

## Youth Work Report

Data Reporting Period: 01/10/23-31/12/23

Our Youth Work Report is a summary of the Youth Work delivered across the wards highlighted below.

Inner East	Inner North East	Outer North East
Burmantofts and Richmond Hill	Chapel Allerton	Alwoodley
Gipton and Harehills	Moortown	Harewood
Killingbeck and Seacroft	Roundhay	Wetherby

The delivery of our Youth Work is underpinned by the **11 priorities highlighted in the Children and Young People's plan 2018-2023**, the **Leeds Vision for Youth Work**, and the shared priorities of the **Safer, Stronger Communities City plan 2021-2024**.

Whilst the 11 priorities are embedded throughout our delivery, for the purpose of the report we will be providing a summary of the Youth Work delivered in line with the most frequently identified priorities, these priorities are highlighted below. The report highlights the top three most frequently identified priorities across the Inner East and provides a summary of how Leeds Youth Service deliver programmes and provision that are underpinned by the six pillars of Leeds Vision for Youth Work whilst ensuring operational delivery supports the Safer, Stronger Communities Plan.

Children and Young Peoples Plan 2018-2023			
Priority	Primary Focus	Secondary Focus	Total
07 - Improve social, emotional and mental health & wellbeing	53	53	106
09 - Support young people to make good choices & minimise risk taking	05	60	65
09c - Reduce crime and anti-social behaviour	05	59	64
Leeds Vision For Youth Work			
Youth Work will be valued and understood	Participation and Empowerment	Collaboration	
Respect and Positivity	Inclusiveness, Equality, and Diversity	Quality, Safety, and Wellbeing	
Safer, Stronger Communities Plan 2021-2024 (Shared Priorities)			
ASB and Public Order	Domestic Violence and Abuse	Hate Crime	
Illicit Drugs and Substance Use	Offending Behaviours	Organised Crime and Street Gangs	
Exploitation and Radicalisation	People with multiple needs (Street Users and Sex Workers)	Violence and Sexual Crime	

**Provision Data 01/10/23-31/12/23**

The below is a breakdown of the associated data with respect to provision delivery and attendance for the period 01/10/23-31/12/23.

**Reporting Period: 01/10/23-31/12/23**

<b>Ward</b>	<b>Number of sessions delivered</b>	<b>Total Number of Attendees</b>	<b>Total Number of distinct Attendees</b>	<b>Total Number of Attendees *Including those who are not registered with the service</b>
<b>Alwoodley</b>	21	191	42	286
<b>Harewood</b>	13	178	30	183
<b>Wetherby</b>	40	611	167	694



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## Provision Summary December 23– February 2024

### Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023 Priority

07 - Improve social, emotional & mental health & wellbeing

Our top priority for delivery in quarter three was to Improve social, emotional & mental health & wellbeing, out of a total of 74 sessions this was the primary focus of 53 sessions, highlighting that this is the key issue impacting upon Young People across the Outer North East. This priority features in a range of different ways, from providing Young People with a safe space at our centre based provisions at Moortown Methodist Church, Lingfield Community Centre, Thorner Community Parish, Deepdale Community Centre, and Barleyfields Community Centre. To ensuring Young People are able to engage in a variety of provisions focused on peer pressure, wellbeing, mental health, and the links between a healthy diet and healthy mind. We were fortunate to receive a donation from Skipton Building City which has enabled our Youth Work team to plan and deliver sessions which are focused on health eating and cooking skills.

Our Youth Work team are regularly provided with the latest resources. To ensure Young People are aware of the latest support and resource available our team have recently introduced Young People to a range of new material from Night Owls and Safe Zone and reminded Young People of the support available from both Kooth and Teen Connect. The festive period is often a very challenging time for the Young People who engage in our provision and it was therefore fantastic to be able to take a group of Young People who attend our provision in Barleyfields on a trip during the Christmas Holidays. The opportunity for Young People to engage with Youth Workers in what would normally be a close down period for the service was invaluable and we are grateful for the funding received by the Wetherby Ward Councillors.

Whilst we deliver a range of targeted and issue based work, we continually recognise the impact of simply providing Young People with the opportunity to have fun with their peers and explore their thoughts and feelings on their terms. This has ranged from ensuring we factored time in provision to make Pancakes for Pancake Day or creating wellbeing tables at our Lingfield Community Centre where Young People are provided with a range of resource such as arts and crafts just help them to take some time out from what has often been a challenging day.

### Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023 Priority

Support Young People to make good choices & minimise risk taking behaviours.

Our core offer to Young People is built upon the foundations of voluntary engagement, this is just one of the many factors that creates environments where Young People are open to discussions and learning, not only developing their current knowledge and understanding but actively challenge current and previous decision making. Our Youth Work Teams are in a privileged position to be able to empower Young People and deliver sessions that really focus on the impact of our choices whilst education Young People on the importance of self-safety.

Recent examples of this would be taking information about the Walksafe application to several sessions across the Outer North East. Many Young People we engage will often frequent the city centre and by having access to the app they have an increased level of knowledge and understanding with respect to safe spaces and places in which they can access support. We have placed a heavy focus on the February Intensification month aligned to Project Shield. Sessions focused on the impact and consequence of knife crime have been delivered across the whole of the area with awareness raising sessions, sessions focused specifically on the dangers of knife crime, session focused on the impact of stress, anger, and peer pressure and sessions focused on the impact of role models and what we should look for within positive role models.

