Further to your Information request FOI63929 please find your questions and our responses below:

I would be grateful if you could let me know:
a. What cash and % change in funding are you planning for between 2011/12 and 2012/13 for?

Response: None.

Youth work?

Youth Services?

Connexions?

Response: This Service is now delivered in house by the Directions Team, providing a more targeted service to young people in schools who are at risk of becoming NEET or offering intensive support to those who are already NEET.

Will this involve a reduction in staffing levels and if so, what FTE reduction do you envisage?

Response: -3%
There is a small reduction planned in staffing levels in 12/13.

b. What changes in funding have you made in respect of provision for young people in the voluntary sector (via commissioning or your grants programme) between 2010/11, 2011/12 and 2012/14?

Response: None

c. were any services or facilities for young people closed or withdrawn entirely in 2011/12? Are you anticipating the closure/ withdrawal of any youth provision in 2012/13?

Response: No

d. Please tell me how has your Las spending on the services and activities covered by the early intervention grant changed in the last 3 years and how much do you plan to spend next year (12-13).

Response: The grant provides support for a range of services, including early years, short breaks for disabled children, children’s centres, education for disadvantaged two year olds, family support services, and services for families and young people, but is not limited to these areas. The increase in grant in 2012 / 13 compared with 2011 / 12 mainly reflects the increased LA responsibilities in relation to the free entitlement for disadvantaged two year olds.

2011/12: Grant: £4,838,000 / Spend: £16,699,000
2012/13: Grant £5,319,000 / Budget: £15,120,000
In respect of the youth opportunity fund, Positive activities for young people programme and Children’s fund

1. How much was spent in 2009 – 10, 2010-11 and 2011 -12?

Response: Youth Opportunity Fund: 2009 – 10 / £75K  
2010 – 11 / £75k un ring fenced  
2011 – 12 / No funding received.  
2012 – 13 / None

Positive Activities for YP: 2009 – 10 / £54k  
2010 – 11 / £46k  
2011 – 12 / £33k  
2012 – 13 / £30K

Children’s Fund: 2009 – 10 / £150,832.64  
2010 - 11 / £184,022.04  
2011 – 12 / £ 153,277.95  
2012/13 £157,017.00

2. What is the equivalent projected expenditure for 2012/13?

Response: See above

3. How many young people accessed these services in each year, and how many are projected to access equivalent services in 2012/13?

Response: Youth Service: 
2009 – 10 / No data available due to change of reporting system  
2010 – 11 / 1769 Individual 13 – 19yrs attendance 14,035  
2011 – 12 / 1786 Individual 13 – 19yrs attendance 14,914 / 8734 attendance at activities for 8 – 12yrs (New 2011)

4. Can you please summarise the main impacts of the changes in funding, e.g. levels of service, outcomes achieved, and describe any mitigating action you have taken to minimise the impact?

Response: There has been a reduction in Management overheads and an increase in targeted youth support to young people.  
As a result of the above there has been an increase in front line delivery and existing levels of service have been maintained resulting in an increase in positive outcomes achieved for young people.

5. Where your LA is continuing the work of the grant, but perhaps from a different budget or with a different title please show the actual expenditure and FTEs in each year for the service or activity that was covered by the actual grant in 2009 – 10?

Response: Please clarify which grant this refers to?
I would also like to receive copies of any relevant reports on youth services which from the last year, which set out your local authority’s, approach to future provision.

Response: Copy of recent report to RBWM Overview and Scrutiny Panel attached.

This concludes your request FOI63929.

If you require translation of the information you have been sent please do not hesitate the contact us.

If you are unhappy with the information we have provided in response to your request please write to:

Information Management Team Manager
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Town Hall, St Ives Road
Maidenhead
SL6 1RF

or send an e-mail to martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk

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We are keen to hear about your experience with the Information Management Team here at the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and look forward to receiving any comments you have about the way your information request was processed.

Please send any feedback to the Information Management Team Manager either by e-mail martin.tubbs@rbwm.gov.uk or in writing to the address above.

