



Suffolk **Youth** Service Annual Report
2006-2007



Suffolk
County Council

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Councillor Patricia O'Brien,
Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Young People's Services

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Front page photo:
'Minx' performing
at the Duke of
Edinburgh's
Award gold
presentation
evening in July.
Minx set up their
band as part of
the Duke of
Edinburgh's
skills section and
completed their
award along with
496 young
people this year.

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“To enable all children and young people in Suffolk to aspire to, and achieve their full potential, giving them the basis for a successful life as active members of their community.”

Suffolk Children & Young People’s Plan 2006-2009

Foreword

Welcome to Suffolk County Council’s Youth Service Annual Report. The aim of this report is to provide a brief overview of the Suffolk Youth Service and demonstrate just some of the wide range of excellent services provided by youth workers with and for young people in Suffolk.

The service makes a significant contribution to supporting young people to achieve all five outcomes of the Every Child Matters agenda:

- Be Healthy
- Be Safe
- Enjoy & Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution
- Achieve Economic Well-being

In Suffolk we have already embraced the Government’s agenda to develop integrated youth services, through the integration of Connexions Suffolk with the statutory youth service. Since April 2006, both services have formed part of Suffolk County Council's Children and Young People's Services directorate. Furthermore, the joint management team includes representation of the voluntary youth service (Young Suffolk).

In this way we are creating firm foundations for successful delivery of the key strands of adolescent services, as outlined in Youth Matters, Next Steps:

- Professional Information, Advice and Guidance services for all young people
- Co-ordinated provision of targeted support for vulnerable young people
- Commissioning a cohesive youth offer of accessible positive activities.

There is much to do, and young people will be at the forefront of planning, implementing and monitoring services provided for them. Many young people are actively involved at a local level, and we are considering ways of ensuring that they have an input at county level through involvement with the Suffolk Children’s Trust Partnership.

County Councillor Patricia O’Brien
Portfolio Holder for Children, Schools and Young People's Services

Introduction and context

The key purpose of youth services is to support, through a clear youth work curriculum, the personal and social development of young people through informal education. This is provided mainly through group work sessions in youth clubs, schools and outdoor and adventurous activities, working closely in partnership with the voluntary youth sector and other agencies.

Suffolk Youth Service Curriculum Framework

Suffolk Youth & Connexions Service works in partnership with other youth agencies, providing a vital contribution to the outcomes of 17 of the 19 strategic objectives in the Suffolk Children and Young People's Plan (see below). These focus on preventing disengagement with

learning, supporting young people's health and safety, encouraging them to enjoy and achieve and make a positive contribution to their communities, and supporting participation and progression towards economic well-being.

Children and Young People's Strategic Objective	Youth Services Objective
Outcome: Be Healthy Strategic Priorities BH1, BH2, BH3, BH4	Young people can access appropriate information, support and referral for a range of health related issues such as healthy lifestyles, sexual health, emotional well-being, and substance use.
Outcome: Stay Safe Strategic Priorities SS1, SS2, SS3, SS4	Young people are safeguarded from harm through effective assessment and referral, and through provision of curriculum activities to promote awareness and appropriate management of risk
Outcome: Enjoy & Achieve Strategic Priorities EA1, EA3, EA4	Young people are supported to access formal and informal learning, leisure and recreational activities which are accredited where appropriate
Outcome: Make a Positive Contribution Strategic Priorities MCP1, MCP2, MCP3, MCP4	Young people are actively involved in the design, implementation and monitoring of services and are positively supported to engage with their communities through volunteering activities
Outcome: Achieve Economic Well-being Strategic Priorities AEW1, AEW2	Young people are supported to take part in post-16 learning through information, advice and guidance from age 13 – 19 (and up to 25 if they have additional needs).



For a copy of the full Children and Young People's Plan, please go to www.suffolk.gov.uk/cyp

How are young people involved?

We want as many young people as possible to be involved in helping to plan and run the youth service, and to have a say in what is provided. They can be involved in running their local club, deciding how Youth Opportunity and Youth Capital Funds should be spent, the appointment of staff, or how the service should be publicised, among a range of other activities.

For more information, please contact:

Donna Darton
Youth Involvement Manager (North)
☎ **01502 530632**

Andy Fell
Youth Involvement Manager (South)
☎ **01473 234721**

In 2006, young people of all ages, from across Suffolk and representing a diverse range of groups went on a 3-day residential to develop the Suffolk Youth Offer (see below).

The Suffolk Youth Offer

What's out there for me?

