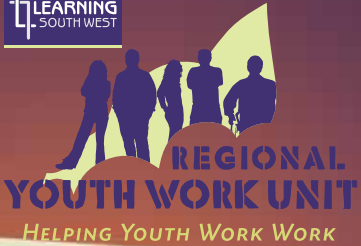
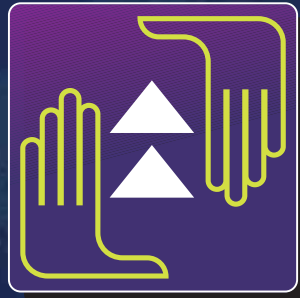


Connecting professionals to transform the future



ANNUAL REVIEW 2009

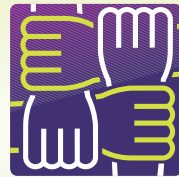
Includes
2010
Calendar



Learning South West

The vision and role of Learning South West is:
“Connecting professionals to transform the future”

To achieve this it will pursue 3 overall goals:



Partnership

Build cross-sector partnerships and networks of organisations and professionals in order to improve the quality, responsiveness and accessibility of learning and youth work provision.



Voice and Choice

Empower young people, adult learners and practitioners, so that they participate in and influence learning and youth work provision.

Celebrate the achievements and positive contribution of young people and adult learners in order to engage everyone.

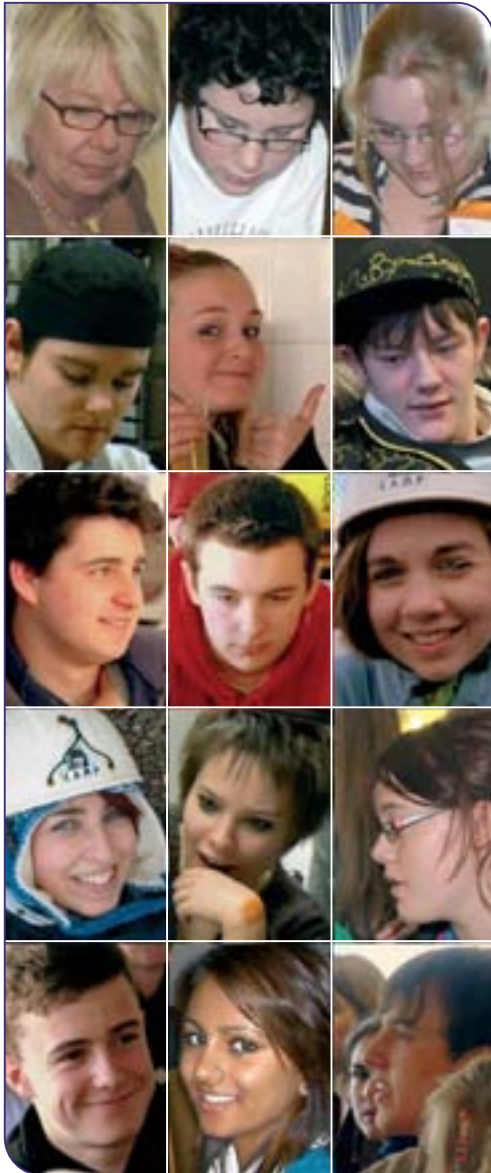


Practice

Create and promote approaches to professional development and standards that reflect what works in practice.

Continuously develop our own practice and strive to become an exemplary learning organisation.

Each month in the calendar describes the work of Learning South West and our partnership and shows the icons for each goal that this work contributes to.



Message from our Chair



Learning South West, like everything else around us, is in transition.

We know some of the drivers for change: recession, globalisation and climate change; demographic change; technological innovation; an anticipated new government. We also know there is a massive reform programme already underway, (e.g. further integration of services, new funding mechanisms and agencies; the raising of the participation age). What we cannot predict is how these changes will combine to affect the futures of young people, adult learners and the professionals that work with them.

As part of our response to this transition, Learning South West's strategic vision and role is shifting from being "the partnership to promote excellence in learning" to "connecting professionals to transform the future."

This shift recognises that, if we are to adapt our practice and be resilient as professionals in the face of so much change - we need to become better connected. We need to connect in order to improve our reflective practice and to respond to innovation and change. We need also to develop our own ability and agency as individual professionals, local organisations and professions to transform our own practice. Only then can we become responsive enough to play a positive role in empowering and equipping young people and adult learners to transform the future.

Work towards the new vision is already being implemented and is showcased in this calendar. Learning South West's work is all through partnership and the credit for these achievements belongs to the dynamic organisations and inspiring professionals who daily and monthly demonstrate their commitment to helping young people and adult learners realise their potential.

Internally, Learning South West is also in transition. After four years leading Learning South West, Tim Boyes-Watson stands down as Chief Executive in order to lead Mango, an international development charity which is building the financial management capacity and sustainability of community organisations around the world. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Tim for the vision and energy he has brought in growing Learning South West's role as a vital catalyst for partnership and development in the region. Paula Jones, the current Deputy Chief Executive, will take over development of this ambitious vision for the future.

Peter Avery
*Chair of the Board and Principal
Richard Huish College*



Connecting Professionals to Transform the Future



I want to use this introduction to thank our staff and partners for their willingness to 'connect' with Learning South West and its progressive vision. It is your partnership that has enabled us to realise all our achievements.

We have become the region's key centre for developing networks and communities of practice for learning and youth work practitioners. These enable practitioners to enrich their own reflective practice through comparing it with their peers and to try out innovations and jointly develop good practice. The Voluntary Youth Organisation Network (VYON) now connects to over hundreds of organisations across the region and the Youth Participation Workers Network now have over a hundred members. Global evidence suggests that there is one key ingredient in more than 95% of professional development activities that were successful in having an impact - peer support.

The SWitch Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training (CETT) has enabled a massive range of jointly developed practice to be explored by small, cross-sector working partnerships of organisations. From April 2010, SWitch will combine with the other South West CETT, (Peninsula based at the University of Plymouth), and will then connect almost every organisation and professional involved in teacher training in the region's lifelong learning sector.