Yours sincerely

Chris Daniels
Information Management Officer
Information Management Team
Operations Directorate
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead
Town Hall, St Ives Road
Maidenhead SL6 1RF
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information | NO – Part I
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Title | Youth Service Progress and Review Update
Responsible Officer(s) | David Scott, Head of Services for Families and Young People, 01628 79 6748
Contact officer, job title and phone number | Daniel Houston, Youth Service Manager 01628 79 6641
Member reporting | Cllr Mrs Quick
For Consideration By | Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel
Date to be Considered | 25 January 2012
Implementation Date if Not Called In | N/A
Affected Wards | All
Keywords/Index | Youth Service Review

Report Summary

1. This report outlines details and provides a progress update to Members of the Children’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel on changes made within the RBWM Youth Service, since an external review of the service in July 2008 (and the subsequent reports to Cabinet in November 20008), and the subsequent update reports provided to the Panel in September 2009 and October 2010.

2. The Royal Borough is committed to increasing the use of community facilities, and improving services for young people so that they are able to participate in a broad range of positive community-based activities, that will help them to develop as responsible young citizens. The improvement in the Youth Service forms an important part of this commitment.
If recommendations are adopted how will residents benefit?

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<th>Dates by which they can expect to notice a difference</th>
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<td>There is a broader range of positive recreational and educational activities for young people to participate in, and Youth centres are open longer and more often. The programme of youth work includes a mix of activities that offer universal and targeted programmes to engage young people from across the Borough who may be at risk of exclusion or becoming involved in anti-social behaviour. There is increased work with Schools and young people to enhance the engagement and involvement of young people in the development of the service.</td>
<td>Changes have been introduced since the previous progress review was considered, and further changes have been implemented in 2011, and are ongoing.</td>
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1. Details of Recommendations

   a. Members are asked to note the report on the progress made in the Youth Service and the significant progress in the development of partnership working.

   b. Members are asked to note the success of Summer Programme 2011 and the further ongoing development of the service.

2. Reasons for Recommendation and Options Considered

Background

2.1 Cabinet received a report at the meeting held in November 2008, which followed an external review of the service undertaken earlier in that year. Since that report to Cabinet a number of areas of development have been progressed in order to improve the Youth Service and bring about the changes approved by Members at that time. The Children’s Services Overview and Scrutiny Panel requested that a progress report be provided to give an update on the actions taken to date and the plans that have been put in place to help secure continued improvement in the Youth Service.

The report to Cabinet following the 2008 Review identified a number of improvements and four key actions which were:

   - Development of a Youth Strategy – this was completed in early 2009.

   - Consult with staff and restructure the service to meet current priorities – Phase 1 of this was completed in February 2010 and Phase 2 was completed in July 2011. These changes have refocused resources on greater front line service delivery and few management posts.

   - An joint Member – Officer working group be established to consider future working arrangements for Local Management Committees – the initial review did not identify and significant opportunities for changes in Local management Committees and subsequent management focus has been on implementing
other areas of improvement in the revised service.

- A revised focus on the delivery of Outdoor Education Programme in partnership with the voluntary sector – the OEP has been revised to link closely with the holiday programmes and schools based programmes, and to maximise income opportunities whilst maintaining targeted work to engage and offer young people accredited outcomes and opportunities for positive activities and utilise RBWM assets fully.

In addition to these specific improvements a number of further points were highlighted which included:

- Increasing the opening times and numbers of sessions delivered from them.
- Increasing the targeted work programme to engage more young people
- Develop stronger links with schools to support effective engagement of young people.
- Develop the Youth Council into an effective forum for Young Peoples views and priorities.
- Address low staff morale and recruit to the high number of vacant posts and increase the shared vision for the service.
- Increase supervision and professional development of staff.

2.1.1 **Team Management:** In 2011 a second phase of the senior management restructure in the Youth Service, confirmed the need to focus resources on front line delivery. A revised structure was proposed to support increased service cohesion, and the post of ‘Projects and Programme Co-ordinator’ was created to replace two existing senior management posts, (Targeted Youth Support Manager and Area Team Leader). A recruitment and selection process resulted in an appointment being made with effect from September 2011. Significant progress in improving the quality and quantity of work being delivered by the Youth Worker team has resulted, these are outlined in more detail below.

