A person holding a bag

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**Supporting Andover to become a safer community**

Welcome to **The Legacy Project**. This unique project is funded by The Office of Police and Crime Commissioner to for all to live and work in. Young People are the town’s future and too many are becoming involved with high risk behaviours including dealing drugs, carrying weapons, as well as travelling out of Andover in the chain of supply of drugs. These young people are victims of Child Criminal Exploitation and although they may not see it themselves, they are part of modern-day slavery. The only way to address this is to work together to protect our young people and prevent them from becoming exploited, criminalised, injured, and trafficked.

Yellow Brick Road Projects and UpSkillU are collaborating to bring together the community in Andover through this innovative project. There will be a high emphasis on virtual engagement as we all know how much the lockdown has impacted our ability to meet each other.

The Legacy Project will be in 3 phases

**Phase One Launch** –Social media, press and networks sharing the facts and impact of Child Criminal Exploitation and Serious Youth Violence. We are very proud to create this content with young people who have changed their lives and now will tell you their stories. We want them to inspire others and offer chances to engage with a **Legacy Mentor**.

**Legacy Mentors** have genuine lived experience they are chosen to match the mentee, matching to the young person’s needs. **Legacy Mentors** are recruited, supported, trained, and supervised by UpSkillU, those who have been through their own recovery. They will work on the phone through one 2 one and in small Zoom groups with young people. The sessions will be based on the Exodus programme and will be using Outcomes Star to assess progress being made. The mentee will be able to share highs and lows with their mentor who will help them identify their strengths

Young people can self-refer, as well as peer nominate to the project. We will take referrals from any agency as long as the young person meets the criteria of being at risk of CCE – included in this is involvement with County Lines, Sexual Exploitation, Carrying Weapons, Holding drugs, Running, being trafficked out of Andover.

**Phase Two** Community Awareness – we will be hosting Webinars for community access, facilitated by UpSkillU with young people who will tell their stories and share the realities of their experiences. The aim is to educate the community, protect young people from further harm, help parents, carers, teachers, and community members to understand how to recognise and support young people.

**Families** - Legacy Project is working with Inclusion Hampshire through the Parent Support Line service to ensure that all family members have access to the information and support that they need to support their family member.

**Trauma** - Young people are often left traumatised by their experiences, to help them deal with these feelings we will work with the Willow Team who can provide additional one to one support. There will be opportunity for the young person to take part in Emotional Recovery programme with RMD.

**Phase 3** To create lasting change there is need for a recovery maintenance plan for each participant. There are no one size that fits all, young people will be able to choose from a range of activities from both local and national providers. A comprehensive menu will be a part of the planning that can start right at the beginning of their journey and can be dipped in and out of alongside the mentoring service. This menu will include music, art, work experience, enterprise skills, sports, and survival training.

To illustrate the route through the project we have created a fictitious young person TJ

TJ, 14– has been found by police in a property known to be involved in the supply of drugs. They have not been attending school regularly and when they are there, they are disruptive and often spends time isolated from their class group. TJ has an older brother who is, not in work whose girlfriend and their child have tenancy with a social landlord. TJ’s mum and stepdad are both working long unsocial hours, TJ has the house to themselves until they are home. TJ has been seen to have a lot of money and is often hanging about outside the school long after the day has ended. TJ’s early years were unstable, their mother a victim of domestic violence, moving to a new house and schools to escape violence. There has always been poverty which has had an impact into the family’s ability to provide all the things that TJ would like to fit in at school. TJ has 2 older siblings who were taken into care, they have been on and off child protection plans for most of their life. TJ finds school a very difficult environment and has been diagnosed with ADHD. They say that they feel lonely a lot of time and says that they make friends with older people much easier than those of their own age. TJ would love to see his real dad, but so far this has not been possible.

Please see the attached flowchart for a full illustration of the journey a young person whilst on The Legacy Project.

Covid 19 limitations - Once we can meet face to face, we will offer this to all young people.

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