
TITLE: Youth Action Plan Progress Update

Committee: Operational Services

Date: Monday 21st March 2022

Authors: Stephanie Jones, Communities and Partnerships Support Officer

[W159]

1.0 ISSUE

1.1 To note the progress made against the East Cambridgeshire Youth Action Plan 2021-24.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

2.1 Members are requested to:

(i) Note progress made against the East Cambridgeshire Youth Action Plan.

3.0 BACKGROUND

3.1 The Council approved the East Cambridgeshire Youth Strategy and Action Plan in March 2021.

3.2 Members requested that progress made against the Action Plan be reported to Operational Services Committee every six months. Members also agreed that consultation is to be carried out to assess the changes and the COVID impact on young people in East Cambridgeshire.

3.3 Implementation of the Action Plan commenced on 1st April 2021, and an update was presented on 13th September 2021.

4.0 ARGUMENTS/OPTIONS

4.1 The Action Plan at Appendix 1 includes a column outlining progress made.

4.2 A survey has been carried out to determine the impacts of COVID-19 on local young people. 326 responses were received. Survey findings are currently being analysed by the Council's Youth Project Team.

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Members are requested to note the progress made against the Youth Action Plan.

5.2 Progress update reports will continue to be provided to Operational Services Committee every six months as agreed.

6.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report's recommendations.

6.2 The EIA and CIA relating to the Youth Action Plan were agreed at March 2021's Operational Services Committee.

7.0 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Youth Action Plan - Progress Update March 2022

Background Documents

Location

The Grange,
Ely, CB7 4EE

Contact Officer

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AGENDA ITEM 11 Appendix 1 – Youth Action Plan - Progress Update March 2022

Area of Focus	ECDC Action	How	Timescales	Lead	Progress
	<p>Seek continued feedback from young people on youth engagement platforms to ensure methods used by the Council are appropriate and fit for purpose</p> <p>KPI: Consult with a minimum of 50 young people to obtain feedback on engagement methods by July 2021</p>	Youth Advisory Board (YAB)	October 2021 then ongoing	C+P	Consultation on engagement methods completed. Questions and approach informed following YAB feedback. 65 responses were received. The community engagement toolkit has been updated to reflect the results of this consultation. It was also used to ensure that the subsequent youth survey was promoted effectively.
	Promote the Community Engagement Toolkit to ECDC officers that contains information on how to effectively engage with young people	Youth Officer Champion	January 2022	C+P	The Council's Community Engagement Toolkit has been updated following engagement with the YAB to ensure that it contains the most appropriate information and advice on how to effectively engage with local young people. It has been further updated using the feedback from young people from the recent engagement survey.
	<p>Invite local youth engagement networks to join the Council's Register of Consultees</p> <p>KPI: YAB signed up as a member of the Council's Register of Consultees</p>	YAB Promote Register of Consultees on ECDC Youth webpages	July 2021 and promote on webpages from January 2022	C+P	YAB invited to join ECDC Register of Consultees
	Engage with young people when developing promotional materials and platforms aimed at them	YAB Development of ECDC youth webpages	July 2021 then ongoing	C+P	YAB engaged when promotional materials being developed e.g. YAB invited to comment on ECDC youth webpages

KPI: Consult with a minimum of 250 young people to determine the impacts of COVID-19 by March 2022	District wide consultation to be conducted	March 2022	C+P	A consultation exercise was carried out to determine the impacts of COVID-19 on young people and understand what life is like as a young person in East Cambs. 326 children and young people responded. Responses are now being analysed by the Council's Youth Project Team
Encourage local youth engagement platforms to engage with relevant partnerships, networks and organisations to ensure that the voice of young people is represented	YAB	April 2021 then ongoing	C+P, All	YAB invited to join the East Cambs Climate Change Partnership
Appoint an East Cambs Youth Officer Champion to work alongside young people in order to ensure that their voice is heard and represented	Appoint using resources within existing communities and partnerships team	June 2021	C+P East Cambs Youth Officer Champions	Two ECDC Youth Officer Champions appointed from Communities and Partnerships team and Housing and Community Advice team
Where relevant, devise engagement plans, initiatives and campaigns in partnership with other organisations (both voluntary and statutory) to maximise effective engagement with young people and seek feedback on action taken	Introduction of officer project group to meet twice a year	Officer project group first meeting to be held in August 2021 and twice annual meetings	All	YAB consulted during development of consultation exercises e.g. consultation on engagement methods. ECDC supporting engagement efforts of CSP Delivery Group Young People's Task and Finish Group.
Create a young person's webpage on the ECDC website that contains information and links to matters identified via the Youth Strategy	New webpages with input from young people e.g. YAB	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P Customer services	Webpages live on ECDC website

