

THE FACTORY

A PLACE FOR CHANGE

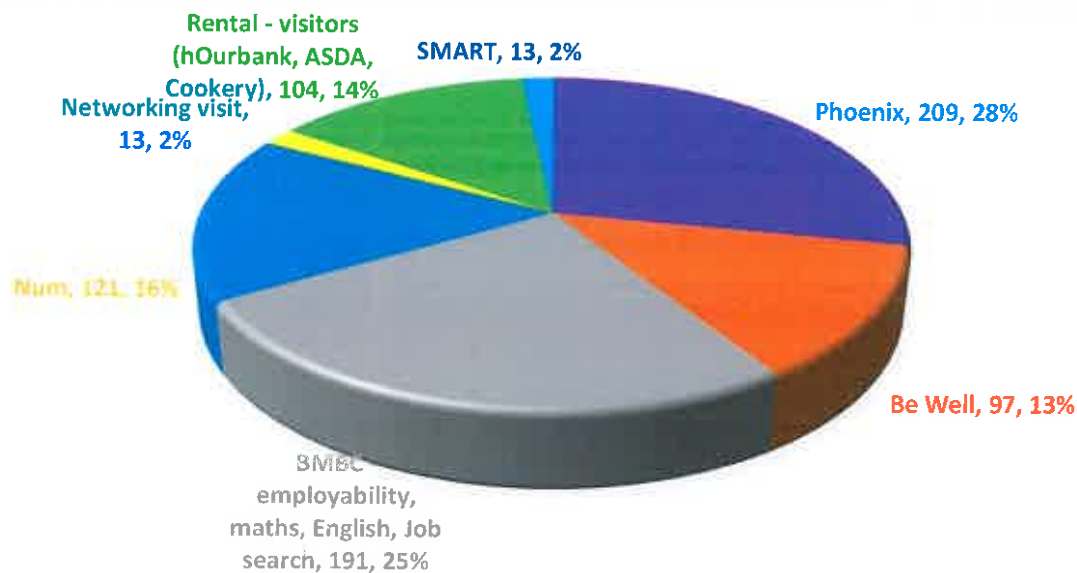
In September 2015 Phoenix Futures purchased the Dearne Enterprise Centre in Goldthorpe. We have taken time to carefully consider the needs of the area drawing upon the experience we have gathered since Phoenix started the satellite service in 2012.

Since September we have had a steady level of footfall to the centre, usually around 790 people per quarter. Accessing the variety of services delivered.

Q1 2016 has seen the successful delivery of 2 cookery courses – one organised by BMBC and the second organised by Be Well Barnsley. We have also attracted some funding for new equipment in our training kitchens.

Q1 has also seen a further increase in room rental – 14% of the access for the quarter was for people who were attending an event where a room was hired.

hOurbank have used the site on several occasions to hold social events such as bingo and pie nights, feedback from these have been very positive and the events are well attended.



Redecoration and refurbishment has been a priority for us, in part of creating an attractive space for community utilisation. The Factory – A place for change – creates a resource space, where community members can access a variety of support services that promote change. The Factory is keen to move in line with The Public Health England Agenda and focus our outcomes on generating positive change in the community with regards to health and wellbeing.

We are currently continuing to develop our area networks and are putting the plans in place for a launch event when the refurbishments are completed. This is with the full support of the National

Union for Mineworkers, who are working with us to create an event that is utilising the foundations and history of the area – so in addition to launching our vision, we are creating a community event. We have donations of art, given to us by Bill Bennett (local pit artist) which we will encourage local people to come and enjoy, building connections up with the local community is an important part of our approach.

We are currently working with some new ideas for the development of a café area – creating a space for the delivery of an enterprise that will include delivering events and clubs for mothers & toddlers, luncheon clubs for older people, arts and crafts coffee mornings and coffee mornings specifically for carers, the café would be run by people with additional and learning needs, with support, and in turn providing placements for people who are finishing catering courses at Barnsley College and are looking to continue in their development. This is a project we are very excited to be working on.

Our journey in creating our vision has not been without difficulty. A large part of the issues have been with the community's uncertainty of the types of things on offer here, this in line with the new branding – we are working hard to address this, with the development of a new website and social media accounts. However a key communication agent in this area is word of mouth – therefore more people that access the services and make positive changes the further this will impact on others attending the provision on offer.

Our current provision is as follows:

Phoenix Futures – delivering 1-1 interventions and specialist substance misuse support. Assessments slots are available by appointment on Tuesdays.

Be Well Barnsley – nutrition, exercise and wellbeing information, advice and guidance. Cookery courses and support to make better health lifestyle choices. Be Well Barnsley Advisors are based here, however also offer outreach interventions at other venues.

Happy Kids Nursery – Providing childcare placements.

BMBC. Jobsearch on Wednesday mornings. Information Advice and Guidance workers on Wednesday afternoon, working with the jobcentre. Maths and English courses delivered on Monday and Tuesday's.

NUM – Friday surgery (Inky Thompson and Joe Gaskill) 10am – 12noon. Support, Advice and guidance on a range of matters in relation to the mining industry.

We are committed to put the 'unity back in community'. A central, familiar place such as The Factory is continuing to deliver successful interventions on a community level, staff from all services in the centre are passionate, motivated and hopeful to the exciting prospects of the centre.