



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Community Safety Committee

PRINCE'S TRUST

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda Item No:

Date: 14 October 2011

Purpose of Report:

To update Members on the progress of the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service as a delivery partner of the Prince's Trust Team Programme.

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1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In May 2011 the Prince's Trust published a report 'Broke, Not Broken: Tackling Youth Poverty and the Aspiration Gap'. The report investigates the aspirations and self belief of young people from the UK's richest and poorest families.
- 1.2 A sample of 2,311 16 to 24 year olds took part in an online poll conducted by YouGov. Respondents were asked about their life and career goals, and whether they felt that these aims would be achievable in the future. They were also asked about their childhood and what life was like when they were growing up.
- 1.3 The report reveals a clear gap in the aspirations of the UK's richest and poorest young people. Young people growing up in poverty are significantly less likely to believe their life and career goals are achievable. It also reveals the impact of poverty on young people, who are growing up without the most basic necessities in life. Young people living in poverty are more likely to grow up feeling stressed and depressed, as well as facing bullying from their peers. A summary of the key findings is attached at Appendix A.
- 1.4 Thousands of vulnerable young people are growing up believing that they will never be able to escape the cycle of poverty and disadvantage. With the right support it is possible to help them turn their lives around and fulfil their potential.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service (NFRS) has worked in Partnership with the Prince's Trust as a delivery partner for the Team programme since 2001 delivering over 70 teams. The Team programme is a twelve week personal development programme for 16 to 25 year olds taken from the NEET group (Not in Education, Employment or Training). Most have either struggled at school, are long term unemployed, have been in trouble with the police, in or leaving care.
- 2.2 The Team programme helps disadvantaged young people overcome barriers through practical support and re-engages them to think about their futures. Participants are involved in a range of activities which are carried out under the guidance of trained team leaders and include:
 - Spending a week at a residential activity centre;
 - Undertaking a project that will benefit the local community, using funds raised by the team;
 - Completing a work placement and reviewing their post programme options;
 - Completing a Team challenge that involves helping others in a local community;

- A final presentation where Team members recount their experiences to an invited audience.
- 2.3 The Team programme makes a positive difference to the lives of young people by improving self confidence, self esteem, problem solving skills, and key skills through the attainment of vocational and national qualifications.
 - 2.4 The services youth team have also developed, and provide a number of youth programmes such as Bendigo, Bootcamp and Team Challenge, to support and develop younger people. Some of these young people are referred onto the Prince's Trust Team programme.
 - 2.5 In 2001 NFRS started its first Team programme in Nottingham at Stockhill Fire Station, the programme continued to be delivered in the city. In 2005 the programme extended into the county and by 2006 with the appointment of another team leader there were three team programmes across the county and city. The programme has grown from strength to strength with the appointment of a fourth team leader in 2008 and two peripatetic assistants in 2011. This measured and gradual development has enabled the service to deliver ten teams per year with an average of fourteen young people per team.
 - 2.6 The Team programme runs from locations in Mansfield, Worksop, City/Central, and Sherwood with a mixture of 16 to 18 year olds and 19 to 25 year olds delivered through the four team leaders with the support from the assistants and volunteers

Funding

- 2.7 The Team programme financial business model is self financing through a complex funding formulae distributed through Derby College on behalf of Princes Trust. The service is funded up to a maximum of 139 young people per year.
- 2.8 Each individual who attends the Team programme generates an income for completing the course and achieving a qualification. It must be emphasised that some of the team members are some of the most challenging young people who have very complex issues, some of whom have never achieved a qualification or completed any structured education.
- 2.9 The income generated pays for the staff salaries, team rooms and associated costs of running the programme. NFRS make some contributions in kind for example, office accommodation, administration, community safety support and use of vehicles.

Performance

- 2.10 NFRS have an average of 14 young people on a team with a retention rate of over 80%. Throughout the programme the team members work towards a qualification - City and Guilds in Team Work and Community Skills. This year the qualification has changed to the Prince's Trust Certificate in Team Work

and Community Skills (equivalent to the City and Guilds). They are also exposed to a number of other opportunities to gain other awards such as first aid and food hygiene.

2.11 The programme has been enhanced over the years with support from a number of local and national organisations including:

- The Army;
- Royal Air Force;
- Nottinghamshire Police;
- Marks and Spencer;
- Nottingham Forest Football Club;
- Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club;
- The National Trust;
- Nottingham Trent University;
- Browne Jacobson Solicitors; and
- Starbucks.

2.12 Support is provided through work experience placements, sponsorship, sending employed personnel or student social workers as a development opportunity to support the team, supporting community projects, and assistance with CV and interview techniques for the young people.

Successes

2.13 Getting through life can be difficult, particularly for those young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. However, by committing to the programme these young people have given themselves an opportunity to move on to a better life. More than three quarters of the young people from the Nottinghamshire Team programme have moved into education, training or employment after attending the programme.

