

# Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> of December 2023.

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## Subject:

Youth Service Update – Bradford East.

## Summary statement:

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

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

Appendix B - Bradford Youth Service East 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 Bradford East Area in 2022-23.

1.2 The report outlines the following information:

- An overview of Youth Service provision in Bradford East.
- 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>Youth Offer Element 1 – Information, Advice and Guidance(IAG)</b> Increase the numbers of young people accessing IAG through digital media.
<b>Youth Offer Element 2 – Voice and influence</b> Increase the numbers of young people participating in Youth Voice opportunities at all levels.
<b>Youth Offer Element 3 – Open access/detached</b> Deliver a diverse youth offer through working in partnership with the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) and local communities.
<b>Youth Offer Element 4 - Targeted provision</b> Increase the number of specific interventions to address the needs of vulnerable young people.
<b>Youth Offer Element 5 - Active citizens and young people’s contribution to community life</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 Community 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 Bonfire 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 focussed 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 youth 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 domestic abuse within their family units.

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

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

**Self-Harm** – some young people report that they have used self-harm 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 senior members, 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. Youth Workers have also helped to develop volunteering links for adults in the local community, which enables a more enhanced youth work offer.

### 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 East 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 East 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 support them using an early help approach and navigate local support networks.

In addition, Youth Workers work closely with all secondary schools in Bradford East 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 East welcomed 2 new Youth Work Trainees 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 Youth Worker Apprentices to complete the 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 **East Wide Youth Service Provisions**

Bradford East currently leads on the delivery of 5 area wide projects. These sessions are for young people to attend from across Bradford East and the other areas of the district. The area wide sessions are themed to suit young people's needs, interests and increase our Youth Offer. Information regarding the East 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 of 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 continues 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 provides 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 has 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, 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 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 well-being of their communities.

##### **7.3 TACKLING THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY IMPLICATIONS**

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

##### **7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

Young people from across Bradford East, 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 East.

