



# Overview & Scrutiny

Management Committee

**To investigate the facilities for older children and young adults and what further facilities and activities are required**

**December 2009**



**NORTHAMPTON**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

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## Foreword

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee decided that it required the public's input into the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme for 2008/2009. It was felt that the best way to obtain this was to ask attendees to the August 2008 Balloon Festival to suggest issues for inclusion. Around twenty issues were suggested and the Committee compiled a ballot comprising the ten most frequently suggested issues. A ballot took place at the Local Democracy Event held at the Guildhall during October 2008 – the issue that attracted the most votes was *More Facilities for Older Children*. This item was then included onto the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2008/2009.

The Review was carried out by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee, together with four co opted experts in this field, Phil Houston, Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs, Adrian Bell, Chief Executive, Connexions, Morcea Walker and Gordon Stewart (Children and Young People's Services, Northamptonshire County Council). It was a short, sharp piece of work that commenced in November 2008 and concluded in April 2009. In this short time, it is hoped that the findings and recommendations are beneficial to both young people and Northampton Borough Council.

The objective of the Review was to investigate the facilities and activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 and to evaluate whether such facilities and activities are on a paid for or free of charge basis.

Northampton's Youth Forum was consulted on scoping the Review and the young people's comments formed the basis of the scope. The Youth Forum provided further comprehensive evidence, which was also used to inform the Review.

I would like to thank all those people acknowledged below who gave up their time and contributed to this Review.



*AS Simpson*

### **Councillor Andrew Simpson**

Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee **(When the Review was undertaken)**

### **Acknowledgements to all those who took part in the Review: -**

- Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee who sat with me on this Review
- Phil Houston, Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs, Adrian Bell, Connexions, Gordon Stewart and Morcea Walker (Children and Young People's Services) Northamptonshire County Council, co-opted members to this Review
- Gareth Nichol, young person's Ambassador, for furnishing the Committee with evidence
- Northampton's Youth Forum for provided details to inform the Scope of the Review and for providing evidence of facilities and activities that young people require
- Lawrence Kay, Sports Development, Northampton Borough Council, Lindsey Ambrose, Area Partnerships and Forums Co-ordinator, Julia Tinker, Principal Regeneration Officer and Peter Strachan, Lead Neighbourhood Co-Ordinator, for attending meetings of the Committee and providing evidence to inform the Review
- Clubs, Organisations and schools that provided details of the facilities and activities that they currently provide for young people
- The Neighbourhood Management Team for assisting the Committee in attending various Neighbourhood Partnership and Management meetings

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this Review was to investigate the facilities and activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 and to evaluate whether such facilities and activities are on a paid for or free of charge basis.

The outcomes required from the Review were to evaluate and report any financial, physical or social barriers to access to facilities available for 13-19 year olds including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25. To produce a GAP analysis of facilities available. To produce and publish a database of available existing facilities. To make recommendations for further facilities, as appropriate

## **CONCLUSIONS AND KEY FINDINGS**

A significant amount of evidence was heard, details of which are contained in the report. After gathering evidence the Committee established that: -

After all of the evidence was collated the following conclusions were drawn.

The Committee acknowledges that there are many facilities and activities currently available for young people, aged 13-19 years old. A lot of activities and facilities are available but not everyone is aware of their existence. There needs to be the right level of communication channels promoting the activities and facilities that are available. It is evident that the leaflet promoting the recent Ann Frank festival worked well, as did notice boards promoting other activities.

Many of the facilities and activities provided are located on the outskirts of Northampton. Travelling across town to some events can be problematic for some young people and all day activities would be welcomed.

The Committee noted that in the Neighbourhood Partnership areas a lot of activities are available for youngsters who have been 'in trouble'. The evidence provided from the Lead Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator stated that there is, however, a lack of provision aimed at giving youngsters from deprived areas the range of experience and aspirations that middle class children often take for granted. For instance, facilities/activities in respect of arts and crafts are provided less frequently and consultation with young people shows there is a demand for them but they may be deemed less likely to appeal to the more "unruly" teenager.

From the evidence received from clubs and organisations that completed the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's questionnaire, the majority of the known available activities and facilities that are offered are used by approximately 65.5% mixed gender. Around 4% is attended by just females and 5.5% attended by males only. It is often dependent upon the activity as to the gender attendance. The facilities provided through Extended Services have been added to the database of known activities, of which nine are applicable to the age bracket in relation to this Review. One organisation, Thomas' Fund – Music

Therapy in Northants for Disabled Children, provides music therapy for those in Northamptonshire with life limiting illnesses or a disability that means the individual is too ill to attend school for extended periods to children aged 0-19 years. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee acknowledged that there is limited information collated regarding after school facilities and the use of school sites outside the curriculum.

From the analysis of the completed questionnaires, just over twenty five per cent of known activities are provided free of charge to young people in the age bracket investigated by this Review. Of the nine activities and facilities offered through Extended Services, eight are offered on a paid for basis, and one is free of charge although an optional donation is suggested.

Available buildings are an important feature for activities and facilities for young people, such as cafes and open spaces for training. It is evident that if the facility or activity is free and is widely publicised, young people are more likely to partake.

There is a limited number of youth clubs in Northampton. Due to staffing shortages, some Community Association buildings have closed its youth sections.

Games and activities that are planned for young people work well.

Through consultation that was undertaken by the Young Persons' Ambassador and the Youth Forum, young people indicated that they would like more facilities to be provided. More youth clubs was a popular suggestion as was further leisure facilities such as a recreation ground with a graffiti wall.

From data provided by the Youth Forum Spare Time Survey 2008, the activity/facility that was felt to be the best for spending leisure time was the town's parks. Other activities that the young people enjoyed doing were shopping, swimming, football, running, bowling. The main issues that were suggested as requiring improving were to provide activities/facilities/events for children and teenagers, more parks and better use of these and more sports facilities.

From the evidence provided, a GAP analysis of facilities/activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 has been produced. A copy is attached at Appendix F. There are a lot of facilities available but young people have commented that more need to be provided free of charge or affordable to all. As detailed in paragraph 6.1.5 just over 25% of the known activities are provided free of charge. Comments made indicated that the provision of more Youth Clubs and Youth Cafes would be welcomed. The data gathered from the questionnaire '*What physical activities for this age group do you provide?*' details there are seven Youth Clubs across Northampton, plus a forum for young people to "voice their opinions and shape sport within Northampton". Research showed the need for facilities for LGB youth, particularly a safe meeting place. Not many activities are offered at schools after 6pm and in many locations schools are the major venue for events. It was further acknowledged that in some areas community buildings are available but there is a lack of adult supervision available for young peoples' activities. Some Faith Communities indicated that they have available accommodation for activities for young people. To ensure that information about activities and facilities that are available is widely disseminated,

there is a need for a variety of communication methods, such as a youth website, leaflets and notice boards.

The Sports Development Officer, Northampton Borough Council, confirmed that in his opinion, 13 – 19 year olds are not well catered for in Northampton - Sports Development feels that the majority of activities that are put on are for younger people. . Sports Development is currently working closely with youth in the Eastfield and Spencer areas and has set up two Youth Groups but attendance is low - Sports Development has permanent workers, in both Eastfield and Spencer, who run a number of projects, one of which is youth clubs. They are looking for as much input from young people on how to shape these groups. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee realised that they only want to put on activities that the young people can take part in and want to take part in. This positive work that Sports Development is carrying out, making inroads, focussing on activities and spotting the gaps, working with the Neighbourhood Partnerships was welcomed. Evidence from this Review will help to inform this piece of work.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recognised the variety of activities and facilities currently available via the Money 4 Youth projects:

Recent Money for Youth Projects include: -

- Mobile Skate Park and Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) bus to visit Eastfield regularly.
- Skate Sessions: based on the London skate, with lessons indoors and going to see outdoor sessions, music and other fun activities.
- Iplay playground equipment for Thorplands. This hi tech facility is the first of its kind in Northamptonshire. It is suitable for eight year olds up to adults and for both mainstream and disabled youngsters (further details provided at section 4.1.58 of this report).
- Hip Hop and Street Dancing in Semilong
- Skills Session and Gener8 – include money management, cooking and healthy eating. This helps young people including carers and those with behavioural difficulties.
- Disabled teenage women's football - Led by Northampton Town Football in the Community.
- Mixed Ability Sports Group - To try out different sports and have fun.
- Circus skills were held on various dates.

Ongoing activities and facilities: -

- Eastfield Park multi-use games area floodlighting and pond-dipping and Spencer multi-use games area floodlighting
- Blacky More multi-use games area improvements and Nintendo Wii
- Nintendo Wii and inflatable super heroes
- Steel Pan Explorers
- Community Minibus
- Mobile Skate and BMX track
- Portable stage and portable PA equipment available for community events

- Threshold Studios have recently led graffiti projects for example, Nabeel using different languages, More will be funded through Money 4 Youth projects in 2009-10
- More projects are being developed and should be publicised in coming months

It was acknowledged that Sport for Youth, run by Sports Development, gives young people a platform on sport facilities - not just on sports facilities but also for activities, funding projects and anything related to Sport in Northampton.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee welcomed the fact that Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC) is currently applying to two funding bodies for an Area Youth Club Development Worker in each of the Borough and District Council areas of the county. The success of the partnership pilot scheme with NAYC and Corby Borough Council was noted.

The Key findings from the Feasibility Study and business plan – *“Northamptonshire Teenage Partnership – Our Space – Centre for Young People”*, that was undertaken in October 2007 highlighted the need for a new and additional facility for young people as both a meeting place and a location from which to deliver key services.

The Committee noted that Central Government’s drive is to increase weekend activities for youth.

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee expressed its concerns regarding recent events around the need for a skateboard park and the threatened cut to funding for music and performing arts.

As detailed in section 5.5 of this report, the Equality Impact Assessment Screening exercise identified that those young people, with multiple characteristics, outside this age bracket may feel disadvantaged.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

The above overall findings have formed the basis for the following recommendations.

For ease of delivery, the following series of recommendations are grouped in specific areas: -

### **Northamptonshire County Council**

The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recommends to Cabinet that the following recommendations be forwarded to Northamptonshire County Council for consideration: -

The database of known available activities and facilities for older children, aged 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25, be published on the Council’s website.

Contact be made with Faith Communities to confirm the accommodation that they have available for activities for young people. This information be published on the database of known activities.

A youth website be set up, catering for this age group. The website should detail youth facilities and activities and be attractive and engaging to youth to encourage them to use it. The Website should include details such as league football, popular music hits, *Chat with a Councillor*, which would give young people further reason to use the site.

Research has indicated that there appears to be a lack of provision of the following facilities and it be recommended that this information be forwarded to Northamptonshire County Council requesting that it investigates this and be asked to ascertain whether resources are available for further such facilities: -

- There are a lot of activities and facilities available but research has indicated that there is a lack of provision of youth clubs and youth cafes within the borough.
- Research has indicated that there is a lack of adult supervision for young people's activities.
- There is a lack of facilities for LGB youth, in particular a safe meeting place.

It be recommended to Extended Services, Northamptonshire County Council, that there needs to be a comprehensive collection of information detailing after school activities and the use of school sites outside of the curriculum.

### **Northampton Borough Council**

That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recommends to Cabinet that: -

Other effective communication methods such as leaflets and notice boards be investigated to promote Council led activities and facilities for young people.

Cabinet informs Sports Development and Neighbourhood Partnership Services, Northampton Borough Council, that it is Central Government's drive to increase weekend facilities for young people. The appropriate Officers be notified that there is a need for the Council to increase the provision of facilities for young people during weekends.

Details of the database of known available activities and facilities for older children, aged 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 referred to in recommendation 7.1.3 when published be included on the *facebook* pages created by Sports Development.

A copy of this report be sent to Sports Development and Neighbourhood Partnership Services, Northampton Borough Council, to provide information to



inform the work that it is currently undertaking.

That Cabinet notes the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's concerns regarding recent events around the need for a skateboard park and the threatened cut to funding for music and performing arts.

Monitoring of recommendations contained in this Equality Impact Assessment screening takes place after six months.

The Local Press and local radio station be asked to include a regular article '*Youth Update – What's On*'

## Northampton Borough Council

### Report of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

#### 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this Review was to investigate the facilities and activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 and to evaluate whether such facilities and activities are on a paid for or free of charge basis.
- 1.2 The outcomes required from the Review were to evaluate and report any financial, physical or social barriers to access to facilities available for 13-19 year olds including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25. To produce a GAP analysis of facilities available. To produce and publish a database of available existing facilities. To make recommendations for further facilities, as appropriate.
- 1.3 A copy of the Scope of the Review is attached at Appendix A.

#### 2. Context and Background

- 2.1 At the town's Balloon Festival that took place during August 2008, the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee asked the public to suggest issues for inclusion onto its Work Programme. Many issues were put forward and the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee prioritised these into the top ten suggestions.
- 2.2 The top ten issues were then put to a vote at the Local Democracy week event held at the Guildhall in October 2008. Around thirty individuals took part in the vote. The item that attracted the most votes was *More Facilities for Older Children*.
- 2.3 This was then included onto the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, as a short, sharp Review that took place between January and July 2009.
- 2.4 Four co-opted members joined the Review - Phil Houston, Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs, Adrian Bell, Chief Executive, Connexions Morcea Walker and Gordon Stewart, Children and Young People's Services, Northamptonshire County Council.
- 2.5 In scoping this Review, statutory youth working age ranges and statutory ways of looking at youth and young people's provision were noted. For example, provision could be different for those in the 0-5 year age bracket, 5-12 year age bracket and 13-19 year olds.
- 2.6 Northampton Youth Forum was asked to help in the scoping of the Review and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee attended two meetings of the Youth Forum

to acquire the young people's views on this. The Youth Forum's comments were taken into account and formed the basis for the scope of the Review.

2.7 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee agreed that the following needed to be investigated and linked to the realisation of the Council's corporate priorities:

- Tour of secondary schools and colleges
- Text Responses
- Web Chat
- Market Square Stall
- Bluetooth Messaging
- Website response
- Witness Evidence
- Minutes of meetings
- Competition for Event

### 3 **Council's Corporate Priorities**

3.1 This Review links to the Council's corporate priorities as it demonstrates further working with the community, partnership working and being citizen focussed.