2.1.2 The 2011 changes also saw the re-introduction of a new part time area Youth Worker to cover work in the Datchet and Eton Wick areas. This had an immediate impact and seen a significant increase in the numbers of young people attending youth club sessions in these areas and has resulted in the Youth Service re-engaging with the local traveller community which has enabled us to deliver a variety of targeted programmes specific to their needs.

Further changes in the Youth Service delivery have been progressed that the ongoing commitment of the Administration to support extension of the Borough’s youth services to a wider community and provide more sessions at youth centres and increased work with other community organisations working in youth provision. A number of these are outlined below.

2.1.3 **The Learning Village / Tune In:** This programme started in September 2011 and is delivered in partnership with the Pupil Referral Units at Brocket and St Edmunds House on Tuesdays and Fridays during the school term. The programme is delivered at Windsor Youth and Community Centre and is supported by Youth Workers and the
Outdoor Education Programme team.

The programme is designed to provide excluded pupils with opportunities to develop skills and capacity to better manage their behaviour and to overcome barriers to learning and participation at mainstream schools, using recreational and educational group work and individual work to maximise the learner's choices, to enable them to make informed decisions and better choices for their future.

Pupils take part in a comprehensive and intensive programme of experiential learning in self management within a creative, challenging and supportive environment in which to develop positive and trusting relationships, self – esteem and confidence through personal awareness, self management and by learning personal and interpersonal skills.

2.1.4 Inspire Programme: A pilot project delivered in the first phase by the Youth Worker based in the Manor Youth Centre, Dedworth and in conjunction with the Windsor Police Community Youth Pastor, the programme is designed to engage disaffected young people, build relationships with them that promote positive life choices.

The initial programme targeted young people living in the Dedworth area and saw some very positive results (some of which were reported in the local press before Christmas). The second phase of this pilot will enable young people to be referred to the programme by the Youth Offending Team, the Police and the Directions team. With previous funding for the Police Pastoral Worker coming to an end at the end of January 2012, the Youth Service plans to continue to build on the success of the previous programme by continuing to provide 2 further programmes in partnership with a local voluntary organisation in February and March this year, whilst longer term options are considered and evaluated.

2.1.5 Working in Schools: To address the historic under developed engagement with Schools, Youth Workers have been developing visits to local schools to promote both Youth Club activity and other services. Recent programmes have seen Youth Workers positively engage and work with groups of young people within the school environment in the delivery of a series of workshops which have included:

- Dealing with anger management issues.
- Dealing with Low Self Esteem
- Bullying Intervention Workshops

These workshops have been very effective in dealing with issues that affect many young people and that could be a barrier to their effective learning.

Schools include: Desborough, Newlands, Altwood and Furze Platt.

2.1.6 Duke of Edinburgh Award: At the Annual awards ceremony held in November 2011, 91 Young people were presented with Bronze, Silver and Gold awards by His Worshipful the Mayor of Windsor and Maidenhead. This year’s presentation evening gave the audience an insight into how accessible the award has become with an eclectic mix of young people representing schools and youth groups from across the borough. The evening finale was a musical performance by two young men from the 4 Marlow Rd Youth Club who had recently completed the skill section of the award, and utilised the Music Pod now available for digital music and recordings to be compiled.
There are currently 488 Young People currently participating in the Award scheme within groups and schools in RBWM, these include: Bronze 377, Silver 65, Gold 46.

Within these 488, the Youth Service itself currently has 74 young people actively participating at various levels in the award scheme, this represents a significant increase in the number of young people accessing the award through the Youth Service than there has been the case in recent years, with the very exciting addition of 2 Gold groups this year who will have the opportunity to participate in a unique and exciting expedition to Sweden in August this year (funded by the young peoples' own fund raising efforts).

The Outdoor Education Project: 16 Gold, 16 Silver and 16 Bronze.
Windsor Youth Centre: 7 Bronze
Pinkneys Green Youth Centre: 5 Bronze
Charters Youth Centre: 7 Bronze
Marlow Rd Youth Centre: 7 Bronze.

2.1.7 **Young People Volunteering Opportunities:** The Youth Service recognises the importance of young people shaping their own lives and being positive influences in the lives of their peers and being positive role models for younger members of the community.

