

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Annual Report



**Southern Brooks
Community Partnership**

Coniston Community Centre,
The Parade, Coniston
Road, Patchway, South
Gloucestershire BS34 5JP

Making a difference in the community since 1988

2011-2012

www.southernbrooks.org.uk

Trustees

Elaine Martin
Chair

Stan Sims
Vice Chair

Steven Wood
Treasurer

David Bell
Lucy Hamid
Andrew Thomas
Tom Aditya



Southern Brooks Community Partnership is a registered charity. The organisation was originally set up in 1988 as Patchway and Bradley Stoke Community Development Project.

We became a registered charity in May 2001 and the constitution was last amended in November 2009 when we reviewed the membership categories of the organisation.

The changes were approved by the Charity Commission. Our Board of trustees is now made up of individual members of the organisation, who are nominated at the Annual General Meeting. People who use our services make up our affiliated membership. Our AGM is widely publicised throughout the community and an open invitation is made to people who can sign up to our values who would like to be nominated to the Board from our membership.

New members of the Board are provided with an induction pack and training for trustees is offered through CVS South Gloucestershire as well as in-house. Trustees receive quarterly written reports from the leadership team one week prior to quarterly Board meetings, along with quarterly financial reports. The day to day running of the organisation is the responsibility of the Director, Julie Close and the Leadership Team

which during the financial year comprised of Ann Symonds, Mark Seed, Kate O'Brien, Jackie Lewis, Helen Humphries and Corrina Wood. The board has set up an employment sub group which reports directly back to the Board.

The Board holds an annual away day each year with the staff at which the priorities and progress of the organisation are reviewed. The Board makes decisions on the strategic direction of the organisation and adoption of new policies and is responsible for compliance with Health & Safety legislation, charitable law and employment law. A review of major risk factors is undertaken at the away day each year.

Our strapline is 'Making a Difference' and our mission is "working in partnership to empower and support people to develop safe, healthy and vibrant communities".

Our priorities are:

- Supporting families.
- Working with people who are socially isolated.
- Supporting children and young people, particularly through transitions.
- Supporting the development of voluntary and community groups across the area.

While each area of work is important, our added value is in working together across the organisation. Fundamentally our core values determine the way that we work. Working in partnership includes working together within the organisation. Southern Brooks seeks to ensure that as an organisation we continue to reflect, learn and develop as one team.

We have in place a strong leadership team with an emphasis on leading and working together as a team; cross management and inter-team working is becoming stronger. There is a shared willingness to embrace change and keep momentum going and an understanding of the need for increased accountability throughout the organisation.

It's important that our Board and governance arrangements reflect the diverse range of services that we deliver, and the communities in which we work. We need to retain our identity as a community development organisation. This is what makes us special and different from the major national charities moving into South Gloucestershire

In practice this means working with those in the community that are vulnerable, isolated, excluded and lacking in confidence, skills and experience. This organisation has been and remains committed to the principles and practices of community development rather than community

work. This means building social capital, developing networks and relationships and working with each other for mutual benefit.

The values of community development drive the work. These are:

- **Social justice** – working towards a fairer society.
- **Self-determination** – valuing the concerns and issues in communities, providing opportunities for discussion and working with differences.
- **Working and learning together** – recognizing that everyone has skills and knowledge, valuing diversity and learning from mistakes as well as successes.
- **Sustainable communities** – supporting communities to develop their skills while using resources with respect to the environment.
- **Participation** – helping individuals get involved so that they can influence decisions that affect their lives and finding ways to include those who are normally left out.
- **Reflective practice** – promoting and supporting individual and group learning and changing and adapting plans.

This year we were fortunate to receive

funding through the Big Lottery Transition Fund. Following the Comprehensive Spending Review we knew that funding through South Gloucestershire Council would be reduced. While we were grateful that they continued to commission some elements of our work, it was clear that we needed to look again at income generation. The Transition Fund enabled us to recruit a Business Development Manager and a Brand and Marketing Manager. Through the Business Development work we were able to better understand our organisational costs and the way funding is allocated across the organisation. We've been able to cost individual services more effectively so that organisations are able to make spot purchases of services. We've





developed a comprehensive range of marketing materials, embraced the use of social media and developed a new brand and website. This has helped to raise our profile in South Gloucestershire and beyond. Through two events attended by a range of organisations including our MP and the Chief Executive of the Council we've been able to provide a platform for our service users to tell their stories and we hope that this will begin to influence future policy delivery.

As a result of the conferences we've taken part in a national meeting aimed at demonstrating models of early intervention and preventative work that are delivered within the voluntary and community sector and their impact so that the government begins

to value locally developed initiatives.

The Fund also enabled us to set up a community café as a social enterprise, providing an invaluable social hub and opportunities for volunteering as well as reasonably priced healthy food. While generating income to cover costs has been a challenge, we are beginning to break even.

