

Facts and Figures 2005/06

Priorities

The service works with young people between the ages of 10 and 25 years, with the priority age range being 13 to 19. The priorities for the service are:

- To enable young people to develop personal skills, social skills and high aspirations
- To involve young people in democracy and decision making
- To promote the social inclusion of young people
- To engage young people in new opportunities and challenging experiences
- To encourage young people to lead healthy lifestyles.

Targets

County youth service staff in Eastleigh district worked with 6,499 young people, 5,821 of whom were aged 13 to 19 years, equating to 56% of the target population. Of the 3,794 active participants in the service, 3,245 were 13 to 19 year-olds, which equates to 32% of the 13 to 19 population.

There were 23,387 recorded attendances at youth service units in Eastleigh district, 21,586 of whom were 13 to 19 year-olds. There were 343 recorded outcomes resulting from young people being involved with the service, equating to 9% of active participants. In total, 74 young people gained an accredited outcome, equating to 2% of the active participants.

The county youth service as a whole has exceeded the national benchmarks for reach and active participation, and recorded and accredited outcomes have significantly improved. This positive direction of travel is under-pinned by a robust system for the collection of the required data.

Management and range of youth work

The youth service is located in Hampshire County Council's Children's Services Department and strategic management of the service is the responsibility of the management team. Eleven district teams cover areas coterminous with district council boundaries and each team is led by a Senior Youth Worker. The service in Eastleigh district managed 19 different units and the range of work included youth centres, targeted group-work, detached work, mobile projects, inclusion projects and Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups.

Supporting youth work

The service in Eastleigh district has 5 full-time posts, 20 part-time posts, and 2 volunteers. All youth service units in Eastleigh work with at least one other partner agency. The service provides a wide range of staff development opportunities for youth workers in the statutory and voluntary sectors.

Promoting youth work

The service in Eastleigh district works in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and has close working arrangements with the Borough, Town and Parish Councils.

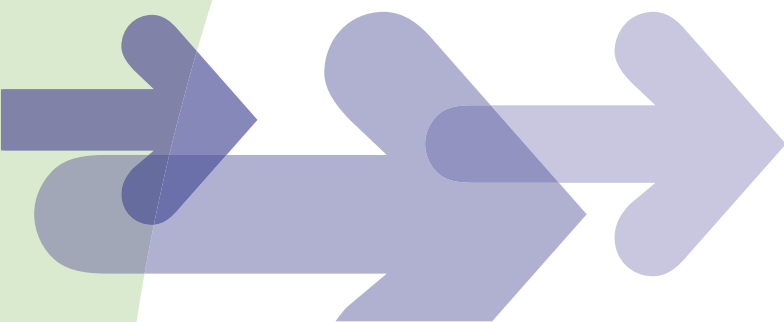
Financing youth work 2005/06

The Hampshire County Council delegated budget for the county youth service as a whole is £5.1 million; this equates to approximately £46 per 13 to 19 year-old living in Hampshire and £163 per 13 to 19 year-old involved in the service. The County Youth Service generated a total of £1.1 million of external funding.

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Every young person matters

Eastleigh District Annual Report 2005-06



Foreword



Partnerships are at the heart of successful youth work in Eastleigh district – Steve Willis, Senior Youth Worker

The county youth service's Eastleigh district team has a long track record of successful partnership work with Borough, Town and Parish Councils and other local agencies. These partnerships enable new youth work projects to be developed across the district and provide stability for established projects. I would like to thank all staff in Eastleigh district and our partner agencies, for their commitment and for making a real difference to the lives of local young people.

Young people in Eastleigh have told us that the main issue they face is a lack of public transport at the times when they need it. This puts additional pressure on agencies to work together to develop easily reached local services. The need for readily accessible provision has been partly met by the opening of six new youth centres in the district over the past few years, two of which became fully operational this year.

The enthusiastic and experienced team of youth workers in the district have enhanced the quality of the provision offered by local voluntary youth clubs, by giving support and advice to voluntary leaders and committee members. The team directly manages and delivers a wide range of provision including building based projects, detached work, targeted group work, inclusion projects and personal, social and health education programmes.