## 8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

## 9. OPTIONS

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

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

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

## 11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix A: Bradford East Youth Service Baseline Youth Provision

11.2 Appendix B: Bradford East – Youth Service Ward Updates

## 12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 Youth Service – Area Committee Report 2022

## Appendix A: East Wide Youth Service Provision – Weekly.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
E/H	<p><b>Youth Session – Juniors @ Ravenscliffe Youth Centre</b> 5.30 – 8.00pm 8 to 11 yrs.</p> <p>Supported by Young Volunteers.</p>	<p><b>Football Coaching Sessions</b> (in partnership with Bradford Park Avenue) 5pm - 6pm at the <b>Ravenscliffe Youth Centre</b></p> <p><b>Themed Youth Sessions @ Ravenscliffe Youth</b></p>	<p><b>New Session – START DATE Jan 2024 Youth Inclusion Session</b></p> <p><b>Fagley Sports Session</b> on the playing field. 4-6pm (April to July only)</p>	<p><b>Schools based Youth Work @ Immanuel School</b></p>	<p><b>Youth Session – Seniors @ Ravenscliffe Youth Centre</b> 6:30 – 9:30pm 11- 18yrs</p> <p><b>Detached Youth Work in the Eccleshill Area</b> 6:30 - 8:30pm.</p>
B/U	<p><b>Delta Hanson Academy - Dinner Time Drop in</b> 12:00pm – 1:00pm</p> <p><b>Youth Session @ Bolton Villas</b> 4:30 – 6:30pm - 11-16 years</p>		<p><b>School based Youth Work @ Delta Hanson Academy</b></p> <p><b>Supportinos Youth Group</b> 5pm – 7pm (invite only) 11-18yrs Eccleshill Library</p>	<p><b>Outreach @ The Peel Park Youth Hub</b> 5-7pm (April to Sept) 11 – 18yrs</p>	<p><b>Sorted Youth Group</b> 7:00pm – 9:00pm 11-18yrs St James Community Centre In partnership with Sorted Youth.</p>
I/T	<p><b>Community Outreach Session</b> Idle and Thackley</p>	<p><b>Young Women and Girls Group</b> 5:00pm – 7:00pm 11-19yrs young women and girls only Rockwell Centre Thorpe Edge</p>	<p><b>Community Outreach and Detached Session</b> Idle and Thackley 6-9pm</p>	<p><b>Youth Session – Seniors @ The Springfield Centre</b> 6:30pm – 8:30pm 11-18yrs</p>	
B/M	<p><b>Community Outreach Session</b> Bradford Moor</p>	<p><b>Schools based Youth Work @ Laisterdyke Academy</b></p> <p><b>Youth Connect 4 – 5:30pm</b> 11 – 19yrs (invite only)</p> <p><b>Laisterdyke Youth Club</b> 6:45 – 9.15pm 11- 18yrs</p>	<p><b>Girls and Young Women’s Session @ The Laisterdyke HUB</b> 6.00 - 9.00pm 11 – 18yrs</p>		<p><b>Laisterdyke Youth Club @ The Laisterdyke HUB</b> 6:45 – 9.15pm 11 -19yrs</p>
L/H	<p><b>School based Youth Work @ Bradford Academy</b></p> <p><b>Youth Session @ MAPA</b> 6.15 – 8.45pm 11- 19yrs In partnership with MAPA</p>	<p><b>Schools based Youth Work @ Feversham Academy</b></p> <p><b>Girls Group – Parkside Centre</b> 6.30 – 8.30pm 11 – 19yrs</p>	<p><b>Community Outreach Session – Little Horton</b> 6-9pm</p>	<p><b>School based Youth Work @ Dixons City Academy</b></p>	<p><b>Bradford City Foundation</b> Newby Primary School 6-8pm Run by Bradford City Foundation Trust and supported by the Youth Service.</p>
B/B	<p><b>Youth Session – Karmand Centre</b> 6:45 – 8.45pm 8 – 11yrs</p>	<p><b>School based Youth Work @ Carlton Bolling</b></p>	<p><b>Chatham Street Youth Club</b> 18.30 – 20.00</p>	<p><b>Girls and Young Women’s Session @Chatham Street</b></p>	<p><b>Youth Session – Karmand Centre</b> 6:45 – 8.45pm 11 – 19yrs</p> <p><b>School based Youth Work @ Bradford Academy</b></p>
E/W	<p><b>SOUND – LGBTQ+ Youth</b> 6.00 – 8.00pm 16-18yrs.</p>	<p><b>SPECTRUM – LGBTQ+</b> Every 2wks - 5.00 – 7.00pm 11-15yrs.</p> <p><b>Phoenix – Trans Youth</b> Every 2wks - 6.00 – 8.00pm 13 – 18yrs</p>	<p><b>SHADE – LGBTQ+</b> Specialist provision for young people of colour who are LGBTQ+ 13-18ys.</p>	<p><b>All LGBTQ+ Youth groups are run in partnership with the Equity Partnership.</b></p>	

**SCHOOLS WORK** - For more information contact Emma Jones – [emma.jones@bradford.gov.uk](mailto:emma.jones@bradford.gov.uk)

No. of Days	Activity	Academy	Frequency	Target group
1.5	1:1 Support	Feversham	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Bradford Academy	Weekly	Health and Well Being
1	1:1 Support	Bronte Girls	Weekly	Health and Well Being
1	1:1 Support	Immanuel	Weekly	Health and Well Being
1	1:1 Support	Hanson	Weekly	Health and Well Being
2	1:1 Support	Dixons	Weekly	Health and Well Being
1	1:1 Support	Laisterdyke	Weekly	Health and Well Being
1	1:1 Support	Carlton Bolling	Weekly	Health and Well Being

The above table provides an overview of the work that is delivered in secondary schools in Bradford East. 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 many 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 – Youth Work Connect Peer Support groups.

