

Services for Young People in Woking Performance Summary 2014/15

Introduction

This report covers the different services that support young people that are commissioned by both Surrey County Council (SCC) and Woking Borough Council (WBC) in Woking. During 2014/15 both authorities have sought to strengthen their joint working arrangements, so we can increase the impact our resources have on young people in the borough. This work culminated in the development and adoption of a new Integrated Youth Strategy early in 2015, which sets out our shared priorities for young people in Woking. This strategy is supported by a joint action plan that will deliver an enhanced, integrated youth offer that will better support Woking's young people to make a successful transition to adulthood.

Integrated Youth Strategy

The Integrated Youth Strategy for Woking aims to ensure that the mixed and diverse market of organisations and agencies involved in youth activity across the borough can work together towards a shared set of priorities, to commission and deliver an integrated borough-wide Youth Offer. This will deliver a number of key benefits including:

- A joined up approach for commissioning and planning services for young people which avoids duplication and double funding
- Involving partners and stakeholders in identifying young people's needs in Woking - meaning that priorities are agreed at both strategic and operational levels which will therefore have increased likelihood of delivery as a result of 'buy-in', and
- Services are planned, commissioned and delivered to meet young people's needs, secure their interest and enthusiasm and support them to achieve their aspirations and ambitions.

The strategy identified six priorities which are:

1. Improving young people's emotional wellbeing and mental health
2. Reducing risky behaviour – substance misuse, smoking, anti-social behaviour and improving sexual health
3. Meeting the needs of young people that require additional support in their transition from adolescence to adulthood
4. Improving young people's experience of the local transport system – cost and safety
5. Ensuring that facilities are accessible to young people and fit for purpose
6. Promoting the Youth Offer.

To deliver against the strategy we have established a Joint Working Group and a shared Action Plan, which we will be implementing in 2015/16.

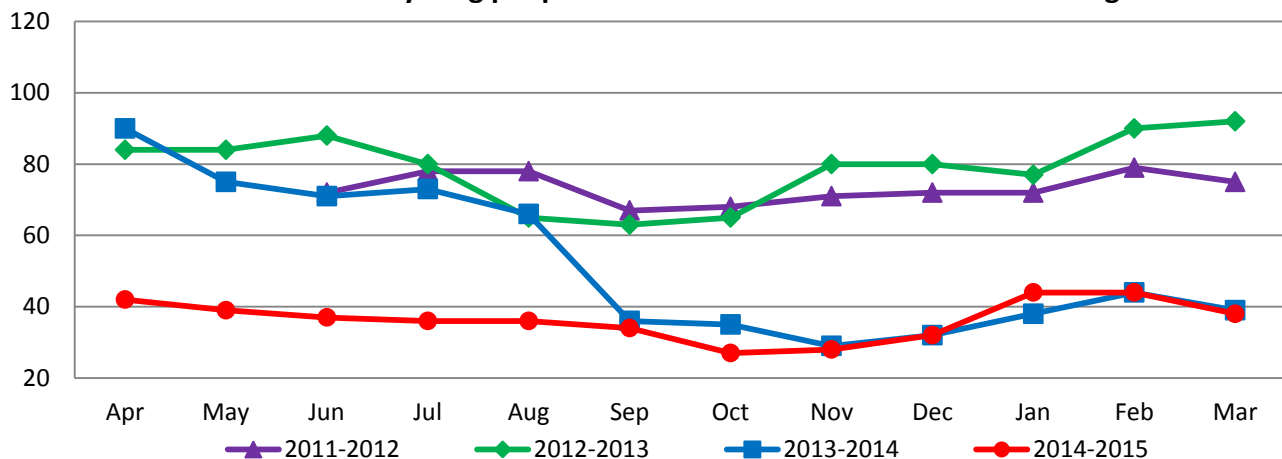
Countywide overview of performance

In 2014-15 Surrey had the second lowest proportion of young people who were not in education, employment or training (NEET) of all local authorities in the country and the lowest of any large authority, with only 1.7% of young people NEET compared to 1.8% in 2013/14.

Local performance story in Woking

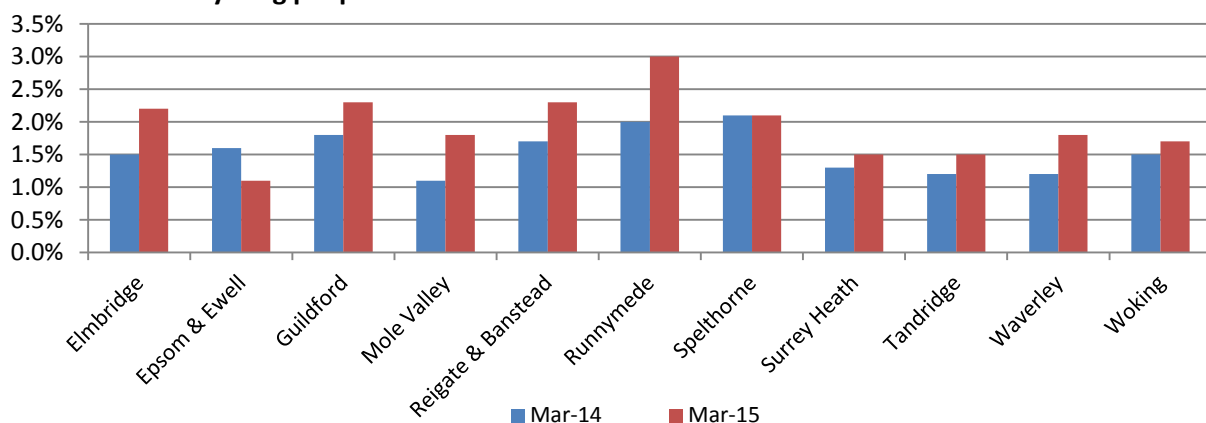
The reason for this report is to tell the local story of how Services for Young people, working with our partners, has been making a difference to young people in Woking.

