

Youth Service Review and Local Youth Transformation Pilot (LYTP)

‘A system transformation pilot – building sustainable youth work across Shropshire’

People Overview & Scrutiny Committee | October 2025

Presenter: Helena Williams – Youth Support Manager

Background Information

- Youth Strategy paused to take learning from the Local Youth Transformation Pilot (LYTP).
- Statutory duty under Section 507B Education Act 1996 – to secure a sufficient Youth Offer.
- 98% reduction in youth service funding since 2010 has left fragmented provision.
- LYTP provides a national opportunity to rebuild a coordinated statutory Youth Offer for Shropshire.

The Local Youth Transformation Pilot

A Transformation Programme not a delivery grant

- Funded by DCMS (£621,131) – This is one of 12 national pilots. The pilot is focused on system transformation, infrastructure, workforce, partnerships and governance) Only 6% can be used for direct delivery, and any such spend must be LA match funded in 2026/2027)
- Delivery: September 2025 – August 2026.
- Approved by Shropshire Children's Leadership Team. Governance through the Children's Ambitions Board

The LYTP has workstreams:

1. Culture Change
2. Youth governance (Hear by Right)
3. Local Youth Partnerships
4. Infrastructure (independent foundation)
5. Workforce development
6. Youth Work in Schools
- 7 – Project Management

What we have heard

Young People tell us...

- Young people want safe spaces, things to do, and trusted adults.
- Barriers: transport, cost, and awareness of provision in their community, better mental health support and feeling safe in their local community.

• Town and Parish Councils tell us...

- Many Town and Parish Councils already fund youth clubs in their community (some up to 25% of their overall budget) Some areas that fund direct provision are Shrewsbury, Bridgnorth, Oswestry, Whittington, St Martins, Hanwood, Bomere Heath, Church Stretton and Wem
- Provision is valued but often focuses on the younger age groups (under 13's) and dependant on volunteer capacity or short-term funding.
- The model is not sustainable or equitable – the pilot aims to strengthen and connect what already exists through shared infrastructure and workforce support.

Partnerships and Sustainability

- Sustainability – is shared responsibility, not devolution
- Co-investments across the LA, VCSE, and Town and Parish Councils
- Professional infrastructure - independent foundation model for long term co-ordination.
- Focus on workforce quality, equity and safeguarding
- Evidence of impact through pilot's National evaluation partners RSM and the National

Budget Planning and Forward Thinking..

Purpose:

- To ensure Town and Parish Councils are aware of the emerging share-investment approach as they set 2025/2026 budget

Context:

- Parish precepts are being set in October to November 2025 for the 2026/2027 financial year.
- Some councils may wish to earmark an indicative amount for shared youth investment in their area.

Wider System Impact

- Prevention & Early Help: reduces social care demand.
- Education: supports attendance & engagement.
- Health & Wellbeing: tackles rural isolation & improves mental health.
- Community Safety: reduces ASB & exploitation.

'Embedding Youth Work across prevention, early help, health, education and community safety'

What we are asking Scrutiny?

1. Endorse the direction of travel for the LYTP and statutory Youth Offer.
2. Provide feedback on partnership priorities and sustainable funding models.
4. Support the co-production of the final Youth Strategy (2026).

Next steps

- Delivery of pilot underway (Sept 2025 – Aug 2026).
- Project management team established to over see workstreams
- Youth Offer Plan in development through Local Youth Partnerships.
- Final co-produced Youth Strategy – late 2026.

Members Feedback & Engagement

- To create an ongoing feedback loop with members throughout the pilot year, ensuring local insight shapes delivery and the development of the Youth Offer Plan
- Microsoft form (see scan-code)
- Members briefing sessions – at start, midpoint and end
- Quarterley LYTP Updates Via All members briefing
- Culture Change sessions with LGA (early 2026)

Local Youth Transformation Members Feedback



Appendices and supporting documents

- Appendix A – Youth Service Review (2025)
- Appendix B – Local Youth Transformation Development Plan – (2025-2026)
- Appendix C – Town and Parish Council Insight Report (2025)