## **Eccleshill**

### **Open Youth Sessions at the Ravenscliffe Youth Centre**

Sessions have been busy at the centre throughout the year, with an average of 65 young people attending each open session. Young people have been involved in the planning and delivery of the sessions and have taken part in a range of fun and engaging activities. These sessions are the basis for building quality professional relationships with young people, so other more targeted work on emerging community-based issues can be addressed quickly and successfully.

### **Targeted Youth Work Delivery**

The targeted sessions that are run from the Eccleshill area have changed over the past 3 months; these are now based on the current needs of young people in the area. Through these sessions we can address and support a range of issues. The sessions that have been developed are a Young Women's & Girls Group, a Boys & Young Men's Group, a Young Volunteers' Training session, and an Emotional Well Being session. The aims of these groups are to work on issues of body image, self-care, sexual health, and peer pressure.

### **Partnership Working**

The ward lead Youth Worker has continued to develop partnerships to enhance the current youth offer across the Eccleshill area. Programmes such as Holiday Activity Fund, through the Ravenscliffe Centre and Play Bradford, have helped to provide food and activities for families who need that extra support. Anti-Social Behaviour grants have helped to focus work in the Fagley area to offer a range of summer activity sessions. Youth Workers have a strong link with voluntary sector partners in the Eccleshill Ward and work together to develop funding bids and new and exciting projects for young people. Work has continued with the University of Bradford, to deliver open access and sports-based activities for young people in the local community.

### **Development of Assets**

Ravenscliffe Sports Court, through ongoing consultation and working alongside JU:MP, has now got new flood lights installed. This resource can now be used all year round. The idea for the lighting came from young people, through Youth Workers advocating on their behalf, so that they see real results and benefits from taking part in consultations. Planning was approved so the area can be lit throughout the year until 9pm every day. Funding from JU: MP help to pay for the installation, which is a test and learn project, with running costs from the Youth Service to increase young people and families access to sport and physical activity resulting in improved health.

### **Youth Voice**

In The Eccleshill Ward a group of young active citizens have been involved in projects in the local community. They have supported community events, they have taken part in consultation initiatives such as the 'Make Space for Girls Project', developing resources with Public Health around dangers of vaping, and help to develop resources and awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence. The young people volunteer weekly, delivering a session for young people at the Ravenscliffe Youth Centre. In February, organised through the MP's office, the group went on a 2-day residential trip to London for a tour of the Houses of Parliament and to speak to politicians and have a better understanding of the democratic process in the UK.

# **Bradford Moor**

## **Youth Sessions**

Through partnership in the Bradford Moor area the youth offer has been increased. Over 6 youth sessions a week are offered from the Laisterdyke Hub. These range from open sessions to sessions focused on young women and girls, to sessions run in partnership with voluntary sector partners.

## **Family Fun Days**

10x family fun days took place over the school holidays in partnership with the Laisterdyke Hub. Over a 100 people attended each event and took part in a range of fun and exciting activities. Everyone who attended was entitled to a warm meal and activities to keep children and young people busy and entertained in the school holidays.

## **Food Parcels**

126 food parcels are distributed per month through the Laisterdyke Hub in partnership with Bradford Moor Pass to the local community, to support vulnerable families through the cost-of-living crisis. These food parcels are culturally specific and support people to cook a well-balanced meal at home. Young people have been instrumental in supporting this project, helping with food deliveries, making up the food packages and consulting with the community about their thoughts on the project.

## **Youth Work Connect Group**

In addition to the open youth sessions that are delivered in Bradford Moor area, the Youth Service runs a youth work connect group. This is aimed at more vulnerable young people who struggle with their social and emotional mental health. It offers a safe space, for young people to develop their confidence, their self esteem and connects them with other young people so they have opportunities to make friends and develop peer support networks.

## **Partnerships**

Partnerships are key to enhancing the youth work offer across the Bradford Moor area. The youth work lead has worked alongside voluntary youth organisations and faith institutions to develop youth sessions and additional youth projects across the ward. This has included training for new volunteer Youth Workers and has helped to establish new youth and community projects.

