



THE WICKED PROJECT

FINAL REPORT, JANUARY - APRIL 2010



TIR COED



1. Overview of Tir Coed Activities:

1. The Tir Coed team has been meeting on a monthly basis, under the guidance of John Wildig, Secretary, and Simon Hewitt, Chair, to discuss progress and issues arising. In addition, John and Simon have represented Tir Coed at numerous events and meetings. The staff would like to thank Simon and John in particular for their tireless support over the life of the WICKED Project; our thanks also go to all of the Tir Coed Trustees for their continued guidance and encouragement.
2. Becky attended a Menter a Busnes surgery regarding the Sell-to-Wales site, which is a procurement portal for tender opportunities. Llinos Price took Becky through the website and gave very useful advice on how to update Tir Coed's profile to ensure that we received relevant notices.
3. The Tir Coed staff met with Gareth Wardell who gave them an insight into funding opportunities in the private sector. Gareth suggested that Tir Coed should present their work to larger companies, such as Tesco, in the context of helping to meet their corporate responsibilities. Approaching energy companies, particularly those associated with developing wind farms in Wales was presented as another funding opportunity. Gwyneth is to investigate these avenues over the coming months.
4. Gwyneth attended a briefing event on the Engagement Gateway European Social Fund Competitiveness area programme (which includes Powys). Tir Coed intends to tender for work within this programme to continue its work with young people in Powys.
5. John attended a partnership event organised by Working Links. Working Links organises training programmes for economically inactive people and it was hoped that Tir Coed could be commissioned to deliver training programmes for young people. However, it became apparent during the event that there would be no financial gain for Tir Coed if it became involved; in addition, the policies and procedures were too onerous for a small organisation such as ourselves.
6. Becky and Gwyneth attended a WCVA conference in Cardiff. The subject of the conference was 'Promoting Economic Participation', which is relevant to Tir Coed's successor of WICKED - the Branching Out/Egin project. The conference gave both Project Officers an insight into the current and planned European funded programmes for young people in Wales. However, they came away with an impression that much of the available funding was being lost in administration, and that the programmes, many with strict conditions on participation, would only have a limited impact on the plight of young people in Wales.
7. Gwyneth met with members of the Ceredigion Council Economic Regeneration team. Although Tir Coed's application to Axis 3 of Rural Development Funds had not been successful, there may still be opportunities to become involved under a different Axis – relating to community participation. Proposals are currently being considered by WAG and we await the outcomes.
8. Becky attended the Woodlands for Learning Forum meeting in February. This was an opportunity to find out more about the Forum, feed ideas into their plans and to network with other organisations in the woodland education field. Tir Coed is planning to attend these quarterly meeting on a regular basis.

9. John attended the Coed Lleol steering group meeting on behalf of Tir Coed. Coed Lleol's Scoping study into the need for woodland apprenticeships has now been presented back to the Forestry Commission; it should be finally published imminently. Both FCW and CCW, as well as numerous woodland-related organisations, are represented on the steering group, it is therefore a useful way of keeping up to date with general developments in the field.

10. Agored Cymru (Open College Network):

- a) Becky attended an OCN unit writing workshop in Ammanford. The workshop was informative and an information pack was handed out which will be useful for all staff.
- b) Angie has gained her OCN Internal Verifier Status (AIVS); this means that she will be able to sign off OCN 'Recommendations for Award of Credit' without the need for External Verifier approval.
- c) Workbooks have been designed for the following OCN units:
"Introduction to Coppicing" &
"Woodcraft – Work & Finish a Simple Design in Wood".
The workbook for "Teamwork Skills" has been edited.
- d) Tir Coed has expressed an interest in pursuing the possibilities of partnership arrangements with smaller centres by offering to be an approved 'Parent Centre' & taking on the administration & quality processes for their OCN delivery.
- e) Tir Coed has recently undertaken their Agored Cymru External Verification and Annual Quality Review. The feedback from both reviews on the quality of Tir Coed's implementation of Agored Cymru (OCN) accreditation has been very positive.

11. Confirmation of successful funding applications to the following has been received:

Tudor Trust (2010 – 2013),
Forestry Commission Wales (2010 – 2013),
GwirVol Youth Volunteering (2010-11),
Millennium Volunteers Programme (2010-11).

In addition, Tir Coed has successfully tendered for the Communities and Nature, European Regional Development Fund programme (2010 – 2013), as well as the Engagement Gateway European Social Fund programme (2010 – 2012).

Tir Coed is still awaiting final confirmation of funding from CCW for 2010-11, although we are assured that this is in the pipeline.

All the above ensures that the legacy of the WICKED Project can continue and lessons learnt applied to the delivery of the Branching Out/Egin Project, Tir Coed's new personal and vocational skills development programme for disengaged young people, who are not in employment, education or training, living in rural areas of Wales.

Watch this space!

2. Activities in the twelfth quarter listed under each WICKED project initiative: (Including achievement against targets and feedback)

a) The ACORN Initiative

(Respite activities for Young Carers)

The funding from Comic Relief for young carers activities has now come to an end. Due to this lack of funding, there have not been many Acorn activities during this reporting period.

However, with separate funding from the Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust, Tir Coed ran an Acorn Exchange residential at the Staylittle Centre in Powys. Thirty young carers, aged 12 years and over, from Ceredigion and Powys, came together to share new experiences, while enjoying a break from their caring roles.

Unfortunately, due to insufficient staff resources, the Carmarthenshire young carers group were unable to join us.

The young carers were offered two main activities:

Abseiling down the face of an old quarry near Clywedog Lake;



and making a carved bench for the Staylittle Centre.

The bench making was led by Patrick Harrison and Colin Titley. The adjoining Staylittle Village Hall was hired and converted into a workshop with a number of shave horses and opportunities for sawing and carving wood.



