

AGENDA MANAGEMENT SHEET

Name of Committee Children, Young People & Families
Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date of Committee 14th December 2006
Report Title Progress report on outstanding items
from the Action Plan arising from
OfSTED Inspection of Youth Service
May 2005

Summary This report updates Members on progress against the
outstanding items of the action plan presented to
Committee on September 14th 2006. It identifies
progress against the Widening Participation and Rural
Youth Work developments.

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**Would the recommended
decision be contrary to the
Budget and Policy
Framework? [please identify
relevant plan/budget provision]** No

Background papers

- O & S Report 14th September 2006 - Progress
report on outstanding items from the action plan
arising from OfSTED Inspection of Youth Service
May 2005
- Cabinet report October 2005 – action plan arising
from OfSTED Inspection of Youth Service
- OfSTED Inspection Report of Warwickshire Youth
Services 23rd-27th May 2005

CONSULTATION ALREADY UNDERTAKEN:-

Details to be specified

Other Committees

Local Member(s)

- Other Elected Members Cllr Helen McCarthy
Cllr Richard Grant – *“Agree for scrutiny by the OSC”*
Cllr Jill Dill-Russell

- Cabinet Member For information:
Cllr Izzi Seccombe

- Other Cabinet Members consulted

- Chief Executive

- Legal Victoria Gould

- Finance

- Other Chief Officers

- District Councils

- Health Authority

- Police

- Other Bodies/Individuals Michelle McHugh

FINAL DECISION **NO**

- SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS:** Details to be specified
- Further consideration by this Committee

 - To Council

 - To Cabinet

 - To an O & S Committee

 - To an Area Committee

 - Further Consultation

Children, Young People & Families Overview & Scrutiny Committee 14th December 2006

Update on outstanding items from the Action Plan arising from OfSTED Inspection of Youth Service May 2005, presented to Committee 14th September 2006

Recommendation:

That the Committee consider the progress against the outstanding actions identified by this Committee following the presentation of the action plan at the previous meeting.

1. Background and introduction

- 1.1 Following an OfSTED Inspection of a Youth Service it is a requirement that an action plan is produced that sets out how the Authority will respond to the recommendations contained in the Inspection Report.
- 1.2 The action plan was presented to Cabinet in October 2005 and a progress report presented to this Committee at its previous meeting of September 14th 2006. The Committee endorsed the significant progress reported against the Action plan and asked for a written report on those actions not yet completed.
- 1.3 The actions that have been identified are as follows:
 - (i) 3b - Insufficient prioritisation of inclusion and diversity
 - (ii) 3c - Little differentiation of models of delivery to meet the needs of different types of areas
 - (ii) 3d - Insufficient provision to meet the needs of young people with disabilities.

2. Progress reports

- 2.1 In general progress against the above actions has not been taken forward as quickly as anticipated as a result of staff and management changes, and the current review of structures in the Service. The Service has had to prioritise ongoing management and maintenance of the Service.

2.2 In July 2005 a whole day staff conference under the title of “Towards Widening Participation” focussed on these three aspects of service delivery. Good practice was shared and local actions to develop the work were agreed. Service approaches to these areas of work were developed and supported, as follows:

(i) 3b - Insufficient prioritisation of inclusion and diversity:

The lack of progress on this action refers mainly to the development and publication of a specific strategy rather than lack of priority in service delivery. Evidence from the service’s management system shows that at least 10% of young people the service works with are of BME heritage. The Service will also include within its Service Plan for 2007 onwards a specific reference and actions to this aspect of work thereby demonstrating its priority.

(ii) 3c - Little differentiation of models of delivery to meet the needs of different types of areas:

The Service has undertaken significant research into other Authority Youth Service’s approaches to meeting the needs of young people living in rural areas. A draft strategy has been written and presented to young people and Service staff and can be found in **Appendix A**. Whilst there are a whole range of possible approaches there are two which can be seen to work well and are identified by OfSTED as good practice:

Approach 1 is based on a model now successfully implemented in Rugby area of working in partnership with Parish Councils. It has worked well and will be part of the final strategy adopted by the county. Its success relies on Parish Councils identifying local volunteers and premises and the service training them then supporting those volunteers through being present with them during the first weeks of opening of the club, and offering financial support for rent and start up grants. The ongoing success and roll out of this model will rely on the Service being able to access some of the resource currently identified within the ACEC funding.