Number of young people in Years 12 - 14 who are NEET in Woking



- In March 2015 only 45 young people were NEET compared to 39 in March 2014 and 92 in March 2013.
- 98.3% of young people were participating in education, training, employment or re-engagement at the end of March 2015, compared to 98.5% in March 2014 and 96.4% in March 2013.

% of young people in Years 12-14 who were NEET in Mar 2014 and Mar 2015



Youth Support Service

- 1.7% of young people in years 12-14 were NEET in March 2015 compared to 1.5% in March 2014 and 3.5% in March 2013
- No young people who are looked after by Surrey County Council and placed in Woking were NEET in March 2015
- Young people who were NEET had been out of education or work for an average of 119 days compared to 141 in the previous year
- 69 young people moved from NEET to PETE during the year compared 127 in the previous year
- 36.0% of young people who were NEET had been NEET before compared to 17.9% in the previous year
- 3.9% of young people were unknown in March 2015, the same level as in March 2014
- 15 first-time entrants to the youth justice system in 2014/15 compared to 20 in 2013/14 and 22 in 2012/13
- No young people sentenced to custody in Woking during 2014/15
- 40 disposals given to young people as a result of offending in 2014/15, compared to 57 in 2013/14
- 55 Youth Restorative Interventions (YRIs) employed with young people involved in low-level offending this year, compared to 94 last year
- 13 young people at risk of homelessness supported in 2014/15
- 10 Children in Need case managed by the YSS in 2014/15.

Performance narrative

The Youth Support Service (YSS) in Woking works with an average of 100 young people at any one time. This includes those from Youth Justice, NEET, Child in Need, emotional health needs and those involved in Anti Social Behaviour. During the course of the year the number of young people engaged on the basis of criminality has fallen, which is reflected in the numbers of new entrants to the youth justice system and in overall numbers of young people supervised both pre and post court. This in turn reflects on the positive work undertaken with young people in addressing offending behaviour and in the prevention measures provided by our local partners, Reflex, Eikon and Surrey Care Trust.

Our NEET work is more focussed, offering a triage service to free up case management resources in working with individuals to support them into colleges and other vocational study options such as Motor Industry Training (MIT) based in West Byfleet. We also have access to an area wide Employment Development Officer who is able to access apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience for young people to helping them in their journey to sustainable full time employment. Young people at risk of becoming NEET at the end of year 11 are identified and supported by a commissioned service, U Explore during the transition period to year 12 to reduce the likelihood of becoming NEET. This year U Explore has worked closely with the YSS to identify early those with specific problems such as family breakdown, mental health or substance misuse that may further hinder their progress, so that individual case management can be offered. A full time course, offering functional skills, career guidance and vocational qualifications run in conjunction with Brooklands College is due to commence in September 2015.

This year we have also taken more referrals directly from Children's Services for young people aged 14+ who are assessed as Children in Need. Often they will be the same young people who are NEET or at risk of criminality. This has enabled us to build a better rapport with Children's Services and to further reduce the

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numbers of young people at risk of “sofa surfing” and child sexual exploitation. The YSS Homelessness Prevention Service has helped us to reduce to none the number of young people placed inappropriately in Bed and Breakfast accommodation.

Case Study

R is a mixed heritage teenager from Woking who had dropped out of a Hair and Beauty course at college. She additionally had been sexually assaulted and was experiencing trauma from this incident and some family problems. She was involved in a dysfunctional relationship, all of which had contributed to feelings of low self esteem.

Initially she had received support from her YSS worker to return to college and demonstrate greater commitment to keeping up with her college work. She switched to a different course and demonstrated her engagement by being elected as class rep for her course. It soon became clear however that the new course was not one that offered sufficient stimulus to her and again she started to fall behind in her work and eventually stopped attending. The college reported concerns to the police that she was at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation and a further referral was made to the YSS. Her previous worker re-engaged her in discussion and worked with Children’s Services, who had been asked to assess her family circumstances. It quickly became clear that concerns expressed by the college were historical and in fact R had acknowledged she was in the wrong course and now wanted to access an apprenticeship.