As part of our commitment to developing the role of the organisation as a training provider, we've been able to fund a Training Development post. Staff have taken professional training qualifications, diversifying the range of training that we are able to provide and generating additional income. We've continued to deliver accredited courses this year as well as youth work and community development courses and trained a team of 54 Peer Mentors working with Bradley Stoke Community School and Patchway Community College.

We've commissioned New Philanthropy Capital to audit the way in which we record the outcomes, particularly of our early intervention and preventative work. This has led us to clarify our Theory of Change and the impact we are making as an organisation.

This has been a year of great change, with a reduction in the core staff team. In July 2011 Commissioners decided that they wanted youth work

in Bradley Stoke delivered differently so our contract ended.

The Parent Support Adviser, Programmed funded through Extended Schools was another victim of the cuts, although South Gloucestershire Council through the Children and Young People department commissioned our Family Support Service. Despite the funding being reduced by 50% we have continued to be able to provide a service for those most vulnerable families and have demonstrated it's value by lower than expected numbers of families subject to safeguarding plans in this area. We were able to continue to work with significant numbers of families through work funded by the Big Lottery, and this is the second year of three year funding for this work.

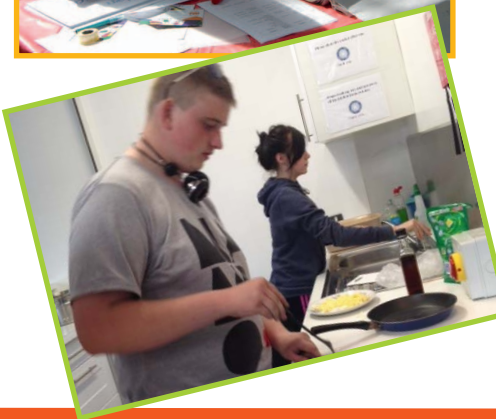
Patchway Intervention Project received a big cut in funding, and we re-launched the service as "Step Up". Through careful planning, a reduction in management costs and an increase in group work we were able to work with 20 young people at risk of offending or exclusion.

Funding for our Children's Fund Project working with 8 – 13 year olds at Patchway Youth Centre and Coniston Primary School stopped. We have been really grateful for the support of Patchway Town Council in recognizing how important this work is, along

with Patchway detached youth work through their funding. We have been able to continue providing work with young people and are actively seeking funds to continue this.

We piloted a new piece of work with young people in Bradley Stoke to provide an Integrated Youth Support Service. We worked with groups of young people and individuals identified by the school and other agencies as needing additional support. Despite the success of the project, funding didn't continue but we hope that it has influenced the Council's development of a targeted service across South Gloucestershire.

We've entered into a new partnership this year to provide support for families with Merlin Housing Society,



the largest provider of Social Housing in South Gloucestershire. They now commission us to work with families who are at risk of losing their tenancies and they refer families from across South Gloucestershire. Merlin have been a key partner in various initiatives this year, providing start up funding for new work and projects that support the wider community, as well as their tenants.

Our role as the Community Lead Organisation for Priority Neighbourhood work in Filton and Patchway continues and we have now secured three year funding both for leadership and development workers, through South Gloucestershire Council Community Services. We've had a successful year in bringing together agencies active in the area, and in setting up new networks and initiatives. For the coming year we will focus on a fewer number of actions that will contribute to improving outcomes for the most disadvantaged families.

We have continued to sit on the Safer and Stronger Strategic Partnership and as a voluntary sector representative on the Compact Implementation Group. Through a significant investment by South Gloucestershire Council in the voluntary and community sector, we've been commissioned by South Gloucestershire CVS to help groups become 'fit for the future' through running network events, helping

groups become more sustainable, setting up a database and ensuring community groups are informed about issues that affect them. Working in partnership with CVS and developing our role as a community anchor organisation has been a priority this year. We've particularly welcomed the opportunity to participate in the new Leaders Board, bringing together VCS Chief Officers and providing an opportunity for grassroots organisations to raise issues and concerns.

At the end of this year we applied for PQASSO accreditation and are currently waiting for inspection. We see this very much as the start of our quality journey.

This has been a difficult and challenging year and making sure that we've been able to put the needs of our service users first and remain grounded in our values has been critical. We've been able to maintain a core staff team and have been impressed by the dedication of the staff during times of insecurity.

The coming year provides opportunities as well as difficulties. South Gloucestershire Council is reviewing the way services for children and young people are delivered. Among the options they are considering commissioning more services and we will be working closely with partner organisations to secure future contracts.

We look forward to implementation of Localism and the commitment that South Gloucestershire Council has demonstrated to this. They have adopted a common definition of Localism - **“the devolution and the fundamental shift of power to councils, communities, neighbourhoods and individuals. Empowering local people to come together to take more responsibility for their community through grass roots local action; working together to improve the quality of life and community well-being”**.