Approach 2 is based on a model of delivering youth work through high quality mobile provision. Significant work has been undertaken visiting projects and the different types of vehicles available. Young people have been involved and their comments influencing the choice of implementation. Two vehicles will be purchased, the final design being undertaken in partnership with young people. It is hoped that the vehicles will be with the Service by the end of the financial year. Although obtained under the rural youth work strategy the vehicles will be available to be used throughout the service and by partners; the objective being to use them to meet the needs of as many young people as possible – with rurality remaining the priority target group.

The Service has worked on the basis that this year would see the development of the strategy and discussions with partners to enable the funding to be accrued for the one-off purchase of appropriate vehicles. Staff will have been appointed and structures put in place so that from the receipt of the vehicles in April 2007 they will be deployed and resourced immediately for work with young people.

- (ii) 3d - Insufficient provision to meet the needs of young people with disabilities:

As stated earlier the progress against this action was significantly delayed. Progress is now being made in developing the written strategy and supporting the general agreements reached at the Staff Conference referred to above. Work has been commissioned within the Warwick area to develop and learn from their excellent examples of practice in both separate and integrated youth work provision. The training sessions developed and findings will be used to roll out the strategy across the county from April 2007. Opportunity has been taken to explore the option of at least one Centre in each area delivering specialist work for the area. Transport being the most significant and costly issue. The addition of another session at Tyler House to meet the needs of disabled young people across the whole of the area has also been supported. The strategy with associated actions will be incorporated into the new service plan for 2007.

3. Conclusion

- 3.1 Although progress against the actions identified above are behind the anticipated time schedule significant progress has taken place. The outstanding work is mainly in writing up strategies as evidence that the thought processes and agreements that have taken place are recorded and that the service is sincere in its development.
- 3.2 As stated in the Progress Report presented to the September meeting all actions that are within the control of the Service will be met.

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Strategic Director for Children,
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29 November 2006



Rural Youth Work- Towards a Strategy

November 2006

Warwickshire County Council
Youth and Community Service
2006

Rural Youth Work – Towards a Strategy-4th draft

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Rural Youth Work in Warwickshire

“Insufficient attention has been given to adapting the service to more effectively meet the needs of young people in rural communities”.

“ OFSTED Inspection May 2005”

1. Introduction

This Strategy will provide guidance to the Youth and Community Service and its key partners when working in rural Warwickshire and will provide a number of options in relation to working in rural communities. It will give guidance to the Youth and Community Service when engaging with young people attempting to cope with the problems associated with rural life. It will also show how the service will deploy specific resources that will assist us to “more effectively meet the needs of young people in rural communities”.

The service is aware of the need to develop work with young people residing in rural areas but due to competing pressures has often developed short term strategies designed to cope with the associated difficulties rather than to effectively identify and deal with the difficulties themselves.

It is generally accepted that work with young people who live in rural areas differs from work with those who live in urban areas. While the skills and methods used in youth work are the same and informed by the same principles, the experiences of young people in rural communities are not the same as their counterparts living in urban environments.

“Some people are of the opinion that young people living in rural communities have a better lifestyle than their counterparts but this notion is often portrayed by those that live in urban environments with a romanticised and sometimes distorted view of country life. Country life is rarely as idyllic as the popular image may portray particularly for young people.

Young people living in rural communities can be disadvantaged because they lack access to transport, education, leisure facilities, health care, careers and benefits advice, job opportunities, appropriate housing and the benefits of a multi cultural society that many of their urban counterparts take for granted. They are very often isolated from other people of the same age and gender yet can be extremely visible within their communities because they are often well known by many adults in the locality”

Adapted from NYA “Youth Work in Rural Areas”

Warwickshire Youth and Community Service, through this strategy, will seek to address some of these issues and disadvantages by exploring and adopting a range of specialised approaches and strategies.