	<p>consultation and any future emerging matters identified as well as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting local youth engagement platforms • Providing links to consultations and surveys encouraging feedback • Provide a space for young people to engage with relevant partners, networks and organisations and to carry out consultations and surveys of their own 				
	<p>Map local youth engagement platforms for ongoing engagement and signposting purposes</p>	<p>Youth Officer Champion to carry out mapping exercise with partners</p>	<p>January 2022</p>	<p>C+P</p>	<p>Mapping completed and can be added to if new information becomes available. Local youth engagement platforms promoted on new ECDC youth webpages</p>
	<p>Promote the fact that the Council will be there to signpost and raise awareness of youth services to young people and stakeholders through the implementation of communication plans, webpages and via established networks</p>	<p>ECDC website Youth Officer Champion to promote to YAB and partners</p>	<p>March 2022 then ongoing</p>	<p>C+P Customer services</p>	<p>Webpages live on ECDC website and communications plan being developed to promote webpages</p>
	<p>Make the strategy available to young people by promoting it on the ECDC website and new youth webpages on the ECDC website and share strategy with relevant partners</p>	<p>ECDC website ECDC youth webpages Send to partner agencies</p>	<p>May 2021 on ECDC website January 2022 on new webpages</p>	<p>C+P to include on new webpages As above</p>	<p>Youth Strategy live on ECDC website and shared with partners in May 2021</p>

			August 2021		
Safety	Ensure that the voice of young people is represented on matters concerning local safety and there is a clear path for them to escalate any issues and offer their ideas and views	Engagement with CSP, YAB and any other relevant youth platforms or groups Promote pathways via ECDC website	April 2021	C+P Youth Officer Champion to attend Delivery Group YAB to engage with Delivery Group Engagement with YAB on safety related matters	Youth Officer Champions attend the CSP's Delivery Group's Youth Task and Finish Group which has been established to address local youth safety matters. The group has undertaken engagement with local Members to understand youth matters and provision. The Council's 2021/22 youth survey findings will help inform the work of the group going forward. The YAB has been invited to attend the CSP as a guest. YAB invited to attend the next Delivery Group meeting. YAB invited to comment to ECDC youth webpages which contains Safety as a key theme.
	Support Community Safety Partnership initiatives where appropriate to ensure that young people are and feel safe in their community e.g. delivery of Eyes and Ears training to schools	Communities and Partnerships officers	April 2021 then ongoing	C+P	Eyes and Ears training available to schools via Healthy Schools website
	Promote safeguarding reporting processes to all ECDC officers KPI: 100% of ECDC officers to complete safeguarding training	Housing and Community Advice Manager to promote to ECDC officers	April 2021 then delivered at all staff inductions	Safeguarding Officer	All safeguarding training and updates are sent out to all staff, all corporate inductions include safeguarding training and yearly refresher courses are rolled out to staff
	Input into partner strategies addressing prevention related matters affecting young people	Officer project group to input	August 2021 then ongoing	All	Neighbourhood & Community Safety Officer able to provide information on county lines. Relevant ECDC Officers are

					members of the CSP Delivery Group's Young People's Task and Finish Group that has been established to address local youth safety matters. A Gaming and Gambling module is now live in schools and forms part of the Eyes and Ears programme. The Neighbourhood & Community Safety Officer regularly inputs to County Boards including Safeguarding Children and Prevent.
	Promote the location of safe routes being identified by other agencies	Promote via ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Content for youth webpages being explored including a link to the Safer Places website which contains a map of locally registered safe places and details of how other safe places can register.
	Ensure that local youth engagement networks are aware of how and where to submit their suggestions about spaces needed and advise them to proactively engage with parish councils about matters affecting young people	Promote via ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	A feedback form has been added to the new ECDC Youth Webpages inviting feedback on local spaces and activities along with a statement advising that Young people can also contact their parish council to provide feedback.
	Provide advice and/or support to projects seeking to develop facilities and areas for young people to use and play	Provide feedback on feasibility studies for local projects	April 2021 then ongoing	C+P Connect YAB and Future Parks contact	Support provided to local groups aiming to develop local spaces Funding advice and signposting provided as and when enquiries are received YAB provided with details of Future Parks project with offer of follow up engagement