They have identified seven key principles which set out how localism is to be delivered:

- Promote and exploit the strategic community leadership role of democratically elected representatives.
- Create an ethos of building greater resilience within communities – communities that are strong and self reliant.
- Ensure clarity in the arrangements for community engagement.
- Aspire for innovative partnerships and a flexible approach to partnership models.
- Promote flexibility in the delivery of services, moving away from the one size fits all approach.
- Strive for a balance between local delivery and economies of scale.

- Ensure robust accountability and scrutiny mechanisms are in place where services are devolved.

We are committed to helping make sure that local neighbourhoods are ready and able to respond to the opportunities and challenges. We are particularly keen to ensure that those people that often don't get involved in local democracy and whose voice is seldom heard have the skills and social capital to be able to participate.

The neighbourhood is due to grow significantly over the next 20 years with new housing developments between Filton and Patchway. We are working closely with key partners including Sovereign, Barratt and Bovis on the Charlton Hayes development and we hope that we can develop models of good practice that enable new developments to be integrated into existing communities.

Cuts in services and threats to jobs both within statutory and voluntary sectors have really been a barrier this year to effective partnership working. The demand for services has increased significantly at a time when resources have reduced. I'd really like to thank the staff team for being so dedicated in making sure that our service users continue to receive effective support.

Chair's report

It is with great pleasure that I write about another successful year for Southern Brooks Community Partnership as we celebrate 23 years and we are still going strong. The trustees, management and staff teams continue to hold away days looking at how we can take the Partnership forward within budget restrictions.

With the recession carrying on finding funding is becoming an increasingly difficult challenge; yet again Julie and the whole team remained focused and have risen to the challenge. I have enjoyed hearing feedback from both professionals and service users about the service we offer; it is very encouraging to hear how well thought of Southern Brooks Community Partnership is as an organisation. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication and let us hope that 2013 will be another successful year funding allowing.

I wish everyone another successful year as we head in to our next year as a Partnership.

Elaine Martin



Treasurer's Report

From a finance perspective, this year has been a major challenge, none the less we are still in business and demand for services grows. John has done sterling work in getting the accounts up to scratch after initial teething problems. A switch from Sage to Quick Books has been successfully implemented, giving simpler accounting admin – phew! I wish to register my thanks to all the admin staff who do such a great job of representing us.

Steve Wood

Priority Neighbourhood Work

South Gloucestershire Council has identified 6 areas of the authority which appear in the top 20% of Indices of Deprivation. These are Cadbury Heath, Staple Hill, Kingswood, Yate/Dodington, Filton and Patchway. This doesn't mean that they are not good places to live, just that not all families in the area are as successful as they might like to be.

Children may not do as well as in school and fewer people may be accessing the services and benefits that they are entitled to. Health is generally not as good and crime rates are often higher.

Three year funding has been provided to try and improve outcomes for everyone living in these neighbourhoods. Southern Brooks has been commissioned as the Community Lead organisation in Filton and Patchway. This means we bring together active partnerships of agencies

who are able to make a difference, and work with local people to ensure that we really understand the challenges that people in the area face. We focus on:

- Improving health.
- Helping children and young people succeed.
- Improving employment and personal finance.
- Building a safer and stronger community.
- Celebrating the towns as good places to live.

We have a role both in developing grassroots community initiatives through our community development team and also in providing leadership to co-ordinate agency activity contributing to strategic work, through our Director.

Patchway “A Good Place To Live”

In Patchway the Priority Neighbourhood work is branded as “Patchway – A good place to live” to recognise that the majority of people really like living here.

This year my work has included setting up and running partnership meetings that have brought together the key agencies and setting up new initiatives.

Successes

- Dreamscheme worked with young people to improve the look of the community building at Pretoria Allotments by painting a mural reflecting the wishes of the allotment users, building better relationships between them and the older allotment holders. The young people also produced art work for the new fire station community safety centre and repainted the public art figures at Coniston Parade improving the environment and making the Parade a brighter place. This work was supported by local volunteers and agencies.
- Worked with Patchway Festival Committee to gain funding of £2,625 from Merlin Housing and South Gloucestershire Council small grants for art work shops that were run in the 5 local primary schools, with the work being part of the festival parade engaging the young people and families within the community and celebrating Patchway as “a good place to live”.
- Encouraged active involvement of local people in the Safer and Stronger meetings.
- 3 local community groups were supported to attend training on financial management and income generation.
- Co-ordinated the “Unsung Heros” event at Patchway Community Centre that recognised the contribution of local volunteers.
- Supported Blakeney Road Allotments, Amberley Road Women’s Group, Patchway Festival and Patchway Arts and Crafts groups to apply for funding of £18,775 for projects.