2. Aims of the Rural Strategy

- To promote and deliver the work of the Youth and Community Service to young people and adults living in rural communities across Warwickshire.
- To assist in the development of partnership working between voluntary organisations and statutory agencies responsible for developing opportunities for those residing in rural communities.
- To provide opportunities for partner agencies and those living in rural areas to identify gaps in provision with a view to exploring options for having these gaps filled through resource deployment or joint funding applications.
- To promote and share best practice between the youth and community service staff and those working in rural areas.
- To assist in the development of short term programmes with young people in rural communities and give them the opportunity to develop longer term initiatives in consultation with young people, the District / Borough Council, local CVS, other agencies and the local communities.

3. Rurality

The most useful definition of rurality is provided by Defra who in respect to Warwickshire make the following Local Authority classification

South Warwickshire (Stratford District)	Rural 80
North Warwickshire	Rural 50
Rugby	Significant Rural
Warwick	Significant Rural
Nuneaton and Bedworth	Other Urban

Rural 80: districts with at least 80% of their population in rural settlements and larger market towns; there are 73 districts in this group.

Rural 50: districts with at least 50% but less than 80% of their population in rural settlements and larger market towns; there are 52 districts in this group.

Significant Rural: districts with more than 37,000 people or more than 26% of their population in rural settlements and larger market towns; there are 53 districts in this group.

Other Urban: districts with fewer than 37,000 people or less than 26% of their population in rural settlements and larger market towns.

Population, as at 2001 census.

	URBAN 10k	TOWN & FRINGE	VILLAGE	HAMLET & ISOLATED DWELLING
Warwickshire	338,619	77,518	72,687	17,023
North Warwickshire	24,644	19,639	14,465	3,063
Nuneaton and Bedworth	116,695	2,050	0	340
Rugby	64,605	8,044	12,407	2,414
South Warwickshire	22,551	44,294	35,930	8,727
Warwick	110,104	3,491	9,885	2,479

Area, Hectares

	URBAN 10k	TOWN & FRINGE	VILLAGE	HAMLET & ISOLATED DWELLING
Warwickshire	24,113	12,604	103,113	57,924
North Warwickshire	2,804	2,789	13,988	8,845
Nuneaton and Bedworth	7,531	88	0	276
Rugby	3,088	2,543	22,332	7,393
South Warwickshire	2,680	6,711	54,365	34,030
Warwick	8,010	472	12,427	7,379

From the above definition and statistics South Warwickshire and North Warwickshire are identified as the service priorities for the Strategy – though NOT exclusively.

4. Area Profiles

The County of Warwickshire covers a total of 1977.4 square miles and has a 13 -19 year old youth population of approximately 42,395 young people. The youth service deploys 5 teams of staff and resources on a geographical basis to meet the needs of the young people of Warwickshire. These areas are as follows: -

Youth & Community Service Team	No. of Wards	Geographical Size	Youth Pop. 13 – 19
North Warwickshire	17	284.3 sq/mls	5,210
Nuneaton & Bedworth	17	78.9 sq/mls	10,589
Rugby	20	353.5 sq/mls	7,760
Warwick	20	282.8 sq/mls	10,351
South Warwickshire	31	977.9 sq/mls	8,485

While most of the above areas will have communities that could be described as rural the main two areas requiring to increase their working capacity with rural communities are South and North Warwickshire.

The largest geographical area, South Warwickshire, has a youth work delivery team consisting of 6 full time staff and approximately 24 part time youth workers.

Staff currently operate predominantly from Youth and Community Centres that are situated in the most populated wards of South Warwickshire. Wards targeted by the Youth Service but without Youth and Community Service premises are served by a mixture of grant-aided provision, voluntary projects and partnership projects. 66% of the target population reside within the aforementioned wards. This leaves a further 34% of our target population that have no access to our current provision as a direct result of where they live and their inability to travel.

The second most rural area in Warwickshire is covered by the North Warwickshire team consisting of 5 full time staff and a team of approximately 25 part time staff. Again the Youth and Community service team are deployed in the most densely populated areas but can access only 42% of the targeted population. This leaves 58% of the population that have little or no access to our services as a result of where they live. It should be noted that some voluntary projects currently work within some of these communities.

