

Community Youth Work Consultations summary

Changes to community youth work are being made across the whole of Surrey. They are designed to: enable the community youth work service (CYWS) to better support the county council's strategic goal of employability for young people; implement a county council cabinet steer to allocate more of our resources to the areas of greatest need; and respond positively to an overall funding reduction of 11% for community youth work across Surrey. This has been achieved with no job losses and by securing partnerships so that we will continue to deliver first-rate youth work in areas of lowest need.

The consultation process was a very positive experience with an excellent number of responses both locally through our consultation meetings and through online responses. Overall, we were heartened by the passion and commitment of local communities to their youth centres which clearly demonstrated the value that Surrey's residents place on their local youth provision. The consultation enabled us to listen to residents' views and offers of support which in some areas has led to an increase in the funding available or offers to work in partnership. Following the consultation process, we have amended or developed our proposals to improve our local offer for young people. Finally, we would like to thank everyone who has kindly contributed to this consultation process.

Advice from legal services was sought in relation to the need for a public consultation and how best this should be handled.

Elmbridge:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was disappointment that the council's staffing resources were being withdrawn from current projects in Claygate especially (86% of responses) but also Weybridge (8% of responses). Residents of both venues cited historical reasons and improvements that the youth centres should be staffed by the county council.
- Claygate residents raised concerns that the plans would provoke an increase in anti-social behaviour and a rise in the needs of young people. It was also said that those with current high needs would be neglected in favour of young people from other areas.
- There was concern that young people would be affected by staff moving around and new organisations coming in to run community spokes.
- Field common was regarded an unnecessary place for a detached project. It was pointed out that Hersham youth club is close enough to walk to, and many young people currently do.
- There should be an increase of sports and art projects.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and propose the following amendments in response to feedback:

- It should be re-emphasised that it is not the plan to close either Claygate or Weybridge youth centres. In both Claygate and Weybridge discussions are ongoing about a transition to becoming a community spoke. The county council's CYWS will maintain staff at both centres until a successful transition has been made. After transition support will continue with training, safeguarding, material resources and maintenance. We will also work closely with the local prevention services provided by Lifetrain, Eikon and Surrey care trust to work with the highest need people in more targeted work in Claygate and Weybridge.
- The idea of a Field common detached project from the original plans has been scrapped in favour of working closer with the Local Prevention providers to promote Hersham, Walton and Molesey youth clubs with their outreach project.
- The CYWS will plan to run borough-wide projects in the holiday periods, incorporating trips, residentials and one-off day sports and art projects across all the venues.

Epsom & Ewell:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- Feedback was unanimous that we were putting youth workers in the areas where youth work was most needed and it could make the biggest difference to young people.
- It was highlighted however that there should be an increase in youth work resources to support young people from Longmead.
- It was felt that further consideration should be given during sessions to the travelling communities, Portuguese young people and those with disabilities.
- It was suggested that partnership delivery approaches should be further developed to better support young people in the borough.
- It was suggested that an open-access drop-in session should be introduced at The Focus.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- Keep the youth work offer in the areas proposed.
- Increase detached youth work delivered on the Longmead estate from 2.5 hours to 8.5 hours.
- Continue to build on partnership links. Develop partnerships with Local prevention commissions to improve outcomes on Longmead and develop wider links with police, leisure and others to enhance the offer for young people.
- Introduce an open session at The Focus.
- Re-launch The Edge Youth Centre in Watersedge- Ruxley Ward.
- Continue to make open sessions inclusive to all young people.

Guildford:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was strong support for the services decision to apply the resource allocation system and hub and spoke models to youth work deliver in Guildford.
- The areas of identified needs were considered to be accurate and the correct locations to divide up the youth work resources across Guildford.

We were very pleased to have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the local community about our plans for community youth work in Guildford. As a result of this, we will still be implementing our changes as planned with your support.

Mole Valley:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- A number of concerns were raised about the potential discontinuation of the Go Karting project at Ashtead.
- It was perceived that the document did not accurately reflect the number of face to face hours that would be delivered in the centres.
- It was identified that a large proportion of young people access the Leatherhead centre from the Ashtead wards and vice versa.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- The Go Karting session which was initially recommended to be disbanded will now continue as a partnership project. The county council will provide the equipment, buildings, insurance and lead member of staff and partnership funding will be sought for running costs and additional members of staff/volunteers expenses. This project will also be expanded to a district offer.
- The delivery table now reflects both face to face hours and the number of actual hours paid to staff for clarity purposes.
- A concern was expressed over the loss of specific targeted/issue based sessions within some centres. CYWS will retain a focus on these issues within our core offer and look to external organisations to enhance delivery within the open access sessions.
- Clarification was requested as to how many staff would work within each session. Whilst this is dependent on the session the expectation for an open access session would be a minimum of one leader in charge and two assistant youth workers.

