

FINAL EVALUATION REPORT

Project Name: THE TURN PROJECT

Project Number: SATS 38

Start Date:
5.4.07

Finish Date:
14.12.07

The logo for Somerset Rural Renaissance is a green square with white text. The text is arranged in three lines: "Somerset" on the top line, "Rural" on the middle line, and "Renaissance" on the bottom line. The font is a serif typeface.

Introduction and Scope

1. This Final Evaluation Report requires **Wincanton Community Venture** to provide a report on the success or otherwise of **The Turn Project** in achieving its stated aims and objectives. It moves beyond the scope of the Quarterly Progress Reports already completed for each claim, by reviewing the wider impact of the project. Please refer to the guidance notes

Project Aims and Objectives

2. Please provide a brief narrative summary of the project's success or otherwise in achieving its broad aims and objectives as given in your original application and your M&E plans as appropriate. Describe how you achieved them, and if you didn't achieve some of them please explain why.

The project has been a total success. The building has been realigned so that it is now accessed directly from the car park. The new storey has provided the increased space needed especially with the creation of a significantly larger meeting/activity room. Due to the very modern and inviting nature of the new building, many more people are accessing the centre and only three and a half months after completion new user groups are established and evening and weekend use has doubled. By attracting an almost completely new community of users, in addition to our existing, i.e. families with young children (by virtue of opening the Children's Centre) the building has now become the vibrant, well used facility we envisaged, delivering a broad range of healthy living activities in South East Somerset.

Project Outputs

3. The agreed Outputs for **The Turn Project** are set out below. Please report on the progress the project has made in achieving these Outputs, including, if relevant, detail of how the project overcame unforeseen difficulties in relation to delivering on the Output targets. Where possible outline the tools you used to measure them

4. Outputs Summary Table.

Output Type	Target total All years	Total achieved to date (31 March 08)	Future years (08-09)
2	8	8	0
6	10	91	25
6a	10	0	5
11b	1	1	0
12	3	3	0
13	900		6,000

5. Report on Outputs Progress:

Outputs have generally met or exceeded their targets with the exception of known outputs for 6a. This has been largely due to the length of the courses and the difficulty of establishing the final outcomes from examining bodies.

Usage of the new facilities and services has been very good and is steadily increasing.

Project Outcomes

6. The agreed Outcomes for **The Turn Project** are set out below. Please report on the progress the project has made in achieving these Outcomes, including, if relevant, detail of how the project overcame unforeseen difficulties in relation to delivering these Outcomes:

7. Outcomes.

Outcomes Summary Table:	
Outcome	Progress on Achievement
Increased use of building including new groups and projects	Only 3 months since completion we have already met some of our targets and are working towards others. The community art project will start in April, the café is well used as a meeting space, and ideas are being drawn up for a holistic food project which could be developed as a social enterprise.
No of Centre users increased	Since the completion of the build, centre use has increased noticeably and the target of 900 new users will easily be met.

New small business	A bespoke children's party service has been set up to make use of the facilities and equipment at the Centre. The first parties were held in January and were very successful.
Seminars	Two area community development seminars have been held.

Wider Impact

8. Please comment on the wider impact of the project across the region/area. Please also report on any evidence that you may not already have used.

9. Commentary on the Project's Wider Impact:

In the last few months new (and old) visitors to the Balsam Centre have been impressed and inspired to see the way that the Centre has developed over the last year. The range of services, activities and opportunities has continued to broaden out across education, health and social delivery. We even managed to gain approval from the chair of the Board of Somerset Primary Care Trust. In short, although the Centre has previously enjoyed a good reputation as a Healthy Living Centre, the additional facilities and resulting services have enabled to turn the corner to become a model of multi agency working, based on the principles of prevention and the social model of health. We have received visits from numerous groups and individuals wishing to find out more about our structure and working practices. I know that this great leap forward would not have occurred with Rural Renaissance funding. More importantly of course, the new facilities have made the Centre properly accessible and welcoming for the first time in its current incarnation and this has meant a steady stream of people benefiting from anything from developing cooking skills to use of the new Broadband facility or learning Alexander technique.

Ongoing Sustainability

10. Where relevant, please report on the ongoing sustainability of the facility/service delivered by this project. Where project completion also represents the termination of a service delivered by the project funding, this section is not applicable.

11. Review of Ongoing Sustainability.

A large part of the desire to increase capacity at the Centre was to enable the project to achieve greater sustainability. The increase in capacity will allow more rented space and sessional hirings, which are the primary routes for income generation. The development of the building however also sends a good message to our beneficiaries and our partners that there is a commitment to continue and to improve our services and this helps to reinforce the image of the Centre and promote increased use – a virtuous circle. The County Council has made a 25 year commitment to the Children's Centre and the Primary Care Trust is starting to realise the potential of working more closely with the Balsam Project in terms of meeting

its more difficult targets. Despite its more modern image, it has been possible to maintain the essence of the Centre – the feeling of positive energy in a safe environment. This is something quite tangible, especially for people visiting for the first time. This is part of the reason that tenants, hirers, groups, beneficiaries and partners want to be here and is a key element of sustainability.

Publicity

12. Please report on any key publicity undertaken. You should make specific reference to any SWRDA/Somerset Rural Renaissance inclusion in any publicity. Please include copies of any publicity materials or indicate if already provided.

13. Report on Publicity Undertaken.

Publicity has been relatively low key. The build has been a long haul and with completion so close to Christmas it was decided that a big launch would be planned for May 16 2008 to celebrate the completion of the capital project overall and the official opening of the Wincanton Children's Centre.

The Project Experience

14. Please report on the project experience overall. Please indicate what you would do differently in future and in addition include anything else you think will help to show how you spent Rural Renaissance funding eg letters of support from beneficiaries, businesses or users, other reports etc. You should consider including lessons learned that could be disseminated to other Organisations delivering related projects or those using a similar delivery model. Please also include suggestions as to how relationships between your organisation and the beneficiaries of the project and also your organisation and Somerset Rural Renaissance could be improved/revisted. This will help inform our thinking on future funding programmes.

15. Review of Project Experience.

Good ! But the reporting deadlines are unrealistically short (even ESF gives you a month!) and the amount of detail required very difficult to produce. Lots of support from the officers.

Thank You !

--

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information contained in this claim and supporting document/s is true and accurate.

Signed		Date	28.3.08
--------	--	------	---------

Name in Block Capitals	SUSAN PLACE
Position in Organisation	PROJECT MANAGER
Organisation Name	WINCANTON COMMUNITY VENTURE
Telephone Number	01963 31842
E-mail	sueplace@balsam project.org.uk