

TEST VALLEY COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Date and Time: 25th January 2007

Title of paper : Test Valley CSP Youth Inclusion and Support Panel (YISP) project		
Prepared by: Andy Chartres – YISP Manager		
Present at meeting: Yes		
Leading partner/s: All		
Summary: YISP is working well in Andover and there is scope for further development.		
Recommendations:		
i) That the Board notes the report.		
Financial and HR Implications		
Promotion of Equality & Diversity		
Purpose of paper (tick)	Decision	
	Discussion & comment	√

Progress Report on the Development of the YISP in Test Valley

Overview

In the autumn of 2005 the Government announced additional funding for prevention programmes across the country to be managed by the Youth Offending Teams. After considerable consultation it was agreed that children aged between 8-13 who were at risk of getting involved in Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime would be the target group and that we would build on the development of YISPs (Youth Inclusion Support Panels) which had been first developed by the Children's Fund from 2003. This would mean that the target group would be children who had got no further than the police reprimand stage. And over was identified from crime and other data sources as having significant problems with youth crime, anti-social behaviour and levels of deprivation above many other areas of Hampshire.

The YISP was set up with two caseworkers and a part-time Parenting Support Co-ordinator based in the Scott Centre, and it has been operating in Andover since the end of July. All the staff have all been through a range of training opportunities including a thorough induction programme, Child Protection training, emotional literacy training, and ONSET assessment training. Although some training is continuing the programme is now approaching maximum capacity. Although the YISP is part of the Youth Offending Team it has developed very strong working relationships with Community Safety, the Police, education, Youth Service, housing and the voluntary sector. Our Parenting Support Co-ordinators have already been trained to deliver SPOT (Supporting Parents of Teenagers) and Confident Parents and Confident Kids courses, and they will also be trained to deliver the Triple P Programme which is being developed as a pathfinder for the government's RESPECT Policy. The Parenting support Co-ordinators based in Andover and Basingstoke are now working as a team to deliver across this area.

Statistics

Young people engaged = approximately 26
Currently projected numbers for 12 months = 40-60
Parents engaged = 23 (Note that all parents have agreed for us to work with their children, but 23 of these have engaged on a one-to-one basis)
Referrals waiting to be seen = 4
Activities organised include arts and crafts sessions, Children In Need Fund Raising Day, cooking, various sports, drumming.

Premises

- The YISP is based with Youth Options in the Scott Centre and has recently contributed to the refurbishment of this centre and it has access to all the facilities at times that they are not being used by Youth Options. However, office space is limited and this could restrict the expansion of the team.

- The team also will meet the children and parents at various outreach locations including home, school and community centres.
- Closer links with the Community Safety Team and the Emerging Locality Team will be beneficial.

Developments

- Funding from the Arts Council has enabled the Yot to appoint a Youth Arts Co-ordinator who initially has a focus of setting up arts provision for the YISP and ISSP (Intensive Supervision and Surveillance), with a view to expanding this to other prevention programmes and the Yot in general. Lorna Digweed started in this post in December 06 and she has already been able to support activities with the YISP children. She has already identified a range of exciting art based activities that could be made available.
- Extension of the provision to the whole of the Test Valley area, rather than just the Andover area we currently cover. This proposal is being taken to the Partnership's Delivery group.
- As from 1st January 2007 we have appointed a temporary part-time activity co-ordinator/caseworker in partnership with the Targeted Youth Support Programme, although the funding situation may result in his position having to end after approximately 6 months. This role will provide a vital link between the developing TYSP and the YISP
- In addition to the parenting support we have the opportunity to train staff in Family Group Conferencing, which has proved to be a very effective intervention, but it is very labour intensive with each intervention taking at least 25-30 hours of staff time. This proposal will be taken to the Partnership's Delivery group.

Proposals

Additional funding would enable the following developments:

- This would enable us to develop the provision of Family Group Conferencing as an additional option. The Yot would cover the training costs for this.
- The joint TYSP/YISP post could be extended to the current length of the funding (March 2008) and additional hours could be added, as the current postholder is only contracted for 30 hours per week which will be split between YISP and TYSP
- Planned half-term and other holiday activities could be enhanced with additional funding. e.g. aerial and circus skills, ceramics, DJ workshops
- Additional equipment could be purchased such as a video camera, projector, and photoshop software which would enhance the provision we are already able to offer.

Andy Chartres
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 Wessex Youth Offending Team
 10th January 2006