

		AGENDA ITEM 7
		PAF/29/14
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	13 November 2014	
<u>New operating model for the Youth Service</u>		
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Purpose of the Paper:

To receive an update on the new operating model, six months after its implementation.

The paper has 2 appendices:

- A) *Working with young people to build communities*
- B) Essex youth work commissioning outcomes

Essex Youth Service Progress update October 2014

Background

1. The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress the Youth Service has made since the presentation of the Report to Cabinet on 25 February 2014.

In that report Councillor Gooding shared proposals for the new operating model and how from 2014/15 onwards the proposed service budget will be allocated. This brief report explains the progress so far.

2. **Senior Leadership Team (SLT)** Consultation for the new leadership team started in April 2014. Following a rigorous selection process the new SLT was appointed and took up their new posts in September (a reduction from 9 to 5 posts with 1 voluntary and 2 compulsory redundancies). They have immediately begun work on implementing the new model and have started delivering against proposals.

3. **Service Redesign** Staff Consultation for the remainder of the service commenced on 4 November 2014; this action will bring us into line with the new budget envelope and ensure the service is fit to deliver our new commissioning model, with proposals for an overall reduction of 17.89 FTE.

4. **Youth Work Outcomes** The service launched the new outcomes framework in June (attached). These have been devised following extensive engagement with staff and young people, taking into account the high level Essex outcomes and show how the service will contribute to the overall Essex outcomes.

Examples: April –September 2014

- 25,028 outcomes achieved, which represents a 100% increase on last year.
- 1597 national accreditations have been achieved
- 14,470 participants have been involved in youth work
- 131 new community groups are being supported to deliver youth work
- 644 new young people are accessing youth work in their own community (logged on our new utility RunAClub)

5. **Duke of Edinburgh Award (D of E)** Original proposals within the Youth Service Business Case to move the Duke of Edinburgh's Award operations to Essex Outdoors were rejected by the D of E Regional Office due to a conflict of interests, as Essex Outdoors is an Approved Activity Provider and therefore cannot also hold nor be responsible for the Licence. Therefore, we are now consulting with Schools, Colleges, staff and DofE Regional Office on a new 'cost neutral' operating model which will retain DofE within Essex Youth Service.

6. **Young Carers** Procurement process has started to secure a district based young carers' provision in all 12 districts across Essex from April 2015. The Youth Service will

cease its own delivery and all future delivery will be by the successful suppliers. Assessments for Young Carers will in future be carried out by the Targeted Youth Advisor team to ensure they are independent and of a consistent quality and enable ECC to meet its new statutory duties under the Care Act and Children & Families Act.

7. Youth Strategy Groups (YSGs) The groups have all identified their 2014-5 local desired outcomes for young people and Youth Workers are currently commissioning against those outcomes. Youth Workers are also working with YSGs identifying which groups in the community could benefit from the Capital Fund. Plans are also well advanced to carry out improvements to ECC youth centres and IT infrastructure.

8. National Citizen Service (NCS) During the year Youth Service staff worked to deliver an immensely successful NCS programme with 580 young people, who completed to a 4-week programme and completed a total of 15,160 hours volunteering in local communities, and raising a huge amount of money so they could carry out various projects that have subsequently made a difference to their community.

9. TCHC. The TCHC contract was always identified as a higher risk element of the project and while there have been financial benefits these are not as high as anticipated. To mitigate this situation an application has been made (with partners) to the cabinet office Youth Engagement Fund to deliver £3million worth of funding into Essex through social impact bonds. We have passed the first stage and are in the final short list for projects being considered.

10. Young Inspectors Several groups have been trained to inspect services for young people with further groups being trained.