

Big Warsop Monitoring and Feedback Report

Please liaise with the Big Warsop Communications Officer when completing your reports in order for us to help you with your reporting.					
Project Name		FUTURE GREENS			
Organisation Name		ECOLOGIC			
Theme(s)	Strengthening the Community	Empowering People	Supporting People	Improving the Environment	Having things to do
Target Outcomes					
Insert Project outcomes (from SLA)					
Strengthening the Community, Supporting People, Improving the Environment					
Improvement in the skills, knowledge, health & wellbeing of local people and to local green spaces.					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 4 people offered the chance to train as trainers. Minimum of 10 people receiving accreditation 40-60 schoolchildren will benefit from the project Engagement with approx. 30 volunteers (WNC & local people) 5-10 volunteers from Inspire & Achieve 					
Reporting period	Date From:	SEPT 2018	Date To:	End of FEBRUARY 2019	
1. Activities undertaken during reporting period					
<i>Tell us what you have done and how well things have gone. Include any issues carried over from previous report, activities carried out and any base line monitoring. Please attach photographs, quotes, good news stories etc.</i>					
<p>The establishment of an assessment centre delivering nationally accredited qualifications. Much work has been done developing systems and procedures and initiating the process for centre accreditation. Ecologic received centre status in February 2019. This has been a large body of work and a great achievement, as it means that we can now offer accredited training from Entry level to level 1.</p> <p>To continue to work with the Footpaths and Conservation group with maintenance across the rights of way network.</p> <p>To continue to work with Meden School to provide opportunities for the students to engage with the local environs and undertake practical work on them to improve biodiversity etc</p> <p>To continue to work with Birklands Primary School.</p> <p>Supporting the Princes Trust to identify and secure environmental work within Warsop and supporting them to undertake a work programme on Doorstep Green, in conjunction with Notts County Council.</p>					

15 students supported

Supported a Princes Trust participant for 2 weeks, undertaking work experience.

Continue to work with Inspire and Achieve to support a regular volunteer, who comes out to help with the work of the Footpaths group. We also deal with other enquiries but have been unable to recruit for a variety of reasons ie outside geographical area, cannot collect from any location

2. Target Outcomes the project has contributed to

Tell us the difference your activity has made in relation to the participants, the local area and the SLA outcomes.

On the whole, the programme continues to support the local community by providing opportunities for people to become involved in various environmental activities. Much development work has been done to engage with others through various referral mechanisms, such as DWP, Princes Trust and Inspire and Achieve. We have also spent time developing opportunities for West Notts College students to become involved.

- Developed a partnership agreement with the Sherwood Forest Trust to develop opportunities for people to undertake training within the environmental and land-based sector. We have worked together to gain funding from NSDC to deliver an environmental programme of activities, and although recruitment is from the Newark and Sherwood District, we have tailored the course to enable us to work on the practical sites across Warsop. This pilot could potentially open up opportunities to recruit across the whole of Sherwood, including Warsop, linking the Future Greens project with this provision.
- Working with the Sherwood Forest Trust to secure funding from Inspire to offer an additional course in Practical Environmental and Conservation skills, this will enable us to recruit from the Mansfield/Warsop area.
- Working with SFT to identify opportunities and secure funding for Training delivery through the Miner to Major project. This fund has recently been secured, by NCC, and has a training budget, specifically allocated for community-based learning within the environment. We are hoping to work together to gain funds from this source and maximise the potential of the work already completed. The fund is not yet live and, through the Ecologic/SFT Partnership agreement, we are able to look into ways in which we can tap into this resource, with a view to attracting some long term funding.
- Working with Vibrant Warsop to identify opportunities and develop funding bids to establish a community environmental hub, this includes the provision of a horticulture project which includes a polytunnel and the concept of developing a straw bale building, which can be utilised to offer various art and craft type training/workshop sessions, alongside green wood crafts.

