



**COUNCIL EXECUTIVE**

**STRATEGY FOR TACKLING UNDER-AGE DRINKING/DIVERSIONARY ACTIVITIES  
FOR YOUNG PEOPLE – FAULDHOUSE AND THE BREICH VALLEY WARD**

**REPORT BY LEAD OFFICER, LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE**

**A. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to invite the Council Executive to ratify the resource allocations for tackling under-age drinking and providing diversionary activities for young people recommended by the inquorate meeting of the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee which took place on 24 May 2011.

**B. RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that members approve the allocations of resources set out within the report and endorsed by the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley Local Area Committee at its meeting on 24 May 2011.

**C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

<b>I Council Values</b>	Focusing on our customers' needs.
	Being honest, open and accountable.
	Making best use of our resources.
	Working in partnership.
<b>II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment)</b>	None.
<b>III Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property)</b>	<p>£238,000 is allocated across West Lothian to the strategy for tackling underage drinking/diversionary activities for young people.</p> <p>Additional funding is available this financial year</p>

only, because two previous initiatives will not require support.

£21,389 has been allocated to the Fauldhouse and the Breich Valley ward.

#### **IV Consultations**

Services for the Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel and the bodies outlined within the report.

#### **D. TERMS OF REPORT**

- 1** A report on the Strategy for tackling under-age drinking and providing diversionary activities for young people was submitted to the Services for the Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel. The report provided background information on the strategy to date and on proposals for the future allocation of funding to Local Area Committees.
- 2** The Council Executive approved the Strategy for Tackling Under-age Drinking in 2008 and agreed that recommendations for future funding allocation would be made by each Local Area Committee. Local Area Committees will make recommendations to allocate funding to initiatives that tackle under-age drinking and provide diversionary activities for young people.

- 3 The Committee paper outlines the support which will be given to Local Area Committees to assist them in the decision making process. As agreed by the Council Executive the allocation of funding would reflect levels of deprivation and need. A total of £21,389.00 has been allocated to the Fauldhouse and Breich Valley area and the Local Area Committee will make recommendations on which initiatives will be funded from this resource.
- 4 Last year the Committee agreed funding for the following local projects:
- Polbeth youth drop in - £8,389
  - Group Work & Activity Programme – Fauldhouse and Longridge - £11,000
  - The Pitstop - £2,000

Information on the three projects that are requesting funding for 2011 / 12 is set out below. It is recommended that all three projects receive the funding requested.

### **Polbeth Youth Provision**

The aim of the project is to provide a drop in on a Thursday evening at Polbeth Village Hall and an intensive programme on Friday afternoon.

The Thursday drop in session will continue to operate from 7pm – 9pm in Polbeth village hall. The sessions will be used as a mechanism for engaging with young people, working on their issues and providing a forum for services such as WLDAS and Skills Development Scotland to engage with challenging young people.

In 2010 the project ran a pilot group work course targeting young people from 4<sup>th</sup> year onwards who attend West Calder High School. This pilot ran in partnership between Community Learning and Development, WLYAP, Access2Employment, West Calder High School and the Credit Union. The purpose of this group is to focus on referred young people over a 10 week programme which looks at issues including drug and alcohol abuse, employability, positive destinations and how to get there, CV writing, job opportunities, interview skills, budgeting and more.

Funding has been requested to continue both aspects of the Polbeth package.

Costs:

- Thursday Staff costs plus WLDAS input - £6,500
- Materials - £300
- Friday Staff costs - £1,500
- Materials – £200

**FUNDING REQUESTED: £8,500**

#### **The Pitstop, Addiewell**

The aim of the project is to provide a drop-in/ advice sessions for young teenagers either in the Pit Stop or Community House dependant on the result of street work with young people. The drop in will link young people into the activity programme being run by the Youth Action Project. The aim of the programme will be to develop relationships with young people in addition to developing a programme of workshops on sexual health, alcohol and substance reduction. As part of the programme monthly excursions through the autumn / winter period will be planned.

Costs:

- £1500 for staffing costs
- £500 for transport
- £ 500 for materials/ equipment
- £ 500 for a residential experience next Feb/ March for a group that work with the project through the autumn/ winter.

**FUNDING REQUESTED: £3,000**

#### **Group Work & Activity Programme – Fauldhouse and Longridge**

Details of the activity to be tabled at the August Local Area Committee.

**FUNDING REQUESTED: £9,889**

## **E. CONCLUSION**

The Strategy for Tackling Under-age Drinking has been rolled out across West Lothian and details of the projects that receive funding are included in the report that was tabled at the Services for the Community Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.

A review of this funding will be carried out prior to future resources being allocated to each Locality Planning area and Local Area Committees making recommendations on initiatives that should receive future funding.

## **F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES**

Strategy for Tackling Under-age Drinking (Council Executive June 2008)

Appendices/Attachments: None

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