

**DEVON YOUTH SERVICE (SOUTH HAMS) – UPDATE**  
**Report of the Head of Child & Adult Protection**

**Recommendations:** That the committee notes the update.

**1. Staffing Issues**

In response to budget reductions the youth service has re-structured from six geographical teams to four. The restructure has resulted in a number of redundancies to back office staff and management as well as some cuts to front-line staff. Area Youth Workers will be taking responsibility for more than one centre. Mike St John Cooper will have responsibility for Kingsbridge and Ivybridge and Naomi Salmon will have responsibility for Totnes and Dartmouth.

**2. Devon Youth Service Restructure**

The new Southern Team will comprise of South Hams and Teignbridge excluding Moretonhampstead and Tedburn St Mary. The teams have been created based on 13 to 19 population, travel routes and distances. The new structure will be effective from 15 August 11.

The team leader post to cover the new team area is currently vacant and Brett Rowson is the acting Team Leader until we are in a position to fill the vacancy. Brett Rowson is currently the Senior Area Youth Worker for the new team.

Once the Team Leader vacancy is filled the person will be based in Newton Abbot with the Senior Area youth Worker based in Ivybridge. The Team Leader Administrator will be Stella Newman and she will be based in Newton Abbot.

**3. Programme**

**Dartmouth and Kingsbridge**

An exciting programme of residentials, projects and open access has been offered and an increasing number of young people have taken up the offer. There has also been an increase in the number of young volunteers helping to enrich and increase the offer. 12 young people have completed the EdExcel Work Skills Certificate

**Ivybridge**

The staff team is now up to full complement and this has meant the re-launch of the popular Inters session. The Wednesday after school session is well liked by the young people who use it to complete homework without distractions and an opportunity to socialise over a cup of tea and a slice of toast. Demand for the Red Cross Babysitting Course remains high. The street based youth workers will be starting programmes in the outlying communities to extend the reach of the offer.

## **Totnes**

The well established links with KEVICCs have been built upon with youth service staff supported by young people delivering curriculum enhancement programmes. Music and DJing are very popular and have led to young people hosting their own radio show on SoundArt Radio.

### **Senior Member Training**

The Senior Member Training is a course designed for young volunteers to learn about youth work and how to work alongside youth workers in delivering youth work sessions. Successful candidates gain a nationally recognised qualification worth 3 credits with the Open College Network. 12 young people have completed the 4 day programme and are now all volunteering, some for 3 evenings a week, in their youth centre.

### **4. Local Youth Network**

We are grateful to Cabinet for protecting the Local Youth Network Fund at the same level as last year. The YouthBank is in the process of making decisions about grants to the voluntary and community youth sector.

### **5. Youth Leisure Nights**

The Youth Leisure Nights remain very popular and continue to produce outcomes that benefit other services e.g. reduced Anti-Social Behaviour and Criminal Damage reducing policing requirements.

The funding for the Youth Leisure Nights is secure until October and the interim and then permanent Team Leader will need to secure further funding if they are to continue.

**Rory McCallum**  
**Head of Child & Adult Protection**

**ELECTORAL DIVISION: ALL IN SOUTH HAMS**

Local Government Act 1972:

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