



Agenda Item 10

Wells City Council

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Presented By (if different)	
Subject	YMCA Extension proposal 2026-2027
Date of report	05.11.2025
For consideration at	Finance Committee
Date of consideration	13.11.2025

Background

In 2023 Wells City Council commenced an arrangement with Brunel YMCA for the provision of Youth Provision within the City (23/175/C)

Since that time the youth provision has gone from strength to strength and additional procurement of services as see Brunel YMCA offer additional facilities to the rural provision of youth services in 2024/25 also.

The youth provision, financed by the City Council is considered to be a safe and inclusive place for 10-19 year olds, and has the specific aim to connect, learn and grow.

The club is led by experienced youth worker Natalie Walton, and two other youth workers. Who actively engage with young people in parks and the city centre, via schools, etc to build relationships and encourage attendance.

The club will runs once a week on Mondays during term time. It offers an array of activities and programmes catered to the interests and needs of its members, which might include art, games, music, workshops and conversations.

Bi Annual reports are provided to Council to evidence the value for money and activities of the youth function, for which, the most recent report can be seen in Appendix A.

Proposal

Mark Wilcox of the YMCA is keen to ensure the ongoing provision of the service, and to manage budgetary restrictions proactively, thus, would like to seek an agreement that extends to bi-annually, or greater to offer resilience to the service and particularly the staffing of the provision. Equally, the arrangement has not taken account of inflation, and as such, it has been asked that the increased sum of £16,000 opposed to the currently agreed £15,000 is considered for 2026-27 budget period.

Recommendation:

Finance Committee is recommended to:

1. Agree funding of the provision for £16,000 per annum, for the provision of youth services to the YMCA, with the express request that following this period (01.04.2026-31.03.2027), other funding sources be sought to sustain the service longer term in addition to WCC funding to ensure continued resilience.
2. Request the provider to continue to provide bi annual reports detailing the resources applied, evidencing value for money.

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Bi Annual Report Wells Youth Club September 2025