Evaluation Case Study

Jumps


BACKGROUND

Joined-Up Music for People in Somerset (JUMPS) was an ‘Invest to Save’ project funded mainly through the DCMS. It aimed to evaluate and encourage the collaboration of music based practices in a range of different settings in Somerset, and to explore and understand more fully the benefits of working collaboratively. This evaluation focused on Phase 2 of the project which aimed to establish a strategic base within the County and become a primary source for brokerage services for music for young people in Somerset.

PROJECT AIMS/OBJECTIVES

Aim: To focus on developing the infrastructure of music provision in Somerset, and improving accessibility of music opportunity information to the general community.

Objectives:
• To broker relationships between providers
• To empower the partners to coordinate their planning strategies
• To research and deliver pooled and joint initiatives and services such as marketing, advocacy, and information
• To undertake formative and summative evaluations of the project
• To ensure national dissemination of the results of the work.

ENGAGEMENT OUTPUTS

• Performances
• Web site
• Networking
• Creation of a hub

EVALUATION APPROACH

• Impact evaluation: the Impact Evaluation Framework was used which compared the project results to what would have been the case in the absence of the project. The project logic chain was defined as “what would have happened in the absence of JUMPS?”.
• Process evaluation: was a commentary and analysis of any successes and challenges JUMPS Phase 2 had had in pursuing its objectives. A bespoke version of the Atkinson Partnership evolved into a process evaluation framework to underpin the data collection and questionnaire design.
• Strategic added value (SAV): addressed the more structural and potentially lasting benefits of the programme for stakeholders, delivery partners and strategic interests.

SAV FUNCTION

Strategic leadership/catalyst
Strategic Influence
Synergy
Engagement

Outputs (outcomes) measurement

Raising confidence in the use of JUMPS to take music in Somerset forward
Regional partners
Somerset music organisation partners using and adopting knowledge/ lessons from JUMPS to restructure or scale up services
Interventions and innovation

EVALUATION TECHNIQUES USED

• Face to face interviews with JUMPS management team, spokespeople of 2 Action Projects, County Council Music and Policy Advisor
• Telephone interviews with 40% of the JUMPS partners
• Observations of JUMPS management team
• Focus group small group of young people who had been involved in one of the projects
• Web site analytics

THE EVALUATOR’S KEY FINDINGS

• Networking had produced projects which would affect the Cultural Olympiad nationally.
• Work in schools was affecting the direction of the music curriculum in the pilot school, and potentially spear headed a way of working across the County.
• Work with Somerset Music Hub had given opportunity to position music for young people within the overall framework of Somerset Music for all.
• There were question marks regarding the willingness of all Somerset Music Organisations to engage with JUMPS, and/or interest in taking advantage of support that JUMPS offered in development of collective projects.