

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

Annual Young Voice Report

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 Cabinet to receive and note the impact of the Youth Council and Young Voice in North Lincolnshire.
- 1.2 Cabinet to receive the Young Voice Annual Report and DVD Photostory.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Youth Council is a constituted group of children and young people who come together to be the vehicle for Young Voice in North Lincolnshire. The North Lincolnshire Youth Council aims to:
 - provide a forum for young people to have a voice on things that matter to them
 - represent the views of young people aged between 11 and 20 (or 25 for young people with additional needs of specific interests)
 - communicate and promote the views of young people
 - raise the profile of young people in a positive way
 - encourage young people to be good citizens, so they act with understanding and communicate between themselves and their communities
 - highlight issues affecting young people
 - shape and influence priority setting, service planning and delivery and ensure the views of young people have been taken into account.
- 2.2 Since the inception of the Youth Council in 2011, the council has evolved in its membership and young voice influence on strategic priorities, service delivery, commissioning and how the voice of young people is firmly at the centre of improving outcomes for young people in North Lincolnshire.
- 2.3 The Council are committed to engaging with children, young people and their families at an individual, service and strategic level. The Youth Council represents views and experiences of children and young people and their work is integral to priority setting, strategy, service delivery and commissioning.
- 2.4 The Young Voice Annual Report 2015/16 highlights the work undertaken across the Youth Council and wider young voice activities. It outlines the

impact and outcomes of engagement, predominantly at a service and strategic level. This report focuses on young people's perspectives and experiences.

2.5 At the Youth Council Annual General Meeting in July 2016, there was an opportunity for young people to showcase their work to council representatives and partners across the Children and Young People's Partnership.

2.6 Over the past year, the Youth Council has debated and influenced developments in a number of initiatives and issues:

- Autism awareness
- Misuse of over the counter medication
- Sexual health services
- Domestic abuse
- Dementia friends and champions
- Commissioned services including consultation on health visiting and school nursing and therapeutic services for children and young people
- Positive emotional health and wellbeing
- Education and Skills Plan 2020

2.7 Notable achievements are:

- Proportion of young people taking part in 'Make Your Mark' (National ballot to inform debate at Youth Parliament and local 'Great Debate')
- Takeover Week – partners offering opportunities for young people to experience a range of operational activity and strategic functions.
- The Great Debate – an opportunity for groups of primary age children and secondary age young people to come together and debate key topics selected through the 'Make your Mark'.
- Young Inspectors - children and young people review and assess services for children and young people using an inspection style process
- Young Reporters - since the start of the initiative the Young Reporters have had 20 articles published in the Scunthorpe Telegraph
- Be Unique Positive Body Image campaign
- Influence on positive emotional health and wellbeing, including funding secured for delivery of 'Positive Steps' resources.
- LSCB annual report DVD
- Development and launch of the Social Media Charter and associated resources to use with children, young people and professionals.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

3.1 That Cabinet notes the engagement with children and young voice at an individual, service and strategic level and acknowledges the impact and outcomes achieved.

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

4.1 This paper is for information and as such there are no options.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 There are no direct resource implications associated with this report.

6. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 Not applicable

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 The focus of this report is about engagement activity and serves to highlight the impact and outcomes achieved by engaging with children, young people and families at an individual, service and strategic level.

7.2 There are no known conflicts of interest.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 Cabinet to receive and note the impact of the Youth Council and Young Voice in North Lincolnshire.

8.2 Cabinet to receive the Annual Young Voice Report and DVD Photostory

DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Young Voice Annual Report 2015/16

YOUNG VOICE



North Lincolnshire Youth Council
YOUNG VOICE ANNUAL REPORT

2015-16



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Welcome to the North Lincolnshire Youth Council (NLYC) Young Voice Annual Report 2015/16

The NLYC and wider young voice activities are a great opportunity for us, as young people, to have a voice and make a difference in the local area.

The NLYC itself continues to grow and is becoming more and more representative of young people in the area. It is now a well recognised group and we have good relationships with people from different agencies, services and organisations, who are really keen to talk to us and share information. More and more often, the NLYC is being asked to get involved and have a voice – whether it be to say what we think about a strategy, a website or a service, to highlight things that matter to us or to share positive messages. We also love a good old topical debate to keep things interesting!

