

YOUNG PEOPLE - LEICESTERSHIRE'S FUTURE

A County which looks to the future by maximising opportunities for its young people

Young people are the key to the future of the County and this chapter of the Community Strategy is about supporting and developing young people, encouraging them to participate fully in society and to maximise the opportunities open to them in terms of education, learning and skills, employment, leisure, healthcare and decision making.

The people of Leicestershire want:	In Leicestershire:	We will:
<p>The needs and aspirations of young people to be identified and addressed</p> <p>Young people to have access to co-ordinated information, advice and support to enable them to make informed decisions at key points in their life, for areas such as lifelong learning, employment and skills.</p>	<p>59% of young people felt well or very well informed about the options open to them when they left school. 32% rated their knowledge as 'average', with 8% indicating they felt poorly or very poorly informed.</p> <p>Connexions Leicester Shire, is a new service offering free information, advice, practical help and support to young people aged 13-19 years.</p>	<p>Prepare a 'State of Young People in Leicestershire' report to enable public agencies and organisations to share data on identifying needs and existing facilities. (<i>Leicestershire County Council, Connexions, 2005</i>)</p> <p>Provide a One-Stop-Shop for young people to go and get information and advice (venues for Connexions Service and other organisations). (<i>Connexions, 2005</i>).</p> <p>Develop a website with young people providing information and links that are young people friendly and co-ordinated by a webmaster. (<i>Leicestershire E-Government Partnership, 2004</i>)</p> <p>Promote information and advice for young people through schools and colleges.</p>

28/05/03

36

<p>Increased involvement of young people and those working with them in decisions about their future and community activities.</p>	<p>An annual 'Vox Pop' event is held where <u>young people share their views with and have an opportunity to question County Councillors.</u></p> <p><u>Fourteen young people had an opportunity to comment on a range of issues, including transport, information and health services, during the Young Person's Citizens Jury held in November 2002. The outcomes of this process have had a major influence on the actions included within this Strategy.</u></p> <p><u>Young People, aged 8-11 years have been involved in Leicestershire County Council's award winning Dreaming4Real consultation on the</u></p>	<p>(<i>Leicestershire County Council, Connexions, Colleges, 2005</i>)</p> <p><u>Develop further Out of School provision for young people within the county (Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership, 2005)</u></p> <p>Improve the promotion of supported housing for young people and crisis accommodation (<i>Crime & Disorder reduction strategies, 2005</i>)</p> <p>Prepare a joint consultation strategy for involving young people in decision making. (<i>Leicestershire Local Strategic Partnership, 2005</i>).</p> <p>Support communities to provide extra youth workers and volunteers for activities for young people. (<i>Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Council for Voluntary Youth Services, 2008</i>)</p>
--	--	---

28/05/03

37

<p>Young people to be able to access a diverse range of activities for leisure.</p>	<p><u>services they would like to be developed in the county. The use of arts-based activities as a consultation tool has also been used with the 5-13 age range in developing Leicestershire's Children's Fund Plan to provide services for vulnerable young people. Dreaming4Real consultation activities have also been successfully used in schools in the development of Leicestershire's Anti-Bullying Strategy.</u></p> <p>Young people have been involved in many Village Appraisals across Leicestershire, supporting their local communities.</p> <p>A group in Mountsorrel prepared a publication in 2002 to raise awareness of young people in <u>the village</u>, as well as promoting the development of permanent youth and community facilities.</p> <p>In the evenings or at weekends, young people prefer to go to the cinema, town centres, fast food outlets, leisure centres or swimming baths, the local chip shop or take-away and to meet mates. Other activities with significant responses included sports or youth club, library, park/recreation ground, games arcade and community centre.</p> <p>Leicestershire already has one school</p>	<p>Develop, through consultation with young people, activities for leisure such as shelters and sports taster days at leisure centres. (Parish Councils, Leicestershire Cultural Strategy Forum and Leisure Centres, 2005)</p>
---	---	--

28/05/03

38

<p>Recognition that young people are reliant on public transport and so need access to public transport that is reliable, safe, affordable and connected.</p> <p>All young people to be protected from being involved in or affected by crime, either as victims or perpetrators, and bullying.</p>	<p><u>sport partnership, based at Burleigh Community College and others may be developed in the future.</u></p> <p>Leicestershire & Rutland Crimebeat is a multi-agency scheme to encourage and empower young people aged 8 and 25 years to foster community safety and become responsible members of their communities. Since 1993, over 300 groups have been given grants totalling more than £100,000 to fund projects on drugs, bullying, car crime, shoplifting and vandalism.</p> <p>In 2001/2 there were 2250 offences recorded as committed by young people. These included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'other' offences such as motoring and traffic (28%) • theft and handling (20%) • arson and criminal damage (13%) • violence against the person (12%) <p>The Youth Offending Service has a</p>	<p><u>In developing a revised network of bus services for the county by 2004, work with young people to ensure that these provide the maximum affordable level of access to evening leisure and other activities. (Rural Transport Partnerships, 2004)</u></p> <p>Develop initiatives to prevent anti-social behaviour and crime through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ information videos; ▪ use of drama workshops; ▪ raising awareness of issues through citizenship classes in schools and colleges <p>(Leicestershire County Council, Cultural Strategy Forum, Leicestershire Constabulary, 2005).</p> <p>Increase the frequency and coverage of joint truancy patrols for schools with identified problems, to help protect young people from crime. (Leicestershire Constabulary, Leicestershire County Council, 2005).</p> <p>Improve the basic skills of young people with a basic skills deficit who are receiving community supervision from the Youth</p>
---	--	---

28/05/03

39

	<p>1.7% (5) schools have serious weaknesses compared to a <u>UK</u> average of 2.6%. Also, 5 schools require special measures to improve their performance following OFSTED inspections, <u>in 2002</u>.</p>	<p>in English and from 29% to 38% in Mathematics between 2002 and 2005. (<i>Leicestershire County Council, PSA Target 2, 2005</i>)</p> <p>Improve the educational attainment of all pupils in special schools from 78% of pupils achieving their 'p/NC targets in 2002 to 86% in 2006. (<i>Leicestershire County Council, PSA Target 3, 2006</i>).</p> <p><u>Provide nursery education for all 3 and 4 year olds whose parents wish to take this up (Leicestershire County Council, 2004)</u></p> <p>Using Information and Communications Technology to transform teaching by, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing better access to the internet for all schools by 2005-6. • Ensuring that teachers are competent to use ICT to raise standards with all pupils in all schools in all subjects (<i>Leicestershire County Council, 2005</i>)
--	--	---