

**Report of:** Jane Maxwell, East North East Area Leader

**Report to:** Inner North East Community Committee (Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay)

**Report author:** Neil Pentelow

**Date:** 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017

## **Inner North East – YAF Summer Activities 2016/17**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report provides members with feedback and information regarding the Summer Activities that were funded by the Inner North East Community Committee using Youth Activity Funding (YAF) in 2016/17.

The report also provides feedback and information from the Inner North East Youth Summit which took place on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017. The Youth Summit was held in order to consult local young people on what activities they would like to see in the area. This information will be used to inform the spend of the 2017/18 Inner North East Youth Activity Fund allocation.

### **Background**

2. In May 2013 the delivery of the Youth Activity Fund (YAF) for children and young people was delegated to Area Committees (now Community Committees). The task was to promote, commission and evaluate local opportunities for children and young people aged 8-17 years in line with the needs and priorities of the area. “Activity” is defined as play, sports, arts and cultural opportunities.
3. The Inner North East allocation for the 2016/17 Youth Activity Fund was £46,360 which together with an underspend of £8,478 from 2015/16 gave a total of £54,838 to spend in 2016/17 on activities for children and young people. The bulk of this funding (£45,750) was allocated towards projects that delivered activities for young people in the summer school holiday.

## **Recommendations**

4. That members note the contents of the report and make comment where appropriate

## **YAF Funded Summer Activities 2016/17**

5. 13 summer activities were funded by the Inner North East Community Committee in 2016/17 and it is those projects that are the focus of this report. Across the 13 projects, approximately 1,300 places were funded for young people and activities included sports, cycling, dance, arts & crafts, music and drama.
6. Unfortunately one of the funded projects - Lineham Farm's Summer Activities Programme, £5,712 – was not delivered and this only became apparent when monitoring was chased. This meant that a large sum was returned to the YAF funding pot late in the financial year, leaving very little time to allocate to alternative projects. Steps to try and avoid similar situations in the future have been discussed and are covered under the 'Lessons Learned' section of this report (paragraph 14-16).
7. The 12 remaining YAF funded summer activities offered provision across all three Inner North East Wards (Chapel Allerton, Moortown, Roundhay). In addition, whilst the bulk of the activities took place in the four week period between 1<sup>st</sup> August and 26<sup>th</sup> August, there was at least 1 activity in each of the 6 weeks of the school break.
8. A summary of the activities and key information including amount of funding allocated, sessions provided and number of young people that accessed the provision is contained in Appendix 1. More detailed monitoring can be provided for individual projects on request.

## **Peer Inspections**

9. During the summer of 2016 a group of young people were supported by the Communities Team Voice and Influence officers to carry out peer inspections of Youth Activity Fund (YAF) projects across the city. The young people met on a monthly basis and planned the delivery of the inspections. The summer peer inspections included a mystery shopper and future activity questionnaire to aid in future activity needed and gain the views of children attending the activities.
10. Throughout summer 2016 12 young people undertook peer inspections across the city. They were aged 11-17 years and representative of young people across the city. Thirteen days were spent carrying out Peer Inspections, visiting a total of 46 activities across the city, almost double the number of activities inspected in 2015.
11. The peer inspection team experienced the range and diversity of projects taking place across the city. The consultation provided the foundations for a more commissioned approach to the Youth Activity Funding, ensuring we are putting the right activities in the right place at the right time. This process enabled young people to experience the activities they inspected; the benefits to young people and the enthusiasm that the

staff brought. Young people completed their Leeds Youth Award level 1 and level 2 leading the inspections and increasing their learning in the community.

12. Information regarding the peer inspections that took place in the East North East area (Inner East, Inner North East, Outer North East) is contained in Appendix 2 of this report. In terms of Inner North East, 7 activities were inspected with 283 young people taking part, 42 staff and 6 volunteers supporting. One inspection (Streets 2 Society) found no provider or young people at the advertised venue at the advertised time. One other inspection (Sound of the Summer) found no young people present on the day.
13. For the activities in the Inner North East area, 16 children and young people took part in the mystery shopping questionnaires and were able to express how they felt about the activity anonymously. Children's experiences overall were very positive and suggestions for improvement were fed back to the providers.
14. ENE Communities Team Area Officers were informed of visits and invited to attend along with elected members, and were kept up to date of progress or any delivery issues, and providers were signposted to the relevant colleagues for support or changes to their delivery.