In order of rurality Rugby comes next followed by Warwick then Nuneaton and Bedworth.

5. National and Local Rural Issues

National

- 49% of rural parishes have neither a school nor a college.
- 24% of rural households are further than 4km from a secondary school.
- 29% of rural settlements have no bus services.
- Nearly 1 in 4 19 year olds living in rural districts fail to achieve a basic qualification (NVQ1 or equivalent)

Commission for rural Communities

Local

Local issues for young people living in North and South Warwickshire include the following.

- Lack of Train and Bus services for young people
- Lack of access to statutory and voluntary youth services
- Lack of access to advice and information services
- Access to schools in rural villages for young people is poor
- Unable to take up careers, music and Arts activities
- Lack of access to Leisure and Sporting activities

- Lack of opportunity to meet informally with their peers
- Unable to attend after or before school provision

6. Recognised Contact methods

There are 9 recognised methods of contacting and working with young people from rural settings.

Mobile Projects

Youth Projects using purpose built or converted vehicles to provide either Activity based, Curricular based or Information based projects.

Local Activities

Young people getting together with interested adults to organise and run activities and pursue common interests.

Area Activities

Adults transport young people to youth centres or other facilities for specific purposes, activities or events.

One night per week groups

Clubs or groups run by volunteer or part time paid workers, often meeting in village halls or other suitable buildings. Full time youth service workers or other governing bodies normally support these groups.

Rural Teams

Teams of part time youth workers and volunteers co-ordinated by a full time member of staff are employed to work with young people. These workers would normally be responsible for a particular geographical patch, support existing provision and provide activities and training opportunities for Young people and adults in the community.

School Work

Meeting and working with young people at the school they attend. This will enable workers to make and maintain contact with young people from rural areas but often for a very limited period of time out of school teaching time. This method does not guarantee appropriate contact and will require a degree of targeting that may be difficult to realistically achieve.

Detached / Outreach Work

Youth workers employed to engage and work with young people on their own territory, and on their own terms. Workers aim to make and maintain contact with young people in specifically targeted areas to assist them to develop and access mutually agreed programmes. This work requires good support mechanisms to be put in place to support staff and should be guided by clear project aims and objectives.

District or Patch Development Work

This involves workers operating from a central location with the responsibility for the delivery of development work within a targeted geographical area. This work generally takes place where the young people themselves meet and works towards involving them in a group or project.

Distance Initiatives

Using radio, telephone or computing services to link isolated young people. This is particularly useful where young people are extremely isolated and can be utilised through developing specific chat rooms or conference calling etc.

There will be other methods of making contact and working with young people but the above are some examples of tried and tested methods.

The Youth and Community Service along with partner agencies will require to explore the most appropriate method that would best suit the needs of the young people from the targeted community. This may involve one of the previous options or an amalgamation of those felt to be most appropriate.

7. Working in Partnership

To make any rural strategy work it is essential to ensure that all relevant partners are clear about each other's intentions and that they have the opportunity to engage in dialogue regarding priorities and methods.

The Youth Service should be mindful not to lose sight of our primary goal of making and maintaining contact with our target group to ascertain and meet identified need. Where a joint project is initiated that utilises Youth Service finance or personnel it is essential that a Service Level Agreement is drawn up detailing Aims and Objectives, Roles and Responsibilities, Time-scales, Financial Contributions and where appropriate an Exit Strategy.

This will ensure that expectations are realistic and that all appropriate partners are involved. This should be developed in conjunction with young people, partners and youth workers at the outset of the project.

Communication with all interested parties is vital to ensure that there are no misunderstandings or surprises arising with those living and working within the targeted areas. This should include Village Hall Committees, Parish Councillors, Local Youth Projects and local Young People.

Contact with agencies such as Health Promotion, Police, Young Peoples Housing, Connexions, local Youth Information Projects and any others should be developed to ensure they can supply information relevant to young people that they would like to be distributed from the vehicle.