While many preferred to work on the preparation of the wood, others helped to prepare the ground for and assemble the bench.

The bench is located next to the Centre's Archery and Assault courses and will be well used by visitors while observing or waiting their turn for these activities.



It is sited in a spectacular spot, on the highest point of the Centre's grounds, and commands panoramic views across the Clywedog valley.



Despite having very little sleep overnight! the young carers managed to complete the task and have left a very robust and artistic legacy for the Staylittle Outdoor Centre for all future visitors to enjoy.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item	Yes	Collaboratively made bench & component parts (pegs, legs, carved seat); some made mallets
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	Yes	100% 2-Day Residential
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants can name at least one tree species.	N/A	
Participants know that woodlands support wildlife – can name at least one type of fauna.	N/A	
Participants can name a type of wood they have worked with.	Yes – 63%	17% left answer blank 20% made a joke out of answer
Participants learnt something new about the environment.	No	87% answered No 13% answered Yes
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity.	Yes – 60%	27% =No 13% = In-between or undecided
Young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again.	Yes – 80%	1 left answer blank

Likes:

“I liked working with others and learning new things.”

“I liked meeting new friends & staying up all night”

Dislikes:

“Getting muddy”

“No (mobile) signal”

“I didn’t like coming down the mountain”

In what way do you feel better about yourself?

“Prouder”

“Because I’ve done something different”

“More confident in myself”

Feedback from Support Workers:

“A lot of the young carers have very complex issues & trips like this give them a space to let off steam, talk & be heard, meet others & have their self esteem boosted by focussed positive attention.” Michelle Brydie, Powys

“Thank-you again for providing fun filled education & respite to our Young Carers. It is very much appreciated.” Gerri Maher, Ceredigion



Feedback from Tutors:

“Real increase of confidence and change in perception of own skills – showed real satisfaction and pride in work.” Patrick Harrison

“Young carers were a lovely group to work with, with some fun characters, an enjoyable project.” Colin Titley

A second Acorn Exchange Residential for young carers, aged under 12 years, is currently being planned for August, 2010. Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust funding will be used to cover the cost of this activity.

Outcomes:

Although Tir Coed has not secured further funding to work with young carers specifically, one member of the Ceredigion staff and two members of the Powys staff have taken part in Tir Coed's Support Staff Training and gained 2 OCN units. These will help them to continue with outdoor-based activities with their respective young carers groups over the long term.

All young carers groups have built links with local woodlands and local Tutors that can be developed in the future.

Older young carers, who are unable to work due to their caring role, can become involved with the new Branching Out/Egin Project.

b) The WORKING YOUR WOODS initiative

(for 16 – 19 year olds not in education, employment or training)

Powys:

The main Working Your Woods programme in Powys took place in October, 2009 and has been reported on in a previous report.

Three of the trainees have continued their involvement with Tir Coed by attending the weekly Volunteer Mentor project running in the Newtown area.

One trainee is currently working with a builder, while another is working at the McDonald's restaurant.

Ceredigion:



A short 3 day project was taken on by Prince's Trust Cymru, Ceredigion Team 7, as a follow on from last autumn's Working Your Woods project in Ceredigion which saw the construction of a Woodland Theatre for Coedwig Gymunedol Long Wood Community Woodland.

Based in Aberystwyth, the Prince's Trust Team's main project was to be working on a beach hut, wildlife hide build using recycled materials. The Team of 15 decided that it was important to learn a variety of woodworking techniques and skills in preparation for this. Their challenge over 3 days was to create some terracing for the seating at the open air theatre site and construct 2 benches

using traditional woodworking skills.

The Prince's Trust Team Leader, Simon Griffiths (a seconded Police Officer) was also participating in Tir Coed's Support Worker Training. This project enabled him to fulfil the assessed sessions needed for completion of his two Level 2 OCN units; Planning & Delivery of an Outdoor Programme & Practical Skills in Outdoor Areas. Simon was in overall charge of managing the project site and participants and was supported by Tony Eames who provided the woodworking expertise.



The Team were incredibly motivated, enthusiastic, full of energy and keen to take on the challenge of all that faced them. A positive work ethic was evident from the start and with minimal encouragement they developed a wide range of practical skills, achieved all the tasks set and worked admirably as a team.

Accreditation was not appropriate with this group as the project time was too short.



Outcomes:

Throughout the WICKED project positive links have been developed with Prince's Trust Cymru and it is hoped that there will be more opportunities for partnership working in the future.

As a result of Tir Coed training staff from Prince's Trust will now be able to support groups in similar woodland activities in future.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item.	Yes	All contributed towards finished benches.
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	Yes 67%	67% had 100% attendance
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants can identify the type of wood that they have been working with.	Yes	Only 6 feedback forms completed
Participants can identify something new they have learnt about the woodland environment.	Yes	Information relating specifically to trees, their uses & the changing environment.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the project.	Yes	100% of the completed feedback forms.
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again.	Yes	100% positive response 33% definite Yes 67% Maybe
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	N/A	3 day course only
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	60% positive outcomes by end of programme. 20%= Employed or seeking employment 40% = Further Education or training

Likes: - *“Working as a Team & using the draw knife to strip the wood.”*
“It was all good – I didn’t really think we was going to do what we did.”

Dislikes: - *“Wet & cold weather.”*
“Going home.”

In what way do you feel better about yourself?

“I’ve achieved goals and helped build on projects with a brilliant team and gave back to the community.”

Have you achieved more than you expected to?

“I didn’t think I would find it very exciting, but actually I really enjoyed it and looked forward to going every morning!”

