

UPDATE ON YOUTH SERVICES

Committee name	Residents, Education and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee
Officer reporting	Paul Richards, Residents Services
Papers with report	Appendix 1, 2 & 3
Ward	All

HEADLINES

To provide the Committee with an update on the Council's provision for Youth across the Borough.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Committee notes the information presented within the report.

INTRODUCTION

1. Hillingdon Council delivers a wide range of services and events for young people in Hillingdon, including universal youth services led by Residents Services and targeted youth services led by Adults, Children & Young People Services. In addition, there are many voluntary sector and faith groups across the Borough that offer activities for children and young people, many of which the Council has supported in some way over the years, such as through the award of a capital grant for improvements to their buildings, or to purchase new equipment and / or through the day to day provision of services, such as the maintenance of sports pitches.
2. The Universal Youth Services offer includes the popular Fiesta summer programme as well as all year round engagement activities delivered from a network of Young People's Centres across the Borough. These include programmes for older primary age children and young people of secondary school age. A programme of activities delivered from Young People's Centres is also targeted at young people to support their transition into adulthood, where they can discuss concerns, seek confidential, impartial advice and take part in fun activities, which for some young people will be a diversion. In addition, there is a 'Transporter' youth bus delivering services across the Borough, delivering targeted services. These services complement the range of other services available in the Borough, such as sport and physical activity programmes, youth activities offered by faith organisations and uniform groups amongst others.

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3. The youth services the Council provides and those operating independently of the council deliver a range of life-long benefits and outcomes for those young people taking part, including:
 - Keep young people **healthy and active**
 - Enable young people to **develop and learn new skills**
 - Support young people to **play an active part in the community**
 - Keep young people **safe and well**
4. Over the last decade or so, the focus and interests of young people has evolved and their needs, social requirements and how they engage with the wider community has changed. Knife crime, bullying, peer pressure and the society that young people are growing up in means that what young people have to deal with today is vastly different even from a decade ago.

SETTING THE CONTEXT

5. The Council supports young people in the Borough between the ages of 8 – 19, and in some cases young people up to the age of 25 with additional needs with the provision of youth services. Support is provided through a mixture of direct service provision and delivery via voluntary sector partners and other partner groups.
6. Hillingdon's offer to young people is diverse and can be categorised into a number of key outcomes;

Keep young people **healthy and active**

- participating in physical activities and promoting personal health and wellbeing;
- offering support to Hillingdon families by providing structured, fun activities for children and young people;
- building confidence and raising self-esteem;

Enable young people to **develop and learn new skills**

- personal enrichment - trying new activities and gaining experiences which may not ordinarily have been available to the young person had they not taken part;
- gaining life skills to be a team player;

Support young people to **play an active part in the community**

- gaining a deeper appreciation of diverse communities and the world around them;
- making new friends;

Keep young people **safe and well**

- providing support and a place to discuss concerns (targeted youth services);
- being a place for young people to take part in fun events acting as a diversion for those young people at risk from participating in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB);

- having access to services to discuss concerns and signposting to support and advice (targeted youth services).
7. Hillingdon Council manages and maintains a wide range of sports and leisure facilities, including swimming pools, gyms, sports halls, athletic tracks, sports pitches, cycle tracks, tennis courts and indoor game courts. Youth and junior sessions across numerous sports and activities are offered, including swimming, exercise classes, junior gym classes, cricket and badminton classes. Participation in youth sports clubs is growing across the Borough, and Hillingdon provides facilities and favourable lease arrangements to a large number of youth football, rugby and cricket clubs.
 8. The Music Hub provides young people aged 5-18 with opportunities to learn musical instruments and work towards music qualifications. Hillingdon’s theatres provide a range of activities and classes for young people to learn about performance and life skills through drama and music. The Library Service caters for the needs of all age groups at each of its 17 branches, and runs additional clubs and activities specifically for young people, including homework clubs, reading groups, Saturday activity clubs, and the very successful Summer Reading Challenge. The Council also delivers the Duke of Edinburgh scheme to young people aged 14-25 across the Borough.
 9. Hillingdon provides facilities and favourable lease arrangements for a large number of uniform groups, and many organisations have benefitted from Chrysalis funding for improvement works to facilities and scout huts. The Borough is also home to various troops, including Scouts, Brownies and Cubs, Police Cadets, Air Cadets and Navy Cadets. The Council-run cycle track at Minet Country Park is home to the country’s largest children-only cycle club, and the cycling proficiency scheme ‘Bikeability’ is provided to young people through schools.
 10. The annual Fiesta programme delivers a range of summer activities from July to September for young people aged 5-19, and includes a variety of fun and educational courses and experiences. Additionally, Hillingdon’s annual Culture Bite festival provides specific events and activities for young people at its libraries, museums and theatres.
 11. There are over 100 faith venues in Hillingdon some of which offer youth activities of some sort for their worshipping communities. The following table provides an illustration of the activities that are on offer to young people from faith groups across the Borough (this list is not exhaustive).

