

1968

TENTERDEN

TELEGRAPH

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EIGHTPENCE

'Youth club had chance'

AS the county council encourages people to take an interested part in planning their environment, we have looked into the suggestion (KENT MESSENGER, November 22), that members of the Tenterden Youth Club were "turned away" from the recent Development Plan inquiry.

The fact is that the county council received the club's petition and in writing, gave the club advance notice of where and when

the inquiry would be.

Throughout this long public inquiry, the county council supplied the Minister's Inspector with a member of its staff to act as "Programme Officer." This officer was a conspicuous figure and he was called upon by many people for guidance about the procedure. No one indicated to him the youth club's wish to speak at the inquiry. Indeed had any members of the youth club told him of their wish to speak, he

would have made the necessary arrangements with the inspector.

At the end of the business in which the youth club was particularly interested, the borough council's legal representative said he understood that representatives of the youth club were present and wished to speak. The county council's legal

representative indicated he had no objection. The Minister's Inspector, who was in charge of the inquiry, then invited the youth club to present its views, but by that time the club's representatives were evidently not present. — JOHN C. HALTON, Kent County Information Officer, County Hall, Maidstone.

Tenterden Youth Club