### **Lessons Learned**

15. Following a debrief involving officers and Elected Members, it was concluded that the process for considering applications and approving funding for the 2016 summer activities was progressed too late in the year. Some of the successful applications did not receive final approval until late June, only weeks before the schools closed for the summer break. This delay caused pressure in terms of planning for the Inner North East Community Committee, ENE Communities Team and the providers. It was agreed that better planning for the process was required to ensure that this was not repeated for the 2017 funding round.
16. In order to address this concern, the 2017 YAF Summer Activities funding round was opened on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 with a closing date for applications of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Two meetings for the INE Wellbeing Advisory Group to consider applications and make recommendations for YAF funding allocation have been set for 7<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017. Once the recommendations have been finalised they will be put to the Inner North East Community Committee for consultation and approval and all applicants will be informed of the decisions by 14<sup>th</sup> April 2017.
17. This more robust process will enable better planning and promotion of the 2017 summer activities. The ENE Communities Team will now be able to forward plan promotion, photo/press opportunities and inspections, which was a specific request of the INE Wellbeing Advisory Group. Better promotion of activities will increase engagement and inspections will ensure that projects that are not being delivered are identified early in order to ensure that funding can be reallocated.

18. It has also been agreed through discussions with the Wellbeing Advisory Group that successful applicants for 2017/18 Summer Activities will be invited in for a session in which ENE Communities Team officers can make clear the monitoring requirements and conditions of funding. This will mean that any issues can be identified early and support provided, whilst ensuring that providers are fully informed of their responsibilities in terms of monitoring and accountability.

### **Inner North East Youth Summit**

19. The delegated youth activity fund also requires the engagement and participation of children and young people in the decision making and evaluation of the fund. The Inner North East Community Committee approved the funding of a Youth Summit from the Youth Activity Fund to consult local children and young people with the support of local partner organisations.

20. The East North East Communities Team coordinated the inspiring event to engage local partners supporting their children and young people to attend the event. Partners were invited to provide activities in the market place space at the event for young people to see and experience the range of activities available to them in the Inner North East area.

21. The Youth Summit was held at RJC Dance at the Mandela Centre on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017. Approximately 70 young people and 40 adults attended from 14 community partner organisations. Partners included; Girl Guides, Meanwood Amateur Boxing Club, LCC Youth Service, RJC dance, BARCA, Lifeforce Productions, Product of the Environment, Interact, Meanwood Friday Night Youth Project, CYDC, Trishool Dance Academy, LCC Library Service, PHAB and Cycle Leeds.

