

Appendix B

Keighley – Youth Service Ward Updates:

Keighley Central

Detached / Street Work

Detached Work in the Keighley area has gone from strength to strength. We have made stronger links with organisations and businesses in the town centre and wider community. We have also managed to re-engage with young people in the rural areas of the District (e.g. Haworth, Crossroads, Oxenhope and Silsden). Work in the Town Centre (bus station in particular) is a key area of focus and has at least two dedicated sessions a week. Since COVID, this area has become a focal point for young people but as the cold and wetter weather returns young people will probably disappear until spring. We are therefore looking at a town centre venue to hold a 'latch key' open access club at least one day a week. Currently, we are in negotiations with Project 6, Keighley Shared Church and Airedale Shopping Centre. We will also start re-opening open access youth provision in a variety of localities COVID-19 restrictions permitting (Bracken, Braithwaite, Highfield, Keighley East and Lawkholme).

Over the summer period, Keighley youth work team ran a summer programme through which we were able to signpost families to organisations which provided not only activities but also meals, something that some families struggle with during the holidays. Working closely with partners has allowed young people to gain new skills and has enabled social mobility for some young people by providing them with support, so they can access sessions.

Youth workers in Keighley have worked in partnership with CNET to complete a consultation exercise with people from the Roma Community. As part of the Roma Strategy for Bradford Council, it was critical to gain the views and experiences of the Roma Community in Keighley to be able to better understand and improve services and support for them. Given the short timescale and difficulties with COVID restrictions, bad weather etc, youth workers managed to complete twelve comprehensive questionnaires and case studies, which will hopefully help to form a positive Roma Strategy for the district. This exercise was appreciated by CNET as well as the participants, who received food vouchers. The Youth Service have been able to create stronger links with the Roma community in Keighley.

We have maintained links with Eastern European (EE) young people and their families helping reinforce safety messages and provided PPE. Youth workers have helped carry out a targeted consultation with the EE community to help Bradford Council identify how better to serve their needs. We have also helped and supported EE migrants to apply for settled status and continually provided food parcels and curries donated by local businesses to vulnerable families across Keighley. In November, the Eastern European session was reopened as open access and it currently has over 25 EE young people attending regularly.

Park Events

During the Summer Holidays some of the Young Ambassadors group were active participants in delivering the Park Events sessions (part of the Play in the Parks initiative). Their help and commitment was invaluable.

A total of 18 sessions were delivered across the Keighley district, including 9 locally funded. The attendance at these events was primarily dependent on weather but even the on wettest and coldest days still managed over 90 people attending the bigger parks (Victoria, Devonshire & Lund). The events were a huge success and the staff team was able to re-establish some contacts severed by the COVID-19 situation. The Young Ambassadors also conducted more research over the Summer, which will go towards informing the content for the 2022 Youth Summit.



BCA

Young people in the Knowle Park area were pleased to see the re-opening of their youth sessions on Thursday and Saturdays. They have been engaging positively, the sessions are focused around a wide range of issues impacting on them. Youth workers are utilising a variety of methods to aid and support them.

Peer Mentoring Programme and Girls Group in partnership with Carlton Keighley

In July 2021, youth workers had the opportunity to deliver a peer mentoring programme to 25 Young People from Years 7 – 11. The Programme took place at Carlton Keighley in the school from 9am-1.30pm. Its aim was to train young people in how to support other young people within the school setting. During the training young people explored their skills in listening actively, building trust, encouraging others and providing constructive feedback. By the end of the session young people were confident in becoming a peer mentor and helping out their fellow students. Recent feedback from the school suggests that the peer mentoring scheme has been successful and young people are mentoring and supporting their peers. Feedback from young people has expressed that they find it easier to communicate with and receive mentoring from young people in their age bracket.

In August 2021, a group for girls in Carlton Keighley was set up to support them with their mental health and wellbeing. Activities ranged from team building, exploring emotions and coping methods. The young girls felt supported and enjoyed the group. As a result, the Youth Service has opened a girls' group on a Saturday.

Keighley East

Detached youth workers have delivered activities in Keighley East over the last year (Wednesdays and Fridays). They have been engaging with young people across the Keighley East area in a variety of locations.



This includes two weekly detached youth work sessions with activities delivered in Hainworth Wood, Stockbridge, and Long Lee.

Young people accessing detached sessions have benefited from one to one support from youth workers around a range of issues including CSE awareness, school and college issues and emotional wellbeing. Young people have also engaged with young ambassadors to identify issues

important to them and have influenced the agenda for the upcoming Keighley youth summit. Workers are now planning the re-opening of the open access youth club at Keighley Young People's Centre.



The Youth Service has also supported community events such as the launch of Thwaites play area.