Karen Cheal, Development Worker

- As a result of feedback to local people and agencies and aiming to reduce isolation in older people I set up a monthly tea party for the over 60’s at Coniston Community Centre Cafe. Funding was secured from local churches and housing associations for start up costs. We now have 12 volunteers and up to 45 people attending each month, with new friendships being made and people feeling safe to use the café at other times. The project is now self funding through raffles and kind donations.
- A number of local groups have benefited from the funding available for the Celebrating Age event, putting on events during the two week festival and gaining better exposure and new members for their groups.
- Events have taken place to improve community cohesion and engagement including a family fun day at Coniston Parade, Jubilee Celebrations, Coniston Christmas Fair, Family Trips, Coniston open day, and Patchway Festival.
- Improved the information available to the local people through a joint newsletter with Coniston Community Centre groups and regular articles in Patchway People.
- Worked with City of Bristol College to set up a Job Club at Patchway library.
- Supported Blakeney Road Allotments to gain funding for a new community building gain planning for the new building. This will provide a safe and warm space for families and other user of the allotments.



In Filton the Priority Neighbourhood work has been branded as “Filton Working Together”. My work has included co-ordinating monthly meetings and working with partners to set up events and initiatives that have been identified as priorities.

Successes

- Dreamscheme started in Filton this year with the design and transfer of a Mural on the back wall of Filton Leisure Centre. 15 young Filton residents got on board with the design process. This involved 4 creative sessions and the transfer over two days that made all their creative energy a reality.
- The ‘Older Peoples Network’ meetings are well underway! These meetings aim to bring members of Filton community together whether an individual, community group or organisation that campaign for this age group. Previously we have covered subjects such as ‘Completing a Successful Grant Application’,



“Filton Working Together”

Katie Donovan

‘Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults’ and ‘Community Marketing and Advertising. The ‘Older Peoples Network’ provides an opportunity for community groups, local organisations and agencies to meet quarterly. Members are encouraged to Network with other community groups, organisations and agencies to establish ways in which we can work together more effectively, share best practice on committee management, group governance, funding, publicity and events, map existing services by sharing your group’s main functions and activities to inform local people and publications with a view to recruiting new members. Identify gaps within provisions by identifying services that older residents of Filton could benefit from but do not yet exist.

- Filton is a Priority Neighbourhood therefore the attendance of Safer & Stronger meetings and Priority Neighbourhood meetings to feed back on community activity and consultation is a crucial part of the areas development. Being a priority



“Filton Working Together”

Katie Donovan

neighbourhood means that extra energy and resources are being channeled into Filton to improve health, education, safety and employment. In order to take on this challenge, Southern Brooks has brought together local agencies, groups and residents into one big team. Together, we are working to understand the barriers to change and are taking action to improve resident's quality of life.

- Working with community groups on governance, training needs, funding, events organising and information sharing. Some groups we have worked with this year...Viewpoint Action Group; Elm Park Working Group; Friends of Conygre House; Tiddlers and Toddlers; Hanover Computer Club; Unity; Filton Garden Club and Filton Chest and Heart.
- International Women's Day 'Open Mic Session' at St Peters Church.

A local aspiring artist named Debbie brought an exhibition of her work and spoke about what inspired her to start painting. Filton History Group brought a photo display of Filton past and present and the role of women in Filton throughout the years. A young local mum named Amy spoke about her experience

while travelling through Namibia and the women she encountered. 25 attendees were engaged, vocal and passionate about the cause. An art group now runs at St Peters Church in Filton on Wednesday evenings.

- The Celebrating Age Event was great fun with local community groups and agencies showcasing their cause. With music from the golden oldies, a parade demo from the Filton Air Cadets a presentation from The Filton History group, Zumba, Tia Chi, holistic therapies and much much more...

Courses that have run in Filton include Healthy Living, Cooking and Active families.



Infrastructure Development Work

We work with voluntary and community groups in Severnvalle Locality to strengthen and be fit for the future; become actively engaged in the development of policy and strategy; and to become financially sustainable. We work in partnership with CVS South Gloucestershire, The Chase and Kings Forest Community Project and South Gloucestershire Volunteer Centres, with funding from the Local Strategic Partnership to build a strong Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in South Gloucestershire.

Using the disciplines of the NCVO Sustainable Funding Programme we also support organisations to develop a Sustainable Funding Plan to spread the financial risk of the organisation around alternative sources of income generation. South Gloucestershire is one of 8 Beacon areas across the UK for the NCVO Sustainable Funding Programme.

Successes

- 25 VCS organisations completed Organisational Health Checks focused on: Business Planning and Sustainability; Governance; Financial Management; Employment, as result of which has strengthened the organisations internal structure, planning and management.
- 10 VCS organisations have developed Sustainable Funding Plans. A result of which has: enabled a more strategic approach to funding; income diversity; external positioning and marketing; and communication of success.
- 14 VCS organisations have been actively engaged in the development of policy and strategy, of which 3 are now exploring ways to collaborate and prepare for commissioning of services.
- 90 have now subscribed to the package of support services offered.

Kate O'Brien

- 300 VCS organisations now benefit from receiving a monthly ebuletin, featuring information, news, events, training and funding opportunities. A result of the work has enabled 3 VCS organisations to secure grant funding.

