

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

**REPORT TO
CABINET**

**16TH NOVEMBER
2017**

**REPORT OF
SENIOR
MANAGEMENT
TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Leader of the Council – Councillor Cook

BOROUGH WIDE CONVERSATION - FEEDBACK

1. Summary

To provide feedback regarding the Borough wide Conversation event held on 31st July 2017 with young people of the Borough, including analysis undertaken since the event with topic leads regarding the action they propose be taken in response to the comments received.

The action proposed includes issues that are recommended become the subject of further consultation over its two year term with the Stockton Youth Assembly, the democratically appointed body representing young people's voice in the Borough.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet approve the proposed further consultation with Stockton Youth Assembly on the topics discussed at this year's Borough wide Debate and these be developed into a Forward Plan of activity for the SYA during the course of its two year term of office.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations

To respond to consultation held with young people of the Borough.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's

code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or
- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

AGENDA ITEM

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BOROUGH WIDE CONVERSATION - FEEDBACK

SUMMARY

To provide feedback regarding the Borough wide Conversation event held on 18th July 2017 with young people of the Borough, including analysis undertaken since the event with topic leads regarding the action they propose be taken in response to the comments received.

The action proposed includes issues that are recommended become the subject of further consultation over its two year term with the Stockton Youth Assembly, the democratically appointed body representing young people's voice in the Borough.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet approve the proposed further consultation with Stockton Youth Assembly on the topics discussed at this year's Borough wide Debate and these be developed into a Forward Plan of activity for the SYA during the course of its two year term of office.

BACKGROUND

1. The Borough-wide debate offers the opportunity for the Borough's newly elected Youth M.P., Deputy, members of the Stockton Youth Assembly (SYA) and young people within the Borough to meet with members of Cabinet, SMT and senior officers to discuss matters of importance to young people.
2. Cabinet members and officers were invited to attend the Borough's 3rd ever Conversation Event, which this year was held at Stockton Riverside College on Tuesday 18th July 2017.
3. Invitations to attend were also extended to all schools, members of the SYA, Let's Take Action Group and youth clubs and it was extremely encouraging that 47 young people were able to attend alongside Cabinet members, SMT and senior officers. This was by far the highest number in attendance at the events of this nature held to date; particularly given the event was held at the close of the academic year on an extremely warm Summers night. Whilst the majority of these young people were secondary school or college aged, it was also encouraging that 6 pupils from St Patrick's Primary School in

Thornaby were also in attendance and they took a particular active part in the 3 workshop sessions they participated in.

DETAIL

4. The opportunity was taken at the start of the event to showcase DVD's featuring the former Member of Youth Parliament for the Borough and young people from the Stockton Youth Assembly reflecting on their experiences and advocating young people's continued involvement with each. The DVD's were put together by the Council's Growing Up in Stockton Co-ordinator and the accounts and positive experiences relayed by the young people involved were a positive message to encourage youth engagement.
5. From the 8 topics available for discussion, young people were invited to choose 3 workshop sessions they wished to participate in but were afforded the opportunity to leave comments on any of the other sessions they were unable to attend. 3. The topics identified for consideration at the event reflected current Council priorities for consultation with young people as follows:-
 - Anti-Social Behaviour
 - Tees Valley Place – Events
 - Dementia
 - Routes to Employment
 - Town Centre
 - Growing Up in Stockton
 - Emotional Health & Wellbeing
 - Physical Activity
6. The numbers of young people participating at each workshop session are highlighted at **Appendix 1** with Anti-Social Behaviour, Emotional Health & Wellbeing and Routes to Employment/Dementia being topics that attracted most interest.
7. The comments noted from each workshop session are summarised and attached at **Appendices 2-9**.

NEXT STEPS

8. Following the event, each of the topic leads were asked to reflect on the comments received and respond with a commitment of how they intend to act on the observations and suggestions made. Some matters may need to be the subject of further in-depth discussion before any outcome can be reported however, initial indications of action that can be taken can be summarised as follows:-

Anti Social Behaviour

- There was a will to work more closely with young people to inform them as to why their behaviour was sometimes perceived as being anti-social. Recent intelligence had been gathered regarding 'Den' locations in the Borough where young people gathered and officers from Youth Direction and Security & Surveillance were seeking to carry out work with young people informing them of the potential harm in congregating in such places, whilst at the same time re-directing them to places of activity and safety.

