

Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of Keighley Area Committee to be held on 20th January 2022

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Subject:

Youth Service Update – Keighley

Summary statement:

This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley Area in the past 12 months and outlines the direction of travel for the next 12 months.

The report outlines the following information:

- *An overview of youth provision and a timeline of the Youth Services response to the Covid 19 pandemic.*
- *An update on how the Youth Service continues to respond to increased demand and complexity of need.*
- *An introduction to the work of the Young Covid Recovery Ambassadors and their role in the community.*
- *An update on youth provision ward by ward and key developments.*

Appendix A – Keighley Area Youth Service Baseline Provision details the current provisions being delivered in Keighley.

Appendix B - Bradford Youth Service Ward Update gives an overview of ward work and developments

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Portfolio:

Neighbourhoods and Community Safety

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Children's Services

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley Area in 2020-21.

1.2 The report outlines the following information:

- An overview of youth provision and a timeline of the Youth Services response to the Covid 19 pandemic.
- An update on how the Youth Service continues to respond to increased demand and complexity of need.
- An introduction to the work of the Young Covid Recovery Ambassadors and their role in the community.
- An update on youth provision ward by ward and key developments.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Bradford Council Youth Service is part of the wider Bradford District Youth Offer. It aims to ensure the provision of a range of activities and services that take place in safe spaces, where young people can develop a sense of belonging, socialise with their peers and develop relationships with adults they can trust. It recognises that with the right supportive relationships, strong ambitions and good opportunities all young people can realise their potential and be positive and active members of society.

2.2 The Youth Service vision statement is to work with partners to ensure that young people grow up healthy, happy, informed and aspiring, proud of who they are, where they come from, and actively involved in their community.

2.3 Youth Service priorities are aligned to the five key elements of the Bradford District Youth Offer – as detailed in the table below:

<i>Youth Offer Element 1 – Information, Advice and Guidance(IAG)</i> Increase the numbers of young people accessing IAG through digital media.
<i>Youth Offer Element 2 – Voice and influence</i> Increase the numbers of young people participating in Youth Voice opportunities at all levels.
<i>Youth Offer Element 3 – Open access/detached</i> Deliver a diverse youth offer through working in partnership with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) and local communities.
<i>Youth Offer Element 4 - Targeted provision</i> Increase the number of specific interventions to address the needs of vulnerable young people.
<i>Youth Offer Element 5 - Active citizens and young people's contribution to community life</i> Increase the number of young people having a positive impact on their community.

2.4 The Youth Service is managed as one service. Staff are contracted to the Youth Service and are allocated to areas.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Youth Provision

Over the last 12 months' youth provision across all six wards has continued to respond to the needs of young people. Ward teams have worked with a wide range of community partners to ensure that young people have a network of support that enables them to engage in positive relationships. The work has taken place through a range of delivery methods including detached, outreach and centre based sessions. This approach has enabled youth workers to consistently respond to issues faced by young people whilst continuing to promote key public health messages by offering information, advice and guidance.

In October and November 2020, significant Youth Service resource was used to prevent and challenge the seasonal peak in Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) associated with Halloween, Mischief Night and Bonfire Night. Youth Workers engaged young people in a 'Consequences' campaign that highlighted the impact of ASB and misuse of fireworks.

Between January and March 2021, intensive detached work was delivered in all wards that specifically supported young people during the third national lockdown. Youth workers sought to map 'hotspots' that required additional resources to ensure greater community compliance. Between April and June, youth workers offered a menu of support to young people that ensured limited contact with others through the concept of bubbles/small groups.

Over the summer months, youth workers offered activities in local parks and green spaces that encouraged well-being and also started to prepare young people for returning to life without restrictions. In addition, youth workers also targeted young people making the transition between primary and secondary school and offered *Moving Up* sessions that helped build resilience.

3.2 Responding to demand and complexity of need

Over the last 12 months Youth Workers have responded to a significant increase in referrals from partner organisations to help address the following issues:

Domestic Abuse – young people report that they have experienced increased tension and domestic abuse within their family units.

Educational Anxiety – young people report that they are anxious and fearful of the learning that they have lost and what this means for their future.

Isolation – young people report that they have felt lonely and isolated and a significant amount of family time is spent in different rooms on individual screens and devices.

Self-Harm – young people report that they have used self-harm as a means to cope with some of the issues that they have experienced.