Whilst not featuring it the top three recording priorities, it is important to recognise that **09a - Promote sexual health** and **09b - Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol and tobacco** featured in a combined total of 72 sessions. This reflects that key conversations are taking place every week to enable Young People to be educated, informed and empowered when making essential life choices.



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**Children and Young People's Plan 2018-2023 Priority**

Reduce Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour

**Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour** is integrated throughout our Youth Work practice and weekly provisions. This work can take many forms and is something that we continually adapt in line with communication with Young People, partners, and communities. Youth Work is delivered to empower and prevent whilst also respond as and when identified. The very core of our work with respect to Reducing Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour is about ensuring Young People have the education, understanding, and empowerment to make positive decisions. This work is strongly aligned to the shared priority of addressing **ASB and public order** within the Safer, Stronger Plan. There are several weekly examples of this within our Core Offer via programming of issue based support, guidance, and activity.

Through weekly and bi-weekly centre based provisions across the wedge, there are regular opportunities to divert Young People away from negative behaviours into a safe, supportive environments. We have recently arranged for West Yorkshire Police to come and deliver targeted inputs to a number of our Youth Groups and this will be a great way of sustaining the work delivered during the February intensification month. We are also pleased to be part of the newly reformed Cluster meeting within the Wetherby ward, not only does this serve as great opportunity to link in with partners but also ensure we are engaging those Young People who need our support.



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Leeds Vision For Youth Work		
Youth Work will be valued and understood	Participation and Empowerment	Collaboration
Respect and Positivity	Inclusiveness, Equality, and Diversity	Quality, Safety, and Wellbeing

**1. Youth Voice / Youth Involvement** \*Participation and Empowerment is at the very heart of our delivery. This has taken numerous forms over the past quarter with Young People across our provision been consulted on a range of issues. Young People were recently consulted on the headline title of the branding aligned to the partnership approach to tackling Youth Violence. We consulted with over 600 Young People and it is these Young People who voted for the final title – Project Shield. Leeds Youth Service are currently going through a re-branding process and at the heart of this is our new logo. It was essential that local Young People were integral to this process and with over 500 Young People involved in the consultation we have selected the logo which was chosen by Young People (by a huge 200 votes).



**2. Partnership Work** \*Collaboration is at the heart of our delivery and it has been incredible to be part of the February Intensification month aligned to Project Shield. Our workforce have supported daily sessions at the Royal Armouries and it has been great to then take this knowledge and learning into sessions across local communities.

**3. Inclusiveness, Equality, and Diversity** is a feature of both our ethos and quarterly programme planning. Our team have worked alongside Leeds City Councils Equality Team to integrate the Religious Events and Celebration Calendar alongside our service curriculum calendar. This has seen a number of sessions delivered on World Religion Day and Chinese New Year whilst it was also great to have the Migrant Access Project recently present at our service managers meeting.

**4. Respect and Positivity.** Our Youth Work team are in the privileged position of educating and empowering good numbers of Young People on a weekly basis. At the heart of this sustained positive engagement are our centre based provisions. It is our seven weekly centre based sessions which provide a safe space in which to build the foundation for engagement, education, and empowerment.

**5. Quality, Safety, and Wellbeing** is evidenced within the Children and Young People's priorities that are most frequently featured across our provision. Ensuring Youth Work is delivered by a professionally qualified workforce and the issue based delivery in line with these priorities is further evidence of this. As highlighted 07 - *Improve social, emotional & mental health & wellbeing* is our most frequently addressed priority and this is reflected in a previous part of the report. It is also important to recognise the importance of physical wellbeing and the



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opportunities for Young People to blow off some steam through a range of physical activity. This is reflected in the priority 08 - *Encourage physical activity and healthy eating* featuring 50 times during the reporting period.

**6.Youth Work will be valued and understood.** Recent months have provided yet more examples of the vast value of Youth Work, with high numbers engaging voluntary across our universal offer, from sports sessions, cooking groups, trips and activities (\*Funded by Wetherby Ward Members), capturing Youth Voice, and targeted issued based work – the value to Young People from the local community is immeasurable. Ensuring our service and delivery is promoted across the city is pivotal to the continued development and growth of Youth Work across Leeds.

### Youth Work Challenge – What has not gone well and contributing factors

#### Leeds City Council Budgetary Challenge

We continue to feel the impact of the current budgetary challenges faced by the local authority. Despite this challenge it is important that we recognise the continued and unwavering support from our Senior leadership team and Executive member.

### Youth Work Forward Planning

The below are the key aims for the service in the coming months.

- To continue to focus on key ASB hot spots across the wedge and respond / divert provision as required.
- To continue in the development of Youth Voice, both internally and in partnership with Leeds Youth Voice
- To embed a robust management team across the East North East following numerous challenges over the past year.
- To explore the potential to develop senior youth members and volunteers (in line with revised volunteer programme).
- To continue to focus on the Children & Young people's plan being embedded in the delivery of all Youth Work Sessions and adapt to the 2023-2028 priorities.
- To work with partners to ensure vulnerable young people are protected and engaged in diversionary activities.
- To create opportunities within Youth Provisions for young people to access free food and develop skills around Healthy eating on a budget.
- To ensure the continued promotion of the Outer North East provision via the East North East social media accounts.
- To deliver a range of provisions underpinned by our service curriculum calendar, ensuring keys days, weeks, and months of awareness are integrated throughout our delivery.



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