

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 Test Valley district worked with 3,103 young people, 2,728 of whom were aged 13 to 19 years, equating to 29% of the target population. Of the 1,744 active participants in the service, 1,487 were 13 to 19 year-olds, which equates to 16% of the 13 to 19 population.

There were 20,234 recorded attendances at youth service units in Test Valley district, of whom 17,892 were 13 to 19 year-olds. There were 246 recorded outcomes resulting from young people being involved with the service, equating to 14% of active participants. In total, 135 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 Test Valley district managed 18 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 Test Valley has seven full-time posts, 18 part-time youth work posts and six volunteers. All youth service units in Test Valley 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 Test Valley district works in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector and has close working arrangements with the Borough, Town and Parish Councils.

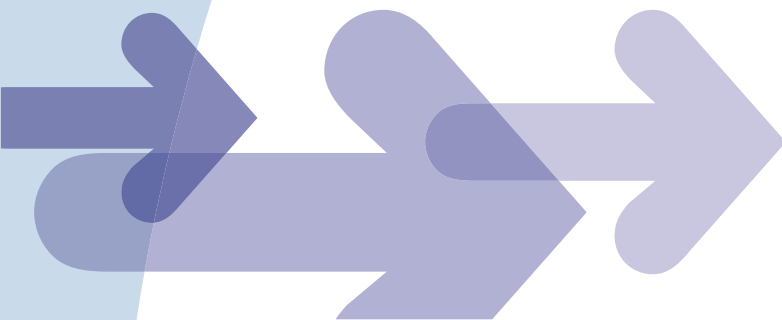
Financing youth work 2005/06

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.

For further information please contact:

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Foreword

Test Valley district is a very pleasant place to live but some young people and their families need targeted support to deal with the difficult issues they face -
Anthony Fielding, Senior Youth Work



The youth service team in Test Valley delivers high quality services through 36 individual units across the district. We reached over 3000 young people last year with total attendances in excess of 20000. All our work is delivered in partnership with other agencies and they make a considerable contribution to the outcomes achieved.

Test Valley district is the location for Hampshire's Targeted Youth Support (TYS) pathfinder, one of 13 in the country supported by the Department for Education and Skills. Since December 2005 I have been spending the majority of my time working on this exciting initiative. The main aim of the pathfinder is to develop a workable local model of TYS in order to deliver improved services to vulnerable young people. The Hampshire pathfinder will contribute to the roll out of TYS at a local and national level. The work on the pathfinder has only been possible with support from youth workers and colleagues from other services. I would like to publicly thank them all for the considerable time and effort they have put in and I look forward to reporting on the outcomes of the pathfinder later in the year.

The TYS pathfinder has enabled us to explore new ways to involve young people in the development of local services. We have consulted with over 250 vulnerable young people so far, 38 of whom spent a day at Calshot Activities Centre enjoying activities and giving their views about the services they receive and how they might be improved.

I am looking forward to the exciting changes next year will bring and I am confident that the district team will respond well to the opportunities and challenges ahead.

Introduction

Malcolm Rittman, County Youth Officer

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



→ Summer activities

Kelsie's story



"I first got involved with the youth service last summer. I was very unhappy at my school and really bored when the summer holidays arrived. My friends told me about the summer activity scheme called Go For It so I got a form and signed up. It was great! I tried mountain biking and rock climbing for the first time. Climbing was scary, especially coming down the rope, but I had a really good time and got on great with everybody.

In the autumn term I left my old school and went to an education centre where I met some of the youth workers who had run Go For It. They took me canoeing with a group from the centre. I got soaked the first time we went but really enjoyed it. I got my one star canoeing certificate after six weeks. We also did loads of other activities at Calshot.

While I was at the education centre I joined a project where youth workers took me on a team building starter day with lots of young people at Tile Barn in the New Forest. We worked in teams and did a blind trail and a low ropes course. I told the youth workers that I wanted to learn to swim so they arranged for me to have swimming lessons. I am still doing the swimming lessons and I am even teaching my little sister to swim as well!

My new school is great and my life has changed a lot in the last year. The stuff I have done with the youth service has helped loads. The youth workers have always stuck up for me. My mum says I have got lots more self confidence."

