

Youth Service Express

Newcastle
City Council



Stop Press...

Newcastle Youth Service, now a part of Children's Services is undergoing a transformation. This transformation process will form part of the Integrated Youth Services Strategy and is being project managed over the next few months. All stakeholders will be involved in the process and we aim that by September we will have a plan in place for the implementation of the new service.

Benwell & Scotswood

Youth Worker: Mike Trinder
Contact: 277 2675

Young people from across the areas have worked together to plan and prepare a 2 day residential experience to Edinburgh. They raised funds through the key fund and also the Ward Committees which made this excellent experience possible.

The young people were involved in booking the accommodation and activities and learnt new skills in the process. Whilst away, which for some was the first time away from Newcastle; they experienced youth hostel living as well as the wonders of Edinburgh City.

As a result of this work barriers have been broken down between young people who live in the different areas and they are planning to start the Duke of Edinburgh bronze award.

Blakelaw

Youth Worker: Bernadette Yilmaz
Contact: 277 1784

6 young women from Blakelaw have been busy fund raising to realise their dream of going to London for the first time ever. Their first fund raising activity was to organise a Pie and Pea supper for the local community which went really well.

Next on the list is a Key Fund application as well as a bag pack at the local supermarket. The group want to go to see the Tutankhamen exhibition at the beginning of the summer holidays and with all of this fundraising it looks set to become a fantastic adventure. They have the fundraising bug now and are also planning the next event which will involve their local community bringing 0-95 year olds together for a fun packed evening.



Byker

Youth Worker: Keith Nichol
Contact: 265 2982

Young people from the Y.M.C.A, St Martins Chill out Project and Raby Street Youth Centre have had a fun packed residential experience at Weardale House.

As part of the engagement strategy the young people have flagged up the areas of concern for them in the Byker Ward, including better youth facilities with longer opening hours and opportunities to do more residential. The weekend was action packed with plenty of opportunities to do team building activities as well as rock climbing and high ropes. All 12 young people are keen to act as ambassadors for the ward and will now organise an event for more young people to become involved.



Castle

Youth Worker: Ed Marley
Contact: 271 3914

During Easter half term 4 young people from Dinnington and 5 from Hazelrigg spent a day getting to know each other on an action packed day of activities at Kielder water.

This was the first time they had worked together and enjoyed the team building activities as well as canoeing in the snow!! All involved had a great day out and are keen to plan more outings so that young people from the two villages can be involved in positive activities together.

Dene

Youth Worker: John Farrer
Contact: 265 6378

The SHAPE bus has been working in partnership with local police officers to deliver much needed services to young people gathering in Paddy Freeman's Park.

The Sage has supported the work by delivering DJ workshops with the young people.

The project has engaged over 45 young people in a number of music related work shops and issue based sessions.

This has offered the young people opportunities to be involved in positive activities as well as awareness raising about alcohol misuse at a time when they most needed the support, Friday evening.

The local residents association have visited the bus and have been impressed by the range of activities on offer for the young people.

This project was made available with the support of partners such as the police who were invaluable in helping the bus get parked in a very tight spot as well as engaging with the young people in a positive way.

Denton & Westerhope

Youth Worker: Graham Park
Contact: 229 0648

The Denton Skaters and Riders are made up of young people from across the two wards and they have been very active in their fund raising. They have been involved in the U Decide participatory budgeting process and have finally received their long awaited mobile mini ramps.

The group have also raised £10,000 through the Youth Opportunity Fund to go towards the new skate park for Denton. The group are busy working with other skaters and riders to organise a fun event for the Outer west of the City. (For information on the project contact Paula Bell 2290648).

Young people from Denton and Westerhope have been involved in helping to design an evaluation tool which could be used across the youth service by all young people who get involved in activities. The groups have come up with a simple but effective tool that will capture their opinions about the service they receive.



Elswick

Youth Worker: Kevin Millican
Contact: 273 9127

Young people from Westgate Centre for Sport and the Mill Lane Youth Centre are busy working on a Youth Opportunity Fund bid for a 4 day residential at Kielder cabins for 26 young people during August. Part of their bid also involves running some accredited courses in First aid and Food Hygiene. This training will be done prior to the residential so that the young people involved will be in charge of the cooking. The group putting the bid together are also looking at how the training will support the young people to volunteer across the summer period and help with delivering a street games programme to their peers. The two groups are working well together so everyone is hoping that their bid is successful and they get an opportunity to really develop loads of new skills.

