

REPORT FROM: DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

TO: EXECUTIVE

DATE: 20TH JULY 2023

Report Author: Sarah Astin-Wood

Tel. No: 07976 683411

E-mail: Sarah.astin-wood@pendle.gov.uk

FOR INFORMATION

PENDLE YOUTH SERVICES

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To outline the position for youth service provision in Pendle, as requested at the May Executive meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

To note the position.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The report provides an update of current provision.

BACKGROUND

1. At the Executive meeting dated 25th May 2023, it was resolved that a report on the 'Provision of Youth Services' be brought back to the Executive, this is the said report.
2. Councils have a statutory duty to "secure, so far as is reasonably practicable, sufficient provision of educational and recreational leisure-time activities for young people" and to make sure young people have a say in the local offer. This is often referred to as the 'youth services duty'.
3. However, as Youth Services falls under 'Childrens Services' this is a County Council function and this responsibility rests with Lancashire County Council. Pendle Borough Council's role is to help the County Council in its statutory role and to facilitate the voluntary sector wherever possible and the report sets out the key provision across the Borough.

Lancashire County Council (LCC)

4. LCC are the main provider of youth services in Lancashire. Since 2011 their universal offer was all but wiped out with most youth centres not in use and limited alternative provision.
5. Targeted youth support has continued for those with identified need. Some detached youth work has continued in hot spot areas (see Appendix 1).
6. Since 2019 we have worked with the Children, Families and Wellbeing Service (CFWS) to provide consistent (subject to Covid) detached youth work in the North Valley area of Colne due to high demand and incident reporting. We have used Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) funding to support complementary voluntary sector support from Positive Action in the Community (PAC), Colne Youth Action Group (CYAG) and In Situ.
7. LCC are now outsourcing detached youth work and PAC is the provider in Pendle working jointly with the CFWS detached team.
8. They are also in the process of setting up one night a week of universal provision in Barnoldswick to help address town centre issues.
9. LCC also commission We Are With You in Lancashire, a confidential substance misuse service that supports young people under the age of 25 and their families who are experiencing problems with drugs or alcohol (see Appendix 1).

YES Hub

10. The YES Hub provides a bespoke service supporting 16 to 24 year olds into work, offering assessments of individual need and referrals to appropriate services, employability advice and guidance, and activities which support health and wellbeing. It is based at 39- 41 Scotland Road and is delivered on behalf of PBC by Active Lancashire. It is currently funded through the Nelson Town Deal (£420,000 up until Mar 2026). The service operates a detached youth work function, with an internal secondment within PAC for the YES Hub. It hosts a weekly youth club every Tuesday evening.

Fun Vibes, Active Lives – Holiday, Activities and Food (HAF) Programme

11. HAF provides holiday activities and food for eligible school aged children/ young people over the three main schools holidays (Easter, Summer and Christmas). We plan to expand the teen offer (Xchange Here!) this summer with Targeted Youth Service involved in delivering outreach sessions for 12-16 year olds. As well as the outreach sessions, young people will be able to access activities such as free swims, lazer zone at FUNDA LAND and paddleboarding. Previously, we've given out bowling and cinema vouchers but with the Targeted Youth Support involvement over the Summer, we're hoping we can provide a Pendle-based offer rather than the young people having to travel to Burnley. In-Situ involved in developing a central resource offer for all HAF providers, which includes film making workshops. This proved very popular with young people over Easter where HAF was delivered across 19 venues and there was HAF provision in all Pendle townships. We are hoping to replicate this over the Summer.
12. Our (mainly) **4-11 year olds** HAF providers are:
 - Pendle Leisure Trust (PLT), SportsCool, Smartypants Nursery, FUNDA, Stage Door, Harringtons Learning Centre, Play and Learn, Absolut Futbol, Community Arts by ZK, LightBeam Academy, Earnies, Bodies in Motion and Jam Codin.g

13. Our (mainly) **8-16 year olds** HAF providers are:

- Positive Action in the Community (PAC) and Colne Youth Action Group (CYAG).