Our service has remained focused on meeting demand and delivered the following support through local youth provision:

Youth Clubs – each ward has a youth club that enables young people to come together and socialise through a series of activities and programmes that help develop personal and social skills whilst encouraging thought and action on local area issues. Youth clubs are an essential component in developing independence and reducing dependency on specialist services.

Peer Support Groups – the Youth Service has developed a series of peer support groups that enable young people to come together and support each other for issues that are important to them. Many of these sessions have a central activity that helps young people to engage and build trust.

One to One Support – young people are supported by a local youth worker, who will offer a home visit and a series of interventions designed to build trust. Through these interventions, youth workers will set goals and targets for young people and help them assess local support networks. This work helps address complex issues such as domestic abuse, child sexual exploitation and family breakdown.

Volunteering – as young people become older we encourage them to take on board more responsibility in the local community. Youth workers support young people to participate in community action projects, helping others and developing employability skills through volunteering.

3.3 **Other work targeted at young people with specific needs including vulnerable and at risk.**

As the Youth Service provides both area based provision and district wide specialisms. These two areas of work are interdependent, blending a specialist intervention service and area based teams to address young people's needs, and ensuring this is a seamless transition between the different elements of the service. This enables us to provide direct support to young people at risk of exploitation. Through building trust with their youth worker, young people have reported feeling less isolated, more connected with their community and safer. Keighley currently runs a number of targeted provisions, all of which offer young people a safe space to engage in positive activities. This work helps raise awareness of issues such as serious organised crime, grooming and county lines. Area youth workers liaise closely with the Breaking the Cycle Team and support low risk cases in the local community.

The Breaking the Cycle Project is Targeted Youth Provision providing district wide, intelligence led, intensive interventions with young people who are identified as being at risk of, or involved in serious organised or violent crime, urban street gangs, county line trafficked, those who are criminally exploited, or exploiting others, those who have markers for drugs, weapons (as suppliers of, found in

possession of or misusers of). In an attempt to get “upstream” of the issues this team will also actively work with those who commit anti-social behaviour and have a higher than yellow ASB sanction and those who have out of character or unexplained missing incidents, recognising this is an early indicator that further support is needed.

This work has recently been recognised as being both innovative and responsive. It is an exemplar project, achieving a Highly Commended Award in the recent LGC Awards. The work has been funded by the West Yorkshire Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), with an overall aim being one of harm reduction, protection, and breaking the cycle of criminality. Work often starts on the street. It is a voluntary relationship and is extremely successful at working with young people who are very vulnerable and who do not engage well with other services. Work is undertaken with young people on a one-to-one basis and with their wider peer group.

This project has continued to grow in response to need, with workers now having a presence in BRI Accident and Emergency Departments (AED), seven nights a week alongside the usual referral routes. This team are also working with our new asylum-seeking families and new arrivals to the city, enabling safety work to be started and integrated into a broader range of support offered to a vulnerable group of people.

3.4 **Buddy support as part of Youth in Mind**

The Youth Service has been commissioned to deliver early interventions to young people across the district. This is a collaborative partnership with Bradford District Care Trust and Youth in Mind (YiM) which offers help to young people for their mental health and well-being and seeks to reduce demand on specialist services.

Over the last year, Keighley has received over 500 referrals from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), School Nurses & other professionals. These referrals are allocated to youth workers who act as buddies to young people. Their role is to befriend them, support them using the Signs of Safety approach and navigate local support networks.

In addition, youth workers work closely with all secondary schools in Keighley and help identify students, who need support for their mental health and well-being. Youth workers support these additional caseloads in schools, delivering one-to-one work on a weekly basis developing young people’s confidence, self-belief and resilience. Youth workers also support young people in hospital offering interventions that promote self-care and connect them to local services that offer crisis support.

3.5 **A partnership approach**

The Youth Service is supported by a wide range of partners in each community. Youth workers work with local partners to understand the needs of the community and help build capacity to deliver bespoke projects. These projects help build

stronger relationships with the local community and increase participation, action and ownership on local area issues.

The Keighley Youth Offer Group has continued to develop and has meet regularly over the last year. This has meant working closely with other organisations running youth provisions across the Keighley area. Throughout the pandemic, we have all continued to support each other's services and ensure young people's needs are being met. This year, we have developed the '**Keighley Youth Voice Strategy**', our Youth worker conference and Youth Summit. These elements will all link to ensure we are meeting the needs of young people across the constituency.

