



LEIGHTON-LINSLADE TOWN COUNCIL

Cultural & Economic Services Committee

Date: 1st March 2021

Title: TACTIC service update

Purpose of the Report: To update members of work at TACTIC in November, December 2020 and January 2021

Contact Officer: Linda Farmer, TACTIC Centre Manager

Corporate Objective/s	VIBRANCY AND VITALITY OF TOWN AND TOWN CENTRE No.26 To consider ways to support the increase in leisure and personal development opportunities for youth, incorporating ongoing feedback from young people and considering suitability of delivery locations for youth work.	
Implications:		
Financial	Yes	Proposal to use Earmarked reserves to fund LED lighting in TACTIC and repair to flat roof.
Human Resources		
Operational/Service delivery	Yes	General Update
Procedural/Legal		
Risk/Health and Safety		

1. **Should Members be minded, the recommendation is:**
 - 1.1 **To endorse the TACTIC draft 2021/22 Annual Work Plan, as per para 9.2, Appendix B.**

- 2 **WORK DELIVERY UPDATES FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2020 and JANUARY 2021**
 - 2.1 General Youth Work - The list below shows the themes of work undertaken during parts of quarters 3 and 4.
 - Tang Group (Tactic Additional Needs Group)
 - Young Persons Drop In
 - Youth Forum
 - Mentoring
 - Older Persons Christmas Hampers
 - Schools Offer
 - Young Peoples Awards

2.2 Key Project Work:

2.2.1 Drop-In sessions:

Sessions remain closed due to COVID-19 latest lockdown and will resume once restrictions are eased.

2.2.2 Sexual Health Support workshops

In February TACTIC introduced weekly support workshops on Sexual Health. Young people can ring in and make an appointment to see a Youth Worker in confidence and receive general information or help with Chlamydia Testing, obtaining Condoms and Pregnancy testing. Sessions run every Wednesday 2pm – 4pm.

2.2.3 ‘Talk It Out’ telephone support

These weekly regular sessions were introduced in February as additional support to encourage young people who may be struggling with issues to phone in for a chat with a Youth Worker. Sessions run every Thursday 2pm – 4pm.

2.2.4 Red Box Project

TACTIC has signed up to this Government scheme which provides free period products to young females in a bid to end Period Poverty. Young people can ring in, pop by and collect necessary items.

2.2.5 Youth Forum

The Youth Forum remain active via virtual contact due to restrictions, and it is planned to recruit new members via the schools once they are back up and running.

2.2.6 Youth Awards

Together with the Grants Sub Committee, staff supported the delivery of achievement awards for young people. It was pleasing to see one of our TANG young people receive an award for personal achievement. This was presented by the Mayor of Leighton-Linslade with the Town Clerk.

2.2.7 Older Persons Christmas Hampers

TACTIC staff successfully delivered 45 hampers to residents of Leighton-Linslade before Christmas. Many letters, emails and cards of thanks were received from grateful community members.

3. SATELLITE PROJECTS

3.1 TANG (TACTIC Additional Needs Group)

Delivery of the TANG group continued during the latest lockdown as a support service for vulnerable young people. Some members chose not to attend and have been shielding, however, 2 young people continued to attend. Due the small number of attendees, these sessions are currently taking place at the TACTIC Centre from 4pm – 6pm on a Monday. This allows for access to additional resources such as PC's, located in the centre. This is temporary and once lockdown is lifted sessions will resume as normal within Linslade Memorial

Pavilion.

Activity packs were put together and doorstep dropped to keep the wider group productively occupied over the February half term.

4. SCHOOLS OFFER

- 4.1 Staff were able to go into schools during November to deliver workshops to targeted young people, chosen by the schools, who needed support with protective behaviours and a range of anxiety issues. Workshops were delivered to small groups in line with current COVID-19 restrictions and over a few weeks 20 young people attended in total.

It is planned to reintroduce workshops with the schools once restrictions are eased.

5. MENTORING AND ONE-TO-ONE SUPPORT

- 5.1 Throughout the lockdown staff have continued to provide 1-1 support to young people within the TACTIC centre for socially distant face-to-face sessions. In addition, we continue to support young people within schools on a 1-1 basis. Presenting issues continue to relate to anxiety and continued lockdown. At the time of writing this report, staff are working with 18 cases each week, and a further 6 young people are on the waiting list.

