

Youth Services Provision Survey Responses - Analysing Evidence Gathered

Youth Services Provision Review Working Party 05 February 2025

By	Charles Hungwe, Deputy Committee Services Manager
Cabinet Portfolio	Community
Key Decision	No
Decision classification	Unrestricted
Ward:	Thanet Wide

Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this cover report is to provide a framework for the Youth Services Review Working Party to discuss, analyse the results of the survey and come up with findings and recommendations to forward to the Overview & Scrutiny Panel.

Recommendation(s):

Members are being asked to agree findings and recommendations to forward to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.

1. Summary of Reasons

1.1 The purpose of this report is to consider information gathered through the survey questionnaires sent out to schools around Thanet, TDC officers and councillors and youth workers in Thanet. Members may also wish to identify additional works for this review if required leading to the production of the review report.

2. Background

2.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel set up the Youth Services Provision Review Working Party at its meeting on 15 October 2024 to investigate and report on the youth services provision in Thanet District.

1.2 It is hoped that from this review, the working party could come up with recommendations for consideration by the Panel and subsequently Cabinet.

3. Relevant Issues

- 3.1 A survey questionnaire was sent out to TDC officers, TDC councillors, young people and youth workers across the district. Responses to the questions are detailed in Annex 1 to the report.

4. Alternative Options

- 4.1 Members are being asked to pull together findings from the survey responses received to date. The working party would also need to then agree recommendations to forward to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
- 4.2 Members may wish to carry out further investigations if the responses received to date provide further lines of inquiry in order to come up with adequate information for the working party to form a view on findings and recommendations.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 There is no requirement to conduct a consultation on this matter. However as part of the investigations by the working party, if Members feel the need to engage the public they could conduct witnesses sessions as part of evidence gathering exercise before writing up their report.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Finance and Resources

- 6.1.1 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. However any funding by Thanet District Council for youth services in the district would mean additional expenditure by the Council. Funding sources would have to be identified in the budget, subsequent to the recommendations being adopted by the Council.

6.2 Legal and Constitutional

- 6.2.1 The role of scrutiny is set out in section 9F of the Local Government Act 2000. The council must also have regard to the statutory guidance on Overview and Scrutiny from the ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government when exercising its functions.

6.3 Council Policies and Priorities

- 6.3.1 This report relates to the following corporate priorities: -
- To create a thriving place
 - To work efficiently for you

6.4 Risk

- 6.4.1 There are risks arising directly from this report.

6.5 Climate Change and Biodiversity

6.5.1 There are no climate change and biodiversity implications arising directly from this report.

7. Equality, Equity and Diversity Implications

7.1 There are no equity, equality and diversity implications arising directly from this report. However the Council needs to retain a strong focus and understanding on issues of diversity amongst the local community and ensure service delivery matches these.

7.2 It was important to be aware of the Council's responsibility under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) and show evidence that due consideration has been given to the equalities impact that may be brought upon communities by the decisions made by Council.

8. Crime and Disorder Implications and Community impact

8.1 There are no crime and disorder implications and community impact arising directly from this report.

9. Subject History

9.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Panel identified a number of scrutiny topics in the 2024/25 municipal year. They prioritised these topics in order to tackle one review at a time. Any topics from the priority list that were not investigated in 2023/24 were brought forward to 2024/25 and agreed for inclusion in the work programme by the Panel.

Annexes

Annex 1 - Survey Questionnaire Responses

Background Papers

None

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Report Sign Off

Legal []

Finance []