We want all young people in Suffolk to...

know where to find, on a single website, up to date information about what's out there for you: things to do, places to go, learning and work opportunities and sources of advice and support, on a range of services

know where to go for confidential, non-judgemental, professional advice, information and support if you need it, via telephone or on-line, where you are or at a place near you

have a say in your local community, to influence and be involved in the way services are provided

access and participate in safe, affordable and enjoyable activities including sports, leisure, creative and performing arts

know that the organisations and activities provided meet quality standards

have a range of volunteering opportunities in ways that are stimulating and fun, and which help your local community.

To tell us what you would like provided in your area, for more information about what's out there for you, and what we are doing to make it happen, please go to www.thesource.me.uk or FREEPHONE 0800 085 4448



This illustration was drawn by a young woman to express her feelings about herself, 'before and after' a course of counselling with the Suffolk Youth Service.

What did we achieve in 2006-2007?

The quality of our service is measured through local and national performance indicators.

The service exceeded local targets for 'reach' (the number and percentage of young people accessing the youth service):

Indicator	Local target 2006-2007	Achievement 2006-2007
Reach	18% of youth population	20.8% (12,584)

Young people were supported to achieve recorded¹ and accredited² outcomes:

Indicator	Outcomes 2006-2007
Recorded outcomes	3,856
Accredited outcomes	1,301

1. Recorded outcomes are the result of a sequence of work with an individual young person to enhance their personal and social skills development.

2. Accredited outcomes must be part of a national scheme. For example, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award or first aid certificate.

What is the youth work curriculum?

Youth work is a learning process. It aims to give young people an equal chance to achieve their best, to have worthwhile experiences and to get advice, information and support. We use a person-centred approach to design and deliver programmes. The important thing is that young people use our services by choice, so we must deliver what young people think is relevant.

The curriculum framework clarifies what we do, how we do it and how it contributes to helping young people achieve the best for themselves.

The key principles of the curriculum framework:

To **support young people's participation and raise their aspirations** by providing challenging youth work and support in developing a sense of shared ownership, self-belief and an ability to use their voice and influence to positive effect.

Programmes and activities are designed to meet the **developmental needs and interests** of the young people involved.

Programmes are purposefully **designed by young people and workers together** to achieve agreed aims and objectives with clear learning outcomes and identified evaluation processes.

We will recognise and **celebrate achievement** at all levels, give praise, encourage ownership, accredit learning, say 'thank you' and 'well done'!

Youth workers will **reflect on their practice** through team meetings, evaluation sessions and supervision to learn from experience, improve practice, inform future relationships with young people and ensure targets are met, and evaluate plans and methods used.

Open access youth work

Open access youth work takes place in a variety of places, usually youth clubs or drop-in centres, but sometimes in village halls, community centres and other premises. It offers a 'place to go', where young people can relax and spend time in the company of friends, peers and supportive adults.

Suffolk has more than 50 open access youth clubs and projects. We would always recommend ringing to check opening times.

Name & address	Opening hours and contacts
Beccles Youth Club Castle Hill, Beccles NR34 7BQ	Wednesdays & Thursdays 7pm – 9.50pm ☎ 01502 712435
Brandon Flowerpot Drop-in Brandon Community Centre Warren Close, Brandon IP27 OBU	Tuesdays and Thursdays 7pm – 10pm ☎ 01842 810183
Bungay Youth Club Old Grammar Lane, Bungay NR35 1PU	Tuesdays 7.30pm – 10pm ☎ 01986 892609
Bury St Edmunds No 46 46 St Andrews Street South IP33 3PH	Mondays & Thursdays 7pm – 9pm, Saturday 2pm - 4pm ☎ 01284 752847
Clare Youth Club Community Education Centre, Middle School Cavendish Road, Clare CO10 8JP	Mondays 6.30pm – 9pm Wednesdays: Junior Club ☎ 01787 279366
Claydon Youth Centre Community Centre Church Lane, Claydon IP6 0EG	Mondays & Thursdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 07791936041
Debenham Youth Club Community Education Centre Gracechurch Street, Debenham IP14 6BL	Open Club: Wednesdays 7.15pm – 9.30pm Performing Arts: Thursdays 7pm – 9.30pm Safer Disco: occasional Fridays 8.30pm – 11pm ☎ 01728 860430
Eye Youth Centre Community Education Centre Church Street, Eye IP23 7BD	Drop-in 14+: Tuesdays 7.30pm – 10pm 13+: Thursdays 7.30pm – 9pm ☎ 01379 870928
Felixstowe Youth Club Orwell High School, Maidstone Road Felixstowe IP11 9EF	Mondays & Tuesdays 7.15pm – 9.45pm ☎ 01394 672205 or 672254
Framlingham Youth Club Community Education Centre Saxtead Road IP13 9HE	Daily 1 – 2pm Baby-sitting/single gender: Wednesdays 3pm – 6pm Drop In/ Break-dancing: Wednesdays 7pm – 9.30pm Planned DofE: (weekends) 9am – 4pm ☎ 01728 723594
Great Cornard Legends / Crocs Wells Hall Old School Wells Hall Road, Gt Cornard CO10 ONH	Tuesday 7.30pm – 9.30pm Wednesday 4pm – 7pm and 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01787 881038
Hadleigh	
The Bus IS Magdalen Road Car Park, Hadleigh	Mondays & Tuesdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01787 881038
Sports Session, Hadleigh High School Leisure Centre	Wednesdays 8pm – 10.30pm ☎ 01787 881038
Babywise Group Hadleigh High School	Tuesdays 2.30pm – 5.30pm ☎ 01787 881038
Halesworth Apollo Harrison Lane, Halesworth IP19 8PY	Mondays & Wednesdays 7.15pm – 9.45pm ☎ 01986 872555
Haverhill Hanger Camps Road CB9 8HB	Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm - 9.30pm ☎ 01440 707035 ext 22 or ext 20

