

# Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of the Shipley Area Committee to be held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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## **Subject:**

Youth Service Update – Shipley

## **Summary statement:**

This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Shipley constituency in 2022/23.

The report outlines the following information:

- An overview of Youth Service provision in Shipley.
- An update on how the Youth Service continues to respond to increased demand and complexity of need.
- An update on youth provision ward by ward and key developments.

## **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.

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David Shepherd  
Strategic Director of Place

### **Portfolio:**

**Neighbourhood and Community Service**

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### **Overview & Scrutiny Area:**

**Children's Services**

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report gives an update on work undertaken by the Youth Service in the Shipley constituency in 2022/23.

The report outlines the following information:

- An overview of Youth Service provision in Shipley.
- An update on how the Youth Service continues to respond to increased demand and complexity of need.
- 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 that 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 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 range of community partners to ensure that young people have a network of support that enables them to engage in positive relationships. This work has taken place through a range of delivery methods including detached, outreach and centre-based sessions. This approach has enabled Youth Workers to respond to issues faced by young people and provide access to early help.

### 3.2 ASB & Bonfire Period

In October and November 2022, significant Youth Service resources were 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 and delivered an intensive week of detached youth work on the run up to Bonfire Night. This work had positive outcomes in the Shipley constituency which suffered very few firework related issues. The Police Inspector for the Shipley Constituency thanked all staff involved with personal letters as follows,

*"This is a personal thank you from me for the support you showed relating to the bonfire period .....*

*Your dedication, professionalism and unique, under valued skills, really help our local community to have an enjoyable bonfire celebration. .... Without your interventions and skills in managing the young people .... I know that the demands placed upon Police and Fire services would have been far greater than they were.*

*..... You should be proud of what you do on a daily basis, it is vital work.”*

The Shipley youth work team also received praise in the Keighley News for our work around Bonfire Night as follows,

*“I was wondering if a small 'thank you' could be included in the Keighley News praising Shipley Neighbourhood Policing Team, its special constables, Operation Steerside and Bradford Youth Service for their efforts to prevent any issues on mischief and bonfire night.*

*I know they worked extremely hard in Denholme on Friday and Saturday. Denholme Youth Cafe allowed them to use its building so they could keep the young people entertained and warm and off the streets, and they also did a lot of groundwork within the community and neighbouring communities.”*

Throughout the past 12 months, youth workers have focused on balancing the needs of young people through open access youth provision and small group work sessions. This approach enables youth workers to offer a menu of support to young people whilst increasing membership and participation.

Throughout the summer months, youth workers have offered a range of activities in local parks that encouraged young people to respect green spaces and the members of the community. In addition, Youth Workers 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** – some young people report that they have experienced domestic abuse within their family units.

**Educational Anxiety** – some young people report that they do not enjoy school and struggle to engage.

**Isolation** – some young people report that they feel disconnected from their community.

**Self-Harm** – some young people report that they have used self-harm as a means to cope with personal experiences.

The Youth Service has remained focused on meeting demand and delivered the following support through local youth provision:

**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 access local support networks. This work helps address complex issues such as; Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation and Family Breakdown.

**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 around issues that are important to them. Many of these sessions have a central activity that helps young people to engage and build trust.

**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.

**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.**

The Youth Service continues 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. The Youth Service in Shipley 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.

### 3.4 **Youth Work 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.

Throughout 2022, the Youth Service in Shipley received 160 referrals from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS), School Nurses & other professionals. This year, from April, we have received 67 referrals to date. These referrals are allocated to Youth Workers who act as buddies to young people, their role is to befriend them, support them using an early help approach and navigate local support networks. Youth workers work on a one to one basis with young people that have been referred to increase their confidence and resilience.

In addition, youth workers work closely with 4 secondary schools in the Shipley Constituency including Beckfoot, Bingley Grammar, Salts and Parkside and also Shipley College to help identify students who need support for their health and well-being. Youth Workers support young people in school, delivering 1:1 work on a weekly basis developing young people's confidence, self-belief and resilience.

