

**Cultural & Economic Services Committee**

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**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Title:** Update on TACTIC activities

**Purpose of the Report:** To update members of work at TACTIC in November, December 2019 and January 2020.

**Contact Officer:** Linda Farmer, TACTIC Centre Manager

<b>Corporate Objective/s</b>		VIBRANCY AND VITALITY OF TOWN AND TOWN CENTRE To consider ways to support the increase in leisure and personal development opportunities for youth.
<b>Implications:</b>		
<b>Financial</b>	√	Proposal to use Earmarked reserves to fund the Talk-Space service
<b>Human Resources</b>		
<b>Operational/Service delivery</b>	√	General Update
<b>Procedural/Legal</b>		
<b>Risk/Health and Safety</b>		

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 To endorse the TACTIC Annual Work Delivery Plan 2020/21.**
- 1.2 To endorse the use of earmarked reserves to continue the commissioning of CHUMS to deliver the Talk-Space Wellbeing Service, Option A as per para. 13.5, up to £9,500 using budget code 970/9020 for £6,000 and code 970/9018 for the remaining £3,500.**
- 1.2.1 To endorse the method of capturing the views of young people as set out at para. 12.2.**

**2. YOUTH WORK: NOVEMBER 2019 TO JANUARY 2020**

- The TANG group (TACTIC Additional Needs Group)
- Awareness information themes on National Youth work Week, Anti Bullying, Aids Awareness Positive quotes for New Year's Resolutions and Health and Fitness have all taken place.
- National Youth Work Week Awards Event
- Urban Corner
- Schools Offer

- Older persons Christmas Meal
- Environmental project
- Box Release Project
- Mentoring
- Basketball
- VE (Victory in Europe) Arts Project

### **3. SATELLITE SPORTS**

- 3.1 Basketball continues weekly with 11 young people now attending regularly - 9 Male and 2 females. Sessions have been running at Brooklands School over the winter months but will move back to Pages Park outdoor court from end of March.
- 3.2 Positive comments have come back from both young people and the coach who have commented on the progress of group members. The coach has witnessed positive change in attitude with the young people. One parent described the sessions as, “a lifeline” for her son who otherwise will not join in with any groups.
- 3.3 Box Release Project - Further to consultation with young people, TACTIC applied for funding to set up a 12-week project focused on Pad Boxing. This is a new initiative and there are no other local schemes such as this that focus on and address mental health & wellbeing in a non-intrusive, voluntary, low key, interactive and disciplined way. Following an unsuccessful bid to the police VERU (Violence and Exploitation Reduction Unit), TACTIC approached the Council’s Community Safety Sub-Committee for Operation Dodford funding. This was agreed with a view that TACTIC should see if the project can be self-sustaining. TACTIC will review the project and report the impact of the project to the CS committee in due course.

### **4 STAFFING UPDATE**

- 4.1 TACTIC has now successfully appointed to the Senior Youth Worker post. The new officer will commence work on 30<sup>th</sup> March.

### **5 NATIONAL YOUTH WORK WEEK AWARDS EVENING**

- 5.1 Alongside Youth Workers from across Central Bedfordshire, TACTIC was proud to be a part of the National Youth Work Week Awards ceremony at The Rufus Centre, Flitwick. The event celebrated the good work both young people and youth workers do throughout the year and awards were given for several categories to include, Young Volunteer, Overcoming Barriers, Personal Achievement and Young Peoples Voice. Attended by Mayors and Councillors from across Central Bedfordshire, the event was a huge success and concluded with a presentation from the High Sheriff of Bedfordshire, Meryl Dolling.

### **6 SCHOOLS OFFER**

6.1 TACTIC has been busy delivering a variety of workshops within local Middle and Upper schools which include, Emotional Wellbeing, Online Safety, Relationships, etc. Since the beginning of November 2019, TACTIC has delivered a total of 12 workshops and 4 assemblies as part of the schools offer with a further 30 workshops booked up to July 2020.

