

Stratford-on-Avon Area Committee – 23rd November 2005

South Warwickshire Area Community Education Annual Report – October 2005

Report of the County Education Officer

Recommendation:

That the Stratford-on-Avon Area Committee endorse the progress report of Youth & Community and Adult Community Learning Services in South Warwickshire.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The South Warwickshire Community Education Service covers the geographical area of the District Council. The Area Community Education Council made the decision to call itself “South Warwickshire” in an attempt to reduce confusion with District Council services.
- 1.2 The Community Education Service has had three main service themes, namely
 - (a) Area Community Education Council (ACEC)
 - (b) Adult Service
 - (c) Youth Service.
- 1.3 In March 2005 the Adult Service became a separate Adult and Community Learning Service, with the ACEC and Youth Service remaining as one service under the umbrella of the Youth and Community Service Officer.

2. Policies and plans

- 2.1 All of the above service provision is underpinned by the following policies and plans:
 - County Strategic Plan
 - County Single Education Plan (2004/05 – 2009/10)
 - Stratford Area Business Plan (2005/06)
 - Local Strategic Plan (South Warwickshire)
 - Stratford Area Community Learning Plan (2005/06)
 - Education Department Forum Plan (2005)
 - Community Education Service Plan (through to 2005).

- 2.2 In addition the Area Community Education Council is supported by:
ACEC Guidelines and Handbook April 1998 Edition.
- 2.3 The Adult and Community Learning Service is supported by:
Adult and Community Learning Plan (2003/06)
Stratford Area Adult and Community Learning Plan (2005/06).
- 2.4 The Youth Service is supported by:
National Connexions Agenda
National Transforming Youth Work Agenda
National Resourcing Excellent Youth Service Policy
WCC Youth Service Plan (2003/06)
South Warwickshire Youth Service Action Plan (2005/06).
- 2.5 Each of the three service areas is inspected by different regulatory regimes namely:
- (a) Area Community Education Council is monitored by and reports to the Stratford Area Committee
 - (b) Adult and Community Learning Service is inspected by the Adult Learning Inspectorate (ALI)
 - (c) Youth Service is inspected by Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted).

3. Timeframes

Whilst the financial year of all three services' themes run from April to March, the time periods for the targets and objectives of each service do not:

- (a) ACEC operational year for targets is April to March
- (b) Adult and Community Learning Service operational year for targets is September to August
- (c) Youth Service operational year for targets is April to March.

4. Service updates

- 4.1 The South Warwickshire Adult and Community Learning Service has now successfully completed target work as identified within the agreement with the Learning and Skills Council (LSC). An update on achievements is attached as **Appendix A**.
- 4.2 The ACECs are currently under review and accordingly the identified exercise in last year's report of upgrading the ACECs' handbooks and administration was suspended until the future of the ACECs has been clarified. It is hoped that the expertise, knowledge and good practice that has been developed within the ACEC can be utilised in any future arrangements agreed within the Strategic Review of Services for Young People currently underway within the County Council. A further report on the ACEC is included at **Appendix B**.

- 4.3 Given in **Appendix C** is a summary of the progress in the Community Education Service for 2004/05 which sets out:
- the activity and any targets
 - the achievement of those targets
 - an indication of the status of the activity:
 - Green = Going well
 - Amber = On track
 - Red = Giving cause for concern
 - action taken or proposed to address any issues of underperformance.
- 4.4 The South Warwickshire Youth Service has now met young person contact targets for the first year as identified by government policy and is commencing the increased targets of the second year (see **Appendix D**). The Service has experienced considerable difficulty in meeting some targets due to significant staff shortages over much of the past 18 months. However the youth work team is expected to be close to full strength in the new year.
- 4.5 Perhaps the most pleasing aspect of the past year was the Warwickshire Youth Service successfully passing the recent Ofsted inspection. The South Warwickshire area contributed examples of best practice to the inspection. Many South Warwickshire-based staff were interviewed in the inspection process and reported this as a positive experience.

5. Conclusion

2004/05 was an unusual year for the Community Education Service with temporary arrangements for the management of the service being implemented in preparation for the outcomes of the Children Act and the then anticipated Green Paper: Youth Matters. However this did enable a clear focus on the Youth Service and led to a successful Ofsted inspection and led the way to the current separately managed services for 2005/06. This is likely to be the final report from the Community Education Service.

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County Education Officer

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10th November 2005

Adult and Community Learning Service

The table below shows the target learner numbers for the service during the academic year which finished at the end of July 2005, the actual achievement against those targets and the targets for the current academic year, 2005/06, which began on 1st August 2005.

Targets are agreed annually with the Coventry and Warwickshire Learning and Skills Council (LSC) who provide almost all of the funding for the service.

