
Agenda Item:	Youth Services
Meeting Date:	Monday, 23 September 2024
Contact Officer:	Deputy Town Clerk

The purpose of this report is to provide Members with an update on Youth Services provided or funded by the Town Council. In particular, this report provides specific updates on the Witney Youth Council and The Station Detached Youth project.

Background

Youth Council

Applications were open for Youth Council membership between 8th July and 15th September 2024. The initiative was promoted to schools and local youth groups (including young person uniformed services).

The Station Detached Youth

A report is provided by The Station outlining the 'KICK' project it ran throughout the Summer Holidays (**Appendix A**).

Current Situation

10 applications were received for the Witney Youth Council. As the maximum number for the Youth Council was 20, members should decide whether they want the Council's Youth Mentors to hold any meetings with the prospective Council, or to go ahead and invite them to a meeting to discuss further ahead of a first official meeting in October.

A quarterly meeting with representatives from The Station and officers is due to be held on 19th September so a verbal update on the service will be provided at this meeting.

Impact Assessments

The Town Council has a duty to consider the effects of its decisions, functions and activities on equality, biodiversity, and crime & disorder. Consideration should also be given to effects on the environment, given the Council's Climate Emergency declaration in 2019.

- a) Equality – The Youth Council is completely inclusive and open to all.
- b) Biodiversity – There is no impact from the contents of this report.

- c) Crime & Disorder – It is hoped that inclusion for young people will pinpoint facilities and concerns which might help address crime and disorder.
- d) Environment & Climate Emergency – There is no impact from the contents of this report.

Risk

In decision making Councillors should give consideration to any risks to the Council and any action it can take to limit or negate its liability.

Social Value

Social value is the positive change the Council creates in the local community within which it operates.

Benefits to the Community – The Youth Council offers an opportunity for young people to be included in local democracy and can help facilitate changes they want in the town.

Financial implications

- There is a budget towards Youth Council training.

Recommendations

Members are invited to note the report and verbal update and

1. Consider whether any Youth Council member interviews should take place by the Youth Council Mentors (per the original application criteria).