Ipswich	
Westbourne High School Marlows Road IP1 5JN	Marlows Club Mondays 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01473 747598
Pemberton House 13 Curriers Lane IP1 2AQ	Asian Young Men's Group Sundays 4pm – 6pm Asian Young Women's Group Saturdays 1pm – 3pm ☎ 01473 234720
Stone Lodge Youth Centre Hawthorn Drive IP2 0QY	Youth Club Mondays & Wednesdays 7.30pm – 9.45pm UCC2 Youth Club Thursdays 7pm – 10 pm ☎ 01473 685728
'4YP 14 Lower Brook Street IP4 1AP	Outreach Group: Alternate Fridays 6pm – 8pm ☎ 0845 3108450
Thurleston Youth Club Thurleston Youth Wing, Defoe Road	Thurleston Girls Group Wednesdays 7pm – 10pm ☎ 01473 464405
Thomas Wolsey Youth Club Thomas Wolsey School, Old Norwich Road	Tuesdays & Thursdays 3.30pm – 6.30pm ☎ 01473 467600 (School)
Murrayside Youth Centre Nacton Road IP3 9JL	Youth Club: Mondays & Wednesdays 5pm – 9pm Bangladeshi Boys Club: Sundays 1pm – 3.45pm Christy's Club: Fridays 7pm – 9pm ☎ 01473 325299 / 274626 / 712645
Lakenheath Drop-in Sunshine Corner, Back Street, Lakenheath	Wednesdays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01638 532547
Leiston Youth Club Community Education Centre Seaward Avenue, Leiston IP6 4BE	Lunch Club: Mon - Weds & Fri 12.25pm – 1.25pm Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01728 832477
Lowestoft	
Boston Lodge Youth Club Boston Road NR32 1UG	Mondays & Thursdays 7pm – 9.30pm Wednesdays SEN group 7pm – 9pm ☎ 01502 574842
Metro Centre 20/21 Commercial Road NR32 2TD	Mondays– Wednesdays 7pm – 10pm ☎ 01502 572879
Morton Road Youth Club Morton Road NR33 OJH	Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01502 574683
Colville House Youth Club School Road, Oulton Broad NR33 9NB	Mondays & Wednesdays 7.30pm – 10pm ☎ 01502 574349 / 538038
Kessingland Village Hangout	Tuesdays & Thursdays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01502 538060
Mildenhall Jubilee Centre Recreation Way IP28 6HG	Mondays & Fridays (project work) 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01638 510413
Needham Market Youth Club School Street, Needham Market IP6 8BB	Monday & Thursday 7.30pm – 10pm ☎ 01449 720703
Newmarket Foley House Youth Centre Wellington St, Newmarket CB8 OHY	Drop-in Youth Club Mondays 7.30pm – 9.30pm 4Teens Youth Café Wednesdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01638 663740
Reydon Youth Club Wangford Road, Reydon, Southwold IP18 6PA	Mondays (project night) & Wednesdays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01502 722601
Saxmundham Youth Club Seaman Avenue, Saxmundham IP17 1DZ	Tuesdays 4pm – 9.30pm Peer Group: 6.30pm – 10pm ☎ 01728 602689
Stowmarket Youth Club Childer Road Community Education Centre	Mondays 7pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01449 612252
Stradbroke Youth Club Community Education Centre, The Old Court House, Queens St Stradbroke	Wednesdays 7pm – 10pm ☎ 01349 388113
Sudbury Liberty Club, Tudor Centre, Tudor Road, Sudbury CO10 6NP	Tuesdays and Thursdays 7.30pm – 9.30pm ☎ 01787 882896
Woodbridge	
Rochford House, 19 New Street IP12 1DY	Mondays – Thursdays 7pm – 9.45pm After School Club: Tuesdays 4.30pm – 7pm ☎ 01394 388538
DofE Open Group Woodbridge CEC, The Avenue, Kingston Road, Woodbridge IP12 4BA	Alternate Wednesdays 7.15pm – 9.15pm ☎ 01394 382007