6. TRAINING

- 6.1 Staff training has continued with our Senior Youth Worker successfully becoming First Aid qualified.

All staff attended inhouse training during November / December on Protective Behaviours, Data Protection, Child Sexual Exploitation and County Lines.

Other staff training has continued virtually with staff accessing Sexual Health Condom Card training, and refresher sessions on chlamydia and pregnancy testing.

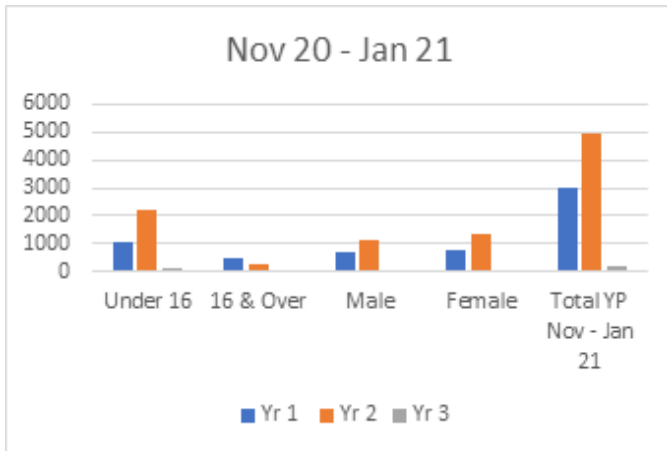
Staff have joined webinars which include: Promoting Positive Wellbeing, Managing Anxiety, Mental Health, Nutrition and Remote Working

7. ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

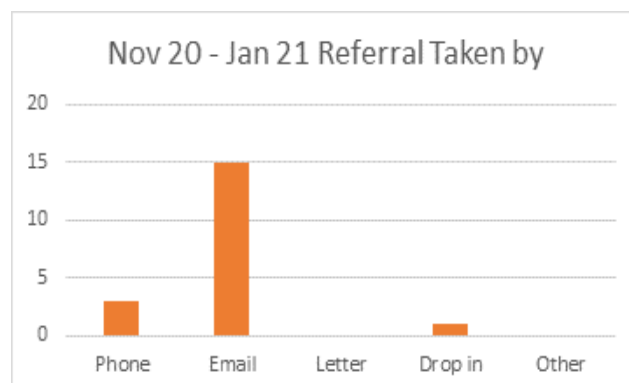
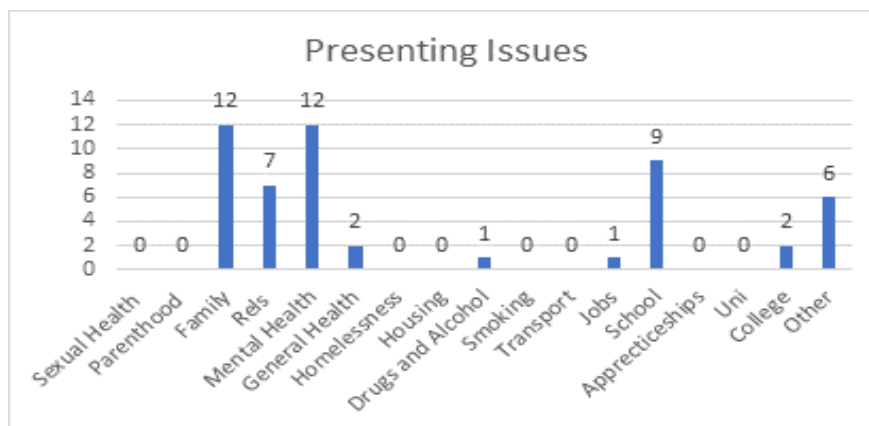
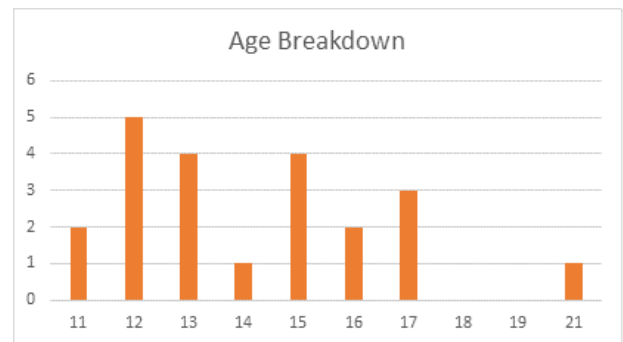
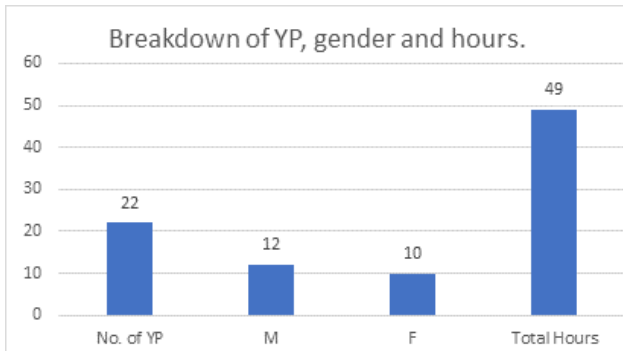
- 7.1 Once again, figures for November 2020 to January 2021 remain low due to Covid-19 restrictions and closure of general drop-in sessions.

