

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 Gosport district worked with 3,234 young people, 2,501 of whom were aged 13 to 19 years, equating to 35% of the target population. Of the 2,243 active participants in the service, 1,784 were 13 to 19 year-olds, which equates to 25% of the 13 to 19 population.

There were 9,999 recorded attendances at youth service units in Gosport district, of whom 7,808 were 13 to 19 year-olds. There were 250 recorded outcomes resulting from young people being involved with the service, equating to 11% of active participants. In total, 41 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 underpinned 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 Gosport district managed 13 different units and the range of work included youth centres, targeted group-work, detached work, inclusion projects, Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups and a whole host more.

Supporting youth work

The service in Gosport has six full-time posts, 23 part-time posts, and five volunteers. All youth service units in Gosport 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

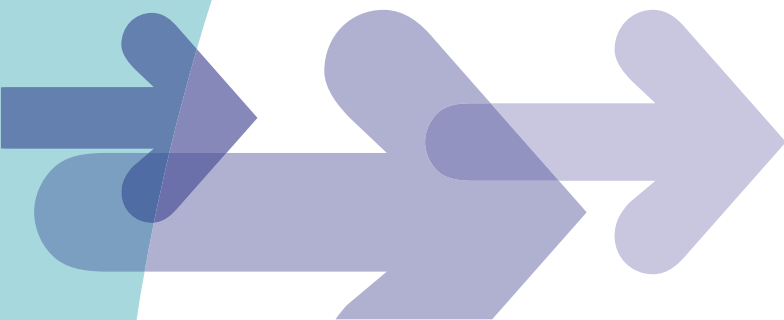
The service in Gosport district works in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and has close working arrangements with the Borough, Town and Parish Councils.

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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Foreword

Youth work in Gosport reflects the diversity of young people's lives and interests - Maria Calway-Kennedy, Senior Youth Worker



The past year has seen a variety of new youth work initiatives in the Gosport district. The youth service team, working in partnership with other agencies, has enabled young people to participate in a wide range of learning opportunities and make a positive contribution to their community.

Of the 3,234 young people reached by the team this year, 494 took part in the district's summer programme and 1,098 were involved in partnership projects with schools and other organisations. New developments have included the very successful Alive and Active Festival, the expansion of street-based work, school inclusion projects and after school activity programmes.

All our units support the healthy lifestyles agenda by offering young people access to: sports and fitness programmes; cooking skills and healthy snacks; workshops on drugs and alcohol misuse; materials and services that promote emotional well being. The county youth service annual survey indicated that our approach to being healthy is working well, with 70% of the young people surveyed in Gosport saying they knew more about health issues as a direct result of attending one or more of our projects.

In 2006-07 we are looking forward to the completion of the new Rowner Youth Centre and the development of innovative and creative ways of engaging young people in learning.

Our achievements this year and our plans for 2006-07 depend on the hard work, skills and dedication of our staff team and the support of our partner agencies. My thanks go to all members of the team and to all the agencies working in partnership with us, including Gosport Borough Council, Wessex Youth Offending Team, local Police, health services, schools and community organisations.

Introduction

Malcolm Rittman, County Youth Officer

I am delighted to introduce you to the Hampshire County Youth Service Gosport district report for 2005-06. Our youth workers in Gosport are to be congratulated for the constructive and energetic way they have responded to the changing needs of young people. The Gosport team has 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 Gosport 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 Gosport 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.





→ Emma's story

How the Youth Service makes a difference

"My name is Emma and I am involved in a few youth service projects in Gosport district. I participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and to complete one of the sections of the Award I joined The Gosport Youth Council (GYC). GYC aims to get the views of young people heard and to make improvements to Gosport for young people.

I have also joined the Young Worker Scheme, where I learn the skills and qualities a youth worker needs and I put them into practice by helping out with local youth projects and events.

I have achieved and learned many things through the youth service, but most of all I have developed self confidence, especially when speaking in front of large groups of people. I like a challenge and I am a very outgoing person. The youth service has given me opportunities I wouldn't have otherwise had."

→ Making a positive contribution

Gosport Youth Council (GYC) plays an increasingly important role in ensuring the voice of young people is heard by local decision makers. The Borough Council and other agencies regularly consults GYC about the development of leisure facilities, community safety initiatives and other local plans and policies.