- Officers were keen to present their aims to the SYA and seek their help in engaging all schools across the Borough. SYA members could also accompany officers on patrols to see first hand the work that was being undertaken and why, and could help in getting this message across to other young people.

Emotional Health & Wellbeing

- The comments received during the workshop will be submitted to the Future in Mind (FIM) Oversight Group, who have been tasked with redesigning services and approaches for addressing emotional health and wellbeing.
- The outcomes from the FIM work will be reported to the Children and Young People's Partnership as one of the priorities for the partnership, as well as the CYP Commissioning group. Following consideration there, any proposals will be shared with the SYA in order that they can be actively involved in the design process for FIM.

Dementia

- Following young people's wish to have more awareness and a better understanding, it is proposed to promote dementia awareness in both schools and colleges principally through:-
 - Encouraging and supporting more schools to become dementia friendly school;
 - Developing closer linkage between the schools and the Hub;
- In order to engage more young people, it is also proposed (from October 2017 onwards) to undertake:-
 - Engagement with Stockton Youth Assembly to recruit and train youth dementia ambassadors to promote dementia among their peers;
 - Support for and facilitation of youth dementia ambassadors to develop a peer to peer information session using existing resources such as videos, SID and PH library;
 - Making links with the Alzheimer's Society Million Hands Dementia Friends Champion scheme which encourages scouts to become dementia friends and champions.
- In response to young people's suggestions to have more interaction with people with dementia in order to understand the condition more and be able to offer help, it is intended to promote intergenerational activities (from October 2017 onwards) by inviting young people to attend support groups to encourage intergenerational activities.
- Other means of increasing awareness generally were planned such as:-
 - Use 'Forget-me-not' trail to promote dementia with several 'Forget-me-not trails' scheduled this year. NB The first Forget me not trail was held on 1st October 2017 to celebrate the Older People Day;
 - Producing banners and posters for the key messages to be used during the trails;
 - Inviting the Mayor to take part in the trail Promote dementia through competition:-

-Organising a competition, promoted via the SYA, for young people from primary schools, secondary schools and colleges to design posters to promote dementia. The winning posters will be printed and displayed in GP practices, schools, libraries, community centres, sport centres, pharmacies and other community venues. Competition to be launched between Jan – March 2018; the winning posters can be launched during the next annual dementia awareness week in May 2018.

- A review of on-line resources will commence from August 2017 which includes:-
 - Revising the Dementia page on Stockton Information Directory is in progress.
 - Updating resources on dementia and delirium in the Public Health library.
 - Encouraging younger people to use the on-line resources as part of youth dementia ambassadors training.

Routes to Employment

- The feedback received reinforced opinion already held that many young people wished to receive careers advice much earlier in their school life; and that by receiving the advice in Year 10, after GCSE options had been chosen, this was in effect often too late.
- The TVCA have sought to benchmark the quality of career guidance provided in schools in the Borough by conducting one to one meetings with the majority of Secondary Schools and FE colleges to introduce and complete self-assessment audits of the Gatsby Good Career Guidance report. Over the last twelve months fifteen out of the eighteen targeted schools have engaged with the TVCA to complete the Gatsby Audit and subsequent reviews.
- Whilst those involved in the workshop had no direct influence over the future direction of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) within schools, these comments will be shared within discussions scheduled to take place between the Directors of Children's Services and Culture, Events & Leisure and senior management from Economic Growth & Development Services that are exploring the education and skills pathways for young people.

Tees Valley Place Events

- The feedback obtained confirmed the already held view that young people in particular wished there to be more public transport in place in order for them to be able to successfully access many of the events taking place within the Tees Valley. This was obviously an issue for both bus and rail operators to consider and is a message that once again will be communicated to them via the appropriate forums.
- There was some support suggested for age appropriate communication advertising events, particularly with use of social media as different age groups were known to prefer different forms of social media to others. It is recognised however that the popularity of different types of social media can change in an instant and we cannot claim to have the available intelligence currently to be able to distinguish between sending different messages for different age groups.

- There was support and appreciation for the number of free events provided, whilst recognising that their attendance was based on young people's own priorities. Support was expressed for events such as BBC Children in Need being once again held in the Borough.

