



YOUTH OFFER PROGRAMME

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

REPORT 4/15

12 JANUARY 2015

The purpose of this paper is to report on the first quarter of the Town Council's Youth Offer Programme as the basis for Members to comment and advise as appropriate.

No. DETAIL

1) BACKGROUND

- a) The Isle of Wight Council's Island-wide Youth Service closed on 30 September and its new Youth Offer programme funded at the level of £400,000 a year until 31 March 2017 became effective on 1 October.
- b) The Town Council's successful application to that programme has provided £86,833 over that 2½ year period to develop of local youth opportunities through the activities of our three partner organisations for this purpose – Ventnor Skatepark, Ventnor Exchange and Ventnor Together's Café 34 – supported by two new staff appointments of Youth Opportunities Officer (20 hours a week) and Sessional Youth Worker (six hours a week).

2) FINANCIALS

- a) The allocations to partner organisations for the six months of 1 October 2014 – 31 March 2015 within the total allocation for that period of £17,366 are: Ventnor Skatepark: £2,000, Ventnor Exchange: £5,000 and Ventnor Together: £4,000 (including the salary costs for the Sessional Youth Worker).
- b) The allocations reflect the estimated costs of what each organisation felt it was able to offer the programme in terms of extending its activities.
- c) The first quarter grant payment of £8,683 was received on 20 October.
- d) Total spend on the programme in the first quarter has been £5,718, reflecting the fact the very short time between the award of the funding and the commencement of activities; the underspend will, of course, carry forward to the current quarter as activity volumes increase and the organisations have time to reclaim the related expenditures.
- e) Ventnor Town Council is the Accountable Body for the funding.

3) ACTIVITY

- a) It is good to be able to report that in spite of the limited timescales, significant activity has already taken place including:
 - o appointment and induction of both staff and their meeting of their first quarter activity targets;
 - o establishment of two additional evenings of Café 34 related youth activities;
 - o installation of Wifi at Café 34;
 - o delivery of two skate board training sessions by Ventnor Skatepark Committee; and
 - o delivery of 4 Young Creatives workshops by the Exchange.
- b) Two meetings of representatives of all the partners, chaired by the Mayor and attended by the Clerks, have already taken place and the next will be on Thursday 22 January.

4) CENTRAL SUPPORT

- a) The programme for all 13 schemes within the Youth Offer Programme has support from two central officers: one employed through Community Action Isle of Wight and the other by the Isle of Wight Council with a responsibility for Quality and Performance.
 - b) They have organised a network meeting with a focus on Monitoring and a major workshop on Safeguarding that have been well attended by those responsible for the Ventnor project.
-