Centre / Faith Group	Example of Activities
Emmanuel Church HA6 1AS, Northwood.	Eastbury Holiday Club, 9am – 12pm. Youth Group – Extatic Cell. Monday, 7pm. Reading, exploring faith, games, practical activities. 14 – 18 year olds. For those new to faith.

	Youth Group – Deeper Cell, Thursdays, 7.30pm, term time. Fun activities, discussions, exploring faith. For 14-18 year olds.
Ruislip Baptist Church HA4 8HR	Children’s Group Holiday Club. Held during the first full week of the Hillingdon school summer holidays. 7-11 year olds. Youth Group – Blaze – held on Tuesdays during term times. 14-18 year olds. Teaching Christianity, football, table football, pool, table tennis, playstation.
Adhya Shakti Mataji Temple (Hindu) – Uxbridge, UB8 2DX	Youth Group – Dhol Classes. Activities focusing on young people learning the drum. Held on Tuesdays, 7.30pm to 9pm, age group 7-18 year olds.
Hayes Muslim Centre, UB3 3NB	Scripture for children, including history, prayers, rituals. Held on weekday evenings during term time, 5pm to 7pm, ages 7 to 18 years old.
Hayes Town Chapel, UB3 2JP (Congregational)	Junior Club – term time, 7pm to 8.15pm, crafts, games, reading, singing, Wednesdays. Youth Club – term time, Fridays, 7.30pm to 10pm, secondary school ages. Activities include: games, football, pool, table tennis, reading, crafts, movies, organised trips e.g. pizza, bowling, golf.
St Matthew’s Parish Church, Yiewsley, UB7 7QH (Anglican)	Ignite Youth Club, Friday’s 6.30pm, youth band, discussions and debate, food, music.

12. Appendix 1 sets out a full range of activities available across the Borough for Young People. Appendix 2 provides a full list of the scouts, girl guides, boys brigade and girls brigade groups in operation across the Borough (71 in total).

UNIVERSAL YOUTH SERVICE (UYS)

13. The UYS forms part of this wider offer available to young people across the Borough, and includes a ‘buildings based’ service, operating from the Council’s seven Young People’s Centres (YPC).
14. The UYS is managed from within the Green Spaces, Sports & Culture Service in Residents Services. It is focussed on engaging and supporting young people and their families through offering a range of issue-based and competency-building activities.
15. It is an open-access or Tier 1 service for all young people aged 13-19, as well as those up to 25 years old with additional needs. The service also offers sessions for 8-12 year olds in

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some centres. The service is available to all the Borough's estimated 43,000 young people (aged 8-19 years). The centres are also used on a weekly basis by the Targeted Youth Programme and by some voluntary and community sector (VCO) organisations.

