

The vision for Youth Work in Leeds – ‘Making Connections’ Report

Area	Outer South – October to December 2024
Core Offer Team Leader	Glen O’ Malley
Enhanced Offer Delivery Partner	
Date of Report	January 2025

Key narrative regarding the above data (750 Words)

During the October to December 2024 period Leeds Youth Service Core Youth Work Team in the Outer South, area delivered a range of good quality sessions for young people aged 11 to 17 years of age, the sessions included a variety of informal learning opportunities that developed life skills through positive interaction. Sessions were delivered in partnership where possible and focussed on issues relevant to young people.

The key elements of the Leeds Youth Work Vision and the Department for Education & the Communities Housing & Environments priorities.

Overall, the Youth Service Outer South Core Team delivered **125** Youth Work sessions between October to December 2024. Compared to the same quarter in 2023 this was a reduction of **61** Core Youth Work sessions.

Overall engagement levels in the Core Youth Work programmes were **429** known young people and an additional **97** Unknown young people.

The Accumulative attendance in Core Youth Work sessions by young people across the Outer South, area was **2455**.







Individuals from most deprived LSOA areas - **305**

Individuals from least deprived LSOA areas - **122**

Individuals from unknown LSOA areas - **2**

Priorities during this quarter was to ensure that the programme was inclusive and accessible by all, Youth Workers continued to ensure the correct monitoring aspects aligned to young people being a carer, having a disability or from culturally diverse communities was recorded effectively. The level of culturally diverse young people engaging remained the same 64% White British & 36 Cultural mix, the number of Carers engaging was **1** young people and the number of young people with a disability reduced to **2** engaging in Core Youth Work sessions.

<u>Core Youth Work Sessions – April to June 2024</u>	Distinct YP from Ward engaging in Ward.	Distinct YP from anywhere engaging in Ward.	Distinct YP from Ward engaged within provision.	Accumulative attendance in Ward.
Outer South				
ARDSLEY & ROBIN HOOD	81	131	96	439
MORLEY NORTH	29	49	50	134
MORLEY SOUTH	87	122	109	505
ROTHWELL	108	172	117	1377
Total				<u>2455</u>

Leeds Youth Work Vision:		
 Youth work will be valued and understood.	 Participation and Empowerment.	 Collaboration.
 Inclusiveness, equality, and diversity	 Respect and positivity	 Quality, safety, and well-being

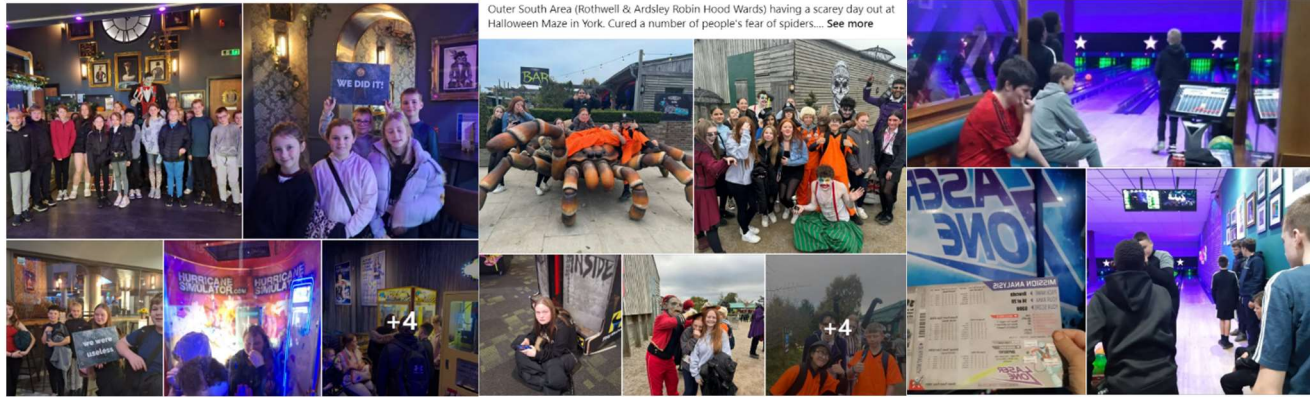
How has Youth Work been delivered in line with Leeds Vision for Youth Work (500 Words)

