

# Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of Bradford South Area Committee to be held on 19 October 2023

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## **Subject:**

Youth Service Update – Bradford South.

## **Summary statement:**

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

Appendix A – Bradford South Youth Service Baseline Provision details the current provisions being delivered within the wards in Bradford South.

Appendix B - Bradford Youth Service South Ward Update gives an overview of ward work and 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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## **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 Bradford South Area in 2022-23.

1.2 The report outlines the following information:

- An overview of Youth Service provision in Bradford South.
- 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.

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

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

2.4 The Youth Service is managed within a localities model as part of Neighbourhood and Customer Services. From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 the Breaking the Cycle Youth Work Team became part of Bradford Children and Families Trust.

### 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.

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 Bon Fire Night. Youth Workers engaged young people in a 'Consequences' campaign that highlighted the impact of ASB and misuse of fireworks.

Between December 2022 and May 2023 Youth Workers 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.

Over the summer months Youth Workers offered 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 assess local support networks. This work helps address complex issues such as; Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation and Family Breakdown.

**Small 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.

**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. Bradford South 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.

Over the last year, Bradford South has received over 400 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 an early help approach and navigate local support networks.

In addition, Youth Workers work closely with all secondary school in Bradford South and help identify students who need support for their health and well-being. Youth Workers support these additional caseload in schools, delivering 1:1 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.

Within each ward Youth Workers work alongside Ward Officers to map local area issues and develop responses. A good example of how this can be seen in the weekly Anti-Social Behaviour 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.

### 3.6 **Future Workforce**

In September 2022 Bradford South welcomed a new Youth Work Trainee to the team. The trainees were placed with the team with the view to supporting the development of Youth Voice initiatives that ensure young people have a greater role in shaping service delivery. The trainees also helped identify gaps in provision and develop new projects that respond to the needs of young people.

From September 2023, the team will support a Youth Worker Apprentice to complete a degree in Youth Work. The apprentice will hold a number of key responsibilities within the team supporting the development of Youth Voice initiatives that ensure young people have a greater role in shaping service delivery. They will also help identify gaps in provision and develop new projects that respond to the needs of young people.

### 3.7 **South Wide Provisions**

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

### 3.8 **District Wide Youth Work**

The team work closely with Bradford Children and Families Trust. From 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 inc: Youth in Mind, BACS 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.

#### **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 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 well-being of their communities.

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

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

##### **7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Young people from across Bradford South 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 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**

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

#### **7.5 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 South.

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

None.

### **9. OPTIONS**

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

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

9.3 That Bradford South 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 Bradford South Area as detailed in this report be welcomed.

### **11. APPENDICES**

11.1 Appendix A: Bradford South Youth Service Baseline Youth Provision

11.2 Appendix B: Bradford South – Youth Service Ward Updates

### **12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

12.1 Youth Service – Area Committee Report 2022



## Appendix A

### Bradford South Youth Service Baseline Youth Provision - 2023

<b>TONG WARD</b>			
For more information contact Chris McMahon, 07582101456, <a href="mailto:chris.mcmahon@bradford.gov.uk">chris.mcmahon@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday 4:30-8.00pm	Targeted Group	TFD Centre	Weekly
Tuesday 5.30-8.00pm	Youth Club	TFD Centre	Weekly
Wednesday 5.00-7:30pm	Targeted Group	TFD Centre	Weekly

<b>WYKE WARD</b>			
For more information contact Patrick Nyaroko, 07582103696, <a href="mailto:patrick.nyaroko@bradford.gov.uk">patrick.nyaroko@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Wednesday 6.00-9.00pm	Detached	Wyke	Weekly
Thursday 5.30-8.00pm	Youth Club	Delph Hill Centre	Weekly
Friday 5:30-8:00pm	Youth Club	Delph Hill Centre	Weekly

<b>QUEENSBURY WARD</b>			
For more information contact Helena Rhodes, 07582108191, <a href="mailto:Helena.rhodes@bradford.gov.uk">Helena.rhodes@bradford.gov.uk</a>			
Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesdays 3.30 - 6.00pm	Outreach	Queensbury	Weekly
Wednesday 5.30-8.00pm	Youth Club	Victoria Hall	Weekly
Thursday 5.30-8.00pm	Youth Club	Victoria Hall	Weekly

**ROYDS WARD**For more information contact Stephen Harrison, 07582101715, [stephen.harrison@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:stephen.harrison@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday 6.00-8.30pm	Youth Club	Buttershaw Youth Centre	Weekly
Wednesday 6.00-8.30pm	Targeted Group	Buttershaw Youth Centre	Weekly
Thursday 6.00- 8.30pm	Youth Club	Buttershaw Youth Centre	Weekly

**WIBSEY WARD**For more information contact Tracey Gill, 07582100683, [tracey.gill@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:tracey.gill@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday 6.00-8.30pm	Targeted Group	Outreach	Weekly
Tuesday 6.00-8.30pm	Youth Club	Buttershaw Youth Centre	Weekly
Wednesday 6.00-9.00pm	Youth Club	Wibsey Methodist Church	Weekly

**GREAT HORTON WARD**For more information contact Zwelani Mayo 07582107053, [zwelani.mayo@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:zwelani.mayo@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Monday 6.00-8.00pm	Youth Club	Great Horton	Weekly
Wednesday 6.00-8.00pm	Target Group	Scholemoor	Weekly
Thursday 6.00-8.00pm	Youth Club	Great Horton	Weekly