### 4 **Evidence Gathering**

4.1 In scoping this Review it was decided that evidence would be collected from a variety of sources:

#### 4.1.1 **Neighbourhood Partnerships and Neighbourhood Managed Areas**

4.1.2 Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee attended various Neighbourhood Partnership and Neighbourhood Managed area meetings promoting the Review and obtaining details of the facilities and activities that are available for young people in the age bracket that the Review is investigating.

4.1.3 Feedback that the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee received from attendance at the Neighbourhood Partnership meetings comprised: -

##### 4.1.3.1 **Neighbourhood Partnership 12**

4.1.3.2 A youth worker is employed by Duston Parish Council who is also a qualified Sports Leader and a Boxing Coach. A Youth Group was run after school hours at Duston school, which had to close recently. Sixty-one young people attended the final session, from areas including Kislingbury, Duston, and Kings Heath. Spencer and St James.

4.1.3.3 Fifty six young people completed a Money 4 Youth application,

comments include: -

- 50 suggestions a gym facility
- 14 for a Youth Club
- 2 suggestions for a skate park
- 

4.1.3.4 The Area Partnership and Forum Co-ordinator suggested that the application forms were not completed in the way that the Scheme intends, that is; young people have an idea for a new project in their area. Ideas suggested by Duston were submitted after the closing date and many of the forms referred to keeping the existing Youth Club open rather than to new Projects. Clear attempts were made to use Money 4 Youth funding to raise the issue of wanting to continue an existing facility rather than set up a new one. The Youth club has in the past acquired Money 4 Youth funding which has bought it fitness and boxing equipment as well as receiving funding and leisure cards to enable young people to go to leisure centres.

4.1.3.5 The Pendle Road Community Centre Management Committee is not in favour of youth using the Centre although it is available on Friday evenings.

4.1.3.6 The Young Fire Fighters Scheme is suspended currently for older members. The Scheme is moving to 12-week sessions. Existing participants have been on the Scheme for some years and it is felt they would not benefit further to continue attending.

#### 4.1.4 **Neighbourhood Partnership 10 (Nene Valley and East Hunsbury Wards)**

4.1.4.1 There is one available building in the Upton area, which is Upton Meadows Primary School. The head teacher has confirmed that she is keen to facilitate community projects and would have no objection to Youth Groups using the school, but availability is limited by the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Agreement. Up to 6pm Groups can use the school hall at a minimal cost, after 6pm commercial rates apply. A Martial Arts Club had been trialled at the school but take-up was poor and it closed. The After School Club takes children up to 11 years. The Local Neighbourhood Watch/Residents Group is keen to try to set up more activities for young people.

#### 4.1.5 **Neighbourhood Partnership 8 (Weston and Abington)**

4.1.5.1 Comments received from the meeting included: -

- Young people might not want facilities similar to the traditional concept of a Youth Club
- Funding for projects might be available through a number of different sources including Northampton Borough Council and Northamptonshire County Council
- A number of the local churches have good facilities but there are issues with getting volunteers to help and a general lack of

perceived interest by fifteen year olds

- Although there is a philosophy of schools providing centres for the community, in practice the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Scheme does not appear to be delivering this
- The Council's Youth Forum might be a means by which young people can be contacted

#### 4.1.6 **Neighbourhood Partnership 9 (St Crispin including the town centre)**

4.1.6.1 Feedback from the meeting: -

4.1.6.2 Projects implemented through Money 4 Youth include a new playground in Delapre, a rock climbing facility in Kingsthorpe, flood lighting of multi-use games areas in Eastfield and Spencer and the purchase of a Nintendo Wii and other equipment that could be hired out for free for use at community events. There has been an ice rink in Northampton around Christmas time, with new projects starting recently, including disabled teenage women's football, skate sessions and sport for youth. There are plans to open the Guildhall on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2009 for the Heritage Weekend.

#### 4.1.7 **Neighbourhood Partnership 13 (Kingsley and Parklands).**

4.1.7.1 Comments received from Neighbourhood Partnership 13 included:

- There are not many places for youths to go, as parents do not want their children to go on the Racecourse or Bradlaugh Fields.
- Concern about the closure of some of the community centres in the eastern district was conveyed.
- Youth facilities with supervision are required. At Parklands Community Centre facilities are available but no adults have come forward willing to supervise young people's activities.
- Northamptonshire County Council's budget had a sum of £250,000 for Northamptonshire Youth Corps.
- The Council has a wider responsibility, which includes recreational, social and cultural activities for the whole community, including young people.
- Often when young people suggest ideas for facilities they are met with resistance from the local residents due to fears of nuisance and disturbance, which is mostly unfounded. People needed to be encouraged to use the Racecourse more because if more people used it, it would be safer. Already during the early evening lots of people enjoy it safely. The Police is keen to use the community rooms on the ground floor of the Pavilion and its presence will give a greater sense of community and safety.
- There are after-school provisions for younger students at Unity College, which include sporting activities for all students up to 6.00pm. There are community users for the sports hall; some

adult based community groups use the indoor facilities although most are youth based sports training. There are courses for older students, (years 10 & 11) who can become junior sports leaders, which leads to accreditation to facilitate training for primary school students.

#### 4.1.8 **Lead Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.8.1 The Lead Neighbourhood Co-ordinator provided evidence. Key points: -

- Neighbourhood Management is a partnership that works closely with and brings together representatives of local associations as well as public sector partners. Youth provision in which Neighbourhood Management is aware has been listed in a written input to Panel's work.
- Neighbourhood Management is able to support some activity directly, usually with short-term funding streams.
- The focus of activities is generally on "diversionary" work with youngsters who are (or are at risk of being) 'in trouble'. This tends to focus on sporting activities. There is, however, a lack of provision aimed at giving youngsters from deprived areas the range of experience and aspirations that middle class children often take for granted. For instance, facilities/activities in respect of arts and crafts are provided much more rarely. Consultation with young people shows there is a demand for them but they may be deemed less likely to appeal to the more "unruly" teenager.
- In his opinion there appears to be an under-provision of activities designed to appeal to girls, possibly for the same reason.
- As well as considering how provision can be expanded, the Lead Neighbourhood Co-ordinator suggested that the Review should also consider how existing provision that is at risk might be protected. While there is near unanimity that there needs to be more on offer, a number of organisations currently providing activities for young people are facing cutbacks. These include the YMCA, Emmanuel Church and the County Youth Service. Street Football is struggling for funds and a significant amount of the provision made available by Northamptonshire Sport has been lost.

#### 4.1.9 **Area Partnerships and Forums Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.9.1 The Area Partnerships and Forums Co-ordinator provided evidence. Key points: -

4.1.9.2 There are various known activities and facilities available for young people such as: -

- Activity Grants for Youth Funding Scheme<sup>1</sup>
- Money 4 Youth Projects
- Activity Grants for Youth
- Cultural Activities
- Northampton Museum Service
- Disabled Go: Free on line access guide to things to do and places to go in Northampton schools
- Outcomes of children's and youth involvement in Holocaust Memorial Day and the Anne Frank festival
- Northampton Voluntary Youth Action
- Northampton Town Football Club in the Community
- YMCA skate park
- Young Inspired People at Inspiration FM
- University Community Volunteers
- Talking with Hands
- Jump the Moat Theatre Company
- Northants Arts Development Team, NCC
- Northampton Dance
- Patel Samaj
- Northamptonshire Somali Forum
- The Market Square
- Northampton Youth Forum
- Online resources:
  - Children and Young People's Services Directory
  - Community Portal: Connect2Northamptonshire
  - Active Northants
- The Youth Forum short listed ideas regarding spending the Money 4 Youth Funding, making its recommendations to <sup>1</sup>Northamptonshire County Council. £50,000 of funding has been allocated for the Activity Grants 4 Youth Scheme.

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<sup>1</sup> Northampton Youth Forum and Children and Young People Services, NCC, shortlisted from the many applications received for Activity Grants 4 Youth on 28 May 2009. As a result a number of applications are now being looked at with a view to being given funding contracts. These include:

- Activities via Thorplands Community Shop including: arts/crafts, trips to museums, gardening, summer community events, talks, photography and film shows.
- Street Football at various locations in Northampton on weekends in the summer months including Upton, Unity College and the Racecourse (if possible venue will be Unity College as opposed to the Racecourse, as this has been a good location in the past).
- Sports activities at various locations in Northampton led by NBC Sports Development: activities that young people have expressed an interest in and through consultation with Sport 4 Youth and knowledge of what has worked well in the past, the aim is to run a number of sessions / programmes to engage with young people across Northampton aged 13 – 19 years. The aim of the programme is to give young people the opportunity to take part in sport or physical activity that has an exit route from the summer sessions into activities that they can access outside of this environment. The programmes and activities will include Boxing, Basketball, Fitness / Health and Wellbeing Sessions for both males and females. Specific excursions that young people have requested such as Laser-Quest and Water sports and an end of summer community celebration event incorporating a barbeque and summer sports festival where young people could represent their community at a central venue and compete but enjoy one another's company are anticipated. It will also be looked at, where possible, to add additional programmes that have been

- Gender attendance at facilities and activities is dependant upon the activity.
- A number of arts and crafts facilities are available, particularly through cultural activities.
- The YMCA craft bus provides indoor and outdoor activities.
- Through the Spare Time Survey, young people detailed how they spend their spare time, for example football. Young people commented that it was difficult to get across town to some activities and all day activities would be welcome.
- There is a need for facilities for LGB youth, in particular a safe meeting place.
- Teenagers can feel excluded if they are unable to access community buildings – lack of venues is seen a gap.
- Faith communities, such as the gateway centre, have accommodation that can be used for activities.
- Communication methods are also an issue. There is lots going on but not everyone is aware of what is available. There is a need for various communication resources.
- A website, *YIP-kids*, for 7-12 year olds has been created but the young people did not had the capacity to maintain the site. It needs to be easier for young people to access information.
- The leaflet produced and circulated promoting the Anne

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funded through alternative sources, ensuring that there is a good level of provision for young people over the summer period. Sessions will be run in peak anti-social behaviour times in particular wards, which will include Upton and Duston, health and fitness activities in Northampton East and a celebration event in Abington Park.

- Activities in Duston led by the Youth Work - twice weekly for around 50 young people aged 10 - 18yrs at Errington Park and Duston Community Centre with opportunities for young people to get accreditation for volunteering and some opportunities for parents to socialise too e.g. picnic in the park This helps to meet some of the needs identified via the Money 4 Youth Forms referred in paragraph 4.1.3.3 of this report.
- Various free workshops in the town centre at the Fishmarket Gallery including bike customisation stand up comedy, screen-printing, building musical instruments with jamming session, zines and self-publishing etc. These hope to provide a taste of things young people can go on to develop an interest in. The Fishmarket Gallery is looking to hold further workshops - these may help to get young people familiar with accessing the venue and the sort of things that happen there.
- Town centre activities run by Northampton Bangladeshi Association activities (some for girls only) first publicised and provided at the multicultural summer fayre (20 July 2008) then table tennis, Carom board, snooker, and rounders through to mid-August 2009.
- Northants Somali Women and Girls Association Ltd to organise activities for young men and women including football, basketball and education about the drug Khat
- Town Centre Scheme to be run by Sikh Community Centre's Kastle Klub summer workshops, one per week, combining sport and education for young women and young men including self-defence/kick-boxing, knife crime/gatka (an Indian martial art), equality (using the Robin Hood story)/archery, healthy eating/healthy cooking (e.g. make fruit punch), get active sports tournament (e.g. football, cricket, hockey), games tournament (table football, poole, air hockey) with pizza and prizes.
- Park Summer Boot Camps to be in locations within walking distance of residential areas
- Far Cotton Boys Club project
- Range of activities in Kingsthorpe area
- Young people helping with the Umbrella Fair
- Possible roller skating activity



Frank Festival was a success. Issuing of leaflets at the beginning of school holidays to the end detailing the activities and events on offer would be welcomed by young people. The provision of notice boards detailing such activities and events would also be welcomed.

- It can be difficult to access school buildings in the evenings, which demonstrates a gap. Activities are often provided during school hours and from 4pm to 6pm but there is not a lot available afterwards. Activities have been lost due to the cost implications. In many locations, schools are the major venue for events, but it is often too costly to hire after 6pm.
- Young people want activities in their locality. There is a need to create more effective locality provision.
- There have been high participation figures for the Money 4 Youth Scheme, for example, high numbers for capital purchases - purchased for Sports Development through Money 4 Youth, the Ice Rink that was in situ on the Market Square over the Christmas period 2008 and the Anne Frank Festival. Money 4 Youth is also funding arts, crafts and heritage activities for 2009-2010.

#### 4.1.10 **Arts Liaison Officer, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.10.1 Northampton Borough Council's Arts Liaison Officer is working with the following organisation/clubs regarding activities and facilities, particularly relating to arts and crafts: -

- Masque Youth Theatre
- Spring Boroughs Youth Club (EYS)/CASPAR – graffiti art to be launched shortly
- Festival Road Carnival Arts – (Fish Market/Market Square) – producing costumes and structures

#### 4.1.11 **Organisations, Clubs, Schools and Groups**

4.1.11.1 A questionnaire was compiled requesting details of the types of facilities and activities that are currently provided and whether a room is available for further activities to be provided should the need arise.

4.1.11.2 Over two hundred letters and emails were issued to a range of organisations, clubs, schools and groups as detailed in section 3 of the Scope (Appendix A refers), with a copy of the questionnaire.

4.1.11.3 Around fifty-five responses (approximately 27%) were received and are included in the database detailing the known activities and facilities in the borough. Copy attached at Appendix B.

#### 4.1.12 **Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC)**

4.1.12.1 Details of clubs and activities that are provided and link to the Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC) were provided.

The majority of organisers that run clubs that feed into this organisation are volunteers. Copy attached at Appendix C.

4.1.12.2 NAYC is aware of the issues regarding a shortage of youth clubs and is looking to address this with the resources available. Although this would be a county issue not just a Northampton one. The organisation is currently applying to two funding bodies in the hope that it can realise its vision and have an Area Youth Club Development Worker in each of the Borough and District Council areas of the county. For many years it has only had two Development Workers to cover the whole county.

