

COMMITTEE: AREA COMMITTEE BOARD

DATE: 13 APRIL 2005

SUBJECT: YOUTH SERVICE BUDGET

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING

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IMPLICATIONS:

LEGAL	COMMUNITY SAFETY
EQUALITIES	ENVIRONMENT
FINANCIAL ✓	CONSULTATIONS
STAFFING	OTHER

WARDS AFFECTED: All

PURPOSE

1. To inform the Area Committee Board of the budget allocated to the youth service.

RECOMMENDATION

2. The Area Committee Board is recommended to note the report.

BACKGROUND

3. Monitoring of the youth service budget allocated by local authorities is by
 - Section 52 annual returns.
 - The National Youth Agency annual audit.
 - Government Office East through meetings with the Principal Manager and as part the Transforming Youth Work returns produced every six months.
4. The 'bench mark' for the monitoring is 2% of the total LEA expenditure should be spent on the youth service from the FSS (Formula Spending Share) Youth and Community sub block. There

is also an expectation from the 'Transforming Youth Work - Resourcing Excellent Youth Services' document published in 2001 that the core local authority expenditure will incrementally increase and the Transforming Youth Work budget is allocated with this proviso. The National Youth Agency have suggested that this should also be subject to a minimum spend of £100 per head for young people aged between 13-19 to reflect the position of authorities with a lower LEA spend.

REPORT

5. Youth Service budgets

Details	2003/04			2004/05			2005/06		
	FSS	Sect 52	Variation	FSS	Sect 52	Variation	FSS	Sect 52	Variation
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Schools Block	101.076			107.999			114.156		
LEA Block Central	9.685			10.099			10.418		
Youth		1.603			1.789			2.062	
Community		0.424			0.400			0.441	
Total Y & C	2.899	2.027	- 0.872	3.037	2.189	- 0.848	3.165	2.503	- 0.662
Lea Damping									
Total LEA	113.660			121.057			127.739		
% YS/LEA		1.410%			1.477%			1.614%	
2% YS/LEA								2.555	+0.493

6. There are approximately 18,500 young people aged 13-19 in Luton (2001 Census) which indicates estimated expenditure figure of £111.45 per head for 2005/06.

7. The past three years have seen an incremental increase in the budget allocation to the youth service in line with Government expectations which has narrowed the 2% 'bench mark' funding gap to an estimated **£0.493m** for 2005/06.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. Consideration should be given to a strategy increasing the budget allocation to the youth service to 2% of the total LEA budget.