

Education, Children and Families Committee

10.00am, Tuesday, 3 March 2020

Children and Young People's Participation

Item number
Executive/routine
Wards
Council Commitments

1. Recommendations

- 1.1 The Education, Children and Families Committee is asked to:
 - 1.1.1 Note the progress with participation work in several interlinked contexts and against the top five priorities identified by children and young people;
 - 1.1.2 Agree the next steps outlined in section 5.
 - 1.1.3 Request a further report in March 2021.

Alistair Gaw

Executive Director, Communities and Families

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Children and Young People's Participation

2. Executive Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out progress in relation to children and young people's participation and highlights key examples from across the city where children and young people have made a difference in terms of their own experience, their schools and communities, and the city as a whole. The report identifies the key issues that children and young people have raised across a range of participation activities.

3. Background

- 3.1 Previous reports in May and October 2019 have outlined progress in relation to children and young people's participation, including *What kind of Edinburgh?* and the establishment of a Children and Young People Participation Group. Committee requested a further report on participation and progress relating to top priorities in March 2020.

4. Main report

4.1 Children's Services Plan 2020-23 engagement

- 4.1.1 The key messages from the children and young people who took part in *What kind of Edinburgh?* have formed the basis of the Children's Partnership's engagement around priorities for the forthcoming Children's Services Plan 2020-23. Children and young people, parents and carers, and staff have been asked to prioritise the key messages under the plan's headings of Best Start, Bridging the Gap and Being Everything You Can Be. This means that the plan will be based on and shaped by feedback from children and young people as well as other stakeholders.
- 4.1.2 Responses have come from a range of groups, including young people from ThroughCare and Aftercare, the Champions Board, pupil/student councils, voluntary sector provision and others. Children and young people have also responded on an individual basis.

4.2 Youth Climate Action Summit

- 4.2.1 The City of Edinburgh Council is proposing to develop a City Sustainability Strategy, a ten-year plan to take action on climate change with an aim for the city to become carbon-neutral by 2030. As part of this, the Council hosted a Youth Climate Action Summit on Friday 28 February 2020. This Youth Climate Action Summit took place at around the same time as the launch of the 'Year of COP' and formed part of the lead-in to COP 26, which will be held in Glasgow in November 2020
- 4.2.2 A small short-life planning group, was responsible for scoping, planning and delivering the Summit. This was young people-led, with participants drawn from the School Climate Strikers and the Scottish Youth Parliament. The Summit was attended by over 100 S1-S3 young people. A second event for primary children is planned for later in spring.

4.3 Main Revenue Grant programme, 2020-23

- 4.3.1 One of the questions for applicants to the recently completed Main Revenue Grant programme asked them to identify one key message from What Kind of Edinburgh and detail how the service to be funded would respond to this message. These messages were identified by the children and young people who took part in What Kind of Edinburgh. The messages were:
- We want to be safe
 - We want fairness in our schools and communities
 - We want love, kindness and respect
 - We want adults to be honest
 - We want to be happy
 - We want to know our rights

4.4 Youth Participation Fund

- 4.4.1 The focus of this small annual fund (maximum ward £1500) was based on the priorities identified by young people. The criteria was informed by participation events with young people, including Youth Talk, What Kind of Edinburgh and Young Edinburgh Action, and adopted the key messages and top priorities as voiced by them. The fund criteria are as follows:

Safety

- Engage young people in promoting safety in their communities and city

Health and wellbeing

- Encourage and enable young people to make positive and healthy choices which benefit emotional and physical wellbeing
- Build positive relationships

Fairness

- Engage in making our communities fairer and more equal
- Promote young people rights

Youth Participation

- Support young people to have an active role in your organisations decision-making processes
- Encourage young people to be active citizens within their community
- Support participation in local, citywide and national decision-making processes

Lifelong Learning

- Engage young people in a positive accredited learning experience

4.4.2 In order to apply for the funding, organisations were required to work with young people to identify and agree a project or piece of work to be delivered. Young people were expected to play a central role in this process so that the applications submitted were based on ideas that they had generated. Awards were agreed for the following pieces of work:

1. 6VT: to invest in their newly elected youth board via a leadership and teambuilding three-day residential.
2. About Youth: to support the delivery of a 10-week rock-climbing and personal development group for young people aged 12 to 15.
3. The Citadel: to fund a weekend residential for the Youth Reporters group, where they will record a short film about young people and mental health.
4. Dance Base: to provide, for 1 year, two free places to young Edinburgh-based dancers from disadvantaged backgrounds, and to further subsidise places for up to five young Edinburgh-based dancers.
5. Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre: to fund cooking workshops, staffing and equipment to measure young people's physical activity each week, with weekly challenges set to see who can be most active.
6. Green Team: to fund a Youth Panel, an Advisory Young Person's Board comprising young people who are taking part in Green Team programmes. It will support four bi-monthly sessions plus provide 12 Youth Panel places at a residential training and development weekend.
7. Jack Kane Centre: to develop and further enhance young people's active involvement in decision-making process within the Jack Kane Community Centre. The project will specifically focus upon interactive informal educational group work sessions which will encourage young people to explore the complexities of decision-making process and active participation.
8. Light up Learning: to form a Youth Advisory Group made up of LUL mentees from Castlebrae High School.
9. Sighthill Community Centre (Gate 55): to fund workshops with the youth club around the theme of Health and Well-being.
10. People Know How: to work with groups of 20 young people in S1 and deliver a series of 12 interactive workshops, led by our facilitators. During the workshops, the young

people will learn about their rights. The aim is to build skills in conflict-resolution and give young people the tools to protect their own and each other's rights.

11. Pilton Youth and Children's Project: to work with young people at PYCP to create a mural which will be displayed at a launch night at the project for the community and invited guests.

Evaluations of these pieces of work will be available in summer 2020.

4.5 YouthTalk

4.5.1 YouthTalk has progressed in five areas with almost 4,000 young people involved to date, helping identify local improvements and highlighting more strategic issues. YouthTalk is currently underway in North West (West/East Pilton, Granton, Muirhouse, Drylaw). To date, 942 young people have been involved with the early stages.

4.5.2 YouthTalk involves different stages. Whilst methods vary, the programme is similar to that introduced in 2013 and consists of:

- Straw poll – different approaches have been used including a voting response to a basic question around services, to using a postcard to gather views across a number of questions. The poll is undertaken across the community e.g. libraries, schools, youth clubs.

The information is distilled to help identify common themes;

- Discussion Groups – Young people are asked to provide more meaning to the issues highlighted. This can involve community mapping to identify specific areas of concern, facilities and activities;
- The 'Gathering' - Young people join adults including elected members, community members, key partners and third sector organisations to discuss key issues and identify potential solutions.

4.5.3 Following the gathering, further work is required to develop actions to address the key outcomes. This centres on those that can be delivered at a locality level. This can also involve some re-engagement with young people and partners to validate proposed activity. Appendix 1 provides a detailed account of activity that has taken place or is planned in the coming months in the areas involved, and shows the priority or activity identified and the progress to date.

4.5.4 Three main themes have emerged:

- Safety
- Cyber safety
- Mental health

- 4.5.5 Some local activity can be introduced to support these themes; however, citywide actions are more likely to create greater continuity of approach, address resource implications and ensure relevant partners are fully engaged.
- 4.5.6 It is recognised that locality based YouthTalk processes provided some insight to the themes highlighted; however, more detailed discussion is required with young people to fully understand the scale of these issues. Discussions are underway to develop a citywide YouthTalk event which would seek to bring together young people from across the localities to engage with senior officials, partners and elected members to help identify potential actions and/or identify how they can influence associated strategies. The citywide 'gathering' can also celebrate young people's involvement in YouthTalk across the city.