	Overall target number of enrolments, all subjects	Family Learning, Literacy and Numeracy enrolments	Wider Family Learning enrolments	Essential Skills enrolments	Essential Skills national qualifications	No. of employers	No. of employees
2004/05 Targets	840	123	200 adults 100 children	103	31		
2004/05 Actuals	931	171	304 adults 287 children	93	16		
2005/06 Targets	892	130	212 adults 106 children	113	34	2	5

Learning delivery outside the Family Learning and Essential Skills curriculum areas is in ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and in Capacity Building programmes.

The 2004/05 academic year was a successful one in so far as the area exceeded its overall target of enrolments. However, staffing problems and difficulties in recruiting specialist staff into Essential Skills posts had a major impact on the achievement of targets for the year in this area. The Essential Skills qualifications shortfall was also connected with the ACL Service only establishing its own assessment centre status from November 2004 so the numbers achieved were in fact over a nine-month period.

Following a period of not having a manager in place for the adult team, a temporary appointment was made half way through the year and a permanent appointment has now been made. New premises have now been identified for the service to occupy, including teaching accommodation, and this will be a significant advantage for the adult team in future.

The targets for the current year, 2005/06, have been expanded at the behest of the local LSC to include work with a number of employers and employees and their expectation is that most of this work will be in the delivery of Essential Skills (literacy, numeracy and English for speakers of other languages). Whilst these numbers are initially small, in future years we anticipate that this will be an area of significant growth for the service.

The method by which the service is funded will change away from the current block grant to a formula-based mechanism in August 2006 and this may have a major impact on the type and volume of the work that the service delivers.

South Warwickshire ACEC Awards 2004/05

Summary

2004/05 was a good year for the South Warwickshire ACEC Committee. The Committee continued to meet throughout the year to disseminate grants and discuss issues relating to the Community Education Service objectives.

By the end of March 2005 the ACEC Committee had 81 affiliated groups under category 1 class with a further 94 affiliated groups within the category 2 class – another 12 organisations had county-wide affiliation.

A total of 39 grant awards had been made throughout the year that supported the work of local groups.

These awards supported the work of rural groups operating within the villages – examples being Lighthorne Heath, Wellesbourne, Wilmcote and Harbury.

The ACEC were able to support a wide range of communities by grant aid. For example some of these communities were: Bidford, Henley, Shipston, Southam and Alcester.

For a complete list please refer to the sheet overleaf identifying all the grants.

	Purpose	Amount Requested	Flexible 8-13	Flexible 14-18	Community use of Premises	Voluntary Youth 8-13	Voluntary Youth 14-19	ADULT 19+
2004/05 budget			£13,175.00	£5,000.00	£22,350.00	£8,400.00	£20,000.00	£67,000.00
	Escape Workshops (2003/04 application)							1000.00
	Escape Workshops (2003/04 application)							3251.68
	Stratford College (2003/04 application)							3644.50
Stratford District Council	Targeted Holiday scheme	£7,100.00	£4,700.00					
ILEAP	Summer Scheme	£2,000.00	£2,000.00					
2nd Stratford on Avon Brownies	Running costs	£200.00	£200.00					
Stockton PCC - Michaels Club	Summer Scheme	£100.00	£100.00					
Wellesbourne Summer Activity Scheme	Summer Scheme	£500.00	£290.00					
Bidford Youth Club	Staff and running costs	£3,800.00					£3,500.00	
Harbury Youth Club	Running costs	£2,500.00				£2,500.00		
Springfield Mind	Workshops	£4,272.65						£4,272.65
Escape Workshops	Workshops - Alcester, Stratford, Studley	£14,156.00						£14,156.00
Lighthorne Heath Community Forum	Parent Power	£275.00						£275.00
Clopton Forum	Share plus training	£510.00						£500.00
Council for Voluntary Service	Loft Workshops	£7,500.00						£7,500.00
Southam Church & Community Project	Running costs	£2,500.00			£2,500.00			
Take a Break	Residential	£4,000.00	£2,000.00		£2,000.00			
Henley Sk8	Skate Park Project	£1,000.00					£1,000.00	
Lighthorne Heath Forum	Dance classes	£480.00			£480.00			
The Hub	Staff (junior club)	£1,500.00				£1,500.00		
Stratford Churches Together	Youth Project	£250.00	£250.00					
SW Youth Work Team	Big Residential	£5,213.58	£200.00	£5,000.00				
SW Youth Work Team	Loudmouth Theatre	£4,355.00			£4,355.00			
Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme	Staffing (Tyler House)	£10,402.04					£3,143.50	
Alcester Opportunities	Running costs	£10,000.00			£5,000.00		£3,000.00	£2,000.00
Adult & Community Learning	Rural Project	£1,000.00						£1,000.00
Lighthorne Heath Scouts	Residential	£1,390.00	£1,390.00					
Shipston Youth Centre	Staff (junior club)	£1,928.00				£1,928.00		
Tyler House	Young Parents Project	£1,150.00					£1,150.00	
SW Youth Work Team	IWD/Peer Education	£5,160.00					£5,160.00	
SW Youth Work Team	Chill Out/Multi Agency Drop in	£6,000.00			£6,000.00			
Southam St Mary's	Community Use of Schools	£2,610.00			£986.00			
SW Youth Work Team	Motivate Courses	£8,100.00	£2,045.00		£1,029.00	£1,979.50	£3,046.50	
SW ACL Team Adult Learners week	Adult Learners Week	£500.00						£500.00
Wellesbourne C of E Primary	Impact - Family Learning	£3,200.00						£3,200.00
Relate	Partners to parents	£1,935.10						£1,935.10
SW Adult & Community Team	Reminiscence	£10,000.00						£10,000.00
Wilmcote C of E Primary	Silver Surfers	£565.50						£565.50
SW Youth Work Team	Feasibility Study	ACEC Request				£492.50		
	TOTALS	£126,152.87	£13,175.00	£5,000.00	£22,350.00	£8,400.00	£20,000.00	£53,800.43