Physical Activity

- The views expressed regarding improvements that could be made to PE in schools consolidated opinion already held. Therefore, Public Health and Stockton Schools and Sports Partnership planned to raise the consultation findings via their attendance at the Heads of PE meeting in October. Thereafter, Public Health, Stockton Schools and Sport Partnership, Heads of PE and the Youth Assembly will be in a position collectively discuss the findings and develop a joint action plan which would aim to increase the number of children and young people who enjoy and achieve through sport and physical activity.
- It is proposed that this form a long term collaboration, not a 'one off' meeting, between all partners to review and change the culture of sport and physical activity amongst children, young people and school teaching staff.

Town Centre

- Comments similar to those expressed within the Tees Valley Place Events workshop were noted regarding a preference suggested for age specific social media communication. Some support was also suggested for SBC to have dedicated Facebook and Twitter accounts for Events held. These views, along with those expressed regarding events generally, will be shared with Communications.
- It was suggested that whilst information on town centre events was shared successfully with primary schools, the same messages were not being received at secondary level. This message would again be shared within Communications and Children's Services with a means to securing effective engagement with secondary schools.

Growing Up in Stockton

- There was a need to take stock of young people's views across the board and therefore plans were already in place to carry out extensive consultation with young people in the Borough in late 2017/early 2018. As the formally elected representative group for young people in the Borough, officers proposed to attend a meeting(s) of the SYA to engage their views and those of their fellow pupils.
- The Council had previously taken part, albeit in a small way, with the national Take Over Challenge where young people swapped roles with teachers, officers or elected members and experienced a 'day in the life of' a particular chosen role. This year's Takeover Day was scheduled for 24th November 2017 which could be promoted via the SYA, however, officers were also looking at the possibility of extending the duration of such shadowing experience to a more extensive period, possibly even allotted days throughout the year, to give young people a more realistic view of professions they may, or may not, choose to aspire to.
- The SYA's views would be welcomed in testing initiatives carried out in other cities/areas of the country where prioritising the needs of young people had been at

the heart of their service delivery; eg through commissioning plans, or creation of 'Child Friendly' areas within event activities or retail businesses.

- Young people's views both locally and nationally would again be sought through the 'Make Your Mark' campaign which sought to ballot young people on their top priorities for debate and demand for change. The SYA would be an essential consultee in promoting this campaign in Stockton Borough.

CONCLUSION

9. It is intended that the Council's response to the feedback received be shared with the Stockton Youth Assembly and where appropriate, service areas attend future meetings of the SYA to further develop their intended actions. This will enable a Forward Plan of items to be considered by the SYA to be prepared for the duration of their 2 year term of office. The Forward Plan can also be added to by services as the need arises.
10. In order to ensure that engagement with the SYA can be as effective as possible, support will be provided by Democratic Services to officers invited to present items for consideration at meetings of the SYA so that the topic is delivered in a way that is most likely to engage the young people present; which will ultimately be beneficial to all involved as more views are likely to come forward if the engagement approach is more inclusive.
11. Other items included within their Forward Plan will be promotion of the UK Youth Parliament Make Your Mark campaign from which the top 3 topics polled nationally will be debated by Members of Youth Parliament in a session conducted in the House of Commons.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial

12. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Legal

13. There are no legal implications associated with this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

14. The risks arising from what is proposed can be categorised as low to medium.

COUNCIL PLAN IMPLICATIONS

15. Stronger Communities.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

16. There is no EIA required.

CONSULTATION

17. Consultation on the feedback has been shared with the relevant service areas.

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Background Papers: None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: Not Ward specific

Property Implications: None

APPENDIX 1

	Anti-Social Behaviour	Emotional Health & Wellbeing	Routes to Employment	Dementia	Events	Physical Activity	Town Centre	Aspirational Champions – Growing up in Stockton
Group 1	14	10	6	8	0	0	5	4
Group 2	10	7	6	0	6	9	5	0
Group 3	8	10	2	6	7	3	0	2
Total	32	27	14	14	13	12	10	6

Borough Wide Conversation
Discussion Topic – Anti Social Behaviour

1. The young people were asked what their perception of anti-social behaviour was. The comments received were:-
 - Vandalising
 - Where police are involved
 - Gangs of kids/groups
 - Distress to neighbourhoods
 - Shouting at people
 - Acting in a way which harms people
 - Mocking the elderly
 - Online bullying