4.6 Young People's Participation in Schools

- 4.6.1 Quality Improvement Education Officers from within the Schools and Lifelong Learning team, two of whom are members of the Participation Group, have been working directly with schools this session, delivering professional learning for school staff on empowering learners through participation in decision-making across the four arenas of:
- Learning, Teaching and Assessment
 - Opportunities for Personal Achievement
 - Decision Making Groups
 - Links with the Wider Community
- 4.6.2 All staff in seven schools have engaged with this, with a further eight signed up for sessions this academic year and 35 schools for the academic session 2020/21.
- 4.6.3 Learners from **Wester Hailes Education Centre** undertook successful learner participation in decision making in the arena of Learning, Teaching and Assessment through the *Classroom Partnership* they created, which formed part of their Rights Respecting Schools Silver accreditation. They focussed on Article 13 (Freedom of expression) and Article 28 (Right to an education) to create a model whereby core expectations were established by learners regarding their expectations of teacher actions during lessons, and equivalent expectations were established regarding pupil actions within lessons.
- 4.6.4 **Broughton High School** recently achieved Rights Respecting Schools Bronze status in November, taking the total of schools across the city to 46 Bronze, 21 Silver, and 10 Gold.

4.6.5 Some of many current examples of participation in schools:

- **St Peter's RC Primary School** – Every child participates in a fortnightly pupil voice group during curricular time, centred around the themes of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development goals, where pupils self-select the group they wish to contribute to, and groups have an opportunity to feed back to the whole school.
- **Dean Park Primary School** – Learners have been engaging in whole-school self-evaluation using the Scottish Government *How Good is OUR School* document. They have been focussing on evaluating the theme of 'our school and community', and pupils from **Liberton Primary** have also begun to engage with this resource for participation.
- **Hermitage Park Primary School** has been increasing pupil participation in decision-making across the school through the work of their pupil community groups including Leafy Leithers, Bully Busters, Hermie's Rights Protectors, and Hermie Helps Community Group.
- Pupils from **Broughton High, Corstorphine Primary, Murrayburn Primary, St Cuthbert's RC Primary and St John Vianney RC Primary** took part in the *Future Schools Project* which involved them designing learning environments for their school which would lead to improved learning and teaching. They presented their submissions at the Education Buildings Scotland Conference where John Swinney, Deputy First Minister, announced the winner: St. John Vianney.
- Pupils from **St Andrew's Fox Covert RC Primary School and Gracemount High School** presented at the Scottish Parliament on World Children's day to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This included St Andrew's Fox Covert pupils talking about gender inequality and stereotypes, and a Gracemount HS pupil giving a short talk to the whole conference about the importance of young people engaging in discussion around children's rights and how their voice is so important as it represents the future of our country.

4.6.6 Some examples of good practice in learner participation are evident in many schools. However, there is still much work to be done across the city in terms of facilitating and promoting young people's participation in decision-making across all four arenas. Gaps in this area reflect the national picture (outlined in the Education Scotland Thematic Review of Pupil and Parent Participation, 2019) and can also be seen in Summarised Inspection Findings from HMI. The gaps identified include: young people influencing not just what they learn but how they learn and are assessed; young people deciding on the opportunities for personal achievement that are offered; young people leading and influencing the direction of their decision-making

groups; and young people making decisions about their work with the wider community.

4.7 Mind of My Own

- 4.7.1 Mind of My Own is an app which allows children and young people to express their views and have them taken into account by professionals of their choosing.
- 4.7.2 The Children's Practice Teams and Children and Young People's Review Team have purchased a licence to use Mind of My Own, mainly with children and young people who are looked after or subject to child protection registration. Social workers have been provided with mobile phones which allow them to go into the app with the child or young person and help them to choose what they want to say and to who. The child does not have to accept their social worker's help to use the app but the provision of the right technology to social workers means that we can give them that support if they wish.
- 4.7.3 We did this because children and young people told us they found it difficult to express their views at meetings such as children's hearings, Looked After Child Reviews, and Child Protection Case Conferences, due to the number of adults present and the formality of these meetings. They also told us that they increasingly use technology to communicate and that they would like us to find more ways for them to engage with our systems using technology rather than other methods such as using a paper form or being asked to say what they think to a roomful of adults.
- 4.7.4 Usage of Mind of My Own has been building in Edinburgh from a slow start: in the four months from August to November was a very encouraging increase from 14 children/young people submitting Mind of My Own statements in August 2019 to 50 in November.
- 4.7.5 There are some great examples in which use of the app has made a real difference to children and young people. In one case a young person used the app to disclose physical abuse by a relative which had previously gone undetected. This was investigated and a clear safety plan has been put in place for the young person. In another case, a young child used the app to express her views to a children's hearing about how much she wanted to see her mum. This was taken into account by the children's hearing and her contact with her mum was increased.