Youth workers from the district team work in partnership with Gosport Borough Council to support the work of GYC. The elected members of GYC create their own agenda and become involved in campaigning on issues raised by local young people. In March 2006, the Gosport Youth Council organised the Gosport Youth Conference. The major theme of the conference was bullying and what can be done to reduce it. Young people from local schools, St Vincent College and local youth groups explored how bullying policies could be improved and the action young people can take if they feel bullied.

During the evaluation of the conference, comments from young people included:

"What an amazing day!.I learned how to help with the bullying issues in my school."

"It was a chance for people to express their feelings."

"I am excited about this now and want to help stamp out bullying."

The Gosport Youth Council goes from strength to strength and plans for next year will ensure members of GYC will continue to make a positive contribution to their community.

→ Staying safe

Becoming a responsible driver and owner

The First Gear course, developed by Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight, encourages young people to develop positive attitudes to owning and driving motor vehicles. Youth workers from Brune Park Youth Centre hosted a successful course for eight young men in April 2005.

The whole group participated in a road accident rescue demonstration that fully brought home the dangers associated with drink-driving. Other sessions of the course covered the costs involved in owning a car, emergency first aid, the environmental impact of cars, driving skills and basic car maintenance.

With the help of Hampshire County Council's Road Safety Team, the young men examined the statistics relating to young people and road traffic accidents, and considered the consequences road accidents have in real life. All the participants said that this session was the most hard-hitting.

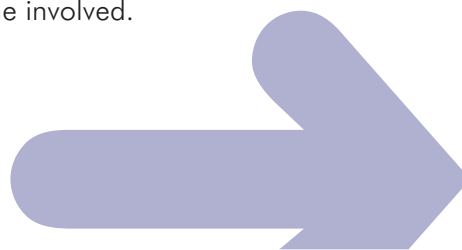
Having completed the course 17 year-old Pete Young said:

"First Gear was amazing. Anyone in my age group offered this chance should snap it up. First Gear was quality!"

→ Enjoying and achieving

Bridgemary's Christmas Show

A glittering showcase of young people's talent took place at Bridgemary Community Sports College in December 2005. The Bridgemary Christmas Show had traditionally been produced by Bridgemary's youth club for young people with special needs, but this year it was agreed to invite all young people who access Bridgemary Youth Centre to become involved.





Young people from the Duke of Edinburgh's Award project, the open access drop-in and the special needs youth club all worked together to plan and rehearse what proved to be a very entertaining show. The production included dance, drama, music and comedy. The staff involved were extremely pleased to see the way that young people helped one another on the night and during the rehearsals.

Malcolm Rittman, the county youth officer, attended the show and presented certificates of achievement to all those involved. Malcolm praised the staff and young people for their efforts on stage and behind the scenes. Plans are already underway for an even bigger and better event in December 2006.

→ Teenzone

Supporting young people on the road to economic well being

Some young people face issues in their daily lives that make it difficult for them to benefit from the opportunities offered by mainstream schools. Their chances of achieving good examination results may be reduced and their behaviour can become disruptive. The Teenzone Project works specifically with young people in year

11 referred by schools when their situation has reached the stage where formal exclusion is being considered.

In groups of no more than 12, the staff at Teenzone plan and deliver a programme that addresses the issues young people are facing, and they agree the best starting point for each individual. During the past year this approach has led to work on anger management, building self confidence, teamwork skills and examining how an individual's behaviour affects other people.

An important part of the evaluation process has been to encourage feedback from parents and their comments this year have included:



"His behaviour has improved a lot since he's been here, which we're pleased about, as last year we just didn't know what to do."

"We're really pleased that Gary has applied to go to college and get a job to help him get into the Navy. He is being realistic about his future."

Teenzone has established a deserved reputation for helping young people at an important time in their personal development and during their transition from school to further education, training and employment.

→ Music Monday Project

An innovative way of developing creative skills

This year has seen the development of a very successful after school music project at Brune Park Youth Centre and plans have been made to offer similar experiences at other local youth centres in 2006-07. The Young people who regularly attend the project have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of creative workshops including deejay skills, song writing and experimentation with musical instruments.

In July 2005, DJ Volley, a regular member of the Music Monday group, came runner-up in a deejay competition at the Homelands Festival in Winchester, after the event he said:

'I have never played in front of so many people before. I've been a deejay for about 3 years but I never knew how to deejay properly until I started going to Brune Park Youth Centre.'