8. Preferred Options

To enable the Youth and Community service reach the young people in rural communities we are faced with the dilemma of do we enable the Young People to come to us or do we take our services to them. Either solution presents us with resource issues. Lack of affordable or timetabled transport

means that young people in a village after approximately 6.00pm are stranded unless they can obtain a lift from their parent, guardian or friend. This further exacerbates the notion that young people in rural areas suffer from a lack of independence.

In exploring options considerable research has been undertaken in visiting rural authorities and examining Ofsted Inspection reports. Of the well thought of solutions to rural youth work the development of mobile provision is a common high scoring option. They provide a very useful resource from which work can take place in rural communities where there is no other facility, In addition there are many other uses: if designed appropriately they are a very positive visual image of the service as they travel about; mobile bases from which surgeries and projects can take place at schools and other venues, they provide an excellent resource for promotional activity, use for Easter and Summer holiday activities in partnership with general activity arrangements, use in urban neighbourhoods where there is no suitable provision, etc. The possibilities are very wide.

Work has taken place very successfully in parts of Warwickshire in developing links with Parish Councils where they have identified facilities and volunteers. Service staff work with the volunteers to gain confidence in understanding youth work and working with young people, assist initial meetings with young people then jointly run the “club” for several weeks prior to withdrawing direct support, together with financial start up grants and ongoing rental support this approach has worked successfully and is another common approach identified in the research.

It is the belief of the Service that these two approaches provide the best long term solutions to working with young people in isolated communities. Work will continue with schools and will respond to those young people living close by and with access to transport. Use of internet and other communications methods will also continue to be explored.

9. Mobile Units and Resources

There will be two medium sized converted mobile youth and community service vehicles designed for delivering aspects of the youth work curriculum to groups of 10 – 12 young people per session.

Each mobile unit will be equipped with a basic set of resources that will enable them to deliver youth work sessions.

Each mobile unit will have a staffing element attached to enable the vehicle to be utilised for a set amount of hours.

Each mobile unit will be equipped with resources that will enable the client groups to glean information on a wide range of topics and will include access to ICT. They will be equipped to be able to provide hot drinks, offer light for

outside, music and DVD inside. The final arrangement will be designed by Young people.

10. Operational Management Rural Outreach Project.

The package that has been put together will enable the Youth and Community Service to make and maintain contact with young people in rural villages throughout Warwickshire. The proposal has been designed to enable a team of workers, complete with curricular resources, to be deployed in a way that will enable the service to meet with young people in rural settings.

Staffing

Each vehicle will be the responsibility of a full time youth worker. They will be responsible for the mobile units and the delivery of youth work in rural settings - this includes operation of the mobile units, resources and staff.

Part time Youth Workers.

Each vehicle will have 20 hours of part time youth worker support to assist in the delivery of the youth work Curriculum with young people from rural areas.

Transport requirements

To purchase a fleet of two converted Mobile Youth Work Units. The vehicles to be under 3.5 Tonnes if at all possible to enable driving with a "normal" licence. The vehicle is to be equipped with two passenger seats to ensure as great a potential use as possible (staff to young people ratios). The mobile units to be equipped with the capability of delivering information on a wide range of topics to the young people targeted. This may be by leaflet dispersion, discussion groups, DVD presentation or any other appropriate means. Vehicles also to be able to be used as bases for activity and for discussions with small groups of young people.

Base

It is expected that each of the vehicles will be based in appropriate venues in North and South Warwickshire. (Still to be identified) This should cut down on travel time and distance when visiting other areas of the County.

It will enable the recruitment of part time staff to be more consistent and enable the project to have better continuity and stability. (Staff based around the projects rather than the areas).

It will mean that no single area has a monopoly on the use of the Rural Youth Work Units. This still requires a lot of thought and discussion.

Management Team

The Project will be managed by a small team of workers and young people that have an interest in the development of the service. The team will consist of a County Youth Officer, identified by the Head of Service, the Area Youth and Community Officers of North and South Warwickshire, Two County Youth Panel Members and two members from voluntary youth projects that currently provide a service to young people residing in rural areas.

This team will have the task of ensuring that the vehicles and resources are distributed wisely and fairly across the County and that they are kept in a condition fit for their purpose. They will also assist with any policy issues relating to the rural project

Whilst the deployment policy of the mobile units will be overseen by the management team, the management of the vehicles and resources whilst they are operating within these geographical areas will be determined and managed by the appropriate Area Officer or designated member of staff.