4.8 Community-based youth and children's work

- 4.8.1 All community-based youth and children's organisations use different methods and levels to encourage and promote youth and children's

participation. This will range from after school clubs using play principles of child-led play and free play through to, for example, open-access youth clubs making sure that young people influence the youth club programme.

- 4.8.2 For some children and young people, participation at these levels is enough. Although children and young people in community-based settings will voice opinions in relation to wider decisions that affect them, it is often the youth worker that is looked to - by the young person - to carry these opinions (voice of child or young person) forward into key decision-making forums or arenas; the child or young person may not be attracted to that level of participation.
- 4.8.3 What is important is that all levels of participation should be respected - for some it will be having a say in the youth club weekly programme and for others they will strive for more involvement in political decision-making. One level is no more valid than the other, and we should seek evidence of participation where children and young people already engage and at the level at which they feel comfortable participating.

5 Next Steps

5.1.1 Building on *What kind of Edinburgh?*, it is proposed to investigate how we might embed participation in the Children's Services Plan 2020-23 by giving children and young people a central role in the implementation of the plan. More specifically, how might children and young people be involved in order to:

- make suggestions on specific actions and policies needed to implement the plan and how children and young people can be involved in these developments;
- check in with the partnership board on progress with, and delivery of, its commitments;
- embed participatory mechanisms across children and young people's services.

In partnership with the Children's Parliament, our intention would be to explore ways in which meaningful and creative participation of children and young people could be incorporated into both policy and practice across the partnership.

5.1.2 Each YouthTalk process is revisited every three years to ensure young people continue to be at the centre of co-designing service delivery. In terms of managing wider outcomes and key themes, work is underway to develop a city-wide YouthTalk that will bring together young people who have been involved locally with an aim of creating a better understanding of key issues within each theme. This will help to inform action planning against key strategies e.g. Community Safety, Youth Justice. The Youth Participation Team and YouthTalk are currently working together to ensure that young

people are involved in the development of the Community Safety Strategy. A key step will be to seek a representative group of young people to act as a 'Checkpoint' group who can come together to help those responsible for strategy delivery better understand the impact of activities against the agreed actions. Discussions are underway to organise a citywide Youth Talk 'gathering' in which some of the cross-cutting, big strategic issues that have been identified can be explored and better understood.

- 5.1.3 In response to a request from committee members, work has started to develop a mechanism by which young people can contact elected members directly with issues of concern or interest. The #whatkindofedinburgh has had limited success so far in relation to the priorities for the Children's Service Plan but will continue to be promoted. Other possibilities with social media will also be investigated, including potentially an adapted version of Mind of My Own. Staff should also ensure that information about any locality events which are focused on the participation of children and young people are circulated to the relevant elected members in order that they might attend. A circulation list of key contacts in relation to learner participation across schools is being developed. This will make the circulation of information about participation activities easier and more effective. It could also act as a conduit for children and young people to feed in comments and suggestions.
- 5.1.4 We will also produce an accessible summary of young peoples' engagement activities and outcomes twice each year, which we will circulate to schools directly and to youth agencies via LAYC and EVOC. The summary will ask for feedback, comments and suggestions from young people. We will ask for these to be sent to the Participation Group and/or directly to elected members (we will include contact details). Additionally, the summary will contain an update on the Council's main policy/strategy developments (e.g. proposals to make Edinburgh carbon-neutral by 2030) and invite young people to comment on these to the appropriate officers and Elected Members. Our intention is that this mechanism will keep schools and youth groups 'in the loop' on a regular basis with live issues which are being raised by children and young people. It will show progress around them and invite suggestions on the issues they think should be considered, enabling children and young people to contribute their thoughts and work into policy shaping and implementation. We will trial this over the next year and report on progress in March 2021.