A meeting arranged with the Employment Development officer, embedded in the YSS, led to a placement being identified with a company offering an Administration apprenticeship. R successfully attended the interview, was offered a post and has now been employed for two months. She has enjoyed the work and appears more settled to the point that the YSS can now close her case.

Centre Based Youth Work (£20,400 and 5.3 full-time equivalents)

Centred Based Youth Work offers open-access youth work to young people in many of the areas with the greatest need in Surrey. Management of seconded Surrey County Council staff sits with a range of local providers, who complement SCC funded delivery with matched provision in terms of funding, resources and staff and volunteer time.

Please note – the Centre Based Youth Work contracts came to an end of the 31 March 2015. On the 1 April 2015 a new Surrey County Council service, Community Youth Work, was created to take forward the delivery of youth work in Surrey in 2015-16.

Lakers Youth Centre (The Youth Consortium)

Lakers Youth Centre is located in the heart of Goldsworth Park and attracts young people from across the Woking area. It is one of the few centres in the county to have already achieved Level 3 of the National Youth Agency Quality Mark and has the highest average hours of engagement for young people in the county.

The centre currently offers 2 open access sessions a week and one targeted session. These take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. In addition to these there is a very successful Peer Education project, which meets on Wednesday afternoons.

The open access sessions are very successful and attract high numbers of young people, who come and socialise, participate in activities and get support if required. On average, Tuesday and Thursday evenings are attended by between 50 and 90 young people. During these sessions the young people run their own tuck shop which provides a small profit to buy resources for the centre, as well as sustaining itself.

The targeted session on a Wednesday evening works with young people around identified needs and projects. Current projects are Young Leaders, Steering Group and Controversial Question Time. Starting in September there will be a ten week drama project looking at Healthy Lifestyles and Choices in partnership with Woking Borough Council and Peer Productions. This project is open to young people from across the Woking area.

The Peer Education project has successfully delivered sexual health workshops to young people across the Woking area and works in partnership with Virgin Care and the 'Get it on Scheme'. More recently they have delivered child sexual exploitation (CSE) workshops in Woking High School reaching over 100 young people to raise awareness and signpost them to where they can get advice and support around this issue.

Young people's achievements are recognised through in house accreditations, Asdan Awards and through partnership work for young people to gain qualifications, such as The Red Cross for first aid, Surrey Care Trust for the boat handler's certificate on the Swingbridge barge and Eikon for self harm training. An annual awards evening is held to celebrate young people's achievements.

Current and recent projects at Lakers:

- Peer Education
- Young Leaders
- Residential Weekends
- Fulham Football Healthy Lifestyles Project
- Swingbridge Canal Boat
- Art project with the Light Box Art Gallery and Museum

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- Active Steering group meeting monthly
- Africa project (volunteering in St.Michaels School, Kilolo, Tanzania)

Young people from Lakers youth centre have also sat on County and Borough meetings to ensure they have a voice. One young man is a member of the Youth Collective Project and also sits on Woking Borough Youth Council.

Four young leaders have just completed their Level 2 Youth Work training with BeWise training, provided by Woking Borough Council.

One young man attained an apprenticeship through Woking Borough Council with Woking Football Club.

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance				
	Agreed performance 2014/15	Actual 2014/15 performance	Achievement against agreed performance	Comparative 2013/14 performance	Direction of travel
1.1 Hours of youth work delivered from the Centre	800	879	109.9%	711	↑
1.2a Young people engaged in one or more hours of youth work	220	313	142.3%	219	↑
1.2b Average hours of engagement per young person	60	79.2	132.0%	63.4	↑
1.3 Young people attending the youth club demonstrate positive 'distance travelled' by end of intervention.*	140	141	100.7%	99	↑
1.5 Each Centre achieves the National Youth Agency quality kite mark within the first Contract Year, and retains this mark in each subsequent contract year	Level 3	Level 3	On track	Level 1	↑
2.2 Young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET who have attended the centre	210	16	7.6%	1	↑

*Distance travelled: clear and tangible development for a young person

Sheerwater Youth Centre (The Youth Consortium)

Sheerwater Youth Centre is situated on Blackmore Crescent, close to the athletics track, park and community space in Sheerwater.

Sheerwater offers young people open access sessions twice a week, a steering group project once a week and a targeted project once a week.

Young people regularly have a voice through their Steering Group and have also been engaging in the local community regeneration meetings to ensure that youth provision is very much on the agenda as part of the regeneration.

Sheerwater has a new full time worker, Gareth Palmer, who is currently working with the staff team to advertise the centre to new young people within the community to increase the participation numbers.

Recent activities at Sheerwater have included:

- Cooking
- Steering group meetings and visit to Lakers Youth Centre
- Sports evenings
- Arts and crafts

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- Trip to High Ashurst in partnership with Woking Borough Council

The one red arrow shown below relates to the number of young people who have been identified as achieving positive 'distance travelled' at the centre. This is a result of inadequate recording of the impact of youth work on our attendance system, rather than an issue of the quality of youth work delivered.

Future plans include setting up a tuck shop within the centre. Sheerwater has achieved Level 1 of the Surrey County Councils Quality Mark and is working towards Level 2.