## **Young People's Grant Giving Panel**

Young people from the BD3 area were part of a group that formed a grant-giving panel. This was funding they received through LEAP and was in partnership with Bradford Moor Pass. The young people helped to distribute £10,000 to local community groups to develop art-based projects in the Bradford Moor area.

## **Partnership with Science and Media Museum**

The service continues to develop the partnership with the Media Museum and has delivered a number of activity-based days at the Laisterdyke Hub, encouraging young people to take an interest in STEM and media activities.

# **Bowling and Barkerend**

## **Youth Sessions**

Three open youth club sessions take place weekly at the Karmand Centre and at Chatham Street. These sessions are a welcomed space for young people to engage in positive activities and allow Youth Workers to build trusted relationships with young people and provide opportunities that reduce anti-social behaviour.

## **Developments**

The development of the Beech Grove Pod has been high on the agenda for the Bowling and Barkerend ward this year. The old COVID pods which were gifted to the Youth Service are going to be placed in Beech Grove Park and developed as a multi-agency community-based hub. This is going to be a welcomed indoor resource for the area and will offer a range of community and youth activities. A competition to design an outside and internal space of the pods will be run in the local area which will include schools, community groups and will be led by young people.

Chatham Street youth sessions have gone from strength to strength. This is a partnership with Incommunities that allows the service to run 2 youth clubs a week from the site. Young people have been respectful of the space and have been involved in designing sessions and fund raising for much needed resources.

A new partnership has been developed with residents from Mary Street Travellers Site and Leedsgate with Youth Workers and staff from Neighbourhood Services. This has led to new sessions at the Laisterdyke Centre for young people, specifically for the young people from the Mary Street Site.

The service has continued to work with Born in Bradford to support the delivery of the Youth Endowment Project which focuses on methods to reduce young people becoming involved with serious organised crime.

## **Youth Voice**

Young people from the Karmand Youth Project undertook a 2 days' residential to London to tour the houses of Parliament and meet key decision makers in the country. The group also managed to take in some of the sights in the capital. The group had an amazing time, they raised money to allow the residential to take place and produced a photographic display of their time away. This has ignited a passion for further residential trips and the group is looking at planning other trips in the future and looking at international exchanges with other countries.

## **Girls Group**

The relocation of the Girls Group from the Family Hub to Chatham Street has been a huge success, with young women and girls enjoying the space and building positive relationships with Youth Workers and engaging in positive activities. The young women have undertaken joint sessions with a group from Holmewood and taken part in offsite activities.

## **East Bowling Safe Space**

A new safe space has been developed in the East Bowling area, this is for young people to have a space to talk to youth workers and to get information, advice and guidance around employment, training, and benefits. This session takes place weekly at a local gym on Walker Terrace.

# **Little Horton**

## **Youth Sessions**

Youth sessions are going from strength to strength through the partnerships that have developed in the area. On average there are 30 young people a week that attend the open access youth club at MAPA. Young people attend this session from Canterbury as well as from the West Bowling and Marshfield areas. This is a safe space for young people to build trusted relationships with youth workers.

## **Youth Activities**

Young people from the area have taken part in a number of events across the district, for example a trip to see the Knife Angel and to see the Knife Crime performance where young people were able to discuss the effects of knife crime. The group has also watched the Soundproof Box 'Red Flag' performance regarding domestic abuse and sexual violence, where they were able to talk about their own experiences and look at how they can all play a part by raising awareness and challenging oppression.

A group of young people undertook a trip to Kinsley Fishing Lake where they learnt how to fly fish and caught several whoppers! The young people had a great time, many of them had never been fishing before, so it was a day of new experiences and has led to young people becoming more involved in the running of the youth project and community activities.

