



Briefing on the Youth Project

The Youth Project carried out a [consultation](#) with stakeholders in June and July 2008. The findings highlighted that:

- a) there are a broad range of universal provisions in place for young people delivered by a range of agencies and
- b) the YDS is in a unique position to play an increased role in delivering targeted provision to create positive outcomes for vulnerable young people, aged 13 to 19 with appropriate programmes in place for 11 to 12 year olds.

These findings, combined with the need to develop a co-ordinated response to the findings of the Joint Area Review, informed the reorganisation of the Families Service and the formation of a new service under a new post, Head of Services for Young People. The new service brings together the Youth Development Service (YDS), the Youth Justice Service (YJS), Connexions and a range of inclusion services.

On 21 October the Youth Project took recommendations to Executive. Executive were asked to approve the creation of the new service. More specific recommendations for the new service include:

- The development of vision for Services for Young People.
- Review ways of involving young people in the shaping of the future YDS service.
- Ensuring that the full 'offer' of universal and targeted services for young people in Surrey is mapped, continuously updated and made available to young people, and other interested parties, in an accessible and relevant format.
- Further development of targeted services for young people
- Commissioning of universal services for young people.
- Ensuring access to careers and education advice
- Ensuring young people excluded from formal education have their needs met
- Ensuring that all four services work together to reduce entry to the youth justice system and provide effectively for those within the system
- That the direction of travel for the YDS is towards more targeted work.

Developing partnership working

The Children and Young People's Commissioning Partnership can help to focus efforts around developing improved partnership working to:

- 1) Map and communicate the offer and advertise positive activities.
- 2) Align resources to joint priority areas

Next steps

- Development of an SCC service plan for the new Services for Young People focusing on priority areas for 09/10 and identifying longer term priority areas.
- Development of Advertising Positive Activities website by March 2009.
- Engagement of partner organisations in supporting targeted services.
- Exploring what youth provision could look like in the medium and longer term

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