
REPORT TO:	Housing and Community Services Committee	AGENDA ITEM:	8
DATE OF MEETING:	22 April 2004	CATEGORY:	DELEGATED
REPORT FROM:	Director of Community Services	OPEN	
MEMBERS' CONTACT POINT:	Stuart Batchelor (5820)	DOC:	
SUBJECT:	Youth Needs Survey	REF:	
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	All	TERMS OF REFERENCE:	HCS07

1.0 Recommendations

- 1.1 Members accept the findings of the survey and approve the recommendations that will be used to deliver the Youth Engagement Through Sport Project.

2.0 Purpose of Report

- 2.1 To inform members of the findings of the 2004 Youth Needs Survey and to gain their approval for the recommendations resulting from the Survey.

3.0 Content

- 3.1 In September 2003 the Home Office, following the recommendation of the Derbyshire and Peak Park Sport and Recreation Forum, approved funding for the Council to undertake a survey of the recreational and leisure needs of young people. The findings of the survey would be used to design a Youth Engagement Through Sport project that was being developed by the Crime & Disorder Partnership.
- 3.2 The survey was undertaken by the Council's acting Sports Development Officer and was managed as a partnership project with the Youth Service, Police, South Derbyshire & Derbyshire Dales PCT and the Connexions Service.
- 3.2 The survey involved the completion of over 2000 formal questionnaires (a copy provided in annexe 1) by 13 to 19 year old pupils of the District's four secondary schools, plus South Derbyshire pupils who attend Chellaston, John Taylor and Robert Sutton Schools. Consultation was also undertaken on a focus group basis with staff going out on the Mobile Youth Bus or visiting urban parks. The response rate for the Survey questionnaires was 46%, which gives significant statistical value.
- 3.3 The findings of the report have been compiled as the 2004 Youth Needs Survey, which will be circulated as a separate report.
- 3.4 The findings of the report will be used to develop a Youth Needs Action Plan which will be used by partner agencies to deliver their services to young people.

- 3.5 The Action Plan will be particularly useful in the development of the Youth Engagement Through Sport Project which is to be the continuation of the Youth Needs Survey. The project will target sports activity in those areas where there are specific problems of youth related anti social behaviour and will work with the Youth Service, Youth Offending Service, Sporting Futures and South Derbyshire Sport to provide activities that young people have indicated they want to do.
- 3.6 An important aspect of the project will be the use of sports leadership and coaching courses to engage young people in positive work. Involvement in sport and sports coaching improves school attendance and educational attainment and this project will lead on this development.
- 3.7 The project will further develop the Councils holiday playscheme service so that more opportunities are provided during the summer school holidays but also that provision is provided throughout the year at after school time and other school holidays.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Youth Needs Survey was funded in full by a grant from the Home Office of £15,000. This funding together with support from the Crime and Disorder Partnership of £30,000, salary savings from the Councils Sports Development Officer who has returned to reduced hours following maternity leave, and Council funding for 2005/6, has ensured the Project has funding for at least two years.
- 4.2 A further £5,000 was provided by the Council towards 'Sportsbreak' out of school activities for 2004/5 which will contribute to the project. Further funding for activity sessions is still being sought from partner organisations.

5.0 Corporate Implications

- 5.1 The Survey and resultant action plan and Youth Engagement project was identified as a requirement in the CPA Improvement Plan for the Clean, Green, Safe and Active Review of Public Open Space and represents a significant improvement in service delivery for young people in the District.

6.0 Community Implications

- 6.1 The Youth Needs Survey and the new services that will result from its findings will have a significant impact on the level of leisure provision for young people in the District. Its successful delivery will raise levels of physical activity and reduce youth related anti social behaviour.

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 The Survey and resultant Youth Engagement Through Sport project are the result of partnership working between agencies and will provide a benchmark evaluating the participation of young people in leisure activities in future years.

8.0 Background Papers

Survey Questionnaires.