Reigate & Banstead:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- Members of the public cited concern over the substantial reduction in youth work delivery at Banstead youth centre (YC).
- Members of the public wanted to see more links between Banstead YC and Phoenix YC.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- We are proposing to increase the youth work delivery at Banstead YC from the original 3 hours to 6 hours per week. In addition to this a further 6 hours youth work per week will be delivered by YMCA East Surrey.
- The CYWS recognises the good work of the young leader programmes at both Banstead YC and Phoenix YC. We will therefore develop a joint programme between the centres which we will look to implement in other youth centres in Reigate & Banstead.
- The youth and community worker based at Phoenix YC will line manage CYW staff at Banstead YC.

Runnymede:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was broad support for the service's decision to apply the resource allocation system and hub and spoke models to youth work delivery in Runnymede.
- The areas of identified needs were considered to be accurate and the correct locations to divide up the youth work resources across Runnymede.
- There was disappointment at the reduction in resources.

We were very pleased to have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the local community about our plans for community youth work in Runnymede. As a result of this, we will still be implementing our changes as planned with your support.

Spelthorne:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- A desire for a more equal distribution of sessions across the five centres.
- It was suggested that we should ensure there was a service provided to support young parents, specifically with finding employment.
- It was suggested that a young carers session was needed that young people from across the borough could access.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- We have highlighted the distribution of sessions across the five centres that are specific to the area and those that are borough wide programmes.
- The borough wide programmes will be located in the areas of highest need for that specific target group.
- There is a borough wide targeted session for young parents in which we will be able to address employment. There are also two 16-24 drop in sessions that could be accessed by young parents.
- We will be delivering a session for young carers as part of the borough wide programme. We will ensure that this takes place.

Surrey Heath:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was strong support for the services decision to apply the resource allocation system and hub and spoke models to youth work delivered in Surrey Heath.
- The areas of identified needs were considered to be accurate and the correct locations to divide up the youth work resources across Surrey Heath.
- There was disappointment at the reduction in resources in some centres across Surrey Heath.

We were very pleased to have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the local community about our plans for community youth work in Surrey Heath. As a result of this, we will still be implementing our changes as planned with your support.

Tandridge:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- Members of the public expressed concern over the withdrawal of neighbourhood local prevention provision from Hurst Green and whether this could be picked up by the Community Youth Work Service (CYWS).
- Members of the public also showed concern that some villages / communities would miss out on youth work opportunities such as in Warlingham and Lingfield.
- Members of the public also wanted to see more links with schools/schools work and local community events.

Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- We are proposing to continue to develop work with young people in Hurst Green through outreach work from the county council spoke in Oxted and where appropriate in conjunction with the local prevention provider.
- Work within the villages and communities will be more integrated with the local prevention provider to ensure we can respond to local issues that may arise that need a youth work intervention quickly whilst still maintaining a core offer in areas identified as high need.
- The CYWS will develop links with schools and attend key community events where possible.

Waverley:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was strong support for the services decision to apply the resource allocation system and hub and spoke models to youth work deliver in Waverley.

- The areas of identified needs were considered to be accurate and the correct locations to divide up the youth work resources across Waverley.
- There was disappointment at the reduction in resources in some centres across Waverley.

Over the last 10 weeks the service has been working with local partners to negotiate and secure external resources and partnerships to ensure the delivery of positive activities for young people in communities or centres where the service has relocated provision. Whilst we may not have always been able to fully address every concern raised, we have listened and will be making the following amendments in response to feedback:

- Three sessions per week have been secured for Haslemere Youth Centre through local voluntary community and faith sector partners and more is expected to be agreed before the changes take place.
- Cranleigh parish council has agreed to work with the Community Youth Work Service (CYWS) to explore future joint funding of the CYWS in Cranleigh. Both partners have agreed to work together to develop a new offer for young people in Cranleigh from January 2016.

Woking:

The key findings from the consultation were:

- There was strong support for the principles of allocating the available joint resources to the needs of young people and particularly to the communities across Woking borough that need it most.
- The areas identified for additional provision (Knaphill and Byfleet) were confirmed as areas in need of support.
- There was concern that there would be less hours of provision at Goldsworth Park. Although the number of evenings per week would remain at 3.

We were very pleased to have received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the local community about our plans for community youth work in Woking. As a result of this, we will still be implementing our changes as planned with your support.