



The Leeds Voice, Influence and Change Newsletter

April 2019

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter covering the latest in voice & influence news, resources, consultations and opportunities. As always, we encourage you to share it within your staff teams and networks and downloadable versions of our back issues are available [online](#)

If you have any stories, groups or events that you would like us to feature in a future issue please get in touch.

News

Leeds MYP's will be hosting the next Youth Voice Summit!



The Members of Youth Parliament for Leeds will be hosting the next Youth Voice Summit which is being held for Secondary Schools and colleges. The event will focus on one of the top issues from last year's UK Youth Parliament 'Make your Mark' ballot, tackling knife crime. The four

MYP's are currently hard at work planning the event, which will consist of workshops – delivered in partnership with WY Police and Safer Schools - that would encourage and enable students to think about how *they* can help to tackle knife crime as well as looking at the perceptions young people have of knife crime.

Invites will initially be sent to the schools who took part in Make Your Mark and students voted tackling knife crime as one of the top two issues. For more information about how your school or college can get involved email Kayleigh.thurlow@leeds.gov.uk

Let's Talk About Leeds!



Over 130 children and young people representing 19 youth and community groups from across the city attended a "Let's Talk About Leeds" youth summit event on 13th March. The event, held at the Civic Hall, was a part of an ongoing Leeds City Council Children & Families Scrutiny Board enquiry looking at how the city is doing in

terms of meeting its ambition to be 'child friendly'. During the event, young people worked alongside representatives from the Scrutiny Board to give their opinions on what is going well and what still needs to be improved with regard to the 5 outcomes set out in the Leeds' Children and Young People's Plan. These are: healthy lifestyles, staying safe from harm, doing well in learning & skills for life, having fun and active citizenship and voice.

All of the feedback from the young people has been shared with the Scrutiny Board and will be incorporated into the final report and recommendations. The young people in attendance were asked to complete evaluation forms with 92% rating the event as "good" or "great". One young person attending said "I really enjoyed the fact that young people collectively got to discuss issues important to us"

The Challenge Leeds and Wakefield Local Youth Board



Who are the Local Youth Board?

The Local Youth Board are made up of young people who Graduated from the NCS programme in 2018. These young people were either nominated by their peers or successfully applied to be on their Local Youth Board. The board have worked together to identify a social issue that they are passionate about and have spent time planning a social action project to address this.

Mental health Action day- this Saturday 6th April 11-5pm Leeds city centre

The Local Youth Board are very passionate about mental health and wanted to focus their project on this. Their aim is to encourage people to talk about mental health more openly and address the stigma that mental health still faces. The youth board will be spending a day in Leeds City Centre (just outside WH Smith on Lands Lane) engaging with members of the public in different activities to encourage conversations around mental health. Expect games, information on how to manage your mental health and a group of very passionate young people!

If you have any more questions please contact danielle.oconnell@the-challenge.org

What do cymbals, wands, sausages and cartwheels have in common?



They all feature in brilliant educational films and podcasts made by Y7 and Y8 students and launched today to help promote road safety. Four groups of young people took part in the project, supported by the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safer Communities Fund. Their brief was to create content to

help children who are about to move up to secondary school in Leeds stay safe on the roads, tackling issues that are relevant to all road-users.

Students from Benton Park chose a [wizarding theme](#) complete with cloaks and broomsticks. Those from John Smeaton Academy investigated the effect that mobile phones have on [perception](#). Wetherby High School opted for a [musical awareness test](#) to highlight so-called 'inattention blindness', and young people from Chapel FM Arts Centre recorded a fun [three-part radio podcast](#) with a quiz and challenge.

Amy, age 13, Chapel FM Arts Centre

"I really enjoyed making the podcast. Coming up with interesting ideas, writing and then recording, it's been great to be part of something start to finish."

Consultations

NHS Long Term Plan Consultation Survey



During March and early May 2019 [Healthwatch Leeds](#) will be gathering views from people on what the NHS in Leeds should look like in 10 years' time as part of the [The NHS Long Term Plan](#). We want to ensure that everyone, including young people have a say about their future health and care services.

As well as setting out plans to make it easier for people to access support closer to home and via technology, the Long Term Plan outlines how the NHS wants to get even better at looking after people with cancer, mental health, dementia, lung and heart diseases, learning disabilities and autism. We're asking people of any age living in Leeds to help by completing our [general survey](#)

If you, or someone you care for has a specific or a long term condition you can fill in Healthwatch England's survey, specifically about long term conditions [here](#). Deadline for completed surveys: **2nd May 2019**

Home Office launch consultation on tackling 'serious violence'

The Home Office's [consultation](#) for *Serious violence: new legal duty to support multi-agency action* is now open on the Gov.UK website. The deadline for responses is **28th May 2019**.

Please feel free to forward the consultation to relevant people interested in this area.

Opportunities to get involved in

Getaway Girls' forum for young women



Getaway Girls are a women-led organisation that supports girls and young women in Leeds to reach their full potential, in a safe woman and girls only environment. They provide them with a chance to develop new skills, build confidence and make friends through a range of opportunities from group to individuals sessions, arts and craft groups, training, residentials and voice and influence projects.

As part of their range of voice and influence opportunities they have set up a girls forum. The forum is led by girls, for girls in order for them to identify the issues that face them in Leeds and collectively take action to make their concerns known and take steps to make tangible and sustainable change.

The forum will meet every 6 weeks in order to ensure thorough idea- generation, discuss progress, and map out next steps. In order for the forum to be as representative of girls in Leeds as possible, we are reaching out to schools and youth groups; asking them to identify girls ages 13-18 that will be interested in making a change and having their voices heard and encourage them to come along to the forum. The forum will be fun and interactive in order to engage the girls, with games, food and music all provided. In addition, staff from Getaway Girls are happy to come into your setting to deliver a free taster session

The date of the next meeting is: **Thursday 25th April, 4.30-6.30pm @ The Carriageworks Theatre on Millennium Square.** For more details email: yazmin.akinola@getawaygirls.co.uk or call 0113 240 5894

Express your interest in a new youth voice worker support group

Does your role involve working with children and young people in youth and community settings and enabling them to have a voice and influence? If so you may be interested in becoming part of a network of workers around the city. You can express an interest about the types of support you would value by completing this [short survey](#) by Tuesday 30th April.

NCS Summer Programme



An **18 day** summer programme for 15-17 year olds focused on **social integration**, giving back to the **community and developing skills for their future**. Young people will be given the chance to go on residential and take part in outdoor activities, experience living in university halls whilst developing skills for their future, and give back to their community through developing their own project. Dates are all summer between 26th June – 10th August in Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield so can be very flexible around you. The programme asks for an admin fee no more than £50 that covers all food, travel, cost and activity costs.

If you are interested in the programme contact us on 0203 510 5050 or apply [online](#). You can see videos of each stage [here](#)

Free Safety workshops for young people



The West Yorkshire Trading Standard team are offering free SAFER (Scams And Frauds Education for Residents) workshops to schools and youth groups with a particular focus on **disadvantaged areas (LSOA)**. We've attached a flier to show what is on offer and would really welcome any interest from anyone who works with young people. They recommend beginning with either a Scams & Frauds or Consumer Savvy Workshop although there are 5 types of 60 minute workshop to choose from in total.

For more information or to book a workshop please email safer@wyjs.org.uk or call Cathy on 0113 535 0242

Young Market Traders



Kirkgate Market have a [young market traders](#) event taking place during Love your local market week which is 17th -31st May. During this time they are offering FREE trade to anyone aged between 16-30, on one of our barrows in the market kitchen. It's a national event the young market traders, with an option to go to national finals if selected, so a great opportunity to test the waters for young people launching a business.

For further information email market.events@leeds.gov.uk

Killingbeck and Sutton Park Detached Project



The Youth Association are currently running a detached project within the Killingbeck and Sutton park area. This runs Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5.30pm till 7.30pm.

KILLINGBECK- Currently a girls group running, young women are exploring aspirations regards college and employment. They will be taking part in informal accreditations such as speaking in front of other, understanding myself. Project planning is another informal accreditation which feeds into planning social action, current interest within the group is professional makeup (social action in development). Students from Leeds City college will be attending sessions to host skills swap.

SUTTON PARK- young people will be applying for a small grant in order to gain football provision from Leeds United on Sutton Park.

There are opportunities to take part in developing a 16 week programme regards playing football, training and informal accreditations. The project will result in a tournament run by young people.

Events

Young People, the Arts, and Mental Health

The Cultural Institute's second one-day annual Arts and Health conference is on Thursday 20 June 2019 at the University of Leeds and will be focused on '**Young People, the Arts, and Mental Health**', exploring the intersection of arts and health, culture and medical humanities.

Their ambition is to share research, evidence, policy and practice with practitioners, researchers and young people themselves.

Call for contributions They are now inviting submissions from clinicians, artists, researchers and those working with young people at any career stage, and from any discipline. If you would like to make a proposal please address the conference's core research question:

' How can we work with children and young people (aged 0-25 years) to improve mental health outcomes through cultural participation? '

Please download the [call for contributions](#) for more information. Submissions should be sent to cultural.institute@leeds.ac.uk by **23.59 on 16 April 2019**.

Register your interest to attend

They hope to attract a wide range of perspectives and experiences to contribute to the conference, both as speakers and delegates. Educators, youth workers, public health practitioners, people with lived experience, researchers, artists, cultural sector professionals, and third sector organisations will all benefit from attending the symposium. The programme will be devised to maximise opportunities for delegates to network, with the aim to nurture collaborations leading to independent projects.

Due to anticipated high demand for places, they are asking you to register your interest to attend by emailing cultural.institute@leeds.ac.uk They will then contact you to confirm your place.

Resources

HealthWatch website is now live!



[HealthWatch](#) have spent a long time creating something this is more inviting, brighter and easier to read. They have included lots of helpful videos that explain what they do and how you can get involved.

They would love to know what you think, also if there is a link that isn't working do let them know by dropping them an email info@healthwatchleeds.co.uk

NHS Youth Forum, England - Peer Support Campaign



Young people from England's NHS Youth Forum are taking the lead and launching their own peer support campaign! They want to empower young people to find peer support, encourage young people to engage with organisations and charities, and create their own networks.

The NHS Youth Forum have created a [poster](#) and [film](#) to promote the benefits of young people accessing support from their peers, and a '[Dear NHS](#)' postcard which asks those killer questions to healthcare professionals. **Check out the NHS Youth Forum on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts for details of their second campaign release, Story Sharing**

As always, thanks for reading and don't forget to get in touch if you have anything you would like us to feature in a future edition!

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www.breezeleeds.org/haveyoursay

Learn more about parents & carers having a voice and influence in Leeds:

<http://tinyurl.com/LeedsPCFVoice>



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