In both lifelong learning and youth work, Learning South West is taking a lead in working with the relevant regional and national organisations to develop workforce development strategies for the region, which must be connected to the needs expressed by other sectors as well as young people and learners themselves.

We connect to national processes of 'professionalisation' by ensuring we have our most experienced staff in key positions within the relevant national bodies. Paula Jones is an elected member of the Council for the Institute for Learning and is Chair of the influential Association of Centres

for Excellence in Teacher Training (ACETT). Gill Millar is on the Board of Lifelong Learning UK and is a member of the National Youth Agency Education and Training Standards Committee.

I believe we have laid the foundations for us to play our part in transforming the future, but I wish you and my colleagues a lot of luck all the same!!

Tim Boyes-Watson
Outgoing Chief Executive



I am so proud and immensely pleased to be chosen to lead our vibrant partnership and unique cross sector organisation that is dedicated to improving the quality of lifelong learning and youth work in the south west region. I have learnt in my role as Deputy Chief Executive and Learning and Skills Development Manager how our ambitious vision can be realised, by:

- 1 Recognising the significance of a shared vision
- 2 Focusing on the importance of genuine collaborative partnership - a multi professional, multi contextual approach
- 3 Removing the sense of isolation that many organisations and professionals feel in their delivery of service and in their practice
- 4 Involving a wide range of practitioners, young people and learners
- 5 Being intelligent with our intelligence - learning to learn as organisations.

We will continue to work hard to develop and connect communities of professional practice in the knowledge that we are all working to the same shared vision and goals. We know the answer lies within us all and is not 'blowing in the political wind'. We know how important it is to feel connected to others and to involve as many people as possible in creating change we want and for the better.

Paula Jones
New Chief Executive

Youth Work Works



It's hard to know where to begin in trying to summarise developments in work with young people in 2008/9: there is so much to choose from!

to young people's demands helped along by new government funding. Innovative programmes have been introduced at weekends, and during school holidays, and better links are being built locally and regionally with providers of other activities for young people such as sports and arts. However, there is still work to be done in making sure that the information gets through to all young people.

Young People's Voice

The voice of young people in the region continues to be strong, with the UK Youth Parliament playing an important role within local authority areas, regionally and nationally. The regional group of Members of Youth Parliament has produced a Manifesto setting out the priority issues for campaigning this year. They want to ensure that young people are presented in a more positive light in the regional and national media. We are looking forward to working alongside them through our new 'Sounds Positive' Project, funded by the Big Lottery Fund.

Transitions

Much of the work we are involved with at present is focused on 'transitions'. At key transition points for young people: moving between schools, between

formal education, work, work based learning, and, unfortunately, unemployment, youth workers successfully engage with young people with complex needs, as part of packages of support alongside specialist services such as Youth Offending Teams and Pupil Referral Units. The Regional Youth Work Unit has worked with a number of local authorities to help them develop this element of their Targeted Youth Support offer.

Other forms of transition are affecting youth services and voluntary organisations that work with young people. Local authorities are moving into more integrated arrangements for young people's services, with, in many cases, multi-disciplinary locality teams working across the whole 0-19 agenda. Voluntary organisations are also caught up in transitions in the way funding is allocated by local authorities, as we move from grants to commissioned services. The Regional Youth Work Unit has developed our links with wider Children and Young People's Services and the 0-19 voluntary sector, and are working closely with Children England's Regional Voluntary Sector Development Manager, on the commissioning and VCS support agenda.

Our monthly e-bulletin to the voluntary youth sector is seen as a valuable source of information and support, and our mailing list for the bulletin increases each month. We are working hard to make sure that voluntary youth organisations are able to play an active role in delivering and designing interesting, fun and challenging opportunities to young people as part of the local youth offer.

The growth of integrated approaches to planning and delivering services for young people has brought into focus the contribution that youth work can make to the broad range of services and opportunities for young people. The Regional Youth Work Unit, along with our colleagues in local authorities and voluntary organisations, continues to seek ways in which youth work can influence the approaches used in the 14-19 curriculum, extended schools and services and targeted youth support. It's a hard task, and there is a danger of spreading precious resources too thinly, but we want to make sure that the skills and creativity of youth workers benefit as many young people as possible, especially those young people who might otherwise miss out on new opportunities and challenges.

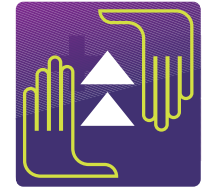
Gill Millar
Regional Youth Work Adviser

Enhancing Opportunities for Young People

The South West has done well in successful bids to the myplace fund for new and improved youth centres and other facilities for young people with projects underway across the region. Alongside the impetus provided by myplace, a number of local authorities have succeeded in funding new building projects for youth centres from other sources, and we are looking forward to the opening of new centres, including the Platform in Swindon in the next few months. Clubs for Young People, one of our important voluntary sector partners, co-ordinated the production of a Blueprint for design and delivery of youth facilities, informed by a well attended regional consultation event hosted by Young Devon.

The pattern of provision of youth facilities and youth work is changing in response

Regional Participation Workers Network



January 2010

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Showing good practice

The Regional Participation Network meets four times a year at Bishops Hull House to share good practice, discuss emerging policy and guidance and update skills and knowledge.

The network has been meeting since 2002 and has grown to a membership of nearly 100 participation workers.

2009 saw a broadening of the membership which now welcomes generic youth participation workers and participation workers from the police, the health service and specialist youth work. The meetings are also well attended by voluntary sector youth workers and VYON - SW (the Voluntary Youth Organisations Network) provides workers with an update from the voluntary youth sector perspective.