- Working with Birklands Primary School to develop a programme of activities/ walks across the open spaces of Warsop, as part of the Nurture group within the school.
- Submitting a funding bid to UnLtd, to support the development of a CIC with the purpose of providing training in the Environmental and Land-based sector. Despite getting to the final presentation stage, the bid was unsuccessful. But much work has been done and this will be used to identify and secure funding from other sources.

3. Timescales/Participant Numbers

Is project on track both in terms of timescales and the number of participants? If not what are you planning to do to address the issues? What activity was taking place when you started the project and how has this changed/increased/improved in quality?

- Participant numbers are on track with regards to the school groups. Meden school continue to engage with the programme and up to 12 students come out every week. In total, this period, we have supported approximately **24** students from Meden, who regularly come out and an additional **10** students who took part in a bulb planting activity at the school.
- We have also supported **13** primary school children from Birklands school, mainly exploring local nature sites, learning about nature and improving health, well-being and confidence.
- Supporting the Princes Trust to identify and secure environmental work within Warsop and supporting them to undertake a two week work programme on Doorstep Green, in conjunction with Notts County Council. **15** students supported
- Supported **1** Princes Trust participant for 2 weeks, undertaking work experience.
- Continue to work with Inspire and Achieve to support **1** regular volunteer, who comes out to help with the work of the Footpaths group.
- In addition to the above I have interviewed **4** individuals, referred through DWP. Unfortunately, for a various reasons, none of these joined the programme and came out to volunteer.
- Currently **3** people enrolled onto the NSDC environmental course, referred from Inspire and Achieve, who undertake work within Warsop.
- The Future Greens project also supports **1** adult volunteer, who wishes to gain experience of supporting others within an environmental context. This is not through a referral but has been identified through previous volunteering that I have managed.
- Support **4** adults within the Footpaths and Countryside Group.

Total people supported to date: **76**

A considerable amount of development work has been undertaken to engage with West Notts College. We had secured a project, met with MDC Park Managers and the Tree Officer, and arranged a weekly programme of activities for up to **20** students plus **2** staff. Unfortunately, despite the project scheduled to start on 27.02.19. the college are in financial difficulty and have had to lay off staff members. This has impacted on the delivery of the intended programme, which was to open up the riverside path at The Bottoms. We are still in liaison with the Student support Officer to identify how this can be resolved.

Plans for next reporting period

What are you going to do next?

Are there any concerns/risks to the project you need support with? What are you looking forward to?

- Run the pilot training course in conjunction with SFT and look at securing funding to continue with the delivery of Practical Environmental and Conservation skills.
- To look into the opportunity to offer up to a level 2 Award or Certificate
- Working with Vibrant Warsop to tailor funding packages which will enable us to set up and run a Practical Horticulture course, to be based at the shed.
- To continue to work with The Sherwood Forest Trust to identify and secure funding for the continued delivery of Environmental training courses
- To continue to work with the Footpaths and Countryside group, Meden School and Birklands school.
- Meet with Vibrant to discuss ways in which we could attract and engage with a greater number of adult volunteers joining the programme.

One of my key concerns is how people are referred onto the programme. DWP are an invaluable source of adults but referrals are very limited in comparison to the actual potential. I am hoping that by running the pilot course with SFT that we will establish a strong relationship with partner organisations that can almost guarantee a regular stream of willing participants.

Another concern, if we establish a steady stream of willing participants, is ensuring that we have an adequate base for training, team meetings and indoor activities, we have discussed using the shed area (as part of the environmental hub development) and this would be ideal for operating within the Warsop area.

We would also need to secure the use of a dedicated vehicle that can accommodate up to at least 8

people. The pilot training programme takes place over three days per week. If we extended the provision of environmental training, it is likely that we would offer a certificate, rather than an Award and as such may need to run the provision for 5 days per week to ensure the Guided Learning Hours and Total Qualification Time are met.

Project Budget (is the project still on track in terms of costs?)

Do you have any concerns that you will not be able to deliver you project as intended?

Budget still on track

No concerns, but it has been highlighted that the purchase of a minibus and securing ongoing running costs may be beneficial to the project in order to transport adults.