2. They were also asked what they thought someone would look like who carries out anti-social behaviour: -
 - Teenager in track suit
 - Tattoos
 - Anyone – don't come with a label
 - A normal person

3. The young people were asked for their views on how young people should be engaged or educated about anti-social behaviour. The comments were: -
 - School assemblies
 - What anti-social behaviour actually is
 - The consequences of anti-social behaviour
 - Teach at a young age
 - Not just educate young people – everyone needs educating
 - Educate on the streets – less formal
 - Crucial crew
 - Shock therapy
 - Group sessions
 - Youth clubs
 - Tell them what the consequences are and what is acceptable
 - Needs to be age appropriate and scenario based

4. The groups were given a scenario where a group of kids were hanging around on a regular basis at next to the same house where there was an NTL box and saw it as a meeting point. They were asked if they perceived this as anti-social behaviour: -
 - Yes because they would be annoying to the people who live in the house
 - No because they aren't doing anything wrong

- Old vulnerable would see it as intimidating
- Yes because people would be scared

5. What can be done to change public perception of anti-social behaviour:-

- get young and old together and explain
- social media has a massive impact on people's perception – promote good things as well as bad examples
- the opening of mosques was stated as a good example of seeing different religions can be seen and how more things like this should be done to learn about beliefs

Other points which were raised during discussions: -

- when the police are caused to where groups are hanging around the kids kick off because they aren't doing anything wrong they just don't have anywhere to go
- some of the young people attended youth clubs and enjoyed it as there were things they were interested in like music but others didn't attend because they found it boring as they weren't doing anything in they were interested in. Also groups who attend the youth club put people off going
- the first group were asked why anti-social behaviour occurs – they young people said; people get bored, one person in the group can cause peer pressure
- the young people spent a lot of time at home as going place is too expensive
- they don't go to the parks because older groups are intimidating and would like to see different styles of parks for different age groups
- young are told to go out or move on from places where they are hanging round but there is nowhere to go.
- Smart phones are changing how people see anti-social behaviour. If something happened 20 years ago no one would know about it but now instantly on social media
- Young people are stereotyped but it can be anyone who carry's out anti-social behaviour
- There are no free activities
- Lack of information available about youth clubs
- Get the press to cove good media stories

Boroughwide Conversation – Young People Event 18 July 2017

New signage confusion

“Entering Stockton/Durham” being able to recognise and identify, complications for youth.

Youth are very able to recognise local landmarks – especially Stockton and local landmarks:

- Infinity Bridge
- Transporter Bridge

Shared identification – Teesport

- Both need prompts to identify local landmarks.

History of Yarm – educating youth

- Making youth more aware of local landmarks, history/heritage.

Keeping up with current news and IDs

- Vertical pier/Beacon & Redcar

Local youth are very capable to ID national locations – especially monuments around Stockton

- Middlesbrough, Stockton, Redcar & Cleveland etc.
- Darlington/Football/Rugby Club – vague recollection.
- Preston Park – rapid response.
- Darlington – Head of Steam – youth could not name; but knew what it was/placed. One youth named it correctly.
- Wynyard Hall was highly recognisable.

A lot of youth identify with Middlesbrough as their home region instead of Stockton. This is nationally.

Locally – youth identify with Stockton, Ingleby Barwick.

Tees Valley – “not a clear representation”.

Where would you take people if you had guests?

- The Barrage – “fun things to do”.
- The river/walking course “is nice”.

Youth identify heavily/immediately with SIRF.

Youth are very interested to know more about SIRF.

Yarm Fair

YAZ? That has stopped?

Orange Pip

Stockton Sparkles

Billingham Forum – “very nice”.

What event would you like to see?

- Comicon – Kapow?
- Children in Need – “it was mint!”
 - o Needs more buses.
- Anything that is free or cheap is good.
- *public transport is a recurring topic of issue.

Youth Assembly want to run more culture events.

Middlesbrough – youth are surprised at the size contrast compared to Stockton.

National, youth will help others to recognise the area (when asked where it is) by saying “near Newcastle”.

The train statue – “We know we’re in Darlington when we pass it”.

Both groups struggled to identify the “Head of Steam” railway museum.

Pacittos – “shame we lost ours”.

There is a definite struggle to recognise and place Teesport.

Although youth recognise the Marina, there is a struggle to identify particulars, eg ships and memorials.