In addition, we will investigate any similar work taking place in other local authorities and look to incorporate or adapt successful practice where appropriate.

5.1.5 Top Priorities

Across all of the activities set out above, a number of key issues and themes are regularly highlighted. These are:

- Safety (including in communities, online and places where children and young people feel safe)
- Mental health
- Poverty and inequality
- Participation and being able to exercise rights
- Climate change

6. Financial impact

- 6.1 The participation of children and young people in the progress of the Children's Services Plan, which would be carried out in partnership with the Children's Parliament, would need to be funded. It is expected that this will be met from existing resources.

7. Stakeholder/Community Impact

- 7.1 This report is specifically concerned with ensuring that children and young people's views and experiences are sought out and that their voices are listened to across the services that the department provides.

8. Background reading/external references

- 8.1 What Kind of Edinburgh? E, C & F Committee 21 May 2019.
- 8.2 Choose Youth Work, E, C & F Committee 21 May 2019.
- 8.3 Supporting Children and Young People's Mental Health and Well-being in Schools, E, C & F Committee 21 May 2019.
- 8.4 Children and Young People's Participation, E, C and F Committee 8 October 2019.

9. Appendices

- 9.1 Appendix 1 - YouthTalk Activity Progress

Appendix 1

Education, Children & Families Committee – YouthTalk Update March 2020

YouthTalk – City wide lead officer: **Scott Donkin – Lifelong Learning Service Manager –**
scott.donkin@edinburgh.gov.uk – 529 5001

Youth Talk – Queensferry / Kirkliston		Date of Gathering: 14th Sept 2018	Lead Officer: Martin Bell Martin.bell2@edinburgh.gov.uk
Pledge/Outcome	Associated Action	Progress to date	Planned activity
Young people feeling isolated as a result of LGBT issues will be better supported and valued in their community	Establish dedicated LGBT youth club and other support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group created in high school in response to young people indicating they would like a social/support group out of school • Partnership working between lifelong learning & LGBT Scotland - creating LGBT inclusive group - POLARI averaging 8 – 12 young people per session • LGBT Scotland to lead on project from 3rd October 2019 - 30th April 2020 <p>Services include;</p>	Fully review pilot initiative with potential to continue longer term activity.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Lead on the delivery of a weekly LGBT Youth Group in Queensferry Oct 3rd – April 30th -Provide staff and management support -Deliver training to NW Youth Workers -Provide regular updates on progression of the group -6-month evaluation report including statistics, feedback and recommendations -Design and print flyers -Provide refreshments and resources 	
Improving support around mental health, especially around exam time:	Establish focus group and agree activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus group created, the following supports were put in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19 x one to one sessions carried out in Queensferry High School before exam time to help reduce anxiety - Feedback from guidance staff and young people very positive. - Local libraries allowed pupils access to come and study at certain times offering them free refreshments, study resources and printing services. 	<p>Re-launching a Healthy Respect Drop-in at Queensferry High School as a partnership with the school nurse, offering young people support around their well-being, relationships and sexual health.</p> <p>Put in place exam support for 2020</p>

Improve how information is provided to young people about local service provision	Find the best way to communicate with young people to let them know what's happening in their area and seek their feedback.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensferry / Kirkliston YouthTalk Facebook page established and monitored by Youth Engagement Partnership 	
Establish a programme of music-based activity aimed at supporting existing talent and helping foster new talent	Identify appropriate opportunities to develop alongside existing activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An opportunity arose to have an outdoor music concert showcasing 4 local young people's talent, held during the ferry fair week. Very good turn out and positive feedback received. 	Continue to identify opportunities to develop activities.
Increasing opportunities available to young people aged 14 +		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree of Life Project - Cyrenians - awarded £5,000 (Combination of Choose Youth Work and Locality funding) <p>Details of project:</p> <p>To offer 30 care-affected young people aged 14+ from South Queensferry</p> <p>and Kirkliston area the opportunity to join a dedicated youth work project</p>	Evaluation of project

