

**TITLE OF REPORT: OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TASK AND FINISH GROUP
REPORT ON TEENAGERS FACILITIES IN NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE**

REPORT BY THE POLICY OFFICER

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This paper presents the key findings and recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny Task and Finish Group's report on the Teenagers facilities in North Hertfordshire.

2. FORWARD PLAN

- 2.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

3. BACKGROUND AND KEY FINDINGS

- 3.1 The Group's report is attached at annex A. The Group report acknowledges that there is already a wide range of facilities in North Hertfordshire for teenagers. However it does note that the pattern of usage is highly variable between facilities.
- 3.2 The Group's recommendations can be found in detail at pages 28 and 29 but can be summarised as follows:

- There needs to be a more detailed consideration of how funding is used and how appropriate its use is in terms of providing good facilities for teenagers in North Hertfordshire. **(Recommendation One)**
- Youth provision that has a formal structure works very well in North Hertfordshire. Those facilities with an emphasis on cultural/sporting pastimes are enthusiastically supported and well organised. **(Recommendation Two).**
- Teenagers' facilities must be maintained and enhanced to benefit young people and the wider community in North Hertfordshire. **(Recommendation Three).**
- It is proposed that a working group be convened to address the identified gaps in the Youth Service Provision as contained in this report. The working group will work against the background of constrained resources and that this particular issue is not currently one of the three immediate priorities of North Herts District Council as identified in the Corporate Plan for 2011/12. **(Recommendation Four).**
- Where feasible the group will aim to improve the quality and the interactive activities that are provided for Teenagers in North Hertfordshire. **(Recommendation Five).**

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

5. FINANCIAL AND RISK IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Any financial and risk implications will only apply to any individual activities that are taken forward by the working group at a future date.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment on the attached report and recommendations.

6.2 That subject to the inclusion of any agreed amendment arising from recommendation 6.1 above, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agree to send the final report of the Task and Finish Group to Cabinet for their consideration of the recommendations arising from that review.

7. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 To allow the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to consider and comment on the Teenagers facilities in North Hertfordshire's Task and Finish Group report.

8. APPENDICES

8.1 Annex A: Scrutiny Task and Finish Report Teenagers facilities in North Hertfordshire

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