Fawdon

Youth Worker: Lisa Rake
Contact: 271 3914

To tackle issues relating to Anti Social Behaviour and young people's use of alcohol, a new initiative has been developed with support from Safe Newcastle. Young people have been involved in an arts project which has enabled them to explore issues relating to alcohol use and to raise awareness. Early feedback suggests that the young people have gained new skills, are able to make informed choices around alcohol use and have had loads of fun!



Fenham

Youth Worker: Bea Ord
Contact: 277 2676

Young people from Slatyford Youth Centre have been working over the last 6 months with Coalition Against Crime to find out more about their local history. This project will go towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme that the young people are involved in.

The young people visited Bishop's Court sheltered housing complex and ran a local workshop with the residents. The residents had a wonderful time and welcomed the opportunities to share their stories and have fun with the younger generation.



Parklands

Youth Worker: Graham Park
Contact: 07855 828004

12 young people regularly meet at St Aidans Church and are involved in a number of activities on a Sunday evening. They are currently planning a family fun day for the last day of the summer holidays building on the work they did last year. This event will attract people of all ages from the community and will be totally organised by the young people themselves.

North & South Heaton

Youth Worker: John Farrer
Contact: 265 6378

Members of Ravenswood Youth Centre E3 Enterprise Group teamed up with Enterprise Newcastle to raise awareness of their project. 5 young people from the group have worked from the Launch Pad mobile unit on Northumberland Street on Wednesday 16th April. They showed people how to make bees wax candles and promoted their group. It was a successful day with many young people coming in and having a go at making themselves candles.

North & South Jesmond

Youth Worker: Bill Ely
Contact: 262 8421

Young people from Jesmond successfully raised £5,000 from the Youth Opportunities Fund to host a young Bands gig for Jesmond. The money funded equipment hire, henna artists and non-alcoholic cocktails for all.

The line up of bands included Harry 'n' Eddy, We Kill Dinosaurs, Thought Animals, Whisper and Mild Peril.

93 young people attended the event as part of the Jesmond Community Festival. Consultation with the young people on the day flagged up the fact that anti-social behaviour was a top concern for them, along with healthy lifestyles, drugs and alcohol, and sex / relationship issues.



Lemington & Newburn

Youth Worker: Jane Teasdale
Contact: 229 0648

48 young people from Lemington have been involved in a mini consultation event at Lemington Resource Centre. They were involved in numerous fun and healthy activities as well as creating a DVD to put across their views on things that are important to them. They used electronic voting to show which activities and services they think should be on offer in their area. All the information gathered will be used to plan services to children and young people in the wards.

Young people from Blucher are working hard to put together a bid for a new resource for their village.

They want a Teen Shelter and have been speaking to councillors and planners about the feasibility of the project. The young people know that it is a long process to get such a big project off the ground but are committed to being involved in every stage of the process.

Kenton

Youth Worker: Warren Crake (Shape Bus)
Contact: 07855 828004

Since June 2007 the SHAPE BUS has been regularly visiting the Kenton Bar Estate working with young people to deliver a variety of leisure and issue based activities.

Two young people from Kenton Bar attended the Regeneration Festival at St James Park on the 6th March as representatives of users of the Shape Bus. They showed people around the bus facilitated a decks session explaining how to use the equipment and encouraging people to have a go. Their involvement in the event showed everyone that they are excellent role models both for their peer group and other member of the community.

Ouseburn

Youth Worker: John Farrer
Contact: 265 6378

Young people from Shieldfield have been meeting up in the Methodist church, a temporary home, whilst they look for more permanent accommodation.

11 of the young people attended a ward committee meeting where they have raised lots of issues. They are especially keen for people to know that they are fed up with being blamed for all of the anti-social behaviour in the area!

They want to get involved in more activities and are busy planning and fund raising so that they can get to do lots of activities in the holiday periods.

West & East Gosforth

Youth Worker: Maureen Wallace
Contact: 271 3914

Young people from across the wards have been involved in the Your Homes Newcastle 'Brick Challenge Event'.

This gave them the opportunity to have their views heard about what is good and bad about living in the Gosforth Wards. One of the team successfully won prizes for their presentation which included a mini shield for each member and a big shield for their school. All the young people involved had a fantastic time and had worked hard on putting their power point presentations together.