Feedback from Support Worker:

“The confidence and commitment of all the students increased as their experience with the tools and the site increased. General behaviour was good but waned when a repetitive task was undertaken.” Simon Griffiths, Team Leader

Feedback from Tutor:

“These were one of the best groups I have worked with in some time. From the first day on site all they wanted to do was get on with the tasks and jobs for the day. It was evident that anyone trying to take an easy time was sorted out by the group and soon had them re-employed on another task. Excellent!” Tony Eames, Tutor



Pembrokeshire:

The main Working your Woods programme in Pembrokeshire took place over June, and a second programme took place in August, both of these programmes have been reported on in previous quarterly reports.

Volunteer Mentor Programme

This programme offers added personal/emotional support to young people, many of whom have taken part in Tir Coed initiatives, who are interested in learning more woodland-related skills. The programme is delivered through individual woodland management and skills Volunteer Projects, consisting of up to 4 young people under the guidance of a mentor who works with them on a weekly basis. Volunteers aged 16 – 24 years can sign up to Tir Coed's Millennium Volunteers (MV) Programme, which enables them to access funding towards volunteer transport, food and equipment costs, as well as the cost of training related to their volunteering activity.

Powys:

The young people have continued to carry out improvements at forest school sites in the area. Lately they have concentrated their work mainly at Bolbro Woods, near Abermule. Unfortunately, attendance was very sporadic over the bitterly cold months of January and February and interest from the former Working Your Woods trainees who have joined the volunteer project seems to have dwindled.

However, 3 young people from the Powys Youth Offending Service have come on board recently and are responding very well to the activities.

Unfortunately, only the new trainees were present on the day that Gwyneth visited, it has therefore not been possible to gather the young people's evaluation for the whole term.



Outcomes:

Despite the fact that WICKED project funding has come to an end, the YOS Officer is very keen for his young people to be able to continue with the sessions and has applied for funding to the Diversionary Activities Fund. If this application is successful, sessions will restart in June.

Tir Coed hopes that, if the Engagement Gateway Powys tender is successful, this group can be involved as part of the contract.

Ceredigion: Coed Tamsin



The volunteers have continued to grow in confidence and are still committed to learning new skills and developing their knowledge of woodland management processes and related woodland skills & crafts. They have been given opportunities to experience a wide range of activities and this is thanks to Bob Shaw; who is passionate about passing on as many skills as possible in the hope that one day the young people will be able to take on, develop and keep alive the skills of woodland management & crafts for future generations (in case he



ever gets round to retiring!).

New skills have included bark peeling in preparation for weaving into seat pads for their rustic chairs, producing charcoal and more advanced tool sharpening.



Recently another young person temporarily joined the group to share some of his own blacksmithing experience with the volunteers. They helped him to construct a traditional pole lathe whilst he taught them skills which enabled them to make their own tools from scrap metal; this proved to be a very productive and beneficial collaboration.

Volunteers have now successfully completed the following OCN units:

- 'Introduction to Estate Maintenance & Countryside Skills' - Level 1
- 'Coppice Products' - Level 2 and
- 'Woodcraft – Work & Finish a Simple Design in Wood' - Level 2

It has been a privilege to observe how these youngsters have slowly changed in behaviour, attitude, stature and skill; they have matured into conscientious, responsible, strong, talented young men who now have a real focus in life.

Outcomes:

Even though the WICKED funding finished at the end of April the group plans to continue to meet regularly; such is their enthusiasm and drive.

The youngest participant has shown great concern over the ending of the programme. He is desperate to continue in this line of work but is a little worried about the next step. He has been accepted onto a 'Skill Build' programme starting in July but is unsure whether he will be allowed to continue on a placement with Bob. Great efforts are being made to try to secure this as soon as possible. He will soon be 16 and so may be able to join one of the new Engagement Gateway funded projects and sign up as a Millennium Volunteer; he could then backdate 50 hours from this volunteering programme to receive a Millennium Volunteers award.

Since the last report one volunteer has received his 200 hour certificate from Millennium Volunteers. However, his commitment and dedication have now taken him far beyond this and he has totalled more than 800 hours as a volunteer.

Tir Coed recently offered him the chance to attend a Chainsaw training course (CS30/CS31) which he completed in style, showing great awareness and skill. The external assessor was so impressed that he recommended he apply for an advanced course. An impressive achievement for a 16 year old!

Angie nominated him for the Young Achiever category in the (IWA) Inspire Wales Awards and has recently been informed that he is one of 3 finalists in this section. He will be interviewed by the judging panel in Cardiff but must wait until the final Awards Ceremony in mid June for the results.

Tir Coed is extremely proud and congratulates him for all he has achieved so far. We wish him every success and hope that he may continue to be involved in some way with projects in the future.



TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 2 volunteers who completed parts 1 to 3 of their Personal Statement of Learning	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	No 50%	8 → 10 10 → 10 Already confident
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in working in a group.	Yes	8 → 10 7 → 10
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	Yes	5 → 10 7 → 10
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	Yes	7 → 10 0 → 10
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt more about.	No 50%	One didn't complete this section.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	Both feel they are definitely healthier, more confident, motivated & reliable.
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes 100%	Each completed 3 units (2 @ level 2; 1 @ level 1)

At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	100% attendance
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for having a clear idea of what they want to do in the future.	No 50%	8 → 10 10 → 10 Already had clear idea.

Have you achieved more than you expected to so far?

“Getting better at making stuff”

“Quality of stuff made amazes me”

Best part of course?

“All of it!”

“Felling”

Worst part of course?