Feedback following work with community voluntary organisations

'It has been really inspiring working with our group. It has brought what seemed a difficult situation regarding funding our project to life'
- Trustee, Pilning History Society

'Support really nudged us in the right direction to start our business planning process, which is now in full swing'
- Chair, Four Towns Transport

'The toolkits have helped us focus on exactly where development is necessary'
- Trustee, Bradley Stoke Radio

'I didn't think sustainable funding was relevant to our group, but now I see it is!'
- Trustee, Charfield Amateur Dramatics

'We have been given an immense boost and helped us to focus our minds for our next project'
- Trustee, Pilning History Society

Training

Helen Humphries

Southern Brooks has been providing locally based training to help build skills, confidence and community in a friendly, supportive and informal setting. These courses are often our service user or local resident's first re-engagement with learning, so we work closely to ensure people find the right courses and have the support needed to be successful in their learning.

This year has been a good year for training and we have built both capacity and partnerships to provide quality community courses with clear progression routes.

Successes

- New Training Development Co-ordinator in post.
- New Course programme developed with new Employability Award, Community Development, Active Families and Healthy Living courses.
- New course guide and promotion designed.
- Over 100 service users, local residents and young people trained by Southern Brooks.
- Development of our in-house staff team of qualified tutors, increasing the community development and youth work tutor capacity.
- 36 pupils from Patchway Community College and Bradley Stoke School obtaining their Peer Mentoring BTEC Level 2 Award.
- Health Champions course with South Gloucestershire Council Health Improvement team saw 15 local residents receiving Level 2 qualifications in Health Awareness and Health Improvement.
- Record number of learners enrolled on our nationally recognised qualification Youth Work Level 3 diploma



providing a great mix of characters and networking opportunities.

- Successful sector wide West of England bid for one of nine national Community Learning Trusts, promoting best practice between all local training providers, business, libraries and many other organisations to create a new way of providing adult learning.
- New vocational volunteer placements identified.

Plans for the year ahead

- To increase the number of community and accredited learning places available through Southern Brooks.
- Build on existing training programme to provide more progression opportunities for local skills development and raised aspirations.
- To work as part of the West of England Community Learning Trust to maximise the local potential for adult community learning.
- To develop the Professional Training programme focusing on family support, youth work and community development.
- Continue to work closely with new and existing partnerships to maximise resources and therefore training potential.

Brooks Café

Southern Brooks set up the community café at Coniston as the building opened in June 2011. Funding from the Transition Fund helped provide the capital, Merlin Housing generously funded the soft play area and sofas and John Lewis provided equipment for a separate kitchen for community use.

The café is an essential part of the new community centre not only providing a gateway to the centre but also removing the stigma that may be attached to accessing the advice services that run there.

The café aims to provide a range of food options, including healthy food at a reasonable cost and vegetarian options.

We want the café to provide opportunities particularly for young people to train in the food industry.

We hope to be able to change the eating habits of residents, by encouraging them to try new foods in the café and then come and learn how to cook them.

One of our aims for the centre is to bring together all members of the community, including the growing ethnic population and we want to offer regularly food from different cultures, and to recognise the range of multi-cultural festivals that takes place throughout the year. We would also want to encourage its use by young parents and to be breastfeeding friendly and go that extra step to ensure that facilities are accessible by young families and people with disabilities.



Brooks Café events and activity programme mean that people are able to access a cup of coffee and a pastry, participate in a healthy eating cooking course, or enjoy a themed dinner accompanied by music.

The strength of the cafe is the number of volunteer hours that the local community is providing alongside Mel, Sue and Jaki who are paid members of Southern Brooks staff.

Café Successes

- Effective use of Fairshare ingredients to reduce food costs.
- Successful Curry Night with 35 tickets sold.
- Weekly Sure start story time now in Brooks Café.
- Summer Activity programme attended by 15+ children each week supported by Family Support team.
- Planned programme of events and activities working closely with Community Development and the Family support team.
- Providing practical and emotional support to a family alongside the family support team.
- 6 Committed volunteers from the local community.

Plans for next year include

- Establishing accredited training opportunities.
- Gaining a Breastfeeding Friendly Award.
- Improved training and support for volunteers.
- More activity sessions for children during holiday periods.
- An increase in opening hours during the day.
- Additional evening activities and special events.

Early Intervention And Prevention

Ann Symonds,
Early Intervention Manager

The Step up Project

Team: Ann Symonds, Lucas Martin, Ternaya Cummings

This programme of one to one and group work is focused on early intervention, not crisis intervention which is a successful formula for Southern Brooks. The strength of the project has been the skill of the workers to listen and advocate on behalf of the children that are supported.

We conduct regular feedback sessions, and when the children involved in the programme are asked why Step Up works we are told 'it's because you listen to me 'and 'I get to do fun things that I wouldn't normally do'. This refers to the allocated one to one sessions that are scheduled as part of the twelve week plan and the challenging and motivating element of the programme which gave children opportunities to access outdoor challenging activities i.e. rock-climbing and kayaking.