4.1.12.3 Recently NAYC agreed a partnership pilot scheme with Corby Borough Council and has had a Corby Youth Club Development Worker for eighteen months of a two-year contract. During this time it has seen an increase in its affiliated groups in Corby, from one to twenty one.

#### 4.1.13 **Young Persons' Ambassador**

4.1.13.1 The Young Persons' Ambassador provided evidence to the Review.

4.1.13.2 Key Issues:

- Consultation was undertaken around two and a half years ago and it identified that 75% of respondents would be interested in more facilities but respondents commented that 25% of the facilities already available in Northampton are not classed as good by the young people.
- It is being endeavoured to acquire funding and a building in the town centre that would be targeted at those groups in education, but would offer facilities for all.
- Investigations for suitable facilities have been taking place for over two years.

#### 4.1.14 **Connexions**

4.1.14.1 The Chief Executive, Connexions, provided evidence to inform the Review.

4.1.14.2 Key Issues:

- During the early 1980's young people were not going to Youth Clubs, therefore, centre based facilities were either moved or closed. Youth clubs are a priority
- There is a very limited number of Youth Clubs in Northampton. Some community association buildings have closed their youth sections due to a lack of staff
- If a facility is offered free of charge and young people are aware of this they will attend in abundance
- Interaction between youth workers and youngsters is good as they now learn about social issues

- Games and activities planned for young people work well
- A centrally based office would be more effective but could be problematical due to financial implications
- In the Chief Executive, Connexions' opinion, some Community Centres are not user friendly
- West Northants Development Corporation (WNDC) has shown a keen interest in developing this area and advised that funding is available although not guaranteed
- Consulting is very valuable along with research for Northampton. Many available facilities are on the outskirts of Northampton. It would appear that young people want to go back to the root of where they feel safe and comfortable
- It is relatively critical for community cohesion, keen to look across the entire spectrum
- When youngsters are taken out of their communities, problems are reduced

#### 4.1.15 **Principal Regeneration Officer, Northampton Borough Council**

- 4.1.15.1 The Principal Regeneration Officer, Northampton Borough Council, provided details of a Feasibility Study and business plan – *“Northamptonshire Teenage Partnership – Our Space – Centre for Young People”*, that was undertaken in October 2007. The project sought to improve the offer to young people in Northampton through improved partnership working and ensure that young people were central to the regeneration of the Town Centre.
- 4.1.15.2 The Feasibility Study aimed to establish the needs of young people in Northampton, the potential demand for a new centre and the types of facilities and services that they would like to see in a young people's centre. The financial viability for the centre was investigated.
- 4.1.15.3 The Feasibility Study consulted with young people, partners and stakeholders, together with other forms of research.
- 4.1.15.4 The key finding from the Feasibility Study included the following: -
- The Study highlighted the lack of facilities for young people in Northampton.
  - The need for new and additional facilities for young people. Young people would like somewhere to meet with friends, with a café, Internet access and a range of training and advice services.
  - The Centre should target young people aged between 13-19 years, with specific timeslots in the programme allocated to individuals outside this age range.
  - The appointment of staff with the right skills was seen as crucial to the success of the centre. The centre manager should be an experienced leader with a track record in managing staff and volunteers.
  - A site for the centre has not been identified, the venue does not have to be a new build but can be a refurbished building

- There could be a funding opportunity for something like this in Northamptonshire.

4.1.15.5 A copy of the Feasibility Study is attached at Appendix G.

4.1.16 **Participation Team Leader, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.16.1 The Participation Team Leader, Northampton Borough Council, (NBC) provided information. NBC owns about twenty community centres with ten of them being managed directly by a local management committee and the remaining ten directly managed by a NBC officer. The centres managed directly by NBC are booked based strictly on availability of the room for hire and other than asking for the hirer's name/address/phone number no other details are taken. Regarding the other ten centres, NBC has no knowledge to what criteria they use in order to hire out rooms.

4.1.16.2 **Senior Sports Development Officer, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.16.3 Key Issues of evidence: -

- 13 – 19 year olds are not well catered for in Northampton - Sports Development feels that the majority of activities that are put on are for younger people.
- Certain activities have been organised by Sports Development but attendance was low - Sports Development run regular sessions for 13 to 19 year olds including Street Football and Multi-Sport at Rillwood Court. It also provided lots of activities in the summer of 2009 that were specifically requested for by young people (through Money 4 Youth applications) and the attendance was very low and for some of the activities there were no attendances.
- This particular age group is a challenge and work is carried out closely with the Youth Forum. Sports Development always, when it can, tries to consult with the Youth Forum.
- Sport for Youth gives young people a platform on sport facilities - not just on sports facilities but also for activities, funding projects and anything related to Sport in Northampton.
- Sports Development endeavours to give support to young people's ideas - It fully appreciates that it cannot simply put on activities and expect young people to turn up. Sports Development always speaks to young people before starting a new project and again consults with them during and after its projects.
- Sports Development is currently working closely with youth in the Eastfield and Spencer areas and has set

up two Youth Groups but attendance is low - Sports Development has permanent workers in both Eastfield and Spencer who run a number of projects, one of which is Youth Clubs. They are looking for as much input from young people on how to shape these groups. They only want to put on activities that the young people can take part in and more importantly want to take part in.

- There is a website that promotes activities but hits are low, also social networking on *Facebook* is in place so that Sports Development can connect with this age group - The *Facebook* groups are getting more use but Sports Development still needs people to join them so it can get a number of members and then use the information as mail outs.
- Sports Development is making inroads, focussing on activities and spotting the gaps, working with the Neighbourhood Partnerships.
- Northampton Sports Development Team is working with Northamptonshire County Council's Basketball Development Officer and the Northampton School Sports Partnership to establish a basketball club based at the Duston School, which will commence in September 2009. The club will be open to all and will be split into two ages groups, under 12s and over 12s, providing weekly training opportunities.

#### 4.1.17 **Northampton Youth Forum**

- 4.1.17.1 As detailed in section one of this report, the Youth Forum provided information to help scope this Review.
- 4.1.17.2 Further evidence was provided by the Youth Forum such as details from the Youth Forum Spare Time Survey 2008. Broadly, the Survey details what young people feel are the best facilities where they can spend their spare time; the second best facility and what they feel could be improved. Details of their spare time hobbies are also given. The activity/facility that attracted the most votes was spending time in the town's parks. Other activities that the young people enjoyed doing were shopping, swimming, football, running, bowling. The main issues that the Youth Forum suggested required improving were to provide activities/facilities/events for children and teenagers, more parks and better use of these and more sports facilities. A short analysis of this survey, detailing what the Youth Forum felt was the best facility and what required improving has been produced as attached at Appendix D.
- 4.1.17.3 In respect of the Money 4 Youth Scheme, members of the Youth Forum led a survey asking what the funding should be spent on. Participants were asked to suggest a big idea. Due to a huge over-demand for Money 4 Youth, there is now a new Activity Grants 4 Youth Scheme which aims to get £50,000 revenue to projects for the school

holidays and weekends, being provided by the Youth Forum together with Northampton Borough Council and Northamptonshire County Council for 2009-10 only. The projects are for 10 year olds up to 19 (or 25 years if disabled).

#### 4.1.17.4 Recent Money for Youth Projects include: -

- Mobile Skate Park and Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) bus to visit Eastfield regularly.
- Skate Sessions: based on the London skate, with lessons indoors and going to see outdoor sessions, music and other fun activities.
- Iplay playground equipment for Thorplands. This hi tech facility is the first of its kind in Northamptonshire. It is suitable for eight year olds up to adults and for both mainstream and disabled youngsters (*further details provided at section 4.1.58 of this report*).
- Hip Hop and Street Dancing in Semilong
- Skills Session and Gener8 – include money management, cooking and healthy eating. This helps young people including carers and those with behavioural difficulties.
- Disabled teenage women's football - Led by Northampton Town Football in the Community.
- Mixed Ability Sports Group - To try out different sports and have fun.
- Circus skills were held on various dates.

#### 4.1.17.5 Ongoing activities and facilities: -

- Eastfield Park multi-use games area floodlighting and pond-dipping and Spencer multi-use games area floodlighting
- Blacky More multi-use games area improvements and Nintendo Wii
- Nintendo Wii and inflatable super heroes
- Steel Pan Explorers
- Community Minibus
- Mobile Skate and BMX track
- Portable stage and portable public announcement (PA) equipment available for community events
- More Projects are being developed and should be publicised in coming months

#### 4.1.17.6 The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee attended the meeting the Youth Forum on 4 September 2009. Key issues of evidence:

- Details of youth activities would be welcomed on society networks such as *facebook* as would a new website dedicated to youth issues
- There is a need to advertise youth activities on the various

notice boards within the borough, such as in the bus station. Young people also pay attention to adverts on buses

- Many young people like to receive information through methods such as text and bluetooth
- Schools could be involved in promoting youth activities, for example on their websites, dispatching leaflets to students, School newsletter and utilising School Assemblies
- Advertising on the local radio, at prime listening times, would be welcomed
- Advertising on buses and other transport
- There was divided views about the need for a Big venue in town
- There is an apparent lack of knowledge in respect of the Borough's Community Centres and activities that are provided
- There needs to be an area based approach from the County Council
- More support for Adults who wish to supervise youth events
- Service Six/Inspiration FM were good organisations that could help promote activities
- Use Cathe Northampton Carnival to promote Youth events
- There was concern expressed over the lack of facilities for LGB Youth
- There is a need to highlight the youth facilities that Northampton Borough Council provides

4.1.17.6 Four members of the Northampton Youth Forum attended the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee on 29 September 2009. Main suggestions included:

- Youth facilities in Northampton could be advertised on social networking sites.
- The Youth Website, catering for the age group that the Review is looking at, should be engaging and appealing for young people. It could include issues such as popular music hits, details of league football. This would give further reasons for young people to go to the site. It was further suggested that the website could include '*Chat with a Councillor*'.
- The Local Press be asked to include a regular article '*Youth Update – What's On*'
- Adverts on local radio stations would also be beneficial. For example, a young person speaking at a popular morning slot promoting the youth website and what's on.
- The website *active.northants.co.uk* is not very exciting and appealing to young people. It would benefit from a jazzy background, cartoons etc.
- There is a need to capture young people who do not have regular access to the Internet, for example, colourful posters, school Assemblies. The Youth Forum could be utilised to get the messages across to their peers.

4.1.18 **Integrated and Targeted Youth Services Commissioner, Northamptonshire County Council**

4.1.18.1 The Integrated and Targeted Youth Services Commissioner provided evidence on the TellUs3 Survey that was carried out in the Spring 2008.

4.1.18.2 Key points:

4.1.18.3 The TellUs3 Survey was a survey of children and young people across England, asking their views about their local area, including questions covering the five Every Child Matters outcomes. A sample of schools was selected within each Local Authority, representing the different types of schools in each area. The schools were then provided with guidance detailing how to select pupils to take part in the survey.

4.1.18.4 The responses from the Survey were weighted to ensure that the report at Local Authority and national level is representative of the population of Year 6, 8 and 10 children within that area in terms of the following characteristics: gender, proportion of children eligible for free school meals in the school (as a proxy for deprivation) and type of school. Population data for 2007 from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) was used to derive the weights, and the number of children attending Pupil Referral Units is obtained from the 2007 School Level Annual School Census (SLASC). A copy of the TellUs3 Survey (September 2008) is attached at Appendix E.

4.1.18.5 Young people often rely on word of mouth regarding events and facilities. Word of mouth stimulates youth activity. They often want an exciting facility, held in a safe environment that is led by an adult.

4.1.18.6 Word of mouth is an important communication channel. Websites that detail youth activity need to be young people friendly. A Youth Offer website is currently under construction but there needs to be a connection. Friendship groups are critical. Young people are keen to attend youth cafes.

4.1.19 **Collections Access Officer, Northampton Museum and Art Gallery**

4.1.19.1 The Collections Access Officer, Northampton Museum and Art Gallery, provided evidence on a project that Northampton Museum will be undertaking in the summer 2009: -

- Northampton Museum is looking for young people to take part in a project that will use mobile phones to film heritage and museum objects in and around Northampton.
- The project will include film making, creating your own website and uploading your films onto the web. There will also be a chance to go on an archaeological dig and a day trip to



Bletchley Park, near Milton Keynes.

- Filmmaking will take place during the school summer holidays throughout August 2009.
- Once the films are made, they will be shown on a video box that can be transported to various venues in the county - from museums to libraries, youth clubs and schools.
- There will be a celebration event in the run-up to Christmas 2009, where young people's films will be shown to an audience of family and friends and there will be an awards ceremony.
- Presently, this project is called *Mobile X2*, as it follows on from a very similar project called *Mobile X* carried out by members of Northampton Youth Forum in 2008.

#### 4.1.20 **Environmental Warden, Northampton Borough Council**

4.1.20.1 The Environmental Warden, Northampton Borough Council, provided evidence.

- The previous children's play area in Thorplands was removed during the CASPAR Project in June 2008 due to persistent damage; any other subsequent play equipment would have to be resistant to vandalism.
- The work behind this Project was carried out by the Environmental Warden and a representative from Thorplands' Community Shop, after being advised of funds still available in the Money 4 Youth scheme. The application for funding of an I-Play unit, via the youth club at the community shop, was successful and the Project gathered momentum thereafter. The nearest current I-Play units are in Leicester, Peterborough and Oxford so this is an important first for Northampton.
- Sculptural in appearance, the i.play system has been designed with the full rigours of the playground in mind, creating a truly inclusive and interactive public space. It is solar powered and vandal resistant, and although developed for the 8 year old plus group, it is suitable for adult involvement and use by wheelchair users, as it intelligently adapts to players' performance. The i.play system provides a whole body aerobic workout, and improves fitness, agility and coordination. Over time, stamina is increased and reaction times improved, and the i.play system's layout ensures all muscle groups are exercised. The i.play system represents a significant breakthrough in children's play. Combining interactive electronics with conventional playground equipment, it has been created to break the vicious cycle of sedentary behaviour resulting in rising childhood obesity.

I.play has been designed to intelligently adjust according to children's performance.