Walker

Youth Worker: Bill Ely
Contact: 262 8421

9 young people from Walker have been following in the tyre treads of Formula 1 driver Louis Hamilton! The 9 young people aged 13 – 15 yrs were successfully awarded a Youth Opportunity Fund which paid for a 6 week 'go – kart' project at Warden Law.

All the young people shared a great commitment to the 6 week project and all of them passed a written and practical test which resulted in each person being awarded an accredited certificate. Who knows we may have a grand prix mega star in the making!



Walkergate

Youth Worker: Ray Tait
Contact: 262 8421

10 young people from Daisy Hill youth centre have been working with students from Northumbria University on a Drama project.

Over a two week period of workshops the young people put together a drama performance which was shown to the younger members of the club.

All the young people had a fantastic time and enjoyed finding out first hand from the students all about the great university courses available in the city.

Westgate Ward

Youth Worker: Warren Crake (Shape Bus)
Contact: 265 2982

Detached youth work staff have been working along side colleagues from Northumbria Police and the Public Health Team in the city centre on a Saturday. This targeted work has been delivered to support young people to use the city centre well and to ensure their safety.

This work has flagged up the fact that young people see Newcastle City Centre as a great place to meet friends, shop and have fun. They have also said that they feel vulnerable and unsafe. Through this piece of multi agency work the young people have said they feel safer and shop owners and the general public have also noticed a difference in the city centre.

Detached youth work is also being delivered on the New Mills estate to encourage young people to become more involved in wider provision. Contact for this work is through Anthony Hall Tel: 273 9127.



Wingrove

Youth Worker: Anthony Hall
Contact: 273 9127

Youth work staff have been supporting young people to work with the Arts Development Team on the regeneration of the area. Through an arts and photography project local young people will take an active role in the design and implementation of some aspects of the regeneration.

Woolsington

Youth Worker: Gillian Halpin
Contact: 271 3914

32 young people from the Gala field Thursday club have been working on a Key Fund bid to take the whole group to the cinema to watch their favourite films.

The young people had to organise every aspect of the trip as well as reach a consensus as to which films to go and see.

All involved had a fabulous time and are looking forward to planning more Key Fund activities for the future.

City Wide

Youth Worker: Vicky Hartley
Contact: 277 1246

UK Youth Parliament

Four UK Youth Parliament members for Newcastle were elected by 75 young people to represent the views and opinions of young people across the city. As a group, their most recent successes include:

Holding a high profile event on March 20th in the Council Chamber to collect the views and opinions of young people living or studying in Newcastle. The 70 young people who attended voted on and discussed the top three issues that are important to them. The issues that were voted top were: Facilities for Under 18's, Crime and Antisocial Behaviour and Better Public Transport. These issues were discussed during interactive and engaging workshops, where young people attending were given the opportunity to have their say and engage in open discussion. This was followed by a stimulating question time session where young people were given the opportunity to question a panel about issues affecting them. The event was a great success and provided another step forward for the UK Youth Parliament reps to continue their campaign to make life better for young people in the city.

Following on from the event they presented a speech to Full Council in April, detailing the event findings and their aspirations for the future of young people in the city. Their presentation was very well received by Councillors and has given them an opportunity to discuss issues further with decision makers.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

Yet again this year has seen a great demand from young people across the city to become involved in the Award scheme.

720 young people attending our Youth Projects, Schools and Voluntary Organisations throughout the City have signed up to the Award during the last year and to date they have achieved 330 Bronze, Silver or Gold Awards. They have participated in a variety of leisure and sporting activities, developed numerous skills, been involved in community activities, given service to others and undertaken a self-sufficient expedition in rural or remote countryside.

All of these achievements will be celebrated at a presentation on the 18th September 2008 at the Civic Centre.

Highlights of 2007/08 include young people representing The Award at the Re-dedication of The Renwick Memorial, attended by HRH Prince Philip. Everyone was delighted to meet The Duke of Edinburgh and inspired by his interest in their Award progress. We have also shared the enthusiasm of a group embarking on an adventurous project to Peru.

Developments to extend the reach of the Award continue with the new Open Access Award Group, a promotional launch for BME groups and currently, proposals for a summer Expedition camp.

More Information

For more information about children's services in your area check out The Buzz magazine or please contact:
www.cis@newcastle.gov.uk