Delivery of the Service.

Each unit will have the capability through direct staffing to be operational 3-4 evenings per week as well as lunch times in schools and in after school programmes.

It is expected that area teams will augment the delivery aspect of the service in areas by providing assistance from either existing part time or full time staff. It maybe cost effective to deploy mobiles for a short period to each area when fully staffed and operational, cutting cost on fuel and staff time.

Time will be allocated to enable the vehicles to be utilised as promotional units at County and Area events.

It is anticipated that the vehicles will be available for partners from the voluntary sector, and other agencies working with young people.

11. 5 Year Funding Strategy

A 5 year funding plan has been developed, based on the allocated £130,000 per annum that will enable the mobile provision package to be put in place over a 5 year period.

The project should be able to operate for approximately 7 years before any of the base transport units require replacement. The effect of this will require to be assessed nearer this time.

In year two the management and deployment of the vehicles will require to be revisited.

These costs are reasonably accurate estimates as of summer 2006. Should the project receive approval a more accurate assessment of the requirements will be made. The following is simply to show that it is possible but some aspects of the funding can be movable. Inflation is not included as it is assumed that the normal practice of WCC providing inflationary increases would continue.

Rural Strategy 5 Year Costing Strategy based on £130,000 per year.

	April 06 –April 07	April 07 – April 08	April 08 – April 09	April 09 – April 10	April 10 –April 11
Vehicle Purchase / Running Costs	£130,000	£32,000	£32,000	£32,000	£32,000
Staffing (F.T.) Recruitment Wages + On-costs	£6,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000	£60,000
Staffing P.T. 4 x 10 hour		£16,000	£16,000	£16,000	£16,000
Vehicle Support 2x20hr per month		£4,000	£4,000	£4,000	£4,000
Resources		£10,000	£10,000	£2,000	£2,000
Operational Costs		£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Administration Phones etc		£2,000	£2,000	£2,000	£2,000
Refurbishment Costs				Vehicle 1 £10,000	Vehicle 2 £10,000
Contingency Funds		£4,000	£4,000	£2,000	£2,000
Total	£136,000	£130,000	£130,000	£130,000	£130,000

Cost Breakdown

Staffing Costs are based on the following.

2 x Full time Level 2 Workers £30,000 x 2 =
4 x 10 hour Part-time Y.W. appointments 4 x 10 x 48 x £8.00 =
2 x 20 hour per month Vehicle supp. person 2 x 20 x 12 x £8.00 =

April 07 – April 09 Per Year

£60,000
£15,360 (£16,000)
£3,840 (£4,000)

April 09 – April 11 Per Year

£60,000
£15,360 (£16,000)
£3,840 (£4,000)

Total £80,000

Total £80,000

Running Costs are based on the following.

Insurance
Repairs
Servicing
MOT
Road Tax
Tyres
Breakdown Cover
Diesel
Parking / Garaging Charges.

£4,000
£8,000
£4,000
£2,000
£600
£800
£600
£10,000
£2,000

£4,000
£8,000
£4,000
£2,000
£600
£800
£600
£10,000
£2,000

Total £32,000

Total £32,000

Other costs are based on the following

Resources for vehicles. (Leaflets, Videos, Games, Equipment etc.)
Operational Costs. (Travel, Expenses, Mobile phone etc)
Contingency Fund
Vehicle Refurbishment

£10,000
£2,000
£4,000
Total £18,000

£2,000
£2,000
£2,000
£10,000
Total £18,000

Grand Total Per Year (2007 –2011)

£130,000

Please note In year 1 there will be an overspend approximately £6,000 to accommodate staff advertisements.

In year 4 and 5 Refurbishment costs will reduce expenditure on other headings. This may be problematic and need looked at in year 2.

These costs are reasonable guesstimates and for guidance only

12. Service priorities

There will be two level of services provided, level 1 for the Youth and Community Service and level two an agreed response to youth delivery via partnership agreement.