There are a lot of young voice activities, at a local, regional and national level, that we continue to get involved in year in year out. We've also been working hard on our established campaigns as well as some new young people led projects.

We're really proud of the work that has been done by NLYC members and other young people and through this annual report; we're keen to showcase some of our activities, to celebrate our successes and to show how we've made a difference.

Kian Borg-Jackson Young Mayor

William McCullion MYP

Chloe Musgrave Chair of NLYC

North Lincolnshire Youth Council



The NLYC is a constituted group which aims to:

- provide a forum for young people to have a voice on things that matter to them
- represent the views of young people aged between 11 and 20 (or 25 for young people with additional needs or specific interests)
- communicate and promote the views of young people
- raise the profile of young people in a positive way
- encourage young people to be good citizens, so they act with understanding and communicate between themselves and their communities
- highlight issues affecting young people
- shape and influence priority setting, service planning and delivery and ensure the views of young people have been taken into account

Meetings continue to take place in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre and attendance varies between 25 and 35 young people at each meeting. A recent diversity audit (April 2015) shows that the NLYC is becoming more and more representative, with different schools and colleges, races, sexualities and ethnicities being represented. This makes for a really interesting mix and some vibrant discussions!

People from different agencies, services and organisations are keen to visit the NLYC and there is usually at least one guest speaker at each meeting. Issues discussed in the period have included:

- autism awareness
- abuse of over-the-counter medications
- sexually transmitted diseases
- domestic violence

- the effect on young people of early onset dementia in parents
- school nursing provision
- the transformation of services for young people in need of help with their emotional health
- specialist provision for children and young people experiencing trauma
- North Lincolnshire Education and Skills Plan for Children and Young People 'All Our Children – 2020'

The new 'All Our Children – 2020' plan takes account of young people's views, some of which were directly fed in through the NLYC itself. The NLYC identified that the plan reflects the issues they had raised at their initial consultation session, notably their expectations regarding inclusive practices, emotional health and wellbeing and the quality of the learning experience. The NLYC will be working with education officers to help further develop some of the key priorities in the plan by providing insight into the first hand experience of children and young people.

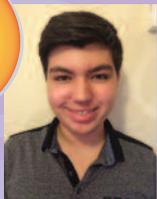
As you can see this is quite a mixed bag! Youth councillors are well informed and do a great job of cascading their newly-found knowledge to their peers once back at schools and colleges and guest speakers are able to make use of young people's views to help shape and influence their decision making.





Guest speakers attending the NLYC have been very positive about their engagement with the NLYC and have reflected that they would like to come back. One recent guest speaker said *“I hope to get another opportunity to attend the NLYC again and I would have no hesitation in recommending that team members consult with the NLYC as a positive approach to take when planning engagement for their projects.”*

Some of the Well Known Faces



Young Mayor – Kian Borg-Jackson

Kian was only 13 years old when elected, but from the get go, he was eager to lead local projects on behalf of young people, and champion the positive work they

have been achieving in their communities. Over the last year, Kian’s term as Young Mayor has been incredibly busy and he has been a real whiz at making links with community leaders, promoting young voice, fundraising, representing young people and contributing to meetings and events. Kian has:

- led on the production of a Social Media Charter for young people by young people (more details later)
- trained to be a Dementia Friend and delivered training to his peers on the condition
- raised money for his nominated charity - Scunthorpe Samaritans - having arranged for his school (the South Axholme Academy) to award the charity with the proceeds of their annual sponsored walk, as well as selling Fair Trade products at the North Lincolnshire Armed Forces Day

- delivered school assemblies
- acted as a judge at a children in care talent show, and
- read at Holocaust Remembrance Services.

Kian is also the young person representative on the Health and Wellbeing Board and Children and Young People’s Partnership.



Member of Youth Parliament (MYP) – William McCullion

William was 14 years old when elected as the MYP for North Lincolnshire and he is keen to champion equal rights for young

people. William has attended the Annual Sitting of the UK Youth Parliament as well as the British Youth Parliament’s Annual Debate in the House of Commons. He is also a regular attendee at regional conferences. William is a great champion of the NLYC in his school (the Axholme Academy) and has brought several new members to take part in meetings. His debating skills are well-known and his enthusiastic approach is always supported by plenty of research.