#### 4.1.21 **Tour of the Secondary Schools and Colleges in Northampton**

4.1.21.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee contacted all the secondary schools and colleges asking whether it would be possible for a member of the Committee to speak with young people to obtain their views on the types of activities and facilities that were currently lacking and the types of activities they currently attend. The visits did, however, not take place.

#### 4.1.22 **Extended Services**

4.1.22.1 Children and Young People's Services, Northamptonshire County Council, provided details of known Extended Services Facilities provided by local schools that it has detailed on a central database. Details have been included to the database of known activities and facilities as attached at Appendix B.

4.1.22.2 A variety of activities and facilities are provided ranging from football to Tae Kwon Do: -

- Music Therapy in Northants for disabled children, age range 0 to 19 years, is available free of charge (donation optional), Mondays to Fridays. Thomas' Fund provides music therapy for those in Northamptonshire with life limiting illnesses or a disability that means the individual is too ill to attend school for extended periods.
- Theatretrain Northampton is available for children aged 6 to 18 years and takes place on Saturdays. Children are split into three age groups - 6-8 years, 9-12 years and 13-18 years.
- Tae Kwon Do is available at six locations around Northampton and is split between junior classes for 6-11 year olds and adult classes 12-60 years. Classes are available on weekday evenings.
- Dance for Fun offers ballet and tap classes for children from the age of 2.5 years. It is available Monday to Wednesday evenings from 4pm to 7pm.
- School Soccer is available during the school holiday period for 5-15 year olds from 10am to 3pm.
- Pro Soccer Academy Football Courses available for children aged 5-12 years. Early evening and Saturday morning sessions are available, plus holiday clubs.
- Northants Basketball Club offers activities on some weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. The club is offered to four age groups – 5-10 year olds, 11-12 years, under 13's and under 15's.
- The Willison Centre at Roade School offers a variety of leisure activities for young people aged 5-16 years. They are available from Monday to Saturday at various times.
- Rhythmic Gymnastics, Dance and Fun Physical Activities are

offered to promote body and hand/eye co-ordination, fitness and general physical development. Available to 6 year olds and upward.

#### 4.1.23 **Northamptonshire County Council's Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee**

4.1.23.1 The Chair of Northamptonshire County Council's (NCC) Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee was provided with a draft copy of this report and asked to provide comment. Key issues:

- NCC's Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee welcomed this Review, in particular the focus on young people's perspective on provision in the area.
- NCC's Family Information Service work which will provide an integrated website access for young people for information about positive activities and events.
- The County Council's newly introduced area working structures will enable staff working in Northampton to share information more accurately and quicker with young people about events and activities. NCC's area based approach to youth service contracts should allow a more holistic approach to service delivery. NCC's Extended Services is working to address inconsistencies in the availability of information in relation to out of school activities by compiling an Extended Services Directory, which will be made widely available.
- Within Extended Services and across CYPS there is a strong drive to support a cross partnership approach towards delivering these services to young people.

#### 5.1 **Equality Impact Assessment - Screening**

5.2 Following the scoping of the Review, an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) – Screening was undertaken.

5.3 This exercise identified: -

- The main beneficiaries or people affected by the Review
- The information already in existence
- Which parts of the Review have the potential for adverse impact or to discriminate unlawfully
- Whether a particular sector of the community could be disadvantaged by the Review

5.4 The Equality Impact Assessment – Screening recognised that this Review was generated because there it was felt that there was a lack of activities and facilities available for the age bracket, with a potential adverse impact on young people. From the evidence received it is apparent that there are many activities and facilities available but there is a need for them to be more widely publicised.

The Overview and Scrutiny Review is being undertaken to identify

5.5 the evidence that will help to make recommendations for improvement. The evidence should also help to identify whether certain diverse sectors are not included.

5.6 The Equality Impact Assessment – Screening also identified that those young people, with multiple characteristics, outside this age bracket may feel disadvantaged. The actual age bracket was suggested by the Northampton Youth Forum. This was the age bracket that the Overview and Scrutiny Review therefore concentrated upon.

The Action Plan detailed in the Equality Impact Assessment - Screening included the following details: -

1. The data gathered will be reviewed and a GAP analysis of the known activities and facilities available will be produced.
2. If it is found that it is difficult to obtain evidence due to a lack of data, it may be necessary to consider monitoring to improve data intelligence. If required this will be undertaken using the principles set out in the Equality Impact Assessment Toolkit.
3. It is possible that some groups may still be disadvantages from some of the recommendations contained in the final report.
4. The Review is investigating the facilities and activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 and to evaluate whether such facilities and activities are on a paid for or free of charge basis. It is possible that those outside this age group could feel left out. The Northampton Youth Forum was asked to suggest a relevant age for *Older Children* and the young people's advice was taken on this age bracket.
5. Monitoring of any recommendations contained in this EIA screening will take place after six months.

## 6.

### Conclusions and key findings

- 6.1 After all of the evidence was collated the following conclusions were drawn.
- 6.1.1 The Committee acknowledges that there are many facilities and activities currently available for young people, aged 13-19 years old. A lot of activities and facilities are available but not everyone is aware of their existence. There needs to be the right level of communication channels promoting the activities and facilities that are available. It is evident that the leaflet promoting the recent Ann Frank festival worked well, as did noticeboards promoting other activities. It was realised that there is a need to capture young people who do not have regular access to the Internet, such as colourful posters, school Assemblies. The Youth Forum could be utilised to get the messages across to their peers. The Committee further noted that adverts regarding youth activities on local radio stations would also be welcomed by young people. For example, a young person speaking at a popular morning slot promoting the youth website and giving details of what's on.
- 6.1.2 Many of the facilities and activities provided are located on the outskirts of Northampton. Travelling across town to some events can be problematic for some young people and all day activities would be welcomed.
- 6.1.3 The Committee noted that in the Neighbourhood Partnership areas a lot of activities are available for youngsters who have been 'in trouble'. The evidence provided from the Lead Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator stated that there is, however, a lack of provision aimed at giving youngsters from deprived areas the range of experience and aspirations that middle class children often take for granted. For instance, facilities/activities in respect of arts and crafts are provided less frequently and consultation with young people shows there is a demand for them but they may be deemed less likely to appeal to the more "unruly" teenager.
- 6.1.4 From the evidence received from clubs and organisations that completed the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's questionnaire, the majority of the known available activities and facilities that are offered are used by approximately 65.5% mixed gender. Around 4% is attended by just females and 5.5% attended by males only. It is often dependent upon the activity as to the gender attendance. The facilities provided through Extended Services have been added to the database of known activities, of which nine are applicable to the age bracket in relation to this Review. One organisation, Thomas' Fund – Music Therapy in Northants for Disabled Children, provides music therapy for those in

Northamptonshire with life limiting illnesses or a disability that means the individual is too ill to attend school for extended periods to children aged 0-19 years. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee acknowledged that there is limited information collated regarding after school facilities and the use of school sites outside the curriculum.

- 6.1.5 From the analysis of the completed questionnaires, just over twenty five per cent of known activities are provided free of charge to young people in the age bracket investigated by this Review. Of the nine activities and facilities offered through Extended Services, eight are offered on a paid for basis, and one is free of charge although an optional donation is suggested.
- 6.1.6 Available buildings are an important feature for activities and facilities for young people, such as cafes and open spaces for training. It is evident that if the facility or activity is free and is widely publicised, young people are more likely to partake.
- 6.1.7 There is a limited number of youth clubs in Northampton. Due to staffing shortages, some Community Association buildings have closed its youth sections.
- 6.1.8 Games and activities that are planned for young people work well.
- 6.1.9 Through consultation that was undertaken by the Young Persons' Ambassador and the Youth Forum, young people indicated that they would like more facilities to be provided. More youth clubs was a popular suggestion as was further leisure facilities such as a recreation ground with a graffiti wall.
- 6.1.10 From data provided by the Youth Forum Spare Time Survey 2008, the activity/facility that was felt to be the best for spending leisure time was the town's parks. Other activities that the young people enjoyed doing were shopping, swimming, football, running, bowling. The main issues that were suggested as requiring improving were to provide activities/facilities/events for children and teenagers, more parks and better of use of these and more sports facilities.
- 6.1.11 From the evidence provided, a GAP analysis of facilities/activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 has been produced. A copy is attached at Appendix F. There are a lot of facilities available but young people have commented that more need to be provided free of charge or affordable to all. As detailed in paragraph 6.1.5 just over 25% of the known activities are provided free of charge. Comments made indicated that the provision of more Youth Clubs and Youth Cafes would be welcomed. The data gathered from the questionnaire '*What physical activities for this age group do you provide?*' details there are seven Youth Clubs across Northampton, plus a forum for young people to "voice their opinions and shape

sport within Northampton". Research showed the need for facilities for LGB youth, particularly a safe meeting place. Not many activities are offered at schools after 6pm and in many locations schools are the major venue for events. It was further acknowledged that in some areas community buildings are available but there is a lack of adult supervision available for young peoples' activities. Some Faith Communities indicated that they have available accommodation for activities for young people. To ensure that information about activities and facilities that are available is widely disseminated, there is a need for a variety of communication methods, such as a youth website, leaflets and notice boards.

6.1.12 The Sports Development Officer, Northampton Borough Council, confirmed that in his opinion, 13 – 19 year olds are not well catered for in Northampton - Sports Development feels that the majority of activities that are put on are for younger people. . Sports Development is currently working closely with youth in the Eastfield and Spencer areas and has set up two Youth Groups but attendance is low - Sports Development has permanent workers, in both Eastfield and Spencer, who run a number of projects, one of which is youth clubs. They are looking for as much input from young people on how to shape these groups. The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee realised that they only want to put on activities that the young people can take part in and want to take part in. This positive work that Sports Development is carrying out, making inroads, focussing on activities and spotting the gaps, working with the Neighbourhood Partnerships was welcomed. Evidence from this Review will help to inform this piece of work.

6.1.13 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recognised the variety of activities and facilities currently available via the Money 4 Youth projects:

6.14 Recent Money for Youth Projects include: -

- Mobile Skate Park and Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) bus to visit Eastfield regularly.
- Skate Sessions: based on the London skate, with lessons indoors and going to see outdoor sessions, music and other fun activities.
- Iplay playground equipment for Thorplands. This hi tech facility is the first of its kind in Northamptonshire. It is suitable for eight year olds up to adults and for both mainstream and disabled youngsters (further details provided at section 4.1.58 of this report).
- Hip Hop and Street Dancing in Semilong
- Skills Session and Gener8 – include money management, cooking and healthy eating. This helps young people including carers and those with behavioural difficulties.
- Disabled teenage women's football - Led by Northampton Town Football in the Community.
- Mixed Ability Sports Group - To try out different sports and

- have fun.
- Circus skills were held on various dates.

6.15 Ongoing activities and facilities: -

- Eastfield Park multi-use games area floodlighting and pond-dipping and Spencer multi-use games area floodlighting
- Blacky More multi-use games area improvements and Nintendo Wii
- Nintendo Wii and inflatable super heroes
- Steel Pan Explorers
- Community Minibus
- Mobile Skate and BMX track
- Portable stage and portable PA equipment available for community events
- Threshold Studios have recently led graffiti projects for example, Nabeel using different languages, More will be funded through Money 4 Youth projects in 2009-10
- More projects are being developed and should be publicised in coming months
- The website *active.northants.co.uk* is not very exciting and appealing to young people. It would benefit from a jazzy background, cartoons etc.

6.16 It was acknowledged that Sport for Youth, run by Sports Development, gives young people a platform on sport facilities - not just on sports facilities but also for activities, funding projects and anything related to Sport in Northampton.

6.17 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee welcomed the fact that Northamptonshire Association of Youth Clubs (NAYC) is currently applying to two funding bodies for an Area Youth Club Development Worker in each of the Borough and District Council areas of the county. The success of the partnership pilot scheme with NAYC and Corby Borough Council was noted.

6.18 The Key findings from the Feasibility Study and business plan – “*Northamptonshire Teenage Partnership – Our Space – Centre for Young People*”, that was undertaken in October 2007 highlighted the need for a new and additional facility for young people as both a meeting place and a location from which to deliver key services.

6.19 The Committee noted that Central Government’s drive is to increase weekend activities for youth.

6.20 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee expressed its concerns regarding recent events around the need for a skateboard park and the threatened cut to funding for music and performing arts.

6.21 As detailed in section 5.5 of this report, the Equality Impact Assessment Screening exercise identified that those young people,



with multiple characteristics, outside this age bracket may feel disadvantaged.

## 7. Recommendations

7.1 For ease of delivery, the following series of recommendations are grouped in specific areas: -

### **Northamptonshire County Council**

- 7.1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recommends to Cabinet that the following recommendations be forwarded to Northamptonshire County Council for consideration: -
- 7.1.2 The database of known available activities and facilities for older children, aged 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25, be published on the Council's website.
- 7.1.3 Contact be made with Faith Communities to confirm the accommodation that they have available for activities for young people. This information be published on the database of known activities.
- 7.1.4 A youth website be set up, catering for this age group. The website should detail youth facilities and activities and be attractive and engaging to youth to encourage them to use it. The Website should include details such as league football, popular music hits, *Chat with a Councillor*, which would give young people further reason to use the site.
- 7.1.5 Research has indicated that there appears to be a lack of provision of the following facilities and it be recommended that this information be forwarded to Northamptonshire County Council requesting that it investigates this and be asked to ascertain whether resources are available for further such facilities: -
- There are a lot of activities and facilities available but research has indicated that there is a lack of provision of youth clubs and youth cafes within the borough.
  - Research has indicated that there is a lack of adult supervision for young people's activities.
  - There is a lack of facilities for LGB youth, in particular a safe meeting place.
- 7.1.6 It be recommended to Extended Services, Northamptonshire County Council, that there needs to be a comprehensive collection of information detailing after school activities and the use of school sites outside of the curriculum.