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Adult Learners Week
Nomination deadline

CONTACT DETAILS:

01823 365441
jane_shipton@learning-southwest.org.uk
www.learning-southwest.org.uk

“The network provides an opportunity to share work that is done locally, make links with regional and national developments and provides opportunities for sharing good practice and ideas and enhances delivery skills; especially for new workers”

CJ Phelps
*Youth Engagement Worker,
Gloucestershire*

“I’ve been coming to the network for quite a long time. Initially, I attended every meeting as a new worker, as it helped enormously with my development. As a more experienced worker, I value keeping in contact with my peers and enjoy the joint working opportunities. This has grown the trust between workers in other authorities, whom I now view as trusted colleagues”

Becky Lucas,
*Youth Development Worker
Participation, Poole*



“I’ve recently come back to Youth Participation Work and I am a new member of the Regional Participation Workers Network. It was good to find out what’s going on around the region and the networking opportunities are fantastic. Recently meeting Health Participation Workers has broadened my perspective to beyond local authority youth work”

Terry Husher
*Democracy Worker,
Bournemouth*



Successful Partnership for Voluntary Youth Sector



February 2010

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Safeguarding

VCS Engage SW aims to address the challenges facing the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) delivering children and young people's services across the South West including developing an understanding of the complexity of delivering the Every Child Matters agenda across 16 diverse Local Authorities.

The main project aims are workforce development, commissioning, developing an effective VCS infrastructure and supporting the development of small organisations. The project will provide training and networking opportunities. VCS Engage is a Children England funded project.

A new £2.2m unit managed by the NSPCC and Children England to help protect eight million children taking part in voluntary activities was launched in London in June 2009.



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hayley_lazarus@learning-southwest.org.uk
www.learning-southwest.org.uk

Safe Network is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families. The Department recognised the need for a tailored safeguarding support for the Third Sector following its Staying Safe consultation with charitable and voluntary organisations.

Safe Network, based at the NSPCC's National Training Centre in Leicester, aims to build capacity of third sector organisations in England to safeguard children. The results of the Regional Safeguarding Audit, which was undertaken by many children, young people and community groups across the region, were shown in a report produced by the Regional Youth Work Unit and used to determine what support was needed from the Safe Network.



“ How do children die because of abuse in our country? Why didn't someone do something? I guess that's the point – we can all do something ”

Quote from a volunteer, from the NSPCC Are They Safe? guide



“ There are likely to be many things that you already do that keep them safe ”

Quote from NSPCC Are They Safe? guide

Training and Development



March 2010

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Supporting professionals and volunteers

The Regional Youth Work Unit aims to provide a range of training opportunities for youth workers and related professionals to support work with young people in the South West. For the last 3 years we have been supported in this through funding from Children's Workforce Development Council to provide opportunities to train people in involving children and young people in decision making

Each year, the Regional Youth Work Unit hosts a conference to pick up the current issues for youth workers. In January 2009 our conference focused on the extension of youth work and positive activities, and provided an opportunity for an early consultation on the 'Youth



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01823 365441
 jane_shipton@learning-southwest.org.uk
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Professional' proposals. A number of youth projects from the region were also invited to run workshops to share and celebrate good practice in particular fields.

We also offer 'bespoke' training for local authorities and voluntary organisations. This year, we responded to a request from Plymouth to run a day workshop on recorded and accredited outcomes for voluntary sector and local authority youth workers. The session was well attended and provided an opportunity for workers

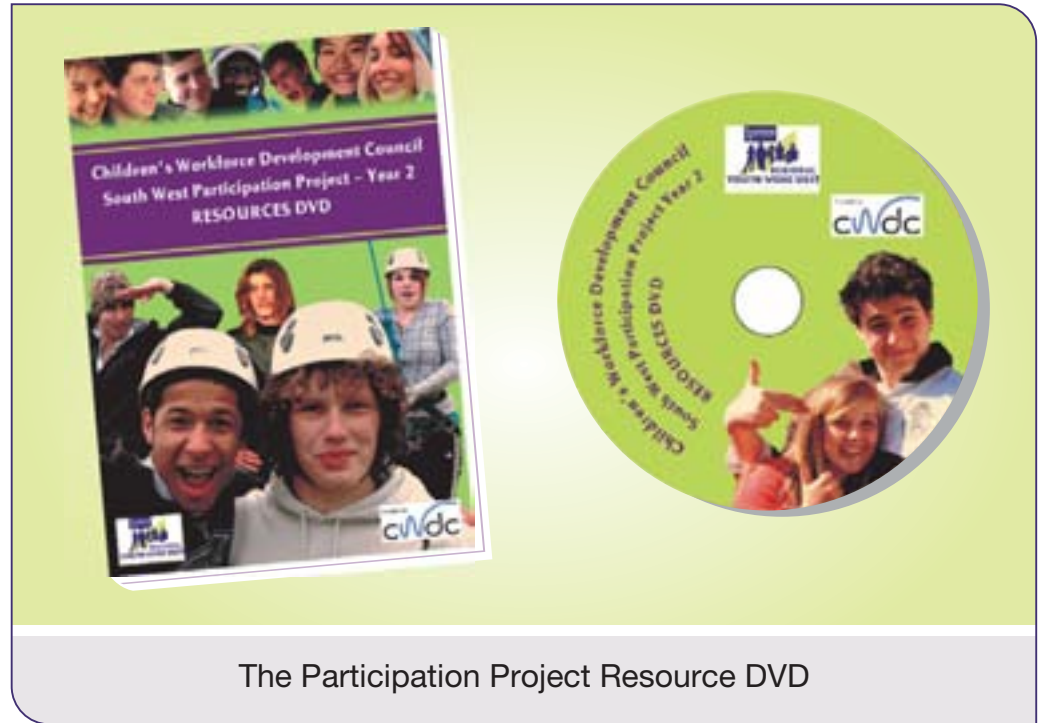
to improve their knowledge and understanding of a range of accreditation options, and work out which was likely to be best suited to their project. Working jointly with the voluntary and local authority sectors also meant that relationships were built between the two, which has led to new partnerships being developed in localities.

Our CWDC programme for 2008/9 included training on participation skills for a range of professionals from local authorities and voluntary

organisations. 'Spice it Up', run by Dynamix is particularly popular, and we also had to turn people away from sessions we ran in conjunction with MENCAP on involving young people with learning disabilities. We have been able to repeat a number of these sessions in 2009 as a result of high demand. We produced a DVD which brings together the materials developed during the project, which can be downloaded from our web-site.