2.14 Listed below are some examples of what some of the young people have gone on to achieve:

- Ben from Team 1 joined the Army following the programme and is still serving.
- David who lived in Ashfield travelled to the City programme every day so he could complete the course and join the Army, which he did and is now a Corporal and still serving.
- Anne-Marie was on a Bulwell Team as a 17 year old single parent. After the programme she became an Ambassador for the Trust meeting the Prince on many occasions and hosting 'Celebrate Success' in London this year. Following a successful grant from the Trust Anne-Marie now runs a Youth Café in Sherwood.

- Elisse was on a City Team following a period of living in care. She was a self harmer and had tried to commit suicide on more than one occasion. Following her work placement at Headway house, Elisse volunteered to work with Headway after her Team finished. During her time there she studied for a Youth qualification & is now taking her place at University.

2.15 A Police Community Support Officer (PCSO), along with a NFRS Team Leader ran a Team in Bestwood following the multi-agency “Operation Kingdom”. This proved to be a big success and subsequently received a visit from HRH the Prince of Wales.

2.16 There have been 5 PCSOs working with NFRS on the Team programmes over the last 2 years. This additional benefit has provided those individuals with a valuable development opportunity and a greater understanding of engagement with young people within their role.

Current Activity

2.17 There are currently 4 Teams running across the City and County engaging approximately 50 young people. As mentioned above, the Team concludes with a final presentation where they share their experience gained from the process and articulate their future plans and aspirations.

2.18 Below is a list of the next presentations which all Members of the Authority are able to attend.

The proposed dates for end of Team presentations are as follows:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 10 November 2011 | Venue Nottingham Forest Football Club |
| 24 November 2011 | Venue Pleasley Landmark Centre |
| 1 December 2011 | Venue Worksop (TBC) |
| 15 December 2011 | Venue Nottingham Forest Football Club |

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The business model for the Prince’s Trust is self financing, however, where income is raised above expenditure it is carried forward as an earmarked reserve and used to develop the programme.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no additional Human Resources or Learning and Development implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

An equality impact assessment has not been undertaken because the purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the Prince's Trust Team Programme and does not seek to change the policy or procedures.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

This Programme, as part of the Authority's broader youth engagement strategy, provides diversionary activities for those at risk of offending; supporting young offenders back into education, training and employment. The outcomes of the programme assists the service in its statutory duty towards section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 places specific duties upon the service around Community Fire Safety. The Prince's Trust relationship and programme delivery assists in meeting those requirements.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The Service has a statutory obligation around community engagement and risk reduction. The Prince's Trust relationship seeks, in part, to maximise youth engagement and thus meet those obligations. The recent disturbances across the Country demonstrates the need for raising the aspirations of young people and enabling them to see themselves as valued and contributing citizens within their communities.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the content of the report and continue to support NFRS as a delivery partner of the Prince's Trust.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

- 'Broke, Not Broken: Tackling Youth Poverty and the Aspiration Gap' Prince's Trust, May 2011.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: KEY FINDINGS

'Broke, Not Broken: Tackling Youth Poverty and the Aspiration Gap' Prince's Trust, (May 2011)

The report reveals a clear gap in the aspirations of the UK's richest and poorest young people. Young people growing up in poverty are significantly less likely to believe their life and career goals are achievable.

Key findings:

- > More than one in five of those from deprived homes (22 per cent) believe that "few" or "none" of their goals in life are achievable, compared to just five per cent of those from affluent families
- > More than one in four young people growing up in poverty (26 per cent) believe that "few" or "none" of their career goals are achievable, compared to just seven per cent of those from wealthy families
- > One in four young people from poor homes (26 per cent) feel that "people like them don't succeed in life"
- > Almost a quarter from deprived homes (24 per cent) believe they'll "end up on benefits for at least part of their life" and more than one in five feel they'll end up in a "dead-end job"
- > Around one in six young people from poor homes (16 per cent) say their family and friends have made fun of them when they talk about finding a good job
- > One in four young people growing up in poverty (25 per cent) say that starting their own business is one of their future goals, compared to 19 per cent of those from affluent families. But almost one in three of those from poor backgrounds (31 per cent) do not believe they could do it
- > But a clear majority of all respondents (78 per cent), including those from affluent and poor homes, agree that finding a good job is a key priority for the future

The research also reveals the impact of poverty on young people, who are growing up without the most basic necessities in life.

Key findings:

- > One in ten young people from the UK's poorest families (10 per cent) did not have their own bed when they were growing up
- > More than one in ten (13 per cent) admit that their school uniform was rarely washed
- > More than a quarter (29 per cent) had "few" or "no" books in their home
- > One in three (34 per cent) were "rarely" or "never" read to by their parents
- > More than a quarter (28 per cent) had no access to a computer
- > Almost one in three (30 per cent) did not have access to the internet

Young people living in poverty are more likely to grow up feeling stressed and depressed, as well as facing bullying from their peers, according to the research.

Key findings:

- > More than one in four young people from the UK's poorest families (28 per cent) have been bullied about their clothes, whilst almost one in ten (nine per cent) have faced bullying about their home
- > They are six times more likely to feel that "everyone puts them down" and more than three times as likely to feel depressed "all" or "most" of the time than those growing up in wealthy families
- > These young people are also more than twice as likely to feel they "don't have anything to get up for in the morning"