

Bassetlaw District Youth Assembly (BDYA) Consultation Day – 28th February 2006

As part of the process of recruiting new members, the current Youth Assembly wanted to run a similar consultation/ recruitment day to the one held in July 2003, which launched the Assembly as it is now.

The current Youth Assembly members have been involved since its creation in 2003, and are now at a stage where they will be moving on to university/ employment/ further training, and may not be able to be as involved. This led to an urgent need to increase/ refresh membership.

The event was held on 28th February at Retford Leisure Centre. BDC Leisure Centre staff were very supportive on the day, and it showed how versatile our leisure facilities are as community venues. The current members of BDYA planned the day with support from NCC Youth Officers and a BDC Policy Officer.

4 workshops were designed for the young people that attended:

- Sexual Health
- Crime Awareness
- What is a District Youth Assembly?
- Art – designing a logo for the BDYA

In the afternoon there was also a staff workshop led by NCC Youth Officers. An officer from the Policy & performance Service attended to contribute the Council's objectives on consultation/ engagement with young people.

Prior to the end of the day a 'Question Time with Councillors' session was held giving the young people an opportunity to quiz local members on issues that concerned them. Councillors attending included:

- Cllr Teresa Critchley
- Cllr Barry Bowles
- County Cllr Mick Storey
- Cheryl Buffrey MYP (Notts Youth MP from Bassetlaw)

A total of 51 young people attended on the day, with 12 young people registering to become members of the BDYA on the day. The young people were from local secondary schools; Entry 2 Employment (E2E) groups; and other young people's groups from within the District. Further recruitment from secondary schools and other groups will take place on a regular basis.

The current members have completed an evaluation of the event and will be having one more meeting on the 29th March 2006 before new members are invited to attend in the new school term.