“ Thanks and compliments for the accreditation event facilitated by the RYWU. They did a very professional and superb job ”

Local Authority Youth Work Manager



The Participation Project Resource DVD

Enhancing the Youth Workforce



April 2010

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Untangling the strands

There is a constant demand for people with skills and confidence in working with young people. Youth Work is a big part of this, alongside other professionals including advice and guidance, social workers, teachers and youth justice staff. The Regional Youth Work Unit is helping to make sense of the youth work aspect of this by developing a **Regional Youth Work Workforce Strategy**, through our **Regional Youth Work Trainers Network**.

The training and qualifications agenda is often seen as too complicated for most ordinary people. We have to know our way round the different levels, National Occupational Standards, the 'footprints' of the different Sector Skills Councils, national initiatives aimed at breaking down professional barriers to progression and local integrated workforce



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 jane_shipton@learning-southwest.org.uk
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strategies. We battle to get accurate data about the workforce so we can understand the current situation regarding qualifications, numbers of staff, full-time/part-time ratios...and yes, it is complicated!

This year the Children’s Workforce Development Council has consulted on the development of a ‘Youth Professional’ status, which would recognise the skills and aptitudes needed to work with young people across a range of different settings.

We have contributed to the consultation process and await the roll-out of the assessment process for Youth Professionals.

In the meanwhile, there continues to be an increasing demand for youth workers, both at professional level (degree qualifications) and for Youth Support Workers qualified at Level 2 and Level 3. We are working with our partners in local authorities, FE and HE providers and the voluntary youth sector to determine

the demand for youth work qualifications and ensure that the supply side (colleges, universities and in-house training through voluntary and local authority youth services) can meet that demand.

We have some really strong and established providers of youth work training in the South West and we need to make sure that we retain the capacity to train the workforce of the future



“ The training agenda is so complex, so it helps to have the RYWU there to answer those tricky questions ”

Local authority Training Manager

“ Thanks for the paper. Yet another very helpful document coming out of the south west ”

National researcher

“ I find it really useful to attend the Regional Trainers Network and keep in touch with what is going on in the field ”

HE Lecturer

Funded by



Developing Lifelong Learning

May 2010

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A Partnership for developing practice

As well as being the RYWU, Learning South West is the key regional organisation supporting the development of the lifelong learning workforce.

Learning South West runs the SWitch Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training (CETT) which has over 60 organisational members from Higher Education, Further Education, Adult and Community Learning, Work Based Learning, Specialist Colleges and the Voluntary and Community sector - as well as Awarding Bodies and regional support organisations. We are also the regional centre for the Functional Skills Support Programme (FSSP). Functional skills qualifications, available nationally from September 2010, are integral to the four learning pathways – diplomas, general qualifications, foundation learning tier and apprenticeships.

We produce a separate review and calendar covering our work in lifelong learning, but here are a few highlights related to our 3 organisational goals.



“LSW is an indispensable resource to practitioners and managers in the SW region”

Pauline Moylan, Sector Engagement Adviser, South West, Lifelong Learning UK

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CONTACT DETAILS

Regional CPD Advisory Service and Helpline:

01823 365449

events@learning-southwest.org.uk

www.learning-southwest.org.uk



Partnership

As well as running the SWitch CETT, Learning South West coordinates a range of other partnerships and projects. Think Smart, a project funded by the Learning and Skills Council and the European Social Fund, is helping small businesses access learning and training coaches to support their learners to achieve.



people learn | business profits



The Golden Thread, also LSC and ESF funded, involves working in partnership with the region's Training Provider Networks to weave literacy, numeracy and language training into work-based learning and apprenticeships.

In the Trading Places project, again funded by the LSC and ESF, learners who had successfully overcome barriers created by gender stereotyping carried out action research and produced a DVD which is used by training providers to encourage learners to consider careers they may have otherwise overlooked, e.g. child-care for men or engineering for women.



Voice and Choice

Learning South West believes in the need for a stronger learner voice in local, regional and national decision-making about learning policy and practice. Our research projects, such as the Circles of Influence project carried out for Somerset County Council, have enabled groups of adult learners and potential learners to put a persuasive case for the learning provision they need.



Since 2009, Learning South West has been responsible for coordinating Adult Learners' Week in the South West. Adult Learners Week, 15-21 May 2010, is the UK's largest and longest running learning campaign and encourages thousands of adults, whatever their age and background, to give learning a go. We organise a regional awards ceremony in order to celebrate and generate wider media coverage and interest in the inspiring stories of learners who have achieved against the odds.



Practice

The SWitch CETT is playing a key role in supporting organisations to respond to wide-reaching reforms to training and professional standards in lifelong learning. Together with Lifelong Learning UK and other key regional stakeholders, we are developing a regional workforce development strategy for the sector.

We believe it is an urgent task to enable more professional development to be based on reflective practice, in an environment that encourages innovation and action research; and where there is significantly more time and resource made available for structured peer support. We facilitate a range of networks and development activities, such as an Inclusive Learning Forum which supports providers in who are offering the Foundation Learning Tier.

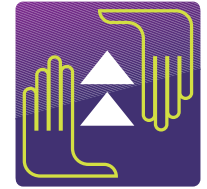
Paula Jones, Deputy Chief Executive, uses her positions within key national bodies, like the Institute for Learning and ACETT, (the Association of CETTs), to influence national policy in teacher training and professional development.



Investment in People Brings Rewards



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



June 2010

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Recognised by Investors in People since 1995

September heralded the organisation's fifth post recognition review.

This time we opted for the new customised approach to assessment, to measure our good practice beyond The Standard IIP Framework and provide more scope for development work. Therefore in addition to The Standard the review assessed our progress in establishing a learning organisation and in improving management effectiveness, which have been key organisational priorities over the last 3 years.

We were delighted once again to meet The Standard and to be awarded Bronze in recognition of the significant progress we have made in the two additional areas highlighted. The process helped our newly appointed HR Manager, Pippa Bucknell, to create an action plan for future development.



