



Safer Communities through Sport

Background

- 'Safer Communities through Sport' is a partnership approach to developing sport and reducing anti-social behaviour in rural Derbyshire.
- The three-year project will focus on 10 wards across High Peak and Derbyshire Dales with high levels of anti-social behaviour and low participation in sport.
- Sport England, Sporting Futures, High Peak Community Safety Partnership and Derbyshire Dales Community Safety Partnership fund the project.
- Non funding partners include the Youth Service, Youth Offending Team, Police, Connexions, Derbyshire Rural Community Council, Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council

Approach

- A Youth Sports Development Officer was appointed in July 2003 to co-ordinate the project that aims to provide evidence of the impact that sport and recreation can have on reducing nuisance and youth crime.
- A range of agencies have committed to the project and to reaching the target of engaging 200 young people in sport and recreation each year.
- The local County Sport Partnership, Derbyshire Sport, manages the project.
- Key areas for the project include:
 - Volunteer and club development to encourage an inclusive approach to sport.
 - Break down barriers between providers such as Parish Councils and village committees, and young people who lack motivation to participate in community sports activities.
 - Develop new and innovative methods of engaging young people in sport

Project aims and objectives

Aims

- Increase regular participation in sport & recreation by young people aged 8-16.
- Increase the number & quality of opportunities to take part in sport.
- Increase the number of active sports leaders.
- Reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour by young people in target wards.
- Reduce drug misuse among young people referred to the project

Objectives

- Work in wards across Derbyshire Dales & High Peak
- Engage with 200 young people per year through sport and recreation
- Develop 10 new regular participation opportunities over 5 years
- Reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour in the target wards
- Reduce drug misuse amongst young people involved in the project.

- Work with 10 young people each year on a 1-2-1 basis through the 'Team Mates' initiative

Project location

- The project is operating in prioritised wards of High Peak Borough Council and Derbyshire Dales District Council, based on levels of anti-social behaviour and participation within sport, recreation and physical activity.

Derbyshire Dales

- Is a large rural District (800 sq km) with a very low population density
- A population of 69,500 is very evenly spread across the area, not clustered in towns.
- Despite an affluent image, there are pockets of deprivation
- Half the area is in the Peak District National Park that attracts 21 million tourists each year.

High Peak

- High Peak lies in the north west of Derbyshire between Manchester and Sheffield.
- It is a large rural District 200 sq miles at the heart of the peak district.
- Population has grown by 4.7% between 1991 and 2000 to 90,000

Project achievements

- Baseline data gathered on levels of anti-social behaviour, current sport and recreation opportunities identified and youth needs surveys carried out in two of the wards.
- Youth Steering Groups established and made up of the relevant agencies interested in the well being of young people. The aim of the steering groups is to tackle youth nuisance behaviour through the 'Education, Enforcement and Diversionary' model
- Consultation exercises carried out with young people within the wards based around taster days of activity.
- A successful Active England bid of £109,000 for a permanent skate park and part time youth engagement officer in Derbyshire Dales.
- Funding secured from High Peak Community Safety Partnership and Derbyshire Dales District Council to purchase a mobile skate park for use in both districts.
- One to One Mentoring programme, Team Mates, developed within High Peak from funding provided by High Peak Community Safety Partnership.
- A referral system developed with the Youth Offending Team and the Police where any young person known to them who has a sporting interest can be referred to the Team Mates programme where they will be designated a voluntary mentor.
- Team Mates is recognised as an option within Acceptable Behaviour Contracts in Glossop through the police as a solution to young peoples anti-social behaviour problems. An extension of the programme includes free summer holiday sports provision being provided for 12 referrals from the Youth Offending Team within High Peak.
- Team Mates is recognised within High Peak Community Safety Partnership action plan for anti-social behaviour 2004/05 and 2005/06.
- Safer Communities through Sport project is recognised within Derbyshire Dales Community Safety Partnerships action plan as a form of good practice.

- A constituted multi activity sports club in Tideswell has been developed and has basic equipment paid and provided.
- Young people volunteers in Glossop supported the running of a five a –side football tournament based on Euro 2004. Provided relevant training including football NGB level 1 coaching course and basic first aid training.
- Project beginning to roll out to the other prioritised areas using the success of the process from the first year as guideline.

Further information

- For further information about the project contact Wayne Allsopp, Youth Sports Development Officer on 01629 530516, 07789 650829 or email wayneallsopp@hotmail.com
- For further information about Derbyshire Sport click on their web site at: <http://www.derbyshiresport.com/>