“Nothing”

“Working with kids”

Mentor Feedback:

Trainee 1 *“Is maturing quickly – He has learned many skills and is keen to practice them. He is becoming familiar with seasonal activities i.e. Winter: felling/coppicing, Spring: pruning, Summer/Autumn: craft activities. A two year apprenticeship would consolidate these skills and give him more independence & understanding, leading to a career in woodland management, countryside management and social inclusion activities.”*

Trainee 2 *“Is a ‘Natural’ green wood worker, capable of many aspects of the craft, confident and clear of his direction. I would suggest he attends courses on: chair making, timber framing, copy lathe work, tree surgery, timber conversion & saw milling, forest machinery etc.”*

Bob Shaw

Longwood:

A new Volunteer Mentor project, led by Tony Eames, began in Longwood, Lampeter, with 4 young people.

The group have undertaken a variety of woodland management tasks, including coppicing and snedding, as well as charcoal burning, making mallets and rustic benches.

Two of the volunteers have already achieved their 50 hour Millennium Volunteer awards.

One young person has only attended one session, but the other three have proved very enthusiastic. They have been working towards two Level 1 OCN units

- Sustainable Woodland Management 2 – Introduction to Woodland Management and
- Sustainable Woodland Management 3 – Introduction to Wood Processing

One participant has achieved 1 unit, and the others have achieved both units, despite all three being dyslexic.



Outcomes:

This project has proved successful, with 3 participants benefitting significantly. However, in the context of the WICKED pilot funding coming to an end, and with one participant recently breaking his ankle and another with other commitments, the project folded at the end of April. The remaining young man has been offered the chance to transfer to the Coed Tamsin Volunteer Project until the end of May. It is hoped that the Longwood project may be resurrected as part of the new Branching Out/Egin project.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 2 volunteers who completed parts 1 - 2 of their Personal Statement of Learning	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 2 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	Yes	8 → 9 3 → 5
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 2 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	Yes	8 → 9 3 → 7
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 2 of their PSL for confidence in working in a group.	No	9 → 9 5 → 7
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 2 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	No	7 → 7 2 → 5
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt more about.	No	50%
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes	75%
At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	75% of participants had 80% attendance
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 2 of their PSL for having a clear idea of what they want to do in the future.	No	4 → 5 7 → 7

In what way do you feel better about yourself as a result of taking part in the programme?

“Given me something structured to do.”

Have you achieved more than you expected to so far?

"I've got muscles!"

"I didn't expect to be able to make a mallet or a bench."

Mentor Feedback:

"All have gained an increased level of knowledge of working in a woodland. ... All participants have improved confidence levels, with one out of four standing out from the rest of the group with his understanding of woodland management and commitment to green wood working." Tony Eames.

Pembrokeshire:

The Pembrokeshire VM project, led by Dave Hoyle, ran until the end of March with 4 volunteers, (a new participant joined in January as another had dropped out). The group have been busy undertaking woodland management tasks, such as tree felling and making improvements to the woodland shelter. Three of the volunteers have undertaken a chainsaw course. One participant completed a LANTRA Award in Basic Chainsaw Training, the other two participants undertook three days of a five day NPTC training course, in Chainsaw Maintenance, Crosscutting & Felling small trees. However, on the fourth day, both participants injured themselves resulting in one broken thumb and one sprained wrist. Accident report forms have been received for both individuals and the last 2 days of the course and the assessment was rescheduled. Unfortunately, one individual moved to live in England and was unable to complete the course; the other passed the CS30 – crosscutting award and is seeking further experience before completing CS31.



Two of the volunteers have achieved their 200 hour Millennium Volunteer awards, and one has received his 100 hour award.

Two OCN units at Level 1 have been undertaken during this period:

- Contribute to Work on Ancillary Structures to Access Routes – 3 achieved this unit and
- Sustainable Woodland Management 3 – Introduction to Wood Processing – which 2 volunteers achieved.

Outcomes:

The volunteer project at Nant-y-Cwm woods is continuing independently of Tir Coed on an ad-hoc basis, with two of the volunteers attending and with Dave Hoyle volunteering his own time to lead the sessions.

Further funding is being sought by the Community Group to continue the volunteer project.

- Volunteer A - will also be using the skills gained on the Volunteer Mentor project to help out at Sir Thomas Picton School with the weekly Forest School sessions.
- Volunteer B - did find temporary work with a local tourist theme park, but unfortunately he only lasted for a few weeks.
- Volunteer C - moved to England to find work,
- Volunteer D - is beginning an informal apprenticeship with a local carpenter whilst he develops a gardening and landscaping business. Having completed his chainsaw qualification with Tir Coed he also hopes to find forestry work.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 3 volunteers who completed parts 1 to 3 of their Personal Statement of Learning	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	Yes	7 → 8 7 → 10 8 → 10
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	Yes	6 → 9 8 → 9 9 → 10
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of PSL for confidence working in a group.	Yes	6 → 8 6 → 9 9 → 10
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	Yes	4 → 5 7 → 8 7 → 9
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt more about.	Yes	66%
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes 75%	
At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	75% of participants had 88% attendance
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for having a clear idea of what they want to do in the future.	Yes 66%	1 → 4 2 → 5 10 → 10

In what way do you feel better about yourself as a result of taking part in the programme?

“Gives me a sense of purpose to my life at the moment, helps me to get up in the morning.”

“While I’m here, I enjoy learning and being with the rest of the group.”

Have you achieved more than you expected to so far?

“The chainsaw course – I picked up the felling well.”

“Feeling comfortable around groups of people.”

Mentor Feedback:

“The level of commitment has been overwhelming and unexpected by the students throughout the duration of the project. The woodland is regularly visited by Princes Trust groups which the Volunteer Mentor Project volunteers have and still continue to help facilitate. An excellent example and role models have been shown for other visiting groups to see the standard of work done.” – Dave Hoyle.

c) **The Tree Wise initiative**

(For young people, 14 – 16 years who are, or are in danger of being, excluded from school)

Ceredigion:

Coed Tamsin

Two new participants have joined the group over the spring term and, on the whole, have settled down well. At the moment there is a total of 5 young people within the group as 1 participant, referred to in the last quarterly report as not engaging, has now left the project.

