proposal are minimal provided that due process is followed.

12.0 Policy Implications

12.1 The Policy Implications on agreed Council policy represent some risk as detailed below. The Council has just announced how this service will be delivered as a result of the current savings proposal. This proposal will change the service delivery. There is a small risk to the delivery of the corporate priority 'Empowering People and Communities'.

13.0 Procurement Implications

13.1 The Procurement Implications of this proposal are minimal if future, third party service provision is to be delivered under a grant mechanism

14.0 Staffing Implications

14.1 The HR Implications of this proposal represent considerable risk as detailed below. This

proposal will result in significant job losses. It is intended to avoid the need for compulsory redundancies as far as possible by maximising opportunities for voluntary redundancies, redevelopement and the deletion of vacant posts. Compulsory redundancies will be unavoidable if the VR programme does not garner sufficient volunteers. Early consultation, following HR policy and procedure including selection for compulsory redundancy must be deployed to avoid the potential of legal challenge.

15.0 Trade Union Implications

15.1 **No Implications Recorded.**