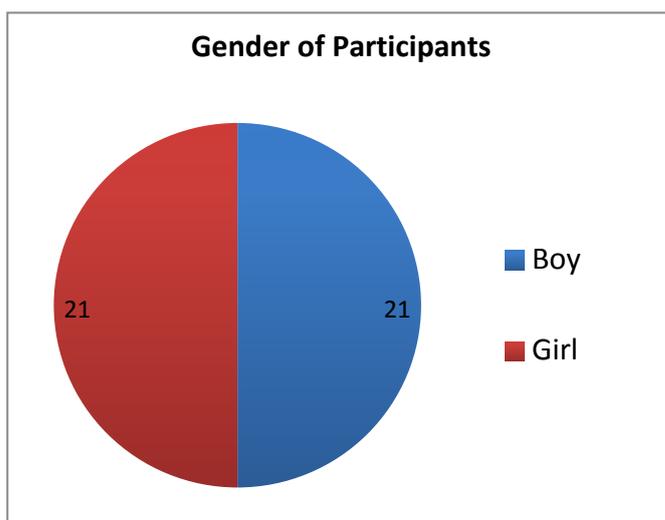
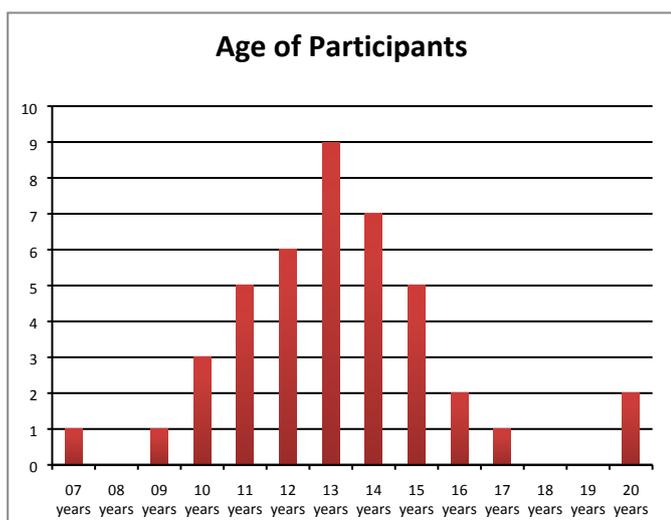
22. The schedule of the event included inspiring young people telling their stories and performances by Cole Lawton (2016 Breeze Has Talent winner), and Bollywood Dancers from Trishool Dance Academy. The young people who attended were entered in a free prize draw and three lucky winners walked away with a reconditioned mountain bike. The bikes were donated by The Works and created excitement with the young people clearly animated at the prospect of winning.

23. The focal point for the event was the consultation exercise carried out in groups with young people, a facilitator and elected members. The exercise included having a budget of £40,000 in monopoly money and a range of real activities with costings available across the city as examples. The young people had to spend their £40,000 and prioritise the activities. This gave an indication of the types of activities young people would like in the Inner North East area.

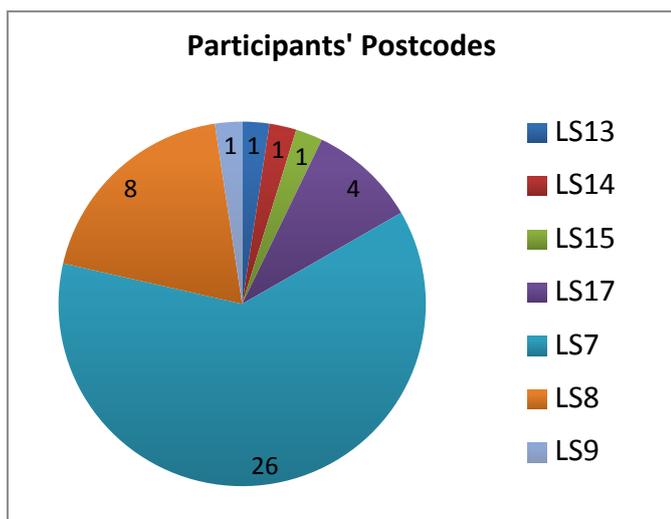
## Findings

24. Young people mapped where they live (red dots) and where they hang out (blue dots). The majority of young people hang out in parks, playing fields, schools and recreation grounds in their community.

