

Report Title: West North West Youth Service Report 1st July to 30th September 2017

Introduction

1. This short report details the youth work intervention delivered in West North West Leeds between July and September 2017.

2. **Issues - Outer West :**

- Crime/Youth Nuisance/ASB
- CSE – Internet Safety
- Sexual Health Awareness
- Social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing
- Support schools and settings to improve attendance and positive behaviour

Issues - Outer North West:

- Social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing
- Drugs, alcohol & tobacco awareness
- Crime/Youth Nuisance/ASB
- CSE – Internet Safety

Issues – Inner West:

- Crime/Youth Nuisance/ASB
- Community Cohesion
- Young People who are NEET
- Social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing
- Support schools and settings to improve attendance and positive behaviour
- Healthy Lifestyles

Issues – Inner North West (Weetwood) :

- Social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing
- Support schools and settings to improve attendance and positive behaviour.

3. **Intervention/Action Taken -**

Crime/Youth Nuisance/ASB

The WNW Localities Team were pleased to support the Leeds District Police Headquarters Open Day, held on Sunday 10th September 2017. The Police Open Day itself focussed on family fun with children's and family activities including t-shirt designing run by youth workers. The Youth Service engaged with more than a hundred young people and families on the day.

"It was an incredibly busy, but thoroughly enjoyable day for all involved and thankfully the bad weather held off! We have raised over £2,300 for St Gemma's Hospice in the process, which is a fantastic achievement and its success would have been possible without the collective contribution of everyone involved (Chief Superintendent Paul Money, District Commander)



The WNW Localities Youth Service Team again joined forces with police to help deliver a crime prevention roadshow at Pudsey, Owlcotes centre 24th September 2017. This joint working allowed police staff and youth workers to speak to adults and young people about crime prevention in an informal, unthreatening environment.

As part of the New Wortly Core Team Action Plan the Youth Service has continued to work in partnership with New Wortly Community Centre in running an open access youth provision on a Tuesday evening as well as a Girl's Group later in the evening.

A further programme linked to the Core Team Actin Plan is the ongoing Transition Programme. The Youth Service has been working in partnership with Signpost piloting an innovative transition programme working with a large group of young people supporting them with their move to high school.

The Saturday Night Project continues to attract a high number of young people offering positive alternatives to hanging around the streets. We are pleased to offer our continued support by having a youth worker deliver an issue based session as part of the weekly provision.

1:1 Support – This quarter The Youth Service received referrals from agencies including Social Care, MST, Youth Offending Service, Farnley Cluster, Armley Cluster, Aireborough, and Pudsey Cluster.

The WNW Youth Service Team continues to respond to issues highlighted in PWA Tasking Meetings by delivering mobile sessions in areas with reported youth nuisance. These areas include the Hawskworth Wood Estate in Kirkstall, Butterbowl/Bawns area of Farnley, Waterloo area of Pudsey, Guisely Retail Park, Oak Road area of New Wortley, Silk Mill area of Weetwood, and Farsley Farfield Estate. As a result, The Youth Service has been able to engage with some of the most difficult 'hard to reach' young people and update partners highlighting observations and concerns. Both preventative and reactive measures have been taken and youth workers have been able to engage successfully with some of the most vulnerable cases on a 1:1 basis.

As a preventative measure the WNW Team have recently attended multi agency bonfire night planning meetings and have agreed a multi-agency approach whereby we will have street based teams working throughout the bonfire weekend.

The Youth Service has been focusing its efforts on the Hawskworth estate in the Kirkstall Ward working closely with its 'Tasking' partners to identify young people who might need extra support. In August we began delivering an extra mobile session late on a Thursday evening. This has been attracting good numbers from the estate and youth workers are currently in contact with the local church and YMCA in the hope of creating a centre based provision in the area.

On-going challenges are around young people's involvement in anti-social behaviour have been effectively managed through our involvement in area Tasking and partnership opportunities. A particular challenge has been around Guisely Retail Park. Large numbers of young people have reportedly been drinking and putting themselves in vulnerable situations. We currently deliver 2 late evening mobile sessions and are working closely with agencies such as Forward Leeds and the police to help tackle the issue.