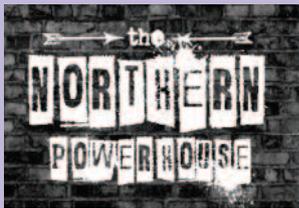


As the elected team, William, Kian and their deputies, Jordan and Stefani were accompanied to Westminster with Cllr Waltham. MP, Andrew Percy showed them the sights of London too and the young people were able to see Westminster live in action.



Yorkshire and Humber Steering Group Representative – Devon Drakes

Devon has been a member of NLYC since spring 2014. Since then she has gone on to become one of our stalwarts! She is now in her second term as Steering Group Representative and continues to be involved in the planning of regional young voice events, including regional conventions. She is now also part of a group involved in discussions around the ‘Northern Powerhouse’.



The Northern Powerhouse aims to improve the economy and employability in the North of England.

Devon attended a recent event in Huddersfield, with local decision makers, to explore the future and the issues raised by devolution. The event provided an opportunity for young people to highlight their priorities in relation to Young Voice and Engagement, the NHS, Transport and Education. Decision makers at the event including the children’s commissioner Anne Longfield OBE, pledged to support the young people’s priorities and there will another event next year to see what progress has been made – so watch this space!



Devon on the right with children’s Commissioner Anne Longfield on the left

Devon is also one of the youth council’s founding members of its Emotional Health and Well-Being Working Group (more details later). She has taken up lots of opportunities to share the work of local young people around this subject including at a regional level when she presented to commissioners and decision-makers. Devon will continue this work having committed to being the North Lincolnshire representative on the regional emotional health and wellbeing committee.

Make Your Mark 2015



Make Your Mark is the British Youth Council’s annual youth ballot where young people across the county have their say on issues that matter to them. Young people are encouraged to vote after which the results are collated and the top five issues are debated in the House of Commons by members of the UK Youth Parliament. The outcomes help to shape the British Youth Council’s national campaign as well as influencing local actions and priorities.

North Lincolnshire’s engagement in the Make Your Mark process has been growing year on year. In 2015, with the help of voting assemblies and young people acting as champions in their schools and colleges, North Lincolnshire amassed a total of 5902 votes, smashing our target by 100%! This represents 44% of the eligible voting turnout and a year on year increase since 2012. Young people of North Lincolnshire are having their say and getting their chance to be heard at a local, regional and national level!

The top five issues voted for nationally were:

- The Living Wage
- A curriculum to prepare us for life
- Mental health
- Transport
- Tackling racism and religious discrimination

5902 local young people voted in Make Your Mark 2015, smashing our target by 100%!

Annual House of Commons Debate 2015

MYPs aged 11-18 take part in an **Annual Debate in the House of Commons**, which is chaired by the Speaker of the House Of Commons Rt Hon. John Bercow MP. Young people debate the five top issues coming out of the Make Your Mark ballot and then vote to decide which two issues should become the priority campaigns for the year ahead.

On Friday 13 November 2015, our very own MYP William McCullion attended the awe-inspiring Annual Debate in the House of Commons. Together with 278 other MYPs, they voted for the two national campaigns as follows:

- Working together to combat racism and religious discrimination
- Improving mental health services for young people

Both of these subjects have influenced the work of North Lincolnshire's young people as will be outlined later in this document.



William McCullion – behind speaker in blue jacket

“My time at Westminster was truly a day to be remembered. I met and socialised with MYPs from all over the U.K., intermingling with people from all walks of life, coming together to participate in the greatest example of youth democracy and government the world has ever seen! It was truly a day to be remembered and one I shall treasure for the rest of my days.”

William McCullion, MYP

Takeover 2015

LOCAL TAKEOVER WEEK

What's it all about...

The Children's Commissioner's National Takeover Day was held on Friday 20 November 2015, and North Lincolnshire's Local Takeover Week took place between Monday 16 and Friday 20 November 2015. This was the sixth consecutive year that North Lincolnshire had taken part in the Takeover programme.

Local Takeover Week gives young people the chance to work alongside adults for a period of time and become involved in meaningful decision-making. Young people benefit from the experience of making their voices heard in a working environment, while organisations gain a fresh perspective on what they do. By scheduling Takeover opportunities over the course of a week, a wider range of options are made available to more children and young people.