The Youth Service Outer South Core Team has been working hard to continue offering a wide range of exciting, educational and fun activities to the young people aged primarily 13+ during the October to December period, a range of educational, sporting, diversionary & fun activities have been made available. The Core Team focussed on the six key elements above and below are some of examples:

Youth work will be valued and understood:

October School Holidays - Young people from the Outer South Core Youth Work sessions were able to engage & enjoy a range of diversionary activities during the October holiday period, following consultation with young people a range of educational, fun and physical activities were arranged. The activities included: Scare fest, Bowling & Laser Zone, Hallow-teen, Escapologist at Xscape. Day trips to York & Flamingo Land. The day trip to York included a bus tour of York & York Dungeons. It was great to see young people from different youth settings enjoying out of school activities together.

Mental Health Awareness Day (10th October 2024) – Young people from across the Outer South area Core Youth Work sessions were engaged in a range of educational activities that raised awareness of Mental Health issues, Youth Workers provided support & information that enabled young people to explore options & solutions to the situation they were facing. The focus on mental health, well-being and support has helped young people to recognise, value, and support their own mental well-being as well as the mental health of those around them.

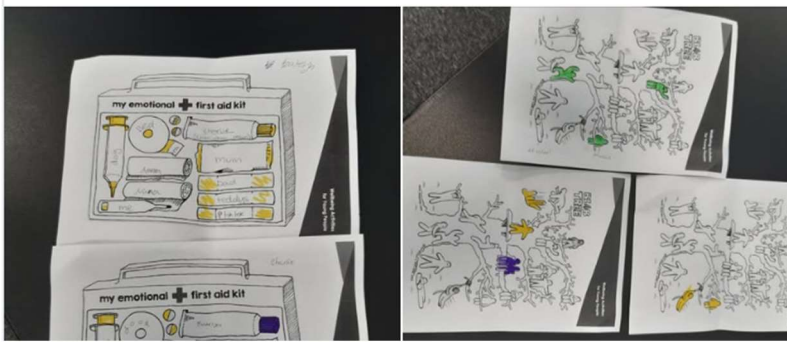


Year 6 Transition Groups – Core Youth Work sessions have again commenced with new cohorts of young people to provide support, encouragement and develop social skills developing the young people’s mental wellbeing. The group focuses on the transition from primary to secondary school, The groups are delivered in Ardsley / Robin Hood, Morley North & Morley South Wards. With the support of local primary schools, the sessions have seen a big uptake.

Alcohol Awareness Sessions - Young people were able to find out more about alcohol use, drinking culture, binge drinking, health issues, social issues and safety through a fun session when they were able to invent interesting drinks and mocktails using a range of fruit juices, low sugar mixers, flavourings and decorations.

Windmill Life Skills Session – Young people from Rothwell Windmill Youth provision have been developing their life & social skills, the group members have been working as a team to build new resources for the club and their cooking skills making healthy food for their peers to enjoy.

Young people in Belle Isle participated in workshops to support Mental Health awareness week. Young people were able to talk about their thoughts and provide ideas aro... See more



Rothwell Windmill Senior youth club members engaging in DIY in setting up the new games unit, having fun and eating healthy.



Healthy Eating & Lifestyles - Core Youth Workers have been working with young people around healthy eating including cooking at home, food handling and hygiene skills, the sessions provided an opportunity for young people to engage in a practical hands-on task, fostering teamwork, communication skills, and independence. Young people enjoyed preparing and sharing meals, demonstrating responsibility while developing life skills and increasing their self-confidence.

Anti-Social Behaviour Awareness Week (18th to 22nd November 2024) – Youth Workers from the Outer South, Youth Work team engaged young people in a range of activities that raised awareness of Anti-Social Behaviour within their local community and the potential consequences if they are proved to be involved. Youth Workers also focussed on hot spot areas during the week to focussing on reducing ASB across the Outer South area. Youth workers have encouraged young people not to use the area to ride bikes and scooters as the area has a confusing outline and the vehicles are dangerous. Young people have also been encouraged to leave the area when they are not using the facilities to reduce the ASB.



Participation and Empowerment:

Serious Violence Consultation – Has been undertaken with young people from the Core Youth Work sessions, the consultation highlighted the lack of understanding around 'hate crime'. Core Youth Workers facilitated sessions to raise young people's awareness of what hate crimes are and the negative impact hate crimes have on individuals and communities. The sessions included ways to reduce and hopefully eradicate any reports of young people engaging in any form of hate crimes. Core Youth Workers also provided websites and helpful contact for young people who were concerned about any aspects hate crime.

Youth Activity Fund Consultation – Young people attending the Core Youth Work sessions were engaged in the Youth Activity Fund consultation to enable local priorities to be identified for future funding, The consultation influences local councillors on what activities for young people should be funded during the 2025/2026 period.

Parks & Open Spaces Consultation - Young people from Core Youth Work sessions engaged in a consultation exercise around staying safe in parks open spaces, Young people were encouraged to reflect on local parks . open spaces and answer a number of questions in groups and on an individual basis. The consultation will enable local planners to take into consideration what young people would like in parks and what makes them feel safe.

Collaboration:

Violence Reduction Partnership Photo Project - Young people from across the Outer South Core Youth Work provisions have been consulted regards safe places in their local community, young people were provided with disposable cameras and asked to photograph the locations, the pictures were developed and during group discussions young people shared what made them feel safe. The city wide project aims to identify where young people feel safe and what kind of resources make young people feel comfortable. The final results will provide an exhibition at a gallery of different locations from across Leeds.

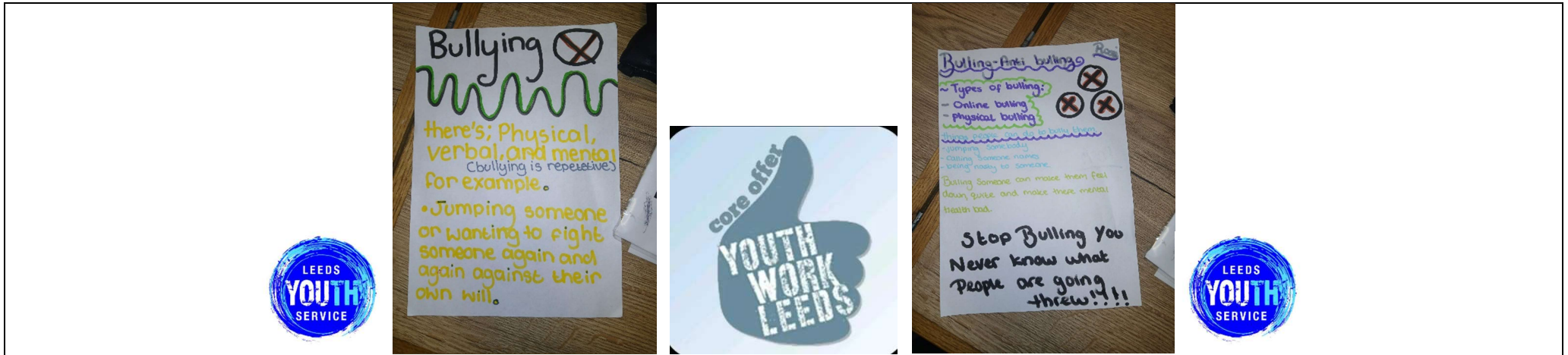
Inclusiveness, equality, and diversity:

Positive Inclusion – Core Youth Workers are working with an increasing number of young people who have diagnosed with additional needs including ASD and ADHD. Youth Workers have been supporting young people to access the local youth groups. Youth Workers have provided a named staff member to young people who have additional needs to support them attending and feeling included.

Senior Members - Youth Workers have been supporting senior members who are identified as young volunteers within the weekly sessions, senior members engage in welcoming, integrating and supporting new attendees, particularly new attendees. Some of the senior members have experienced the care system themselves and Youth Workers feel this allows them a unique insight into how young people may be feeling. Youth workers are proud of the good work they do while undertaking their own personal development journey.

Respect and positivity:

White Ribbon Campaign - provided the opportunity to engage with young people around the impact of violence on women and girls. Young people were encouraged to talk about gender-based violence. The website supporting this campaign had some excellent short videos that Youth Workers were able to use to encourage discussions. Some of the engagement was very lively and while this is great the discussions in the smaller groups were much more productive. Young people were able to talk about their experiences of violence and look at the contributing factors. All young men in Core groups were asked to sign the agreement to end this type of violence.



Cost of Living Challenge - Youth service has been offering young people in all Core Youth Work sessions free warm substantial meals to help with the cost-of-living crisis. Leftovers have been given to young people that are known to be struggling at home. This has come from an increase in young people reporting to be hungry during sessions. Young people have also been learning how to cook new foods and familiar foods in a healthier way. Youth Service have been introducing healthier foods such as vegetables, salads, and fruit to the young people's meals.



Quality, safety, and well-being:

Safeguarding Awareness Week – (18th to 22nd November 2024) – Young people from across the Outer South Core Youth Work provisions were engaged in a range of safeguarding activities during Safeguarding week: Discussions on personal grooming, social pressures, beauty standards,

and friendships promoted self-reflection and healthy relationships. Group activities included quizzes based around alcohol use & misuse, sexual health matters, movies and age restrictions, tattoos, piercings and other forms of body decoration; News and current affairs; Misogamy.



Family Support – Core Youth Workers have been supporting a young person who has started to spend time with a parent after being removed from the parent 10 years ago due to neglect and substance issues. The young person has been very excited about starting to build a relationship with her mum and was looking forward to some new experiences. The first meeting didn't go well, and the result has been the young person being very confused and upset. Core Youth Workers have been able to support this young person to not feel so dejected when things go wrong and to look to the future, the young person has been able to write down her concerns and discuss with social workers.

Halloween & Bonfire Diversionary Activities – Outer South Core Youth Workers supported young people to have a safe Halloween & Bonfire night by providing a range of diversionary activities, educational activities and discussions around acceptable behaviour in sessions. Anti-Social Behaviour V Fun – was a key discussion at sessions, young people were encouraged to look at different scenarios and decide which was fun and the impact ASB can have on their community. Youth Workers were able to guide young people and give an adult's perspective when needed.

Young people from Methley youth club creating Halloween decorations, hope you all had a great evening trick and treating.

Young people at Rothwell Windmill Youth Club enjoying being creative around Halloween. Biscuit decorating, pumpkin designing and word searches. Lots of fun while stayin... See more



Well Wave – The newly titled project has been rolled out across the Outer South Core Youth Work sessions, venues have been registered staff trained and the project highlighted with lots of young people, discussions focussing on sexual health, the risks and potential consequences have

been undertaken. Youth Workers have seen an increase in the need for the 3 in 1 service as well as young people showing sexualised behaviour and inappropriateness. Young people have gained knowledge to help them make informed choices about their own sexual health and their bodies. Working in partnership with Public Health to better deliver the 3 in 1 service to young people

What has gone well and why? Contributing Factors (500 Words)

Gym Project – Youth Service Outer South have been working in partnership with local schools in the Outer South area to provide an alternative to school based physical education. The weekly Gym sessions enable young people to experience a gym environment which is designed for young people, the opportunity introduces young people to structured exercise and enables them to develop knowledge around safe use of resources whilst also promoting a healthy lifestyle.

Elf The Musical – Forty Nine young people and family members from across the Outer South area were able to attend Elf the Musical at the Leeds Arena thanks to a Councillor from the Rothwell Ward, Cllr Stuart Golton in partnership with Howdens provided tickets for the Musical on Christmas Eve. The young people and families enjoyed the free opportunity and thank Cllr Golton & Howdens.

Christmas Support – Youth Workers have been engaging with young people to experience a positive Christmas, young people engaged in planning for Christmas celebrations, including making Christmas cards, Christmas decorations & creating Christmas themed food. The young people were encouraged to choose the craft kits they would prefer to use to increase their sense of autonomy. Young people also took the initiative to decorate their Christmas tree, adding their own personalities to the festive atmosphere. Core Youth Workers also provided support to some families on the lead up to Christmas, being able to provide some small gifts and food packs enabling a more positive experience.

Care Home Support – A young man from a care home was aligned to the Outer South Youth Work team during the November / December period, the young man was engaged in a few community events that enabled him to focus on his communication, life skills and work ethics. The young man responded extremely well interacting with local councillors and the Mayoress of Leeds while ensuring he had a good time.

What has not gone well and why? Contributing factors? (500 Words)

Youth Service Outer South Core staffing levels have plummeted even further during the October to December period making delivery of Youth Work sessions, covering sickness absence and annual leave extremely difficult.

Bonfire Period – Reports of Fireworks being used – Youth Service Outer South Core team struggled to respond to all the reports of “firework related reports” on the lead up to Bonfire Night, Swarcliffe area seen a spike in reports.

Core Youth Work staff have seen an increase in disruptive and challenging behaviour from some young people in some sessions, staff have engaged with the individuals, challenging comments & behaviour, however sometimes managing this is difficult when staffing levels are low.

October holiday project had to be delivered with a reduced programme due to staffing levels.

Compliments and Feedback (500 Words)


1 – Windmill Youth Club:






Lea Smith


Natalie Livewire Dwyer mate as if that is my child, a year ago or so I couldn't get her to leave my side and she would only go with a few close people and didn't like groups. The staff here are amazing with her and as soon as they found out she as austim they called me and asked me her triggers and signs that she is having enough. Can't believe the size of our blue now 😊 xxx

2 – Outer South Consultation:

RE: Beryl Burton Gardens


 EmilyT <EmilyT@womenslivesleed
To: Sutcliffe, James
Cc: JeannetteM?leedswomensaid.org.uk (External)
Wed 17:32


    

 This message is part of a tracked conversation. [Click here to find all related messages or to open the original flagged message.](#)

Hi James,
Thank you so much for getting these surveys out there and supporting us with the consultation. I really appreciate you taking the time out to do this. The scans are fine, I can pull the data off from these.
If you would like, I'd be happy to feedback regarding any future works in relation to Beryl Burton gardens?
Best Wishes, Emily

Emily Turner (#Mynameis eh-mil-ee)
WLL Project Manager
Mobile: 07570 373875



Pronoun: She/Her
Website: www.womenslivesleeds.org.uk
Facebook : @womenslivesleeds

3 – Year 6 Transition Group:

Hi there,

My twins have started attending on a Tuesday Year 6 Youth Club at Blackgates Primary School and think its the most amazing thing ever, high praise as they are unimpressed by most things!

They have been attending for the last 6 years after school club Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at Westerton Primary School, a very over subscribed service.

My question is they would like to attend the Youth club for the rest of year 6 if its available, I think this would be a great bridging step for them going to secondary school in September 2025. I would like to be able to cancel the Tuesday after school session and allow 2 other students who are on the waiting list to attend, but I can only do this If I know that the Youth Club will defiantly be running from now until the end of July 2025 (End of Year 6)

Im sure this information was probably in some of the communication sent out originally, but my two didn't manage to bring any of it back home.

Speak soon,

Andy

Andy Sidebottom | **Director**

Principal Photographer | **2.8 Creative**

10 Broadcroft Grove, Tingley, West Yorkshire, WF3 1TU

Tel 07901 864748 andybottom@me.com

Please consider the environment before printing this email

4 – Cllr Renshaw on Halloween & Bonfire diversionary sessions:

Karen R-shaw

Looks fantastic - please all stay safe on bonfire night

5 – Luttrell Care Home – Young people support:

Good morning Glen,

Thank you for this feedback. It is absolutely lovely to hear that [redacted] has excelled with you while volunteering his time in local communities. It shows that with the right focus, and the right people supporting our kids the sky is the limit.

An heart felt thankyou from the team at Luttrell for giving [redacted] these experiences and opportunities.

Kind Regards

Have the plans and priorities for the last quarter been achieved? What are your plans and priorities for the next quarter? (500 Words)

Last Quarter Priorities:

To increase the staffing & volunteer levels within the Outer South team – Volunteer Session delivered in November 2024; three new volunteers are due to start soon.

To introduce the year 6 students from around the outer south to the new transition groups – Three new transitions groups commenced.

To create and deliver a diversionary Holiday programme during the October term holiday period – Planned, delivered & extremely successful.

To plan and prepare for Christmas to ensure each club has a Christmas party – Christmas Parties delivered with support from some local councillors.

Next Quarter Priorities:

To deliver a diversionary Holiday programme in the February school holiday period.

To deliver the 90-minute project in the Outer South area.

To provide Core Youth Workers with a 2025 Curriculum Calendar to enable issue-based work to be scheduled and events / cultures celebrated.

To secure funding to enable a diversionary school holiday programme to be delivered during Holiday periods.