Horsforth Seniors and the Friday Café have maintained popularity with high attendance. Due to the high volume attending Horsforth provisions, quality youth work interventions are often difficult and several young people are noticeable isolated from the main groups as not 'fitting in' with the crowd due to image and lower confidence. Moving on from the Girls Group that ran in the last quarter, further work has been done with these to improve relationships as there are two in particular that are isolated from peers. The result of this has been a noticeable improvement in relationships and further engagement and increased attendance.

Support schools and settings to improve attendance and positive behaviour

Targeted Summer Programme



During the summer the Outer West Leeds Youth Service Team worked in partnership with the Farnley and Pudsey Clusters to deliver some targeted summer youth provision. The main objective was to enable some of the most hard to reach and vulnerable young people to access positive activities. The programme helped tackle some of the highlighted priorities of reducing youth nuisance and improving support where there are additional health needs. Activities included canoeing, horse riding, and trips to the Yorkshire Dales including caving at Stump Cross Caverns and Howstean Gorge.

Young people were referred through the Pudsey and Farnley Cluster Support and Guidance meetings and through school safeguarding officers. The project delivered an additional 80 hours of face to face work over a 5 week period during the school summer holidays in 2017. Most of the 30 young people who benefited were at risk of 'poor outcomes' and many achieved week accredited canoeing course certificate. Attendance was excellent with more than 92% places filled over 11 trips.

Feedback from parents was extremely encouraging with most saying that their child had learnt new interests, formed new friendships, and had benefitted from the programme.

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Parent Feedback

"Excellent provision. Can we please be involved in any future youth work activities?" Foster Carer – Farnley Ward.

"Joshua has said that he's really enjoyed his time and made some new friends" Parent - Pudsey Ward

"I think this is a very good service. I can't afford for my children to do much so this has been much appreciated" Parent – Pudsey Ward.

"Abdullah really enjoyed going here, he can't wait for next year" Parent – Pudsey Ward

"It has been great for Ellie to do something different, it really did her the all of good" Parent – Pudsey Ward

"Thank you for giving Shannon the opportunity to try new activities. I would definitely recommend this service" Parent - Farnley Ward.

Young Person's Feedback

"I enjoyed meeting new people and doing fun activities....the staff were kind, caring, and very helpful" Kodi

"I enjoyed meeting new people and I would like to do other activities with the Youth Service"

"I really enjoyed the horse riding session...the Youth Service staff were very friendly"

"It's given me a nice break from my sisters and has given me confidence to be around other people" Kiah

Transition programme Inner West

We were delighted to attend an end of year assembly and present 26 young people with certificates for successfully completing part one of a 16 week transition programme. Part 2 of this pilot project includes offering these young people the chance to meet up and discuss their views, needs, and concerns with their youth workers. A report will be available in November.

The New Wortley Core Group identified transition work as a key priority (15/12/16). Agencies were asked to consider how they can enhance the existing offer to support the transition of pupils into year 7. To provide a more targeted approach – the proposed 'enhanced' transition programme was an opportunity to focus on pupils who could benefit the most from extra support, and to start thinking about their needs earlier.

In August the Outer West Team supported BREEZE in delivering a transition programme at Preisthoke Secondary School and Pudsey Leisure Centre. This 4 day programme worked with those young people considered as needing additional support by the Pudsey Cluster.

Social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing

In September ward Councillors for Weetwood held a meeting with The Youth Service and Cardigan Centre and agreed an exciting new youth project for the area. From October young people aged 11 – 17 will be able to go to a youth café on a Monday evening where they can meet new friends, learn new things, and have a voice in the community.

In June Graeme Tiffany who is Vice-Chair of the Federation for Detached Youth Work ran the Pudsey 10k and managed to raise £500 for our Youth Café at Pudsey Wellbeing Centre. In September young people were invited to an awards evening and delivered a drama presentation based on how the grant was used and what the young people learned/experienced. Graeme was impressed with what the group had achieved and commenting that this was a superb example of what can be achieved when outcomes aren't prescribed and young people are given the freedom to develop their own ideas. We are delighted to report that the Youth Café in Pudsey is now attracting more than 20 young people per week. This is a partnership piece of work between The Youth Service, Love Pudsey Charity and NHS and takes place at Pudsey Health and Wellbeing Centre.

