

## 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 Hart district worked with 2,695 young people, 2,341 of whom were aged 13 to 19 years, equating to 32% of the target population. Of the 2,150 active participants in the service, 1,844 were 13 to 19 year-olds, which equates to 25% of the 13 to 19 population.

There were 16,402 recorded attendances at youth service units in Hart district, of whom 10,638 were 13 to 19 year-olds. There were 508 recorded outcomes resulting from young people being involved with the service, equating to 24% of the active participants. In total, 59 young people gained an accredited outcome, equating to 3% 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 Hart district managed 12 different units and the range of work includes youth centres, targeted group-work, detached work, mobile projects, inclusion projects, Duke of Edinburgh's Award groups and a whole host more.

### Supporting youth work

The service in Hart has four full-time posts, 22 part-time posts and eight volunteers. All youth service units in Hart 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

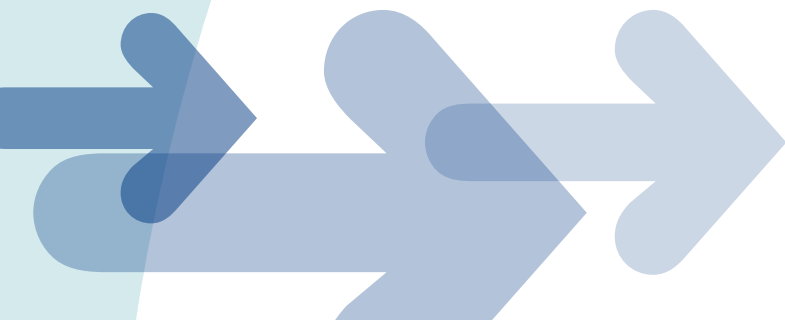
The service in Hart district works in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and has close working arrangements with the District, Town and Parish Councils.

### 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 13-19 year-old living in Hampshire and £163 per 13-19 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

Mark Blackwell, Senior Youth Worker



It has been a very positive year for youth work in Hart district. A number of new inter-agency partnerships have been developed and they have provided young people with much needed new services and opportunities.

Alongside the development of new partnership work, the youth service team has continued to support established projects across the district. This year the team reached 32% of the young people aged 13 to 19 living in Hart. These contacts have been made through our range of youth centres, advice and information services, school inclusion groups, mobile projects and detached work.

An indication of the popularity and quality of youth work in the district came from the county youth service annual survey; 92% of the young people surveyed in Hart district said they get on well with their youth workers and 84% said they attended projects regularly.

As important as statistics are, it is the feedback we receive from young people that means so much:

"I know when I have a problem I can talk to youth workers and they will listen to me"

"Coming to this project helped me to believe in myself"

"I like the fact that I can come here and be myself, I don't have to pretend."

As I look forward to next year, it is clear that youth work in the district will continue to develop at a fast pace. Mobile provision will increase and we will develop a wider range of ways to accredit the learning and achievements of young people.

I look forward to all that next year will bring and I offer my personal thanks to our staff and partner organisations for their continued hard work and support.

### Introduction

Malcolm Rittman, County Youth Officer

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

## → Hannah's Story -

### Why I attend a local youth centre



When asked why she still attends Court Moor Youth Centre six years after her first visit, Hannah said:

"It's fun, lively and friendly; I have a good time there. I first started attending when I was in year 7 at Court Moor School. The youth centre is on the school grounds and

I thought that I would come along to see what it was like. It was good to come to a building where I was made welcome. My friends and I soon felt that it was our space. The youth workers were good to be with and I felt comfortable with them.

Over the years I have been able to talk about different things that have affected me because the youth workers are easy to talk to. I knew that I could talk to them about anything and they would listen to me and let me sound out my ideas.

One of the best experiences that I've had at the centre was singing in a concert for local young bands. I was part of a band made up of non-guitar players who were taught to play guitar and be a band in just three months. Singing at the gig was an amazing experience and learning the guitar fulfilled one of my dreams. As well as enjoying performing in front of my friends I also got a Duke of Edinburgh's Award skills certificate.

