

Technical Appendix 5: YC Hertfordshire

1.0 Service Overview

- 1.2 The Education and Inspections Act 2006, Part 1, Section 6: Education Act 1996, Section 507B is the legislation which guides the Local Authority (LA). It states LAs have a *“responsibility to ensure young people have access to sufficient educational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being and personal and social development, and sufficient facilities for such activities; that activities are publicised; and that young people are placed at the heart of decision making regarding the youth work / positive activity provision.”*
- 1.3 To clarify the Government’s expectations of LAs the Department of Education published the ‘Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People’s Well-Being (June 2012)’. The guidance states LAs should provide *“young people with the positive, preventative and early help they need to improve their well-being”, “Youth work and youth workers can contribute to meeting the needs of the young people and reduce demand for more specialist services”* and highlights the importance of personal and social development which enables young people to *“build the capabilities they need for learning, work and the transition to adulthood.*
- 1.4 YC Hertfordshire provides youth work projects and programmes, information, advice, guidance, work-related learning, outdoor education and one-to-one support for young people up to the age of 19 and up to 25 for identified vulnerable young adults including those with learning disabilities.
- 1.5 YC Hertfordshire supports young people by providing high quality informal education opportunities to promote their personal and social development, enabling them to make informed decisions; have a place in their community; and ultimately, to reach their potential and make a successful transition to adulthood. This enables young people to:
- Make good decisions based on the information which is available to them, thereby avoiding risky behaviour;
 - Be confident that they can present their views including those of others and influence decisions;
 - Develop resilience by knowing how they can help themselves and others;
 - Recognise when they need support and where they can go to access it;
 - Be able to recognise and develop healthy relationships thereby being less vulnerable to criminal exploitation; and
 - Develop a sense of purpose and self-belief and recognise what they contribute to society thus ensuring a sense of emotional wellbeing and positive mental health.
- 1.6 All YC Hertfordshire youth work is delivered through planned curriculum programmes which are based on identified need resulting in recordable personal and social development outcomes. Needs are identified in a variety of ways: through an ongoing planning and evaluation process; ongoing consultation with young people;

discussions with partners, Elected Members and district/ borough Youth Strategy Groups. Outcomes are identified, and a programme of work designed and delivered.

- 1.7 Delivery can be through a variety of media, depending on the needs and interests of the young people, such as sports, music, drama, art, peer mentoring, outdoor education etc. Outcomes are identified and will be linked to at least one of the curriculum areas: substance misuse, smoking, alcohol, sexual health, relationships, emotional wellbeing, child sexual exploitation, youth engagement, preparation for education, training or work, youth crime and personal safety, equality, diversity and culture, health and fitness, resilience, exploring identity, and independent living skills.
- 1.8 YC Hertfordshire adopts a targeted approach to those most vulnerable and those at risk, while engaging as many young people from the wider community as possible in the informal education and prevention agenda. Any additional users resulting from new development will increase the pressure on facilities within the county, thereby limiting service provision and affecting their usability and attractiveness to young people.

2.0 Assessing need and calculating demand

- 2.1 In order to ensure young people have access to high quality youth work projects where they can learn a variety of skills, ideally all main young people's centres should have the following resources:
- Large multi-purpose room that can be used for sports, drama and events.
 - A medium size meeting room that can be used to deliver specific training and group work sessions.
 - A medium size room in order to deliver art and be a creative space.
 - A couple of small one-to-one rooms for counselling, confidential conversations and to deliver provision such as condom distribution.
 - Life skills training kitchen where young people can learn independent living skills.
 - IT suite where young people can complete CVs, find out information, utilise more specialist media packages etc.
 - An informal area where young people feel relaxed and comfortable so that they can share their concerns.
 - For the larger centres the possibility for a music and media suite.
- 2.2 Given the varied nature of the premises in which YC Hertfordshire operates, centres evolve over time. This enables YC Hertfordshire to develop projects using a step-wise approach based on the identified needs of the young people.
- 2.3 YC Hertfordshire also offers Access Points where possible, to provide information, advice and guidance on a range of subjects. Detached and Outreach work is also a valued mode of delivery of services, where members of the team go and work with young people in areas where they congregate within the community. Specialist projects may also evolve where there is an interest.
- 2.4 Planning obligations towards youth services are assessed using the Hertfordshire County Council Demographic Model which forecasts the number of people able to

access youth services likely to emerge from different types, sizes and tenures of dwellings. Details are available alongside this Guide.

- 2.5 Growth in the number of young people aged 11 to 19 years (the core age group) in a community will require increased resources to enable equal access to those activities. This could take the form of new equipment and/or learning materials and/or improvements to the property to accommodate more young people or offer a wider range of activities.
- 2.6 Additional staff will be required to manage these activities and to maintain a safe and proportionate staff-to-young-people ratio. Start-up funding for the first two years allows the County Council the opportunity to develop working relationships with local partners and to develop strategies to sustain and ensure the future life of projects.
- 2.7 Examples of the resource requirements for increases in demand are currently:
- Increase of 10 to 15 young people - £4,400 per project pa for start-up costs - based on 1 additional member of staff to support current activities for 1 session per week, all year.
 - Increase of 15+ young people - £17,400 per project pa for start-up costs - based on 4 additional staff offering 1 new session per week, all year.
- 2.8 Taking the lower figure, this means that the funding required to cover staffing costs per user per annum equates to £293 (based on £4,400/15) and accordingly staffing costs to cover the 2-year set up period would be £586 (£293 x 2) per additional user.
- 2.9 The Pioneer Young People’s Centre proposal in St Albans is used as a model of future youth provision in Hertfordshire. The intention is to provide a substantial centre of 1,480m², offering a range of activities and serving 11,040 potential users. The centre may be supplemented with detached or mobile provision at a later date. For this, new build costs are expected to be £2,818 per m². This equates to spending £377.78 per person. Thus, a new build with start-up staffing costs: £377.78 + £586 = £963.78 per user.
- 2.10 In circumstances where it can be evidenced that the cost to expand or redevelop a site is in excess of S106 funds to be achieved through the application of these charges, such as might be the case for sites located on brownfield sites, on constrained sites, or sites with planning limitations e.g. located on a flood plain, then a proportionate bespoke cost of providing the new site or expanding the existing site and/or purchasing additional land to do so may be sought from the developer.
- 2.11 An indication of estimated costs is provided in the tables below.

Project to increase resource requirements (£586 per user):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£71	£228	£341	£381	£85	£258	£246	£268

Project to provide an expanded or new centre (£963.78 per user):

HOUSES				FLATS			
1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed
£117	£376	£561	£626	£139	£425	£405	£440

- 2.12 Where there is no scope to reconfigure the existing facility to improve performance and land is currently unavailable to extend the young people's centre, a new facility may be proposed. A new centre is only likely to be sought on major new housing sites although proportionate contributions may be sought towards a new build project.