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance				
	Agreed performance 2014/15	Actual 2014/15 performance	Achievement against agreed performance	Comparative 2013/14 performance	Direction of travel
1.1 Hours of youth work delivered from the Centre	800	232	29.0%	132	↑
1.2a Young people engaged in one or more hours of youth work	90	61	67.8%	48	↑
1.2b Average hours of engagement per young person	40	25.8	64.5%	18.4	↑
1.3 Young people attending the youth club demonstrate positive 'distance travelled' by end of intervention.*	110	0	0.0%	4	↓
1.5 Each Centre achieves the National Youth Agency quality kite mark within the first Contract Year, and retains this mark in each subsequent contract year	Level 2	Level 1	Development needed	No Level	↑
2.2 Young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET who have attended the centre	224	1	0.4%	0	↑

*Distance travelled: clear and tangible development for a young person

Woking Youth Centre (Surrey County Council)

Woking youth centre is situated in a community with high and complex needs. The youth centre is located in Maybury, within a predominantly Pakistani Muslim community. The youth centre offers young people between the ages of 11 to 19 a safe place to explore their identity, challenge themselves, make decisions and learn new skills. At Woking youth centre there are two open access sessions that run on a Wednesday and Friday from 6:30 pm to 8:30pm, whilst on Tuesday's there is a girl's only group that starts at 5:30pm and ends at 7pm.

All sessions that take place at Woking Youth Centre aim to effectively engage young people in activities and discussions that promote health and well being, community cohesion and involvement, young people's leadership and involvement, inclusive participation, raise aspirations and build social skills.

Open access and targeted sessions have provided young people with the opportunity to get involved in various projects such as: drug and alcohol awareness; domestic abuse awareness; healthy relationships project; cooking/baking; t-shirt design; Fulham FC Health Champions Programme; sporting competitions; Sexual Health Awareness Workshop; Swingbridge Canal Boat Trip; identity projects; drama sessions; police Q&A sessions; and many more.

Young people plan, prepare and evaluate their sessions. This gives them a sense of belonging and responsibility within the youth centre.

The young people that attend Woking Youth Centre have achieved many things and tried new things that they may not have had the opportunity to do elsewhere.

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Young people have learnt new skills within the kitchen, cooking skills, social skills, employment skills, money skills, life skills and much more.

It should be noted that hours of delivery are slightly lower in 2014/15 than in the previous year – 631 compared to 681. This reflects the impact of property issues with the youth centre building that have limited the ability of the amount of delivery that could happen at the centre. This is also reflected in the average hours of engagement per young person figure. Strong support from the Woking Joint Committee has helped to resolve this issue as quickly as possible, with plans to deliver the service from the Maybury Centre and the Arch Centre for the next two years, whilst new premises are developed.

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance				
	Agreed performance 2014/15	Actual 2014/15 performance	Achievement against agreed performance	Comparative 2013/14 performance	Direction of travel
1.1 Hours of youth work delivered from the Centre	800	631*	78.9%	681	↓
1.2a Young people engaged in one or more hours of youth work	111	204	183.8%	108	↑
1.2b Average hours of engagement per young person	14	5.6	40.0%	10.6	↓
1.3 Young people attending the youth club demonstrate positive 'distance travelled' by end of intervention.**	61	81	132.8%	67	↑
1.5 Each Centre achieves the National Youth Agency quality kite mark within the first Contract Year, and retains this mark in each subsequent contract year	Level 1	Level 1	On track	Yes	↑
2.2 Young people who have been identified as at risk of becoming NEET who have attended the centre	240	46	19.2%	0	↑

*Please note that this includes 445 hours of matched provision delivered from the centre

**Distance travelled: clear and tangible development for a young person

Woking Borough Council Commissioned Youth Work

In addition to the SCC funded youth centres Woking Borough Council identified additional areas of need that were not being serviced. Consequently, they provided buildings and commissioned additional centre based open access youth work in Barnsbury and Lakeview. WBC also provided premises and support to a community run Youth Club in Knaphill. These Youth Clubs were not subject to the same performance indicators so the reporting template is different.

Barnsbury Youth Centre – Delivered by REFLEX

Introduction	REFLEX were commissioned by Woking Borough Council to run two sessions a week both for 2 hours. The area was previously identified as being of need and the subject of a police dispersal notice. The centre has excellent facilities and we have provided an extensive programme for the youth. REFLEX also provides their own assistant youth workers to support each session. The achievements of the youth are far reaching and we celebrated them with a 2014 youth awards evening in December.
Opening Times	Tuesday and Thursday: 6-8pm Additional session funded by Police Crime Commissioner Tuesdays 4 -5.30pm
Total annual hours	210 hours REFLEX also delivered community events supported by WBC funded youth workers.

