

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

KILMARNOCK SOUTH LOCAL COMMITTEE

BRIEFING NOTE FOR LOCAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

UPDATE ON SUMMER YOUTH WORK PROGRAMMES AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Following a report to Kilmarnock South Area Local Committee 17 May 2006 on Youth Work Services in the Kilmarnock South Area, a Briefing Note has been prepared to inform members of the Local Committee about the work that took place with young people over the summer period and to outline future developments.

Over the summer period young people were involved in a number of different programmes.

Community Learning and Development

Youth Outreach Project

The Youth Outreach Team continued their street work activities over the summer period and made contact with 68 young people. In addition to this 5 young people took part in a project to develop a sensory garden for elderly residents of Gracelands Nursing Home and 4 young people also took part in the John Muir Award, which is an environment youth achievement programme.

Youth Forum

Work continued with the Youth Forum and a week long summer programme investigating the historical and contemporary relevance of the works of Robert Burns was undertaken by 11 members of the Youth Forum. Three of the young people were from the Kilmarnock South Area.

Overall membership of the Youth Forum has increased from 6 young people from Kilmarnock South Area to 11.

Youth Forum members also undertook Young Scot Discounters Training with Dialogue Youth and further training is being delivered over the next few months.

Youth Literacies

Youth Literacies Workers from the New Directions Project which is a literacy and numeracy project for young people, were involved in 2 of the Youth Forum Burns programme sessions, introducing young people to the Language of Burns and assisting them to write poetry in the style of Burns. The use of arts and ICT are two of the approaches used to engage with young people to develop their literacies skills.

Neighbourhood Services

Leisure Development Services offered a wide variety of activities over the summer period in the area and this includes weightlifting, street football / basketball and Streetsport express.

Future Developments

Community Learning & Development

A Peer Education Group aimed at young people aged 13 years plus will be established in the local area at the end of August. Promotional information on the new group has been issued.

Work is in progress to establish a Youth Group focussing on music and it is hoped to start this later in the year.

Youth Outreach will continue to work in the local area and programmes planned include work around young people and offensive weapons, anti sectarianism work, use of broadcast and ICT media and the continued use of the Youth Express bus in partnership with the Community Police.

The Youth Forum will be meeting regularly and start to identify and address issues affecting young people. Youth Forum members will continue to work with Dialogue Youth on the Young Scot Discounters Training Programme.

Neighbourhood Services

In the coming months Neighbourhood services will be offering a range of sporting activities in the Kilmarnock South Area including street football / basketball, mini-kickers for pre-school children and football leagues for 5 – 12 year olds.

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