Clear objectives for level 1, the Youth and Community Service:

- Making and maintaining contact with young people
- Providing information for young people 13-19s years of age
- Access and signpost young people to relevant services
- Accessing young people to advice and information services
- Providing personal and social development activities for young people.
- Looking at and ascertaining the needs and progression of young people, maintaining and. Developing relationships with young people
- Promotion of the Youth Work Curriculum (Anti oppressive practice, Healthy Lifestyles, Life and Social Skills, Economic Well being and Citizenship)
- Ensure young people have access to the same opportunities, information and projects as are available to their counterparts in existing youth provision.

Please note that this is work in progress and is constantly being updated and changed.

Draft 4 put together for Warwickshire Youth and Community Service by:

M. Jamil -Area Youth and Community Officer-
North Warwickshire Area.

Robert McCluskey- Area Youth and Community Officer –
Stratford Upon Avon Area.

Appendix 1

Consultation Process.

To date we have consulted with a selection of Full time Youth Work Staff, the County Youth Panel, Area Officers and members of the Service Management Team. We have visited 4 authorities to see their practice.

After the consultations held to date it was felt that the proposal laid out above would give us the most favourable method of making and maintaining contact with young people living in the most rural areas of Warwickshire.

Other aspects that came out of the consultation were as follows.

Two vehicles should be purchased in the first year. One for the North of the County and one for the South.

Size of Vehicles must be right. Not too large Not too small. They must be able to access rural areas of Warwickshire. Costs must be considered carefully.

Staff safety must be paramount when working on the vehicle.

Young People to be involved at all stages of the project.

Ensure that village community groups are consulted and kept informed before any work takes place in their community. Need for good communication and Advertising.

Clear Aims and Objectives should be put in place after discussion with local bodies.

Vehicles to be adaptable enough to be used at Fetes, Shows etc. to publicise the work of the Youth Service.

A sub group should be set up to oversee the Rural Project.

Adopt a Community Development approach by training young people and volunteers to enable longer term, more sustainable projects to evolve. Assist young people and volunteers to seek funding and access local facilities where available.

Check out legal issues regarding the driving and use of the vehicle.

The project must take account of the work and strategies of other statutory and voluntary agencies working with young people in Rural Areas. We must be working in partnership with others and not in competition with them. We must enhance each other's work.

Opportunities for training should be made available to ensure that staff can best utilise the vehicle and it's resources.

Consultation: - Still to do

Now that the initial consultation has taken place we are about to embark on stage two. Explaining our findings to Colleagues, Voluntary Organisations and interested parties. During this process will still be able to take on board changes but it is hoped that the main purpose of this exercise is now to inform our colleagues, partners and voluntary organisation of our intentions.

This process will be taking place over the next 8 weeks and is expected to be completed by the end of November 2006.

Appendix 2

Recommendations

- 1 Purchasing of 2 converted medium sized diesel vehicles that will cater for approximately 10 – 12 young people per evening. The vehicle will have a seating area, working area including whiteboard, Tea making facilities including fridge and toilet facilities as a minimum.
- 2 Resources within the Mobile van will enable aspects of the Youth Work Curriculum to be delivered.
- 3 Information leaflets and DVDs etc to enable young people to access basic information on topics relevant to and identified by them.
- 4 Engage young people in the design of the vehicle including paintwork and interior layout.
- 5 Any work being proposed, to be carried out by the mobile unit and staff will first be agreed with the local youth work team.
- 6 Partners utilising the vehicle will require to complete a service level agreement with the youth service to ensure that there is communication and coordination between services.
- 7 In areas where there are aspects of rural work taking place we should work alongside and in partnership with these groups to maximise the effectiveness of the provision.
- 8 Review the funding of rural projects that are short-term funded projects working with 13-19s years to examine ways it could be integrated within the Youth service. The Youth Service should look to plan and sustain short-term rural youth projects by way of financial support.
- 9 It is understood that the nature of youth work may well be intensive and with difficulty groups of young people. We should also take advantage to utilise the youth service allocation to meet our REYS Targets.
- 10 Work should be taking place in the main with young people aged 13 – 19 years in line with the youth service priorities. Additional areas and age groups can be considered if additional resources can be made available.