Within each ward youth workers work alongside ward officers to map local area issues and develop responses. A good example of this is the weekly Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Reports that are shared by the Police with the area office. These reports allow youth workers to identify where ASB is impacting on the community. Youth workers visit the locations, engage the community and feedback to ward officers who track and monitor the impact of the interventions.

Mapping and understanding the root causes of local issues provides an opportunity to plan and develop longer term responses that local partners are supported to lead on. This enables funding to be secured and additional resources to be invested. Examples of these are included in appendix B.

New Initiates in Development

3.6 Future Boost Trainees

In October 2021 Keighley welcomed two new youth work trainees to the team. The trainees will be with us for two years and will support the development of 'Youth Voice' initiatives that ensure young people have a greater role in shaping service delivery. The trainees will also help identify gaps in provision and develop new projects that respond to the needs of young people aged 16-25 years old. In addition, we will also support Sporting Chances trainees in their placements within the constituency.

3.7 Post Covid response work (Young Covid Ambassadors Project)

The service has built on and expanded the work developed by our Young Covid Ambassadors project. We have created opportunities for a new cohort of Young Covid Ambassadors, who will help develop a programme of work that focuses on Covid recovery, intergenerational activity and well-being. We believe that this could help aid groups of people to overcome some of the impacts of lockdown and isolation. The Ambassadors will help to strengthen public health messages and promote community activity through a series of events in each ward.

In late September 2021, young people from Keighley were employed as Young Covid Recovery Ambassadors (YCRA). The Ambassadors are undertaking local youth work training to support them in their role and have integrated in to local

teams including support for students who are anxious about returning to school. They work alongside Youth Workers to engage young people and identify local area issues. This information is then collated and analysed for patterns and trends and then shared with Public Health Bradford. The information collected by the YCRA has been integral to responding to local issue and supporting the community to recover from the Covid pandemic. In Keighley, the team are currently delivering two community intergeneration projects, one in Keighley in partnership with the Good Shepard, and the other in Ilkley in partnership with Ilkley Grammar School and Christ Church.

3.8 Keighley Wide Provisions

Keighley currently leads on the delivery of 3 area wide projects. These sessions are for young people to attend from across the constituency. The area wide sessions are themed to suit young people's needs, interests and increase our youth offer. Information regarding the Keighley provisions can be found in both Appendix A and Appendix B.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The Youth Service base budget remains unchanged for 2021/22. The service will continue to fill vacancies and recruit additional staff to fulfil commissioned service delivery including: Youth in Mind, Breaking the Cycles, Young Covid Ambassadors, Positive Futures, Big Local and CLLD. Some of this commissioned work is geographically specific which may mean that we see demand being met with additional youth work resources.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

The implementation of the planned budget for the Youth Service is subject to the internal risk management plan of the Council and progress is reported to the Place Departmental Management Team.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

No issues.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The Youth Service as part of the Council's commitment to the District has a responsibility to ensure that the service is accessible to all young people and that participation in the service reflects this approach.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The Youth Service delivery enables local initiatives to be supported, encouraging groups and individuals to undertake activities that improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of their communities.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Greenhouse gas emissions and wider environmental impacts was a consideration of the Buildings Review.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Young people from across Keighley engaging in weekly sessions and specialist provisions are directly and indirectly involved with supporting and developing community safety within their local area. Voice and influence is central to youth work delivery ensuring young people's ideas, suggestions and thoughts are heard.

The strengthened approach to the devolution of the Youth Service will allow for:

- an increased sense of local democracy for both young people and communities
- young people to be more active in democratic, decision-making processes alongside their political representatives
- the voice and influence of young people to remain central, meaningful and paramount in identifying and addressing needs and issues in their communities
- the requirements of the localism/devolution agenda to be met effectively and efficiently

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no direct Human Rights implications arising from the recommendations below.

7.6 TRADE UNION

All budget proposals are subject to consultation with the Trade Unions.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

The information in this report is related to all wards in the constituency and appendix B outlines the Youth Service projects and activities delivered across Keighley.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 That Keighley Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report.

9.2 That Keighley Area Committee adopts the recommendations outlined in this report, with amendments.

9.3 That Keighley Area Committee decides not to accept the recommendations outlined in this report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That the work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Keighley Area as detailed in this report be welcomed.

11. APPENDICES

- 11.1 Appendix A: Keighley Youth Service - Baseline Youth Provision
- 11.2 Appendix B: Keighley Youth Service - Ward Updates

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 12.1 Youth Service – Keighley Area report.

