

Feedback from Our Youth, Our Future Workshop, The Outset Centre, 24 January 2009

Dear Friend,

On the 24 January 2009 a workshop was held for youth groups in Walthamstow. This event sought to map out where youth activities were happening in our locality- and where they were not. There were also three questions for participants to answer:

1. If there was one thing my group needs it would be?
2. If there was one thing we could do for young people in Walthamstow it would be?
3. Where and what are the gaps in activities/provision for young people?

This document sets out the provisional outcomes of these discussions and the list of activities taking place for young people within Walthamstow. Further information and points of clarification for this document are now sought. Please email stella@workingforwalthamstow.org.uk with any additional relevant information for this document. When identifying additional activities or groups please give as many contact details as possible. A final version of this document will be circulated for information in March 2009 to assist both public service providers and voluntary youth organisations in Walthamstow to understand both the range of activities taking place in our local area, the gaps that may need addressing and the perceptions and concerns those working with young people locally hold.

The organisers of this event would also welcome suggestions for how to ensure young people themselves in Walthamstow are given the opportunity to comment on this project. For example, it has been suggested that groups can hold discussions or participate in a workshop for young people in Walthamstow later in the year. Please do also let us know if you have thoughts or ideas on this point. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in this process so far,



Stella

Mapping Exercise: Where is your group active?

Higham Hill

- Mobile Youth Venue – Higham Hill (?)
- Higham Hill Hut (13-19 years) – Wed 6-9pm off Hecham Road – games, pool, table tennis, discussion, condom distribution, environmental projects, open door. Youth Support Services
- Volunteer Police Cadets – police skills and outward bound activities; community and crime prevention projects – Tue 6.30-9.30pm – 14-19 years – self referral – 40 places
- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Young parents group coming soon

Chapel End

- Aveling Park 13-19 years – Mon + Fri – next to skate park – skating, discussion, games, support – open door – Youth Support Services
- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays

William Morris

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Willowfield School Asdan Key Skills Group (Yr 10/11)
- William Morris School – Summer Activity
- Mobile Youth Venue – Priory Court (Wed PM)
- London Action Trust (Worth Unlimited) – Gang Intervention (project should start 9th Feb)
- Volunteer Police Cadets – police skills and outward bound activities; community and crime prevention projects – Tue 6.30-9.30pm – 14-19 years – self referral – 40 places
- Priory Court Community Centre - 13-19 years – 9th Feb start, times tbc – dj, mc, music making. Youth Support Service and London Action Trust and Street Beats plus Friday nights 13-19 years from Feb, Duke of Edinburgh Award. Youth Support Services

Wood Street

- Wood Street OG Group – Poss. social enterprise 15+ disadvantaged kids
- Woodcraft Folk Pioneers(10-12 years) – Thu PM @ Soul Project – planning a new group to take demand
- Soul Project – linking with youth over summer – 13-19 years
- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Walthamstow cricket/tennis/squash club
- Ragland FD (outreach in area) – Youth Engagement Project (13-19 years) – based from Outset Centre- confidence and self esteem work, community cohesion work, trips out – open – 12 weeks from Jan to Mar 09, Mon 6-8pm

High Street

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Outset PDA – Photography, drama, art (13-19 years) Tue 7-9pm. Referral only – Youth Support Service

Hoe Street

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Sam Lee St Mary’s have lots going on
- ASRA – 13-19 years – Asian Youth Leadership Project – Asian Centre 18a Orford Road – social space, chill out, issue based sessions e.g. sexual health, CV writing, Monday’s 5.30-7.30pm. Youth Support Services and ASRA

Markhouse

- Beau Bezles (LGBT Youth Group) – young people under 25 Tuesdays 6-9pm, social and support group, creative arts, workshops, self development and trips out. Contact Outset Centre Youth Support Service
- Kickz (football) – Leyton Orient Community Sports Programme
- Outset – music tech 13-19 – 19th and 20th Feb then every Tuesday 6-8 until end. March –more courses throughout year. Basic music making. Referral only. Youth Support Services
- Elashed the Ark – Wednesday Outset 6.30 to 9.30
- YSS Outset – Monday 4.30 to 6.30 voluntary group
- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays

Lea Bridge

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- BMXing
- Emmanuel Youth Club, Emmanuel Church (near B&Q) – year 7-year 9 – Wed only during term time

Information on areas outside Walthamstow also given:

Chingford

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Sea Cadets 10-18 years – Tue and Thu 7.15-9.30pm – 48 Kings Road (boys and girls) – 020 8529 4473
- Asdan Group – Year 10 and 11 – Nevin Drive School
- Mobile Youth Venue (13-19) – Yardley Lane (Mon PM), Hatch (Mon PM), Oliver Close
- Jobs Club – Thu afternoon
- Gilwell Park on our doorstep! Michael Mallinson Scout Centre – campsite, accommodation centre, climbing wall, water activities, various activities

Highams Park

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Winchester Road Methodist Church
- “Youth Offer” – Active Angels London Playing Field – Peter May Sports Centre – 13-19 years young women
- Rangers 15+ - Thu 7.30-10pm
- Guides 10-15 – Tue 7.30-9pm and Thu 7.15-9pm
- Brownies 7-10 – Mon and Wed
- Rainbows 5-7 - Thu
- Youth Group – Tue 7.30-9.30pm

Leyton

- LFB – 13-17 years ‘Cadet + Best Buddy’ – all week/evenings/holidays
- Lammas School
- Mobile Youth Venue (13-19) – Beaumont (Tue PM)

Leytonstone

- Duke of Edinburgh Award Support – Pastures Youth Centre
- Waltham Forest South Scouts – various locations across Walthamstow, Highams Park, Leyton and Leytonstone – contact Mike Pattendon 8527 7422

Questions for Youth Organisations

Q1. If there was one thing my group needs it would be?

- Storage for equipment/uniform (LFB)
- Funding
- Theatre
 - Gangshow/showstoppers
- Low cost rental
- More dressing rooms
- Adult volunteers
- Cheaper venues
- Funding
- Better advertising
- Referrals from schools
- Good venue to meet at –with pool table, table tennis, music, climbing wall, mini ramp
- To know you
- The be exempt from council tax
- 5-7 year funding for sustainability and programme development
- Inspiration/education

Q2. If there was one thing we could do for young people in Walthamstow it would be?

- Let them know about everything that is available for them now
- Create safe places just to be together and for longer than just early evenings and week nights
- Reclaim all parks as safe places
- OG Group – crèche focus
- Reopen St James' Library
 - With better books for older readers
- Safe places indoor and outside to meet and socialise
- Change how we access funding/procurement
- Engage them in a variety of activities for all ages thru-out the borough
- Increase publicity for activity
- Promote the youth services positively locally
- A co-ordinator point across statutory and voluntary services
- Organise activity based visits to the local fire station (LFB)
- Reject negative coverage in media and other sources where youth are vilified
- Celebrate being young – value our young people
- Do more for young parents

Q3. Where and what are the gaps in activities/provision for young people?

- Climbing wall (in nearby area)
- Music venues for gigs/jam nights, etc
- Council sanctioned dirt jumps
- Safe places to hang out without having to “do” programmes that generate outcomes
- Sharing of information between partners and in particular statutory services recognising how to share intelligence with voluntary sector
- Cinema!
 - Do the one up on Hoe Street!
- Wider mentoring services
- Bowling
- We need a theatre with dressing rooms in Walthamstow
 - Plus open access media/performance spaces
- New and effective ideas that work and pull the young people in (catch their attention)

- Opportunities for young people to meet officials on young people's terms
- Weekly throughout year for 14-17 year olds
- Basketball for 14+
- Big gap in weekend and late night services/provision (p.s. not saying I want to do it)
- £££
- Maintained concrete skate parks for young
- Roller disco!
- Mapping everything that's on so we can map gaps
- More publicity of youth groups in the area (website, WFM)
- More for 9-13 years – activities/group support
- In the north of Higham Hill very little in the way of facilities for young people
- Activities that help parents remain connected/empowered to care for their children and help with parenting challenges through networking and support groups
- Very little mainstream provision and what exists poorly resourced, e.g. parks seen as unsafe by young people. No cinema, nowhere just to meet up, listen to music, hang out, no bowling. Streets unsafe. Very few youth centres.
- Weekend provision Sat?
- Might need to recognise that we can't really wait till yp hit 13 years before youth services engage them
- Need youth centres to account for needs of yp aged 11-13 years
- Lack of community centres
- Lack of community
- Let's think more about how to build communities
- One stop shop on neutral ground (no post code issues)
- OG Group
- Fashion enterprise
- Youth focus education and inspiration needed
- Youth club for 13-19 year olds
- Lack of public space for young people to play sports
- Lack of joined up services
- No dog track
- Safe space
- Getting young people into more positive activity
- Get them off the street into constructive developing roles
- Teach young people how to design and print their own brand