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Number of Youth Workers	2 (WBC Funded) 4(REFLEX funded)		
Number of Young People Registered	Boys	Girls	Total
	65	22	87
Average number attending each session	On average we have between 10 and 15 attending a centre based session. If the session is run outside then this number rises to about 20 YP per session.		
Average hours of engagement per young person	47 hours		
NYA Kite mark	Barnsbury received a National Youth Agency quality mark of good.		
Details of any structured programmes delivered	Fulham football healthy champions Summer programme: 6 weeks of fun activities/trips Drugs and alcohol, Healthy living and Personal safety workshops Detached sports programme, Cooking courses, Surrey Dance Sessions Community cohesion, Confidence building, Anti-Bullying workshops Healthy relationships workshops, Reflex accredited music sessions		

Lakeview Youth Club – Delivered by REFLEX

Introduction	This area on the edge of Goldsworth Park had previously been identified as needing youth support and Woking Borough Council have commissioned one night a week for 2 hours delivery. From February 2015 an additional Big Lottery funded session was added on a Wednesday night. REFLEX provides assistant youth workers to support each session. The youth club is usually run from the Sythwood Community Centre. This building provides the space needed but is lacking in certain features such as a working kitchen. The centre is due to be refurbished later in 2015 and the youth club temporarily relocated. A highlight of the year was the healthy living programme run by Fulham football coaches and culminated in a trip to a Fulham home game.		
Opening Times	Monday 7-9pm (Woking Borough Council Funded) Wednesday 5.30-7.30pm (Big Lottery Funded)		
Total annual hours	94 hours of youth work (Woking Borough Council) 20 hours trips and extra activities		
Number of Youth Workers	2 (Woking Borough Council) 2 (Reflex Funded)		
Number of Young People Registered	Boys	Girls	Total
	30	33	63
Average number attending each session	Approximately 10-15 YP attending each session.		
Average hours of engagement per young person	For the majority of the year the average hours of engagement are: 52 hours		
Details of any structured programmes delivered	Fulham football healthy champions Summer programme: 6 weeks of fun activities/trips provided Surrey dance sessions, Arts and crafts course Drugs and alcohol, Healthy living, Personal safety workshops Detached sports programme		

Knaphill Cabin Youth Club – delivered by volunteers

Introduction	<p>Knaphill Cabin Youth Club has been run by key local community leaders Donna O'Donohue and Phil Stubbs since 2013. They took over the running of the club when the previous incumbents left, the club had run out of financial resources and the local area had been identified by the police as one of concern. They have managed to stabilise the club and extend opening hours.</p> <p>The club operates in the Vyne, a community centre supplied by Woking Borough Council. The Council also supports the club with training and Holiday activity trips for both staff and young people.</p> <p>The club operates one main session on a Monday night and a more targeted computer skills session on a Thursday night. Detached and sports sessions have been run on Tuesday nights and it is planned to formalise these for the following year.</p> <p>A café has been established and is now self funding. Additional funds have been raised to purchase new equipment.</p>		
Opening Hours	<p>Monday 7.00pm – 9.00pm</p> <p>Thursday 7.00pm – 9.00pm</p>		
Number of Volunteers	<p>5 Volunteers (Monday)</p> <p>2 Volunteers (Thursday)</p>		
Number of Young People Registered	Boys	Girls	Total
	68	28	96
Average number attending each session	Over the whole twelve months the average attendance on a Monday was 20. On a Thursday the average attendance is 6.		
Details of any structured programmes delivered	<p>Arts and crafts workshops, Computer Programming workshop</p> <p>Drugs and alcohol, Healthy eating, Personal safety workshops</p> <p>Themed Nights in Sports and Crafts, Coderdjo Sessions</p>		

Woking Borough Council Youth Work Case Studies

Barnsbury YP 1 –REFLEX have been working with this young person for two years. Recently they have struggled with the transition at school to combat this we have increased discussions centred on peer pressure, healthy friendships and how young people feel about school. We have worked closely with the school to ensure everyone is kept up to date with information and as a consequence of this we have signposted this young person to other agencies to further support them, such as CAMHS. Additionally, we have referred them to other schemes such as FireWise to aid them and have put steps in place to gain a mentor for them so that they will have further support.

Lakeview - YP 2 has spent three years with the REFLEX team. Her elder siblings had issues within school and the team have worked hard to ensure this does not impact upon her. This young person has successfully transitioned through SATS and GCSE'S achieving high attainment levels and has gained a place at college to study for her A levels. We have discussed what she would like to do with her future and shown her how she can achieve this, signposting her to various information points to help her. By providing a space for her to chat about these options with no external pressure she has been able to really focus on what she wants and how she is going to reach her goals. Currently she is looking at studying to become a barrister.

Lakeview –YP 3 has recently suffered the unexpected death of a parent. The team have worked exceptionally hard to support this young person ensuring we signpost them to agencies that are best placed to work alongside them. The young person continues to attend youth club and can now openly discuss the emotions they are feeling with staff members to learn how to deal with these emotions and how they can utilise these techniques in everyday life.

Local Prevention Framework (*£105,000 during 2014/15*)

Priorities for the Local Prevention Framework are set locally by Youth Task Groups, which involve Members, young people, partners and stakeholders. Activities commissioned often include youth work, mentoring or counselling, although a wide range of solutions have been developed across the county.