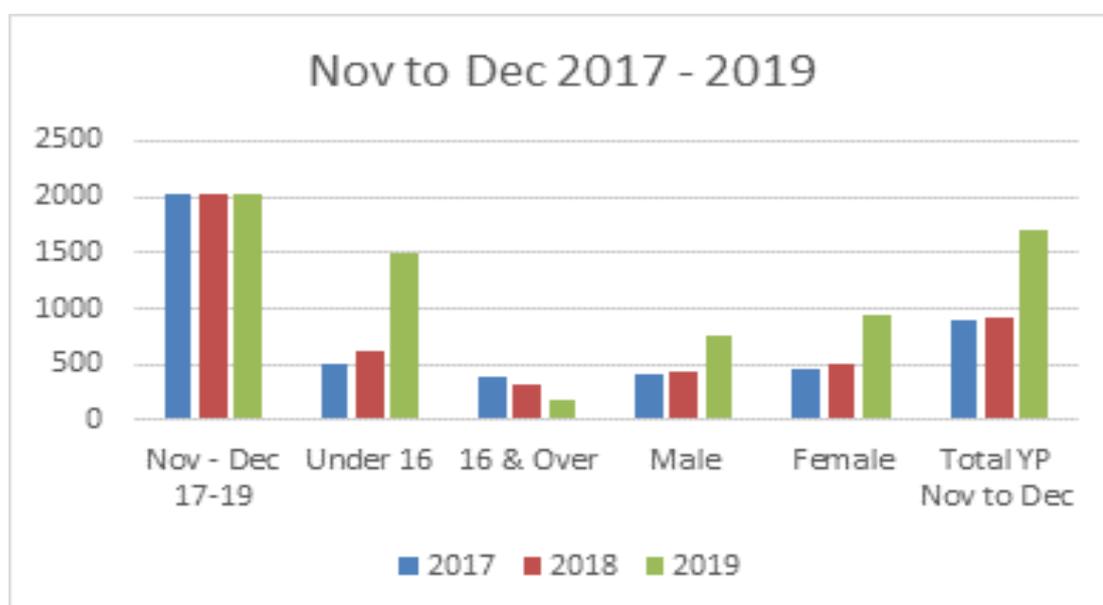
## 7 YOUTH CRIME PROJECT

7.1 TACTIC has successfully delivered 4 workshops to Cedars school in relation to the project and attended several assemblies alongside St. Giles' Trust. 8 Young people from Cedars took part in the workshops and we discussed some interesting and poignant matters relating particularly to Knife Crime. The project funded by Supporting Families Against Youth Crime, is now set to be delivered by TACTIC in Brooklands Middle School and Oakbank Specialist Behaviour School from March 2020.

## 8 VICTORY IN EUROPE PROJECT

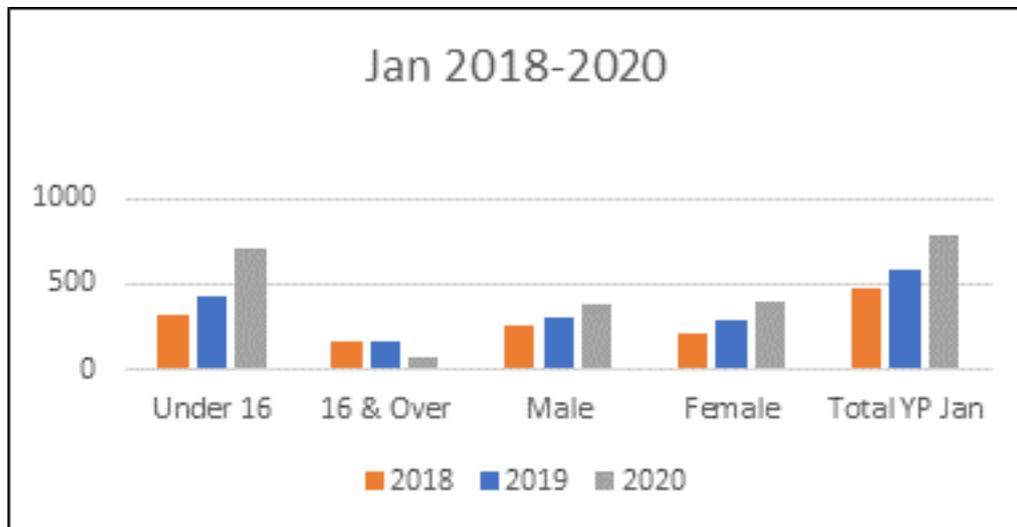
8.1 As part of the VE (Victory in Europe) up and coming celebrations, TACTIC Youth Forum is working with an artist to design 2 large graffiti boards commemorating the event. The boards will then be placed in the town centre by the war memorial for the VE event weekend starting on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020. This project is funded by Grounds and Environmental Services.