Due to the high volume attending Horsforth provisions, quality youth work interventions are often difficult. Workers have identified a need to work with a group of girls who do not integrate well and this manifests in fractious and bullying behaviour towards others girls. A six week Intervention Project was delivered to the identified group led by our Leeds Beckett University student placement. The group undertook a range of activities to explore their feeling and attitudes with a focus on identifying the strengths in themselves and others. The result of this has been a noticeable improvement in relationships and further engagement and increased attendance.

The after-school mobile information space at Ralph Thorseby has enabled workers to engage with and build relationships with vulnerable young people identified through cluster Guidance and Support.

The Outer North West Team have received a number of self-referrals for mental and emotional wellbeing support which the team have dealt with effectively for young people needing emotional support and positive peer influences.

Drugs, alcohol & tobacco awareness

An ongoing concern and challenge is around young people smoking ,taking drugs and drinking alcohol. We have been able to deliver basic drugs awareness sessions as part of our deliver ensuring young people can make informed choices and have been speaking to Forward Leeds Drugs Service about delivering some joint work to help tackle the issues.

Safeguarding/CSE/Online Safety



The WNW Team have been busy preparing for the the West Yorkshire wide Safeguarding Week 9th – 15th October by running a young person’s jumper design competition. The jumper design competition offers an easy to use structured session that enables youth workers to approach the subject in a confident, non-embarrassing, and effective way so that conversations can flow. The sessions enable young people to openly discuss their own feelings, issues, and concerns around safeguarding in a safe and non-judgemental setting.

Creators for Change: Youtube and UK Youth came to Leeds and delivered a fantastic workshop on internet safety. 50 young people from across the city took part, including 8 from WNW.



Community Cohesion

We continue to run provision in Armley targeting young people from the East European Community. The youth project at Strawberry Lane Community Centre caters for a group of young people predominantly from Slovakia. They participate in a variety of activities including arts, crafts, karaoke and cooking.

The Youth Service continues to deliver a well-attended basketball project in Armley that provides an opportunity for young people at Swallow Hill Community College to try an activity which will help them stay fit and develop new skills. This weekly session is in partnership with and West Yorkshire Police.

We continue to run provision at the Bramley Community Centre, supporting young people with additional needs. The programme includes indoor games, arts and crafts, cooking and issue based programmes. There are now 5 ‘older’ young volunteers who help deliver the session. Weekly attendance has increased to 20 following a promotion push to local schools.

Healthy Lifestyles

During the summer the Youth Service teamed up with Leeds Active to offer the young people in Farnley the opportunity to enjoy a friendly game of football on a Thursday evening. The session attracts a range of young people of different abilities who can enjoy a healthy, positive recreational activity.

The Youth Service has been involved in supporting a football project in partnership with the Leeds United Kicks Programme at the Holy Family Primary School in Armley. The youth work team provide refreshments on the youth bus for players between games but also support the football coaches with managing difficult behaviour when it arises.

As part of the summer programme the Youth Service ran 5 trips to West Leeds Activity Centre. 2 groups from Kirkstall enjoyed a motorbikes session and Waterslide. 2 groups from Armley enjoyed a climbing and bushcraft session. 1 group from Bramley enjoyed a Go – Kart session.

Yeadon Seniors - This group have continued to receive support over the Summer months on lots of different issues in a safe space. The majority of this group left High School last year and have just finished their first year at College / 6th Form and a significant number have struggled with their first year. Workers have helped them to understand their wants and needs and help identify more suitable education and training so that they are successful and their attendance improves. There have been some continued concerns with substance misuse with a noted rise in alcohol use and staff have been working with a few individuals to reduce this. Self-Esteem and healthy relationships has also been a focus particularly with young female members of the group, a confidential safe space has allowed staff to do some small group work around this.

The Youth Service ran a cooking project with looked after children living at Luttrell Crescent. This work was requested by the manager at the home with a view to support young people in transition, confidence, personal safety and other issues identified as well as responding to the needs of the young people. The project provided practical skills, budgeting skills and tips on hygiene. Young people have now competed their Leeds Youth Award accreditation

Guiseley Evening Mobile - Quiet during some weeks over the Summer, but increasing busy from Bank Holiday onwards, this session has worked mainly with young people under the influence of alcohol and cannabis on Friday evenings in Guiseley Retail Park. The majority of the work has been focussed on harm minimisation, community cohesion and personal safety. Many of the young people presented to us have been very drunk and we have had conversations with them about the importance of eating and keeping hydrated, mixing drinks and other substances and getting home safely and looking out for one another.