## **Young Women and Girls Work**

The young women's and girls' session is going from strength to strength, young women attend the session and get involved in a wide range of activities, from arts, to cooking and learning new skills. The group has taken part in a number of activities over the past 12 months, including biking sessions at Baildon Rec and outdoor and water-based activities at Doe Park. The youth project offers young women a space to talk to Youth Workers and to develop peer relationships. Youth workers have engaged with young people in their own spaces, to understand what they are doing and for them to understand the impact of their behaviour. This work aims to help young people become more engaged with the community and bridges the gaps between services and young people.

## **Developments**

Through a multi-agency partnership within the Little Horton Area, a new Duke of Edinburgh project has been developed. This includes The West Bowling Youth Initiative, Trident, MAPA, the Youth Service, and the Regional Duke of Edinburgh Award Centre. The project is aimed at young people who wouldn't normally have the opportunity through school to engage with this award and to give young people a nationally recognised accreditation.

The Youth Service has supported sessions at Newby Primary School through the partnership with The Bradford City Foundation. These are busy sports-based sessions and are focused on reducing Anti-Social Behaviour in the West Bowling area.

## **Idle and Thackley**

### **Youth Club Session – Springfield Centre**

Youth Workers, in partnership with Springfield Centre staff, have engaged with very challenging young people over the last six months, this has resulted in a rethink about how the open sessions are run. Sessions have been a mixture of detached, outreach and centre-based. Workers have engaged young people in work on actions and consequences and have engaged them in planning and delivering projects.

Young people who attend the open access session at Springfield Centre took part in a trip to Castelford Escape during half term; “ *This has been the best day with my friends*” (quote from a young person).

These sessions are the basis for building quality professional relationships with young people, so other more targeted work on emerging community-based issues can be addressed quickly and successfully.

### **Girls’ and Young Women’s Work**

The girls’ group at The Rockwell Centre is continuing to thrive. The girls have formed new friendships and have stronger peer support networks as a result of the group. The group has taken part in a range of new activities, and they have learnt new skills over the past six months through cooking-, drama- and art-based sessions. This is a partnership session with the Rockwell Centre and young women attend from the Idle and Thackley areas. Over the holidays the girls’ group enjoyed a movie night at the Peel Park Youth and Community Hub and took part in a trip to Escape. These trips are important to build the group and to develop strong relationships with peers and Youth Workers.

### **Activities**

Young people from youth groups across the ward have taken part in several district-wide events, for example a trip to see the Knife Angel and a trip to see the Knife Crime performance where young people were able to discuss the effects of knife crime. The group has also watched the Soundproof Box ‘Red Flag’ performance regarding domestic abuse and sexual violence, where they were able to talk about their own experiences and look at how they can all play a part by raising awareness and challenging behaviour.

### **Idle Rec – Play Bradford**

Sessions took place in partnership with Play Bradford at Idle Rec over the spring and summer, these fun and play based sessions were aimed at young people 8-15 years old and focused on young people having fun and using the environment around them to play safely. Over 1520 young people took part in these sessions over a 6-month period. These sessions helped to get young people physically active through play. The sessions stopped as the darker evenings approached and will hopefully restart in the spring.

### **Detached Youth Work**

Youth Workers have undertaken detached work across the ward, focusing on areas where there have been issues around anti-social behaviour. This has allowed workers to speak to young people and understand any issues and help to educate young people on staying safe and respecting their communities.



# Bolton and Undercliffe

## Peel Park Hub

Over the past 12 months Youth Workers, the Assistant Ward Officer and Ward Officer have developed The Peel Park Youth and Community Hub. It has now been operational for six months and is an amazing resource for the area. Work in the park is often hindered by the weather and dark nights, meaning that open access youth sessions are mainly seasonal to spring/summer months or over the weekends. Having an indoor youth and community space in the centre of the biggest park in Bradford is an amazing achievement. To keep the hub used and alive, it was decided that the most effective way to do this would be to run seasonal events with the voluntary and community sector partners over the winter months. Some of these events include:

- **Scarecrow Trail** - Youth Workers and Ward Officers worked with local schools and the local community to develop a scarecrow trail in Peel Park. Young people from across the area made scarecrows, that were then placed in Peel Park for the community to see. A trail quiz was developed, and people could access warm food throughout the event. Young people helped develop the event and serve food and drinks on the day.
- **Neon Lights Show** – Over the bonfire weekend, young people and families were invited to develop and get involved in producing neon artwork in the park.
- **Family Fun Day** – A launch of the Peel Park Hub took place in May 2023, young people and families were invited to the launch in the park and to have a look around the youth and community Hub. There was a great deal of activities that took place and a range of organisations helped to support the event.
- **Bridge Between Café** – Young people helped to deliver a lunch and dance in Peel Park over the summer. Members and staff from the Upper Bolton Social Project and young people from the Peel Park Hub came together to make food, provide a space for dancing and to connect young people with older people in the local community.
- **Food Bank** - Young people from the Supportinos Youth Group developed and ran a food bank over the summer holidays. They provided support for over 298 households and 1325 people benefitted from the project. Young people worked alongside local food providers to source food to distribute through the food bank.
- **Soap Box Challenge** - Young people designed and built soap box mini carts to race in 'The Peel Park Soap Box Challenge'. 15 young people entered the race and mini obstacle course. The event was a huge success and one we hope to build on in the future.
- **Bug Hotel / Bird Box Building** – Young people took part in building bird boxes and refurbishing the Bug Hotel in Peel Park over the summer months.

## School Based Project

In January 2023, it became apparent that a lot of young people were not attending secondary schools. This was due to a variety of reasons from school exclusions for behaviour, anxiety or worry, and as a direct result of the COVID pandemic. Youth Workers teamed up with Wardens, Ward Officers and Assistant Ward Officers to work with schools to identify young people who needed extra support. They worked alongside other services, including education and early help, to make contact and, understand the families' issues and help to bridge the gap to get young people back into education.

## Supportinos

The Supportinos Youth Group has found a new home at the Eccleshill Library and is going from strength to strength. The group is made up of active citizens and is involved in several community events, including developing the foodbank at Peel Park.

## Bolton Villas

The Bolton Villas youth session is a partnership between Bolton Villas Church and the Youth Service. These open access youth sessions are a much-needed resource for the Swain House area and help link the services that work in Hanson School to the local community.

## East Wide Youth Sessions

### LGBTQ+

The Youth Service in Bradford East work in partnership with the Equity Centre to deliver a number of youth sessions that support young people from the LGBTQ+ community. There are five sessions that run in this partnership, **Sound** that supports young people aged 16 to 19, **Spectrum** that supports young people in school years 7-10, **Phoenix** that supports young Transgender people, **Shade**, which supports LGBTQ+ young people of colour and a **LGBTQ+ Youth Voice** group.

Young people were part of developing and delivering Pride events in Bradford and Keighley.

Young people took part in a range social activities which help build positive relationships with workers and within peer groups. This allowed young people to have fun in a safe space, giving them time to socialise and have fun with friends.

The Phoenix group has focused time on planning for Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR), where they are planning to hold a vigil.

The Shade group attended the National Colours Network conference in Birmingham, where they were able to talk and discuss their lived experiences and work alongside other groups to influence national policy.

The Voice and Influence youth group has mainly focused on the organisation of the rest of the groups, planning what to do in sessions and future events. The group also applied for funding and received a grant for the youth groups, they have written a letter to the Prime Minister, and they are also planning a maker's market for the spring.

Alongside the youth group sessions, members have also had the opportunity to be on Bradford Community Radio (BCB), where they talked about the youth groups and sessions and what opportunities have been provided for them.

### Inclusion – Youth Work Session

Youth Workers are working with partner organisation to develop a youth inclusion session for young people with additional support needs in the Bradford East Area. The lead worker has spoken to young people and parents and they have visited other inclusion sessions and services so we can build a robust plan and provide youth inclusion support for young people in Bradford East.