



Appendix 1

Western Area Committee Youth Provision

Provision started at the beginning of November 2022, led by Adam McKinely, (Community safety warden and Vibe detached youth worker), with a team of Vibe youth workers.

The team have worked in pairs for 6 hours a week, spread over 2 or 3 evenings. They have trialled different times to target young people as they get home from school and as they are out in the evening with friends. They completed the first 6 weeks at Christmas and are currently in the middle of the second 6 week provision.

The team have taken the Vibe youth van to as many areas as possible including The Meads, Iwade, Newington, Upchurch, Hartlip, Borden, Lower Halstow, Bredgar, Tunstall, Rodmersham, Milstead, Bobbing and Bapchild.

We are continuing to visit all locations and have found places in the areas where young people gather such as youth shelters, village halls and local shops. Despite it being the winter months, and therefore not the best time of year to engage in detached work, we have been able to make connections with young people in Iwade, Newington, the Meads, and Borden, advertising on social media where our van will be. The team have set up youth meet ups for this term in Iwade, Newington and the Meads and will continue to add others. These meet ups will be focused on recording and reporting the opinions and feedback of young people in the area. We will look to get these reports to you by March.

All other areas are visited once a week. The general feedback from young people so far is that they feel overlooked or isolated as they live in villages and are unable to attend youth provision in Sittingbourne. They want somewhere for older young people to hang out, and the provision of older youth clubs. Two of the team attended the Iwade Parish council meeting on request to represent the voice of the young person and youth provision in the village, and were able to provide this feedback.

We are aware that this provision does not need to be competed until May, so we are considering taking a break after half term, and then continuing with the final 6 weeks when the weather is warmer to increase the potential of engagement with young people.

Tanya Mitchell 31/01/2023