

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 Rushmoor district worked with 3660 young people 2728 of whom were aged 13 to 19 years, equating to 34% of the target population. Of the 2,159 active participants in the service 2015 were 13 to 19 year-olds, which equates to 25% of the 13 to 19 population.

There were 7,106 recorded attendances at youth service units in Rushmoor district, of whom 4,973 were 13 to 19 year-olds. There were 1,732 recorded outcomes resulting from young people being involved with the service, equating to 80% of active participants. In total, 167 young people gained an accredited outcome, equating to 8% 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 Rushmoor district managed 12 different units and the range of work included 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 Rushmoor has four full-time posts, 16 part-time youth work posts and three volunteers. Almost all youth service units in Rushmoor work with at least one 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 Rushmoor district works in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and has close working arrangements with the Borough, Town and Parish Councils.

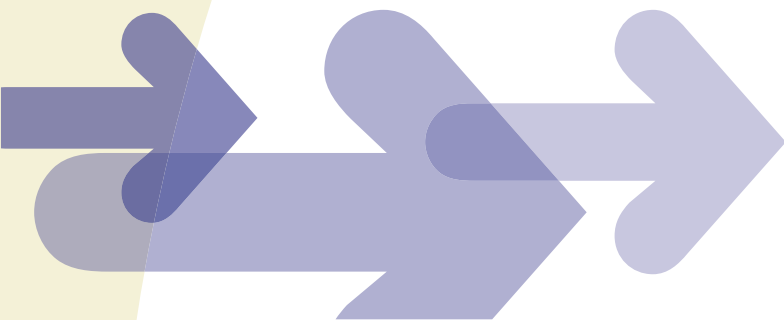
Financing youth work 2005/06

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



Responsive staff and the support of other agencies are the keys to successful youth work in Rushmoor – Richard Watson, Senior Youth Worker

This report gives an insight into the wide range and high quality of youth work delivered by county youth service staff in Rushmoor district. This work would not be so extensive or successful without support from our partner agencies.

New initiatives this year have included a summer programme for young people experiencing domestic violence and the creation of 'safe areas' within existing youth projects. These areas provide vulnerable young people with the time and space to talk about their thoughts, feelings and ambitions.

Our social inclusion work in schools has been valued by teachers, parents and young people. A formal inspection of the work found the specially designed programmes to be of a very high standard and praised the opportunities offered to students to return to mainstream education.

Feedback from young people attending our projects has been very positive. Individuals have taken the time to let us know what they have gained from the service including one young man who first contacted us five years ago, who said:

"My life has been like a roller coaster, as time has gone by I have needed help with a number of things and your staff have been helpful and easy to talk to. They have helped me make a lot of important decisions and put me in touch with the right people."

In compiling this report I have been reminded of the qualities of our youth work team and the importance of the additional resources our partner organisations provide. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank our staff for their hard work and commitment, and our partner agencies for the added value they bring to our work. Youth work within the district has a great history of innovation and success, and our team is looking forward to the challenges and opportunities next year will bring.

Introduction

Malcolm Rittman, County Youth Officer

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



→ Summerdaze activity programme

successful new scheme to be repeated



The Rushmoor Domestic Violence Forum identified the need for young people with experience of domestic violence to meet together socially during the school summer holiday period. Funding was made available through the district Community Safety Partnership. Staff were provided from the district youth work team and by Stonham Housing Association.

Young people played a major role in devising the Summerdaze programme and were keen to put forward their ideas. The programme offered opportunities to take part in arts and crafts, climbing, team building, personal safety planning and a visit to a fire station where the group took part in a simulated rescue.

Referrals to the scheme were received from local youth projects, social workers, housing officers and from the Domestic Violence Forum's own development worker. Ten young people regularly attended the scheme and the group bonded together very well. The young people shared their experiences, supported each other and developed new friendships. The success of Summerdaze has led to similar schemes being planned for the coming year.

→ Working in partnership with the Army

young people enjoy challenging activities and learn about career options

In April 2005, young people recruited by the district team had the opportunity to enjoy a range of exciting and challenging activities. The activities were under the joint leadership of youth workers and Army personnel from the Aldershot Garrison.