The group are in the final stages of completing their workbooks for two Level 1 OCN units

- Introduction to Coppicing and
- Introduction to Estate Maintenance.



When Gwyneth visited they had just completed work on a post and wire fence and had moved onto constructing steps on a footpath in the woods.

Feedback and evaluation has been carried out with the 3 participants who have been involved with the sessions over the long term. The average attendance rate of all 5 participants has been 92%.

Outcomes:

The project will continue with the support of Ceredigion Education Inclusion department. It is hoped that this support will be sustained over the long term; however, this will depend on the LEA's overall budget demands in the future.



TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 3 volunteers who completed parts 1 to 3 of their Personal Statement of Learning	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	Yes	8 → 10 7 → 10 5 → 10
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	Yes 66%	5 → 10 7 → 6 2 → 10

Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in working in a group.	Yes	8 → 10 5 → 9 7 → 10
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	Yes	7 → 10 6 → 9 2 → 5
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt more about.	Yes	66%
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes	100%
At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	92% average attendance rate.
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for having a clear idea of what they want to do in the future.	Yes 100%	8 → 10 7 → 10 7 → 10

Best part of the course – *“Coming here and learning stuff”*
“Bob, trees, the environment, learning things”
“Making stuff”

Worst part of the course – *“Nothing”*
“When fights happen I want to stop them”
“Putting up a fence”

Feedback from the Tutor:

Trainee 1 – *“He’s very keen – he wants to stay on and work after the others have gone. Beginning to understand grades of timber & coppice wood. He excelled at furniture making.”*

Trainee 2 – *“He is very keen and focused; he loves working on ditches. Designed his own chair with mortise and tenon joints. Works hard and has a good nature.”*

Trainee 3 – *“I enjoy working with him – he’s keen as long as you work with him. He’s proud of what he achieves, he just needs a lot of attention.”*

“Many young people gain confidence, pride in their ability, new found maturity, ability to see their faults and begin to rectify them. Care & respect for others and the wider environment. Desire to learn more – many are interested in an apprenticeship scheme.”

Bob Shaw, Tutor

Coed Pen yr Allt: Woodland and Countryside Management

Thursday group – (Year 11)

There have been 6 young men who have attended throughout this year; all have continued to develop their own skills at a rate which suits their learning styles. The growing maturity of the group is evident and a real bond has been created amongst the participants producing a supportive, considerate & productive environment with a relaxed, jovial atmosphere. This tight knit working unit is very much down to the dynamic duo; Benjamin Grey and Ruth Spencer who bring energy, encouragement, support, structure and tremendous practical skills to form a great tutoring team.

The emphasis has always been on working hard as well as playing hard and this has brought out the best in each individual – where they clearly understand the boundaries and show respect for the tutors, whilst knowing what tasks need completing.

All participants have successfully achieved a Level 1 OCN in ‘Hedgelaying’ this term.

Outcomes:

Three of the six participants are keen to continue with this line of work and have asked about apprenticeships.

One is to join his father as a carpenter having been inspired by working with wood.

One is using the skills he has developed to work with his father on the family farm – particularly traditional hedgelaying and gate making.

The final member of the group, after some incredible achievements, has unfortunately slipped back into a rather challenging lifestyle and has no clear route forward.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item.	Yes	100% made hedging stakes and tool handles.
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	Yes	83% achieved over 89% 50% achieved 100%.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental knowledge:		
Participants can identify the type of wood that they have been working with.	Yes 100%	Individuals’ also developing knowledge related to varying properties of wood.
Participants can describe something new they have learnt about the environment.	Yes 100%	Only 3 feedback forms collected.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity.	Yes	100%
Young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again.	Yes	100%.
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes 100%	OCN Level One Unit in ‘Hedgelaying’
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes 100% increased transferrable skills & more positive attitude in general.	50% of group interested in woodland apprenticeships. 33% using skills to progress into work.

Do you think you have achieved more than you expected to?

“Yes I have made things and stuck through it till completed and made them good”

“Working with others”

“ I enjoy coming and I love taking things home that I have made”

Best part of the course – *“I liked making things I could never have made before without the help of Ben”*

“Cutting down trees”

“Making something that I can take home; I liked working with other people.”

Worst part of the course – *“Nothing”*

“I liked all of it except the paperwork”

“Early mornings”

Feedback from the Tutor:

“This group has improved vastly in their skill base and work very well together, they benefit in already having worked for a year in each other’s company. Their behaviour, although loud and brash, is usually very respectful and maturing well and I am very encouraged with two of the group who are also asking if they can attend an apprenticeship at the end of the course.”

Specific details of one individual who particularly benefitted from involvement in the project:

“Trainee X has been with us since last September, he is the son of a farmer/blacksmith and so is used to a certain level of hard work.

He started the course with not much confidence in his own ability and yet some months on seems to have turned this around and now is blossoming into a strong, able and skilled young man. He, of all his group, understands and practises the most amount of skill, strength and stamina and practically is the sort of worker that I would have no problem in employing.

X has asked if there is any chance of continuing at the end of the course and so becomes another pupil who seeks an apprenticeship.”

Wednesday group – (Year 10)

This group has continued to be very successful despite being labelled as the most challenging individuals. They have settled quickly into the routines and boundaries of woodland working and have been enthusiastically learning a variety of new skills. They show great respect towards all tutors and clearly admire and respond to the character and friendship of Benjamin Grey.