		<p>which recognises their unique needs and required outcomes.</p> <p>The project will follow the 'Tree of Life' approach which allows them to take control of their story-telling, visualizing strengths, struggles and dreams.</p> <p>As a group the participants will create an inspiring arts sculpture to stand in an outdoor space.</p>	
There will be an increase in the number of young people engaging in sports-based activity	Organise a festival of sports with a range of taster sports available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPARKS FEST – Sports, Physical Activity & Recreation for Kirkliston & South Queensferry's young people - 2 weeks of FREE physical activity in both communities replacing aspects of the traditional summer programme. 	Re-engage young people to identify further sports-based activity and to plan summer 2020 activity

Youth Talk – North West – Western Schools Catchment (Royal High, Craigmount, St Augustine's, Forrester)		Date of Gathering: 21st June 2019	Lead Officer: Steven Kipanda Steven.kipanda@edinburgh.gov.uk
Pledge/Outcome	Associated Action	Progress to date	Planned activity
Develop and improve wider	Create Local Drama Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Youth Engagement Partnership (YEP) Input • Funding identified 	Local youth Drama group to be established

range of youth activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Venue Identified • Community arts group identified • Group to commence Jan/Feb 2020 	
	Create accessible out of school sports provision	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local YEP Input • Funding identified • Venues identified (Craigmount & Royal High school) 	<p>2x Local Multi sports activities aimed at increasing physical activity</p> <p>Service to commence in Spring 2020</p>
	Create new accessible youth club	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local YEP Input • Funding identified. • Venue Identified/CCC. • Commenced October 2019 • 15 young people regularly attending Thursday youth club • (S1 – S6) 	1x youth Drop ins
Mental health and well being	Create a youth advice / counselling service in partnership with Corstorphine Community Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local YEP Input • Funding identified. • Venue Identified. • Recruitment begins January 2020 • Website and marketing development 	Youth advice / counselling service to commence March 2020
Improve Community safety	Create more positive / diversionary activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local YEP Input • Funding application submitted CGF. • Venue Identified / Drumbrae Library Hub • Recruited youth workers December 2019 	2x youth drop ins

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 new youth activities commence end of January 2020 	
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YouthTalk – South West Edinburgh (Wester Hailes)	Date of Gathering: 10th May 2019	Lead Officer: Carol Tuzun carol.tuzun@ea.edin.sch.uk
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Pledge/Outcome	Associated Action	Progress to date	Planned activity
Our young people will feel safe in their community	Work with local Police to identify known hotspots with a view to improving patrols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police in attendance at the Gathering – listened to young people’s concerns 	Further discussion with police and young people to identify specific areas
	Create more positive / diversionary activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work underway to identify specific locations that would benefit from some refresh and/or changes to service delivery 	Reconnect with young people to finalise plans
	Improve communications to ensure young people are aware of what’s available		Identify ways to link different providers to create more unified approach to communication methods and materials
	Link wider concerns of feeling unsafe to city wide YouthTalk approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inputs from participants provided to YouthTalk lead officer – key concerns include Gang culture, drug dealing/addiction, alcohol sales, Police presence, Racism 	City Wide YouthTalk 2020

Our parks and greenspaces will offer improved resource to increase positive participation	Tackle dog fouling, especially in and around play areas		Discuss with Place team to identify possible measures alongside young people e.g. campaigns, poo bags
	Improve access to play for primary school children		Discuss with Place team to identify possible measures alongside young people Identify opportunities to link 'play' to summer programmes
	Identify areas that could benefit from improved football (including goalposts) facilities and cycling facilities		Discuss with Place team to identify possible measures alongside young people Identify opportunities to link 'play' to summer programmes
The image of the area will be improved (e.g. general cleanliness)	Actions to be identified		

