Purpose: To approve the Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy 2015 to 2018

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Recommendations: Cabinet is recommended to:
- approve the Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy 2015 to 2018

1.0 Introduction

1.1 The Eastbourne Youth Partnership meets quarterly to deliver agreed strategic aims and actions. The last Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy was approved in 2011 and has laid the basis for the Youth Partnership’s work since then. Key achievements of the 2011 to 2015 Strategy include the provision of new groups and activities for young people around the town, delivery of a Youth Bank funding over 40 youth-led groups, and a number of events for young people and for the agencies working with them.

1.2 The Eastbourne Youth Partnership began reviewing its Strategy in 2014 and has developed a new Strategy for 2015 to 2018 (attached at Appendix 1).

1.3 Membership of the Youth Partnership is open to any organisation which currently works with young people and contributes to delivering the Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy. Current members of the partnership are:

- Eastbourne Borough Council – Community Development
- East Sussex County Council - Targeted Youth Support; Public Health Directorate
- Eastbourne and Wealden YMCA – Youth and Community
2.0 The Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy 2015 to 2018

2.1 The proposed Strategy is the result of a long period of consultation with young people themselves and draws on the views of young people as expressed in the Big Vote at the end of 2013. Members of the Youth Partnership also surveyed the young people they work with for their views and surveys were carried out amongst other young people at events during 2014. The Strategy also takes into account the views of partners and other agencies working with young people, and the Action Plan was developed through a workshop and follow-up discussions with key partners.

2.2 The Strategy identifies a number of areas where progress has been made since 2011 and the main areas which partners wish to focus on over the next three years. Based on an analysis of local statistics and the experience of key partners, the following priorities have been identified:

- Maintain the number and range of affordable, accessible clubs and activities and raise the profile of what’s available
- Help young people to stay healthy – with a particular emphasis on weight management and physical activities
- Help young people to stay safe – particularly around sexual abuse and bullying
- Provide more, improved and better publicised services that support emotional health of young people
- Explore safer transport options.

2.3 The Action Plan for 2015/16 is included in the Strategy on pages 8 –
14. This plan is deliberately ambitious, but achievable, and has been designed to ensure the Partnership adds value to individual agencies’ work through combining its efforts and delivering actions over and above those which any one organisation working alone would deliver.

3.0 Resource Implications

3.1 There are no direct resource implications arising from the Strategy. A key aim of the Strategy and the actions included in the 2015 /2016 Action Plan is to make best use of existing resources and to draw in funding from known sources to support events and activities.

4.0 Implications for Equality and Fairness

4.1 The Strategy is designed to identify gaps in services and to develop activities and projects which address those gaps. The need for appropriate activities to encourage physical activity amongst specific groups of young people – including young women and young disabled people – has been highlighted as an area for action, for example.

5.0 Other Implications

5.1 There are no staffing or other implications arising from this report.

6.0 Conclusion

6.1 Cabinet is recommended to approve the Joint Eastbourne Youth Strategy 2015 to 2018

Ian Fitzpatrick  
Senior Head of Community

Background Papers:
None.