Opportunities

Seventeen different Takeover opportunities were offered from all directorates in North Lincolnshire Council as well as other agencies and organisations. These included:

- NLC People Directorate's Children's Advocacy Service
- Humberside Fire and Rescue Service,
- Humberside Police
- North Lindsey College
- Woodlands Crematorium
- Normanby Hall Country Park
- Burton Primary School
- Cabinet Member
- North Lincolnshire Museum
- North Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Holy Souls Catholic Church
- Scunthorpe Telegraph

The scope of opportunities included:

- Very hands-on and practical – for example; taking the role of Normanby Park Ranger for the day
- Community-based action – for example; Humberside Fire and Rescue’s community visits to rubbish fire hotspots
- Office-based consultations – for example; Clinical Commissioning Group’s consultation with young people who have long-term conditions in an attempt to improve their care

Uptake of opportunities

In total 69 young people took up a Takeover opportunity. They ranged in age from year 5s (9 and 10 years) from Scunthorpe C of E and Burton Primary Schools, to 22 years (a care-leaver).

Tailoring of opportunities

Extra effort was made by members of the Participation Team to identify the interests of young people and tailor them to available opportunities. Examples of this included:

- a young man with hopes of becoming a gamekeeper was matched with the opportunity to be a Ranger for the Day at Normanby Park
- a young woman with dreams of becoming a journalist was matched with an opportunity at the Scunthorpe Telegraph
- a budding criminologist was matched to a day with Humberside Police Communities Sergeant.

Feedback from adults offering opportunities

Feedback from those adults offering opportunities was extremely positive:

- ‘The visits went well – RP was very sensible, mature and involved – she seemed to enjoy the day.’
- ‘AJ was enthusiastic and fitted in well – this was down to the team choosing the correct candidate.’
- ‘AW has been a joy to work with. She’s been interested and enthusiastic. We’ve been happy to be a part of the Takeover Challenge which is a great initiative.’
- ‘Can’t think of anything that could’ve been done better.’

Feedback from young people

- ‘Everyone was lovely and very accommodating. It was very interesting and I thoroughly enjoyed it.’
- ‘It was well organised we discussed issues in detail... I had my say.’
- ‘I experienced many new things, and had a real hands-on approach to the day. I got to take part in a lot of activities and staff were really welcoming. It was a really busy two days, and I got a taste of working life.’
- ‘I had a great time learning about how the school has improved under their new head teacher and I enjoyed learning about what the teacher does to help other schools in the Trust. The students were very nice and polite when showing us around and answering the questions we asked them.’
- ‘I really enjoyed this opportunity because it allowed me to develop my understanding of the role. I also feel that I made positive contributions towards helping prevent secondary deliberate fires, and it has helped me with my career decision.’

Working alongside a Catholic priest for the day led to one young man to becoming a member of the North Lincolnshire Multi-Faith Partnership to represent young people’s views. The young man is building relationships with local representatives from different faiths and is encouraging them to visit the NLYC to share information about their faith and helping young people to understand different perspectives and ‘dispel myths’. This work forms part of the young people’s action plan as part of the 2016 UK Youth Parliament Campaign - Tackling racism and religious discrimination, particularly against people who are Muslim or Jewish. All young people should work together to combat racism and other forms of discrimination, and ensure we know the dangers of such hatred.

One of North Lincolnshire's Young Reporters worked with the staff of Scunthorpe Telegraph for two days as her Takeover opportunity. Having had two further articles printed in two consecutive editions of the paper, the experience cemented her plans of becoming a journalist.

Great Debate 2015



North Lincolnshire Council has hosted a young people's Great Debate event in various formats for the past six years. In the past, young people have been able to challenge adult decision-makers, compete against each other in teams and discuss issues that matter to them and affect their lives.

November 2015 saw the first staging of a Great Debate event for primary school children. A separate event was held for secondary and college aged students. The secondary and college debate was held at the Learning Development Centre and the primary debate in the Council Chambers of the Civic Centre.

Both events took on a similar shape, with informative workshops held in the morning session followed by chaired debates in the afternoon. Subjects for the workshops and debates were based on the top subjects to have come out of the Make Your Mark national youth ballot. These were:

- Curriculum for life
- Mental health and emotional wellbeing
- Transport
- Racism

This time, there were no teams as such – at the beginning of each debate young people were read a statement and asked if they were 'for' it (i.e. agreed with the statement) or 'against' it (that is, disagreed with the statement). Having made their choice they would move to the corresponding side of the 'house' and argue their points, alongside young people of the same persuasion. Opportunities to 'change side' (as a result of being swayed by others' opinions) were given, as was the choice of abstaining. At the end of each debate each young person voted on whether they thought the initial statement was correct. During the secondary and college event this voting was by means of an 'Optivote' handset (similar to those used by the audience on 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire'), and in the primary debates this was via the Chambers' internal voting system.

The secondary debate attracted 57 students in total coming from both colleges – North Lindsey and John Leggott - as well as South Axholme Academy, Frederick Gough School, Winterton Academy, Huntcliff School, Winterton Academy, The St Lawrence Academy, The Axholme Academy, Coritani Academy and Outwood Foxhills Academy.

The day was incredibly lively with some genuinely passionate public speaking from those involved. Feedback was very positive and included:

'I have really enjoyed this event because I have learnt lots about these topics and also strengthened my debating skills. The workshops were very good and I think that the event was well organised'

'Today has been very fun and very good at giving information on different subjects/topics. The workshops were very good and made you think about different aspects of life. The venue was great and everyone was very helpful and getting us where we needed to be.'





The inaugural primary debate hosted 33 pupils from Leys Farm School, Goxhill Primary, the Grange Primary, Brumby Junior School, Scunthorpe C of E Primary and Killingholme Primary. The young people were incredibly engaged, were praised by all workshop leads and had a great time in the formal surroundings of the Council Chamber. The event was a resounding success and has led to much stronger links being made with primary schools.



Cllr David Rose, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Learning, said:

“Here in North Lincolnshire we believe it is essential that young people get to have their say and make a difference to things that matter most to them. The Great Debate is a brilliant opportunity for them to do just that. Every year North Lincolnshire Youth Council takes part in the Great Debate and encourages other young people to get involved to ensure they have their say. It is wonderful to see young people with such a great passion to really make a difference.”

Young Reporters



North
Lincolnshire
Young Reporters

The Young Reporters initiative gives young people opportunities to develop their literacy skills and have an independent voice about issues that matter to them. Our cohort of Young Reporters goes from strength to strength and there is now a diverse group of nine young people aged 15 to 18 years ‘on the books’. So far, over 20 articles have been published through the Scunthorpe Telegraph, who support and champion this initiative. Over the last year, articles have included a varied range of topics, all of which are identified by the young people themselves, such as epilepsy, the Scunthorpe music scene, feminism, charity shops, Soviet-Assad relations, temptation, technology and the endangerment of animals!

As well as being published in the weekly newspaper, articles are uploaded to the Telegraph website and Facebook page, where they can be seen – and commented on – by an even wider audience. The articles have generated some comments and debates and enable young people to understand the power of their voice as well as the different perspectives on topical issues.

Individual young people have reported that their involvement in the project has helped their literacy skills, improved their self confidence, given them a sense of achievement and helped to challenge the stereotypes that exist about young people. One young reporter tells us what being a young reporter means to her...

What Young Reporters Means To Me

As a creative young person, creating and writing new stories and articles always gave me an immense feeling of joy. I have always had strong opinions and always wanted them to be heard, to perhaps improve someone's life in some way, or for someone to know that they aren't alone. However, it is hard to find a platform for your opinions to be noticed on, and I always had ideas, but nowhere to put them.

Thankfully, I discovered Young Reporters in the Scunthorpe Telegraph about a year ago, and it was what I needed. With Young Reporters my confidence has improved dramatically, and I now believe in my work. Also, it has given me the ability for my thoughts to be heard in this crowded world. Although young, I have many ideas and it is the most wonderful feeling to create something and see it out in the public eye, for others to hold, touch and most importantly, read. Through Young Reporters I have met some amazing and talented people, and learnt from them. I am part of a group full of creative teenagers, and it brings me great pleasure to be in their company, and even greater pleasure to know that we have the privilege to publish our most profound thoughts. I am sincerely grateful to be in the position, as a young teen, to write for the public, and hopefully the public learn something from young people's work and perspectives.

Jess Russell – Young Reporter

Young Inspectors



The Young Inspectors programme gives young people an opportunity to challenge, scrutinise and influence the services they access. The process also enables agencies to reflect on and improve their provision to better meet the needs of young people.

Currently, young people are recruited from the NLYC and the children in care/care leaver cohort. Young people are then trained and supported to undertake their inspection duties, which culminate in services and organisations being granted a 'star' rating. As part of this, young people can make recommendations for action.

Over the last 12 months the team has inspected Broughton Youth Club, Action for Children and Bottesford Youth Club. Broughton Youth Club was awarded four and a half stars out of five, Action for Children a whopping five stars and Bottesford Youth Club four stars.



Broughton Youth Club



Action for Children



Bottesford Youth Club

A 'mystery shopper' element has recently been added to the inspection. Services are revisited with a view to finding out if they are maintaining the same standards, and if any of the recommendations made by the Young Inspectors have been implemented.

Changes put into effect as a result of Young Inspector's recommendations include new colourful signage to Kirton Youth Club, the provision of free Wi-Fi and healthier snack options. Another service is also actively considering out of hours provision.



'Be Unique' Positive Body Image Project



The 'Be Unique' positive body image campaign focuses on promoting messages that encourage young people to have a positive body image and aims to help change

perceptions and behaviours. NLYC members developed this campaign as a response to young people highlighting body image as being something they were concerned with.

Over the last year, the 'Be Unique' Positive Body Image project has become more of an established brand – with 'top tips' postcards and stickers distributed in schools, colleges, libraries, leisure centres and youth clubs. The project took yet another leap forward when members of the working group met with Foundation Course Art students from North Lindsey College, to discuss a joint marketing venture – the production of a portfolio of new posters. NLYC members were involved in photo shoots and planning meetings and eventually chose ten stunning new posters from a collection of nearly twenty, to be the next phase of the project.

In July 2015, members were thrilled to receive the British Youth Council's 'Youth on Board' Award for the Be Unique project. Shortly afterwards they received another accolade from the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership in the form of a 'Festival of Skills' youth-led project award.



'Be Unique' – a young person's viewpoint

'Be Unique is a youth project on the subject of body image. It was conceived around three years ago by two former youth councillors. The aims of the group are to promote positive body image in young people and accept and celebrate our differences. I have been chair of the working group for a little over a year now and since the last AGM we have had a great year!

In February, the Be Unique team got their chance to present a workshop at an excellent peer to peer training day on the subject of emotional wellbeing. I developed the workshop which outlined the Be Unique project and how body image fits with emotional wellbeing. I co-delivered the workshop with the help of a colleague of mine from the Young Reporters team and I'd like to just say thank you very much, Jess, for all your hard work on the day. I couldn't have done it without you.

Be Unique was also given a chance to be discussed at a regional level when I attended a Clinical Commissioning Group conference on mental health in Leeds in March this year. I was able to network with different groups and other youth councillors, and found out a great deal about the various emotional wellbeing projects out there.

This year Be Unique team has worked with art students at North Lindsey to produce some fantastic posters featuring our very own youth councillors which help to strengthen the project's message

Be Unique was part of training workshop delivered to year 5 and 6 pupils at the local Primary Staying Safe Conference. We were able to inform younger children about the project. I personally, think this is a wonderful thing – by educating an earlier age we hope to lessen the effects of negative body image and promote the message 'Be You, Be Unique!'

Jordan Hammerton



Coming to a wall near you!

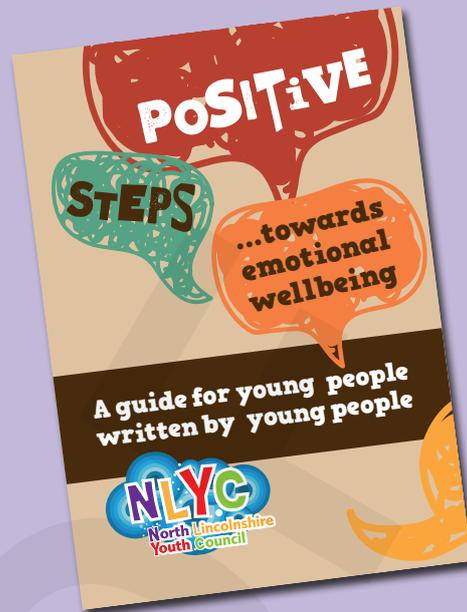
Young People’s Emotional Well Being and Mental Health

Young people’s views relating to their emotional wellbeing and mental health have been highlighted through a range of engagement mechanisms, including the 2015 Make Your Mark campaign when mental health was voted in as being one of the national campaigns for the second year running.

Locally, young people have taken a lead in developing positive messages to improve children and young people’s emotional wellbeing. They also continue to directly engage with partners to help shape and influence local information, services and support.

Positive Messages

The members of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing working group have developed the ‘Positive Steps to emotional wellbeing leaflet’ which sets out five positive steps towards emotional wellbeing. The leaflet has been widely distributed and is being championed by schools, colleges and partner organisations including school nurses, CAMHS and educational psychologists.



Members of our emotional health and wellbeing working group Devon Drakes, Lauren Clark-Vessey and Erin Wilson-Clark reached the final of the Humberside Police Lifestyle Project awards for their work in producing ‘Tri-Positive’ – a Facebook page dedicated to promoting young people’s mental health.



Positive Steps Event

There is a commitment to organising a young people's community event every two years. After consultation with young people, it was agreed that the 2016 event be organised around the five themes outlined in the Positive Steps leaflet. The event will give children, young people and families ideas about what things they can do and information they can access to improve their emotional wellbeing, in a fun and interactive environment. Young people are involved in shaping and developing the format of the event and will be 'champions' in attendance on the day. It is planned that the event be filmed and that this will be developed as a film version of the Positive Steps leaflet which will provide another resource to contribute to the dissemination of positive messages.



people's version of the plan and to help to shape and influence the development of a website, app and associated resources. This work is ongoing and will be communicated in next year's Annual Report.

Young people are encouraged to get involved with campaigning about things that matter to them and their involvement in these workstreams enhances their knowledge and understanding of the issues and the availability of information, support and services. Young people have been supported to design marketing resources which contributes to them being able to share positive messages with their peers and they have been supported to design training resources and deliver workshops to their peers. Again, this has been shown to increase their confidence and develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of the subject. As young people led projects, the outputs are more age appropriate and fit for purpose for the wider young people population. Young people are encouraged to share their positive messages with partners as well as their peers and their voice has contributed to workshops to school and other agency representatives (at schools cluster training event and suicide prevention conference). This enables the message to be disseminated wider as colleagues fed back that they would take the information back into their services and organisations and that they would change their behaviours and practice as a result. Information available gives young people information to help develop more positive behaviours and build their own resilience.

CAMHS Transformation Plan

Young people's views have been at the heart of the development of the North Lincolnshire Children and Young People's Emotional Health and Wellbeing Transformation Plan. The plan was presented to the North Lincolnshire Youth Council (NLYC) in January 2016 at which there were clear, strong statements regarding the priority actions. The NLYC agreed that they would be involved in the implementation of the plan and as part of this, they were specifically asked to develop a young

Training and Awareness-raising

In February's half-term the 'Tri-Positive' team took part in an emotional health and wellbeing training day. Here they delivered a 'Mental Health First Aid lite' workshop to their peers. Joining them were Young Mayor Kian who together with a member of staff from the Alzheimer's Society delivered an input on dementia. Jordan Hammerton and Jess Russell also delivered their body image workshop.



In March, members of the Participation Team delivered a workshop stressing the importance of young voice in addressing emotional wellbeing at the North Lincolnshire Suicide Prevention Conference. This outlined the findings and work accomplished so far by the young people involved in the project.

Members of the youth council were recently involved in Staying Safe conferences as participants, marshals and workshop facilitators. NLYC members opened both conferences and attended and contributed to the workshops at the secondary conference. They also encouraged other young people to feed back their 'top tips' about how to keep themselves safe in their homes, their schools and their community.

NLYC members were supported to develop an emotional wellbeing workshop, focusing on the 'Positive Steps' leaflet, which they delivered as a team at the primary schools conference. NLYC members were able to tailor the workshop to reinforce the messages and engage more with their audience.



Members gained in confidence throughout the day and feedback for the workshop was really positive from both young people and their teaching staff.

LSCB and Young Voice

In January 2016, the manager of the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) approached the NLYC to develop a young people's version of the LSCB Annual Review document. This would serve as a way of promoting the work of the LSCB, raising awareness of its activities and impacts and reminding children and young people of the services and support available to them to keep safe in their homes, schools and communities.

Young people felt that delivering this in the format of a film would be more creative and appealing than a written document. As the intended audience would vary widely in age they also felt there should be different versions to reflect different maturity levels.

Young people and partners worked together to develop scripts and formats for two films. These took the shape of a role play of an LSCB meeting for primary aged young people and a newsroom setup for young people in secondary schools and colleges. Members of the NLYC and representatives from Leys Farm Junior School, who starred in the films, presented them to the LSCB in May 2016 where feedback was extremely positive.

The films and associated resources have since been distributed to schools, colleges and settings as a means of information sharing and to generate discussions.

Film Web Addresses:

www.vimeo.com/163718878 (film for secondary school and college-aged young people)

www.vimeo.com/161779644 (film for primary school-aged young people)



Leys Farm pupils LSCB filming



Older young people's LSCB filming

Strengthening relationship between the NLYC and the LSCB

Since the production of LSCB films, the Board's Independent Chair has attended an NLYC meeting to show her appreciation of members' involvement. She later wrote a personal letter to each young person who contributed to the project, thanking them for their efforts. At the meeting the Chair clarified her role and that of the LSCB and reiterated the Board's priorities for the year ahead. These include the LSCB's commitment to continuing to build the relationship with the North Lincolnshire Youth Council. This was received positively by members who look forward to working with the Board in the future.

'BE SMART' Social Media Charter

Through the Young Mayor, the NLYC took the lead for developing a social media charter. This innovative project led by young people for young people, schools and families has been championed by the chair of the Secondary Heads Consortium and aims to guide young people on the safe use of social media. It also acts as a useful resource for schools and parents.

The charter recognises the many benefits of social media platforms and encourages young people to be aware of what can happen if social media is used in the wrong way. The charter offers suggestions as to how to 'BE SMART' online and reminds adults that they also have an important part to play – for example in modelling behaviours online.

An initial draft was developed in consultation with NLYC members. This was used as the basis for a further consultation event in March 2016 at which 50 young people from 14 different schools and colleges attended. Young people agreed that there should be a charter and that there was real value in it being developed for young people by young people.

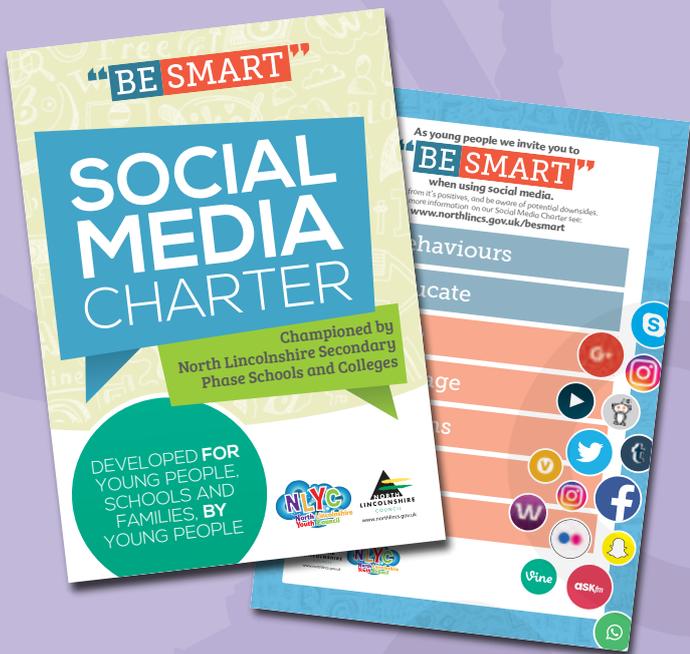


Social Media Charter Consultation Session

Changes were made to the draft to take account of young people's feedback and the final version was endorsed at the NLYC meeting in May 2016. The social media charter was officially launched at the NLYC Annual General Meeting.

The charter and its associated posters and mini-leaflets have been distributed to schools and colleges. Individual schools and colleges have been asked to champion the charter and encouraged to report on how they make use of the resources. The NLYC have acknowledged that the charter is a flexible document and they are committed to regularly refreshing it to ensure it remains up-to-date.

As part of this, the NLYC will continue to champion the charter and encourage their peers and adults to 'BE SMART' online.



Youth Elections – Coming Soon!

It's that time again! Elections for North Lincolnshire's Young Mayor and Member of Youth Parliament will be taking place in February 2017. There is a great deal of preparation involved, which is why we are appealing for candidates to start their application process from now.

The closing date for applications is Friday 7 October 2016. Packs are in schools and colleges now. If you want any more information, or a copy of the candidate application pack, please contact the Participation Team. GOOD LUCK!



Contacts

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