Young People who are NEET

Working in partnership with the Leeds Pathways Support Team is proving very effective in offering support for those young people who are not in employment or education. Several NEET Sweeps across WNW have taken place this quarter resulting in young people finding college courses and employment.

4. Challenges – Inner West

Ongoing challenge of engaging with ‘hard to reach’ young people whilst delivering street based work. Young people’s reluctance to give details for monitoring purposes.

Challenges – Outer North West

Mobile – on -going maintenance and repairs impacting on service delivery.

Ongoing challenges are around young people’s involvement in anti-social behaviour have been effectively managed through our involvement in area Tasking and partnership opportunities. A particular challenge has been around the Horsforth provisions - the venue is at the heart of the community and young people attending are very visible. There are very high expectations placed on them around behaviour and we work closely with partner agencies to minimise disruption to the local community around noise nuisance.

Case Studies

Case Study: JF (Outer West)

- *Social Care contacted the Youth Service requesting positive activities for JF.*
- *JF’s adopted parents were struggling with his challenging behaviour. He had assaulted his adopted father and was known to the police for causing youth nuisance in neighbourhood.*
- *Youth Service agreed to do a home visit to talk to JF and his adopted mother.*
- *Youth worker managed to pursued JF to sign up to the NSC Summer Programme*
- *JF took part in the NCS Programme over the summer and was assigned a personal coach.*

Outcome

“As you are aware ■ is an adopted young man who displays very high levels of dysregulated behaviour at home, in the community, and in education. He is frequently aggressive towards his family and peers. We have tried to support him from a number of sources – all without a great deal of success and he has been on the edge of care for some time.

In addition to ■ personal issues his mother has recently been diagnosed with significant health issues which will require admission to hospital in the near future.

Over the summer he was enrolled on the National Citizen Scheme with the support of a personal mentor - everyone involved with the family did not anticipate that this would be a success - however, with the support of his mentor it has surpassed all expectations. ■ managed to positively complete two residential courses and attend regularly on the daily sessions - and he has developed a good relationship with his mentor. This has also had a beneficial effect in the home – where he has been less aggressive and threatening to his sibling and parents.”

Richard Hunt , Senior Adoption Social Worker, Children & Families, Children's Social Work Services

Case Study: MP (Outer North West)

CA – a 17 year old young man, approached staff concerned about having an STI. The symptoms he described sounded like he needed immediate health professional advice but he was very worried and anxious about having to go into the City Centre or to a local GP. We sat down and looked at Sexual Health Clinics and helped to reassure him that he would receive confidential treatment and sat with him while he rang and made an appointment and enquiries. He has since received treatment and now regularly attends for contraception services at sessions and to seek support of lifestyle choices.

Case Study: MP (Outer North West)

MP- a 17 year old female struggled with her first year at College and her attendance and behaviour there became an issue as a consequence. Over the summer months we have worked together to identify training that would better suit her interests and ambitions rather than just occupy her time and keep her in EET. Rather than returning to College, an environment she struggles with, she has just started an apprenticeship scheme with a local employer and appears much happier and confident and her substance use appears to have reduced as a consequence.

Case Study: BF (Outer North West)

BF – a 17 year old female whose esteem has lowered as result of an abusive relationship has been very keen to attend sessions and talk to workers over the summer and we have welcomed her engagement to work on many issues she needs support with. It has been important to see her engage with other members of the group and form positive friendships with her peers outside of her previous relationship. She is much more confident in sessions asking for advice when she needs it, identifying things to do during sessions and taking on quite a lead role within the running of sessions. Over the last month, as her confidence has grown we helped her apply for a new College place doing what she wanted to do last year but wasn't confident enough to do so,. We have helped her draw up a CV and interview skills and she is now very excited about securing a part-time job so that she can join in activities with her peers.

Case Study: KC (Outer North West)

KC – A 15 Year old male who's behaviour is a concern. He tries to fit it by clowning around getting wrong attention as a result. Youth workers have supported KC by attempting to get him to understand how others might view him. His poor behaviour has led to managed moves to two schools in the past year. On one occasion KC turned up drunk to a session. Youth Workers were extremely concerned and contacted his parents. His mother later praised our work and in a text message said how thankful she was for all the work that we do with her son and the other young people.