Final Report for Community Education 2004/05

	Success / Measure	Status	Explanatory notes
ACEC			
To date no formal targets	ACEC achieved local aspirations	Green	Itemised breakdown of grant attached as Appendix B.
To establish new documentation for ACECs across the County	ACEC documentation established	Red	The future of the ACECs are still under discussion and until these discussions are finalised it is not clear what documentation will be required.
Young People's Services			
To regularly reach 20% of our 14-19 youth population (target 1,760 young people)	Administration figures demonstrate that 1,760 were worked with	Red	<p>Within a county-wide challenging funding environment there have been specific South Warwickshire factors which have exacerbated the problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Staff vacancies in both the full-time and part-time staff teams that have impacted upon our ability to deliver services and provision. (ii) Clubs closed due to premises upgrades or lack of staff. (iii) Not all the young people worked with during the year were able to be captured on the new recording system.
To demonstrate that we work with 880 young people four times per month	As above	Red	We managed to confirm contact with 560 participants during this period – however see reasons given above.

	Success / Measure	Status	Explanatory notes
Young People's Services (continued)			
To run two Summer Projects for young people in partnership with Connexions Service	Two summer projects took place and 22 young people from the NEETs group took part	Amber	Required to achieve better retention rates with this group. We originally targeted 36 young people.
To ensure that two Youth Conferences are held each year	Two Youth Conferences took place	Green	Target achieved. Two conferences took place incorporating 140 young people.
Development of Southam Music Project	Achieved	Green	Target achieved. 15 young people trained.
Provide a range of outdoor and residential experiences to the young people of the Borough	Achieved	Green	Target achieved through County residential, U Project, club residential and other service programmes.
Development of Momentum Driving Projects in Studley, Alcester and Shipston	Three projects operated	Green	Target achieved
Establish the service administrative and quality frameworks required by the new youth service agendas within the South Warwickshire team	County has established them, Areas to adopt	Green	Target achieved
Continued development of Youth Bank Project through two training initiatives for young people	Achieved	Green	Target achieved
Run workshops to build better relationships with the Police – four youth centres initially	Achieved	Green	Target achieved

South Warwickshire Youth and Community Objectives 2005/06

	Objectives	Success / Measure	Timescale
Youth Work Curriculum			
1.1	Develop the use of the Youth Work Curriculum within all of the maintained youth centres and projects in all aspects of youth work	Green and yellow planning and evaluation form will show progression	2005/06
1.3	Provide Curriculum Training Course for 16 part-time youth workers	Course attendance and evaluation sheets	2005/06
Healthy Lifestyles			
2.1	Distribute SRE policy to all staff and provide training opportunities	All staff will have a copy of the SRE policy and will have been offered training	2005/06
2.2a	Provide drug prevention programme in all maintained youth centres and detached teams	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
2.2b	Provide smoking cessation programme in all maintained youth centres and detached teams	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
2.2c	Provide alcohol misuse programmes in all maintained youth centres and detached teams	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour			
3.1	Deliver five Crimebeat Initiatives across the area	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
Accreditation			
4.1a	20% (382) young people participating in Youth Work to receive accreditation	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
4.1c	Increase involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
Citizenship			
5.2	Develop a Youth Council that supports the engagement of young people at local, district/borough level and reflects the diversity of young people within areas	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
5.9	Continue to work with the young people of South Warwickshire to develop the Youth Bank	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
Management			
6.1	Provide internet access points in all maintained youth centres	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
7.3a	To have meaningful contact with 2,121 young people in South Warwickshire (25% of the total 13-19 years population)	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
7.3b	To have an ongoing relationship with 1,273 young people in South Warwickshire (15% of the total 13-19 years population)	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06
7.4a	All youth provision is accessible for a minimum of four hours per week	To be confirmed by Youth Service Information System	2005/06