The focus has been on developing individual practical skills as well as discovering more about the role they play within a team. The group has worked on various handmade products using greenwood including traditional tent pegs, basic rustic furniture and birch besoms. They have learnt about cleaving, axe work and basic timber joints.

Other activities have included felling small trees, cleaving them to size for creating footpath retainers, manually extracting timber using winches and timber tongs and preparing fire wood using pull saws & splitting mauls.

A specialist training day was organised with Stewart Whitehead, a woodland artisan who demonstrated besom broom and hay rake making. The participants then had chance to make their own versions with expert tuition. This has been an exciting and productive time which has given participants a good skill base from which to build next year.

Outcomes:

This group will be ongoing; most will be returning in September as Year 11 students. Three new members will be joining, taking the total to 7 participants.

Two of the group are very keen and talented and very much interested in progressing to some kind of apprenticeship in future.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item.	Yes	100% made tent pegs, besom brooms and basic rustic furniture.
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	No 60%	All had 100% for half term 40% had 100% for full term.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental knowledge:		
Participants can identify the type of wood that they have been working with.	Yes 100%	Only 3 feedback forms completed.
Participants can describe something new they have learnt about the environment.	Yes	67% of feedback forms recorded positive facts.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity.	Yes	100%.
At least 60% of young people intend to pursue similar healthy activities again.	Yes	100%.
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Not applicable at this time.	100% working towards completion of Level 1 'Identification of British Trees in Winter by Bark & Bud'
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development.	100% have increased range of transferrable skills & more positive attitude generally.	40% interested in apprenticeships in woodland

Do you think you have achieved more than you expected to?

"Learned more about trees and listened to people more"

Best part of the course – *"Making spoons"*
"Firewood splitting"
"Cooking with Jade"

Worst part of the course – *"Nothing" x2*
"Making a spoon"

Feedback from the Tutor:

"The general behaviour of the group seemed to improve through the weeks in as much as their tolerance of each other and attitude towards the tasks. There is one pupil showing clear signs of wanting to continue in this area of work."

Specific details of one individual who particularly benefitted from involvement in the project:

“Trainee Y has progressed through the course showing a flair for the subject and has continued to show enthusiasm and dedication without fault. He came to me with very little direction and feels that he has found something that, given the right circumstances, could lead to a career in the wood industry. If we can secure a way to continue his training by way of an apprenticeship I feel that he would make an able woodsman.”

Carmarthenshire:

Pwll KS3 Teaching & Learning Centre - Mynydd Mawr

A total of 14 young people participated in the activities at Mynydd Mawr; they visited in three separate groups to keep numbers manageable. Project leaders assessed who they thought would cope best with the rigours of accreditation and tried to keep these in one group as far as possible.

The Level 1 OCN unit ‘Estate Maintenance and Countryside Skills’ has been the main focus, with activities organised and supported by Dewi Wagstaff the Country Park Ranger; his continued support has been invaluable to this group and very much appreciated by the Project Leaders. The busy schedule included undergrowth & drainage ditch clearance, pathway restoration, tree planting & pruning, hedge trimming & planting, small tree felling, fence construction and wildlife habitat management, constructing bird boxes & litter bins.



A total of 6 students were initially registered for OCN units – but an extra 2 were added at a later stage when they showed flair for completing the tasks. Four individuals will achieve this Level 1 unit which is equivalent to GCSE grades D-G.

The centre also offered some groups the chance to participate in a Willow Workshop with Jo Steadman. Two sessions were offered for the Key Stage 3 students and one was offered to KS4. These were very successful and gave opportunities for individuals to coppice willow before weaving the rods into fence panels. Although the youngsters worked together on these at first they soon became so engrossed and competitive that they wanted to complete one each. The young people enjoyed themselves immensely and were very proud of what they achieved – showing off their handiwork before taking their panel’s home.



Outcomes:

Attendance rates have been amazing considering the type of students & the difficulties they have with participation generally. This woodland project has given some students increased focus in other subject areas.

Many positive experiences have been gained by staff and students. Lessons have been learned regarding timetabling and group size in relation to the management of behaviour and activities.

Staff feel more comfortable with the whole process of accreditation but will need support from senior management with regard to time allocation in order to keep on top of the paperwork elements if this is to develop further.

The centre is keen to continue with OCN delivery if possible; meetings have been arranged to investigate the possibilities of working in partnership with Tir Coed in future.

Staff have developed skills & been trained to continue woodland activities; Dewi Wagstaff will continue to offer support as ranger & oversee any work on site at Mynedd Mawr.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:		
Participants produce at least one hand-crafted item.	Yes	Bird boxes, bins, fences, willow hurdles
70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate.	No 57%	57% above 83% attendance; 36% above 92% & 7% had 100%
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental knowledge		
Participants can identify the type of wood that they have been working with.	Yes 100%	Only 3 feedback forms received.
Participants can describe something new they have learnt about the environment.	Yes 100%	Clear understanding of woodland management processes.
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
At least 60% of young people feel happier than when they began the Project activity.	Yes 100%	Experiencing/ learning new skills highlighted by all as key.
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation	No 50%	Only 57% selected to register for Level 1 OCN 50% achieved unit
At least 60% of participants showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	Positive attendance rates will help towards developing positive attitude to other aspects of education & career. All interested in participating in similar activities in future.

Do you think you have achieved more than you expected to?