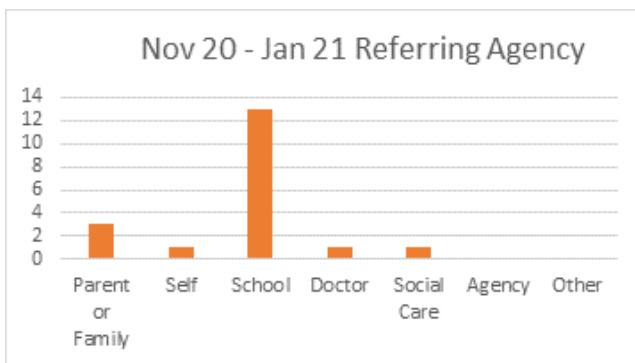
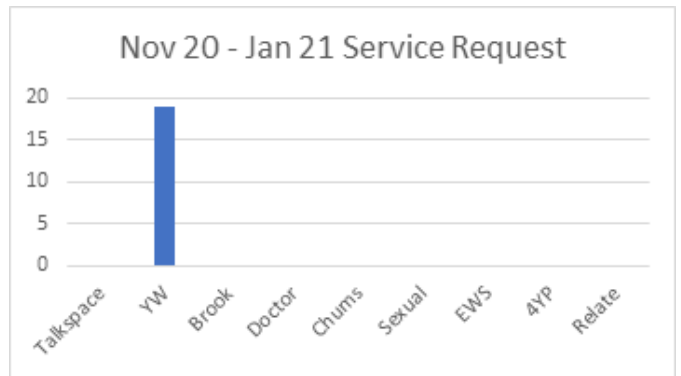
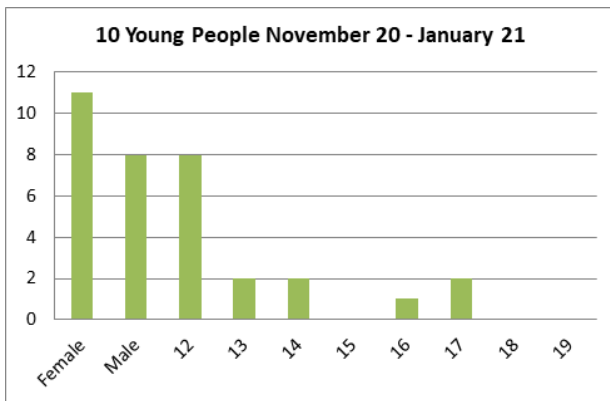
- 7.2 To date the one-to-one figure remain steady with staff supporting face-to-face, one-to-one sessions and additional telephone support where required. Demand for the service has increased with 18 open cases being worked with weekly, and an additional 6 on the waiting list. As stated, most of the requests for support relate to anxiety issues, particularly around COVID-19 and the

lockdowns, others were around relationships and family.