It is important to recognise that in the coming year and beyond, the population of young people living in Eastleigh Borough will increase significantly and pressure will be placed upon facilities and services. This offers exciting challenges and new opportunities to the youth service and to all agencies working with young people. Good and sustainable inter-agency partnerships will remain the key to a successful future for the service and the young people we serve.

Introduction

Malcolm Rittman, County Youth Officer

I am delighted to introduce you to the Hampshire County Youth Service Eastleigh district report for 2005-06. Our youth workers in Eastleigh are to be congratulated for the constructive and energetic way they have responded to the changing needs of young people. The Eastleigh team have ably demonstrated the wide range of skills and qualities needed to enable young people to make a positive contribution to their communities and to their own future.

This report gives a range of interesting examples of how county youth service staff in Eastleigh work in partnership with other agencies and make a significant contribution to young people achieving the five outcomes - staying safe, being healthy, enjoying and achieving, making a positive contribution and achieving economic well being.

There is much to do in the year ahead and the service in Eastleigh district is well placed to play a full and active part in delivering on the four challenges of the government Green Paper – Youth Matters:

1. Empowering young people – things to do and places to go.
2. Young people as citizens – making a contribution.
3. Supporting choices – information, advice and guidance.
4. All young people achieving – reforming targeted support.

There has never been such an interesting and exciting time to be involved in developing the high quality services young people require and deserve. I am looking forward to next year with optimism and to the birth of a new era in youth work in which every young person matters.



→ **Sam's story** – the beginning of one young person's journey with the youth service

Sam was one of a group of young men who were generally fed up, excluded from school, and known to the Police and the Youth Offending Team.

Sam attended his local youth centre where the youth workers noticed he was very quiet and rarely opened up. As Sam began to be more responsive, and just as the youth workers were building a sound working relationship with him, the behaviour of the group he associated with deteriorated. Sam was carried along by his peers and things came to the point where the only option was to ask the group to stay away for a while.

The youth workers sent all members of the group a letter inviting them to attend a young men's group where they could talk about the consequences of their behaviour and negotiate a way back in to the open-access sessions at the centre. Recently Sam has started to take some responsibility for his own actions and he is a good example of how a young man, considered hard to reach by most agencies, values the social aspect of open access youth service provision. Open access provision, something to do and a place to go, often becomes a gateway into other services and opportunities. Early days, but Sam's journey towards the five outcomes has begun.

and has grown into a regular and very popular event in its own right. Recent gigs have attracted up to 400 young people and the money raised goes to local good causes. The high attendance reflects how much young people enjoy the opportunity of meeting and making friends while listening to music they enjoy. At each EM Fest event youth workers take the opportunity to provide information on major health education topics and other relevant issues.

The Eastleigh Borough Youth Council (EBYC) also had a major success on their hands this year with the extremely popular Fing Dance Nights. The first dance night attracted over 200 young people and by March 2006 attendances had risen to 600. The young musicians and deejays playing at these events get a huge boost in self confidence. Performing in front of a large group of peers can be a life changing experience.

Chandler's Ford Youth Council (CFYC) and Hedge End, West End and Botley Youth Council (HEWEB) also celebrated a year of achievements and elected new members at their annual general meetings. Major highlights of the year included participating in the first leg of a youth exchange with young people from Poland. Members of all the youth councils and forums in the district adopt a team approach to organising events. With support from youth workers and the Borough, Town and Parish Councils, they all have fun while contributing to their communities and developing planning, communication, budgeting and other transferable skills.

→ **Participation in action**

Young people lead the way in Eastleigh district



Participation in youth councils and forums has gone from strength to strength in Eastleigh district. For example Eastleigh Town Youth Forum (ET YF) organised a promotional event and came up with the exciting idea of a local music festival for 14-25 year olds. EM Fest has succeeded in its original objective of raising the profile of the forum

→ **Pink Party at HYPE youth centre**

It was strictly girls only for a special event held during Breast Cancer Awareness month at HYPE Youth Centre in Hamble. Every young woman in year 11 of the local secondary school was invited to HYPE for a special Pink Party. On arrival, the young women were all given a pink, non-alcoholic cocktail and pink marshmallows.

