

**Bracknell Forest Council
Record of Decision**

Work Programme Reference	I119033
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1. **TITLE:** Youth Services Strategy Public Consultation

2. **SERVICE AREA:** People

3. **PURPOSE OF DECISION**

Approval to go out to public consultation on the Youth Services Strategy 2024 – 2027.

Bracknell Forest Council and its partners recognise the need for a clear strategic vision to drive and shape our youth service provision. It is vital that we undertake a public consultation to provide opportunities for feedback to those who will benefit from or who have a stake in youth services in Bracknell Forest. This will ensure that the strategy is supported by our young people, partners and the wider community. The Youth Service is a priority for the Labour Executive as outlined in their 2023 manifesto.

In addition, Bracknell Forest Council has a duty to secure sufficient youth services in the borough. Statutory guidance for local authorities on providing youth services, related to Section 507B of the Education Act (1996), as amended by the Education and Inspections Act (2006), places a duty on local authorities to 'so far as reasonably practicable,' secure for qualifying young persons in the authority's area access to sufficient educational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities, and, efficient recreational leisure-time activities which are for the improvement of their well-being, and sufficient facilities for such activities.

4. **IS KEY DECISION** Yes

5. **DECISION MADE BY:** Executive

6. **DECISION:**

RESOLVED that:

- i. the Executive approve the draft strategy and agree that the final consultation plan will be agreed with Executive Member for Children, Young People and Learning.
- ii. the Executive to note the invitation to Members to join a dedicated session to provide feedback on the draft strategy.
- iii. the Executive to note the intention to bring back a final strategy for Executive to approve following the consultation which will also include a detailed action plan.

7. **REASON FOR DECISION**

- i. The proposed Youth Services Strategy 2024 – 2027 policy has been created following a comprehensive data analysis, consultation and feedback on the proposed draft and priorities included.

- ii. The proposed strategy supports the Council’s plan to ensure engaged and healthy communities. Youth services is a political priority of the labour executive as outlined within their manifesto for the local elections in 2023.
- iii. Stakeholder consultation is an important part of the development of the youth strategy, enabling young people, families, members, key stakeholders, and wider residents to understand and comment on the proposed strategy.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

An alternative option would be not to develop a youth strategy. However, given that there is not currently a strategic document identifying and driving the shape of youth services locally, this is not an option.

9. **DOCUMENT CONSIDERED:** Report of the Executive Director: People

10. **DECLARED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None

Date Decision Made	Final Day of Call-in Period
6 February 2024	14 February 2024