

Update on Trafford Youth Trust for circulation to partners and Board

I am writing to let you know about a change to Trafford Youth Trust and the way in which youth services will be run in Trafford in the future.

After careful consideration the Council has taken a policy decision to bring previously outsourced services for young people in the Borough, funded by the Youth Trust, back into the Council. After fully discussing this with the Board it has been agreed that the Trafford Youth Trust will be dissolved in due course. All associated funding will continue to be ring-fenced for provision for young people in Trafford.

Since it was established as a CIC in 2016, the Trafford Youth Trust has invested more than £500,000 in Trafford, commissioning a range of youth services from around 50 delivery partners across the Borough. The Trust has built a network of engagement across young people's services and groups and developed a platform for young people's voice. It built a digital space for young people to engage more effectively and generated wider participation as a result. The Trust also played a vital role in supporting the community to recover after the Manchester Arena attack in 2017 and better connected young people's services to the community, partners and the Council.

Lesley Davies OBE, Chair of Trafford Youth Trust, said "My colleagues and I are proud of our record of achievement, helping more than 3,500 young people across Trafford reach their potential. We would like to thank the partners who have worked with us to deliver high-quality services which have improved aspirations, enhanced vocational skills, and supported the engagement of young people from all our communities. We have played a key role in the well-being, safety and employability of some of the Borough's most important and at-risk residents. It has been our pleasure to work with VCSE partners, and with the Council, and on behalf of the Board of the Trust, I wish all colleagues and particularly the young people of Trafford, well for the future".

The Council will work with the Trust to ensure a smooth transition period and we will be in touch with further updates. Please be assured that all existing contracts will continue for 2018/19 and any grants awarded will continue to be monitored. With immediate effect the Council will be overseeing existing activities and contracts. Organisations currently receiving funding are advised to liaise with Angela Brown, Specialist Commissioner, at angela.brown@trafford.gov.uk or 0161912 4072 if they require any further information.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lesley Davies, and the members of the Trafford Youth Trust for their work on our behalf, and to thank you for your continued support to the young people of our Borough and their families.

Andrew Western
Leader, Trafford Borough Council