Information and support services

'I feel able to talk to someone about my problems and find the advice very helpful. It has helped me so much'.

Information and support services provide help and/or short-term counselling for young people aged 13-19. Our aim is to provide a free and friendly service focusing on short-term early intervention. Information, support and counselling work may take place either on a one-to-one basis or in groups, although most counselling takes place on an individual basis. The key feature is that it is a confidential service.

The service is currently available in 10 high schools in Suffolk, and also at one-stop shops, youth health projects, in other settings such as youth clubs/projects and in partnership with voluntary agencies. Young people can self-refer to the service and referrals are also received from schools, parents and other agencies with the knowledge and consent of the young person.

What schools say

'It supports them with emotional issues which they don't always feel they can talk about with a member of staff'.

'It has enabled students to access information and support who otherwise would be reluctant to seek it from teaching staff'.

'We have an increasing need for counselling in school and have always placed a strong emphasis on pastoral support'.

What I got out of counselling

My dad died when I was 8 and I still felt very upset, guilty and blamed myself. In the counselling we talked about how I felt it was my fault and I realised, in time, that it wasn't and I had nothing to feel guilty about. Before, when I remembered my dad, I always cried as I just remembered the bad stuff. I made a memory box so I was able to remember what was good.

Now I don't feel guilty, don't get angry when my friends talk about their dads, and I am able to remember my dad without all the pain coming up. Through talking about it this has given me the confidence to meet other members of my family. I don't feel any more that I need to feel upset because he died. Instead I can remember him as my dad and be happy that he was.

Outdoor and residential education

Outdoor and residential education enables young people to learn and develop through outdoor and adventurous activities. It makes a unique contribution towards personal development, preparing young people for adult life by raising achievement through boosting motivation, promoting health and fitness, and addressing issues in social education and citizenship.

Suffolk has six outdoor education facilities across the county. The team works in partnership with voluntary youth organisations, schools, colleges and other agencies, and this year provided outdoor education experiences for 4,242 young people, of whom 1,617 received local and national accreditation for their achievements.



Participants at the Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre enjoying a raft building session while participating in the 'Summer Camps' Programme. Over 47 young people participated in this 5-day residential programme during the summer holidays.



Paul learning to sail at the Neptune Water Sports Centre, as part of the 'Summer Fun' water sports programme. 116 young people participated in a series of 5-day activity programmes, which included sailing, canoeing, kayaking and raft building.



Home from home: Max and John get ready to spend the night under the stars during a 'bush craft' course at Iken Forest. The Outdoor & Residential Team delivered three 'bush craft' courses where young people learnt a variety of new skills, including shelter building, forest cooking and friction fire lighting.

suffolkoutdooreducation



Snow Angels at Bury St Edmunds

Youth workers working with a group of excluded pupils in Bury St Edmunds test their creativity during a rare snow storm.

Work with schools

Work with schools may take place in the school, in a youth centre or in other locations, during the school day. It usually involves working with identified groups of young people who are in some way challenged by the formal system. It may also contribute to the personal health and social education programmes of the school. These young people may be disaffected or excluded, or may be in need of emotional or other support.

The work is very challenging as students may be 'switched off' by formal methods of education, and youth workers spend a lot of time building their confidence and trust.

Programmes are structured to offer challenging learning experiences using informal education and a wide range of activities. Most of the programmes offer a nationally recognised qualification to support the learning, such as the Youth Achievement Award, Princes Trust XL Club and English Speaking Board.



Newmarket XL Club

Newmarket XL Club held a fundraiser on the Christmas shopping night in the town centre last December. They had a cake stall which included a cake decorating activity and a lucky dip. The group are raising money to enable them to go on a Duke of Edinburgh's Award residential trip.