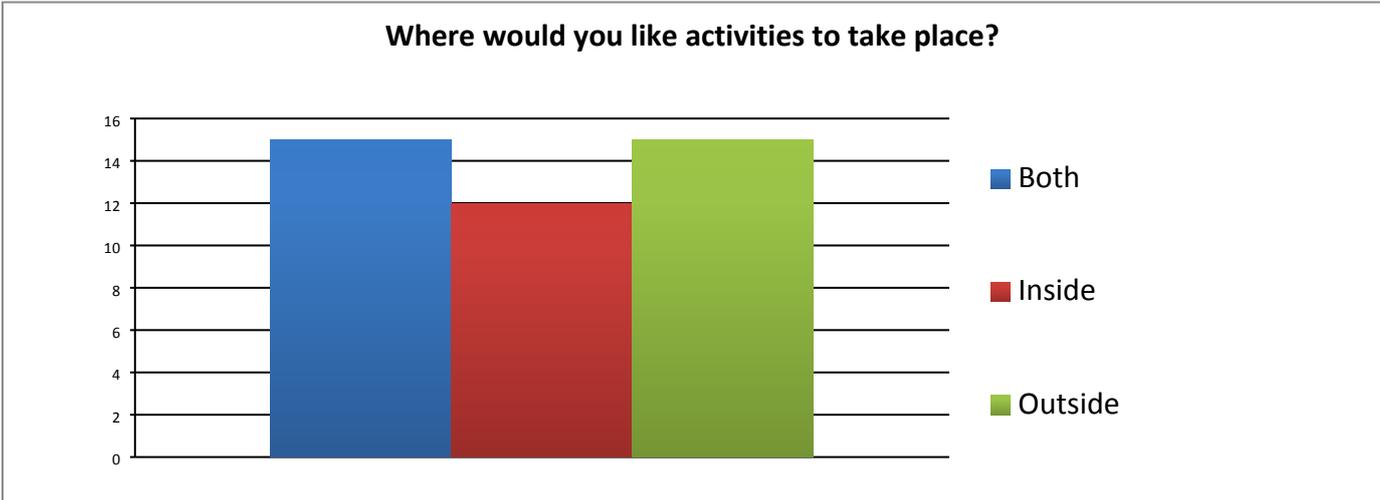
25. Young people were asked to feedback when and where they would like activities to take place and 42 young people completed the feedback forms. The following data was compiled from the feedback:



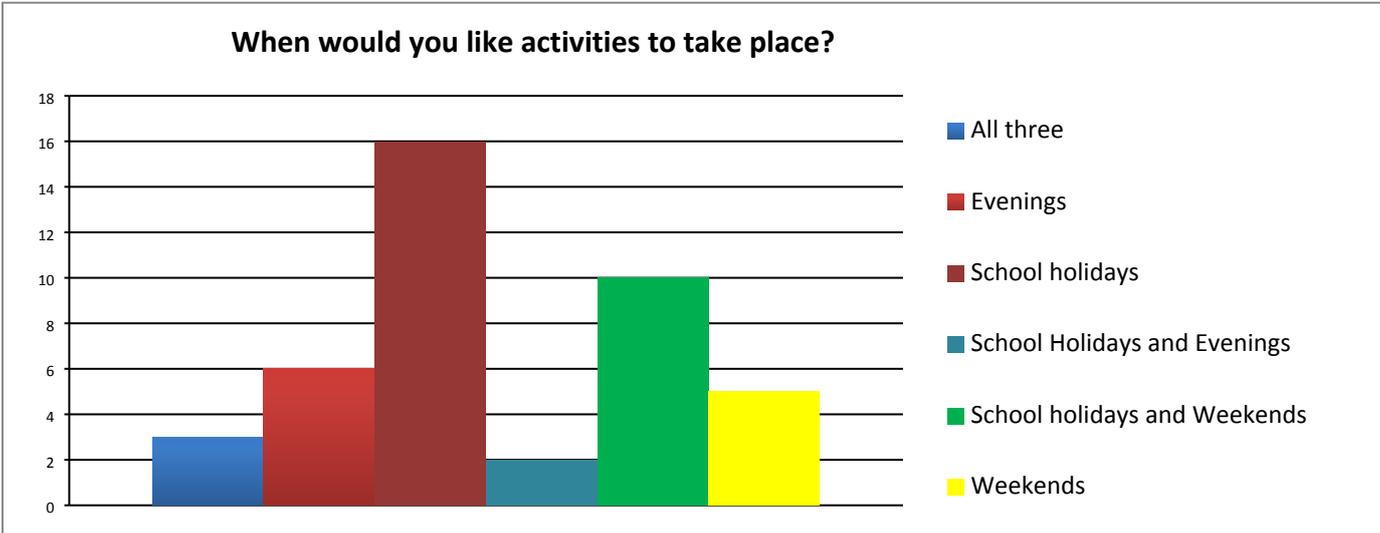
12% of the young people were age 7-10 years, 81% of young people were age 11-16 years old and 7% were age 17-20. 50% boys attended the event and 50% girls.



