

Public Guidance Note – L.I.F.E Local Intervention Fire Education

1. Introduction.

The Local Intervention Fire Education project is known by its shorthand title “LIFE” and offers young people aged 12-18 years the opportunity to work with Firefighters over a period of 5 days following a set of programmed activities. The project is delivered by the Fire Service to address fire safety and anti-social behaviour issues in relation to young people and the communities they live in.

This Guidance has been prepared with the objective of establishing a common basic standard for referring a young person to the LIFE project.

The guidance is relevant for persons who are considering referring a young person to the project.

2.The LIFE Course

The aim of the project is to highlight the consequences of anti-social behaviour and provide an intensive work experience course within a structured uniformed team. This aims to instil discipline, team spirit, fire safety awareness, life skills and values which will improve the life chances of the young people we work with.

Each course is intended to address the problems of young people, particularly those who have, are at risk of offending, have been victims of crime or who may suffer from low self esteem. The course will also address the causes of anti-social behaviour and to prevent young people from becoming persistent offenders.

The course is specifically designed to change the attitude and behaviour of the young people by getting them to:

- Adopt a new set of values
- Address the consequences of anti-social behaviour
- Work co-operatively with others
- See the advantage of improving their own learning and performance
- Gain self esteem and self confidence
- Improve communication skills
- Achieve self empowerment.

A young person will be expected to attend for the full 5 days of the course between the hours of 0845 – 1530. Breakfast will be available for those arriving between 0800-0845. It is the responsibility of the referring party to arrange transport to and from the venue.

3.0 Making a referral to the LIFE Project

A referral to the project can be made by any individual or agency. A referral process document and forms have been produced and are available using the following methods:

Post:

WM Prevention
Brigade Headquarters
Thurston Road
Northallerton
DL6 2ND

TEL 01609 780150

Email: ian.hankin@northyorksfire.gov.uk

Website: www.northyorksfire.gov.uk

Referral documents are to be completed and returned to the WM Prevention. Any information the agency feels may be important for the WM Prevention to be aware of should be passed on at this point.

All information held on referral forms or disclosed to the WM Prevention will remain confidential and is not passed to other LIFE Trainers except at the discretion of the WM Prevention where it is felt beneficial to either the young person or LIFE Trainers.

Once a young person has been accepted on to a LIFE course parent/carer consent forms will be issued to the referring agency. These completed forms must be returned to the WM Prevention prior to the start of the course. Any young person arriving for the start of a course without these consent forms will be unable to participate.

An emergency contact person will be nominated by the referring agency/party to be available during the 5 days should a young person need to leave the course due to illness/behaviour etc.

It is the responsibility of each referring agency to transport the young people to a course if required.