Promote local youth clubs via the new young people's webpages	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P to carry out mapping exercise and provide web team with material	Mapping exercise completed in July 2021 and webpages content now live
KPI: Map existing youth provision throughout the district by September 2021	Conduct mapping exercise	September 2021	C+P	Mapping exercise of local youth provision was carried out in consultation with parish councils and was completed in July 2021
Promote funding available for youth clubs and groups to access via new young people's webpages and communication channels	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P to carry out mapping exercise and provide web team with material	Mapping completed and added to ECDC youth webpages.
Promote local community and voluntary sector support that is available to assist the establishment of new groups (this may include special interest youth groups)	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Promoted on ECDC young people's webpages
Consult with and effectively engage with young people when developing spaces that they may use KPI: Consult with 50 users of Ely Country Park to seek feedback on the site and inform future priorities by November 2021	Promote opportunities for young people to have their say on via ECDC website e.g. youth webpages, Register of Consultees	August 2022 then ongoing	All, Open Spaces	A feedback form has been added to the new ECDC Youth Webpages inviting feedback on local spaces, along with a statement advising that young people can also contact their parish council to provide feedback. Ely Country Park feedback surveys available on ECDC website and face-to-face surveys conducted. (51 of responses received).
Promote local volunteering initiatives to young people	YAB Officer Champion New webpage	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Promoted on ECDC young people's webpages

		Officer project team			
Travel	Promote local community transport schemes to young people	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Promoted on ECDC young people's webpages
Health	Identify and promote health services available to young people in response to the survey findings e.g. mental health services and promote them to local young people such as via ECDC website and to local youth engagement networks	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	LK	Health services identified and promoted on ECDC youth webpages
Education and Careers	Identify and promote mentoring opportunities offered by local businesses to young people	New webpage Enterprise East YAB Housing and Community Advice	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Website content in development
	Promote 'job ready' training for young people that includes interview skills and CV writing	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P AP to engage with Job Centre and other relevant contacts	Website content being developed This work is ongoing, due to covid impact on service deliveries with both agencies has delayed this project, meetings with the new job centre manager are currently being finalised
	Promote workshops for developing career skills to young people	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	AP to engage with Job Centre and other relevant contacts	Website content being developed This work is ongoing, due to covid impact on service deliveries with both agencies has delayed this project, meetings with the new job centre manager are currently being finalised

	Identify and promote local volunteering reward programmes such as Time Banks to young people to encourage participation which could improve CVs and provide experience	ECDC websites e.g. youth webpages	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P to carry out mapping exercise and provide web team with material	Mapped and promoted on ECDC youth webpage
	Promote websites through the Council's youth webpage that list local job opportunities and apprenticeship programmes for young people	ECDC websites	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P AP to engage with Job Centre and other relevant contacts	ECDC youth webpages signposts to other sites that list local job opportunities and apprenticeship programmes for young people
	Promote local apprenticeship opportunities to young people	ECDC websites	March 2022 then ongoing	HR	ECDC work experience opportunities listed on ECDC youth webpages
	Identify and promote initiatives that are aimed at retaining local young people to the area	ECDC websites	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P AP to engage with Job Centre and other relevant contacts	This work is ongoing, due to covid impact on service deliveries with both agencies has delayed this project, meetings with the new job centre manager are currently being finalised
	Promote information on financial support available for further education on emerging youth webpage on ECDC website	ECDC websites	March 2022 then ongoing	C+P	Promoted on ECDC youth webpages
Working Together	Set up an ECDC officer project team to monitor and review performance of the strategy and action plan	ECDC officer project team	August 2021 and biannual meetings	All	Officer project team established and meetings taking place every 4 weeks

	<p>Circulate the approved strategy and consultation findings to relevant organisations requesting them to develop their own internal plans to address identified issues, and seek feedback on progress</p>	<p>Send strategy and consultation findings to relevant organisations</p> <p>ECDC officer project team to monitor</p>	<p>August 2021</p> <p>Bi-annual monitoring of externally led action plans</p>	<p>C+P</p>	<p>Sent to partners in May 2021 including schools, police, parish councils, health agencies such as PCNs and GP surgeries, children centres, County Council youth contacts, housing providers</p> <p>Responses and comments were received from some partners including Littleport & East Cambs Academy, Voluntary and Community Action East Cambs and Littleport Parish Council. Feedback includes details of what partners are doing in relation to the Youth Strategy areas of focus</p>
	<p>Support partners and multi-agency projects and initiatives that contribute towards achieving the aims of the East Cambs Youth Strategy and monitor progress via the officer project group</p>	<p>ECDC officer project team</p> <p>Youth officer champion</p>	<p>August 2021 – set up project group</p> <p>Biannual monitoring</p>	<p>All</p>	<p>Support offered to relevant agencies. To date no formal requests for specific support have been received</p>