**Bradford South Constituency Wide**For more information contact Calais Lawrence, 07582100684, [Calais.lawrence@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:Calais.lawrence@bradford.gov.uk)

Day/Time	Activity	Location	Frequency
Tuesday 4.00-6.00pm	Peer Support Session	Buttershaw Youth Centre	Weekly
Thursday 4.00-6.00pm	Peer Support Session	Park Ave FC	Weekly
Friday 5.00 -8.00pm	Peer Support Session	TFD Youth Centre	Weekly

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<b>SCHOOLS WORK</b>				
For more information contact Calais Lawrence, 07582100684, Calais.lawrence@bradford.gov.uk				
<b>No. of Days</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Academy</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Target group</b>
2	1:1 Support	Tong	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	BBEC	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Appleton	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Forsters	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Trinity	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Coop Grange	Weekly	Health and Well Being

The above table provides an overview of the work that is delivered in secondary schools in Bradford South. Each youth worker will hold an average case load of 24 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. We commonly refer to these groups as – Connect Peer Support groups.

## Appendix B

### Bradford South – Youth Service Ward Updates:

#### Great Horton

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- In Great Horton the team have a strong working partnership with *Coop Grange Academy*, *Scholemoor Beacon* and *The Youth Association*.
- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 58 (4.4%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti-social behaviour and risk-taking behaviour.
- The team works in partnership with *Scholemoor Beacon* to co-produce a targeted weekly youth work session that seeks to improve local participation.
- Our partnership with Coop Grange focuses on improve young people's well-being, attendance and participation in community based support.
- The team continues to provide access and support for a significant number of young people via youth provision at Great Horton Village Hall. This provision is also supported by projects delivered by the Youth Association.
- Over the summer the youth work team have identified and supported a number of individuals to feel more confident about starting secondary school.

#### Queensbury

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- The Youth Service has a strong working partnership with *Trinity Academy*. Over the last year students have been supported to improve their well being, attendance and participation in community based support.
- The team have also worked with Queensbury Community Partnership to co-produce the delivery of the Holiday Activity Programme that seeks to identify and support vulnerable young people.

- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 40 (3.0%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti social behaviour and risk taking behaviour.

### Royds

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 80 (6%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti social behaviour and risk taking behaviour.
- The Youth Service has a strong working partnership with *Buttershaw Business & Enterprise College*. Over the last year students have been supported to improve their well being, attendance and participation in community based support.
- Over the summer the youth work team have identified and supported a number of individuals to feel more confident about starting secondary school.
- The Youth Service works in partnership with *Shoulder to Shoulder, Safe Space, Sandale Hub and Buttershaw Baptist Church* to co-produce targeted weekly youth work sessions that seeks to reduce ASB and improve local participation.
- Youth Workers continue to work with Sandale Community Organisation to provide young people from Woodside with access to a weekly youth club. The partnership has also supported a project that provides young people with a safe space to explore personal identity. This project further extends the number of specialist groups run by the youth service and local partners.
- Youth Workers support Big Joe's Boxing Academy to deliver a number of sessions that encourage young people to participate in non-contact boxing club. The club promotes the value of health, fitness and nutrition as well as looking at how to improve mental health. This is a very popular club that is currently oversubscribed.

## Tong

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 99 (7.4%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti social behaviour and risk taking behaviour. This work is further supported by the development of Holmewood Community Safety Partnership.
- The Youth Service has a strong working partnership with both *Tong and Forsters Academies*. Over the last year students have been supported to improve their well being, attendance and participation in community based support.
- Over the summer the youth work team have identified and supported a number of individuals to feel more confident about starting secondary school.
- The Youth Service works in partnership with e:merge, Outloud, Dance Utd and Bradford City FC to co-produce targeted weekly youth work sessions that seeks to reduce ASB and improve local participation.
- Youth Workers have help build capacity of Outloud in order to support the ongoing need for interventions around health and well-being. The project is now supporting the development of the Holme Wood community safety partnership via the strengths of the relationships that it has built with the local community.

## Wibsey

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 44 (3.3%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti social behaviour and risk taking behaviour.
- The Youth Service has a strong working partnership with *Buttershaw Business & Enterprise College*. Over the last year students have been supported to improve their well being, attendance and participation in community based support.

- The Youth Service works in partnership with *Bradford Park Ave* to co-produce a targeted weekly youth work session that seeks to reduce ASB and improve local participation.
- The Youth Work team continues to work to provide young people who live in Bankfoot with access to youth work relationships and supports young people to participate in local youth provision.
- The Youth Work team have continued to identify youth friendly spaces that can be used to develop open access youth provision for more young people.

### Wyke

- The Youth Work team remains focused on developing partnerships that support early intervention and prevention. These partnerships help young people to feel less isolated, more connected with their community and engaged in local youth provision.
- The Youth Work team have identified and targeted support at 31 (2.3%) young people via outreach and detached youth work. These sessions have allowed Youth Workers to build trust and engage young people in opportunities that reduce anti social behaviour and risk taking behaviour.
- The Youth Service has a strong working partnership with *Appleton Academy*. Over the last year students have been supported to improve their well being, attendance and participation in community based support.
- Over the summer the youth work team have identified and supported a number of individuals to feel more confident about starting secondary school.
- The Youth Service works to identify partnerships that can begin to co-produce targeted weekly youth work sessions that seek to reduce ASB and improve local participation. An example of this can be seen in the support offered to Youthology during 2022.