## Northampton Borough Council

- 7.1.7 That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee recommends to Cabinet that: -
- 7.1.8 Other effective communication methods such as leaflets and notice boards be investigated to promote Council led activities and facilities for young people.
- 7.1.9 Cabinet informs Sports Development and Neighbourhood Partnership Services, Northampton Borough Council, that it is Central Government's drive to increase weekend facilities for young people. The appropriate Officers be notified that there is a need for the Council to increase the provision of facilities for young people during weekends.
- 7.1.10 Details of the database of known available activities and facilities for older children, aged 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25 referred to in recommendation 7.1.3 when published be included on the *facebook* pages created by Sports Development.
- 7.1.11 A copy of this report be sent to Sports Development and Neighbourhood Partnership Services, Northampton Borough Council, to provide information to inform the work that it is currently undertaking.
- 7.1.12 That Cabinet notes the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee's concerns regarding recent events around the need for a skateboard park and the threatened cut to funding for music and performing arts.
- 7.1.13 Monitoring of recommendations contained in this Equality Impact Assessment screening takes place after six months.
- 7.1.14 The Local Press and local radio station be asked to include a regular article '*Youth Update – What's On*'

## **Appendices**

**NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

**MORE FACILITIES FOR OLDER CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS**

**FOCUS OF THE REVIEW:** To investigate the facilities available for Older Children and Young Adults and what further facilities and activities are required

**Purpose / Objectives of the Review**

- To investigate the facilities and activities (recreational, social and cultural) available for 13-19 year olds, including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25.
- To evaluate whether such facilities and activities are on a paid for or free of charge basis.

**1. Outcomes Required**

- To evaluate and report any financial, physical or social barriers to access to facilities available for 13-19 year olds including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25.
- To produce a GAP analysis of facilities available.
- To produce and publish a database of available existing facilities.
- To make recommendations for further facilities, as appropriate.

**3. Information Required**

Information to be gathered from the following:

- Northampton Volunteer Youth Association

- Northamptonshire County Council's Children and Young People's Services Directory
- Youth Forum's Spare Time Survey
- [www.Yipkids.co.uk](http://www.Yipkids.co.uk)
- Northampton Borough Council's Leisure Centres
- Sport for Youth
- Northampton Town Football Club (Gavin and Russell Lewis)
- County Music / Performing Arts
- Sports Clubs / Leagues
- Secondary Schools Survey / School Council/home educated children
- Roadmender
- Lowdown / Service Six
- Northampton Voluntary Youth Association
- Community Groups – Caspar / Neighbourhood Partnerships/Neighbourhood Managements
- Kingsthorpe Youth Forum
- Church Groups
- Boards Mapping Database
- Scouts / Girl Guides
- Sea / Army / Air / Cadets
- School Clubs / Saturday Morning
- Parish Councils
- MENCAP
- Connexions
- Fish Market
- Equality Forum members
- Residents Associations
- Patel Samaj
- Performing Arts – theatres
- Play Rangers

#### **4. Format of Information**

- Devise Questionnaire
- Use of Video Box – Youth Forum to assist
- Tour of secondary schools – Councillor Ifty Choudary
- Text Responses
- Web Chat
- Market Square Stall
- Bluetooth Messaging – Youth Forum to investigate
- Website response
- Witness Evidence from details included in section 3 of the Scope
- Councillors and the Youth Forum to man a stall on the Market Square
- Minutes of meetings

- Competition for Event

## **5. Co-Options to the Review Committee**

- Representatives from Connexions, Northamptonshire County Council's Children and Young People's Services (Officer and Member), Northampton Volunteer Youth Association be approached to be co-opted to this Review for the life of the Review.
- A minimum of two attendees of the Youth Forum be invited to attend meetings to provide evidence and assist with evidence gathering as detailed in section 3.
- A representative of Neighbourhood Management be invited to attend meeting to provide evidence.

## **6. Equality Impact Assessment**

- An Equality Impact Assessment to be undertaken on the scope of the Review.

## **7 Evidence gathering Timetable**

### **February to May 2009**

24th February	Scoping meeting
3 March	Evidence Gathering (part of scheduled meeting)
16 March	Evidence Gathering
March – April	Evidence Gathering, including tour of schools, market square stall, video box. The Task and Finish Group and the Youth Forum will gather this information.
11 May	Final Report

## **8 Responsible Officers**

Lead Officer: N/A for this Review

Co Ordinator: Tracy Tiff, Overview and Scrutiny Officer

## **9 Resources and Budgets**

-

## **10 Final report presented by:**

Councillor Andrew Simpson, Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

## **11 Final report submitted to:**

Completed by 11 May 2009. Presented by the Chair to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and then to Cabinet.

## **12 Monitoring procedure:**

Review the impact of the report after six months (December/January 2010)



## Appendix B

### Analysis of Questionnaire - What Facilities and activities do you currently provide

Do you currently provide physical <u>Activities</u> for the above age group?	Are the Activities used by mainly Male / Femail / Mix M F Mix			Are the <u>Activities</u> Paid / Free of Charge?	What other events do you provide?	Do you have facilities available, such as a room etc, that could be used for this age group in the future?	Name of Organisation and contact details including email
Yes	√			Free	Social Inclusion football sessions in 9 areas around Northampton in the Multi Use Games Areas	No	Street Football, Gavin Lewis NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR 01604 838458 glewis@northampton.gov.uk
Yes	√			Free	Play Days, Play Events in various parks and open spaces	No	Play Rangers, Jemma Locke & Chris Serbyn, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR jlocke@northampton.gov.uk / cserbyn@northampton.gov.uk 01604 838036
Yes	√			Free	Forum for young people to voice their opinions and shape sport within Northampton	No	Sports Development Officer, Steve Johnson, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR stevejohnson@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837704

Yes	√	Free	Programme of Health Walks around Northampton	No	Sports Development Officer, Chris Rockall, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR crockall@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837774
Yes	√	Varying costs	School Holiday Sport Specific Activities	No	Sports Development Officer, Chris Rockall, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR crockall@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837774
Yes	√	£2 per session	Sports Unlimited After School Sports Sessions	No	Sports Development Officer, Chris Rockall, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR crockall@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837774
Yes	√	£1 per session	Eastfield Youth Club	No	Sports & Physical Activity Development Officer, Nina Bridge, NBC Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR nbridge@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837718
Yes	√	£1 per session	Spencer Youth Club	No	Sports & Physical Activity Development Officer, Nina Bridge, NBC Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR nbridge@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837718
Yes	√	Free	Rillwood Court Multi Sport Activities	No	Sports Development Officer, Chris Rockall, NBC, Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR crockall@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837774

Yes	√	\$1	Spencer Brook Multi Sport Activities	No	Sports & Physical Activity Development Officer, Nina Bridge, NBC Cliftonville Hse, Bedford Road, Northampton NN4 7NR nbridge@northampton.gov.uk 01604 837718
Yes	√	Free of Charge 13-16	Free Swimming at 3 x pools from 1.04.09	Yes, subject to other bookings	Danes Camp LC 01604 837200
		Paid	Swimming 17 years and over		Lings Forum LC 01604 837300
		Paid	General Disabilities Swim (adult & junior) LF Sunday 13.15 / 14.00		Mounts Baths 01604 837400 Operations Manager, Claire McNab cmcnab@northampton.gov.uk
		Paid - student membership available at £19.50	Trilogy Health & Fitness (3 gyms, fitness classes) 14 years and over		
			Danes Camp is IFI (inclusive fitness initiative) registered site and accessible to those with disabilities and special educational needs		
		Paid	Climbing Wall - Danes Camp		
		Paid	Teen Street Dance (13-16)		
		Paid	Danes Camp		
			Funzone - supervised Playscheme (up to 13 years)		
		Paid	Forum Cinema, general films, 'Kid Screen' and 'Teen Screen' planned		
Yes	√	Match Subs £1	Tournaments: International Youth Exchange with German Village	Yes	Bugbrooke St Michaels Football Club, 01604 830317

Yes		√	Free of Charge	Sun evening youth group 13-19 yrs, Mon evening Girls Group 11-14, Friday evening Boys group 11-15, Scouts Weds evening, Guides Tues evening	Possibly, depending on time / dates	Peter White, St Giles Church, St Giles Parish Office, St Giles Terrace, Northampton, NN1 2BN 01604 230360 pete@stgilesnorthampton.org.uk
Yes	√		Paid		Yes	Moulton Sports Complex. Pound Lane, Moulton, Northampton NN3 7SD, 01604 670506 moultonsportscomplex@hotmail.com
Yes		√	Termly subs	Explorer Scout Section 14- 18	Facilities owned by Scouts always available for them to use	3 venues around town, mainly Moulton and Overstone. Lee Jones, District Commissioner
Yes		√	Paid	Watersport Courses for 8- 80, Curricular Tuition, Extra Curricular Watersports 8- 25. Weekly sailing Yuth & Windsurfing clubs		Northampton Watersports Centre, Brixworth, NN6 9DG 01604 880248 isolda@northamptonwatersports.com
No					Licensed function room that holds up to 100 people(80 with food) rental is £100 per night. Currently onlyused by Northampton Sea Cadet Corps for parties after parades etc.	Jonathan Stevens, Hon. Secretary Northants RN &RM Assoc, 64 Lorne Road, Northampton NN1 3RN 01604 620471 personal mobile 07796 444604
Yes		√	Paid	Swimming clubs are run on the school premises not managed by school	Yes	Barry Primary School
Yes	√		Paid	Guides group - not run by school	Yes	Barry Primary School

Yes	√	Both	Various activities	We hire a room and sports hall, have great difficulty in hiring premises	Suresh Patel of 18 Laneside Hollow, East Hunsbury, Northampton NN4 OSR Tel: 07884 166657. Patelsamaj@aol.com
Yes		Paid	Cricket / squash / darts / pool	Not at present but would like to	Kevin Murphy (N'pton Saints Club) c/o 1 Paxton Road, The Arbours NN3 3RL 01604 404039 / 07801 368304 kevmurphy@btopenworld.com
Yes	√		The Farm and Street Football session	Various school pitches for private hire at Weston Favell Secondary and Northampton college	Street Football - Saturday morning - NBC sports development. Football @ Eastfield Park. Youth Clubs - TMX Thurs @ Broadmead Baptist Church, The Farm - Thurs, The Inn Place - Eastfield, Wagwan @ Abington Community Centre, YMCA Trudi bus on Thurs @ Eastfield. Linda Martin - lmartin@northampton.gov.uk Horton House Cricket Club, Sam Gascoyne, 07940 234432 sam.gascoyne1@btinternet.com
Yes	√	Paid	Sports & Social	Yes	Kingsthorpe Bowls Club
Yes	√	Paid	Indoor Bowling	No	Ecton Brook Childrens Centre - not for this age group
Yes	√	Paid	Holiday & After School		Roundabout Club @ Camrose Childrens Centre - up to age 15
Yes	√	Free	Recreational boxing	Yes	Youth at Risk youthworkeracbc@live.co.uk
Yes	√	Paid	Group Meetings	Yes	Guides J Wade / J Wood 01604 767568
Yes	√	Paid	Club and Shows	Yes	Music & Drama M.A.D. 01604 767568
Yes	√	Paid	12 week course	Yes	Princes Trust .W Taylor 01604 767568
Yes	√	Paid	Group Meeting Scouts	Yes	Scouts - H Woolgar-Golds, 01604 767568
Yes	√	Paid	Group Meetings	Yes	Aikido - I Geddes 01604 767568

Yes	√	Free of charge in general	Half Term activities including trips, youth club etc	Yes	Thorplands Community Shop, Lisa Sargent - Manager, 07590576681 thorplandscommunityshop@yahoo.com 34 Farm Field Ct, Thorplands NN3 8AG
Yes	√	Both	Cubs, scouts, rainbows and guides, sports groups, youth club. Out of school activities	Yes	Catherine Parry, Bugbrooke Parish Council, Parish Office, Community Centre, Camp Close, Bugbrooke, NN7 3RW 01604 832838 / 07531 556947 bugbrookepc@btconnect.com Jeanette Pidgen, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council, jpidgen@northampton.gov.uk
Yes	√		Kingsthorpe Youth Forum		applied for funding £12k for youth shelter plus frames and activities. Meet at obelisk sports and social club. <a href="http://kyf.easyjournal.com">http://kyf.easyjournal.com</a>

Yes	√	Both	Football - Eastfield Park, three junior pitches, used weekly by various clubs. Multi Use Games area used by Street Football every Sat morning, including a session for 13-19yr olds. Run by NBC sports development. Various school pitches available for private hire at Weston Favell Secondary, and at Northampton College. Tennis – available for private hire at Northampton College.	Youth Clubs, The Farm - NCC run facility, YMCA - Trudi Bus (Thursdays - various arts and crafts, personal development), Scouts and Guides	Eastlands and Headlands Neighbourhood Management area, Linda Martin, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council, <a href="mailto:lmartin@northampton.org.uk">lmartin@northampton.org.uk</a>
Yes	√	Paid	Thorpelands Boxing Club		Northampton East Neighbourhood Management area, Peter Strachan, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council, <a href="mailto:pstrachan@northampton.org.uk">pstrachan@northampton.org.uk</a>
Yes	√	Free in general	Lodge Farm Comm Centre Youth Activities		Northampton East Neighbourhood Management area, Peter Strachan, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton East Neighbourhood Management area, Peter Strachan, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council, <a href="mailto:pstrachan@northampton.org.uk">pstrachan@northampton.org.uk</a>
Yes	√	Free in general	Bellinge Youth Club		Northampton East Neighbourhood Management area, Peter Strachan, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council, <a href="mailto:pstrachan@northampton.org.uk">pstrachan@northampton.org.uk</a>

Yes	√	Free in general	Thorpelands I-play equipment due to be installed 20 April 2009		2 halls are used. Disabled facilities available. A few available slots.	Northampton East Neighbourhood Management area, Peter Strachan, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Northampton Borough Council Church of St Albans. Email: brenden.hamilton@virgin.net
(No)	√	Some of the Groups who hire the hall may include this age group	Badminton, chamber choir, Lunch Club, St Albans' Charity players, Bible study, Now Starters Band, Morris Dancing, Women's fellowship, Girls' Brigade, Men's Group, Haraam Egyptian Dancers, Follies Theatre School, Canine Coaching, Choir Practice, Living Well			David Payne, Chief Executive, Northamptonshire Football Association Limited, email info@northamptonshirerefa.com
Yes	√	Paid			Lots of opportunities for people of this age group to get involved with the game. Such as playing football, refereeing, coaching, administrating the game etc	Gener 8 Youth Enterprise. J.munt@gener8youthenterprise.co.uk, 01604 768217
Yes	√	Paid	Education, Boxing and lifeskills		2 Rooms available. 4 PC's with Internet access	CUPM, Liberty House, email@jidedavid.modede@cupmnorthampton.org
Yes	√	Free	Training		Yes	