There is a varied response of locations that youth identify as attractions to visit around the area in the Tees Valley region.

Erasmus Project – there is a lot of future international visitors/students, keen to see Teesside Park.

Good response of visitors to Stockton’s specialist markets – Kapow, Youth Market, Chique Vintique.

There is not a lot for 16-18 to do outside of college. Would like leisure areas to be made available – Bowling, Cinemas, “compare it to Middlesbrough”.

Youth want more info to be available sooner.

Needs to be more age group events – “7-9” – “15-19” etc

Borough wide conversation with young people

Topic – dementia and young carers

Introduction:

1. Young people were asked if they have experience of living/knowing someone with dementia.
 - 3 said they have relatives who are living with dementia and are now in care homes.
2. Young people were then asked if they know much about dementia
 - Majority did not know much about dementia.

Activity 1: young people were asked to write down the goals in terms of dementia

- Majority said they would like to have better understanding and awareness of dementia and supports that are available
- Having more people or everyone to know about dementia
- Would like more places to help people to care for people with dementia
- Find a cure for all kinds of dementia

Activity 2 – young people were asked to write down how the goals could be achieved.

- Educate school children and colleges about dementia
- More knowledge about dementia within school by doing more information sessions
- A good way to educate people about dementia is to show lives through people who are suffering with the condition or visit the Hub.
- Have lessons about it and make children and young people aware of the sign and symptoms.
- Get young people to talk to young people/children about the condition at school (peer to peer). Use young people steering group/youth assembly to deliver awareness session at schools.
- Young people as dementia champions to help to increase awareness among similar age groups.
- Use posters with less numbers (statistics) more images and facts.
- Use of posters, local website, videos that not too serious, but appeal/capture young people interest such as use of cartoons so it is kid-friendly.
- Increase young people understanding on how to help, such as how to remember names, places, friends and where to get help.
- More peer support groups for people with dementia.
- Have a club where people with dementia can come in and young people can talk to them to find out more.
- A day centre so carers can drop off the person with dementia for a day.

- More events about dementia such as TV, books, adverts.
- More dementia walk and the poetry competition. They were popular and were valuable things for letting people know.
- To find out from doctors and meet someone with dementia and ask them how they feel.
- Young people should get credit for looking after people with dementia
- Raise money for people with dementia
- Find out how it affects the brain and use brain scan of someone with dementia to compare a person without dementia to find a cure.

Discussion on young carers

- Clubs and meetings about different caring responsibility and how to do the caring job better

What is available in the borough?

- There is a Livewell Dementia Hub which is a drop in centre for information on dementia and what support is available in Stockton.
- There is a day centre for people with disabilities including dementia so carers can have a break.
- There are various dementia specific support groups and peer support groups by various VCSE in the Borough, some of them are being run at the Hub.
- A SBC Health and Wellbeing Librarian who is a dementia champion, has done dementia friends sessions for teaching staff and has been promoting awareness of dementia at schools. This initiative won the Dementia Awareness with Children project at the Edge Awards in Edinburgh, in the 'Social' category in 2014.
<https://www.stockton.gov.uk/news/2014/march/stockton-wins-award-for-dementia-awareness-work-with-children/>
- However, due to limited resources, the initiative has not been rolled out to more schools or colleges.
- The Health and Wellbeing Librarian has engaged and supported St Patrick School. In July 2016, the school proudly announced that they have become a dementia friendly school. During the National Dementia Awareness Week 2017, a group of year 6 children from the school took part in a number of activities including performing some poetry for the elderly at the Hub. The event was a good example of intergenerational interaction.
- On 14th May 2017, approximately 150 people (a large group of children, parents, grandparents and teachers were from St Patrick School) took part in a walk to promote dementia. The walk raised fund towards the Dementia Friendly Stockton to fund future events. The walk is now branded as 'Forget-me-not trail'.