16. The centres are available across the Borough in the following locations (see appendix 3 for a map):

Young People's Centre	Location
Fountains Mill	High Street, Uxbridge
Charville	Kingshill Avenue, Hayes
Harlington	Pinkwell Lane, Hayes
Ruislip	Bury St, Ruislip
South Ruislip	Victoria Rd, South Ruislip
West Drayton	Rowlheys Place, West Drayton
Northwood	Hallowell Road, Northwood

MODEL, STAFFING & PROGRAMMES

17. The rationale for moving the universal youth element of the Youth Service in 2015 into Green Spaces, Sports & Culture can be summarised as bringing together Council services that were open-access and available to all. Synergies, particularly with those services which have a strong community focus such as sports development, public health promotion, adult community learning and libraries - were recognised, and it was felt that by locating them within the same management structure would result in a more integrated approach to health and wellbeing across Council's services, and more opportunities to improve services through collaboration.
18. The targeted element of the service remained within Children's Early Intervention & Prevention and was restructured to be a dedicated Targeted Service. The rationale for this was that, as part of the revised model for the provision of early intervention services, targeted programmes such as those delivered to young people, would perform a key role in supporting individuals with additional needs and their families, without the need for more costly social services interventions. Targeted preventative support in an early intervention setting would enable young people referred to the service by the universal youth workers, to receive 'step up' support. The service would also be well placed to receive 'step down' referrals from social workers as part of efforts to reduce social services interventions.
19. To assist in gaining a deeper understanding of the services, a study was undertaken of the UYS model and programmes over a 12 day period during September 2018. This analysis

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also included programmes of the targeted provisions delivered by Early Intervention and sessions provided from Young People’s Centres.

20. On a centre-wide basis, during a typical week there are 28 universal youth service sessions available to young people, totalling 84 hours. The majority of these sessions taking place in the afternoon (‘twilight’) and evenings Monday to Friday. These sessions consisted of six different programmes including Duke of Edinburgh, HACS (Hillingdon Autistic Care and Support) and Young Carers Programme.
21. The Targeted Programmes offered a total of 41 sessions to young people, totalling 397 hours, these sessions also ran throughout the day, afternoon and evenings Monday to Friday, and occasionally on a Saturday. These sessions consisted of eight different programmes including AIMS (Achievement through Individual Mentoring Support), Girls and Young Women’s Programme and Link Counselling Service.
22. The voluntary sector also delivered a range of programmes from Young People’s Centres during this study period, offering a total of 33 sessions to young people, totalling 129.5 hours. These sessions ran Monday to Sunday throughout the day, afternoon and evenings and sessions consisted of nine different programmes including MIND and Police Cadets.
23. The table below illustrates the number of sessions run at each centre, footfall and operating hours.

Table: Programmes and Attendance by YPC,

	UYS			Targeted			VCO		
	Hours	No of Sessions	Footfall	Hours	No of Sessions	Footfall	Hours	No of Sessions	Footfall
FOUNTAINS MILL YPC									
1 Week	9	3	-	141	17	-	7	2	-
2 Weeks	18	6	99	279	17	276	14	4	-
HARLINGTON YPC									
1 Week	9	3	-	6	2		7.25	2	-
2 Weeks	18	6	87	12	4	23	14.5	4	60
WEST DRAYTON YPC									
1 Week	6	2	-	9	3	-	38	6	-
2 Weeks	12	4	32	18	6	35	73	11	212

RUISLIP YPC									
1 Week	9	3	-	44	7	-	4.5	2	-
2 Weeks	18	6	107	88	14	106	6.5	3	-
SOUTH RUISLIP									
1 Week	6	2	-	0	0		6.25	4	-
2 Weeks	12	4	51	0	0	0	9.5	7	74
CHARVILLE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE									
1 Week	3	1	-	0	0		0	0	-
2 Weeks	6	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	0
NORTHWOOD YOUNG PEOPLE'S CENTRE									
1 Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	2	10
2 Weeks	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	4	20

24. The Young People's Centre with the highest level of activity and footfall was Fountains Mill, which comprised mainly of targeted programmes. Overall, the programme of Universal Youth Service activities delivered from Young People's Centres typically represented a relatively small part of the total hours available from each centre, with the maximum offer of just 9 hours per week for sessions.
25. In the experience of staff working in the Universal Youth Service, the UYS activities offered from the Young People's Centres tend to be aimed at specific groups such as children with disabilities through the 'Sparks' Club, and children on the autistic spectrum as part of HACs sessions, Moving to Women/Men and certain age groups. It is much more than a universal service, and in fact provides quite a targeted support to particular cohorts of children and young people.
26. Additionally, a number of VCO use the centres: Police Cadets; DASH; Young Carers; HACs; Time Training; Skills Hub; Table Tennis Club; Tots Soccer School.
27. Hire/rental income has not been pursued as a commercial opportunity. All organisations are using YPCs for free or nominal fees.

