

What Makes The Difference? TOOLS and RESOURCES

NAME OF TOOL/RESOURCE:

Report on service user involvement activities in Middlesbrough in 2006.

NAME AND REGION OF AGENCY/ORGANISATION THAT DEVELOPED THIS TOOL/RESOURCE:

Middlesbrough Pathways Team (leaving care service)

Purpose and Brief Description of Tool/Resource:

This report sets out a comprehensive record of young people's involvement in service delivery, development and recruitment in Middlesbrough.

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Contact details for further information about this tool/resource

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Evidence for the effectiveness/ impact of this tool/resource

Positive impact of this tool/resource:

1. Young people can see a whole year of SUI activity and see the extent of their achievements.
2. The report sets a good benchmark against which the staff/young people in Middlesbrough can aim to achieve even more.

Middlesbrough Pathways Team

Involvement Report

2006

January to December

User Involvement January 2006 – December 2006

Middlesbrough Leaving Care Team has endeavoured to provide as many opportunities as possible to engage with and involve young people, in all aspects of service provision and development. The following information shows what types of things we have involved young people in, over the past year:

Consultation Events

Over the past year, we have engaged with and involved young people in 3 consultation events. Total of young people involved 22.

- 13 males and 8 females involved were aged 15 – 21yrs.
- 1 male involved was aged 21+.

Examples of consultation events that we have involved young people in are:

Care Leavers Week Consultation (October)

- Leaving Care Diary Room to gain views & opinions on services
- New name for the Leaving Care Team

Care Matters Green Paper Consultation (November)

- Focus group to look at the governments priorities & proposals
- To prepare young people for regional consultation event

Regional Green Paper Consultation Event (December)

Events

Over the past year, we have engaged with and involved young people in 2 events. Total of young people involved 39.

- 19 males and 15 females involved were aged 15 – 21yrs.
- 3 male & 2 females involved were aged 21+.

Examples of events that we have involved young people in are:

Careleavers week BBQ (October)

- To invite young people to celebrate Careleavers week

Young People's Christmas Party (December)

- To celebrate the achievements of young people
- To have fun and meet new people

Groupwork

Over the past year, we have engaged with and involved young people in a number of groupwork activities. Total of young people involved 18.

- 8 males & 10 females involved were aged 15 – 21yrs.

Examples of groupwork that we have involved young people in are:

The After Care Group

- A self help group for young people living independently

Preparation to Independence Group Programme

- The preparation group programme is aimed at developing the basic skills that young people may need to live successfully in their own tenancies.
- OCN Accredited Programme

Recruitment & Selection

Over the past year, we have engaged with and involved young people in 3 recruitment & selection processes. Total of young people involved 5.

- 2 males and 3 females involved were aged 15 – 21yrs.

Examples of recruitment & selection processes that we have involved young people in are:

Personal Advisor Interviews (July)

- Preparation with young people
- Young person on interview panel

Complaints Officer Interview (November)

- Preparation with young people
- Young person on interview panel

Drug & Alcohol Commissioning Tender Process (December)

- 2 preparation sessions with workers
- Young people on interview panel

Research Initiatives

Over the past year, we have engaged with and involved young people in 2 research initiatives. Total of young people involved 26.

- 11 males and 13 females involved were aged 15 – 21yrs.
- 2 males involved were aged 21+.

Examples of research initiatives that we have involved young people in are:

Peer Research Initiative

- Young people trained as peer researchers
- Young person led Interviews

Employability Initiative for Careleavers

- Consultation with young people around their ETE aspirations
- Work placements developed within Middlesbrough Borough Council
- Young people undertaking work experience placements

Young Advisers

Over the past year we have recruited 1 young person as a Young Adviser. At present we are awaiting the outcome of the young persons CRB check before commencing any future work. Examples of some of the work we are looking to develop in 2007 are:

- **Peer Research**
 - Young Advisers to develop a peer research initiative within Middlesbrough.
- **Young Person Led Initiatives**
 - Young Advisers to assist with the development and delivery of consultation events, research initiatives, training events for young people and professionals.
- **Corporate Parenting**
 - Young Advisers to become members of the Corporate Parenting Board.
- **Information sharing and Action**
 - Young Advisers to consider different approaches or mechanisms that could be developed in which young people can feed their views, opinions and ideas into their local authority, ensuring these messages are heard and acted upon.

Draft - Sean Kershaw
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