September 2014 – August 2015 (Eikon and Reflex - £105,000)

Performance indicator	2014/15 performance		
	Agreed performance for period September 2014 to 2015	Actual performance September 2014 to August 2015	Achievement against agreed performance
Number of young people engaged in one or more hours of preventative activity	326	302	92.6%
Average hours of engagement* per young person		10.0	

*Engagement: a meaningful conversation or activity with a young person.

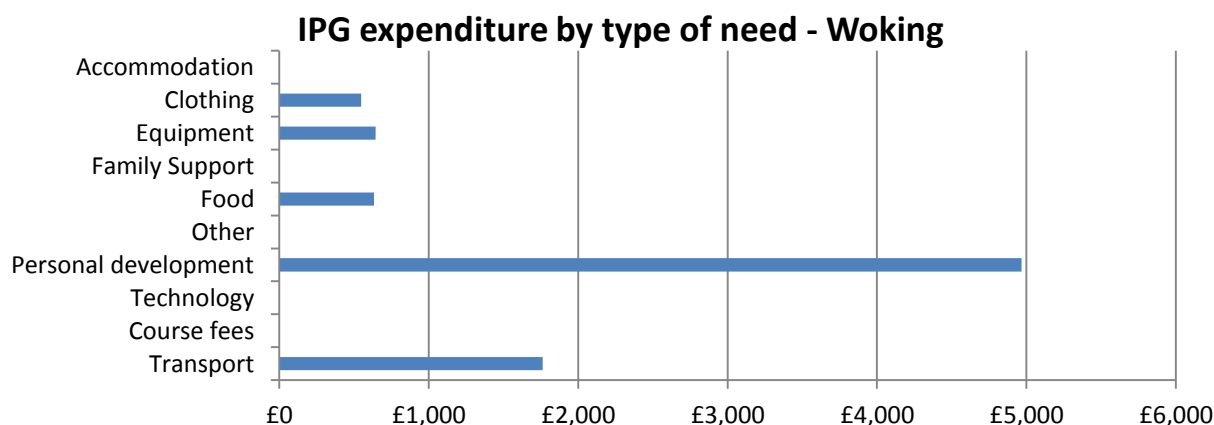
A key success of Eikon in 2014/15 was achieving Level 1 of the NYA Quality Mark to an Ambitious/Outstanding grade. This is something the team are justifiably proud of as it recognises the hard work that the team put into achieving high quality outcomes for young people and the significant distance travelled that many of them make as a result of attending our sessions.

In their observation of practice Eikon achieved a Level 3 (the equivalent of an Ofsted 'Good'). The observation report from their NYA assessor recorded: "The Take Control programme is responsive to the needs of the young people – sessions are tailored to meet the needs of each group that participates in it. The programme provides good opportunities for young people to develop personal and social skills; increasing their confidence, their communication and teamwork skills and supporting their engagement with formal education."

One of the young people (aged 14) who engaged in the programme said "Take Control helped me with learning about budgets and taking care of things around the house".

Individual Prevention Grants (*£10,000*)

Individual Prevention Grants (IPGs) were available in 2014/15 to remove barriers to participation for young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET. Each local YSS Team had an allocated budget, set in consultation with Local Committees, to be used flexibly to respond the changing needs of young people.



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- £8,558.61 of £10,000 (85%) of IPG funding was used to remove barriers to participation
- A total of 103 grants were given to young people with an average value of £83
- The main barriers addressed were 'Personal Development' (58%), 'Transport' (21%) and 'Food' (7%).

Youth Small Grants (£17,000)

Youth Small Grants were available to small voluntary, community or faith sector organisations across Surrey during 2014/15 to enable: more quality youth work to be delivered locally; more young people to participate in education, training and employment; and more young people to be kept safe from crime and anti-social behaviour. The grants were administered by Surrey Youth Focus for the first time this year.

The £17,000 allocated to Woking Local Committee for Youth Small Grants was allocated across 15 projects to support work with young people across Woking as follows:

Name of the organisation carrying out the project	Project title	Grants
1st Brookwood Scout Group	Camping shelter equipment and cooking	£620
1st Byfleet Scout Group	Funding for Archery equipment	£1,000
1st Send (St. Mary's) Scout Group	Scout Kayak Replacement Project	£2,500
Army Welfare Service	Cascade	£1,650
CAMHS Youth Advisors (CYA)	CYA Awards 2014	£500
FamilyLine	I Need Help – additional volunteer training	£100
Goldhawks Basketball	Get Fit with the Goldhawks	£1,000
Lakers Youth Centre	Lakers Peer Education Project	£425
Pyrford Cricket Club	Girls Cricket team	£500
Skillway	Pupil Sponsorship	£1,500
Woking Asian Business Forum	Cricket in Schools	£2,000
Woking Community Mediation Service	Intergenerational Mediation Training, conversion for experienced mediators	£805
Woking Lighthouse	The Edge	£3,000
Woking Primary Schools Football Association	Girls District Training Initiative	£800
Woodcraft Folk Surrey Area Council	Bushcraft Camp	£600
	Grants	£17,000
	Allocation	£17,000
	Underspend	£0

Woking Borough Council also ran a small grants scheme administered by the Woking Youth Council and in 2014/15 allocated £1760 and these allocations are also shown.