There are currently a large number of young people volunteering at various projects throughout the borough, these include:

- 10 with the Youth Service Get Active Rangers (see below for details)
- 2 at the Learning Disability and Difficulties Youth club in Debworth
- 3 at 4 Marlow Rd Youth Club
- 15 at Charters Youth Club and Activities
- 40 Volunteering at various projects within their communities through the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme.

2.1.8 **Get Active Rangers (Early Engagement):** Over the last year the number of sessions delivered by the Get Active Rangers has grown to 11 weekly sessions, targeting and developing young people aged 8 – 13yrs through a programme of early intervention work which includes Healthy Eating, Exercise and life skills. The programme has also seen the introduction of the ASDAN ‘Stepping Stones’ programme.

Stepping Stones is an accreditation programme for children that can be used in a variety of settings, with the main focus being on the development of skills through activities.

The Get Active Rangers also deliver a very comprehensive range of activities for 8 – 13 yr olds during all school holiday periods. Attendance at Get Active Ranger activities in 2011/12 to date is in excess of 4,000, and is expected to exceed 5000 by the end of March.

2.1.9 **Cyber Cafes:** The installation and updating of computers in all Youth and Community centres is now complete with all young people having controlled access to the internet within their centres. These are used for both educational and recreational use and have proved to be invaluable in the development of sessions with the Youth centres. The addition of this resource has seen the recent introduction of Information, Advice and Guidance sessions for young people who are NEET
delivered jointly within the Youth Centres by the Directions team and the Youth Workers.

2.1.10 **Outdoor Education Project:** OEP have continued to offer a diverse and full programme in 2011. The programme was extended to reach new groups including both targeted & those with specific outcome requirements. New projects have been developed to meet these needs such as the outdoor element of the Learning Village (BTEC sports modules, climbing awards, D of E sections) & Charters Young Apprentices (BTEC Sports modules & climbing awards). A new Youth Service climbing wall was built at Windsor Youth Centre (funded by the Local Management Committee). This is delivering exciting new opportunities for young people and volunteers. New activities were added such as the ‘Climb a Mountain Day’ which was delivered as part of the 13-19s Summer programme. Young mountaineers included those from the Youth Inclusion Support Programme (YISP) team and individuals from across RBWM. A Gold D of E group is back in the programme and this includes an innovative new activity in the form of a log-rafting expedition. Demand for D of E has been very high from residents this year and we have endeavoured to meet this need by doubling capacity and creating 6 new groups. New volunteers have been recruited to assist with this. OEP have continued to deliver a bumper programme to schools and youth groups from across the borough. The vast majority of this delivery takes place at the ever-popular canoe base at Hurley and high ropes course at BCA. The contact age range was extended to include all year groups and demand was high. New schools were reached such as Homer, Desborough, Alwyn & Holy Trinity (Sunningdale). Youth groups included Young Carers, T2, Looked After Children, Healthy Minds, Furze Platt Alternative Curriculum, CATS and Brocket. Community groups included Girls Allowed, SHARE & leadership training. Total attendance figures (per person per session) have already exceeded the previous year, as have accredited learning outcomes for the 13-19 age group

2.1.11 **Youth Council:** The Youth Council is now well established with places for young people, representing a number of schools and youth groups from across the borough. The numbers of young people on the council reduced in September 2011 due to a number of representatives leaving the area to attend university. Plans are in place to recruit more representatives from Youth Clubs and traditionally unrepresented youth groups within RBWM.

Current Groups Represented are:

- Windsor Girls School
- Windsor Boys School
- Claire’s Court School
- Furze Platt School
- Berkshire Collage of Agriculture
- Broom Farm Estate
- Young Carers x 2
- Children in Care
- East Berkshire College x 2
- Royal British Legion
- Disabled Youth Council x 2
- Independent
2.1.12 **Summer 2011:** Following a very successful fund raising campaign which started in January 2011, £22,000 of external funding was secured from local businesses and other funding sources. This enabled the service to deliver a very comprehensive programme of activities to Young People aged 8 -19 that were both affordable and accessible. All activities were full to capacity with additional sessions added to meet demand. Feedback from parents was 100% positive on all aspects of the delivery from the booking process through to service delivery. A detailed report on the programme as a whole is available, and copies will be available at the meeting, or for review in advance from Democratic Services for Members to review, which demonstrates the wide variety of activities offered and the outcomes achieved from this years comprehensive programme.