“Because I thought I wouldn’t be able to do it”

“Never would be able to make stuff with willow otherwise”

“I enjoyed joining in by making the fence we worked together and finished it”

Best part of the course –

“Splitting chunks of wood in half”

“Building unusual stuff; making a fence”

“I liked everything but the best was the weaving because I didn’t think I could do it and in the end I made a stable fence out of wood”

Worst part of the course –

“Clearing plants”

“Litter picking because I think people should put their own rubbish in the bin – it’s not fair on other people to pick up someone else’s rubbish”

“Hard work”

Feedback from the Tutor:

“Excellent and committed support staff who knew the participants really well which helped with knowing how to engage them in the activity. I feel that the participants got a lot out of the sessions, both in a skills sense and in communicating working together sense. They produced some lovely fences. It would benefit them to work on something longer term putting their new skills to use.” Jo Steadman, Tutor for Willow sessions

“Throughout the sessions I noticed a lot more confidence in the student’s working individually and as part of a team when certain jobs needed teamwork. The use of all tools is becoming a lot easier to the students plus I’ve drilled into them about the use of safety gloves and it was nice to see them stopping or telling others to put gloves on at all times. There were no problems really, as long as you’ve got the right mix of student’s at these sessions everything runs smoothly.” Tony James, Tutor

Specific details of one individual who particularly benefitted from involvement in the project:

“Trainee A – was quite a shy boy before these sessions at Mynedd Mawr, but since attending and mixing with students and adults, working with both and as a team, has vastly improved his confidence – so much so while on Jo’s Willow sessions he was leading with the demonstration to other students when he’s normally so quiet. He communicates much better now and isn’t scared to express his own opinion. It’s been a well worthwhile experience for ‘A’ – to go on and achieve much, I hope.”

Pembrokeshire:

Pembroke School

Led by Youth Worker, Anthony Harris and Melody Abbott, the Pembroke School Tree Wise project, based at Tenby Youth Centre and Kilgetty have been undertaking the OCN unit ‘Core Skills and Techniques for Craft’ at level Entry 3. 5 of the 6 young people in the group have completed the unit. The unit accredits the work that the young people have been undertaking with the support of Jo Steadman, developing their willow work and creating a living willow sculpture of a Welsh Cob. The sculpture was amazing, not only looking like a horse, but actually Welsh Cob! This is a great achievement for these young people with learning difficulties and is a reflection of their enthusiasm and commitment to the project. A short article about the groups’ achievements was written and published in the local press.



Outcomes:

With the support of Pembrokeshire Youth Service, the Pembroke School Tree Wise project will continue for the rest of the current academic year. The project is planned to continue into the future but based at Pembroke school woods, as Anthony, who is based in Tenby Youth Centre, changes his job remit after the summer break.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 3 volunteers who completed parts 1 to 3 of their Personal Statement of Learning	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	Yes 75%	5 → 10 5 → 6 8 → 10 7 → 6
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	Yes	7 → 9 7 → 9 8 → 9 8 → 8
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in working in a group.	No 50%	6 → 10 5 → 7 10 → 10 5 → 5
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	No 50%	10 → 8 6 → 10 10 → 10 5 → 10
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt more about.	Yes	75%
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes 100%	OCN unit and John Muir Award.
At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	No 62%	83% of participants had a 72% attendance rate.
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for having a clear idea of what they want to do in the future.	No 50%	10 → 6 4 → 1 2 → 4 2 → 10

Give details of any environmental issues that you have learnt more about

“How willow grows and how to cut it”

“Where animal habitats are.”

In what way do you feel better about yourself as a result of taking part in the programme?

“I work with a group and can say what’s on my mind. I get listened to.”

“New experience.”

Have you achieved more than you expected to so far?

“I didn’t think that I would ever weave and use tools so well.”

Leader feedback:

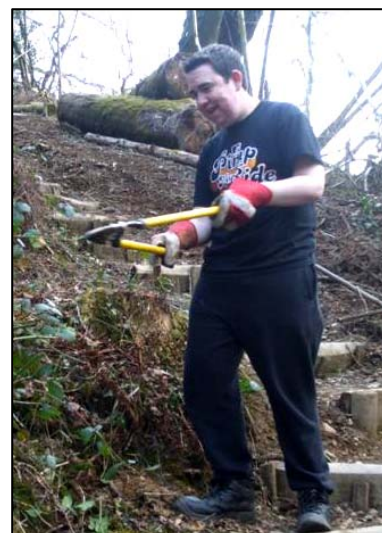
“The group have better communication with each other and staff as well as a better basic knowledge of tools and their uses. The group now look forward to being outdoors ... and are not complaining to have to work in wet or damp weather. Complete change of attitude from start of project. The school teacher or leader of the class we work with has asked can the project continue into September term and onwards. ... This is in recognition of the benefit the WICKED project has had on their class.” Anthony Harris, Project Leader.

Sir Thomas Picton School

This Branching Out pilot, with 6 young people in all, led by Learning Coach Margaret Ridgeway and Tir Coed Tutor Dave Hoyle have had a successful term. 5 young people have achieved 2 of the 3, QCF approved, NOCN units, at level 2:

- Use & Maintain Woodworking Tools
- Identifying Types of Timber used for Construction

All of the QCF approved units trialled as part of this pilot proved very onerous, involving a great deal of paperwork to evidence and achieve the assessment criteria. This meant that far more time than planned was spent in a classroom situation, and to some extent the woodland-based essence of the programme was lost. As the group were unable to complete the final unit, this means that they were not able to achieve a NOCN Level Two Progression Award, but the Learners will still have the 6 credits from the 2 units that they did complete. As a result of this pilot, Tir Coed has decided to abandon pursuing QCF approved OCN qualifications, until qualifications are developed which are more suited to delivery in an outdoor situation.



This term activities have included a visit to the Small World Theatre in Cardigan to gain insight into the sustainable building product used in the construction of the theatre, as well as a visit to a local National Trust woodland and community woodland to see examples of woodland management techniques.

