

Social Justice and Regeneration Committee

SJR 09-05 (p.3) Annex E

The All Wales Police School Liaison Programme

South Wales

Increase from the original 16 officers working in schools prior to the programme to a total of 30 officers (all appointed by April 2004).

Each officer is responsible for a maximum of 4 comprehensive schools and their respective feeder primaries.

Out of this provision there are 3 welsh speakers – 1 west, 1 mid, 1 east which completely caters for the Welsh Schools.

Job Description

Officers working in schools are now known as S.C.P.O.'s School Community Police Officers.

South Wales role description created 2003.

December 2003 saw the in force launch of the new role of School Community Police Officers involving the S.C.P.O's and their line managers.

Evaluation Prior To The Introduction Of The Programme

On arrival in post the local co-ordinator distributed evaluation forms to all schools to identify police involvement with schools prior to the programme, and asked their views on the programme topics.

- Initial evaluation of contents – positive
- 65% response
- 100% positive
- Schools keen to incorporate the AWSP into their PSE programme
- This enabled the local co-ordinator to identify aspects of good practice and incorporate them into the programme

Programme

The programme is not identical to Gwent due to financial constraints and the fact that the South Wales police force had developed drugs lessons in partnership with the South Wales PSE advisory group for education. This development came to fruition at that time.

The main changes are in the drugs' strand:

- Wings to fly – Its Your Choice
- The event – Class Act
- D and A day – Rue the Day

These provide individual lessons that do not cut across the timetable.

Although not in the programme officers do take part in D and A days when schools organise their own. This provides pupils with relevant information of the local community and acts as a good culmination of all the work undertaken by local agencies with schools.

Additional Developments

From the initial evaluation schools identified additional requirements for the programme. The most commonly occurring themes were developed as lessons to fulfil local, changing needs. This resulted in the development of the following lessons which currently are offered in the officers 20% time. Usage and evaluation will determine their future placement.

- A car crime lesson for Key Stage 4 as an addition or alternative in the social behaviour and community strand.
- Behaviour on the buses is a new initiative developed by Education for use across Wales. The work pack is for year 6 before arrival in the secondary schools and contains lessons for the comprehensives to continue the theme in year 7. To complement this, the core programme will utilise Crucial Crew to this end or alternatively offer a year 6 lesson and a further reinforcement lesson in Key Stage 3.
- An anti – bullying lesson for year 7 pupils (first year in comp, Key Stage 3). Schools felt year 7 is the most vulnerable year for bullying. Therefore a lesson was developed in discussion with Childlike for delivery by Police Officers.
- The development of a South Wales Force policy to develop corporacy in relation to S.C.P.O's dealing with incidents in schools. Currently under discussion with LEA representatives.

Education Liaison

- On arrival in post the local co-ordinator established a South Wales Steering group consisting of PSE Advisors and Substance Misuse Co-ordinators who represented their respective Education Authorities.
- They met regularly to discuss the implementation of the programme. The Advisors also meet with the officers to discuss progress of the programme.
- To inform all schools across South Wales about the programme the local co-ordinator spoke in every Heads meeting in South Wales.
- Letters were also sent out to Heads informing them of their designated liaison officer. The officers then made contact with their schools.
- To disseminate the programme to all schools and to outline how it could be integrated into the school PSE programme training days were organised in partnership with the Educational Business Partnership (EBP) (Careers Wales) for PSE co-ordinators. This allowed the teachers to familiarise themselves with the material and to discuss with the officer where it best fitted into their PSE programme as some lessons have preparation or follow up suggestions to ensure that the police officer input did not become stand alone deliveries. Teachers' packs were distributed to encourage integration with the PSE curriculum. Tarian also undertook an independent pre and post evaluation of the day. Any school that did not attend the day were visited independently by the officers to discuss with the PSE coordinator, the aims, objectives and contents of the programme and to plan it into their curriculum.

Training

When considering the implementation of the programme there was an identified need to combine officer expertise and experience with educational understanding. To achieve this objective the following were developed:

- A training programme 2003 -2004 / 2004 – 2005.
- 1 week of training on primary issues, involving myself and teachers from local schools.
- 1 week of training on secondary issues, involving myself and teachers from local schools.
- This has been incorporated into an accredited course – see national perspective.
- Currently 24 South Wales officers have enrolled on the course and are presently working on their second assignment. See module content attached. Their commitment to the programme shone through with their results from the first assignment. The group achieved 24 passes which included 8 merits and 2 distinctions.
- Complementary to Police training the co-ordinator invited various outside agencies to provide training to give an external perspective on issues relevant to the programme, namely:-
- Bullying – Child line, Swansea

- Substance Misuse – TEDS.(qualification 6 credits at level 2 NOCN)
- Domestic Abuse – Domestic Abuse Forum.
- Circle time – Jenny Moseley
- Puppetry – Green Dragon.
- Closing the Learning Gap – Mike Hughes
- Communication skills – Planet Eco

External Liaison

Informative talks and liaison with a variety of agencies has occurred.

- CSP Substance Misuse Action Teams/PETs (Prevention and Education Teams) - an informative talk was given to every group in South Wales, figures are to be fed back into each group. Officers in each area link in with the PETs groups.
- One of the multi agency elements of the programme ‘Crime of Your Life’ (not previously introduced in South Wales) is being piloted this year in Neath Port Talbot and Swansea. This has resulted in the development of a multi – agency partnership approach with the Magistrates, YOT Teams, and Victim Support to deliver this element of the programme.
- Crucial Crew is another multi agency element of the programme, which involves working with other agencies to deliver safety messages to year 6 pupils. This initiative was already established in South Wales across all 7 Education Authorities. The pupils experience a variety of inputs from various partnership agencies e.g. Fire Service, Ambulance Service, Coastguard, Forestry, Trading Standard, Bus Companies, Child line, Western Power, Youth Service, Rail Safety, Road Safety, Local Industry (dangers of building sites), LEA Community Safety.
- The officers also work in conjunction with other agencies on a more local level regarding Crime Prevention / Reduction initiatives. e.g. Get Sorted RCT, Road Safety Cardiff and Swansea, Valrec RCT, Forest Skills Neath Port Talbot etc
- Healthy Schools – talks were delivered to each Local Authority’s Healthy Schools representative, their schools network and a further talk was given at their National Meeting. One police officer from each region now sits on the Authority’s healthy schools steering committee to link in and support the healthy schools initiative. It has been agreed that the work the officers do can help schools evidence the healthy schools objectives.
- Children and Young Peoples task groups – a talk has been delivered to these groups and an officer sits on these in each region.

Evaluation

For this year the local co-ordinator set an evaluation programme which targeted one Key Stage every half term.

During the course of this academic year officers have completed evaluation forms on each lesson with the pupils, the teacher and compiled one of their own views. This has been further supported by classroom observations. This has provided 30 class sets of each lesson in the programme to analyse to consider the views of pupils and teachers. These are currently being analysed.

The officers lesson totals and schools accessed are collated every half term. A computer programme has been developed whereby offices e-mail their returns and the programme automatically totals and monitors the data provided by the officers. This is being considered for implementation on an All Wales basis from September 2005.

Furthermore lesson observations have occurred, not only by the local co-ordinator but by the PSE advisors as well.

The local co-ordinator has also been involved with Tarian in analysing the impact of the police officer deliveries of the drug strand lessons on pupils.