Name of the organisation carrying out the project	Project title	Grants
Lakers Youth Club	Peer mentoring training and equipment	£500
Knaphill Cabin Youth Club	Holiday Trips	£500

Lakeview Youth Club	Equipment	£300
The Club at Old Woking	Craft supplies and a club trip	£460

Youth Small Grants case study

Goldhawks Basketball received a Youth Small grant to buy equipment such as basketballs, portable hoops and project t-Shirts as well as officiating qualifications for Young People.

The project has improved the lives of vulnerable people in the community as the physical health benefits from Get Fit with the Goldhawks aids educational achievement, pupil concentration, commitment and self-esteem. It has also provided constructive activities for people to participate in and by being a vehicle through which values such as self-discipline, hard work and teamwork can be fostered and learned.



The project has also helped develop stronger communities by bringing together people from a wide variety of backgrounds, with the aim of being active, having fun and improving themselves. Relationships have continued to grow away from our project.

Goldhawks Basketball have also provided children in Surrey Heath and Woking with regular physical activity. This has contributed to them reaching the recommended amount of physical activity they should take part in each week to achieve and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. We hope this has contributed to reduced obesity levels amongst participants, in addition to providing them and their parents with the tools and knowledge to make positive changes to their diets.

Finally, young people have completed Level 1 Coaching & Officiating Awards. This qualification enables them to referee in the community and contributes to the future sustainability of the project.

Leader's Ready for Work Programme (£750,000 countywide)

During 2014/15 SYP received additional funding from David Hodge (Leader of SCC), to generate more individually tailored education, training and employment opportunities for young people that develop their employability. Achieving this has involved developing and embedding a range of new approaches, with three main examples below.

Re-engagement

Surrey's re-engagement programme (Ready 4 Work) is delivered in-house by the YSS and offers a bespoke local range of activities to young people who would otherwise be NEET, equipping them with the skills, attitudes and behaviours they need to 're-engage' in education, training or employment. Whilst the local offer in each area is different, the activity is underpinned by a shared employability curriculum.

- During 2014/15 this programme has engaged 930 young people across the county
- At the end of March 2015, 40 young people were in re-engagement provision in Woking

Apprenticeships

The programme has focussed on increasing the number of Apprenticeships available to young people. As well as a number of employer engagement events and increasing apprentice recruitment by SCC and our partners, the programme has offered grants to support new employers to take on apprentices.

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- 492 grants have been given to employers across the county who are now offering apprenticeship opportunities to Surrey young people
- 41 new employers in Woking have taken on apprentices as a result

Employment Development Officers (EDOs)

EDOs are now embedded in the YSS to develop meaningful employment and work experience opportunities for young people who would otherwise be NEET. During 2014/15 EDOs secured 81 work experience placements for young people between April 2014 and March 2015. They have also contributed to wider progression pathways for young people supported by the YSS, into things like paid employment and apprenticeships.

Year 11/12 Transition (*U-Explore* - £26,349)

The Year 11/12 Transition commission focuses on providing intensive support to young people in year 11 who have been identified as being at risk of becoming NEET through Surrey's partnership owned Risk of NEET Indicator (RONI). This approach identifies young people who exhibit NEET risk factors. Examples include being a looked-after child, having previously offended, participating in alternative learning programmes, having school attendance of less than 60% and being permanently excluded from school.

Young people are allocated a key worker from the January of year 11 and provided with mentoring to help them to identify a progression route following their compulsory schooling and then supported for the first term of year 12. National research indicates that young people are most vulnerable to dropping out of further education during the period leading up to Christmas, as they may struggle to keep up with the work or decide that they have chosen the wrong courses. This support takes a variety of forms and adopts a holistic approach to addressing the multiple barriers to participation for the young people, including homelessness, substance misuse, mental health issues and family breakdown.

- Supported 80 Woking young people in Year 11 who were identified, in partnership with local schools, as at risk of becoming NEET
- 96% success rate - 77 young people were in positive destinations at the end of January 2015

SEND (Post-16) Team

The SEND (Post 16) Team's role is to support young people with special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND) who are in education to prepare them for a successful transition to adulthood. The SEND (Post 16) Caseworkers work in schools and colleges and offer young people and their parents/carers information, advice and guidance on post 16 options in Surrey. They work with professionals from Schools and Learning, Health, Social Care, Education Providers and the Youth Support Service to ensure inclusion and participation for young people with SEND.

This year the team have been focusing on transferring SEN Statements to the new Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for over 650 students Year 11 and Year 14 students and students in Years 13, 15 and 16 who are changing educational placement in September 2015. EHCPs are holistic, young person centred assessments, focussed on identifying the young person's current special educational needs and their current and future support requirements at colleges and sixth forms post 16. Caseworkers are trained to support young people and ensure their voice is heard at their Transfer Review Meetings and recorded in their EHCP. The young person's story, their vocational aims, aspirations, skills and achievements are all

Appendix 1

included. Outcomes are discussed with the young person and their parent/carer to ensure that the provision needed can be put in place to support them to achieve those outcomes and prepare successfully for transition to education, training or employment.