Aspirations and commitment of young people will be recognised via YouthTalk Report	Report to be written and to include inputs and discussions at Gathering as a record for all partners and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work underway 	Report to be circulated across all partners, young people and interested individuals
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Youth Talk – North East (Leith)	Date of Gathering: 28th June 2019	Lead officer: Graham Neal Graham.1.Neal@ea.edin.sch.uk
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Pledge/Outcome	Associated Action	Progress to date	Planned activity
Reduce access to alcohol for young people and increase young people's awareness of risks of alcohol and drug use	Establish positive connection with North East Action On Alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connection made with North East Action On Alcohol • North East Action On Alcohol has worked with young people to co-design a workshop which gathers views from across the community about how to reduce alcohol-related harm. • Blue Light disco planned for late March 2020- partnership between LL, Vol Sector projects, Police Scotland and Leith CC Man Com. As well as providing a 'dry' space for young people, we will also be having stalls for different groups, which will include information on alcohol and other substances. 	Blue Light disco, Leith CC, March 2020

Increase young people's safety in and around local parks and green spaces	Establish connection with Community Parks Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested to meet CPO early next year to discuss specific issues raised by Leith YouthTalk. 	
Increase young people's online safety	Engage with Leith Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners have contributed to parents' evenings in school – promoting CEOP and Think U Know online resources to parents • Public access computers will be used at the Blue Light Disco to run online workshops on online safety. 	
Increase young people's access to sport and physical activities, especially at weekends	Establish connection with Hibernian Gamechanger and Edinburgh Leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gamechanger has offered free activities to local youth organisations • Edinburgh Leisure has offered additional access to NRG Zone gym accreditation for young people 	
Young people will be supported to continue to influence local services and oversee outcomes from process	Establish YouthTalk Action Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Leith Youth Talk Action Group has been established – to enable partner organisations to work collaboratively to deliver outcomes which have been identified through the YouthTalk project in Leith 	

Youth Talk – South East (Liberton Gilmerton)		Date of Gathering: 29 March 2019	Lead Officer: Kenny Curtis Kenny.Curtis@edinburgh.gov.uk
Pledge/Outcome	Associated Action	Progress to date	Planned activity
Tackle territorialism and concerns about safety	Concerns have been fed into the Locality CIP and city YouthTalk lead. Tackle issues relating to two Local Secondary Schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police put two officers into each school to reassure young people • Additional youth engagement has been undertaken in the area, particularly Valley Park 	Undertake further engagement with young people and learn more about their concerns
Ensure young people can influence service delivery through continued engagement	Create a reference group/ young person's forum in the area from the Youth talk group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group has been set up and has met regularly. Over 12 have been interested but there is a regular attendance of 6. 	Group has met with Local Councillor. Has met with local social work manager and there is a planned meeting with the Police Liberton Gilmerton Youth Forum to recruit a Project Worker
Tackle mental health and well being	Hots team have focused on the issues of mental health linking with the YouthTalk priority.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 girls groups planned • An LGBT group has been formed 	Groups will be supported

Tackle Poverty	Opportunities for young people have been explored	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-employability group set up for one group of young people at Liberton High 	This has then developed to Employability groups being set up to run in two community centres
	Maximize has focused on this area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report indicates that families have been able to claim over £250,000 in additional benefits. 	To continue to look at possible initiatives that increase awareness of entitlement
Young people can access a wider range of youth activities	SEEYA , South East Edinburgh Youth Work Alliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular meetings in place • Information and priorities from Youth Talk have been shared and discussed regularly within the group • SW to support Lib-Gil Youth Talk with Creative Arts to express actions 	Agreed action Locality CEC YW staff made aware of all priorities and Ideas to Go Forward from the gathering to integrate into their clubs.

YouthTalk activity underway:

North West - North Edinburgh – Lead Officer: Allan Hosey – allan.hosey@ea.edin.sch.uk

South East – Central Edinburgh – Lead Officer: Jade Mooney – jade.mooney@edinburgh.gov.uk & Hannah Bradley - Hannah.1.Bradley@ea.edin.sch.uk

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