As an organisation it is vital that the assessment criteria for the Step-up project remain robust in order that the impact of the work is not diluted. All our work provides flexible and innovative solutions due to the ability within the highly skilled team. We recognise the strength of the project has been an integrated approach to working. We remain committed to a holistic approach to ensure that the child remains at the centre of any work that takes place.

Step Up Successes

- Successfully worked with 23 children and 2 siblings.
- Established group work activities to promote social inclusion .
- Effective holiday programme to include parents to promote positive role modelling and strengthen family relationships.

Feedback from a parent

'This project has made such a difference to our lives as a family, it's as though he is a different boy'



Integrated Services for Young People (ISYP) – Bradley Stoke Pilot Project

Team: Ann Symonds, Lucas Martin and Katie Donovan

Southern Brooks successfully secured funding for one year for an early intervention project in the Bradley Stoke area. The aim of the service is to reduce anti-social behaviour, school exclusions and prevent young people becoming Looked after Children (Lac) by building positive relationships with their families.

The effective use of group and one to one work has delivered a high standard of service to improve the physical and emotional well being of young people. This successful model of working recognises the importance of the holistic support and builds on the success of previous projects.

Strong links with Bradley Stoke Community School meant that there were a large number of referrals. An integrated approach to agency working was essential to deliver a high standard of service. This is underpinned by the overall aim of this project to identify a trusted adult in a young persons life.

ISYP Successes

- Effectively worked with 44 young people for one to one and group support.
- Measured against the project aims positive progress of 80% was made in 4 out of the 5 areas.
- ISYP successfully supported 1625 Independent People with their pilot project.

Feedback from a parent

'Things have improved so much at home ...X is more calm and less reactive '

Peer Mentoring

Southern Brooks successfully enrolled 54 learners on a Peer Mentoring course that provided young people with an accredited Level 2 qualification. Southern Brooks's tutors worked closely with Patchway Community College and Bradley Stoke Community School who identified the potential peer mentors.

This course demonstrated the commitment of their young people to providing support to younger peers in school. The completion of a portfolio over a number of weeks and their attendance at after school and week end sessions demonstrated their commitment and motivation to succeed.

Family Services

Corrina Wood,
Family Services Manager

Team: Kim Morton, Yvonne Robson, Zasha Webb, Millie Hamblin, Tendai Pawadyira, Giles Spear, Cheryl Godsell, Imelda Edwards

It has been another busy year for the Family Services Team. This year the team was joined by volunteer Imelda Edwards, and Social Work Student Kate Kato. Zasha continued to co-facilitate the Freedom Programme in partnership with Survive. This year has seen a steady increase in the number of referrals for DV with a huge 45% of Zasha’s workload now related to this issue. Cheryl continues to run the Bouncing Babies Group in Bradley Stoke.

Giles took on a new role as the dedicated worker for Merlin Housing and has worked across South Gloucestershire with Merlin tenants. Giles also took on the task of co-ordinating our growing Counselling Service. Yvonne has piloted a Family Support work in the Yate area, which proved very successful. Millie set up a Women’s Group in Patchway with an average of 12 women attending each week. The group aims to promote positive emotional well-being through exciting activities and new opportunities.

We also ran four trips through the summer for Patchway families in partnership with local schools, visiting the Forest of Dean, St. Fagans, Weston-super-Mare and the MShed.

We continue to make strong links with local churches, schools and communities with amazing results at Christmas through our annual Hamper Appeal.

Successes for the year

- Family Support, funded through the Big Lottery, supporting 100 families throughout the year. Key issues; Parental Well-Being and Behaviour.
- Early Intervention Advisers, funded through South Gloucestershire Council, supporting 73 families throughout the year. Key issues; Behaviour, Child Health and Well-Being.
- Yate Family Support Pilot funded through the Transition Fund, working with 23 families throughout the year. Key issues; Behaviour and Child Health and Well-Being.
- Merlin Support Adviser, working with 17 families throughout the year. Key issue; Behaviour & Parenting Skills.
- St. Michaels Parent Support Adviser, working with 10 families throughout the year. Key issues; Behaviour & Parenting Skills.
- Introduction of Family Star Tool to record and measure outcomes with families.
- Provision of a counselling service with 28 families receiving additional therapeutic support throughout the year.

- Women’s groups started in Patchway and Filton in regular contact with 40 women throughout the area
- 20 Families attending trips throughout the summer.
- 8 families attending a weekend away with Holy Trinity Church.
- Bouncing Babies group for parents and carers with under 1’s, funded by Bradley Stoke Town Council, supporting 76 families throughout the year.
- Representation on the Children Centre Advisory Board for Patchway & Bradley Stoke.
- 86 Families received Christmas Hampers and 22 families received Food Parcels throughout the year in partnership with local churches and the community.
- Delivery of HENRY (Healthy Eating and Nutrition in the Really Young) programme in Filton with 10 families attending. This was delivered in partnership with South Gloucestershire NHS.
- Social Work Student on placement with the team from Bristol University.
- 78 Families surveyed on their Family Well Being.
- Working with Families was the focus of our General Meeting in November which involved service-users who made some powerful testimonials.