One school sent the following feedback regarding the one to one support work delivered by one of our youth workers in school,

*“..... is always a positive person to be around, she is never without a cheerful smile and is conscientious and reliable.*

*She has a natural ability to put children at ease and has worked with a genuine caringness to support our troubled students. She has helped countless student overcome their difficulties.*

*She’s a pleasure to work with and the whole of the pastoral team value her work.”*

### 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.

Within each ward Youth Workers work alongside Ward Officers and the ward partnership meetings to map local area issues and develop responses. This approach has been effective in addressing anti social behaviour in a number of areas where youth workers, ward officers and police officers have worked together to identify hot spot areas for anti-social behaviour and developed strategies to address the behaviours.

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.

### 3.6 **ShipleY Wide Provision**

The ShipleY Youth work team currently leads on the delivery of 3 constituency wide projects including work with SEND young people and LGBTQ+ young people and also information and advice which is delivered by 16-25, Advice, Advocacy, Action. These sessions are for young people to attend from across the ShipleY constituency. The area wide sessions are themed to suit young people’s needs, interests and increase our Youth Offer.

### 3.7 **District Wide Youth Work**

The youth work practitioners from the locality based ShipleY youth work team continues to work closely with District wide Youth Services since this was migrated across to the new Bradford Children and Families Trust in April 2023. We have retained a strong commitment to ensuring seamless services for young people in the area.

The work of the District Youth Service includes the Breaking the Cycle project who specialise in providing intensive support to young people who are at risk or who are being criminally exploited. This work includes those identified as being linked to Organised Crime Groups, Urban Street Gangs and those who have higher than yellow ASB sanctions.

Breaking the Cycle have worked with 1787 young people in the 4 years this piece of work has been running – it has continued to receive high numbers of referrals (86%) for young men, the project has also seen an increase in referrals for girls and young women over the last 12 months, rising from 8% to 14%.

We continue to have the highest percentage of referrals being for children who are being exploited or who are exploiting others or both. This equates to 64% of the referrals received. 37% of those referrals also have indicators for weapons, 46% have indicators for drugs as either users of, suppliers of or have been found in possession of.

The work with these young people is intense and can often be at a point of crisis, but the team continue to support and develop work upstream of the crisis work to provide interventions earlier in the life of the problem. This sees youth work practitioners working in A&E at BRI, Huddersfield and Calderdale hospitals 7 days a week, 4pm to midnight. Working with children and young people who present with sharp instrument injuries, those whose stories do not match the injury presented and those with upstream issues of substance misuse/ overdose and mental health crisis. The team provide an onward support package to each young person with an aim of stepping down the intense support into other locality-based services who are then able to provide onward support.

District Youth Services have over the last 12 months developed the Youth Work Academy – this has seen 11 youth rights trainees working with the service on the agenda of youth voice and children’s rights. They have almost completed their traineeships and a high number of them have acquired Level 2 and 3 in youth work and have gone on / have secured future employment for when the traineeships end in September. This team has led the serious violence consultation for the district to ensure the voices of young people are strong as stakeholders in the new serious violence duty which is imposed on the authority and a number of other strategic partners.

District Youth Services continue to provide training for a number of other agencies, coordinated through the Bradford Safeguarding Partnership - the team have delivered training around County Lines and weapons to help other practitioners become more aware of the early indicators of serious violence.

The district teams have continued their work with new migrant families and working with children as part of the Afghan Resettlement Programme, working in collaboration with a wider multiagency team of practitioners supporting our new communities with resettlement into the UK.

#### **4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL**

- 4.1 The Youth Service base budget remains unchanged for 2023/24. The service has filled vacancies and recruited additional staff to fulfil commissioned service delivery including Youth in Mind, Breaking the Cycles and Positive Futures. Some of this commissioned work is geographically specific which may mean that we see demand being met with additional Youth Work resources.
- 4.2 The District Youth Service Team is funded through a combination of Council budget (Children’s Services & Public Health) external grants (Violence Reduction Unit) and ‘fee earning’ externally commissioned services (Health).

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

5.1 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**

6.1 No issues

## **7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

### **7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS**

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

### **7.2 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS**

7.2.1 Climate emergency implications are taken into consideration in the buildings review.

### **7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

7.3.1 Young people from across the Shipley constituency 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.

7.3.2 The strengthened approach to the devolution of the Youth Service as 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.

### **7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT**

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

### **7.5 TRADE UNION**

7.5.1 All budget proposals are subject to consultation with the trade unions.

### **7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS**

7.6.1 The information in this report is related to all wards in the constituency and appendices A and B outline the Youth Service projects and activities delivered

across the Shipley Constituency.

