

CABINET

9 MAY 2017

FUTURE INTEGRATED YOUTH SUPPORT SERVICES (IYSS) DELIVERY

Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Andrew Mackness, Children's Services (Lead Member)
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Summary

This report provides an update on the future delivery model for Integrated Youth Support Services (IYSS) and proposes bringing delivery in-house.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1. The decision to reconfigure and or outsource executive functions like the Youth Service and Youth Justice Service is a matter for Cabinet.
- 1.2. The Cabinet is asked to agree the future delivery of Integrated Youth Support Services following the expiry of the current Medway Youth Trust (MYT) contract on 31 August 2017.

2. Background

- 2.1 On 20 December 2017, Cabinet agreed to:-
 - Approve the retention of Youth Services and the Youth Offending Team (YOT) within Children's Services.
 - The extension of the contract with Medway Youth Trust (MYT) to August 2019 at a reduced value of £300,000 per annum (decision no. 148/2016).
- 2.2 The Youth Service and YOT Services have been integrated into the Children's Services Division with a mandate to support early intervention and avoid longer term intensive intervention.
- 2.3 Negotiations commenced in December with MYT to provide the Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) service.

3. Proposal for IAG

3.1 As negotiations progressed between officers and MYT it was evident that the proposal to split IAG from the Youth and YOT services would not:

- Provide a single and coherent service to young people
- Provide value for money in the longer term due to the risk of duplication and additional management costs.

3.2 In the light of the above it is proposed to:

- Not to extend the contract with Medway Youth Trust (MYT) to August 2019 at a reduced to the value of £300,000k per annum and let the existing contract run until the end of its life.
- Bring the statutory element of IAG including the September Guarantee in-house from 1 September 2017 and integrate within the Youth and YOT Services.

4. Advice and Analysis

4.1 The Education Act 2011 placed the duty on LA Maintained Schools to secure access to IAG for their pupils whilst at the same time releasing their statutory duties to provide careers education and work-related learning. Many academies and all sixth form and further education colleges are subject to similar requirements through their funding agreements.

4.2 The Local Authority duties remain for the 'September Guarantee' to ensure all young people leaving school are offered a guaranteed place in learning (education, apprenticeship or training or employment opportunities which includes learning) by the end of September each year. Bringing this function in-house alongside the Youth and YOT services will ensure that we can target resources on these young people at risk of becoming 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEET).

Risk	Description	Action to avoid or mitigate risk
Budget implications	Savings identified by leaving IAG with MYT would not be realised	Officers will seek further efficiencies by bringing IAG in-house and integrating with Youth and YOT services
Budget implications	Non delivery of identified future savings	A robust implementation plan put in place
Reputational damage	The Council could suffer adverse reputational damage by not keeping IAG with MYT	This proposal enables an integrated service which will provide a coherent offer to young people

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The new IAG service delivered by MYT at a value of £300,000 per annum had been anticipated to run from 1 April 2017. By letting the existing contract run until its end date of 31 August 2017 and bringing the service back in house from 1 September 2017, it will create a budget pressure of £415,000. Officers will mitigate this budget risk by seeking additional efficiencies within IAG and

Youth Services as well as finding more savings in Early Years and School Services.

6. Legal Implications

- 6.1 Medway Council has statutory duties to provide IAG under the 'September Guarantee' as part of their broader participation duty under section 68 of Education and Skills Act 2008 and in accordance with the Statutory Guidance entitled "Participation of young people in education, employment or training" issued in September 2016 by the Department of Education.

7 Recommendations

- 7.1 Cabinet is asked to agree that the Medway Youth Trust (MYT) contract for the provision of the Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) Service continues until its expiry on 31 August 2017.
- 7.2 Cabinet is asked to agree to bring the Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) element in-house and integrating it with Youth and Youth Offending Team (YOT) services from 1 September 2017.
- 7.3 Cabinet is asked to note that the reconfiguration of services to enable delivery and make further cost efficiencies will be undertaken by the Director of Children and Adults Services, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Children's Services (Lead Member).

8. Suggested Reasons for Decisions

- 8.1 A more coherent service for young people and greater efficiencies will be achieved by bringing the Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) service in-house.

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Appendices

None

Background papers:

None