Keighley College Drop-in

Youth workers deliver a weekly open access drop in at Keighley College. The session runs on Wednesdays 2-4pm and provides activities as well as one to one support. Workers have engaged with young people on a range of issues including, healthy lifestyles, building resilience, and healthy relationships. This session also provides an opportunity for young people to get involved in volunteering and local decision making.

CLLD

The Youth Service is one of the key delivery partners in a community led local development programme. This enables us to work within the community, particularly with young adults to support them in developing the skills and confidence required for re-integration into employment. Workers are able to engage with marginalised groups to identify potential barriers and create opportunities based the needs and interests of project participants.



This project has been promoted through various community engagement events.

Keighley West

Over the last year our youth work team has seen a significant increase in the number of vulnerable young people, who access our universal provision. A number of these young people have needed to be supported on a one to one basis in order to help with issues such as anger, low self-esteem and self-harm. As a result, youth workers have worked closely with services such as Children's Social Care, Early Help and the Police to ensure that young people are safe and families are supported.

In response, the youth work team delivered a summer transition programme 'Moving Up', which worked with local primary and secondary schools. The aim was to enable participants to make new friends, engage in activities, learn about their new school and to decrease any worries or concerns about moving up. During the project, they all completed a Bradford local youth award and were awarded a certificate of achievement. Along with that, they played many different team building games, and took part in sports and fun engaging activities to increase confidence and self-esteem. These positive activities provided them with an opportunity to feel more confident about starting secondary school. These young people will continue to be supported over the next year and it is hoped that this will reduce the risk of exclusion and the need for specialist support.

Youth workers have maintained a strong detached presence around the Keighley West ward in order to build their connections with young people in the area. Sessions have restarted in Bracken Bank since the COVID regulations relaxed. In Braithwaite, we are exploring different options regarding premises.

Youth workers have delivered food parcels and PPE to vulnerable families in the Ward including those identified via the Youth in Mind project and to other families who were identified through the street based engagement during the COVID lockdowns. Youth workers have worked with other agencies to identify those eligible for the No Child Cold Scheme. Workers spoke to a number of families and supported them to apply for the grant. Also, there was concern that some young people were not concerned about the rise in COVID infections in the area and that they had a lot of untruths and information that was not accurate in regards to the COVID vaccine and the reporting of the virus infection rates. The Service employed a number of YCA (Young COVID Ambassadors) to help youth workers dispel myths about COVID and encourage young people to keep safe.



Football for peace and playmakers

Football for Peace coaching sessions for young people at Marley Activities Coaching Centre Keighley. This was a big project for those passionate about football enabling them to gain professional coaching and a great opportunity and a pathway for young people from the Keighley district to develop their football skills and to gain valuable football experience doing what they love. Participants can gain a greater understanding of the game and practical experience in coaching that can lead onto Level 1 and 2 football coaching qualifications.

YIM Active

The mental wellbeing support group YIM Active is working with a number of young people, some with a friend (one friend is allowed for support). The group has been active in various events (Keighley Pride, park events and fun days). They have recently been working on plans for a half term activity (trampolining) and an Xmas party (possibly fancy dress).



The young people have steadily grown in confidence and made new support networks for themselves leading to less anxiety when not at the group.

Craven Ward

Over the last 12 months in the Craven Ward, as most sessions were closed due to the COVID Restrictions, it has been a fantastic opportunity to build relationships with both young people and other professionals who work with young people in the area. We also conducted detached sessions, both in the community and at the Hive, to build working relationships with young people in readiness for the re-opening of open access provisions in September 2021.

We have developed a “split” session whereby 11-15 year olds meet at 6-8pm followed by the upper age group from 8pm onwards. This has proved very successful with currently around 20 young attending the earlier session and 15 attending the later one.



The Youth Service has attended and networked at Silsden Gala, the Community Rounders' match and the recent Bonfire Event.



Also in the Craven area, the youth worker has worked with around 10 young people through the Buddies Project, helping young people with their mental health and well-being, and various other issues both at the Hive and in the community. Through the Buddies project, a meeting was arranged with the Head of South Craven School and now a regular Monday session is in place to see young people who have been referred via CAMHS or Early Help. This will develop further the Youth Service's relationship with the school where we hope to create an ongoing session for young people.

Ilkley Ward

During the last 12 months Ilkley ward has taken the opportunity to develop and maintain 3 sessions, as well as the ongoing support and partnership work with Ilkley Youth and Community association and Ilkley Grammar school (IGS). Earlier in the year, as open access was closed, detached youth work was the main focus and this took place on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday, responding to issues including ASB, Summer and hot weather plan. This enabled engagement with young people around the perception of ASB. In addition, a healthy partnership has developed with the youth worker from Christ Church who now co-works regular weekly sessions.