### **7.7.1 AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

7.7.1 Priorities for young people are contained with the locality plan 2022 - 2025.

### **7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

7.8.1 The contents of this report has implications for children and young people across all wards

### **7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT**

7.9.1 No issues arising.

### **8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

8.1 None

### **9. OPTIONS**

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

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

9.3 That the Shipley 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 Shipley constituency as detailed in this report be welcomed.

### **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix A: Shipley Youth Service Baseline Youth Provision

11.2 Appendix B: Shipley Youth Service – Youth Service Ward Updates and key developments

### **12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

12.1 Youth Service Update January 2022 to Shipley Area Committee – Document ‘J’



**Youth Service – Shipley**  
**Current Baseline Youth Provision**

<b>Shipley Ward</b>			
For more information contact Carole Bywater: 07582 109824, <a href="mailto:carole.bywater@bradford.gov.uk">carole.bywater@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Open access youth club	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly
Wednesday, 5.30pm – 7.30pm	Targeted Group	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly
Thursday, 3pm – 6pm	Information and Advice Session in partnership with 16-25, Advice, Advocacy, Action	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly
Thursday, 4pm – 6pm	Bike Project (open to all constituency)	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly
Thursday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Open access youth club	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly
Friday, 5.30pm – 7.30pm	Sound Group	Shipley Youth Project	Weekly

<b>Baildon Ward</b>			
For more information contact Carole Bywater: 07582 109824, <a href="mailto:carole.bywater@bradford.gov.uk">carole.bywater@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday, 2pm – 4pm	Sports Session	Various parks in Baildon	Weekly
Wednesday 6.30-8.30pm	Targeted Group	Baildon Methodist Church	Weekly
Various	Detached Youth Work according to local need	Baildon & Roberts Park	Weekly

<b>Bingley Ward</b>			
For more information contact Imran Hussain: 07582 100174, <a href="mailto:imran.hussain@bradford.gov.uk">imran.hussain@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday, 5.30pm – 7.30pm	Inclusion Group	Bingley Youth Café	Weekly
Wednesday, 3.30pm – 5.30pm	Crazy Zebra Crew (Targeted session)	Bingley Youth Café	Weekly
Wednesday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Open access youth club	Bingley Youth Café	Weekly

Thursday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Targeted Boys Group	Bingley Youth Café	Weekly
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### Bingley Rural Ward

For more information contact Imran Hussain: 07582 100174, [imran.hussain@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:imran.hussain@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Open Access Youth Club	Denholme Youth Café	Weekly
Monday, 6.30m – 8.30pm		Wilsden Village Hall	Weekly
Thursday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm		Wilsden Village Hall	Weekly

### Windhill & Wrose Ward

For more information contact Sam Rafter: 07816 117740, [sam.rafter@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:sam.rafter@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday, 4pm – 6pm	Open Access Youth Club	Bolton Woods Community Centre	Weekly
Tuesday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm.	Boys Group	Highcroft Youth Centre	Weekly
Wednesday, 5.30pm – 7pm	Open Access Youth Club	Windhill Community Centre	Weekly
Thursday, 6.30pm – 8.30pm	Open Access Youth Club	Highcroft Youth Centre	Weekly
Various in response to local need	Detached Youth Work	Windhill & Wrose	Weekly

### Wharfedale Ward

For more information contact Sam Rafter: 07816 117740, [sam.rafter@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:sam.rafter@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday, 4pm – 6pm	Open Access Youth Club	Baildon Methodist Church	Weekly

### SCHOOLS WORK

For more information contact Carys Bose: 07582 104446, [carys.bose@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:carys.bose@bradford.gov.uk)

Day	Activity	School	Frequency	Target group
Tuesday	1:1 Support	Beckfoot	Weekly	Health and Well Being
Thursday	1:1 Support	Salts	Weekly	Health and Well Being
Thursday	1:1 Support	Parkside	Weekly	Health and Well Being
Thursday & Friday	1:1 Support	Bingley Grammar	Weekly	Health and Well Being

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Group session</b>	<b>Shiple College</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Health and Well Being</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Group session</b>	<b>Shiple College</b>	<b>Weekly</b>	<b>Health and Well Being</b>

The above table provides an overview of the work that is delivered in secondary schools in Shipley. Each youth worker will hold an average case load of 12 young people who they provide one to one support to over a half-term. This enables youth workers to work with a large number of young people over the course of a school year. The impact of these early interventions helps reduce exclusions and maintain attendance whilst also reducing the demand on specialist services. The support received is unique to each individual but often focuses on emotional well-being, anxiety and low self-esteem.

