

DEVELOPING A STRATEGY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS EXETER

CONTEXT:

EXETER aspires to be a *YOUNG PEOPLE FRIENDLY CITY*.

Young people deserve the best possible services wherever they live and whatever the wider economic, social and political context.

In times of severe economic restraint, the maximised allocation and use of resources, along with the development of consistent partnership commitments, will help achieve this.

A meaningful 'Youth Strategy' will consider the impact and contribution of all services which influence young people's lives, rather than a narrow group of services.

The Exeter Board agreed to set aside a sum of £5,000 to develop a Youth Strategy for the city at the last meeting on the 17 February 2016.

In addition Devon County Council Youth Service has made available £2,500.

AIM:

To develop a multi-agency strategy to respond to the needs of young people aged 10- 25 in Exeter City and its immediate surrounds.

Outcomes:

- The views and aspirations of young people in Exeter are heard and responded to
- Communities across Exeter are heard and responded to (Note: *The strategy should note the Exeter Community Forum community led Community Strategy. Ways of connecting the two strategies should be developed wherever possible.*)
- That organisations across the city collaborate and agree joint priorities for supporting the development of young people's services
- That joint action plans for meeting needs of young people are agreed and implemented

Proposed process:

- Establish a steering group of commissioners/partners and agree parameters – to be Chaired by Councillor Barry Parsons (DCC)
- DCC to commission appropriate Lead for the work
- Consultation with a wide range of young people in various Exeter communities, to identify their aspirations and needs
- Data analysis to review what statistics tell us about Exeter's youth population
- Consultation with delivery organisations including voluntary sector and specialist organisations to understand their priorities

- Map current provision for young people in Exeter within the agreed parameters of the strategy
- Steering group to review and refine priorities
- Lead to write draft strategy document for discussion with Steering Group and young people
- Present final report to stakeholders
- Stakeholders to agree action plans for priority areas.

Timescale

- April/May – DCC Commission Lead for project
- May - Initial meeting with commissioners and review of proposed process
- May – July: data analysis; consultation with young people (in partnership with youth organisations); consultation with partners/stakeholders; mapping exercise
- July: Steering Group to review findings from consultations and analysis and begin to shape priorities
- July – August: write draft strategy document
- September – consult with young people/stakeholders on draft
- October – November: write and present final report to the Steering Group

Roles

- Commissioned Lead: overall co-ordination; research; report writing; facilitating discussion groups as required
- Steering Group members: facilitating consultation in organisations and with young people; identifying relevant local partners; agreeing scope of the strategy; problem solving when required; arranging publication of strategy report if required.

Report Author:

Kevin Henman
 Head of Youth Service
 Devon County Council

and

Dawn Rivers
 Community Involvement Manager
 Exeter City Council