Over the summer period, we participated and developed weekend sessions at Riverside Gardens, thus giving young people opportunities to participate in various activities such as, arts, crafts and sports. Information, advice and guidance was available and the sessions were also a way to get the voice of young people from the Ward. Over 150 young people took part in a survey and focus groups. In the summer, Ilkley Warehouse re-opened under Covid Restrictions with around 10 -15 young people attending each session, re-opening fully in September, when attendance rose to around 25 young people. A Friday transition group, for years 7s and 8s, is currently in planning and will open shortly.



Other development work included a survey of voluntary and sporting organisations about the work they are doing that contributed towards the Ilkley Youth offer. This

then culminated in the creation of a Youth Offer Event facilitated by the Youth Service and attended by partners from across the statutory and voluntary sector in addition to ward and district councillors for young people living in Ilkley and surrounding areas which took place at the Kings Hall in September 2021. This has enabled us to start the process of having an offer for young people no matter their needs or ability to pay.

Other activities include a Mental Health and Well-being service for young people in the Ilkley area both in school and the community. The service is called TIC-TAC and runs at Ilkley Grammar School on Wednesdays involving an average of six young people on a one-to-one basis each week. Monday Inclusion has also re-opened with young people with disabilities and young volunteers coming together to create a fun filled session with around 15 young people attending.

Worth Valley

Youth Service has been delivering detached youth work sessions across the Worth Valley and visited hot spots as identified by partner organisations. Young people have been able to access online activities and support offered by workers in addition to receiving activity packs, PPE, and food packs where relevant.

Oxenhope Youth Club reopened in September 2021 and is doing well with a new cohort of about 25 young people attending an open access youth session every Friday. This is delivered in partnership with the Parish Council and the Youth Club Committee. Young people are actively creating and developing their own menu of activities. This has been supported by a number of sessions that took place in June and July where young people were involved in consulting their peers. The activities delivered regularly include team games, sports, discussions themed workshops, cook and eats, arts and life skills. It is great to see young people, staff and volunteers working together to deliver a fun, creative, inclusive and interactive sessions.

Youth workers have supported young people across the Worth Valley in accessing volunteering opportunities both within the Youth Service and also in other organisations. This has enabled them to develop and practice transferrable skills which will support future employment.

Workers have worked alongside the Young COVID Ambassadors in schools to share the message about COVID safety and look towards COVID recovery. This has involved school drop-in sessions to help young people understand more about COVID and mental health.

Youth workers have also got a caseload of young people where they carry out one-to-one support either via home visits, walk and talks and detached community support.

Keighley Wide – Groups that run across the constituency

Youth in Mind group

The Youth Service in Keighley runs weekly mental health support groups for young people across the constituency. These were our first groups to return from Zoom and garden visits to a face to face meetings after COVID restrictions were lifted. This has been a crucial lifeline for many young people.



Keighley Youth Inclusion Group

A group for young people with additional needs runs each Monday evening at the Keighley Young People's Centre. They have recently enjoyed a Halloween Party with games and cooking.



Keighley 'Sound Group' for LGBTQ+ young people

The youth service in Keighley runs a weekly group for the constituency's LGBTQ+ young people . It provides a safe space to explore sexuality, gender, mental health and many other issues. Our staff also provide one to one support and support for schools.



The youth service participating and advertising its services at Keighley pride 2021



The Poetry Event

In July we worked in partnership with Keighley Creative and local Poets to run a three-day poetry workshop for young people from across the constituency. It was an amazing experience for all involved and made poetry accessible for all. We plan to repeat the experience for new young people again next year.



The Youth in Mind ‘Buddies’ Service

The youth workers in Keighley also hold a one to one caseloads, supporting young people with mental health difficulties from across the constituency. Young people are referred from CAMHS, school nurses, social care and other agencies.

The Youth Offer Group

The Youth Service works closely with other organisations running youth provisions across the Keighley area. Throughout the pandemic we have all continued to meet to support 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, which will all link to ensure we are meeting the needs of Young people.

Young Ambassadors

Four young people have moved on from the group since we last gave information to the committee, as they have started their journey in higher education. We currently have seven young ambassadors for the Keighley District. They are conscious that the group needs to reflect the Keighley demographic and are putting together a recruitment program aimed at Years 9 -13 in the secondary schools to aid a more accurate representation.



In 2019 the group held a Youth Summit (November 2019) but due to COVID were unable to hold it last year, so they have used the last 12 months to look at the biggest issues affecting young people in Keighley. They are using this information to plan and design a Youth Summit to take place February Half term 2022. The Young Ambassadors will be delivering all the workshops, evaluating the event and planning the next steps along with any agencies / organisations that can help them achieve their goals.

During the lockdown period, the young ambassadors started a radio show called 'Fire from the Youth' showcasing young musical talent from Keighley young people, another platform for young people's voice through music. On International Women's Day the young ambassadors participated in an online event about empowering women through games, and activities.