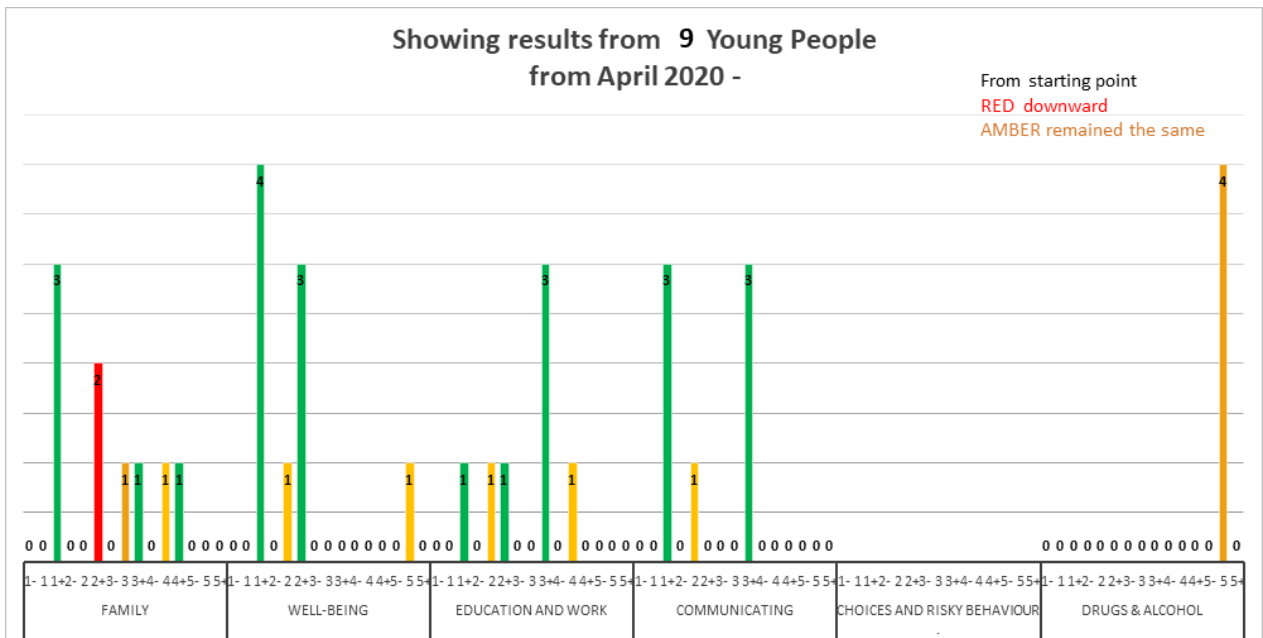


Nov - Jan 21	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3
Under 16	1039	2206	100
16 & Over	479	271	15
Male	726	1139	34
Female	792	1338	76
Total YP Nov - Jan 21	3036	4954	225





Below Table: Youth Web Results / Recorded Outcomes (Journey travelled by young person following 1-1 support)



7.3 School workshops are pending at present due to the latest lockdown; it is planned to promote these with the schools once they have returned to normal attendance.

8. TACTIC BUILDING

- 8.1 As per Council's Environmental Aims, and similarly to the work undertaken in the main offices, quotes were sought for changing the centre lighting to an LED energy saving system.
- 8.2 Repair work to the flat roof area above the toilet facilities is also being commissioned for general maintenance - clearing of all moss and resurfaced.

9. ANNUAL WORK PLANS

- 9.1 A review of the TACTIC 2020/2021 Annual Work Plan can be seen at **Appendix A (attached)**. Acknowledging the influence of Covid-19, many actions were still achieved.
- 9.2 The draft 2021/2022 Annual Work Plan can be viewed at **Appendix B (attached)**. The plan outlines TACTIC's Core and Non-Core services that will be provided over the next twelve months, pending ongoing Covid restrictions.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 TACTIC continue to experience ongoing disruption causing young people to lose a regular source of face-to-face support. However, staff have continued to offer support to the most vulnerable young people with socially distanced one-to-one sessions. In some cases, staff can continue their support to vulnerable young people by visiting them in their school.
- 10.2. It is hoped with the introduction of new initiatives, Talk It Out and Sexual Health & Relationship workshops, staff will reach out to more young people and provide the support they need.
- 10.3 Future Project Work over the coming months include:
- TANG (TACTIC Additional Needs Group)
 - Volunteer training
 - Return of Youth Drop in
 - Work Club support project
 - Youth Forum recruitment
 - 1-1 Mentoring
 - School workshops
 - Sexual Health Workshops within TACTIC and within Schools
 - 'Talk It Out' project
 - 'Red Box' Project

End