People make Learning South West

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CONTACT DETAILS:

Pippa Bucknell, HR Manager
01823 365653

Steven Moore, Finance and Lettings Officer
01823 347953

People Make Learning South West

The increasing numbers of people who hold meetings at Bishops Hull House recognise the key part that the staff team plays in making their conferences, meetings and other events such a success.

So, when people like Nadine Grimmett from the South West Lifelong Learning Network tell us: “The SWLLN has had the pleasure of holding a number of meetings and away days at Learning South West which is in a lovely location. On each occasion, we have found the staff to be extremely helpful and cheerful and the facilities excellent”, we know that our investment in people is on the right track.

At Bishops Hull House, we endeavour to buy from local sources wherever possible. This applies to food and drink, building materials, and by supporting local Artists within our reception area. By using local companies and producers, we are supporting the local market, which will in turn benefit our business by creating a sustainable local economy.

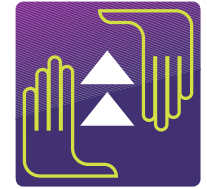


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- Excellent value
- Personal yet professional approach to your needs
- Each meeting room enjoys natural light with green views
- WiFi access throughout the building
- New online efficient room booking system



Qualifications for Work with Young People



July 2010

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Flexible qualifications from ABC

ABC Awards has developed these qualifications in association with Skills for Justice. Learning and assessment takes place through the integration of practical activities in a work based setting and academic activities.

Typical Job Roles that would benefit from these qualifications:

- Care Worker
- Prison Officer
- Connexions Personal Adviser
- Probation Officer
- Family Liaison Officer
- Social Worker
- Healthcare Assistant
- Youth & Community Worker



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CONTACT DETAILS:

ABC Taunton Office
01823 365655
juliam@abcawards.co.uk
or
laurap@abcawards.co.uk

Youth Work Qualifications in Dorset

Dorset Youth & Community Service has been delivering the VRQ Youth Work level 2 and 3 courses for approximately 6 years and has seen completion rates increase over the past years.

To complete the VRQ course the youth workers are required to attend a series of workshops relating to each unit and produce evidence for a portfolio consisting of; a completed workbook and evidence of their work in their youth projects. When registering for the course youth workers are assigned a personal tutor who offers them individual support. This extra support has been crucial to some youth workers in helping them complete the qualification.



Debbie Moore

...was a volunteer when she started the certificate training, and was recently appointed as paid youth worker in her youth centre due to the knowledge and skills acquired from the certificate course. When discussing the benefits of the training she said

“ I have grown in my confidence as a youth worker and find it easier to plan activities that relate to young people’s needs. ”

She says she now encourages young people to reflect their learning from activities as well as having fun.



Andrew Abbot

...was very apprehensive about enrolling for the certificate course, but when reflecting on how it had influenced his youth work practice he said

“ I now encourage the young people to have a say in what they do and encourage them to take responsibility for organising it rather making all the decisions myself ”



Manifesto for Change



August 2010

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South West Regional Manifesto

Young People in the South West elect 66 Members of Youth Parliament to represent their views locally, regionally and nationally. The Regional Youth Work Unit works with local authority Youth Participation Workers to support the MYPs and help them implement their regional programme.

Every year, a regional residential is held for the newly elected MYPs. This year's event was held at Skerne Lodge in Devon. As well as building the MYPs as a regional team, and helping them to understand their roles and responsibilities, the residential was a focus for them to work out what their priorities for the year will be.

The Manifesto draws together the most important issues for each local



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authority area, and takes from these the three most urgent issues for the region as a whole.

The Top 3 Priorities are:

- The South West believes that young people deserve to have a positive image in the media. This will be achieved by young people working side by side with the media
- The South West believes that Education Maintenance

Allowance (EMA) needs to go through drastic reform, because it doesn't consider in detail the needs of young people, or their circumstances.

- The South West believes that there is a need to raise awareness on sexual health and teen pregnancy, as teen pregnancy rates are rising

MYPs and local youth forums are campaigning on these issues locally

and regionally. In 2009, the Regional Youth Work Unit and UKYP have been successful in obtaining a Big Lottery Fund grant for the Sounds Positive Project, which will help to take forward the positive images campaign by training young people in working with the media, and developing strong media links.



LOTTERY FUNDED



“ The Manifesto helps to show that local MYPs are not alone, and so strengthens the argument for change ”

Francis
UKYP Procedures Group Member

“ It felt like a real achievement to be involved in creating a national policy* ”

Ella
Deputy MYP, Somerset (DCSF Sex & Relationships Education Charter)*

“ I've learned to be more open minded and perceptive as a MYP, and to understand other people's points of view. It has really helped me grow up ”

Lizzie
MYP Poole

“ Locally, after years of campaigning, we have secured a subsidy for bus transport for 19s and under in full-time education ’ ”

Francis
South Gloucestershire

September 2010

1	Wed
2	Thur
3	Fri
4	Sat
5	Sun
6	Mon
7	Tues
8	Wed
9	Thur
10	Fri
11	Sat
12	Sun
13	Mon
14	Tues
15	Wed
16	Thur

We're bored at the weekend!



Open more hours

Young people consistently say they would like more things to do at weekends. The Government has picked up on this and challenged local authorities to think creatively about how they provide youth facilities at the weekend. The South West has come up trumps in looking at some creative ways of meeting young people's demands

Torbay Youth Service has joined forces with a local Leisure Centre to open it up on Saturday nights and give young people the opportunity to try out a wide range of sports and physical activities. Leisure centre staff are on duty to supervise the programme and encourage young people to learn new skills, and youth workers are around to help promote a welcoming, supportive and fun atmosphere, and develop relationships with young people who may not use other youth



17	Fri
18	Sat
19	Sun
20	Mon
21	Tues
22	Wed
23	Thur
24	Fri
25	Sat
26	Sun
27	Mon
28	Tues
29	Wed
30	Thur

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 jane_shipton@learning-southwest.org.uk
 www.learning-southwest.org.uk

facilities. Around 250 young people use the Saturday Night provision on a regular basis.

