

Policy and Public Initiatives Panel

Item 8

27 November 2019

Report of Assistant Director Policy and Author Owen Howell

Corporate

282518

Title Presentation on Youth Zone sports and social centres

Wards Not applicable

affected

1. Executive Summary

1.1 This item consists of a presentation on the setting up and operation of Youth Zone sports and social centres for young people. Detail is given on the necessary co-operative efforts and mix of funding which involves the local authority, the charity 'OnSide' and private sector benefactors.

- 1.2 The presentation will be provided by:
 - Jamie Masraff, Director of Operations for OnSide Youth Zones
 - Gavin Evans, Chief Executive Officer, Barking and Dagenham Youth Zone

2. Action Required

2.1 The Panel is asked to consider the presentation given and the potential benefits and costs of participating in a Youth Zone project.

3. Reason for Review

3.1 This item was recommended for review by the Panel at its meeting on 19 June 2019, and this was approved by Cabinet on 10 July 2019.

4. Background Information

- 4.1 Feasibility studies into youth service provision are to be carried out by the Council, with completion expected in 2020.
- 4.2 Youth Zones are sporting and social centres for young people, delivered by local authorities in partnership with the charity OnSide and with additional funding provided from private sector donors. They represent one option for local authorities that wish to increase provision of services to young people.

5. Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

5.1 The Youth Zone model of sporting and social centres aims to ensure that sport and social opportunities are available to all young people, encouraging and supporting use by those from low-income backgrounds, and young residents with disabilities. OnSide calculate that over 3,500 disabled people have to-date been engaged with through Youth Zones' operations.

6. Standard References

6.1 There are no particular references at this stage to consultation or publicity considerations or financial; community safety; health and safety or risk management implications. The Panel should, however, consider what implications may lie within each of these areas, should Colchester Borough Council consider whether to institute and operate a Youth Zone

7. Strategic Plan References

7.1 This item has references to the following Strategic Plan themes and priorities:

Growth

- Help make sure Colchester is a welcoming place for all residents and visitors
- Ensure residents benefit from Colchester's economic growth with skills, jobs and improving infrastructure
- Promote inward investment to the borough
- Work with partners to create a shared vision for a vibrant town centre.

Opportunity

- Promote and enhance Colchester borough's heritage and visitor attractions to increase visitor numbers and to support job creation
- Promote initiatives to help residents live healthier lives.

Wellbeing

- Encourage belonging, involvement and responsibility in all the borough's communities
- Work with Essex Police and partners in the Safer Colchester Partnership to make Colchester an even safer place
- Help residents adopt healthier lifestyles by enabling the provision of excellent leisure facilities and beautiful green spaces, countryside and beaches.

8. Health, Wellbeing and Community Safety Implications

8.1 The implications in these areas will be addressed within the presentation and discussion on this item.

Appendix

Appendix A: Presentation slides on Youth Zone provision and operation.