- 11 It is recognised that within a rural community there may well be friendship groups that cross over the age band. Staff must ensure that materials and information on the vehicle should be age appropriate.
- 12 Service should continue to work in partnership to seek funding to improve and extend the service to other areas.
- 13 There will be a need for training of full & part time staff and partners that may be working the mobile provision.
- 14 Management of the Project -The youth work resource should be managed centrally and based in Saltisford. This is still up for some discussion.
- 15 Led by a Management Team consisting of a Youth Officer, 2 Area Officers, 2 County Youth Panel Members and Two Level Two Youth Workers and 2 Voluntary Sector Representatives.
- 16 The Youth Service will need to address the training needs where staff are expected to deliver mobile activities. A working manual will be provided for the mobile Unit. There will also be training needs for the partnership organisations including local rural Youth work projects.

Appendix 3

What will £130,000 provide?

- 1 The £130,000 for work with rural young people will provide approximately:
- 2 2 Full time level two Youth Workers.
- 3 40 part time youth work hours.
- 4 2 Mobile Youth Information and resource units plus running costs.
- 5 Access for young people to a minimum of 5 face-to-face sessions per week in South and North Warwickshire. Totalling 10 face-to-face sessions per week.
- 6 Additional sessions can be planned using existing staff and resources.
- 7 A mobile youth information unit will be available 7 days per week throughout the year that can be utilised by other organisations with similar aims and objectives.
- 8 Partnership work to be developed.
- 9 The Youth and Community Service will seek to work in partnership with other organisations wishing to make meaningful contact with young people in rural settings to assist in the delivery of the Youth Offer.
- 10 Health Service and others providers can access resource.
- 11 Target youth work on national issues, such as Smoking Cessation, Drug Misuse, Alcohol Misuse, Sexual
- 12 Relationships Education.
- 13 Connexions and Careers Advice,
- 14 Provide information on housing to young people.
- 15 Access to information and emergency housing accommodation

- 16 Target the five every Child Matters outcomes: Being Healthy, Staying Safe, Enjoy and Achieve, Make a positive contribution, Achieve Economic Well being.

Lots of new opportunities for all

Appendix 4

Rural Strategy Timeline Draft

Month	Actions	Responsible
August	Explore Final Costing Options Draft 3 Rural Strategy Document Completed Confirm Actual Costings Arrange final AREA / VEHICLE visits Staffordshire / Blackpool / Small Vehicle Deliver Strategy to COG South Warwickshire 31 st August.	All MJ / RMcC RMcC MJ / RMcC RMcC
September	Progress Management Group. Finalise Youth Involvement. Seek out and Collate Potential Vehicle Companies to Tender Plan for Final Consultation Process. Voluntary Sector / Interested Parties Deliver Presentation to Area Officers Meeting 6 th September Deliver Presentation to Management Team 11 th September	PH / RMcC All MJ / RMcC RMcC / MJ RMcC / MJ
October	Finalise Vehicle Specification for Tendering purposes Identify Base / Parking Facilities for Vehicles Send Tenders out to Appropriate Companies for Quotes Input to Youth Workers 6 th October 2006. Deliver Strategy to N.Warwickshire	PH / MJ / RMcC PH / MJ / RMcC PH RMcC / MJ MJ
November	Place Order for Vehicles	PH
December	Finalise practical aspects of new employees. Base, Salaries, etc. Put together Person Specification / Job Descriptions for posts. Discuss Training Package for staff with Shinderpaul Bhargal Put Advert together for posts	RMcC / MJ RMcC / MJ RMcC / MJ
January	Place adverts in appropriate publication for staff vacancies	PH
February	Organise Interview Panel / Questions etc Put together Health and Safety Manual for Vehicle Put together Operating Manual for Vehicle staff Put staff training in place (WCC Driving Course, First Aid, Vehicle Preparation and Use) + any others. Meeting of Management Group to organise project delivery.	RMcC / MJ RMcC MJ PH / SB PH
March	Appoint Staff (Start date Monday 2 nd April 2007)	PH
April	Take delivery of New Vehicles Staff Report to Work Training / Induction Begin.	PH / RMcC/MJ Management Grp