→ Andover music project

young talent shines through

During 2005-06 the Andover music project met on two evenings per week at the Wedge Youth Centre. On Monday evenings budding musicians were taught new skills and on Tuesday evenings everyone had the chance to perform.

A group of 18 young people, aged 13 to 20 years, regularly attended the project. They varied in experience and ability, and all of them were keen to develop their talent. The group includes vocalists, drummers, guitarists, bass players, keyboarders and deejays. A high proportion of the group play more than one instrument and most sing.



In addition to improving musically, young people learned how to be part of a team and developed other transferable skills. Examples included learning how to give and respond to constructive criticism, project planning and organisational skills. The young musicians are beginning to arrange their own gigs, enter battle of the bands competitions and perform at youth projects and local events. The group recently raised money for local young carers and have been awarded certificates to recognise their achievements. This exciting and vibrant project is going from strength to strength.

→ Staying safe on two wheels

improving road safety awareness and riding skills

Eight young people from Test Valley district participated in the On Two Wheels course with the object of improving their road safety awareness and motorcycle riding skills. The course aims to reduce the number of accidents experienced by young motorcyclists during their first year on the road and the associated high level of casualties.

In partnership with Youth Clubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight, youth workers and qualified instructors teamed up to run the course. The instructors covered theory and practice relating to the motorcycle test, first aid, buying safe equipment, safety clothing, and basic maintenance.





One of the most important aspects of the course is the exploration of the participants' attitudes to motorcycling and staying safe. One of the young men on the course was shocked when he realised how his aggressive attitude affected his driving performance. He told one of the instructors:

"I never realised it affected me so much and how much the risk of being involved in an accident increases."

By the end of the week attitudes had changed for the better and all participants received a nationally recognised Momentum Certificate. Five members of the group passed the Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) test and the remaining three were able to take the CBT test within six months, free of charge.

→ Enjoying and achieving towards a better future

Andover Moving On (AMO) project takes referrals from a number of agencies including schools, the Youth Offending Team and Connexions. Some young people who attend have received final warnings or referral orders from the court. Most of them behave antisocially at times and maybe excluded, or at risk of exclusion, from school.

Through AMO the young people gain a range of social and practical skills. They meet new people and their achievements are recognised through the gaining of certificates and awards. Young people choose a programme of activity from a range of options including: budgeting; cooking; babysitting; swimming; dancing; fitness training; work experience and a whole lot more.

To date 60 young people have benefited from the project. Feedback from the participants has included: "It helped build up my confidence."

"I like coming because it has helped calm me down"
"I feel better about myself. I've learned not to let people get to me."

→ The Youth in Romsey Project school drop-in service well used by young people

In partnership with Connexions Personal Advisers, staff from the Youth in Romsey Project offer an advice and information drop-in service during lunchtimes at a local school. A package of display materials, leaflets, games and quizzes are used each week to explore different themes. The staff promote healthy lifestyles and the sessions are always informative, challenging and fun. The drop-in sessions have proved to be very popular. Young people choose the subjects to be covered each week and are often involved in running the quizzes and leading the debates and discussions. Young people can make individual appointments to see a member of the staff team at a choice of safe places in or out of school.

Feedback from young people shows that they enjoy the sessions and feel respected because of the approach taken by the team. Young people say they feel comfortable and at ease, and are not afraid to ask questions about any subject.

→ Staying safe at Allsorts Youth Club first aid training gets a good response

Allsorts youth club attracts 20 young people with a wide range of abilities to its weekly meetings at Romsey Youth Centre. The club is run by youth workers from the district team and eight young volunteers.

As part of the club programme a number of sessions were dedicated to promoting personal safety. The highlight of these sessions was a visit from Red Cross instructors who gave a short demonstration of basic first aid techniques. This stimulated the members interest in first aid and a day's training course was organised. The course included dealing with incidents requiring contact with the emergency services, resuscitation techniques, treating burns and shock. At the Test Valley's recognition of achievement event, young people from Allsorts made it clear how much they enjoyed the first aid course and how highly they rated all the personal safety sessions.

