

Agenda Item 6

# North East Area Council

Cudworth, Monk Bretton, North East, Royston

North East Area Council Youth Development Working Together Fund  
March 2021  
Area Managers Performance Report



NSPCC training and Continuous Professional Development taken by our Youth Workers

# NSPCC Learning<sup>1</sup>



Packing and delivering food parcels



Over the past year the work of the community activity groups supported by the North East Area Council's Working Together Youth Development Fund has been greatly affected by the Covid pandemic. However even though there have been times when it has not been possible to operate the activity clubs, at no time have the groups stopped working to support the children and their families in Covid safe ways. Innovative delivery ideas have taken place focusing on creative and imaginative ways to remain in touch, and influential, in the lives of the children and young people.

Activity packs have been delivered to the children's homes and these packs contain quizzes, puzzles, educational materials and treats, with the aim of maintaining the close relationships the activity groups have with the families.

Additionally, individual families, who perhaps have a particular need for support, have been helped through this difficult time, and sign posted to appropriate agencies if applicable. The activity groups have also been involved in delivering food parcels to needy families throughout the pandemic.

Finally, social media platforms to maintain contacts and deliver activity sessions with young people have been taking place. These take the form of quiz nights, discussion groups and games, to build relationships and a sense of team. One group has a YouTube channel, through which they deliver the educational aspects of their weekly programmes. In addition, this allows the activity group workers and volunteers to be able to demonstrate crafts and other leisure activities, to keep the children occupied when they are not involved in school-based programmes.

Included in this report are two examples of case studies that the activity groups have submitted as part of their grant monitoring

### **Great Houghton Youth Group**

#### *SHARE your Story*

*Storytelling has been a key means of sharing valuable information and drawing people in throughout human history and is as relevant today as ever before. Use this template to construct the story of your impact.*

#### *Setting: Where did the event take place?*

All activities for our young people were based in their homes after being set up in Great Houghton Welfare Hall and delivered to their doors. We also made doorstep deliveries to our senior citizens who attend the Reading Room project.

#### *Activity: What activity did you undertake? Was there a problem that needed solving?*

We continued our wellbeing contact with our young people and with the senior citizens from the Reading Room project. We also helped BMBC with community food and resource distribution and the Trussell Trust with provision of a food bank and distributed toys that had been collected by the Barnsley Toy appeal. We delivered hot meals and 'free time' activity resources to senior citizens in Great Houghton.

*Action: What did the people involved do?*

- Ordered activity resources for young people & senior citizens
- Staff made up activity packs for young people & senior citizens
- Doorstep deliveries to young people, families & senior citizens
- Made weekly calls or sent weekly texts offering a listening ear for parents/elderly as needed.
- Signposted families & elderly residents to organisations that could help them where needed.
- Worked with Great Houghton Parish Council to collect donations for the Trussell Trust Foodbank
- Food parcel deliveries for the North East Area Council / BMBC/ Grimethorpe Community Farm
- Deliveries on behalf of Age UK
- Deliveries to young people on behalf of the Barnsley Toy appeal
- Made activities & resources to be used at home by our young people
- Hot food collection & deliveries to senior citizens
- Our Youth Workers completed Safeguarding & Staying Safe online training and qualifications with the NSPCC.

*Results: How did it turn out?*

Our activity packs and food parcels were much appreciated warmly received by parents and elderly and excitedly received by our young people. Our aim is to keep contact going with our young people and the elderly to improve moral and promote good health & mental wellbeing. Our activities support this and as stated previously enable us to make our safeguarding observations discretely. Vulnerable members of our community feel less isolated than they would if no one visits them and they know that they have someone to turn to in times of need. Our community links continue to grow.

*Ending: What is different now?*

Staff are continuing to do their youth group hours resourcing, delivering, maintaining the face book page, making telephone calls and completing additional funding applications and monitoring forms to cover resources. They also volunteer as and when needed and are proving to be very dedicated and flexible to the needs of our community. Our youth workers have also completed NSPCC training and continued professional development in safeguarding and keeping children safe online in preparation for when we re-open and new DBS Checks have been paid for and carried out.

Great Houghton Youth Group continues to embed ourselves firmly in our community and maintain our links with volunteers, individuals, families and groups. We have made the commitment to be proactive, responsive and flexible for those that most need in our community throughout the pandemic, very different to our usual work but we are happy to help.

## The Exodus Activity Groups in Cudworth and Brierley

### *SHARE your Story*

*Storytelling has been a key means of sharing valuable information and drawing people in throughout human history and is as relevant today as ever before. Use this template to construct the story of your impact.*

*Setting: Where did the event take place*  
Jenny's Field and home-based activities.

*Activity: What activity did you undertake and was there a problem that needed solving*

Like in Quarter 1, the pandemic has affected activities in this period also. We had 7 sessions prior to the second lockdown, and after which our support to the children was through delivering activity packs to the children.

The 7 sessions were all held at Jenny's Field, as opposed to St. Johns Church, our usual venue, due to the Church's restrictions around outside groups using their premises. Rather than cancel, we transported the children into our own premises, in Covid safe ways, to enjoy the following activities:

- Dance, drama, crafts, music, sports and games.

Our educational themes this term were:

- Weeks 1 & 2 "Your part in history" (reflections on the pandemic of 2020.)
- Weeks 3 & 4 "Adapting the change"
- Weeks 5 & 6 "The power of words"
- Week 7 "Caring for the environment"

Feedback from parents and carers has been very positive:

*"M has not stopped talking about it. I said, "did you have a good day?" She replied, "omg it was better than ok" She loved it. Thank you so much."*

*"It's amazing what the Exodus Project do for the children, such a healthy environment. Huge thank you, D and L had the best day ever."*

*Action: What did the people involved do?*

- Crafts: Carbon Footprint poster, Egg decorations, memory boxes, stress ball making, face painting.
- Games: Apple bobbing, cannon ball toss, mafia, egg games, neighbour game, number sports, pirate games, circus skills, bucket netball, outdoor film night.

*Results: How did it turn out*

During the second lockdown we took activity packs to the children at home again. These included puzzles, games and craft activities. This is a good summary of how the activity packs were received:

*“Thanks for XXXX’s kit to make a dream catcher today! And also thank you for everything that you have done this year to ensure the kids have had something to do while they can’t visit. You do a great job”*

*Ending: What is different now*

We have shared many stories about the impact of our activity clubs and camps over the years. Social media gives parents the chance to express their views, as well as the children and young people themselves. One Cudworth parent had this to say:

*“My eldest daughter volunteered with them until she started university and when she’s home she sometimes volunteers with them. I have two children who attend both with autism and the volunteers are amazing with them and make sure no one is left out it’s a very inclusive group, hopefully another one of my children will join them when this whole Covid 19 thing is over.”*

### **Outputs and Outcomes**

The table below shows the estimated figures, due to the Covid pandemic, of the outputs and outcomes for the activity groups supported through the North East Area Council’s Youth Development Working Together Fund

<b>Organisati on</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Allocati on</b>	<b>Contract Dates</b>	<b>No. of Young People s</b>	<b>No. of Volunteer</b>	<b>Total No. Volunteer Hours</b>	<b>Volunteer hours contributions at £13.51 per hour</b>
<b>Great Houghton Youth Club</b>	Youth Group Sessions	£8,204	September 2020 to August 2021	24	9	1,096	£14,807
<b>Grimethorp e Activity Zone</b>	Out of School Activity Sessions	£5,596	April 2020 to March 2021	88	2	72	£973
<b>The Exodus Project Cudworth</b>	Children and Young People’s Activity Club	£6,216	June 2020 to May 2021	40 (+week end camps)	14	404	£5,458
<b>The Exodus Project Brierley</b>	Children and Young People’s Activity Club	£4,020	January 2021 to December 2020	17 (+ week end camps)	6	314	4,242

Organisation	Project Name	Project Allocation	Contract	No. of Young People s	No. of Volunteer s	Total No. Volunteer Hours	Volunteer hours contributions at £13.51 per hour
<b>Ad Astra</b>	Listening Support Outwood Academy Carlton	£5,500	September 2020 to July 2021	20 (202 sessions)	Not applicable	Not applicable	In kind: £500 match funding from the Academy
<b>Ad Astra</b>	Listening Support Outwood Academy Shafton	£5,500	September 2020 to July 2021	20 (164 sessions)	Not applicable	Not applicable	In kind: £500 match funding from the Academy
<b>Grimethorpe Community Farm</b>	Grimethorpe Community Farm	£6,005	September 2020 to September 2021	42	13	1084	£14,645
<b>Grimethorpe Pentecostal Church</b>	Junior Musicians Workshop and Kids Club	£1,232	December 2020 to December 2021	82	5	90	£1,216
<b>Total</b>		<b>£42,273</b>		<b>293</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3060</b>	<b>£41,341</b>

**Caroline Donovan**  
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**25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**