The project also gave the young people a brief insight into the careers and activities available in the British Army. As a result all the participants have committed themselves to taking part in a new sport or outdoor pursuit, and some are showing an interest in joining the Army.

The 'Look at Army Life' initiative was organised with support from the district Community Safety Partnership. An instructor from the Army School of Physical Training reported that the project had led to an improvement in the fitness levels and teamwork skills of all the young people involved.

The feedback received from young people was extremely positive and included the following comments:

"It's good fun and it keeps us out of trouble. Normally I'd be bored hanging around the streets."

"I have learned a lot about being part of a team and how to get on with other people. We have all enjoyed making new friends."

→ Prince's Trust XL Awards young people excel at Capricorn

To achieve the standards required by the Prince's Trust XL Awards, two groups of young people based at the refurbished Capricorn Youth Centre participated in a challenging programme, which included: running their own small business; planning and participating in a team building residential weekend; learning about their local community; producing a localised version of the monopoly board game; attending a question and answer session with the Mayor of Rushmoor.

The young people responded well to the way the programme encouraged them to take responsibility for their own learning. They felt a sense of achievement from completing the XL Award and reaching their personal goals. Plans are in hand to extend the use of the XL Award in the district.





→ Drug and alcohol education across the Rushmoor District outreach work makes a difference

Rushmoor district youth team has a specialist drugs and alcohol education outreach worker who works with groups, individuals, schools and voluntary organisations to develop young people's awareness of drug and alcohol related issues.

The outreach worker is able to build a good rapport with informal groups of young people and offers up to date advice and information. She also offers individuals support in a safe environment and referrals are made to her by Schools, Connexions, the Hampshire Youth Bureau and other local agencies.

In addition to one to one services and meeting groups of young people on their territory, the outreach worker gets involved with local health promotion campaigns. Her recent projects have included working on the Rushmoor Healthy Living initiative, delivering workshops for newly recruited soldiers and training young people to educate their peers. The outreach worker has also contributed to the achievement of a drug and alcohol related target in the Rushmoor Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

→ Farnborough's Two-stop shop multi-purpose venue moves with the times

Two-stop originally opened as a one-stop advice and information centre for young people living in Farnborough. Like all successful community based facilities Two-stop has developed in response to local needs and is now a multi-purpose youth work venue.

One element of the new work based at Two-stop is the informal drop-in service where young people can meet and make friends in safe surroundings. A culture of respect has been created by the staff team and young people feel welcome to call in and simply enjoy themselves. The young people who attend the drop-in have begun to think about organising an activity programme. With support from youth workers and local Police Officers, the regular attenders have already started to plan a camping weekend.

Other uses of the Two-stop venue includes specialist group work with vulnerable young people including those at risk of receiving antisocial behaviour orders.

Two-stop also provides the meeting place for the increasingly popular Mayor's Youth Council, which aims to influence the Borough Council's decisions about local issues and services. For youth provision to be successful it needs to change and develop with the times. Two-stop proves the point!

→ Hampshire Youth Bureau enabling young people to find the support and services they need

Hampshire Youth Bureau (HYB) is a registered charity which receives support from a number of sources including the county youth service district team. Staff at the Hampshire Youth Bureau (HYB) help young people make informed decisions about issues affecting their lives by offering an up to date advice and information service, and by signposting young people to other helping agencies. HYB also offers access to advocacy, accommodation, mediation and counselling services.

HYB worked with 661 individual young people last year who contacted the bureau a total of 3348 times. They presented a wide range of problems including homelessness, substance misuse, a lack of money, benefit claims and equality issues. In addition to offering young people relevant advice and information, HYB gave practical support including the use of a washing machine and drying facilities.

Many of the bureau's clients have a multitude of needs and require ongoing support. HYB takes a multi-agency approach to trying to make sure young people get the services they require. Staff work closely with local authorities, voluntary organisations, accommodation providers, social workers, the youth offending team, local mental health services, drug and alcohol teams. The combined efforts of these organisations provides considerable support and ensures young people have a greater chance of success in the challenges they face in their day to day lives.