

ANGUS COUNCIL
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
25 AUGUST 2011
YOUNG SCOT NATIONAL REWARDS SCHEME
REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

ABSTRACT

This report updates members on progress made since April 2011 in relation to the Young Scot National Rewards Scheme and recommends the implementation of the Scheme in Angus.

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Education Committee:

- (i) note progress made in relation to Young Scot Rewards since April 2011
- (ii) approve the proposal to implement the Young Scot Rewards Scheme in Angus in liaison with Children's and Learning Partners.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Reference is made to the meeting of the Education Committee on 21 April 2011 (article 12 refers). The Committee:

- considered the aims and likely benefits of the Young Scot Rewards Scheme
- noted the expression of interest that the Council had already given to explore the potential for implementing the proposed new National Young Scot Rewards Scheme in Angus; and
- approved a proposal to engage in dialogue with Young Scot with a view to adopting the scheme in Angus.

3 CURRENT POSITION

3.1 Since April, Council officers have attended a regional briefing meeting with Young Scot at which detailed information was provided about the nature and implications of implementing the Scheme.

3.2 This briefing confirmed that:

- the Scheme would roll out across Scotland from summer 2011. Early activity would focus on local authority areas in which there had been previous engagement and where partners were ready to implement
- Young Scot would work closely with each Authority to establish the Scheme in its area
- there would be no initial cash costs for Authorities associated with the implementation of the Scheme beyond their current payment for general Young Scot services. (The cost of providing rewards will be met nationally and the contributions of local partners will focus on building partner involvement and ensuring that young people can access rewards for their local commitments and involvements.)

- as the Scheme becomes established in a Council area, there will be scope for local partners to contribute tailored rewards that reflect their own priorities and circumstances.
- the vehicle for delivering Young Scot Rewards would be the existing Young Scot Portal. Consequently, the Scheme will reinforce the core function of the portal in providing information to young people, thereby giving them further motivation to make regular use of the site.

3.3 A local briefing meeting about the scheme took place on 30 June 2011, attended by staff in Education, Neighbourhood Services, and a representative from Young Scot.

It was the view of staff in attendance that Young Scot Rewards could bring significant benefits to young people in Angus and to Community Planning Partners. These benefits would include:

- offering an additional vehicle for recognising and rewarding young people's involvement in and positive contributions to their communities
- establishing an additional channel for Culture, Sport and Leisure providers to encourage the participation of young people
- encouraging young people to value their Young Scot Card and make more use of it
- providing volunteer-engaging organisations with another vehicle for recognising the efforts of their young volunteers
- creating a tool to assist in monitoring the attractiveness of local development opportunities to young people.

4 PROPOSALS

4.1 It is proposed that the Committee:

- agree to the implementation of Young Scot Rewards Scheme in Angus
- authorise the Director of Education to liaise with Children's and Learning Partners to implement the Scheme from the earliest practical date.

5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no financial implications arising from the terms of this report.

6 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no Human Rights implications arising from the consideration of this report.

7 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective. An [equalities impact assessment](#) is not required.

8 ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN AND SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT

8.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2011-2014:

- our children and young people are confident individuals, effective contributors, successful learners and responsible citizens

- individuals are involved in their communities.

9 CONSULTATION

- 9.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance and Head of Law and Administration, Director of Neighbourhood Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

10 CONCLUSION

- 10.1 The Young Scot Rewards Scheme would appear to have considerable potential for enhancing personal development opportunities for young people in Angus and for providing community planning partners with an additional vehicle to facilitate engagement with young people.
- 10.2 In light of the potential offered by this national scheme and the absence of any direct or immediate cost implications, the Council and its partners should move to implement the scheme in collaboration with Young Scot. Such work would be taken forward by the Children's and Learning Partnership of the Angus Community Planning Partnership.

**NEIL LOGUE
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

ED/NL/GH