Planning has already begun for the 2012 programme. Comments from parents were very positive and included quotes such as “An excellent Youth Service and I will definitely be recommending your services to my friends” and “We only came for an hour on Monday and ended up staying for four hours each day!”

2.1.13 **Improvement and Refurbishments:** in addition to the replacement of ICT equipment outlined in 3.2.9 above, a number of centres have been refurbished in 2011/12, these include Pinkneys Green, Alma Road, The Manor, Charters and Old Windsor Centres. This has enabled more flexible and attractive spaces to be offered which has increased demand.

3. **Financial Details**

a) **Financial Impact on the Budget**

**Capital**

3.1.1 There are two specific Capital projects within the current RBWM Capital programme both are fully funded from S106 Developer Contributions. These have enabled the improvements to the ICT facilities, and the improvement to Youth Centres and equipment to be made, as described earlier in the report.

**Revenue**

3.1.2 The revenue costs of the service are set out in detail on page 37 of the Budget Book 2011/12. Included in the £1,263K net cost is the provision of £441K for the provision of Directions Service, RBWM’s Information Advice and Guidance targeted service introduced following the ending of the former Connexions Berkshire service. (This report has not included reference to this discreet service set up and introduced in April 2011).

3.1.3 Local management committee raise and fund a number of activities and contribute towards supplementary programmes which are integrated into the RBWM Youth Service offer. The income is raised by the letting of facilities to other community groups and users who can book facilities when not in use by the Youth Service. This is in line with the policy to maximise the use of facilities by the wider community.

b) **Financial Background**

The increased programme of the current youth service has been provided within a reduced net budget as a result of efficiency improvements and a refocusing of resources on front line staffing and reduced management costs. A part of the significant reduction in the 2011/12 Budget shown, (compared to 2010/11) reflects
the reduction in Area Based Grants that was introduced by the Coalition Government in June 2011 as part of their Emergency National Budget. This effect has been fully reflected in the 2011/12 Net Budget shown.

4. Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this progress report.

5. Value for money

The net cost of the Youth Service has been reduced in 2011/12 as a result of refocusing resources on front line delivery and reducing management costs, as outlined above. There is a continued drive to maximise the income generated by centres and working with the Local Management Committees to use this income to fund activities and equipment. The new indoor climbing wall at Alma Road Centre in Windsor, was funded by the centre’s local management committee funds. This facility was opened in 2011.

6. Sustainability Impact Appraisal

Not Applicable to this progress report.

8. Risk Assessment

Not Applicable to this progress report.

9. Links to Strategic Objectives

The work of the Youth Services contributes significantly to a number of the Strategic Priorities of the 2011-14 Partnership Plan for Children and Young People. The work programmes and activities are included in the five key priorities and the associated action plans.

10. Equalities, Human Rights and Community Cohesion

This report is for information only and it has therefore not included an EQIA.

11. Staffing Workforce, and accommodation implications

The number of vacancies in part time staff posts has been reduced significantly, induction and supervision arrangements have been improved, to ensure all staff have a much clearer understanding of their roles and the service outcomes. This work is ongoing and the revised structure introduced in September 2011 was identified and implemented to support this work.

12. Property and Assets

Not Applicable to this progress report.

13. Any other implications

Not Applicable to this progress report.

14. Consultation

The Youth Council have been asked for feedback on the progress and current status
of the Youth Service and a verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

15. **Timetable for implementation**

Not Applicable to this progress report.

16. **Appendices**

A number of documents will be available for Members form Democratic Services and at the meeting to supplement the details included in the body of the report. These include leaflets and summary reports such as the Summer 2011 Programme, a comprehensive report which will be used to illustrate the outcomes from the programme to attract further potential external sponsors for the 2012 programme.

17. **Background Information**

Included in the body of the report.

18. **Consultation (Mandatory)**

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<tr>
<td>Cllr Mrs Quick</td>
<td>Lead Member for Children’s Services</td>
<td>16 Jan 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cliff Turner</td>
<td>Director of Children’s Services</td>
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Background Papers: