

# Report of the Director of Children's Services to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2013

U

---

**Subject:**

**A report on the work of the Youth Service**

**Summary statement:**

The report informs the Bradford East Area Committee of the range of work undertaken by the Youth Service and its performance over the last six months.

---

Julie Jenkins  
Assistant Director  
Children's Specialist Services  
Report Contact: Paul Johnson  
Area Youth Work Manager  
Phone: (01274) 435358  
E-mail: [pauljohnson@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:pauljohnson@bradford.gov.uk)

**Portfolio:**  
**Children's Services**

**Overview & Scrutiny Area:**  
**Children and Young People**



## 1. SUMMARY

The report informs the Bradford East Area Committee of the range of work and performance between April 1<sup>st</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> of this current year by the Bradford East Youth Work team.

## 2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Youth Service provides an open access service to young people with a focus on prevention and early intervention, reducing the need for a more formal crisis response at a later stage. Youth work is well established across Bradford and has consistently received positive external evaluation in terms of impact and value for money since 2002. The Service's focus is on the 13 – 19 age group and offers a wide range of provision in local communities, in partnership with third sector organisations and on a district wide basis, thus making a significant contribution to the community cohesion agenda. There has also been a significant increase in the delivery of services to support disabled young people.
- 2.2 In June 2012 Statutory guidance was issued by the Department for Education which placed a duty on Local Authorities to secure services and activities for young people aged 13 to 19 (up to 24 learning difficulties) to improve their well-being.
- 2.3 In essence the duty is to practicably secure equality of access for all young people to positive, preventative and early help needed to improve their well-being. This includes youth work and other services and activities that:
- Connect young people with communities so they have a voice in decisions which affect their lives
  - Offer safe opportunities in a wide range of activities, to develop a strong sense of belonging, socialise safely, enjoy social mixing, spend time with older people, and develop relationships with adults they trust
  - support personal and social development of young people so they build the capabilities they need for learning, work, and the transition to adulthood
  - improve young people's physical and mental health and emotional well-being;
  - help young people at risk of dropping out of learning or not achieving their full potential to engage and attain in education or training; and
  - raise young people's aspirations and build resilience to inform their decisions – and thereby reducing risky behaviours
- 2.4 There are three main areas of responsibility for Local Authorities:
- Involving young people in decisions that affect their lives, securing their views through structured arrangements that also allow them to be involved in service design and especially those who traditionally have little or no voice.
  - Securing access to sufficient services and activities although it does not prescribe services and activities that Councils should fund or deliver or to what level Councils should take the strategic lead to work with young people; the

voluntary, community and social enterprise sector; health and wellbeing boards; schools and colleges; and agencies including health and police.

- Local Authorities should do all that is reasonable to secure a sufficient local offer based on an understanding of need. The offer has to be aspirational and young people should test services that are delivered through an audit they undertake which should then be published. The offer should be delivered by a range of providers with a mix of open access, targeted, preventative and specialist provision as well as publishing relevant funding and performance data.

2.5 In December 2012, the service implemented a revised model of delivery significantly designed against the new Guidance described above, in order to secure:

- An open access service with a focus to deliver a prevention and early intervention approach.
- An increase in face to face work by youth workers that offers informal learning opportunities to support improving educational attainment
- A wider role for youth workers to support vulnerable young people
- The clear retention of a focus on inclusion particularly for young people with disabilities
- A closer working relationship with VCS
- A planned approach to increase volunteering of adults and young people to build capacity in the service and in communities

2.6 The service is currently funded by the Council at 4.26 million for 2012/13.

2.7 The delivery of youth work to young people is based on providing a range of exciting, relevant and young people focussed activities. This allows staff and young people to develop provision that reflects the needs of the young people, address issues on a local community level and supports young people to find solutions to issues as well as taking part in activities. Overall the new model has allowed a closer working relationship with a range of agencies and services ensuring the Service is flexible in how it delivers youth work. This is described more fully in section three below.

2.8 The high performance of the Youth Service in meeting its main target of securing the involvement of 25% of the district's 13-19 year olds in the service over the last four years is as follows:

	<b>Target</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>% of target</b>
At 30 October 2013	11,063	9,864	89.16%
Full Year 2012/13	11,304	13,021	115.20%
Full Year 2011/12	12,072	11,612	96.2%
Full Year 2010/11	11,773	11,665	99.1%
Full Year 2009/10	11,456	11,115	98.3%

## 2.9 Breakdown of Membership by Ward.

2.9.1 The table below gives the current position in terms of membership by young people as of 30 October 2013. The service is currently delivering at 22.29% against a

target of 25% with five months of the year still remaining and new pieces of work planned. Bradford East has exceeded its annual target, however further work is planned in the wards of Bowling and Barkerend, Bradford Moor and Little Horton to increase membership. An improvement plan is in place to address this. The team is currently working with 23.2% of the young people aged 13-19 registered with LDD

	<b>Total Young People</b>	<b>Total Youth Service Members</b>	<b>% of members against total</b>
<b>East Constituency</b>	<b>8,906</b>	<b>2,241</b>	<b>25.16%</b>
<b>Bolton and Undercliffe</b>	<b>1620</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Bowling and Barkerend</b>	<b>2248</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Bradford Moor</b>	<b>2464</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>15%</b>
<b>Eccleshill</b>	<b>1615</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Idle and Thackley</b>	<b>959</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>Little Horton</b>	<b>2301</b>	<b>441</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>Whole District</b>	<b>44, 249</b>	<b>9,864</b>	<b>22.29%</b>

## 2.10 Tier 1 Not in Education Employment and Training (NEET) Service

2.10.1 The service currently delivers the support to TIER 1 NEET young people and has supported the Councils' obligation to reduce NEET for 16 -18 Year Olds:

<b>NEET Rate</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>
Target Full	9.2%	6.9%	6.0%
Achieved	8.0%	6.0%	5.7%
<b>NEET Contact</b>			
Achieved	4,063	4,504	3,173

2.10.2 In 2011/12 a target was set to reduce the gap between the Bradford NEET rate and the England rate at 0.8 percentage points below the Bradford rate. The outcome at Quarter 4 was that the gap had reduced to zero.

2.10.3 In 2012/13 targets to reduce high NEET rates amongst vulnerable groups saw significant reductions in rates for care leavers (25.6% against a 37% baseline) and Youth Offending Team supervised young people (36% against a 46.2% baseline).

2.10.4 Currently the Bradford east team are engaging and working with 98 Tier 1 NEET young people across the constituency providing information, advice and support on a broad range of issues, encouraging them to engage and return into education, training or employment.

## 2.11 Positive Activities of Young People

2.11.1 The delivery of Positive Activities for Young People (PAYP) during school holidays has consistently increased both in number participating and the number of hours delivered in holiday periods. The service is clearly on target to meet the number for participants attending provision during school holidays.

<b>PAYP</b>	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>Oct 2013</b>
Participants	3,797	3,556	3,611	3, 172
Hours Delivered	67,962	72,627	81,436	63, 748

## 2.12 Short Breaks

2.12.1 The Youth Service has seen a significant development in the opportunities available to young people with disabilities to access the service. The table below indicates the progress being made to October 2013. The total numbers of young people with a disability participating is not fully accurate at the time of this report. The Service is redesigning the way in which data will be captured by staff to address this point. A better picture will be available by the end of March 2014.

<b>Short Breaks</b>	<b>Full Year 2010/11</b>	<b>Full Year 2011/12</b>	<b>Full Year 2012/13</b>	<b>October 2013</b>
Numbers of YP participating	875	1,699	1,489	573

## 2.13 Duke of Edinburgh (D of E) Award Scheme

2.13.1 The table below demonstrates that Gold awards in particular have soared in the last year. 41 is an incredibly large number to be achieving this award level for a Service of our size when compared to other authority areas.

2.13.2 A SENCO unit and a special school have enrolled in the scheme to give young people with special needs an opportunity to take part in D of E. The Ambassadors project had a big impact on promoting the D of E in Bradford and is directly responsible for new schools involvement as the schools have grown to understand what outcomes had been achieved through starting up a D of E scheme.

2.13.3 Although enrolment figures are not available on the electronic D of E system we estimate that there are a very healthy 700 young people accessing D of E in the District. The increase in groups over the past few years has seen many running D of E independently, hence healthy participation numbers and an increasing number of awards achieved.

YOUTH GROUP	2010/11			2011/12			2012/13		
	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
SCHOOLS	10	20	125	4	25	138	29	12	141
VOLUNTARY ORGS	4	24	22	10	13	17	6	10	10
YOUTH SERVICE	3	4	11	2	4	2	6	13	37
<b>FULL AWARD TOTALS</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>188</b>
TOTAL FULL AWARDS	<b>223</b>			<b>215</b>			<b>264</b>		
SECTIONAL AWARDS	<b>164</b>			<b>417</b>			<b>409</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>387</b>			<b>632</b>			<b>673</b>		

## 2.14 Lord Mayors Award

2.14.1 The withdrawal of the sectional awards for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme has resulted in the Youth Service designing an alternative accreditation opportunity for young people. The Lord Mayors Award has a focus on young people aged 11-16 (up to 25 with disabilities). The Award introduces young people to the importance and benefits of being engaged in positive activities, to get recognition of their achievements and positive participation. The Award is aligned to Council priorities and provides opportunities for young people to contribute and see themselves as part of the future of the Bradford district.

2.14.2 There are 3 sections to the Lord Mayors Award:

- **Be Someone** – All about learning new skills, achieving new attributes that will help a young person in the future (life skills, employment skills, hobby skills)
- **Be Active** – All about commitment to a physical activity, or range of activities that benefit a young persons health and allow them to be more active (football, dance, gym etc)
- **Be Valued** – All about positivity and helping others while gaining from the experience themselves (helping a local charity, helping within the community etc)

2.14.3 Young people participate in each section for a minimum of 10 hours of leisure time over a 3 month period. Young people work on one section at a time and identify their chosen activity and the youth worker who will endorse their participation in it.

Each section costs £3 to register. Each section is certificated, with an offer to participate in further sections until all 3 sections are completed. Young people can undertake the sections in any order they choose. On completing all 3 sections a Lord Mayors Award (certificate and badge / medal) is presented at an Award ceremony hosted by the Lord Mayor.

The Award is nationally recognised through ASDAN.

2.14.4 Since the scheme started in May 2013 there have been 427 sections successfully completed by young people. This number will grow as each team has been set a target to achieve 25 single sections as a minimum per ward by the end of the March 2013. Current indicators suggest that Bradford East will meet this target.

### **3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 The Youth Service undertakes a significant amount of work to encourage young people to access our services. This supports a general approach that young people are taking part in positive, enjoyable and socially educative activities rather than to primarily divert them away from a range of anti social, crime or gang related behaviour. The vast majority of young people are a significant asset in our communities. Many voluntarily support youth workers to run and plan activities in centres and areas from a basic collection of subs, to organising trips or activities alongside or independently of youth workers.
- 3.2 They help to decide with local ward councillors the allocation of Youth Opportunities Funding, and assess the quality of provision that their peers receive or by involvement in Youth Forums. Each youth work unit in Bradford east has a youth work group that informs the work of the unit, 12 young people from across the constituency have been involved in assessing and making recommendations on the Youth Opportunities Fund and over 100 young people have been engaged in writing bids to the fund. The Youth Service is committed to the development of opportunities for young people and adults to take part in service delivery.
- 3.3 In August the Bradford East team recruited a new cohort of 20 young volunteers who have now completed their training.16 of the cohort are now working alongside youth work practitioners in the wards and also supporting local community events Bradford East currently has over 30 Young Volunteers and Senior Members who are currently working within youth club settings in Bradford East to support the delivery of youth work. We provide progressive pathways and accreditation opportunities for these young people to support transitions into education, employment and training.
- 3.4 The Youth Service is a partner in the District wide Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) Panel which looks at individual cases of ASB amongst young people to ensure sanctions are in place or there are opportunities for young people to participate in alternative positive activities. The Panel addresses issues at a locality level by reviewing each case every 8-10 weeks.
- 3.5 The Service offers support to young people who are NEET in the provision of 1-1 support to work with them to identify and remove barriers to their participation in Education, Employment and Training. The East Youth Work team are currently working with and supporting 247 individual T1 NEET young people across the

constituency.

- 3.6 The Service is involved in the Families First agenda through attendance at weekly allocations and sanctions meetings for each area. From these meetings and information sharing processes we join up our services to compliment the offer from Families First Services. This ensures more cohesive and appropriate responses to families, enabling vulnerable young people to be identified and supported as part of the wider intervention for a family by opening opportunities for young people to access mainstream provision.
- 3.7 The Youth Service plays a role in the wider Crime agenda. We work closely with police colleagues to respond to many district wide crime issues, including a piece of work around reducing burglary and robbery to educate young people about the consequences of taking part in robbery and street crime. Alongside this we provide personal safety information to support young people in reducing the likelihood of them becoming a victim of robbery. An East example of this type of work is, since January this year youth workers and other partners have jointly worked to intervene with specific individual young people due to a high incidence of anti social behaviour, this has included joint work with Incommunities, the Police, Youth Offending Team, Neighbourhood Services and the local community. Young people have been supported to look at restorative work, their behaviour and potential consequences of their actions to themselves and others.
- 3.8 As a service one element of core business is to ensure young people are able to make informed choices. The service delivered a district wide, targeted diversionary programme of activities to prevent vulnerable and at risk young people from getting drawn into protests in the City Centre on 12 October 2013. The early identification and intervention strategy to work with those most vulnerable enabled a tailored response to individuals. In total 558 young people were diverted into positive activities on the day. In Bradford East 200 young people were worked with on the day. In the week running up to 12 October approximately 890 young people were supported through work in youth settings about consequences, though home visits and project based activity in local areas and out of the district for those identified as being most at risk. The reports of no arrests of young people aged within the service's 13-19 age range on the day indicates the successes of this approach.
- 3.9 Full time Youth Workers attend Ward Officer Team meetings which address a range of community based issues with a number of partners such as Local Wardens, the Police, Housing agencies who alert staff to issues with young people. Each of the Wards in the District has a named youth worker who designs and coordinates activities for young people.
- 3.10 The Bradford East team are currently working with 4 Upper Schools, Immanuel, Carlton Bolling, Laisterdyke, and Bradford Academy providing bespoke support to pupils. This includes Forest School learning opportunities based in Buck Woods Thackley, Duke of Edinburgh award work, Information advice, guidance, and 1 to 1 work with young people with behaviour and other issues.
- 3.11 A cohort of 25 young people from across Bradford East enrolled in the "Bradford Big



Challenge". The aim of the project was to support young people from each ward to work together over a sustained period of time to become more active as citizens and to identify opportunities to develop and undertake social action projects. This group has so far instigated work in the communities of Ravenscliffe, Laisterdyke and Barkerend and will continue until February 2014.

#### **4. OPTIONS**

- 4.1 That the Bradford East Area Committee request a further report from the service in spring 2014 reflecting progress and target reporting.

#### **5 FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

- 5.1 There are no financial issues arising from this report. The development and implementation of all activity has been provided from within existing Youth Service resources.

#### **6. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES**

- 6.1 There are no significant risks arising out of the implementation of the proposed recommendations.

#### **7. LEGAL APPRAISAL**

- 7.1 This work relates directly to statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education with effect from June 2012. The Local Authority has a duty to secure services and activities for young people aged 13 to 19 (and up to 24 years for those with learning difficulties or disabilities) to improve their well-being. The duty is to secure equality of access for all young people to positive, preventative and early help needed to improve their well-being. This includes youth work and other services and activities that:

- Connect young people with communities so they have a voice in decisions which affect their lives
- Offer safe opportunities in a wide range of activities, develop a strong sense of belonging, socialise safely, enjoy social mixing, spend time with older people, and develop relationships with adults they trust
- Support personal and social development of young people so they build the capabilities they need for learning, work, and the transition to adulthood
- Improve young people's physical and mental health and emotional well-being;
- Help young people at risk of dropping out of learning or not achieving their full potential to engage and attain in education or training; and
- Raise young people's aspirations and build resilience

#### **8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

None.

#### **8.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY**

The reporting of the delivery for the Youth Service is the responsibility of the City of

Bradford Metropolitan District Council and that all projects within the service promote fairness and inclusion while supporting the Council's commitment to equal opportunities for all.

## **8.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

The resources available to the Youth Service support the priorities of the Council and the District's Sustainable Community Strategy.

## **8.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS**

The Youth Service operates within the framework set down for all Council Services in regard to greenhouse gas emissions and wider environmental impacts in the delivery of its services and activities.

## **8.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Community Safety issues are acknowledged as a key contributor to the quality of life in the District and the activity generated through the Service is having a positive impact on community safety issues across the area.

## **8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

Local Authorities must take steps to ascertain the views of young people and to take them into account in making decisions about services and activities for them, in line with Article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

## **8.6 TRADE UNION**

There are no implications for Trade Unions.

## **8.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

The broad areas of work described in Section Three of this report are part of the delivery plans for the Youth Service within the wards described.

## **8.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

The activities described in Section two and three of this report contribute to addressing priority issues within each Area Committees Action Plan 2011-14.

## **9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

None.

## **10. RECOMMENDATIONS**

10.1 That the East Area Committee notes the report.

10.2 That the East Area Committee expresses thanks to the Youth Service staff for their continued hard work.

**11. APPENDICES**

Appendix A - Table of current Provision by ward

**12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENT**

None.

## Appendix A

### Current Weekly Evening Provision Supported by East Youth Workers

Ward	Centre	Evenings(s)	Provision	Partners
Bolton and Undercliffe	Greenwood Centre	Monday	Open access YC	Greenwood Centre. Specialist Inclusion team
		Wednesday	Youth Activities with young people with disabilities	
	Goals (Hanson School)	Friday	Detached youth work and sports session	
Bowling and Barkerend	Karmand Centre	Monday Friday	Open access YC	Karmand Centre
	Greenways YC ( D of E Centre)	Monday Thursday	Open access YC	
Bradford Moor	Laisterdyke Youth centre	Monday	Table Tennis Coaching/Youth Fusion group/ Young Volunteers training	Specialist Inclusion team
		Tuesday	Open access YC	
		Wednesday	Youth Activities with young people with disabilities	
		Thursday	Open access youth work and Break dancing club	
		Saturday	Open access YC for Girls	
	Thornbury	Tuesday	Open access	Inspired

	Centre	Thursday	YC	Neighbourhoods/ Thornbury Centre
Ecclehill	Ravenscliffe YC	Tuesday Friday	Open access YC	Ecclehill Clinic staff/ HOTS team
	Ecclehill Mechanics	Thursday	Open access YC	
	Ecclehill Clinic	Friday	Young people health drop in session	
Idle and Thackley	Various	Monday	Detached work	
	Springfield Centre	Wednesday	Open access Girls Work	
		Friday	Open access YC	