

## **Youth Engagement Task and Finish Panel: Terms of Reference**

### **Origin**

At its meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed a request from the Leisure and Community Services Portfolio Holder, to establish a new Task and Finish Panel to review potential options for the best use of the existing Council budget for youth engagement, which is currently utilised for operation of the Epping Forest Youth Council.

### **Terms of Reference**

1. To review the operation of the Youth Council and identify specific areas of work undertaken and the success and impact of these;
2. To review the level of engagement the Youth Council has with peers in local schools and 'other young people' of all ages across the district, through the range of work undertaken by the Youth Council and the importance of this engagement for local community groups;
3. To consider feedback from local schools and other partners in respect of the work of the Youth Council;
4. To include a London authority and a comparative District Council in Essex;
5. To identify the expenditure related to various elements of the Youth Council work programme and analyse the cost/benefit of this;
6. To consider other work undertaken by Community Services and Safety to engage with young people and identify the costs associated with this;
7. To consider the status of Essex Youth Services following recent service transformation and resulting implications for the district; and,
8. To prepare a set of recommendations for consideration by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting in November 2015.

### **Aims and Objectives**

- (a) To report findings to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and submit a final report for consideration by the Committee and the Council by November 2015;
- (b) To include two representatives from the District Youth Council on the Task and Finish Panel;
- (c) To determine the impact of the Council's current engagement with young people, through consultation with local statutory and voluntary sector partners, and,
- (d) To determine the best use of the allocated funding for the future.