J Line, Children Center Manager, Ecton  
Brook Children's Centre 01604 409280

No			Ecton Brook Children Centre does not directly provide physical facilities for 13-19 year olds but do provide services and support for teenage parents in Ecton Brook, Bellinge and Standarns Barn	No	
Yes	√	Paid	Indoor Bowling	No	Kingsthorpe Bowls Club, telephone 01604 842931

**Clubs that link to the NAYC**

**Appendix**

**C**

Club Name	Venue Name	Address1	Town	PostCode	Phone	Disabled Access	Opening Times
31st Northampton Boy's Brigade	Queensgrove Church	Grove Road	Northampton	NN1 3LS			1 18.00-21.30
6th Northampton Boys Brigade	Kingsley Park Methodist Church	Milton Street Kingsley	Northampton	NN2 7HH			1 Monday 19.00-21.00
7th Northampton Boys Brigade	St Andrews Methodist Church	Harlestone Road	Northampton	NN5 6AB			1 Mond 6:00-8:15Fri7:000-10:00 Thursday 18.30-20.00
Abington Avenue URC Youth Clubs	Abington Avenue United Ref Church	Abington Avenue	Northampton	NN1 4QA	01604 608143		1 Sunday 19.00-21.30
All Nations Fellowship Sunday School	All Nations Fellowship	38-40 Kettering Road	Northampton	NN1 4AH	01604 628443		1 Sunday 12.00-13.00
Billing Pathfinders	All Saints Church	Little Billing	Northampton	NN3			1 Thursday 19.30-21.00
Billings RGC	Benham Sports Arena	King s Park Road	Northampton	NN3 6LL	01604 494100		1 Monday 17.30-20.00
Brixworth Juniors	Benham Sports Arena	Kings Park Road,	Northampton	NN3 6LL	01604 494100		1 Friday 19.00-20.00
Christian Celebration Youth Ministry	Wootton Trinity Christian Centre	High Street	Northampton	NN4 6LL			1 Friday 19.00-21.00
Church on The Heath	Church on The Heath	Welland Way,	Northampton	NN5 7NB			1 Under discussion
Duston Youth Project	The Folk Centre	Berrywood Road	Northampton	NN5 6XA	01604 460004		1
Emmanuel Group of Churches	Emmanuel Church	Weston Favell Centre	Northampton	NN3 8JR	01604 402150		1
Gener8 Youth Enterprise	Far Cotton Boys Club		Northampton	NN4 8LR	01604 768217		1
Gener8 Youth Enterprise	Far Cotton Boys Club		Northampton	NN4 8LR	01604 768217		0
Identity	Mount Pleasant Baptist Church	147 Kettering Road	Northampton	NN1 4BS	01604 516809		1 Friday 19.00-22.00
Life	Kingdom Life Church	9 Tower Street	Northampton	NN1 2SN	01604 630457		1 Friday 19.30-21.30
Meeting Point Youth Club	Kingdom Life Church	9 Tower Street	Northampton	NN1 2SN	01604 630457		1 Monday 18.00-19.30
Nene Valley Club	Contact NAYC	Contact NAYC	Contact NAYC	Contact NAYC	Contact NAYC		1 Monday - Friday 16.00-18.00
Nmpt Church Lads & Church Girls Brigade	Kingsthorpe Village Primary School	Knights Lane	Northampton	NN2	01604 842721		1 Wednesday 18.00-21.00
Northampton Junior Darts League	The Double Top Club	109-111 Overstone Rd	Northampton	NN1 3JW	01604 473379		0 Friday Evenings 7 - 9 pm
Northampton PHAB Club	PHAB Centre	11 Sheraton Close	Northampton	NN3 2NL	01604 405693		1 Friday 19.30-21.30
NorthantsTrampoline Gym Academy	Benham Sports Arena	Kings Park Road,	Northampton	NN3 6LL	01604 494100		1 Closed on Sundays
NorthantsYMCA Mobile Youth Project	Various location throughout Nhton		Northampton				0 4.00 -5.30&6.00 - 7.00Mon-Thrs
Notorious Borough Ballers	Kingdom Life Church	9 Tower St Mayorhold	Northampton	NN1 2SN	01604 630457		0 Fri19.30-21.30Sun10.30-12.00
nspcc	Child and Parent Centre	48 Water Pump Court	Northampton	NN3 8UR	01604 493336		0 Monday to Friday 9-5
NVYA	University of Northampton	George s Avenue	Northampton	NN2 6JD	01604 722244		0
NWICA	NWICA	42 Sheep Street	Northampton	NN1 2LG			1
Patel Samaj of Northampton	18 Laneside Hollow	East Hunsbury	Northampton	NN4 0SR	01604 751703		1 Friday 19.30-21.00 Thursday 19.00-21.00
PCDC - Youth Group	Pakistani Cultural Development Cent		Northampton	NN3 3HE	7956205598		0 Thursday 19.00-21.00
Rock Solid	Duke Street Evangelical Church	4-8 Duke Street	Northampton	NN1	01604 635535		1 Friday 19.30-21.00
St Giles Church	St Giles Church	St Giles Terrace	Northampton	NN1 2BN			1 Mn18.30-20.00Fri19.30-21.00S
Test Club	The Ranch	Bryn-y-moel	Llanbedr	LL45 2HU	203938		0 n19.00-21.00
The Double Top Junior Darts League	The Double Top Club	Overstone road	Northampton				0 Friday Evenings 7 til 9pm
The Hut Youth Club	Parsons Memorial Hall	Leys Lane Great Houghto	Northampton	NN4 7AU	01604 760503		1 Friday 18.30-20.30
Thorplands Youth Club	34 Farmfield Court	Thorplands	Northampton	NN3 8AG	01604 496965		0
Wackies	Far Cotton Boys Club	Towcester Road	Northampton	NN4			1 Mon-Fri15.00-18.00
Youth @ Risk	Abbey Centre Baptist Church	Overslade Close	Northampton	NN4 0RZ			1 Sat&Sun 09.00-12.00
YWCA Northampton		2 Castilian Terrace	Northampton	NN1 1LD	01604 601515		1

## Analysis of Youth Forum Spare Time Survey undertaken in 2008

<u>Top Item</u> Best 'thing' to do in the town	<u>Number of times</u> suggested	<u>Second Top</u> best 'thing' to do in the town	<u>Number of times</u> suggested	<u>What needs improving</u> first choice	<u>Number of times suggested</u>	<u>What needs improving</u> second choice	<u>No of times</u> suggested
Parks	53	Close to Town Centre and Shops	40	Make safer and cleaner	55	More affordable leisure / community events & support / facilities for all ages	40
Town / Market Square / Shopping	33	Parks	34	More activities / facilities / events for children and teenagers	40	Quieter / Cleaner / Safer	33
Near Activities including swimming / football / running / bowling	30	Safe / quiet / clean area	27	Parks - better use of and more	34	Parks and Play Areas	25
Near Friends	30	Activities such as football / boxing / swimming	27	More sports facilities	20	Youth / Music & Drama Clubs	13
Quiet	20	Friendly People	26	Improve town centre & shops	16	All Sport Facilities	10
Open spaces / fields / places to walk	14	Fun and lots to do	14	Youth Clubs & Groups	16	Shopping Local & Town	10
All Good	12	Buildings including homes / Community Centres / libraries	13	Road and street Repairs	8	Less Traffic	9
Location / Community Clubs / Pubs / Cinema Balloon & Folk Festivals	11	Entertainment - shows / theatre / festivals	12	Anti Social Behaviour	8	Pavements & Roads	7
	11	Schools	9	Better Policing	7	Policing	6
	7	Location - near to facilities	9	Cheaper Travel / Improve Bus Station	4	Bus Service	6
	7	Open Spaces	4	Amount of Cars	4	Bike Areas	4
Near Schools / Work	6	Police and Support	4	Access to affordable / local facilities for everyone including disabled	4	Restaurants / Bars	3
Buses	3	Travel	2	Improve buildings / estates	3	Housing	3
Safe Area / Clean	3	Fast Food Outlets	2	Free Balloon Festivals / Attractions	3		
				More Open Spaces	3		
				Leisure Facilities	2		
				Schools / Playing Fields	2		
				Youth Drinking	1		
				More Community Centres	1		

**Appendix E**



**TellUs3 Local Authority Report**

**Northamptonshire**

Issue date: September 2008

### **Tellus3 Survey**

The TellUs3 survey was a survey of children and young people across England, asking their views about their local area, and including questions covering the five Every Child Matters outcomes. The survey was carried out in Spring 2008. A sample of schools was selected within each local authority, representing the different types of schools in each area. The schools were then provided with guidance detailing how to select pupils to take part in the survey.

The report presents the questions in the same way they were presented to respondents. The questions were developed through cognitive testing with children, to ensure they understood the questions and answered them in a meaningful way. This means that some of the questions, such as self-defining a disability, may not give data consistent with 'standard' definitions.

The responses from the survey were weighted to ensure that the report at local authority and national level is representative of the population of Year 6, 8 and 10 children within that area in terms of the following characteristics: gender, proportion of children eligible for free school meals in the school (as a proxy for deprivation) and type of school. Population data for 2007 from the Pupil Level Annual School Census (PLASC) was used to derive the weights, and the number of children attending Pupil Referral Units is obtained from the 2007 School Level Annual School Census (SLASC).

### **The Local Authority Report**

The local authority report provides data for all the questions asked at both local authority and national level. Where insufficient numbers of pupils or schools took part in a local authority, their results are not presented at local authority level. Where there are insufficient responses in one age group, the local authority report excludes this age group. Data for these local authorities is not weighted and no statistical testing is carried out for comparison against national results. Also, in some cases the response rate is relatively low. Results have been reported for a local authority wherever possible, where there are sufficient responses to provide some useful evidence. This should be taken into account when interpreting the results. All responses are included in the national report.

#### Sample characteristics (Section 1: About you)

This section gives details of the demographic characteristics of respondents to the survey (i.e. unweighted sample information). The rest of the survey data has been weighted, to account for any disproportionality between the sample and the population.

#### The five Every Child Matters Outcome sections (2: Being healthy, 3: Staying safe, 4: Enjoying and achieving, 5: Making a positive contribution, 6: Achieving economic well-being)

Data at local authority level within these sections of the report has been weighted to take account of differences from our sample population to the local authority population in terms of gender, type of school and free school meals eligibility (as a proxy for deprivation).

Where a difference between the local authority figure and the national figure is statistically significant, the cell is highlighted. This will indicate that the result obtained by this analysis is significantly different to the national average (at the 95% level). Where it is clear that there is a positive or negative outcome of the significant difference between the local authority figure and the national figure, the local authority figure is traffic-lighted either green or red respectively. If there is a difference but does not necessarily have a clear positive or negative outcome then the local authority figure is coloured grey. Local authorities with incomplete data for all year groups have not had significance testing applied. This is due to the unequal basis of comparison between the local authority and national figures.

Questions which were only asked of secondary school children are identified after the question as such (YEAR 8 & 10 ONLY).

Further details of the survey design and methodology can be found in the technical report.

1: About You		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>1a: Are you:</b>		
Male	51	50
Female	49	50
<b>1b: How old are you?</b>		
Year 6 (Aged 8 - 11)	60	40
Year 8 (Aged 12 - 13)	20	32
Year 10 (Aged 14 - 16)	20	28
<b>1c: Which one of these best describes you?</b>		
White	89	77
Mixed race	3	4
Asian or Asian British	2	10
Black or Black British	3	5
Chinese or other	1	1
Prefer not to say	1	0
Don't know	1	1
<b>1d: Do you have a learning difficulty?</b>		
Yes	11	9
No	79	82
Don't know	10	9
<b>1e: Do you have a disability?</b>		
Yes	4	4
No	91	92
Don't know	5	4
<b>1f: Which one of these best describes you?</b>		
I live with one or more of my birth parent(s)	96	96
I live with adoptive parent(s)	1	1
I live with foster parent(s)	1	1
I live in a children's home	0	0
Other	3	2
Don't know	0	1
<b>1g: Do you receive free school meals?</b>		
Yes	8	16
No	90	82
Don't know	2	3
<b>1h: Did you have help filling in this form such as from a teacher, teaching assistant or learning mentor?</b>		
No	86	86
Yes, I had help with just some of it	12	11
Yes, I had help with all or most of it	2	3

2: Being Healthy		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>2a: How healthy are you most of the time? (Tick one option only)</b>		
Very healthy	28	28
Quite healthy	59	58
Not very healthy	12	11
Don't know	1	3
<b>2b: How many portions of fruit and vegetables do you usually eat each day? (Tick one option only)</b>		
None	4	4
1-2	23	27
3-4	44	42
5 or more	24	23
Don't know	6	5
<b>2c: In the last 7 days, on how many days have you spent at least 30 minutes doing sports or other active things? (Tick one option only)</b>		
None	4	4
1-2 days	22	21
3-5 days	35	35
6-7 days	35	36
Don't know	4	4
<b>2d: Have you ever had alcohol? (Tick one option only)</b>		
I have never had an alcoholic drink	21	25
I have never been drunk	38	35
I have been drunk but only once or twice and not recently	19	17
I have been drunk once within the last four weeks	7	6
I have been drunk twice within the last four weeks	4	4
I have been drunk three or more times in the last four weeks	5	6
Prefer not to say	6	8
<b>2e: Have you ever smoked cigarettes? (Tick one option only)</b>		
I have never smoked a cigarette	76	75
I have smoked cigarettes only once or twice	10	11
I used to smoke cigarettes regularly but I don't now	4	3
I sometimes smoke cigarettes, but I don't smoke every week	2	2
I smoke cigarettes regularly, once a week or more	1	1
I smoke cigarettes everyday	4	4
Prefer not to say	3	4
<b>2f: Have you ever taken drugs? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
Yes	10	11
No	87	86
Prefer not to say	3	4