Plans for the future

- To continue to provide support for families based on their individual needs.
- Continue to develop the service further and improve opportunities for volunteering.

- To implement regular ‘in-house’ training for the staff team.
- To develop appropriate courses.
- To provide group support to fathers.
- To focus on providing families the on-going skills they need to maintain change.
- To secure funding for this work and to identify new partners.

Feedback

“I love the WOW group, I look forward to it, it’s the highlight of my week. Working through the difficult issues and this is a time to lift yourself up. Yeah great way to start the week, starts on a high note and just carries you through the week.”

“Brilliant staff and support, don’t know where I would be without them”

“I am eternally grateful to Southern Brooks for the help and support they have given us. K is becoming so much easier to deal with and I’m finding that I’ve got more energy and patience with him”

“Southern Brooks is a life saver in every sense of the word”

Patchway Detached Youth Provision

Aims

The aims of this provision are to:

- Engage with young people in Patchway aged 11+, who are not taking part in positive activities.
- Enable young people to take part in projects which are led by their needs and aspirations.
- Provide young people with appropriate information and advice.
- Encourage their participation in local projects, youth centre and fora.

Targeted Provision

This year we have targeted our provision for young people in most need of our support. We have continued to deliver two youth support sessions a week throughout the year, in all weathers, including public holidays. Our open street and project work has targeted and successfully supported groups of young people who:

- Gather in local ‘hotspots’ and are involved in or at risk of anti social behaviour and unhealthy lifestyles, for example smoking and drinking.
- Present as being vulnerable.
- Are in the younger age groups (11 to 13s), for early intervention and prevention.
- Do not engage in other positive activities, including young people not in education, employment or training.

**Mark Seed,
Children’s Services Manager**

Achievements

We have exceeded our annual target of 1000 contacts, working with 180 young people who need our support.

We know from our rigorous recordings and evaluations that we have successfully supported these groups through:

- On-street information and advice on a wide range of issues, such as family, school, employment and homelessness.
- Organising events with young people as part of the Freespace summer programme, for example Gorse Covert Fun day and BMX competitions.
- Signposting to other projects and activities, for example youth centres and health services.
- Three projects : On The Ball (football and health support), Street Dance and Healthy Eating. Overall these projects have enabled 130 young people to choose healthier lifestyles.

A targeted group of 24 ‘hard to reach’ young people took part in 6 group work sessions on drugs, alcohol and sexual health, which we held in a park pavillion. Evaluations show that 100% of the young people:

- ✓ gained a greater understanding of the consequences of high risk behaviour.
- ✓ learned about the realities (as opposed to the myths) about drugs, alcohol and sexual health;

98% of the young people found the sessions made a positive difference to their lifestyle.

16 young people from these groups have achieved accreditation through South Glos Awards.

‘On the Ball’ project:

- ✓ 98 young people have been supported on the Monday night On the Ball project. Up to 30 attend each session, females as well as males.
- ✓ 90% of the young people surveyed from the On The Ball project have reported improved health and self-esteem and social relationships. 70% said they had built better relationships with ‘youth territories’ in local other communities.
- ✓ We have had a great deal of positive feedback, such as:

“It made me feel more confident because I wouldn’t normally do it, but I did”

“I’ve been able to mix with a different sex and be treated equally”

“It’s made me become closer and know more people in the local area.”

Street Dance project

- ✓ 100% of the young people surveyed from our street dance project at the start of the year reported improved health, with 90% saying the project had helped them avoid drugs, smoking and alcohol, and also be fairer and more equal.
- ✓ Without our detached youth work, the very popular ‘Messed Up’ dance group would not be established and running their popular performances in the local community.

Healthy Eating Project

Funded by the NHS, we have just started a new healthy eating project at Coniston Community Centre. This is led by the young people and includes some who are at risk and hard to reach. We are working with this group to find innovative ways of learning about nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

Integrated Approach

- These interventions have been delivered through working together with a wide range of statutory and voluntary agencies, such as youth centres, South Glos drugs and alcohol services, Terence Higgins Trust and the NHS.
- We have also linked with other services within Southern Brooks Community Partnership, for example by referring to family support for vulnerable young people.
- In 2011-12 our provision has also been planned and delivered as part of the wider Patchway Priority Neighbourhood strategy.

Next Steps

Our priorities for 2012-13 are

- Successful delivery of new healthy eating project, to report clear outcomes by July 2012.
- Take part in local festivals, including Patchway Festival and Fusion.
- Support participation in local consultations, including skate park and Children and Young Peoples services.
- Work closely with our early intervention team to develop integrated youth provision across Patchway, including Patchway Common and Charlton Hayes.
- Help secure extra funding, especially through partnership with the public sector and the local business community.