Appendix A

Keighley

Baseline Youth Provision – 2021

Keighley Central			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday	Detached/Street work	Highfield Lawkholme	Weekly
Tuesday	Drop-in	Keighley Town Centre	Weekly
Thursday	Youth Club	Bangladeshi Community Association	Weekly
Friday	Detached / Street work	Keighley	Weekly
Saturday	Girls Group	Bangladeshi Community Association	Weekly
Saturday	EU Youth Club	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Keighley West			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday	Detached / Street work	Braithwaite Bracken Bank	Weekly
Wednesday	Youth Club	Sue Belcher Centre, Bracken Bank	Weekly
Thursday	Braithwaite Sports	Merlin Top	Weekly
Thursday	Targeted Group	Braithwaite	Weekly
Keighley East			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday	Youth Club	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Wednesday	Targeted Group	Keighley College	Weekly
Wednesday	Detached / Street Work	Keighley East	Weekly

Worth Valley			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Friday	Oxenhope Youth Club	Community Centre, Oxenhope	Weekly
Wednesday	Detached / Street Work	Haworth, Oakworth and Crossroads	Weekly
Tuesday	Targeted Group	Haworth	Weekly
Ilkley			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday 6.00-8.00pm	Targeted Group – Inclusion	The Warehouse, Ilkley	Weekly
Wednesday 6.30-8.30pm	Youth Club	The Warehouse, Ilkley	Weekly
Friday 5.00-7pm	Targeted Project	The Warehouse, Ilkley	Weekly
Craven			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday 4.30-6.30pm	Youth Club	The Hive, Silsden	Weekly
Monday 7-9pm	Targeted Group	The Hive, Silsden	Weekly
Thursday 6.00-8.00pm	Youth Club	The Hive, Silsden	Weekly
Keighley Constituency Wide			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday 4.00-6.00pm	Peer Support Session	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Thursday 4.00-6.00pm	Peer Support Session	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Friday 5.00 -8.00pm	Peer Support Session	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Monday	Targeted Group – Inclusion	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Monday	Young Ambassadors – Youth Voice	Keighley Young People's Centre	Weekly
Wednesday	SOUND - LGBTQ +		Weekly

Wednesday 7 – 9pm	Wednesday Leisure Youth Club	Keighley Leisure Centre	Weekly
Sunday, 1-2.30pm	Football for Peace Coaching sessions	Marley Stadium, Keighley	Weekly

The above table is the youth work provision that makes up the youth services core offer. Each ward has 3 youth sessions per week, made up of a mixture of detached youth work (street based sessions), 'Youth Work Peer Connect' groups and open access youth clubs. Each youth worker develops partnerships in their local area to help strengthen the youth offer and develops distinct projects with young people and partner's in their local community to respond to both local and national needs.

SCHOOLS WORK				
Day	Activity	Location	Frequency	Target group
Monday, 11am-2pm	1:1 Support	South Craven School	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support
Tuesday, 9am – 1pm	1:1 Support	Carlton Keighley	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support
Tuesday, 10am-2pm	1:1 Support	Beckfoot Oakbank	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support
Wednesday	1:1 Support	Keighley College	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support
Wednesday, 10.30am-2.30pm	1:1 Support	Ilkley Grammar school	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support
Friday, 10am-2pm	1:1 Support	Holy Family School	Weekly	YiM – Emotional and Mental Health Support

The above table provides an overview of the work that is delivered in secondary schools in Keighley. YiM (Youth in Mind) – Emotional and mental health support in secondary schools: Youth workers hold an average case load of up to 12 young people who they provide one to one support to over a half-term within a school setting. Youth workers will work with the young person and school to assess the needs and look at a plan of work which takes place over 6 to 8 weeks. The work is relation based, which means the primary goal is to establish a strong trusted relationship between the young person and the youth worker. Work that takes place in school is early intervention and this work is targeted towards young people who are struggling with low levels of anxiety, emotional health that impacts on behaviour, issues with friendships and those who struggle to understand with their emotions. The impact of these early interventions helps reduce exclusions and maintain attendance whilst also reducing the demand on specialist services. Youth workers work in a systematic way, working with school and other services if needed, so the approach becomes holistic and the right service works with the right young people at the right time.

Through the school based support sessions and the trusted relationships youth workers build with young people they are able to help them access peer group support and eventually open access youth clubs in their local community. These peer groups offer young people the opportunity to

connect with likeminded young people, share 'self-care skills' and feel more connected and safer in their local community.