The impact of this '*school based support*' has been the growth of '*community based*' peer support groups across the constituency. These groups offer young people the opportunity to share the 'self-care skills' that they have learnt with others.

### Youth Service – Shipley

#### Windhill & Wrose

Over the past 12 months and as a result of the building of successful community partnerships, the Youth Service has been able to expand provision in Windhill & Wrose and now deliver sessions in Wrose, Windhill and Bolton Woods.

Attendance at Highcroft Youth Centre in Wrose has grown considerably over the past year with some 45 young people regularly attending the weekly open access session. Young people have planned and delivered a number of sessions at Highcroft Youth Centre including Halloween and Christmas parties and undertaken regular music, sports and cook and eat sessions.

Some young people attended a play that was shown at Highcroft Youth Centre named Bloods Thicker which focused on knife crime through a true story. From Spring to July, youth workers worked with Commonwealth Theatre to design, develop and perform a theatre piece named, Off Road. The play focused on the culture of Off Road biking and also crime and anti social behaviour and was written purely from the experiences of the young people involved. The play ran for 3 nights at Windhill Community Centre to full audiences and was attended by young people and older community members. The play was a resounding success and raised a number of issues that young people experience growing up in the area and in Bradford.

It is no secret that Windhill and Wrose has suffered anti-social behaviour over recent months and youth workers have worked closely with the Ward Officers and police to address the behaviours. Youth workers have undertaken a considerable amount of detached youth work in the area and in the parks and also established a boys group in May 2023 to enable youth workers to target specific young people. The boys group has been attended by around 15 different young men who have enjoyed boxing sessions, sport and cook and eat during the sessions. The boys group has been a successful piece of work which has shown the benefits of working with smaller groups. Many of the young people that attended expressed that they had participated more positively in a smaller group and other young people are asking for similar types of provision.

Sessions also take place on a weekly basis at Windhill Community Centre in partnership with One in a Million. These sessions are well attended and have offered opportunities to develop good relationships with the community centre and the local community. The sessions are also attended by local PCSO's which is positive in terms of enabling the young people develop positive relationships with the police. The young people have enjoyed a number of issue based workshops, one of which was concerned with knife crime and was delivered in partnership with the police. The young people were also involved in a consultation around the local park which has recently had some renovations to ensure that it is user friendly and particularly user friendly for young women.

Bolton Woods Community Centre is now re-opened and the Youth Service enjoys a positive partnership with Play Bradford, All Star and Be Well to deliver a regular weekly youth session. The session is supported by 7 apprentice youth workers who are supported and mentored by the Youth Service Leader in Charge for the session. The young people have benefited from a range of activities and issue based workshops, most recently undertaking a build a bike project where the young people learn how to build and maintain a bike and take the bike away with them at the end of the programme.

## **Shipley**

Shipley Youth Project is based in the centre of Shipley next to the Town Hall. It is ideally placed to attract young people from a number of different areas including Baildon and Windhill and Wrose as well as Shipley.

The Youth Service partnered with Shipley Town Council in late summer 2022 to undertake a residential to Sconce in Baildon to explore how young people could be more involved in decision making in their local community. This work encouraged young people to be more involved in community initiatives such as the Christmas Lights switch on in Shipley Town Centre. Young people attended the light switch on and the Christmas market and gave out random acts of kindness to local people. These acts of kindness were well received by community members and also made the young people feel good that they had done something nice for other people. The young people also got into the full spirit of the event by dressing up as Santa's elves.

Young people also undertook a mini survey to find out what social media platforms were preferred by young people. The aim was to ensure that we are using the most effective platforms to publicise opportunities to young people and there were some surprising results. Most young people said that they used Tik Tok or Instagram, but they also said that they use Facebook to keep in touch with older family members which was a surprise to us.

Young people have been involved in a wide variety of activities in the Youth Café including arts and crafts, music, cooking where the young people have explored foods of the world and sports. They have also undertaken sessions to explore Black History Month, World Aids Day and International Women's Day engaging in workshops around why these days exist and the achievements of black people and women.

