

		AGENDA ITEM 5
<u>Youth Service Redesign</u>		PAF/14/13
Committee:	People and Families Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	5 th December 2013	
<u>Outstanding Items</u>		
Enquiries to:	David Claydon Project Manager Strategy, Transformation & Commissioning Support 0333 013 6027 david.claydon@essex.gov.uk	

Purpose of the Paper:

1. To provide the People and Families Scrutiny Committee with an early summary of responses to the recent consultation on the future of the Youth Service.
2. To provide the People and Families Scrutiny Committee with an update on the emerging operating model for the Youth Service.
3. To seek feedback from the People and Families Scrutiny Committee that will help develop proposals to Cabinet on the new operating model.

1. The recent consultation on the future of the Youth Service

- 1.1 The recent consultation on the future of the Youth Service included the possibility of an annual saving of £3m. This target equates to 60% of the Youth Service operating budget for 2013/14.
- 1.2 Young people, the wider public, our partners in youth work and other organisations have had the opportunity to contribute their views on the future of the Youth Service via a consultation exercise between 10th October and 20th November 2013. Although the final participant numbers are still to be determined, it is estimated that 5,117 people took part in the structured consultation. This number is broken down as shown in the table below.

	Young people	Adults	Total
Paper	2,437	597	3,034
Online	718	1,365	2,083
Total	3,155	1,962	5,117

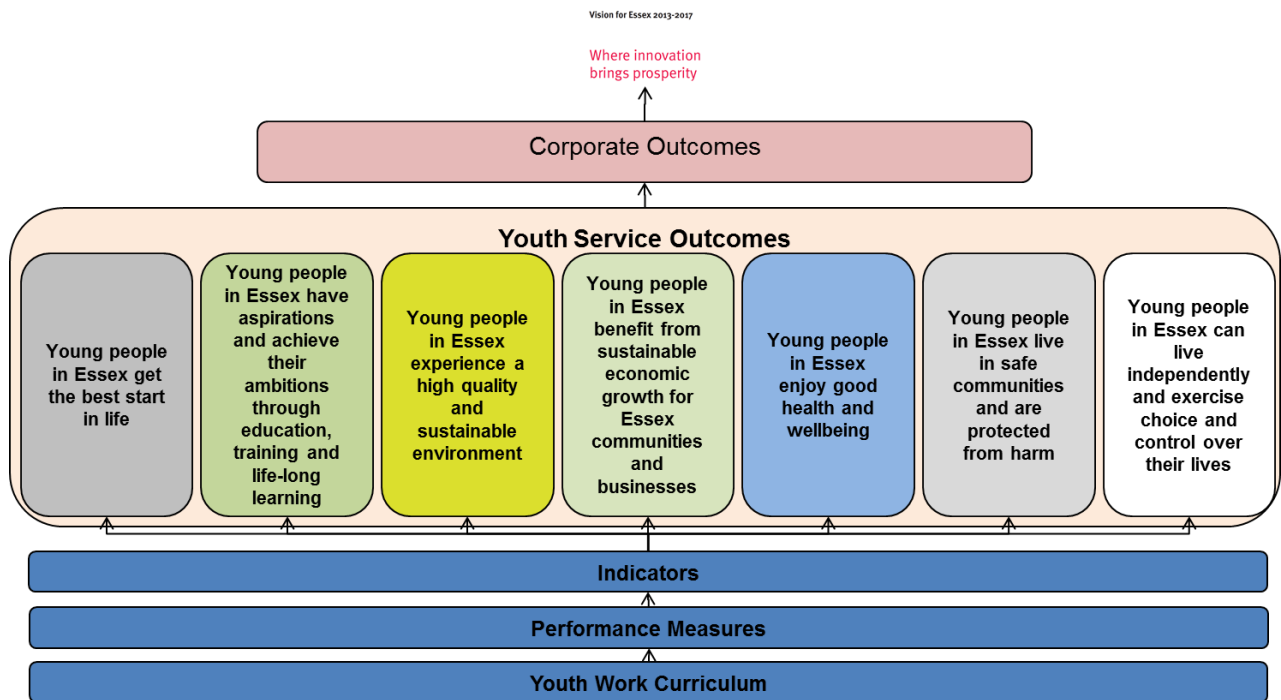
- 1.3 In addition to the structured public consultation, people were invited to write directly to the Cabinet Member to express their views. All of these views will be captured and will contribute to the development of the operating model. People used a variety of methods to communicate, such as:
- Petitions from 429 young people in Tendring, 43 young people in Witham and 37 young people in Yeldham.
 - Feedback via voice booths across the county from 43 young people and three adults.
 - Letters, emails and texts from nine young people.
 - An inscribed bed sheet.
 - Poems from two young people.
 - Letters and emails from 16 adults.
 - Reports on the discussions held by three Youth Strategy Groups plus a submission from the YEA.
- 1.4 Cllr. Gooding, Cabinet Member for Education and Lifelong Learning has taken an active role in seeking the views of our stakeholders. This has included meeting young people in Basildon, Harlow, Chelmsford, Uttlesford and Colchester. These meetings have often been chaired by young people and have been informative and sometimes emotional. He has also met with the Chairs for the Youth Strategy Groups throughout the county. This provided valuable feedback and confirmation of the requirement to continue using these groups to channel funds to localities. Local and voluntary groups have also provided input into the consultation.
- 1.5 Youth Workers have worked with young people throughout the county, delivering face to face sessions to maximise the opportunity for young people to contribute their views.
- 1.6 A number of workshops have been held with Youth Service staff, contributing nearly 400 opportunities to manage the service more efficiently, reduce costs and maximise potential new funding routes. These will all be considered in the development of the new operating model.