## 9. ATTENDANCE STATISTICS



Nov to Dec, 2017-2019	2017	2018	2019
Under 16	500	617	1504
16 & Over	392	313	194
Male	425	426	759

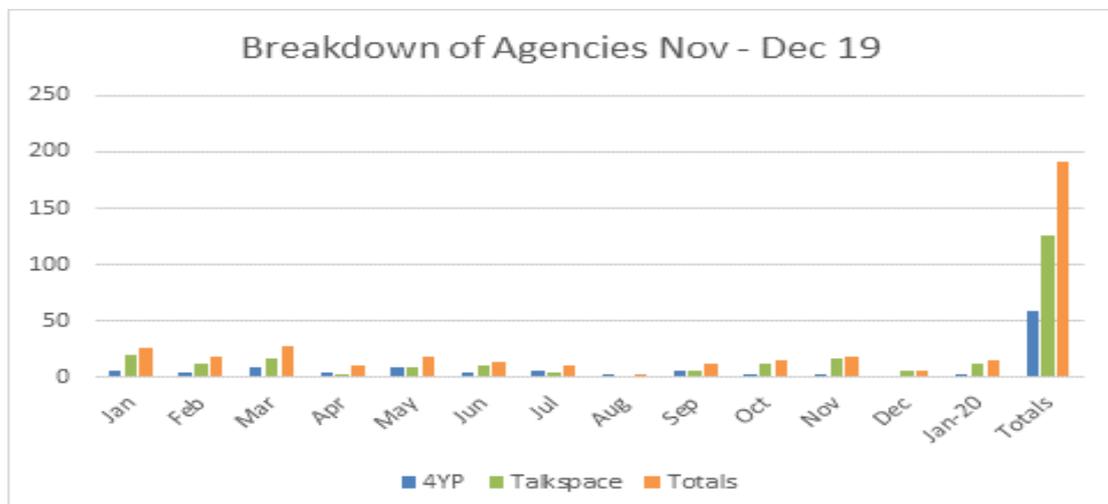
Female	467	504	939
<b>Total for Nov to Dec</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>930</b>	<b>1699</b>

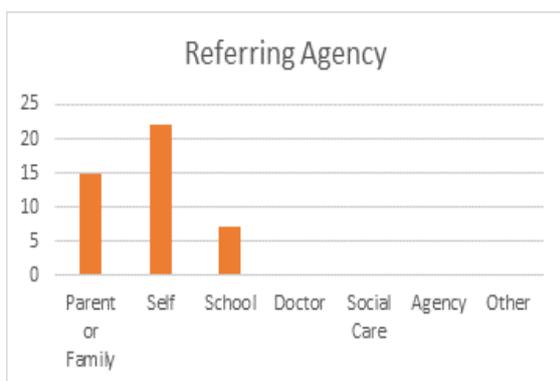
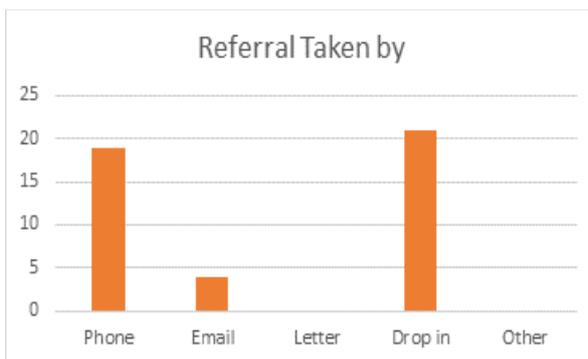
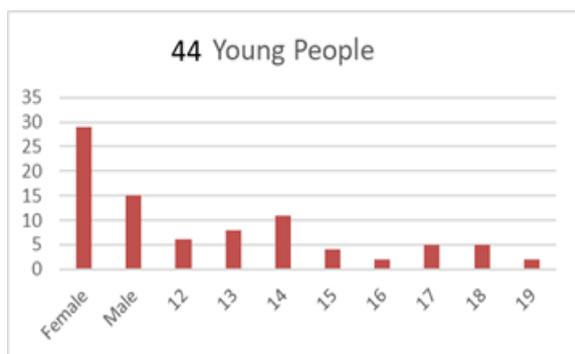


Jan 2017- 2019	2018	2019	2020
Under 16	313	422	702
16 & Over	167	166	77
Male	264	300	380
Female	216	288	399
<b>Total for Jan</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>588</b>	<b>778</b>

6.2 Attendance at the centre remains steady with a pleasing number of young people attending daily. Promotion of TACTIC within the schools is key to attendance figures to ensure all young people are aware of and accessing the services offered.

