

Backing Young Britain in the South Hams.

Initial outline of proposals by

Cllr John Baverstock. South Hams District Council.

The Aim. To establish a programme of work experience for Neet's, within the public sector and emergency services.

The Method. To establish a partnership with JobCentrePlus and Connexions to seek Neet's between the ages of 18 and 24 who wish to volunteer for work experience as outlined above.

The period of experience will usually be between 3 and 4 months during which time the usual benefit will be paid to the volunteer. A mutual effort will be made to provide transport to and from the workplace. The host will provide specialist clothing.

The work experience will be of two types;

- (i) To join a workplace environment and work with regular staff, under the supervision of the Manager, or
- (ii) To join a team of volunteers and to undertake a specific project, i.e. Scrubland clearance or door-to-door survey work.

At the conclusion of the period of work experience the volunteer will be provided with a reference by the works Manager. Those volunteers showing a special aptitude/ability for the work will be notified of future job vacancies (in that field) and if interested would be guaranteed an interview for the job.

The Result. A Neet with work experience and a reference.

Most Neets have no work experience and are at a distinct disadvantage when seeking work. This initiative is intended to address that problem.

Note: This initiative has been discussed with South Hams District Council Officers and has met with enthusiasm. At this stage there appears to be little difficulty with the implementation of the scheme.

Unlike the usual one or two week work experience time, this extended period of up to 4 months will encourage Managers to invest time in training.

Issues surrounding the continued benefit have yet to be finalised with JobCentrePlus.

If you wish to discuss this proposal please feel free to contact Cllr John Baverstock at Bavers1@btinternet.com or cllr.Baverstock@southhams.gov.uk.
Or telephone 01548 580041.