In Bournemouth, Friday night 'Beachside' activities are providing excellent outcomes, including a 20% reduction in anti-social behaviour. Participation in summer holiday positive activities rose by 30% as a result of this extension

of youth work services. Plymouth Youth Service has partnered up with the Street Games organisation to provide new weekend activities around the city.

It is clear that there is a demand from young people for more youth work at weekends, though it seems that what works at weekends is different to the small group work

that characterises mid-week youth work. Weekends are young people's social time, and they seem to be looking for larger scale, fun activities. Youth services can take a lead on this, and the examples above show how partnership with other organisations, and other parts of Council services can make a real difference.



“ Participation in summer holiday positive activities rose by 30% as a result of this extension of youth work services ”

Local Authority Head of IYSS

“ Our Leisure Centre is now open on Saturday evenings for young people. I've been a volunteer with the youth workers there, and loads of young people are using it every week ”

Young person from Torbay



October 2010

1	Fri
2	Sat
3	Sun
4	Mon
5	Tues
6	Wed
7	Thur
8	Fri
9	Sat
10	Sun
11	Mon
12	Tues
13	Wed
14	Thur
15	Fri
16	Sat

Out of the Box



Reading: isn't that in Berkshire?

5 projects across the South West have jumped at the chance to take part in Out of the Box. Each of the projects is led by either a youth worker or a Children and Young People's Librarian, and has a small budget to buy books or other reading materials, or to help young people take part in an activity that will support their reading.

Out of the Box aims to show how the youth work process, sometimes referred to as 'Socratic Dialogue' (well, it is a reading project) can help young people reflect on their reading and develop their understanding of wider issues. Reading is often seen as a very private activity, and maybe a bit nerdy, so it's great that young people are getting the chance to share in a group experience that



Photo by Justin Sutcliffe for The Reading Agency © 2009

17 Sun

18 Mon

19 Tues

20 Wed

21 Thur

22 Fri

23 Sat

24 Sun

25 Mon

26 Tues

27 Wed

28 Thur

29 Fri

30 Sat

31 Sun

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will help them talk to others about issues raised through reading.

Fulfilling Their Potential is helping library staff to develop their skills and confidence in working with young people and involving them in participating in decision making in the libraries. As a result, young people are getting involved in selecting the book stock, organising events in libraries and taking part in the recruitment process for library staff. Regional Youth Work Unit staff are delivering the training and advising the Regional Planning Group on next steps.



“ I’ve been surprised at how enthusiastic young people have been about picking books and magazines to use in the project: it’s great that they really want to be involved ”

Youth Worker
Out of the Box



“ We had young people involved in selecting our new Children’s Librarian: I was really impressed with how perceptive they were ”

Senior Librarian

Photos this page by Justin Sutcliffe
for The Reading Agency © 2009

read
the reading agency

November 2010

1	Mon
2	Tues
3	Wed
4	Thur
5	Fri
6	Sat
7	Sun
8	Mon
9	Tues
10	Wed
11	Thur
12	Fri
13	Sat
14	Sun
15	Mon
16	Tues

Personalised Provision



Updating Youth Work Providers

The 14-19 curriculum changes offer opportunities for youth workers to show how they can help young people achieve their potential in education and training. The RYWU has produced a briefing document to inform the sector.

The theory behind the development of new qualification routes for 14-19 year olds with more vocational content is to ensure that all young people have the opportunity to find the right form of education and training that will keep them engaged and develop their skills and knowledge. Many young people, however, find it difficult to learn and achieve in schools and colleges, maybe because their behaviour is disruptive to others, or because they are still struggling with basic skills, or because their wider lives are too chaotic and complicated to



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29	Mon
30	Tues

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enable them to concentrate in school for extended periods.

Youth workers are often involved with these young people, and can work with them individually, or in small groups to provide support and challenge either to help them stay in formal education, or to identify and sometimes provide alternative forms of training and accredited learning. The Dorset County Council Social Inclusion Project works with some of these young people to great effect, providing a long term supportive relationship and a guiding hand through the maze of education and training programmes.



“ Youth Workers can work with young people most in need of support in social settings and help them to integrate into social situations ”

Local Authority Head of Out of School Education

“ The Social Inclusion Team provides a happy and positive approach which frames the young person’s week ”

Local Authority Looked After Children Manager



Regional Age Equality Network



December 2010

1	Wed
2	Thur
3	Fri
4	Sat
5	Sun
6	Mon
7	Tues
8	Wed
9	Thur
10	Fri
11	Sat
12	Sun
13	Mon
14	Tues
15	Wed
16	Thur

Working together on current youth issues

Supported by Equality South West, the age network brings together individuals and organisations with an interest in improving the lives of younger and older people.

Committed to progress on age equality, the network provides a channel to exchange information on age issues and events, work taking place in the region, and on equality issues more broadly. The network comes together to work on specific campaigns and projects through regular meetings and seeking the views of young and older people through inter generational discussions.

The Age network held an event *The Times of Our Lives* for older and younger people in May 2009. The Fairgame Theatre gave us an excerpt from their gritty 21st century



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28	Tues
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30	Thur
31	Fri

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adaptation of Macbeth. The experimental production, aimed at helping homeless young men in Gloucestershire, has rejuvenated the misfit pasts of two disadvantaged 17-year-olds. (The high-energy performance used hip-hop beats, stage combat and live MC ing to portray the play's events and to appeal to a modern-day, younger audience.

The Regional Youth Work Unit supports the work of the Regional Age Equality Network by working together on current youth issues and applying the principles of tackling barriers which are due to gender, disability or age that limit people's choice and control in their lives; Addressing inequalities in civic participation; reducing discrimination in employment due

to gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief; and reducing unfair treatment at work, college or school, and when using health services and public transport due to gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief.



“ I get refused by child services and adult services because I'm 17, and I've got to wait until I'm 18 to get proper services. ”

17 year-old suffering from depression



“ We rang an ambulance, and we thought an ambulance was going to come, and then suddenly, because I sound like a child on the phone, so, suddenly he said, how old is the person involved? and I said 14, and he said, well you have to get an adult to ring us up then ”

12 year old



Governance

Charity name

The name of the charity is 'Learning South West'.