Capital Investment on wider youth offer

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28. As mentioned previously, the LBH Youth offer is far wider than the provision within the Youth Services team and significant capital investment has been made, and is planned to be made in leisure facilities, sports clubs and facilities for e.g. Scout and Guide groups. This investment is shown in the table below:

Capital Expenditure on Youth	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 Nov-19	Grand Total
Playgrounds / Outdoor Gyms	601,644	705,972	576,230	563,270	2,447,116
Scout Huts		18,192	115,000		133,192
Skate Parks	2,080		208,520		210,600
Guide Huts	14,381	369	82,300	235,264	332,314
Lido Pirate Ship		141,484			141,484
Cricket Clubs	66,129	72,134	24,831	27,702	190,796
Bessingby Football & Boxing Club		97,423	1,066,324	265,084	1,428,831
Sports & Leisure Facilities	38,540	23,976	166,752	43,064	272,332
Youth Centres	4,279	2,480			6,759
HOAC		11,664	711,490	49,483	772,637
Youth Provision Budget				1,125,000	1,125,000
Grand Total	727,053	1,073,694	2,951,447	2,308,867	7,061,061

29. In addition, the draft five year capital programme budget submitted to Cabinet in December 2019 includes a further £2,500k for Youth Provision. This is yet to be formally approved by Council in February 2020.

FIESTA PROGRAMME

30. Hillingdon's summer Fiesta programme is an open access universal provision delivering an annual activity programme for children and young people aged 7-19, and up to the age of 25 for those with special needs.
31. Now in its 15th year, the summer Fiesta programme offers a range of experience based activities to residents and its performance and delivery model offers a stark contrast to the offer from Young People's Centres at other times of the year.
32. The Fiesta programme offers a wide range of activities that cater for the needs and interests of all young people, and includes street dance, motor mechanics, film production,

self-defence, fashion design, climbing, kayaking, photography and a range of team-based sports including cricket, football and basketball.

33. Fiesta’s operating model is based on a peripatetic approach delivered at multiple sites across the Borough, predominantly from Council owned assets such as the Young People’s Centres, sports and leisure centres, golf courses and in parks and open spaces. Fiesta also utilises privately owned venues across the Borough, including schools, cricket clubs, Hillingdon Outdoor Activity Centre (HOAC), and Triplets Community Tennis Centre.
34. The majority of Fiesta programmes are indoor and hosted within / on LBH-owned premises. During the 2019 Fiesta programme, just under half of all activities (48.3%) were hosted and delivered from Hillingdon’s YPC, and a further 12.1% of activities hosted outdoors in Hillingdon’s parks and open spaces.
35. Attendance of Fiesta programmes amongst young people is high, and over the last three years, take-up has continued to increase. The Fiesta programme of summer 2019 offered 70 individual events and secured an occupancy rate of 90.2%. The majority of courses are booked quickly when they are first advertised, highlighting the ongoing popularity of the programme amongst young people and parents across the Borough.

Table: Fiesta Take Up 2016-19

Year	Available Spaces	Total Bookings	% of filled places
2016	1186	966	81%
2017	1301	1117	86%
2018	1182	1066	90%
2019*	1612	1383	86%

* 2019 was five weeks provision due to school holiday dates. In previous years we offered six weeks of provision

36. Fiesta is delivered by a mix of Hillingdon staff with the support of commissioned specialist coaches and trainers, as required. Young people make their own way to the venues where there will be LBH staff on arrival to accompany the young people through the programme. For example, two LBH employees were present at the courses held at HOAC and one employee present at the golf programmes.

Implications on related Council policies

There are no direct implications on related council policies arising from this report.

How this report benefits Hillingdon residents

A role of the Policy Overview Committees is to make recommendations on service changes and improvements to the Cabinet who are responsible for the Council's policy and direction.

Financial Implications

None at this stage.

Legal Implications

None at this stage.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL