

Appendix 9

Youth Provision District Report

By: Christine Kiely, Service Manager, Area Open Access - North Kent
Integrated Children's Services, Children, Young People and Education
Kent County Council

Sarah Gaunt, Youth Hub Delivery Manager – Sevenoaks
Integrated Children's Services, Children, Young People and Education
Kent County Council

Subject: KCC Delivered and Commissioned Youth Provision in Sevenoaks

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report provides an overview of youth provision available in the district of Sevenoaks. This includes provision that is directly delivered or commissioned by Kent County Council (KCC).

1. KCC Directly Delivered Youth Offer in Sevenoaks

1.1. The KCC internal youth offer consists of a variety of key activities for young people to engage with. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. **Chill Zone:** This is a weekly session held at Swanley Youth Hub. It is open to all young people aged 15–19 years. The aim of this group helps young people to develop their independent living skills as they prepare to live independently from their families. We also help to develop their leadership skills; improve their confidence, self-esteem, and provide support for post-16 choices.
- ii. **Revolutions Youth Club:** This is a weekly group run at Swanley Youth Hub for young people who have identified special educational needs and disabilities and wish to access a youth provision, and who may struggle to access a generic youth work session. The aim of the group is to build confidence and self-esteem of young people to enable them to access youth work sessions in a supportive environment. Bespoke informal education opportunities tailored to the needs of the individual young person with additional needs are built into the programme.
- iii. **Zone 87:** This is a weekly group run in Swanley Youth Hub and is open to all young people aged 11–16 years who live or go to school in Swanley. The purpose of this group is to increase confidence and self-esteem of individuals attending. It allows them to improve and develop their social skills and to increase their friendship circles. It also provides them with informal education opportunities to enable them to make informed choices and to become more involved in their local community.
- iv. **Boys Group:** This is a referral only group targeted at boys known to Early Help and Preventative Services (EHPS), Children's Social Work Service (CSWS), and Youth Justice. This group targets young men who are struggling with issues such as, anger management, offending behaviour, relationship difficulties, and at risk of both sexual and criminal

exploitation. This group is delivered at Swanley Youth Hub and is a rolling programme throughout the year.

- v. **Girls Group:** This is a referral only group targeted at young women known to EHPS, CSWS, and Youth Justice. This group targets young women who are struggling with relationship difficulties, domestic abuse, and are at risk of child sexual exploitation. This group is delivered at Swanley Youth Hub and is a rolling programme throughout the year.
- vi. **Our Choices:** This is a 6-week programme targeted at young people open to additional, intensive, and specialist support. It is a referral only group which works on improving social skills, building resilience and confidence and to enable those taking part to be able to access universal youth services.
- vii. **Summer Holiday Programme:** This is a 4-week programme operating during the School summer holiday. The programme includes on site activities and art workshops, plus off-site activities such as camping and a climbing wall. In addition, and as part of the summer programme, we select one of our regular weekly groups, to support them to organise and run a residential session. This year we have worked with young people from both Zone 87 and Revolutions Youth Club to organise the residential this summer.
- viii. **Senior Member Training:** Each year we train young people who take on a leadership role within our youth clubs to complete Senior Member Training. This course is accredited by ASDAN. In the last 12 months, we have trained 9 young people to be Senior Members, of which 4 are currently undertaking active roles and participating in senior roles at the weekly 'Monday Club' and 'Revolutions Youth Club'.
- ix. **PSHE & Citizenship and Ethnic lessons at Knole Academy, Sevenoaks:** In the current academic year our Senior Early Help Workers have delivered lessons and assemblies to all year groups.
- x. **Duke of Edinburgh (DofE):** Swanley Youth Hub is an accredited open award centre that currently delivers bronze and silver DofE opportunities. We support Orchards Academy with the DofE delivery and have a current active group.
- xi. **Peripatetic Detached:** This detached youth work responds to the local need as identified through local intelligence and in liaison with the Community Safety Partnership at Sevenoaks District Council. This arrangement works well and enables the KCC Youth Team to be responsive and focus on areas where anti-social behaviour is a concern. Locations where this work has been carried out include: Swanley Park, Bat and Ball train station, Sevenoaks train station, Greatness Park, Dunton Green, New Ash Green, Hartley, and Westerham.
- xii. **Missing Return Interviews:** Youth Hub staff undertake missing person return interview for young people not open to Children's Social Work Services and who are deemed to be low risk.
- xiii. **Additional Support:** This support is carried out by Youth Hub staff, for young people aged 8-19 (25 where they have additional needs). Additional Support is a one to one intervention carried out with the young people after a Signs of Safety assessment. This work is carried out over 6-8 weeks. Those young people are encouraged and supported to access the universal offer to provided ongoing support.
- xiv. **Discovery Group:** This is for parents who are waiting for a diagnosis of ASD or ADHD. This group supports parents to improve their understanding around ASD and ADHD; managing

parent's expectations of what will happen if they get a diagnosis and sharing parenting strategies and practical advice they can use to help at home. This is jointly co-delivered between the Youth Hub and Children's Centre teams.

2. Commissioned Service Youth Offer in Sevenoaks

- 2.1. There are 12 Youth contracts across Kent. West Kent Communities currently subject to a 5-year contract with KCC to deliver universal youth provision in Sevenoaks.
- 2.2. The youth offer from West Kent Communities, includes the following programme of support:
 - i. Youth activities are delivered 4 days a week at the Edenbridge House Project operating at The Eden Centre in Edenbridge. They focus on informal education, delivered through drop in and activity-based sessions which include music, sports, arts, health and wellbeing and youth participation.
 - ii. The 8–12's project is delivered across the district in 6 different locations across 5 days. The locations are: Swanley, West Kingsdown, New Ash Green, Sevenoaks (Bat & Ball area), Dunton Green, and Edenbridge.
 - iii. Delivery of weekly youth sessions at West Kingsdown, New Ash Green and Hartley. Additional funding for this youth work, secured from West Kingsdown, New Ash Green and Hartley Parish Councils respectively.
 - iv. Street based youth work across the Sevenoaks district which culminates in the young people being supported to organise and run a festival in the areas where they live.
 - v. Delivery of Citizenship and ethics lessons to Years 9 & 10 at Knole Academy, Sevenoaks.
 - vi. A well-being Schools Project targeted at Years 5 & 6 in primary schools. This is delivered to 4 primary schools per term and has been delivered to 12 different primary schools this academic year.
 - vii. Supporting New Ash Green Youth Forum and Edenbridge Youth Forum. Edenbridge Youth Forum have been on a trip to France to explore the WW1 war graves and have done a big project about the impact of WW1 on Edenbridge.
 - viii. Close working with Kemsing Parish Council to set up a regular youth club in Kemsing. This will be started shortly.

3. Governance

- 3.1. The overarching responsibility of the district Young Person Partnership Conversation (YPPC) is to ensure that there is a good understanding of the youth offer within their respective districts and for this to inform the Local Children's Partnership Group (LCPG). This enables youth work to remain consistently of a high standard for children and young people (aged 8-19 years and up to 25 with additional needs) living in the district. The YPPC's is open to both district and county Members.
- 3.2. The YPPC's take place three times a year within an agreed timetable that runs alongside the LCPG.

4. Partnership Working in Sevenoaks

- 4.1. There are several key areas of work that KCC are involved in or leading on, alongside partners in Sevenoaks, which have a focus on engaging with and supporting young people. Much of the partnership working is focussed on getting young people to access the universal provision across the District or to access the correct tier of support.
- 4.2. The Youth Hub Delivery Manager attends the Local Inclusion Forum Team (LIFT) meetings, to support in information advice and guidance to schools around access to universal, additional, and intensive family support.
- 4.3. The Youth Hub Delivery Manager participates in Community Partnership meetings at Sevenoaks District Council. Localities in the District that would benefit from episodes of concentrated detached youth work are identified via this Forum and service subsequently delivered.
- 4.4. Monthly NEET meetings are held with The Education People, CXK and the Youth Hub Delivery Manager to discuss NEETs and to progress into EET.
- 4.5. Opportunities for Work Experience, Traineeships and Apprenticeships. Offer Business Support Apprenticeship each year to local young people and provide work experience for those where this would be beneficial.
- 4.6. The Youth Hub Delivery Manager and a Senior Early Help Worker support Sevenoaks Town Youth Council and the Sevenoaks Town Council Youth Services Sub-Committee meetings.
- 4.7. Porchlight deliver a LGBTQ+ drop in facility, each week at Swanley Youth Hub.
- 4.8. IMAGO deliver activities for young carers at Swanley Youth Hub.
- 4.9. Youth Justice Unit utilise the Youth Centre and services in their work with young people and link young people into provision.