Registered Charity Number - 1020027

Company Registration Number - 2806593

Registered office

Bishops Hull House, Bishops Hull, TAUNTON, Somerset TA1 5EP

Trustees

The Board is made up of the Trustees who are also the Directors of the Charity for the purpose of company law. Members of the Board during the year and changes since the year end were:

Shirley Arayan, Peter Avery (Chair from 13 June 2008), David Baker (Resigned 13 May 2008), Jonquil Brooks (Resigned 09 April 2009), Dillon Hughes (Resigned 10 March 2009), Jacqueline Hele Kergozou De La Boessiere (Resigned 19 June 2008), Rob Lawy, Craig Marshall, John Nash (Elected March 2009), Elisabeth Piecha, Stephen Prewett (Resigned 10 March 2009), Dugald Sandeman (Chair – Resigned 13 June 2008), Peter Weeks, David Wood

Board members are elected or appointed in accordance with the charitable company's Articles of Association and with Company Law

Chief Executive and Company Secretary

Tim Boyes-Watson

Auditors

Amherst & Shapland, Chartered Accountants, Castle Lodge, Castle Green, TAUNTON, Somerset TA1 4AD

Bankers

CAF Bank Ltd, PO Box 289, WEST MALLING, Kent ME19 4TA

National Westminster Bank plc, 135 Bishopsgate, LONDON EC2M 3UR

Somerset County Council, Comfund, County Treasurer's Department, County Hall, TAUNTON, Somerset TA1 4DY

Objects

The Charity's objects are to advance education of young persons and adults by:

- promoting excellence in the delivery of learning and skills;
- providing advice, training and the provision of resources to providers of learning and skills; and
- researching and disseminating good practice.

Members 2008/09

Colleges: Cirencester, City of Bristol, City College Plymouth, Kingston Maurward, National Star, New College Swindon, Norton Radstock, Plymouth College of Art & Design, Richard Huish, Salisbury, Somerset College, Strode, Stroud, Swindon, Weston, Yeovil.

Higher Education Institutes: College of St. Mark and St John, University of Exeter, University of the West of England

Local Authorities: Bath & North East Somerset, Bournemouth, Bristol, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucester, Jersey, North Somerset, Poole, Plymouth City Council, Somerset, South Gloucester, Swindon, Torbay, Wiltshire.

Regional Bodies and Others: NIACE

Associate Members: Adult Education in Gloucestershire, BANES Training Services, Bournemouth Adult Learning, Cornwall Adult Education, Dorset Adult Learning, Hudson and Hughes, Learning Plus, North Wessex Training Ltd, Paragon Training(Dorset), Puffins Training Ltd, Reflections Training Academy, Royal Marines, The Fire Service College, The Fortune Centre of Riding Therapy, Training Solutions, Youth Enquiry Service Plymouth Ltd.

Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31 March 2009

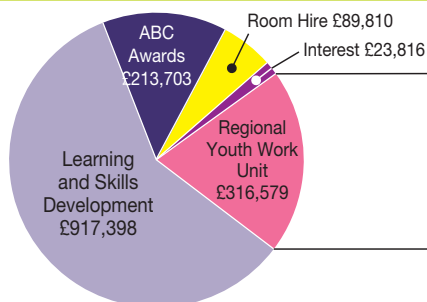
	Total 2009 (£)	Total 2008 (£)
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Incoming resources from generated funds		
Activities for generating funds	89,810	89,931
Investment income	23,816	24,433
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Conferences and Networks	41,919	50,998
Assessment and Accreditation	213,703	164,001
Membership Subscriptions	107,350	107,140
Grants and Contracts	1,084,708	1,611,646
Total Incoming Resources	<u>1,561,305</u>	<u>2,048,149</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of generating funds	61,751	53,262
Charitable activities	1,644,416	1,705,810
Governance costs	28,495	27,274
Total resources expended	<u>1,734,662</u>	<u>1,786,346</u>
NET INCOME	<u>(173,357)</u>	<u>261,803</u>
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS/LOSSES		
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	(166,000)	(103,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>(339,357)</u>	<u>158,803</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS		
Total funds brought forward	515,448	356,645
Total funds carried forward	<u>176,091</u>	<u>515,448</u>

Summary Financial Statement 2008/9

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2009

	2009 (£)	2008 (£)
FIXED ASSETS (Tangible Assets)	655,059	653,074
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	325,124	216,557
Cash at bank and in hand	468,112	901,215
Total current assets	<u>793,236</u>	<u>1,117,772</u>
LIABILITIES		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	490,643	659,916
Net current assets	<u>302,593</u>	<u>457,856</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	957,652	1,110,930
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	140,562	164,482
Net assets excluding pension liability	817,091	946,448
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	641,000	431,000
Net assets including pension liability	<u>176,091</u>	<u>515,448</u>
THE FUNDS OF THE CHARITY		
Unrestricted free reserves	263,804	277,285
Restricted income funds	38,791	180,571
Unrestricted fixed asset reserve	187,933	162,029
Revaluation reserve	326,563	326,563
Funds excluding pension liability	817,091	946,448
Pension reserve (deficit)	(641,000)	(431,000)
Total Charity funds	<u>176,091</u>	<u>515,448</u>

Key Areas of Work (by total income received)



Breakdown of Regional Youth Work Unit Income:

Local Authorities	£85,525
Workforce Development and Other Projects	£113,336
Voluntary Youth Organisations Network	£95,455
Conferences and Networks	£22,263

Chair of Learning South West's Statement

The Summary Financial Statement is not the Statutory Accounts (Annual Accounts and Trustees Report) but a summary of information relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet. The Summary Financial Statement does not contain sufficient information to allow as full an understanding of the results and state of affairs of the charity as would be provided by the full Statutory Accounts. The Statutory Accounts were approved by the Trustees on the 11th September 2009 given an unqualified report by our auditors on the 11th September 2009 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and the Registrar of Companies.

