

**Cultural & Economic Services Committee**

**Date:** 7 October 2019

**Title:** Update on TACTIC activities

**Purpose of the Report:** To update members of work at TACTIC in May, June, July and August 2019

**Contact Officer:** Tracey Quinn (now 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>	√	Spend of earmarked reserves recommended
<b>Human Resources</b>		
<b>Operational/Service delivery</b>	√	General Update
<b>Procedural/Legal</b>		
<b>Risk/Health and Safety</b>		

**1. RECOMMENDATION/S**

**1.1 To note the report**

**1.2 To request- £1123 (50% of total cost) from 'TACTIC' (970 9020) earmarked reserves to replace worn carpets within building.**

**1.3 To request £978 from 'Donations' (970-9049) earmarked reserves to allow for the development of the Satellite Basketball project.**

**2. YOUTH WORK: MAY 2019 TO AUGUST 2019**

- TACTIC organised two music workshops for young people to give them an opportunity to creatively express their feelings about issues affecting them through writing lyrics.
- During May half term five of the ex-youth forum members went on a group visit to the Escape Room as a thank you for their years of volunteering and engagement on the forum – and they escaped!
- The TANG group has seen a variety of activities over the months with a visit to Billing Aquadrome at the end of term. Two youth volunteers continue to support this satellite provision for young people with disabilities.
- Awareness information themes on knife crime, language & lyrics, sexual health, risky behaviour and festival season and how to stay safe have taken place.

- TACTIC had a Vandyke student join us for their work experience and she liked it so much she has continued to volunteer weekly at the TANG group.
- Playscheme week for 8-11yr olds was held at Mentmore Pavilion at the start of the summer project and 65 children attended over the four days. Fun was had by all with varied activities from team games, arts & crafts, sports and good use of the parks children's play area as a break out space.
- The summer programme over August has seen a quiet but steady attendance in our positive activities for 12 – 19 yrs. New younger people aged 12-13yrs have been attending the arts sessions, Food Hygiene training has taken place with young people achieving an accreditation qualification, the weekly games in the park have been weather permitting and two took place, the day trip out to Great Yarmouth seaside was a fun day with new young people joining in and three weekly drop ins have continued throughout the holidays.
- Friday Family Fun afternoons at the Parson's Close Recreation Ground have worked well with team games, circus skills and Zumba for all members of the community. This has been an interesting way to get TACTIC out & about and promote our services.
- TACTIC is involved in organising a Youth Work Awards event in November as part of national youth work week. This will be run jointly with the youth workers forum from across Bedfordshire and we will be nominating young people from Leighton Buzzard for their achievements.

### **3. Satellite Sports**

- 3.1 Following on from our taster sports session held at Pages Park that took place at the beginning of the year, it was decided to organise and deliver basketball sessions as part of our second satellite project. This was a success, seeing over 60 young people take part. The young people came from all over Leighton Buzzard and were aged between 12-16yrs. They made new friends, learnt new skills and worked well as a team. The project will continue with basketball sessions, offering another six weeks starting 11<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Due to uptake and feedback from young people and parents, it is hoped to continue the session at an indoor venue (Brooklands School) for the winter months.

### **4 Staffing Update**

- 4.1 TACTIC has successfully recruited a local person to the part-time youth support worker vacancy to work two of the drop-in sessions. The new post holder started in September.
- 4.2 The Centre Manager left the council at the end of September. An internal candidate was successfully recruited to the post commencing work on 1<sup>st</sup> October. This has left a vacant position for a senior youth worker and recruitment is underway.

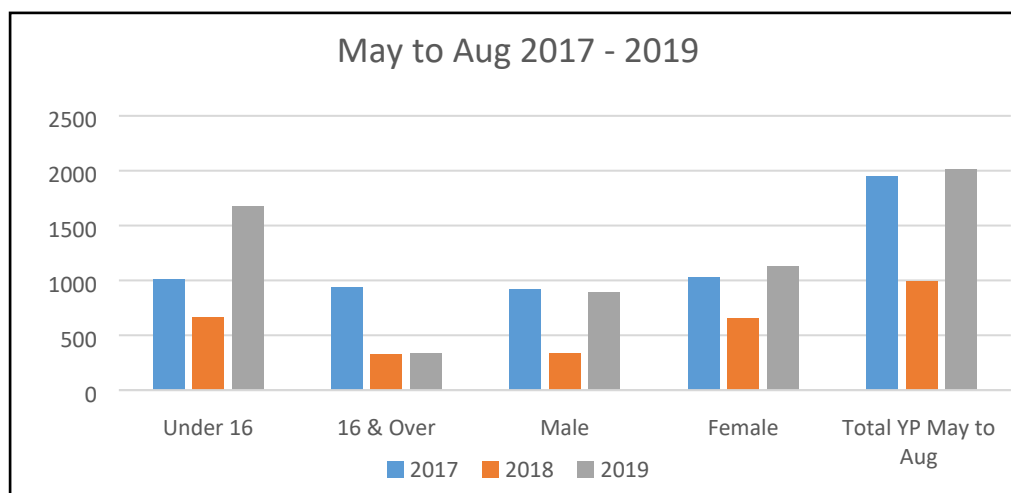
## 5 Youth Crime Project

- 5.1 TACTIC has been successful in obtaining £5,000 funding to deliver part of the CBC Supporting Families against Youth Crime Project. This will involve a series of workshops in Leighton Buzzard Schools i.e. two upper and two middle schools and at TACTIC. Groups of young people will be identified at risk of crime and take part in the workshops to try and intervene in their behaviour and understanding of risks and discuss the consequences of their actions. Focus of the workshops will depend on the current identified issues affecting those at risk e.g. knife crime, ASBO, theft and drug involvement. Delivery of the project locally will take place November 2019 – July 2020.

## 6 Nationwide 'NEET' Project

TACTIC has been approached to work in partnership with the local Nationwide Building Society as part of their community involvement work. TACTIC has planned to run a four week job club targeting NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) young people aged 16 – 21yrs. These weekly sessions with nationwide staff supporting and utilising their skills will look at CV writing, job search, interview skills and a motivational boost. The project will be initially piloted from 25<sup>th</sup> September to 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Due to the loss of our previous work club partner this will be a new approach but still offers support for those young people who need encouragement to become active.

## 7. Attendance Statistics



May to Aug 17-19	2017	2018	2019
Under 16	1012	659	1678
16 & Over	936	330	335
Male	916	331	888
Female	1032	658	1125
Total YP May to Aug	1948	989	2013

Overall general attendance at the centre has increased compared with the same period over the last two years. This is due to the newer younger age range of young people we are encouraging to attend i.e. under 16yrs and more schools work and assemblies that have taken place to promote the centre.

There have been 45 appointments held with specialist agencies:

	4YP	Talkspace	Totals
May	9	9	18
Jun	4	10	14
Jul	6	4	10
Aug	3	0	3
Totals	22	23	45

8. Individual one to one support with a TACTIC Youth Worker during May 2019 – August 2019 saw **48** undertaken, either via mentoring support or drop-in. The order of most presenting issues were: Sexual Health, Mental Health, Relationships and Family. Incoming referrals over this period has seen a total of **22** YP.

9. **Future Project Work over the coming months include:**

- Basketball satellite sport project at Pages Park
- Youth Work Week Awards
- Youth Crime Project
- Nationwide 'NEET' project
- Creative Art workshops
- Annual Christmas Lunch for 'older' residents

**END**