Although the participants have enjoyed the site visits in particular, there has again been some disruption caused by the school requesting that certain pupils are taken out of the programme for periods to attend other lessons.

Outcomes:

Tir Coed's support for this project ended at the end of March. Fortunately the project will continue, supported by Margaret Ridgeway, who has managed to access European funding, via Green Links, to continue the project to the end of the academic year, and for the next three years. A Tutor from Green Links will be leading the project. A link with the Forestry Commission has also proved fruitful, the Education Ranger, Owen Thurgate will be helping Margaret to run weekly Forest School sessions in the woodland garden with year 7 pupils. It is hoped that the year 7 pupils participating will feed into the Tree Wise group in later years.

TARGET	TARGET ACHIEVED	COMMENTS
At least 60% of young people show improvement in self-confidence and self-esteem:	Results taken from 2 participants who completed parts 1 to 3 of their Personal Statement of Learning.	
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence using practical skills to make something from wood.	Yes	3 → 6 7 → 9

Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in communicating with others.	No	8 → 8 10 → 10 Already confident
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for confidence in working in a group.	No 50%	6 → 9 10 → 10 Already confident
At least 60% of young people show improvement in environmental awareness:		
Participants give themselves an increased score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowledge of environmental issues.	Yes	5 → 9 5 → 8
Participants can detail an environmental issue that they have learnt about.	No 50%	
At least 60% of young people show improvement in health and well-being:		
Young people felt better about themselves after taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Young people have been more physically active as a result of taking part in the programme.	Yes	100%
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities for young people:		
At least 60% of participants receiving accreditation.	Yes	83 achieved OCN accreditation.
At least 70% of activity participants have at least a 70% attendance rate, showing a positive attitude towards career development.	Yes	80% have 73% attendance rate.
At least 60% of participants give themselves a higher score between part 1 & 3 of their PSL for knowing what they want to do in the future.	Yes	5 → 8 9 → 10

What was the best part of the course? –

“Being outside – I feel like myself more.”

What was the worse part of the course? –

“The fact that the base was still at the school.”

Have you achieved more than you expected to so far?

“Physical work, as I have health problems.”

Leader feedback:

“KC has particularly benefited from the Woodland Project at STP. ...KC lacked confidence in himself and his ability to achieve. It was evident from the start that he responded very well at having his tutor Dave as a role model, giving him the opportunity to work alongside side ... has given KC responsibility that he has not had before. ... It was evident that with each new task achieved his self esteem bloomed. ... KC is now ready to step out as a confident young man and make the decisions for himself on his further education and career.”

“The most positive outcome of the project is the recognition of the benefits of educating young people outside the classroom. There is also a positive approach in the Secondary School sector to the benefits that can be had by pupils achieving practical/vocational skills and this has been successfully demonstrated at STP thanks to the Woodland Project.”

Margaret Ridgeway

d) - Support Worker Training

Of the original 8 participants on this course 7 have completed their 2 assessed sessions. The sessions were the final part of the Tir Coed, 'Delivering Woodland Activities' course, led by Jo Steadman. Jo has been very conscientious in her role as Tutor and Assessor, which has led to a very high standard of performance from the participants. The OCN workbooks have still to be submitted, but contact with the tutor has suggested that all 7 have achieved 2 x Level 2 OCN units:

- Planning & Delivery of an Outdoor Programme
- Practical Skills in Outdoor Areas

Tir Coed is planning to deliver this course to youth and support workers again as part of the Branching Out /Egin project. An evaluation meeting with Jo Steadman has been arranged to adapt the course and workbooks, as necessary, based on feedback from this first course.



Outcomes:

All of the participants are youth workers who are already delivering, or who are planning to deliver woodland-based sessions to young people after the course, therefore sustaining the benefits of the WICKED project for young people over the long term.

WICKED

Summary of achievements against WICKED Pilot Project Targets:

OUTPUTS:

Target over 3 years:	Achievement over 3 years:	Comments:
600 young people involved in the Project	555 young people involved in the Project Of which 219 young people accessed 2 or more activities/projects.	Although this resulted in the WICKED Project not reaching the target total number of participants, those young people who have had a sustained involvement with the Project have greatly benefited – as is demonstrated by the high percentage of positive outcomes as listed in table below. Many of the same young carers returned to WICKED activities on a regular basis. (195 young carers accessed more than 1 activity) Young people from Tree Wise projects who wanted to further develop their vocational skills went on to take part in the Working Your Woods initiative or Volunteer Mentor programmes. (24 young people accessed multiple projects; 19 YP:- 2 projects; 3 YP:- 3 projects; 2 YP:- 4 projects)
40 Support Workers trained	41 Support Workers & Youth Workers trained	Exceeded 3 year target
12 sets of Working Your Woods sessions	15 sets of sessions	Exceeded 3 year target
36 Acorn activities for Young Carers	94 Acorn activities	More than doubled 3 year target
4 Tree Wise projects set up	12 Tree Wise projects set up	Three times the 3 year target
Additional Outputs	4 Volunteer projects set up	Responding to a demand from young people to further develop their vocational skills.

OUTCOMES:

Target over 3 years:	Achievement over 3 years:
Improvement of self-confidence & self-esteem amongst 60% of participants	87% of participants showed improvement in self-confidence & self-esteem
Raised environmental awareness amongst 60% of participants	90% of participants reported greater environmental awareness
Improvement in health & well-being amongst 60% of participants	82% of participants reported improvement in health & well-being
Increased skills leading to improved employment opportunities through: 60% of participants gaining accreditation 60% of participants with positive attitude to career development 25% of participants progressing to further training or employment	(Not applicable to the Acorn Initiative). 71.5% of participants gained accreditation 77% of participants showed positive attitude to career development 48% of participants progressed to further training or employment.