2: Being Healthy (continued)		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>2g: In the last four weeks, how often have you taken any of the following drugs? (Don't worry if you don't know exactly, just give us a rough idea) (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
<i>Cannabis or skunk</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	90	89
Once	1	2
Twice	1	1
Three or more times	4	3
Prefer not to say	4	4
Don't know/can't remember	0	1
<i>Solvents, glue or gas (to inhale or sniff)</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	95	92
Once	1	1
Twice	0	0
Three or more times	0	1
Prefer not to say	4	4
Don't know/can't remember	0	1
<i>Other drugs (like cocaine, LSD, ecstasy, heroin, crack, speed, magic mushrooms etc.)</i>		
Never in the last four weeks	94	92
Once	1	1
Twice	0	1
Three or more times	1	1
Prefer not to say	4	4
Don't know/can't remember	0	1
<b>2h: What do you think of the information and advice you get on the following things? (Tick one option for each section) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
<i>Eating healthy food</i>		
It's good enough	72	76
Need better information and advice	22	20
Don't know	5	4
<i>Alcohol</i>		
It's good enough	65	67
Need better information and advice	27	25
Don't know	8	7
<i>Smoking</i>		
It's good enough	70	70
Need better information and advice	23	23
Don't know	7	7
<i>Drugs</i>		
It's good enough	66	67
Need better information and advice	26	25
Don't know	8	7
<i>Sex and relationships</i>		
It's good enough	50	55
Need better information and advice	40	37
Don't know	10	8

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2: Being Healthy (continued)		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>2i: Which of the following things, if any, do you worry about the most?</b> (Tick all options that apply)		
Being bullied	24	27
School work	30	31
Exams	55	57
Girlfriends/boyfriends/sex (Year 8 & 10 only)	21	26
Being healthy	30	30
Money	26	28
Friendships	32	34
My future	49	49
Getting into trouble	25	27
My parents or family	28	30
Crime	26	27
My body	31	32
Something else	11	11
Don't know	4	3
Nothing	6	5
<b>2j: For each of the following sections please tick the option that best describes you.</b> (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>I feel happy about life at the moment</i>		
True	69	69
Neither true nor not true	21	20
Not true	8	8
Don't know	2	2
<i>I have one or more good friends</i>		
True	96	95
Neither true nor not true	3	3
Not true	1	2
Don't know	0	1
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my mum or dad</i>		
True	66	66
Neither true nor not true	17	16
Not true	14	15
Don't know	2	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to my friends</i>		
True	70	71
Neither true nor not true	18	17
Not true	9	10
Don't know	3	3
<i>When I'm worried about something I can talk to an adult other than my mum or dad</i>		
True	49	52
Neither true nor not true	21	20
Not true	26	23
Don't know	4	5

3: Staying Safe		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>3a: How safe from being hurt by other people do you feel?</b> (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>Around the local area</i>		
Very safe	28	28
Quite safe	48	47
A bit unsafe	17	19
Very unsafe	5	5
Don't know	2	1
<i>On public transport</i>		
Very safe	21	23
Quite safe	45	47
A bit unsafe	24	22
Very unsafe	6	5
Don't know	5	3
<i>Going to and from school</i>		
Very safe	51	49
Quite safe	40	39
A bit unsafe	5	9
Very unsafe	3	2
Don't know	1	1
<i>In school</i>		
Very safe	54	55
Quite safe	35	33
A bit unsafe	5	8
Very unsafe	4	3
Don't know	1	1
<b>3b: How often, if at all, have you been bullied?</b> (Tick one option for each section)		
<i>At school</i>		
Never	57	56
Once or more in the last year	25	25
Once or more in the last four weeks	6	5
About once a week	3	3
Most days	6	6
Don't know	4	4
<i>Somewhere else (including on your journey to or from school)</i>		
Never	77	75
Once or more in the last year	11	13
Once or more in the last four weeks	2	3
About once a week	2	2
Most days	3	3
Don't know	5	4
<b>3c: How well does your school deal with bullying?</b> (Tick one option only)		
Very well	11	14
Quite well	16	21
Not very well	25	28
Badly	22	16
Bullying is not a problem in my school	13	11
Don't know	13	10

4: Enjoying and Achieving		
	LA	NAT
Category	All (%)	All (%)
<b>4a: For each of the sections below, please tick the option that best describes you.</b> (Tick one option on each section)		
<i>I enjoy school</i>		
Always	6	8
Most of the time	39	42
Sometimes	48	43
Never	6	7
Don't know	0	1
<i>I try my best at school</i>		
Always	27	33
Most of the time	51	48
Sometimes	21	17
Never	1	1
Don't know	1	0
<i>I learn a lot at school</i>		
Always	22	23
Most of the time	45	46
Sometimes	30	28
Never	2	3
Don't know	1	1
<b>4b: Which of the things below, might help you do better in school?</b> (Tick all options that apply)		
More help from teachers	39	39
More fun/interesting lessons	82	81
A quieter/better behaved class or group	36	38
Smaller classes/groups	33	34
Fewer bullies	24	25
More help from family and friends (e.g. with homework)	14	16
Somewhere quiet at home to do homework	14	16
Something else	11	13
None of these	2	2
<b>4c: How easy it is to get help with your work at school when you need it?</b> (Tick one option only)		
Very easy	11	14
Quite easy	59	58
Quite difficult	22	19
Very difficult	4	4
Don't know	4	4
<b>4d: Which of these, if any, would you like to go to that you don't at the moment?</b> (Tick all that apply)		
Local park or playground	13	18
Cinema or theatre	35	37
A music concert or gig	40	39
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	26	29
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	16	20
Gym	35	38
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	12	16
Faith or community group	3	6
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	18	18
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class (not in school lessons)	25	26
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	11	14
Library/museum	12	14
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	16	13
Something else	17	21
Nothing (I don't want to go to anything else)	13	11

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**4: Enjoying and Achieving (continued)**

Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
<b>4e: Overall, what do you think of the activities and things to do in your area? (Tick one option only)</b>		
Very good	10	14
Fairly good	36	35
Neither good nor poor	25	22
Fairly poor	12	14
Very poor	13	12
Don't know	4	3

<b>4f: In the last four weeks, have you participated in any group activity led by an adult outside school lessons (such as sports, arts, or a youth group)? (Tick one option only)</b>		
Yes	62	62
No	34	34
Don't know	4	5

<b>4g: Which of these things have you been to in the last four weeks (not including things as part of school lessons)? (Tick all options that apply)</b>		
Local park or playground	78	74
Cinema or theatre	56	56
A music concert or gig	14	15
Swimming pool (not in school lessons)	42	46
Sports club or class (where I've done sport not just watched it)	56	58
Gym	26	27
A youth club or youth group with organised activities run by adults	33	32
Faith or community group	8	13
A youth centre/café to meet friends (with few or no organised activities)	32	36
Art, craft, dance, drama, film/video-making group or class	26	27
Music group or lesson (not in school lessons)	17	19
Library/museum	28	34
Residential course (e.g. outward bound)	9	10
Something else	72	68

**5: Making a Positive Contribution**

<b>5a: How much are children and young people's views listened to in decisions about the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
A great deal	2	4
A fair amount	21	22
Not very much	37	37
Not at all	21	20
Don't know	19	17

<b>5b: In the last year, have you ever given your views about the local area in any of these ways? (Tick all options that apply) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
Filled in questionnaire	21	29
Given your views to a school council	18	19
Given your views to a youth council or youth parliament	6	7
Been to a meeting outside school about making things better in your local area	5	6
Something else	6	7
Don't know	16	17
None of these	47	36

**5: Making a Positive Contribution (continued)**

Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
<b>5c: In the last year, have you given your time to help a charity, a local voluntary group, a neighbour or someone else in the local area? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
Yes	60	61
No	31	28
Don't know	9	11

<b>5d: How much do you feel children and young people's views are listened to in the running of your school? (Tick one option only)</b>		
A great deal	9	12
A fair amount	45	47
Not very much	30	27
Not at all	8	7
Don't know	8	7

**6: Achieving Economic Well-being**

<b>6a: What do you think of your local area as a place to live in? (Tick one option only)</b>		
Very good	28	32
Fairly good	45	43
Neither good nor poor	18	16
Fairly poor	5	5
Very poor	4	4
Don't know	1	1

<b>6b: What do you hope to do when you leave school? (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
Get a job at 16	13	13
Study then get a job at 18	20	19
Study to go to university	51	54
Something else	5	6
Don't know yet	11	9

<b>6c: What do you think of the information and help you get to plan your future? For example help from a teacher or careers adviser to choose subject options and think about jobs and careers. (Tick one option only) (YEAR 8 &amp; 10 ONLY)</b>		
It's good enough	22	28
Need a little more	41	42
Need a lot more	20	20
Don't know what there is	16	10

**6: Achieving Economic Well-being (continued)**

Category	LA All (%)	NAT All (%)
<b>6d: Which of these things would do the most to make your area a better place for you to live? (Tick all options that apply)</b>		
Better shops	43	45
Cleaner and less litter	44	48
Better sports clubs or centres	37	44
Better public transport (such as buses, trains, underground)	20	25
Safer roads	32	37
Better activities for children and young people	43	46
Safer area or less crime	37	39
Better parks and play areas	44	47
Fewer young people hanging around	25	27
Something else	8	10
Don't know	3	3
None (the area is fine as it is)	5	4

<b>6e: What do you think of the parks and play areas in your area? (Tick one option only)</b>		
Very good	7	10
Fairly good	36	34
Neither good nor poor	28	23
Fairly poor	15	15
Very poor	12	15
Don't know	3	3

<b>6f: Thinking about all of the things that have been covered in the survey, what if anything, would do most to make your life better? (Tick one option only)</b>		
More help to do better at school	12	11
Better school lessons	10	11
Less bullying	8	9
More organised activities and things to do	6	8
More places where I can go to spend time with my friends	23	22
More say in how things are run at school or in the local area	4	3
More ways I can volunteer or help people	2	2
More advice about being healthy	2	2
More help to plan for my future	16	15
More help to feel safer at school and in the local area	3	4
Something else	3	4
Don't know	6	5
None of these	6	4

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# Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny



Appendix F

## Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee

### Gap Analysis

Strategic Objective	The Gap – Activities/facilities currently provided	Rationale	Implications
<p>To evaluate and report any financial, physical or social barriers to access to facilities available for 13-19 year olds including those with special education needs and those with disabilities up to the age of 25.</p>	<p>Investigate the facilities/activities available in the Borough for this age group and detail the areas where facilities/activities are lacking.</p>	<p>Feedback from questionnaires with young people has indicated that there is a need for more free/affordable facilities/activities for young people. It was further identified that there is a lack of available buildings, which are an important feature for activities and facilities for young people, such as cafes and open spaces for training.</p> <p>Research also shows that there is lots going on but not everyone is aware of what is available.</p>	<p>There is a need to publish the database of known activities, detailing whether they are free or paid for activities/facilities. This would incur resource implications. Research shows that many of the known activities are offered on a free of charge basis.</p> <p>There is a need for various communication resources to promote the activities and facilities available.</p>

# Northampton Borough Council Overview and Scrutiny

		<p>Research indicates that that teenagers can feel excluded if they are unable to access community buildings. There also appears to be a lack of adult supervision for young people's activities.</p> <p>It can be difficult to access school buildings in the evenings, Activities are often provided during school hours and from 4pm to 6pm but there is not a lot available afterwards. In many locations, schools are the major venue for events, but it is often too costly to hire after 6pm.</p> <p>Research has also shown that young people indicated that they want activities in their locality. Travelling across town to organised events can often be problematic for young people.</p>	<p>Facilities for LGB youth, in particular a safe meeting place is required.</p> <p>Contact be made with Faith communities to confirm the available accommodation for activities for young people that they can provide. This information be published on the database of known activities. Some of Faith Communities' accommodation is listed in the Disabled Go Guide to Northampton.</p>
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# NORTHAMPTONSHIRE TEENAGER PARTNERSHIP

## Our Space - Centre for Young People



Feasibility Study and Business Plan

Extended Executive Summary

October 2007

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**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WEST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DEVELOPMENT  
CORPORATION AND CONNEXIONS NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

**FEASIBILITY STUDY AND BUSINESS PLAN - EXTENDED  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

October 2007

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**Client:**

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Northamptonshire County Council  
PO Box 93  
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**In Partnership With:**

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**Date:**

October 2007

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## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This document is the extended Executive Summary of the Feasibility Study and Business Plan for the development of a centre for young people in Northampton town centre. The study has been carried out by Focus Consultants (UK) Limited in conjunction with Northamptonshire County Council and the Northamptonshire Teenager Partnership.

The Feasibility Study aimed to establish the needs of young people in Northampton, the potential demand for a new centre and the types of facilities and services that they would like to see in a young people's centre. Alongside this work, a series of income and expenditure projections were undertaken to ascertain the financial viability of the centre and to inform the development of the operational Business Plan.

In 2006, as part of the initial development of the project, a number of potential locations and buildings were considered by the steering group. From that initial examination, 36 Guildhall Road was identified as the preferred location for the young people's centre. The location of 36 Guildhall Road is particularly significant, as it sits in the heart of the town and the emerging Arts and Cultural Quarter identified within the Northampton Town Centre Regeneration Masterplan. In addition, the property is a high value, listed building of significant presence.

A building feasibility study of 36 Guildhall Road was undertaken by Groundwork Architects, which recommended renovating the front of the building with a new build to replace the existing warehouse to the rear of the building.

The purpose of this Feasibility Study and Business Plan is to test these proposals to estimate whether the project is likely to be financially sustainable and to make recommendations to the partnership for taking the project forward.

The project has been given the working title of Our Space by the young people and the project partners who took part in this Study.

## 2. EVIDENCE OF NEED

A Review and Consultation Study was undertaken to identify whether there is a need and demand for additional facilities and services for young people within the Northampton area.