Appointments held with specialist agencies:





10. Individual one to one support with a TACTIC Youth Worker during November 2019 to January 2020, saw **44** undertaken, either via mentoring support or during a drop-in session. The order of most presenting issues were:
- Sexual Health,
  - Mental Health,
  - Relationships and
  - Family.

Incoming mentoring referrals over this period totalled **16** Young People.

**11. FUTURE PROJECT WORK OVER THE COMING MONTHS INCLUDE:**

- Basketball satellite sport project at Pages Park
- Youth Crime Project
- VE (Victory in Europe) Day project
- Box Release project
- Garden refurbishment Project
- Delivery of Puzzled Minds Mental Health initiative
- Easter and Summer activities

**12 TACTIC DRAFT ANNUAL WORK PLAN 2020- 2021**

- 12.1 The TACTIC draft delivery plan for 2020 – 2021 can be found at **Appendix A**. The delivery plan outlines TACTICs Core and Non-Core services that we aim to provide over the next 12 months within our open access youth service and targeted support provision for young people. Targets that remain ongoing and

relevant from the 2019/20 work plan have been transferred to the new plan. Officers recommend the plan to Committee for its endorsement.

12.2 Committee is asked to note the two approaches being made to facilitate the gathering of views, ideas and feedback from local young people.

a) Town Council ambition No. 26, to secure ongoing feedback from young people which is reflected in TACTIC's annual work plan at action No.12. Committee will see that the satellite and outreach provisions, the themed projects of Basketball and Release Boxing, along with TACTIC's exposure to school students through workshops and the regular drop-in sessions enables TACTIC to access a wider range of young people than those who already attend the centre. Capturing ongoing feedback from this wide spectrum of young people will be informative. A draft set of questions is attached at **Appendix A.**

b) Action No.20 of the workplan continues the theme and links to the planned survey/consultation of young people being led by the Community Forum on behalf of the Partnership Committee.

12.3 Officers are aware of Member's interest in securing young people's feedback. The two approaches will provide ongoing intelligence as per 'a)' above and a snapshot of a moment in time as per 'b)' above, to assist with future investment in our youth.

### 13 TALK-SPACE SERVICE/ FUNDING REQUEST

13.1 At its meeting on 11/03/2019, Committee resolved to endorse the continuation of the Talk-Space, contracted emotional wellbeing service for the financial year, 2019/20, (Ref. 162/CE). That funding concludes on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

13.2 Over the last year, 39 referrals have been taken from a variety of sources:

Received via:

Phone	22
Email	10
Drop-in	7

By whom:

Parent/Family	29
Self-referral	4
CAMS / GP	5
Social Care	1

13.3 Whilst TACTIC can pick up cases for mentoring, some of the presenting issues require specialist intervention by trained Counsellors. Over the past year, 35% of the received cases have been signposted to CHUMS, who deliver the Talk-Space service paid for by The Council.

13.4 Given the above data, officers consider the Talk-Safe service to be a vital locally based service. Officers therefore recommend that Committee consider funding CHUMS to carry on providing the service within TACTIC.

13.5 Two funding options are presented below for Committee’s consideration using estimated costs based on the previous year. At the time of writing this report, officers were waiting confirmation of costs from CHUMS. There is a difference in the hourly costs presented below for the lesser number of hours. CHUMS pricing model reduces in cost the more hours a service is commissioned.

	<b>Hours per week &amp; term times only = 39 weeks.</b>	<b>Fee per hour</b>	<b>Annual total</b>
<b>Option A</b> 2x visits per week	6x hours delivery per wk. <i>(Current service)</i>	£40ph = £240pwk	<b>£9,260</b>
<b>Option B</b>	3x hours delivery per wk.	£46ph = £138pwk	<b>£5,382</b>

13.6 Currently there is short waiting list in place due to the temporary loss of one counsellor which indicates a low need at present, hence Option B is presented. The risk factor of reducing the service by half is that should demand increase, young people would be unable to receive a prompt service and may incur more suffering due to a longer wait for an appointment.

13.7 Officers continue to seek other options for funding for the work and services undertaken through the TACTIC service.

**END**