Pendle Youth Forum

14. In various forms, the Youth Forum has been going in Pendle for nearly twenty years. There used to be separate ones for the main towns however they were combined when services began to be curtailed.
15. It is facilitated and chaired by Positive Action in the Community and works very much as a Forum where each of the agencies shares what they are doing at the time of the meeting. There is an element of horizon scanning and individual agencies take away actions however it is not an action driven group.
16. Current regulars include PAC, PBC, LCC CFWS (more strategic than operational), Yes Hub, Burnley FC in the Community and In Situ. The Police have promised to re-engage. CYAG and We are With You had been involved but have dropped away.
17. The Forum is currently looking at its governance arrangements to consider how it might become more operational and tackle current issues through channels such as the Youth Panel (see below). It will continue to feed into Pendle Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and will also link into the newly established Pendle Health and Wellbeing Partnership.
18. The Forum has recently carried out a mapping exercise, whereby all members were asked to provide details of their provision. The results of this are attached as Appendix 1 – please note, this is not an exhaustive list and shows only the results from those who did respond.

Pendle Youth Panel

19. This will be linked to but separate from the Youth Forum and act as a case management group for young people on the edge of the criminal justice system or otherwise a cause for concern.
20. It will work in a similar way to the Prevent and Deter Group which ran here until 2015. In terms of referrals in, the high schools will be key to its success. In terms of support options these are significantly more limited than when P&D was at its most effective.
21. It is a concern within Pendle and across Pennine that engagement with the Child and Youth Justice Service has been non-existent for a number of years at either a strategic or operation level but it is anticipated the Panel will be operation from September.

Pendle Leisure Trust (PLT)

22. PLT provide a wide variety of leisure activities for young people across their sites. A full list of junior activities, for 11-18 year olds, is detailed at Appendix 2. PLT also offer discounted membership for anyone child 8 years of age and over.

Voluntary Sector

23. **Positive Action in the Community (PAC)** is a longstanding provider of youth services in Pendle. It currently has a base at Waterside Youth Centre providing services five nights a week; some targeted and some universal.
24. As above it is currently the provider of detached youth work commissioned by LCC.

25. It also provides other youth related services: Safespace; the Lookout Project, Happi, HAF.
26. **Colne Youth Action Group (CYAG)** is more recently formed and is only operating in Colne. They have negotiated a lease on the former Byron Road Youth Centre with LCC. They provide mainly universal services in Colne and Trawden and are also a HAF provider. They have attracted significant funding and are well connected with the Colne BID and local businesses.
27. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has awarded £181,624 to CYAG. This is a mixture of capital and revenue funding. The purpose is to support a contribution to the renovation/fit out and operational costs, in order for Byron Road to be brought back into active working use as a youth facility. The funding is over the three financial years 2022/23 through to 2024/25. Further information can be found at Appendix 3.
28. CYAG and Colne Bid working with the Police have set up a working group on youth nuisance and responses.
29. **In Situ** is an arts organisation and not strictly youth focus although this area of work has increased in recent years.
30. They were part of the initial work in Colne in 2019 working with a group of young people on a film project.
31. Once the detached work in Colne was embedded, In Situ worked with the CFWS detached youth work team to provide a similar approach in Brierfield. This led to a Wednesday night group at The Garage and Friday night detached street work. This work was initially funded from the allocation from the PCC.
32. **Brierfield Action in the Community** have a longstanding youth service presence in Brierfield. They had six years of National Lottery funding which included youth work largely delivered by Participation Works (which provides the Space Bus in Burnley). Since then, their activity has been curtailed by lack of funding.
33. We are currently using the PCC funding to enable them to do some detached work around Brierfield and run a weekly session for young people in the area. This is time limited, however.
34. **Burnley FC in the Community** provides the Leisure Box at Northlight, runs sessions at the sports centre at Colne Primet High School and delivers the kicks programme at MUGAs in Pendle. They have detached youth workers and a service linked to criminal justice however it is not always clear how this is accessed or used.

IMPLICATIONS – please note that this report is for information purposes only and so there are no implications as such.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Pendle Youth Forum mapping exercise results
 Appendix 2 – Pendle Leisure Trust activities for 11-18 year olds
 Appendix 3 – CYAG Byron Road project (UKSPF funded)

LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A