A nurse, specifically trained to work with young people, was on hand to lead an awareness raising workshop on breast cancer. By the end of the workshop the young women knew how to conduct self examinations and realised the importance of seeking the advice of a doctor if they found something that caused them any concern.

The 'Pink Party' was attended by over 70 young women and the evaluation questionnaires indicated that it was a fun way to learn about a serious subject.

→ **deejay and life-skills**

Innovative work comes out of The Box

The innovative deejay and life-skills project, based at The Box Youth Centre in Hedge End, proved to be such a success that it was decided to expand the project by including a group from Lakeside School for pupils with special educational needs. Each individual worked at their own pace and began to enjoy learning the art of being a deejay.

In addition to developing some technical and communication skills, the group were involved in various team building activities. On one occasion they planned and cooked a delicious meal for the whole group, and they regularly helped to prepare the centre's equipment for other groups to use.

As they worked through the programme, each young person contributed to a portfolio showing the skills and knowledge they had gained. At a recent project evaluation meeting, the Head of Personal, Social and Health Education at Lakeside School, said how impressed school staff were with the learning outcomes from the project. He also commented on how the portfolio will be invaluable evidence of good practice to show OFSTED inspectors and other visitors to the school.

→ **Extended schools**

Helping young people to make a successful transition to secondary school

There are a number of important transitions during a young person's life and there is growing evidence that making a success of these transitions can be crucial to achieving the five outcomes referred to by the county youth officer in his introduction to this report.

With the importance of the transition from primary to secondary education in mind, youth workers in Eastleigh district began lunchtime drop-in sessions in a local primary school during the summer term of 2005. At the drop-in sessions, the pupils talked through the fears they had about making the move from the familiar surroundings of their junior school.

As a response to some of the issues raised at the drop-in, additional group work sessions were arranged in co-operation with both schools.

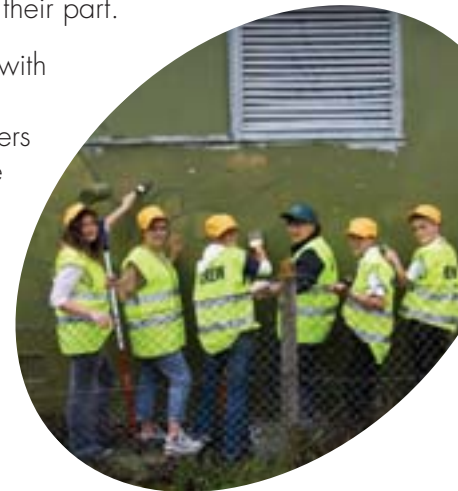
The drop-in was part of a pilot project associated with the Extended Schools initiative in Hampshire. A key part of the support came from existing pupils from Wyvern Technology College, who acted as friendly contacts to new pupils during their first few months at the school.

→ **Eastleigh CREW**

Young People contribute to Crime Reduction Environment Week

The aims of Eastleigh district's Crime Reduction Environment Week (CREW) included reducing anti-social behaviour and improving the appearance of Hiltlingbury recreation ground. Eastleigh's Community Safety Partnership launched CREW and young people were keen to play their part.

Young people associated with local youth work projects formed a group of volunteers to paint over graffiti on the local gas sub-station and remove litter from part of the recreation ground. The photograph shows some of the volunteers teaming up to improve the appearance of the sub-station.



Other activities arranged during CREW helped to develop positive relationships between firefighters and young people, and alcohol awareness workshops drew attention to the link between alcohol and anti-social behaviour.

The young people had a lot of fun participating in CREW and took great pride in their achievements. Following CREW, young people have become more involved in developing ideas for the improvement of the recreation ground. Plans are in hand for a new youth shelter, upgrading the skate park, more litter bins and improved landscaping.