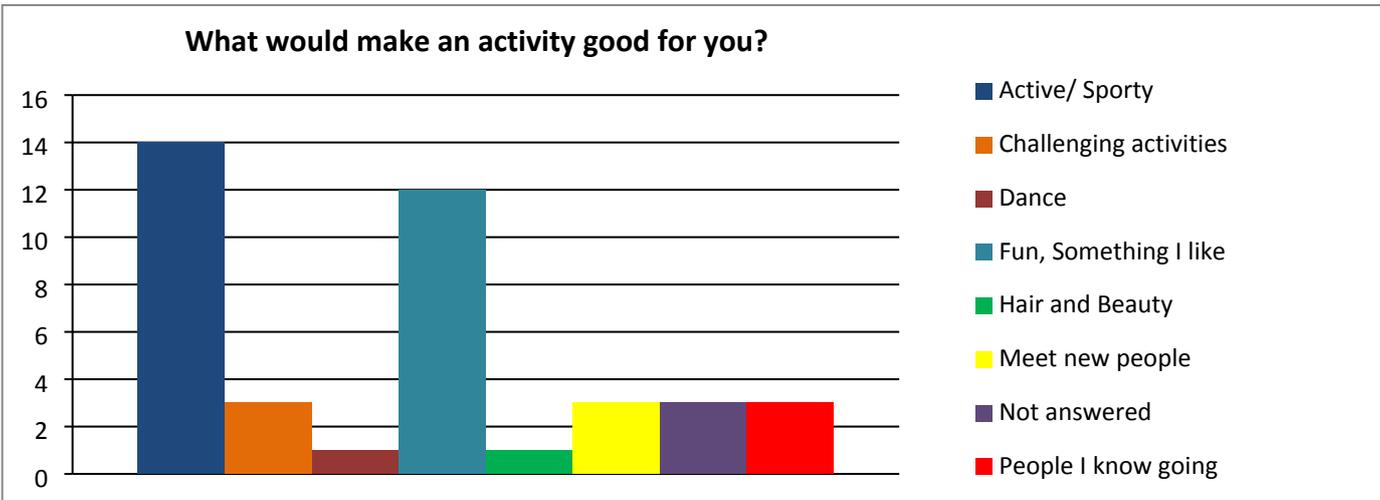
71% would like the activities in their community and 14% would like activities away from where they live and 14% wanting activities both in and away from their community.



36% of young people would like activities outside, 29% would like activities indoors and 36% would like them both indoors and outdoors.



14% would like activities in the evenings, 38% would like them in the school holidays, 12% would like them on a weekend and only 7% would like them on all 3.



The top things that would make an activity good are that they are active/sporty (33%) and fun/something I like (29%).

26. All 68 young people attending took part in the consultation exercise which highlighted the types of activity in order of preference that young people would like to take part in across the area.

## **Conclusions**

27. The results of the consultation suggested a focus on the following youth activity fund priorities for 2017/18

- a. Majority of activity outdoors in local parks and green spaces.
- b. Activities in the local area.
- c. Deliver activities in the school holidays primarily and after school with less activity delivered during the weekend.
- d. Ensure the activities are active and fun for young people.

An emphasis on the top 10 activities which include:

1. Multi Sports
2. Do you Dare (adventurous activities)
3. Making Music
4. Youth Club
5. Play Scheme
6. Let's Get Cooking
7. Dance Workshop
8. Drama Workshop
9. Bike Building
10. Movie Making

28. The top 10 list of activities was used in the 2017 Summer Activities funding round advert that was sent to Inner North East partners and contacts on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017, advertised through the Breeze Culture Network and on the Inner North East Community Committee social media page.

## **Recommendations**

29. That Members note the content of the report and make comment where appropriate.