Surrey Outdoor Learning and Development (SOLD) (£7,300 countywide)

SOLD offer outdoor learning opportunities to young people across Surrey and neighbouring areas. Many of their services are traded with other external organisations and they generated income of almost £1.41M in 2014/15. As well as these wider services, SOLD has been commissioned to offer local opportunities to young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET in each of Surrey's districts and boroughs, relying on the YSS to engage young people.

- 2.4% increase in total visitors to SOLD countywide from 32,420 in 2013/14 to 33,185 in 2014/15
- 16% increase in income generated by SOLD during 2014/15
- 49% of organisations made 2 or more bookings up 7% on 2013/14
- 3% increase in the number of activity sessions
- 72 young people engaged in local SOLD sessions, referred from the YSS, meaning expenditure of £15,370 against a budget of £7,312.

Performance comments

SOLD has had another year of growth, realising new developments in both products and customer base have enabled the aspirations for the year to be achieved and yet again against a back drop of challenging public finances and increasing customer demands. The work towards a self sufficient future continued, although it was agreed to defer a formal proposal to the following year once the SOLD Development Board has been established to focus and bring the work to its natural conclusion with the agreement of all the interested parties.

Some of the performance highlights from the year are summarised below:

- SOLD secured a significant National Citizenship Service programme (NCS) contract from "The Challenge", this saw young people aged 16-19 from across the south east take part in an intensive residential programme at High Ashurst and for the first time at Henley Fort.
- The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) has continued to grow since SOLD first delivered a bespoke programme four years ago. The programme is commissioned by the Surrey/Sussex Rotary and this number rose to 64 young people aged 16 – 18 years, in addition this year included a cohort of international young people.
- School sports funding continues to be a good source of business from the primary sector, seeing a second year of increased work supporting Surrey schools with an increasing number of these schools buying into other SOLD products throughout the year.
- Demand for TAZ holiday programmes continued to increase, particularly those run at Thames Young Mariners (TYM). This year additional programmes were put on due to extra late demand and made a significant contribution to the income target of £123K a 23% increase on the previous year.
- SOLD employed 5 apprentices during the year both on the outdoor delivery and support services. This programme cost SOLD circa £50K, all the apprentices secured employment upon completion.

Youth Engagement Contract (*U-Explore / The Eleven*)

The Youth Engagement Contract is a countywide service, largely delivered online and is designed to ensure young people are able to access the information, advice and guidance (IAG) that they need to make good decisions at key points in their lives. The offer comprises two main elements. The first is U-Explore, an online careers and education IAG service, whilst the second is 'wearesurge.co.uk', a co-produced online platform to engage young people and provide young people information in a way that is right for them.

- 69,052 young people age 13-19 in Surrey accessed information on Surge to help inform key decisions in their lives

Woking Borough Council

Woking Borough Council continues to employ a dedicated Children and Young Persons Development Officer. The Council uses this position, with support from within its Community Safety Team, to run programmes and commission services. It aims to provide both universal services available to all and targeted support for specific areas and families. Examples are provided below.

Junior Citizen

In March 2015 Junior Citizen was again held over a three week period at Woking Football Club. This is available to all year 6 children across the borough and is aimed at providing safety advice as the students prepare to transition to secondary school. This year we were able to use more volunteers to assist us with this popular event. Just over 1,000 Year 6 pupils (10-11 year olds), from 25 schools across the borough spent a half day learning about stranger danger, fire safety, water safety, neighbourliness and recycling, anti-social behaviour, internet safety, making appropriate 999 calls and railway safety. We have received very positive feedback from the schools following this worthwhile event.

Left to right: Dillon, Gina, Chris, Alex at the 2014 Diwali Festival

Woking Youth Council

The Woking Youth Council is open to 15 to 18 year olds and continues to thrive. The group of up to twenty volunteers met monthly at Woking Council Chamber to represent the views of young people. They administered the small grants scheme and conducted follow up visits to recipients. They helped steward and run events like the Sports Relief Mile, Woking Crime Summit and Diwali Festival. Their year culminated in a presentation on their work to a full council meeting.



Xtreme Fun

The council put together a programme of school holiday trips for looked after children based at Burbank home including fishing, go karting, and the Go Ape challenge. Additional places were available for Family Support Team and local Youth clubs to nominate children in need.

Big Lottery

In 2014 the Woking YMCA ceased its operation and had to give up the last year of its Big Lottery funding. Woking Borough Council was able to successfully make a bid and was awarded £98,000 to spend in the year commencing February 2015. The project started by running a Football against Homophobia tournament in February half term. The remaining projects include provision for three apprentices to work with local youth delivery partners, skills training for young people and youth work (centre based and detached) delivered through our partners REFLEX.

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