The Study involved qualitative and quantitative research and encompassed the following pieces of work:

- Consultation with young people
- Consultation with partners and stakeholders
- Capacity appraisal
- Socio-economic analysis
- Strategic review
- Overall conclusions

The key findings to emerge from the Study are set out below:

- The consultation and desktop research undertaken for the Study highlighted the lack of facilities for young people in Northampton. This is supported by the findings of the young people's questionnaire, with over a third of the young people stating that existing facilities for young people were either 'bad' or 'rubbish'.
- The study illustrates the need for a new and additional facility for young people as both a meeting place and a location from which to deliver key services. Young people would like somewhere to meet with friends, with a café, access to the internet and a range of training and advice services.
- Overall, consultees agreed that Our Space should be a flagship centre for Northampton and should be promoted as a benefit and resource for the whole town and as a model for new ways of working with young people in the county.
- Our Space was seen as supporting the vision and aspirations for the town centre and as an important catalyst for the cultural quarter. The centre will ensure that young people are at the heart of this process.
- It was recognised that that the centre would help to deliver the strategic objectives of partner organisations and, in accordance with the Government's Youth Matters agenda, provide an Integrated Youth Offer for the young people of Northampton.
- Consultees felt that the centre should provide access for all, with universal access to the café and a range of further services targeted at particular groups of young people available elsewhere in the building.
- In terms of age, it was generally agreed that the centre should target young people aged between 13-19 years, with specific timeslots in the programme allocated to individuals outside this age range. This will help to establish a viable programme to ensure high levels of usage at different times of the day.
- A number of partners and stakeholders indicated that they would be interested in delivering services from the centre either as anchor tenants or on a casual basis. These included the Prince's Trust, Northampton College, University of Northampton and the County and Borough Councils.
- Partners were able to identify a number of potential capital and revenue funding sources. These included the Borough and County Councils, West Northamptonshire Development Corporation, Northamptonshire Enterprise Limited / *emda* and the Government's Money for Youth Programme.
- There was agreement on the need to develop a strong package of revenue funding from a range of sources including both rental income and other income generation sources. It

was felt that a core commitment from partners through the Children and Young Person's Partnership Board would be important for long term sustainability.

- In general, partners felt that Northamptonshire County Council, or an arm of the County Council, was the most appropriate body for managing the capital phase of the project. This reflects the fact that Connexions, as an organisation, is currently in transition. Likewise, in the short to medium term, the County Council, or an arm of the County Council, was also considered the most suitable organisation to take on the overall management of the facility.
- The appointment of staff with the right skills was seen as crucial to the success of the centre. The centre manager should be an experienced leader with a track record in managing staff and volunteers and an understanding of financial and budgetary systems.

The findings from the Review and Consultation Study were used to inform the preparation of the Concept Brief as part of the initial proposals for the project and the starting point for the development of the Our Space Business Plan.

### 3 OPTIONS APPRAISAL

As part of the development of the Business Plan, five options were considered in order to identify the most appropriate solution for achieving the aims and objectives of the Our Space project.

The following options were considered:

- Option 1 – Do nothing
- Option 2 – Develop the facility on an alternative site
- Option 3 – Develop smaller facility
- Option 4 - Renovate existing building
- Option 5 – Renovate the front of the existing building with a new build to replace the existing warehouse to the rear of the building

Options 1 to 4 were discounted primarily because they would either significantly increase costs, have a negative impact on the project timetable or they would entail a high risk approach.

Option 5 was selected as the preferred option for the following reasons:

- It offers the best balance between meeting the needs of partners and users, location, deliverability and links with the emerging cultural quarter
- It is a high value, listed building of significant presence
- It is within the town centre and has appropriate space for parking nearby
- The site is in the ownership of the Northampton Borough Council
- It offers the potential for flexibility should other partners or funders wish to become involved



#### 4. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

It is proposed that the preferred scheme will contain the following facilities:

##### *Café / Kitchen*

An informal meeting place for young people, providing the first point of contact for young people visiting the centre. The facility will be run in conjunction with an established training provider and offer opportunities for young people to gain training and accreditation.

##### *The Space – Multi-Use Area*

A flexible multi-use space, suitable for a wide range of purposes. Uses already identified include small scale indoor sports activities, music events, plays and other performances, dance classes and other cultural and leisure related activities. The Space will also be available for conferences and meetings.

##### *Showcase Area*

An area for showcasing talent, promoting courses and providing high profile exhibition space. The area will include facilities for active demonstrations as well as display stands for exhibiting finished work. Specific courses identified include fashion, hairdressing and beauty, craft disciplines and art based courses.

##### *Connexions Advice and Guidance Drop In*

An accessible, drop-in advice and guidance service for young people from 13 to 19 years delivered as part of Connexions Northamptonshire's town centre service and in conjunction with their local access point at Abington Street.

##### *ICT / Training Room*

Available for a wide range of purposes, including adult education and community support groups. A small number of computers will be available for training and recreational purposes and access to the internet for young people.

##### *Offices*

A number of offices will be located on the first floor for use by permanent anchor tenants providing services for young people with a range of potential agencies already identified. The offices will also be available for advice sessions by partner agencies with a further two offices available on a more casual basis.

##### *Meeting Rooms*

Two meeting rooms will be available for a wide range of purposes, including adult education, community support groups and consultation events.

Our Space will also contain the following ancillary facilities:

- Reception and Administration Area
- Storage Area
- Toilets and Showers

The Review and Consultation Study identified a number of core design considerations for inclusion in the subsequent design brief for the capital works, these should be referred to at each stage of the project's development.

Initial capital costs estimates, based on the original sketch designs, show estimated costs of around £1.629 million, excluding VAT. However, if the lead organisation is unable to recover VAT, then VAT at 17.5% will need to be added to these costs.

Two organisations were identified as potential funders for the capital project, these were West Northamptonshire Development Corporation - Growth Area Fund and the Department for Children, Schools and Families - Money for Youth Programme, administered through the Government Office for the East Midlands. Other capital funding options are also currently being explored, including funds available from Northamptonshire Enterprise Limited and *emda's* Single Programme.

The delivery of the project within the prescribed timescale is critical to its success. In order to meet the timescales of funders, the project will need to move forward quickly with procurement and management structures agreed and a lead client body confirmed.

The appointment of external construction project managers is the model most likely to ensure that sufficient resources are dedicated to the delivery of the project within the proposed timescale.

## 5. OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

The Operational Management Plan takes forward the key findings and conclusions from the Review and Consultation Study and uses this information to develop a management plan which will provide a blueprint for the operation of the facility.

### Organisational Management

A number of consultees proposed that, given the short timescales, Northamptonshire County Council, or an arm of the County Council, was the most suitable body for taking on the overall management of the facility in the short to medium term. However, the operational management arrangements will require further consideration and an appropriate legal agreement will need to be put in place between Northampton Borough Council and the County Council if the proposed structure is agreed. This role is compatible with their current responsibility for the Youth Service and their emerging responsibilities for overseeing the provision of Further Education and the Connexion's Advice and Guidance Service. Areas of

the centre managed and operated by other agencies will be covered through a legally binding operating agreement between the County Council and the agency responsible for service delivery.

Strategic decisions relating to the centre will be taken by the Our Space Management Committee which will include all of the key partners to the scheme. Day-to-day decisions will be undertaken by the Our Space Partnership which will be a collaboration between organisations and groups using the centre and young people.

As the centre develops, it will be important to consider how it can gain independence and be managed as a not-for-profit entity with charitable status. This is likely to open up funding opportunities which may not be available to statutory bodies. The Stage 1 Study identified Northamptonshire Teenager Partnership as a possible successor body primarily because it involves many of the key partners. This will need to be tested further as the centre becomes established.

The proposed staffing structure for Our Space identifies four paid staff – Centre Manager, Receptionist and two part-time Caretakers. The centre will also encourage the active participation of community volunteers through the organisations offering accreditation awards such as the Millennium Volunteers scheme.

### Income and Expenditure

Estimates of likely income and expenditure were undertaken for the young people's centre. As a starting point, a base option was developed – scenario 1. This is based on expressed interest from potential users and the sketch drawings prepared by Groundwork Architects for the scheme. Calculations of staffing costs and operational costs have been informed by estimates from consultants and evidence from other similar community buildings constructed in the region.

Four alternative scenarios of income and expenditure were considered for Our Space, with scenario 4 indicating that with adequate support the project is feasible and financially viable. The key findings for each scenario are set out below:

- Scenario 1 – Base Option

Scenario 1 is the starting point for the income and expenditure analysis and is based on expressed interest from potential users and the sketch drawings prepared by Groundwork Architects for the scheme. This scenario identifies income from two sources – room hire and rental income from anchor tenants, but excludes any income from grant aid.

The indicative income and expenditure profile for scenario 1 indicates that the centre will generate an annual revenue deficit of around £46k during the first full year of operation. Without any additional income from the partnership or other sources, this will rise to a cumulative revenue deficit of approximately £688k after the first 10 years of operation.

A number of options have been identified which may address this deficit. These include:

- Increase floorspace
- Increase the rental rate per square foot
- Increase room hire rates
- Seek financial commitment from partners
- Seek grant aid
- Seek greater intensity of usage
- Add additional income generating elements.

Each of the above options and scenarios may be considered in isolation or combined together depending on external circumstances and further testing of the market. They have therefore been used to create three alternative scenarios to scenario 1 - the base option in order to address the revenue deficit:

- Scenario 2 – Increase the percentage of room hire to 50% over a 2 year period
- Scenario 3 – Seek financial commitment from partners to address deficit
- Scenario 4 – Increase percentage of room hire to 40% and seek financial commitment from partners to address deficit balance

Scenario 4 appears to be a realistic and achievable option. The level of partner contributions required in year 1 would be around £45k reducing to around £20k per annum once the levels of room hire are established at 40% and the initial deficit is cleared. Central to the success of this option, will be the need to secure commitment from individual organisations at the outset of the project through an established partnership such as the Children and Young Person's Partnership.

## 6. RISK ASSESSMENT

A number of capital and revenue risks have been identified for the Our Space project. The risk analysis sets out realistic control measures to mitigate and manage the occurrence of the capital and operational risks identified. The Client and Project Manager will implement control measures to manage and/or mitigate the occurrence of potential risk throughout the development of the project.

With regard to the capital project, a key risk relates to the securing of capital funding and committing grant aid within the ambitious timescales set by the funders. Agreeing the lease terms for 36 Guildhall Road with the Borough Council and securing planning permission may also be considered key risks. A further significant capital risk relates to the effective management of the capital project to ensure an efficient decision making process and avoid cost overrun on the building works. Effective project management will ensure that the necessary measures are implemented to meet the timescales set out in this Business Plan and to ensure funding is committed in accordance with the requirements of funding bodies.

Operational project risks identified include lack of demand, inadequate expenditure estimates and shortfall in income. These risks will be minimised through the appointment of an experienced staff team and an effective marketing plan.

## 7. SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The sustainability of the project will be dependent on a realistic income generation plan which sets out fundraising and income generation activities as well as key financial targets to be achieved.

Marketing and branding will be central to the success of the project. An effective and wide reaching marketing and communication plan will be vital for internal and external communication and marketing and promoting activities at the centre. A key element of the long-term sustainability of the project will be an evaluation plan which evaluates the impact of the project has had on young people in the Northampton area, and which could be used to inform the future operation of the centre.

## 8. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the key findings of this report, it is recommended that:

### General

- A meeting is held between partner representatives from Northamptonshire County Council, West Northamptonshire Development Corporation and Connexions to discuss the findings of this report and reach agreement on taking the project forward.
- The project steering group is widened to include new members and effective communication systems are established to ensure that members are fully informed and engaged with the project.
- This report is circulated to the project steering group and the wider partnership.
- The report is also circulated to consultants from Taylor Young to ensure that they fully aware of the proposals for the centre and that they are incorporated into the emerging Masterplan for the Cultural Quarter.
- The young people's steering group is widened to accommodate young people from a range of backgrounds and that this group continues to be involved at each stage of the project's development.
- Further consultation is undertaken with BME communities in the Northampton area, particularly those groups who were not available during the initial consultation period.
- The lead partner for taking the capital project forward is confirmed.

### Capital Project

- Discussions are held with the Estates Department at Northampton Borough Council to explore options for securing the leasehold of the building and rental terms.
- Member level discussions are held with Northampton Borough Council to seek Cabinet approval and agree timescales.
- If these terms are acceptable, secure licence to occupy 36 Guildhall Road from Northampton Borough Council.
- The findings of this report are used for informal discussion with planning officers at West Northamptonshire Development Corporation to test their reaction to the proposals and seek their views on obtaining Listed Building Consent.
- An Action Plan is prepared setting out key actions, nominated responsibilities and timescales for bringing forward the capital works within the current financial year.
- If the reaction from the planning authority is favourable then commission architect drawings to RIBA Stage E, taking into account the design considerations highlighted in this report and the concept diagram for the preferred option.
- In parallel, commission detailed capital cost estimates from a Quantity Surveyor.
- A full project budget is prepared, including the capital costs, alongside items such as professional fees, equipment, furniture and fittings and development costs including planning and legal fees.
- The planning authority is formally approached with full information and planning application is submitted.
- The lead organisation is confirmed for taking the project forward and a project management team appointed for managing the delivery of the capital project.
- Professional guidance is sought regarding VAT and the VAT position regarding the accountable body for the capital development phase.
- Tender documents are developed and issued to the required number of building refurbishment contractors.

### Funding

- Agreement is reached between the members of the Children and Young Person's Partnership on the revenue contribution provided by individual partners towards the operation of the centre.

- Other core income generating sources are considered such as provision for young people excluded from school and health related services delivered by the Primary Care Trust.
- Further discussions are held with potential anchor tenants to confirm interest and agree rental rates.
- The opportunity for establishing Our Space as a regional pilot for young people and enterprise is explored with Northamptonshire Enterprise and that they are kept up to date with the developments of the centre.

### Operation

- A detailed marketing strategy is developed to ensure the facility is widely promoted and marketed. Our Space should be promoted as a flagship centre for Northampton and as a benefit and resource for the whole town.
- A patron for the project is identified and support is sought from the local Member of Parliament.
- Development work is undertaken with hirers and potential service providers to promote the centre and encourage the delivery of additional services from the new facility.
- Further links are developed with other providers of services to young people such as advice, guidance, health related services and organisations promoting volunteering for young people.
- Management and staffing structures are agreed for the operation of the centre in the short to medium term, together with reporting mechanisms at both a strategic and operational level.
- An appropriate structure and organisation is identified to take on the management of the centre in the medium to long term with the necessary steps taken to establish this body as an independent entity with charitable status.