



Report to Scrutiny

Item Number:

Contains Confidential or Exempt Information	Yes/ No /Part (If yes, state which paragraph of the Access to Information rules the exemption relates)
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Subject of Report:	Active Youth Citizenship
Meeting:	Scrutiny Review Panel 2 – Active Citizenship 13 th February
Service Report Author:	<i>Steve Curtis YES participation worker, Integrated Youth Service; curtiss@ealing.gov.uk; 07740508131</i>
Scrutiny Officer:	Harjeet Bains, Scrutiny Review Officer Email: bainsh@ealing.gov.uk Tel: 020-8825 7120
Cabinet Responsibility:	Councillor Yvonne Johnson, Cabinet Member for Schools and children's services
Director Responsibility:	Carolyn Fair Director Children and Families Ealing Council, Perceval House, 14-16 Uxbridge Road. W5 2HL. Email : Finlayj@ealing.gov.uk Telephone No: 0208 825 5426
Brief:	To consider an update on young people's engagement in the borough
Recommendations:	The Panel is asked: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- to consider the information provided on young people's engagement in the borough; an- make recommendations for further improvements

accordingly.

1. Active Youth Citizenship

1. The **YES** Group (Young Ealing Safeguarding) focuses on providing a clear and strong voice for young people with personal experiences of Safeguarding issues in Ealing. The YES group influences decisions around service delivery by highlighting the needs of young people, working closely with Ealing's Safeguarding children partnership. They create campaigns, resources and workshops to engage and involve their peers in this work.

1.1 YES ensures that young people are at the heart of decision-making in keeping young people safe across the partnership. YES meet weekly and currently have about 10 members.

1.2 YES develops and delivers workshops to their peers in schools, youth clubs and community settings. These have included 'sexual consent' and 'youth violence.'

1.3 YES have undertaken peer research into 'school exclusions' in partnership with young people on the Building My Future programme, Contextualised safeguarding with young people from Bollo youth centre and borough-wide peer research with the library service as part of the library service review. We also supported 6 young people from Medler Farm (Northolt) to take part in a consultation at Northolt library that directly led to developing the film club; Northflix. We also trained local young people to conduct their own peer research interviewing their peers and adult members of the community on and around Medler Farm. YES members also ran some peer consultation on the PSPO in Ealing, have acted as consultants for Kew gardens 'Grow wild' funding project and for a prototype mental health App currently being piloted in schools (Tranquilitti)

1.4 YES members gave evidence to the Knife crime scrutiny on 4th April 2019 and this was followed up by providing evidence and a focus group to the Public health lead compiling the report into Youth Violence in Ealing.

1.5 YES members have given regular presentations at professional conferences, including Ealing's contextual safeguarding conference in 2019 and the recent children and families conference in December 2019. In addition we had 3 young people present at the NHS West London conference in 2019, impressing over 100 health professionals with their work and advice on involving young people.

1.6 Over the summer 2019 YES engaged 50 young people from Ealing who were participating on the national citizenship service in a 3 hour workshop examining solutions to maintaining young peoples mental well being. They followed this up a week later with a further 50 different participants, this time exploring 'positive relationships'.

1.7 YES have made and distributed a short film exploring the Universal mental health support needs of young people; **ECHO** was viewed at the Children's conference in December and is being considered for use in social worker training. The young **Director** attends William Perkins school who are also planning to screen it as part of a whole school mental well-being summit.

1.8 Over 40 year 11 students at Alec Reed were trained as peer mentors in June, were paired with a year 6 student in July and continued to offer regular 1:1 mentoring

sessions up until Christmas to provide additional peer support to 40 children starting in year 7 in September and beginning their 'secondary transition'. Two mentors presented to the safeguarding partnership in November and we hope to replicate this successful project in other schools.

1.9 YES will be offering training and support to students in schools who take part in the MVP, Mentoring in Violence Prevention. This peer leadership programme aims to reduce aggression and violence in schools and has been a big success over the past 10 years in Glasgow.

1.10 YES reps regularly take part in staff recruitment and selection, including for youth workers, 'trusted Spaces' workers, mental health practitioners and social work student candidates.

1.11 **Sharing good practice;** YES and Bollo youth centre hosted senior social workers and police officers from Kirklees council when they visited Ealing to identify and share good practice in safeguarding children and young people.

1.12 Bollo Brook youth centre developed a youth-led 'race and identity' project and hosted an interactive exhibition at an art gallery in Haggerston in 2019 and they have just been confirmed at "late at the Tate" (29th February); providing an invaluable insight into how young people in Ealing feel about race, identity and their future.

1.13 YES joined forces with young people from the BMF programme to create some posters addressing knife crime and encouraging reporting to the police. The posters have been distributed to schools, libraries and youth centres. We are currently negotiating placing the design on knife surrender bins around the borough, YES were consulted on the locations for these bins.

1.14 YES have been partnering with Youth Futures from Brixton to hold roundtable discussions between police officers and young people in the borough. Utilising values and approaches from Ubuntu (Desmond Tutu foundation) 'peer facilitators' have been supporting police and young people discuss local policing and aim to build better relationships built on trust and respect. Young people from Ealing will shortly undertake facilitation training and will run the next round in Ealing and use their facilitation skills at other events.

1.15 Young Ealing Foundation (YEF) have plans for a youth voice panel and advise the VCS on effective ways of involving young people

2. **Northflix;** our youth-led community film club aiming to connect and empower communities.

2.1 6 young people from Medler Farm took part in a consultation at the Library and identified the idea of a community film club as a way of involving young people with the library, showing a more positive side of young people and developing community-led services

2.2 We have had 13 different young people ages 9-16 involved with running the film club so far. Currently we have a team of about 7 who regularly attend planning meetings and run the film club, they are the Northflix Crew.

- 2.3 We have had 7 screenings so far with an average audience size of 8
- 2.4 We originally planned 1 screening a month for teenagers and 1 for under 12's. We have found it hard to attract under 12's and so are re-framing those screenings as a family or community screening. We still plan a monthly screening for teenagers.
- 2.5 We have focused our promotion on Medler Farm and Alec Reed school so far, but plan to widen our promoting.
- 2.6 We have a license, through the library to screen films.
- 2.7 Our next screenings are on Wednesday 29th January 4.30; Saturday 8th February 1.30pm with a Harry Potter family screening and Wednesday 19th February 4.30.
- 2.8 The young people in the Northflix crew are planning some classic screenings in partnership with senior users of the Library. Eventually we would like to expand the types of screenings to appeal to wider audiences and show films with a 'social message'
- 2.9 We offer support to local young people to make and edit their own short films which can be shown before the main film. We screened a short film accompanying a peer research project on medler farm in the summer.

Northflix Case study

Local young woman shows interest in setting up a film club in her local library and surprises herself when she leaves with an armful of books

EI was one of 6 young people who attended and participated in a site-specific consultation at Northolt library on 17th April.

The Assistant Director of the library service had approached the youth service to discuss involving young people in the consultation into the future of Ealing libraries. In addition to undertaking a borough wide peer research project S.C. (youth worker) engaged 6 young people from the nearby **medler farm** estate in Northolt in the local consultation. 8 young people were trained as peer researchers and carried out over 150 interviews across the borough.

The Integrated Youth Services' future youth inspired (FYI) project regularly runs holiday provision from Gainsborough tower (**medler farm**), engaging young people with tutor-led activities such as 'spray art, sport, cooking, DJing etc alongside youth work support. The *club* and activities are valued by the young people in an area with little after school activities. The provision and engagement with the young people is irregular though as it only takes place in some holidays and is dependent on funding.

EI (11 year old female) doesn't attend the provision directly but an older sibling does and she feels comfortable around the club and the other users and this reflects the 'local' family feel of the FYI programme.

During the focus group at Northolt the AD was asking the young people about what they valued in a library and what they would like to see more of that might specifically engage a teenage audience.

EI was visibly excited about taking part in the consultation; giving her views and ideas, being listened to and being shown that adults /professionals clearly do want to hear from children and young people.

Although the 6 young people explored many ideas the two key suggestions that emerged from the consultation were a young persons' film club and a gaming club (E-games)

Despite not having regular contact **EI** remained enthusiastic throughout this time. When we held our first planning meeting in the summer **EI** attended with one other young person and we had a team meeting talking about how the film club could work, the roles children and young people could take on.

EI has had no similar experience before, she is keen to promote the club to her friends and peer group but she is still at the start of her journey. **EI** likes the idea of welcoming our 'film goers' introducing the films and having a role in the front of house team, even if this pushes her out of her comfort zone.

EI chose the children's film for the test screening in August and helped out on the day as we tested the equipment and space to assess whether it felt like a cinema experience. We had a useful evaluation of the screening and agreed to push on with our first screening on 9th October

EI decided that we needed some new publicity and asked if she could use the computer in the library. The answer was yes once she had signed up as a member which only took a few minutes thanks to supportive desk-staff. Once her library card was made and she was granted access to the computer **EI** was "up and running" After creating a simple but effective design to advertise the film club **EI** was further excited that she could 'borrow' some books from the library. This did take a short while to sink in and she was a little in awe that she was now going to be able to take home a pile of books to her home for the first time.

After careful selection **EI** soon had a big grin on her face as she proudly marched out of the library with a stack of 6 books.

Seeing the transformation in someone who had not used the library before, who felt it was not really for them; become an enthusiastic member setting off to explore her books was a real joy and provides an insight into the wider objectives of involving young people from local communities in service development.

EI is still involved and we are looking at the best way to get younger (under 12's) viewers across to the film club.
October 2019

2. **Legal Implications** (Must include any value for money implications)
3. **Financial Implications** (Must include any value for money implications)
4. **Other Implications**
(Include all other relevant implications including risk management; community safety; links to strategic objectives; equalities and community cohesion; staffing and workforce; property and assets; consultation)
5. **Background Papers**

Library peer research report
 Contextual safeguarding peer research report
 Medler Farm Peer Research report
 Schools exclusion peer research report

Consultation

Name of Consultee	Department	Date Sent to Consultee	Date Response Received from Consultee
Internal			
Director	Carolyn Fair, Director of Children and Families	28.1.20	4.2.20

Report History

Decision Type: EITHER: Key Decision [state the date it was first entered into the Forward Plan OR Non-key Decision OR For Information (delete as applicable)	Urgency item? No
Report Deadline: 4.2.20	Date Report Sent: 4.2.20
Report No.:	Report Author and Contact for Queries: Steve Curtis YES participation worker, Integrated Youth Service; curtiss@ealing.gov.uk ; 07740508131