Detached youth work

Detached youth work is delivered on the streets and in other places where young people gather.

The key feature of this work is that it takes place where young people are - on their ground and on their terms.



Break and Street Dancing

Young people held a break and street dancing event at County Upper School.



‘We are all really interested in street dance and can’t believe it’s happening’.

Detached youth workers have been consulting and working with young people on the Howard Estate for over two years, and have built up good relationships. Activities provided have included the Keystone Bus Project, which was part-funded by Suffolk Clubs for Young People. This was a mobile ‘drop-in’ where young people could chill out, meet friends and get information and support. The HEY (Howard Estate Youth) Splash ran a fun water-themed event, which included a water slide and crabbing at Walberswick.

Young people also planned and organised an end-of-project break and street dance activity. They found an instructor and a venue, and promoted the event.

They chose County Upper School as it was accessible to young people in the area. During the two sessions, young people were given a demonstration, learned some moves (including spinning on their heads), and were also shown how to use the decks and how to mix and beat-match.



HEY Splash Project

Young people went crabbing at Walberswick.



Clem Rat Crew, Spray Paint Art Project, Haverhill

In Haverhill, West Suffolk, young men who were a cause of concern in their community worked with an artist to create an installation expressing how they feel they are seen by the local community and how they see themselves. They looked at behaviour, attitudes and prejudices that cause conflict. They also participated in other activities to channel energies in a more positive manner, such as attending sessions about knife crime and violence, substance misuse, sexual health and DJ training.

Targeted projects and other methods

Targeted youth work projects are developed in response to local need, government requirements and policy. They can take place in a range of settings and may use a combination of youth work methods. These projects always have a very specific aim and work with a very specific client group. They are usually time-limited.

Other youth work methods include residential work, mobile provision or placing workers at various events, such as music festivals, and gigs, facilitating or supporting young people to participate in conferences, consultations and community events. All delivery methods have a focus on the safety of young people and mainly operate on the principle of voluntary participation.

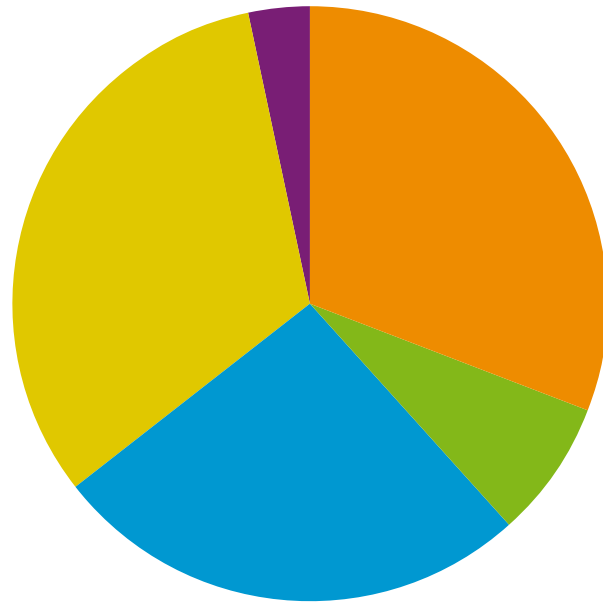


Young people at the Youth Hut

Detached youth workers staff 'Youth Hut' at the 'Gig In The Park' in Halesworth in August 2006. The hut (a pop-up gazebo) was there for 2 days and was visited by more than 150 young people.

An overview of how the youth service budget is spent

Community and service support (including grants and buildings)	31%
Outdoor and residential education	7.4%
Youth projects	26.2%
Youth clubs	32.3%
Central management and administration	3.1%



Well-qualified and committed staff

Suffolk Youth Service has an excellent record in terms of nationally qualified full-time staff. We currently have a County Manager, three Area Youth Officers, six Youth Officers, 24 full-time Youth Workers and 221 part-time Youth Workers.

How to contact us

West Suffolk area

☎ 01284 352182

Southern/Ipswich area

☎ 01473 341806

Northern area

☎ 01502 525943

General enquiries

☎ 01473 260169

✉ enquiries@connexionssuffolk.org.uk

Suffolk County Council

☎ 08456 066 067

✉ www.suffolk.gov.uk

Back page photo: James and Isobel climbing the 'Jacobs Ladder' as part of their Forest Challenge programme at Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre, where over 150 young people attended a 5-day multi activity residential during the summer.



Suffolk County Council, Children and Young People's Services Directorate,
Endeavour House, Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP12BX