I have met loads of people and made new friends while being here. Now I have left the school, I can come back and meet friends from the youth centre who are still at school. I have become more confident when meeting new people and I now play a part in welcoming new people to the centre. Most of my friends stopped coming to the youth centre when they left school, but a few of us still come back to help out and be part of what goes on there. I now feel included as part of the team."

## → Young Carers DVD -

### Local young carers play starring role in training DVD

Hart and Rushmoor Young Carers Group (HRYCG) was approached by the Children's Society to be involved in the production of a DVD for use as a training tool in courses run by the London College of Psychiatrists.

The college commissioned the project after recognising the need for psychiatrists and other professionals to learn more about the sources of support available to young carers.

HRYCG readily accepted the invitation to be involved when they realised the potential the DVD had for making a difference to the quality of support available to young carers in Hampshire and elsewhere.

A professional production company was commissioned to produce the DVD and the production crew came along to meetings of the group over a four week period in November 2005. The crew recorded the views and experiences of young carers, youth workers and the other professionals involved with the group.

The preview of the DVD was greatly anticipated by the 15 members of HRYCG and they were pleased with how their words, emotions and experiences had come across.

The young carers are extremely proud of the finished product and feel that their views have been heard, valued and respected. The DVD has already been shown to a group of professionals involved in working with young carers and reports indicate that they learned a lot from the content.

Members of the production crew were very impressed by the young people at HRYCG and they are keen to make another DVD with the group in time for the 2006 Young Carers Festival.





## → RAF Summer project - Young people enjoy holiday activity programme

Young people enjoyed an exciting programme of activities over the school summer holiday period thanks to partnership work involving locally based personnel of the Royal Air Force and the county youth service. The programme was built upon the success of the jointly organised youth club at RAF Odiham and provided coaching sessions in hockey, football, netball, basketball, volleyball and rugby. A creative dance, mural painting and other arts workshops were offered towards the end of the programme.

The programme was enthusiastically taken up by the children of RAF personnel, young people living in the village and the surrounding area. The total attendance was 191 and the project evaluation showed that the programme was very well received by the young people who took part.

The RAF has requested that the programme be repeated during school holiday periods in 2006-07 and local young people are keen to participate. Plans are underway to ensure this successful work continues.

## → Anti-bullying - Peer mentoring programme tackles bullying

The current national agenda concerning bullying was discussed by Calthorpe Park School Council in September 2005. While bullying was not regarded by the students as a huge problem, the School

Council was keen to explore a peer mentoring approach to supporting any student who might feel bullied.

Youth workers in Hart district worked with school staff to train 25 peer mentors from years 10 and 11. A

16 hour training package was developed by the youth workers and teachers, which featured a tried and trusted anti-bullying technique known as the No Blame Approach. Along with training



on the use of the technique, mentors learned the use of active listening skills, conflict resolution, how to interpret body language and how to develop the assertiveness skills of others. Mentors had to complete a written assessment and be observed using their newly acquired skills.

Young people have been delivering this opportunity at Calthorpe Park School since January 2006 and, based on the success of the programme to date, the course is going to run again next year with existing peer mentors becoming part of the training team.

## → Mosaic project - Young people learn by trying things for themselves

Creating a mosaic can be enjoyable, satisfying and even therapeutic but it is by no means easy. A group of young people from the youth project based at the offices of Yately Town Council found this out the hard way when they designed and

made their own mosaic. The mosaic was the young people's contribution to the regeneration of the area immediately outside the building they use.

In the early stages, the group failed to give enough time and thought to planning and the delegation of essential tasks. The initial result was, by their own admission, a mess and members of the group soon reported feeling fed up and bored. Important lessons were learned very quickly, especially when the group realised the masterpieces they had designed were not turning out as they had expected.

The young people began to organise themselves more methodically, their enthusiasm and energy returned, and they rapidly developed the teamwork skills they needed to succeed. The final results of their efforts were well received and a second phase of the project is already being planned. The young people involved this year will soon be passing on their new found skills to other local young people.