2. The emerging operating model

- 2.1 The new operating model will be based on the following principles:
- We will deliver to an outcomes based delivery model, commission services wherever possible, via our partners, organisation and via community capacity building.
 - We will engage with the young people on their own terms in locations suitable to them.
 - We will provide support to the most vulnerable young people across Essex by prioritising safeguarding.

- We will provide support based on the requirements of the community, to those with the greatest need.

- 2.2 The Youth Service operating model will contribute to the ECC Vision. The detail of the outcomes to inform the council's commissioning strategy are currently being developed and connections between the service and the ECC Vision are shown in the diagram shown below



- 2.3 Paragraphs 2.4 to 2.9 describe the various elements within the emerging operating model:
- 2.4 **The Youth Strategy Groups (YSG)** determine their local priorities with help from a centralised team of youth specialists. It is proposed that YSGs continue to have this role and determine how the outcomes can be met within their locality
- 2.5 **Commissioners** will determine provision based on both the outcomes to be met and the local priorities identified by the YSG.
- 2.6 **Core Delivery:** If the outcome and the localised priorities can be met through the provision offered within core delivery this will be the case. This will be funded by ECC.
- 2.7 **Partners:** If ECC cannot provide the provision in house, the commissioner will look to commission services from partners, funded using YSG's budget.
- 2.8 **External Provision** (Inc. Community): If the outcome / localised priorities can be met by Community Groups, the youth specialists will work to support them in delivery of the provision. If not, external providers will be commissioned. Both options would be funded using YSG budget.
- 2.9 **Enhanced Core Delivery:** If the outcome / localised priorities could be met using an enhanced version of Core Delivery this will be provided in-house, funded using YSG's budget.

3. Current thoughts

3.1 The Cabinet Member

- is reviewing the extent of the savings proposed and the extent to which these may be reduced if savings elsewhere in the council can be found and is looking to ensure local provision matches local need, whilst needing to do so with less resources.
- is looking to secure agreement for capital funding for the council's youth centres to enable wider use by local youth organisations.
- is looking to secure agreement for capital funding for voluntary groups to enhance community delivery of services to young people throughout the county.
- is very concerned about any loss of support for either young carers or the most vulnerable young people through the work of targeted youth advisers
- has asked officers to explore proposals to facilitate the continuation of specialist programmes, such as (but not exclusively) the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme, alternative education, Princes Trust programmes and the Essex Dance Theatre, albeit perhaps on a different financial basis.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 The operating model will continue to be developed, incorporating feedback received.
- 4.2 A Final Business Case will be submitted to Outcomes Board on 15th January 2014 and to take a decision on the new operating model at Cabinet on 21st January 2014.
- 4.3 We would welcome the view of the People and Family Scrutiny Committee members. Your views will help finalise the new operating model.