



Spelthorne Borough Council

The Sunbury Cross public art project

Sunbury Cross is an area of this urban borough identified as having a high level of fear of crime. There is widespread tagging, graffiti and a lack of facilities for young people. Spelthorne Borough Council has established four core priorities:

- engaging younger people
- making Spelthorne a safer place
- increasing customer satisfaction
- making Spelthorne a better place



The borough is currently working with partners including, Surrey Police and Surrey County Council. The borough has run previous arts-based projects, which have produced environment-enhancing murals well received by residents. Building upon a thorough evaluation of the impact of these previous successes, they intend to develop further arts-based projects with local youth, producing public art for Sunbury Cross. It is intended to develop further educational work, to deter illegal activity, and provide participants with education and work opportunities in art and graphic design. Linked to the council's current liveability scheme, in consultation with the public, it will also pilot the installation of aerosol art sites in selected parks, for the use of young people.

Outcomes

The intended outcomes of this element of the programme for the young people involved are:

- raised awareness of their rights and responsibilities in terms of the law
- increased awareness of the impact vandalism and illegal graffiti has on the general public and specific victims
- increased self esteem
- improvement in art skills
- increased awareness of art & design education and career options

These would be monitored and compared to the base-line data gathered, when a young person enters the project. For the local community, the intended outcome would be a lower fear of crime and a reduction of graffiti in targeted areas – a problem that most areas suffer, and which it is hoped may benefit from this pioneering pilot.

Illegal graffiti is a problem from which most areas suffer, and it is hoped that many will benefit from this pioneering project.



Comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of the project outcomes will form a concluding report, from which many authorities should benefit.

For further information please contact:

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