Youth workers at Shipley Youth Project have been successful in attracting and developing a number of young leaders and volunteers over the past year. Volunteers would normally be over the age of 18 years while becoming a Young Leader enables young people to develop basic youth work skills from a younger age and also employability skills for future work. We also find that some young people go on to become youth workers themselves as they wish to 'give something back' after they have benefitted themselves from their involvement in the Youth Service. We currently have 2 members of staff who are working as Casual Youth Workers who have been previous users of the Youth Service or young leaders or volunteers.

## **Baildon**

Youth work in the Baildon Ward has proven challenging due to the lack of a suitable building to deliver sessions to larger groups of young people. Attempts at partnership working with The Link have been refused by the Link as they state that they do not need additional staff at their sessions currently. However, youth workers will continue to direct young people found during detached youth work sessions to the weekly session at the Link. The offer to the Link to work in partnership remains as the youth work sessions may get busier as the darker and colder nights draw in.

Baildon, again has suffered anti-social behaviour over recent weeks and youth workers have been involved in a programme of detached youth work in Baildon and also Roberts Park where groups of young people have been congregating. Strong partnership working with the police and the Ward Officers has meant that we have been able to identify the young people quickly and efficiently and we are currently looking at ways to engage these young people in more positive activities.

Youth workers have maintained relationships with a number of vulnerable young people in Baildon through door knocking, home visits and detached youth work. Youth workers have built a strong relationship with Greggs in Shipley and surplus food is delivered along with a home visit to a number of vulnerable young people and families in Baildon.

Through detached youth work, we have begun to develop stronger relationships with a number of

local businesses who now feel able to contact us should the need arise.

A significant number of young people that live in Baildon actually attend youth sessions in Shipley. We believe that this is due to the varied programme of activities on offer and also due to the limited Youth Service sessions in Baildon.

### **Wharfedale**

Youth Service work in Wharfedale has mainly been concerned with detached youth work due to not having a suitable building to deliver youth groups. The Roundhouse in Burley was offered for a period of time, but this did not prove suitable and was not attended by young people.

Burley has suffered some anti-social behaviour and youth workers undertook home visits to young people who had been identified by the police. These young people now attend youth provision in Ilkley.

Over recent months, there have been a number of new developments in Burley. The Methodist Church has employed a youth worker and the Church and Youth Service are now working together to deliver a weekly open access youth session. In September, there will also be additional sessions offered alongside the youth club by Unique which offers a 12 week emotional wellness course for young people.

Spring and Summer saw the Youth Service strengthen links with local schools, and, in particular, the primary schools. The Youth Service supported transition days for around 80 young people in year 5 transitioning to Year 6. The Youth Service will be supporting the new Year 6 pupils in their final year and as they transition to Year 7 next year.

### **Bingley**

We finally managed to open Bingley Youth Café after the pandemic in late Summer 2022. The building had remained closed during the pandemic years due to having insufficient ventilation. This has now been remedied and the building has had a lick of paint and some new furniture.

Bingley Youth Café benefits from a range of provision including an open access youth club and a smaller group session aimed at young women with emotional well-being issues that the young people have named the Crazy Zebra Crew. This group was set up with funding from the Bingley Bubble Community Partnership and has proven to be a life line for a number of young women and offers a space where peer support and nurturing takes place. Some of the achievements of the young women may seem small to some of us, but have been monumental to the young women themselves. One young woman was absolutely terrified of dogs, but, with the support of her peer group, managed to walk past dogs while enjoying a group afternoon out in St Ives. Another young woman who had not attended school for a considerable period of time was successful in completing her GCSE's and will be attending college in September.

Bingley Youth Café hosted a 'Moving Up' project during the summer months supporting young people transitioning into Year 7 at Bingley Grammar and Beckfoot. The young people had the opportunity to meet other young people that would be moving into Year 7 in September and explore their hopes and fears about school as well as look at ways of dealing with bullying, emotional well-being issues and developing resilience. The aim of the Moving up project is to help the transition to secondary school be as smooth as possible and to help young people feel optimistic about the transition.

Some young people that attend Bingley Youth Café launched an open event as a means of raising funds for a local cancer charity. The young people wanted to show support to one member of the group whose father currently has cancer. The event was well attended by members of the public, friends and family and the young people raised well over £300 for Maggie's cancer charity through running activities such as guess the name of the teddy and the number of sweets in the jar, a tombola and also through the sale of cakes that they had baked themselves.

