

It is with regret that Durrington Town Council announces the closure of the Youth Service, effective from the 25th of September 2024.

This decision has not been made lightly and follows careful consideration of several factors that have made it increasingly challenging to maintain the service in its current form.

Over recent years, the interests and expectations of Durrington's youth have evolved significantly. The Council recognises that the current structure of the Youth Service no longer aligns with the aspirations and preferences of children and young people in the community. As a result, the services provided are not meeting the needs of today's youth in the most effective or impactful way.

The number of young people accessing the Youth Service has steadily declined. Additionally, the safeguarding responsibilities that come with operating a youth service are substantial.

The Council remains committed to supporting young people through other initiatives and collaborations with local organisations. It will continue to explore new and innovative ways to engage with and provide for the youth, ensuring that they have the resources and opportunities they need to thrive.

To that end the Council is sponsoring the youth fair at the Recreation ground today. Everyone is invited to come along between 2 and 5pm to find out what activities are available for teens in the area.

The Council would like to express its gratitude to all those who have contributed to its success over the years. It would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to Becky Lock, who led the service with unwavering dedication and passion. The Council also wants to acknowledge the incredible work of our volunteers, whose generosity and selflessness have been the backbone of the service.



Durrington Town Council.