Bradley Stoke Community Development work

The community development work in Bradley Stoke is funded by Bradley Stoke Town Council with the aim of working to support individuals, community and volunteer groups to make positive contributions to their town, improving quality of life and civic pride.

“Community should be a place where you’re known and missed if you go away”.

International Women’s Day and the Outstanding Women’s Awards (OWA):

- This year the event had a new format. Community groups across Bradley Stoke and further afield were invited and supported to lead events as part of the celebration.

Twenty events were organised over a two weeks period. Most events were well attended. There were a wide range of events to cover all tastes including, a fashion show, coffee morning with self-defence for women, photography workshop, watercolour painting courses, food tasting and talks about foreign travel as well as poetry reading and women’s film festival. For many it was their first contact with community groups; as a result several new people joined local groups and one new group was started. The celebration culminated in a gala presentation specifically for the OWA attended by over 100 people where over 20 people were nominated for three categories.



Winsome Barrett Muir

Dreamscheme:

“Young people can do wonderful things”

- This was again the case in Bradley Stoke. Six Dreamscheme activities were carried out over the year.

Each activity had 6-7 young people taking part. For the 2nd year running the young people worked with older residents at garden clearance and car wash.

Other projects included primrose bulb planting at Primrose bridge with several parents taking part and conducting a questionnaire at the Bradley Stoke festival.

We celebrated the end of the current Dreamscheme with a party.

Toddler group support:

This year three groups were faced with closure. I worked with the groups and recruited new leaders for two groups and a new partnership with a local church to run the third group. The toddler groups are valuable facilities, each week over 100 families attend the 6 toddler groups in the town. A further three toddler groups were supported to apply for funding – all were successful and obtained funding ranging from £500 to £2000 each.

Bradley Stoke Festival:

Provided support for two days of the festival - Organised a toddler toddle to raise funds for Barnardo’s charity. Obtained sponsorship from Bradley Stoke Matters to run a healthy eating stall with fresh fruit and information for festival goers as well as conducting a satisfaction survey with the help of the Dreamscheme young people.

Future development:

- The funding process will be changing and so the range of work undertaken in Bradley Stoke will be different in the next year.



Safer Stronger community meetings:

Worked to widen the demographics of those attending the meeting to represent the town. Promote the stronger side of the meetings by working with local community group to do brief presentations – invited two groups associated with young people to do presentations.

Bradley Stoke Radio:

Supported the group with planning their first AGM which was successful in recruiting community groups to take part in the groups’ 2nd RSL radio broadcast as well as advice and support on applying for community licence and grant funding.



Brooks Café

Southern
Brooks
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Your local café

We believe in wholesome home-cooking, using simple recipes and fresh produce.

**All Day Breakfast
Main Meals-Daily Specials
Panini/Sandwiches
Cakes/snacks/fruit**

find us at:

**Ground floor
Coniston Community Centre
The Parade, Patchway**



MAKING A DIFFERENCE
Registered Charity No. 1086485

Your community – your café

Financial Statement

Southern Brooks Community Partnership

Abbreviated Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2012

Abbreviated Income & Expenditure Account For year ended 31 March 2012

	2012 £	2011* £
<u>Incoming Resources</u>		
Grants	460,835	740,146
Donations	20,049	34,022
Resources from Charitable Activities	176,213	64,864
Investment Income	50	11
Total Incoming Resources	657,147	839,043
<u>Resources Expended</u>		
Direct Charitable Expenses	791,426	681,740
Administration & Other Costs	12,244	12,370
Total Resources Expended	803,670	694,110
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension		23,000
Net Movement in Funds for the Year	-146,523	167,933
Total Funds at 1 April 2010	204,718	36,785
Total Funds at 31 March 2011	58,195	204,718

Balance Sheet At 31 March 2012

	2012 £	2011* £
<u>Fixed Assets</u>		
Tangible assets	19,384	21,458
<u>Current Assets</u>		
Debtors	26,495	59,665
Cash at bank	156,785	260,671
	<u>183,280</u>	<u>320,336</u>
<u>Creditors</u>		
Creditors & accruals	48,469	41,076
Net Current Assets	134,811	279,260
Defined Benefit Pension Deficit **	-96,000	-96,000
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities	58,195	204,718
<u>Charity Funds</u>		
Unrestricted Funds	96,272	57,753
Designated Funds	28,496	28,496
Restricted Funds	29,427	214,469
Pension Fund Deficit	-96,000	-96,000
TOTAL FUNDS	58,195	204,718

* Adjusted 2011 accounts to match audited and approved accounts

** Pension Deficit realised after 2011 accounts published.

Full Accounts available for inspection upon request

www.southernbrooks.org.uk



Brooks Café
07969 627104

Community Development
01454 868570

Training
01454 867076

Bouncing Babies
01454 867076

Family Support
01454 867076

Youth Work
01454 868570

Support for Groups
01454 868570



MAKING A DIFFERENCE Registered Charity No. 1086485

With Thanks to:



Almondsbury Charity



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