If you would like a full copy of the Annual Accounts and Reports free of charge, please call 01823 335491 or email enquiries@learning-southwest.org.uk. Members may elect to receive full accounts and reports for all future financial years should they so wish.



Peter Avery Date 11th September 2009
For and on behalf of the Board

Independent Auditors' Statement to the Members of Learning South West

We have examined the Summary Financial Statement which comprises Summary Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet included within the Annual Review.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Auditors

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Summarised Financial Statement in accordance with UK law. Our responsibility is to report on the consistency of the Summary Financial Statement

within the Annual Review with the full Annual Accounts and Trustees Report, and its compliance with the relevant requirements of section 251 of the Companies Act 1985, the Companies (Summary Financial Statement) Regulations 1995, as amended by the Companies (Summary Financial Statement) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 and the regulations made thereunder. We also read the other information contained in this Annual Review and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the Summary Financial Statement.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with Bulletin 1999/6 'The Auditors' Statement on the Summary Financial Statement' issued by the Auditing Practices Board.

Opinion

In our opinion the Summary Financial Statement is consistent with the full annual Accounts and Trustees Report of Learning South West for the year ended 31 March 2009, and complies with the applicable requirements of section 251 of the Companies Act 1985, the Companies (Summary Financial Statement) Regulations 1995, as amended by the Companies (Summary Financial Statement) (Amendment) Regulations 2005 and the regulations made thereunder.

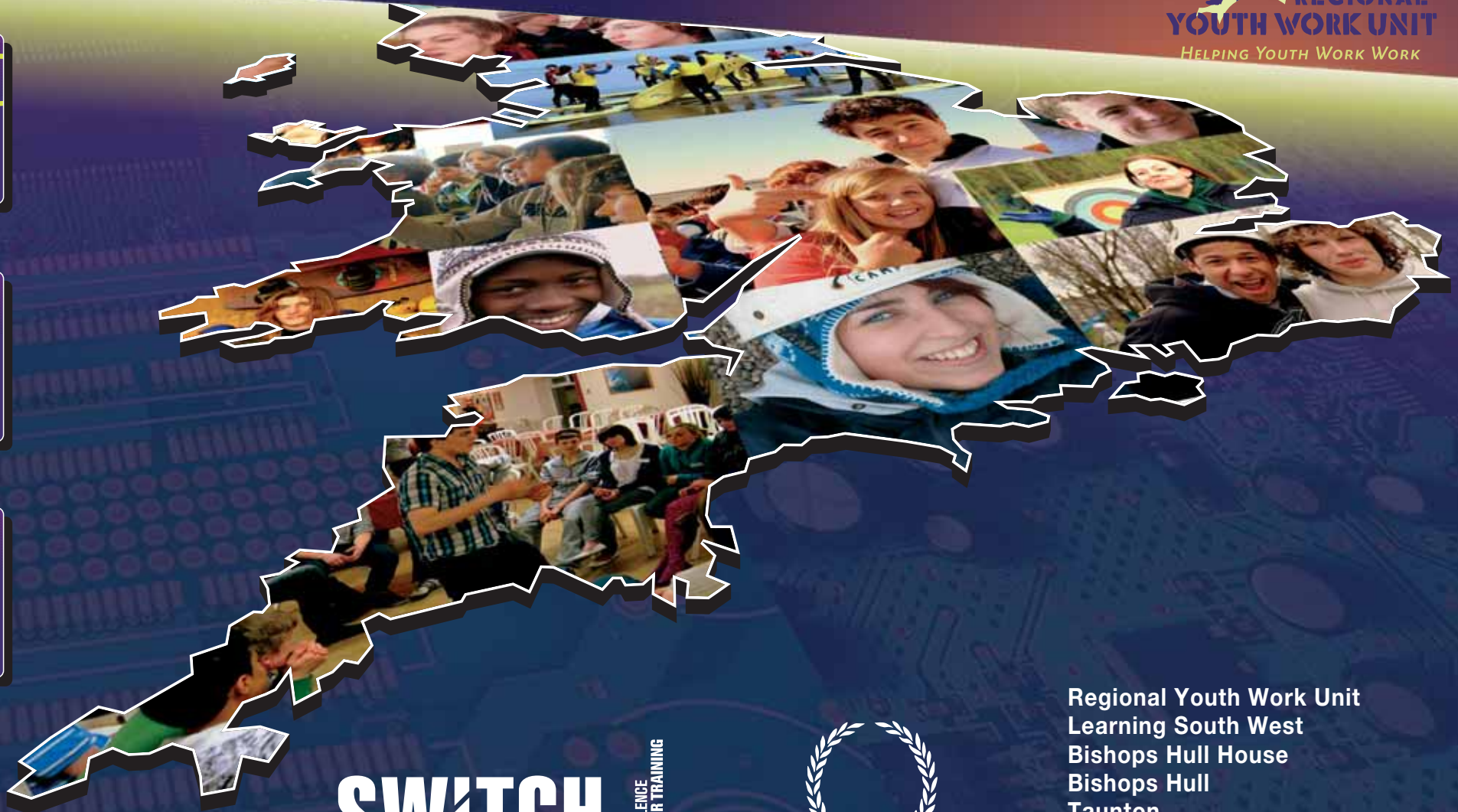
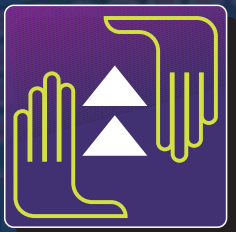


Amherst and Shapland Date 19th November 2009
Chartered Accountants Registered Auditors,
Bridge House, 14 Bridge Street, TAUNTON,
Somerset TA1 1UB

Connecting professionals to transform the future

LEARNING
SOUTH WEST

REGIONAL
YOUTH WORK UNIT
HELPING YOUTH WORK WORK



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CONNECTED TO EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

CENTRES
FOR EXCELLENCE
IN TEACHER TRAINING



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Regional Youth Work Unit
Learning South West
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