- There was a poetry competition on dementia in May/June 2017. There were over 70 entries and the competition got young people to know more and talk about dementia.
- An animated video to increase awareness of dementia was developed by the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Another video about a boy's experience of having a relative with dementia is also available from YouTube. There is also a video on what is like living with dementia.
- These videos can be used to promote awareness at schools.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXA5QuMLWRg>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qml4rRaLCEk>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Erjz11WL8yQ>

Recommendations

- Roll out dementia school project to all schools and colleges in the Borough.
- Encourage and support more schools to become dementia friendly schools and develop closer linkage with the Hub.
- Explore Youth Assembly, youth clubs and scout/guides to recruit and train dementia ambassadors to promote dementia among their peers. They can use the videos as promotional materials.
- Invite young people to attend support groups to encourage intergenerational activities.
- Organise several 'Forget-me-not trail' a year. Produce banners and posters for the key messages to be used during the walks.
- Organise a competition for young people from primary schools, secondary schools and colleges to design posters to promote dementia. The winning posters will be printed and displayed in GP practices, schools, libraries, community centres, sport centres, pharmacies and other community venues.

Borough Wide Debate – Routes to Employment

Groups one, two and three: Grangefield School, Ian Ramsey, Egglecliffe and Teesside University, St Patricks, Our Lady and St Bede.

Q1: The pupils were asked for their views on GCSE options and also on employment after school.

A: The pupils felt that it was difficult to choose their GCSE options based on a line of employment and found it difficult to understand how they were to gain an understanding of different careers when they were not given the opportunity to learn about careers/not given experience.

A: Some primary school pupils felt that they were left behind when it came to careers advice as this was not an option for them at this stage. It was noted that primary school pupils would find it beneficial to receive careers advice before starting secondary school

In response to the comments made by the pupils, it was noted that many people did not have a clear idea of which line of employment they would like to go down, however, it was important to remember that whether or not the options chosen lead to a specific job role, what was important was the skills that are acquired in the process.

Q2: The pupils were asked what advice and guidance they were given from the school regarding what they needed for specific lines of employment (Career advice).

A: It was noted that Ian Ramsey did have Careers Advisor sessions with Y10 pupils however, the children felt that this was too late as by the time a pupil reached Y10, options would have already been chosen.

A: The majority of the pupils had an idea of which careers they would like to pursue and had received their information and guidance from family members and friends. Some pupils from Ian Ramsey had received careers advice from Carousel Advice sessions.

School representatives and pupils were informed that there was a lot of information to be accessed on the Tees Valley Combined Authority website under the Careers Portal.

Q3: The Pupils were asked what they think employers look for.

A: Responses included; First Aid, Duke of Edinburgh Award, a good CV.

The pupils noted that whilst qualifications were important, skills such as; good communication, punctuality, problem solving, people skills and self-motivation were all things which employers looked for.

Q4: The pupils were asked for their opinion on careers advisors in schools and whether they thought that this was useful.

A: It was agreed that having careers advice in schools was important however; this should be something that is introduced one year earlier than it was currently. The pupils believed that by the time careers advice was provided in Y10, it was too late as options had already been chosen. The Pupils said that they were talked through options before choosing them however; they were not given any information on what routes of employment each option would lead to. It was noted that the majority of information children had about employment and different options was provided by family and friends as opposed to schools.

In conclusion, the pupils agreed that it would be beneficial to receive advice from the specific areas of employment which they were interested in in order to gain more of an insight. The Pupils agreed that it would be in their interest to have a longer period of time to choose their options after being provided with their choices. Some pupils agreed that it would be beneficial to learn about budgeting and finance in school.

Town Centre summary from information template prior to event

The Council has invested significant resources into improving both the physical appearance of the town centre and supporting businesses over recent years.

It's not just about retail though and the Council is keen to encourage more businesses to locate that are not necessarily shops. The importance of people living in and around the town centre is also key to success and vibrancy.

The Council has plans to invest going forwards in a new hotel, the Globe and supporting the growing evening economy, coupled with private sector investment to bring forward high quality student accommodation to the Swallow site and a year round events programme.

The Council is keen to work with private investors to ensure that their offer meets the needs of young people so the town centre becomes a destination of choice for their leisure, employment and retail activities.

What is your current view of Stockton town centre?

What would you like to see more of and what would you like to see less of?

'Town Centre' Workshop notes

Young people were advised that the council has invested a lot of money to:

- attract people to the town centre; and
- encourage them to use the facilities in the town centre and spend money whilst they are there;

Why have you been to the town centre in the past?

- Stockton Sparkles
- Fireworks
- SIRF – like the events/performances, atmosphere and that they are free;
- Triathlon
- Cycling Festival;
- Easter egg hunt;
- Splash – swimming, gymnastics, gym;
- Arc – science lectures; comedy shows (not always voluntary – parents' choice to go); school trips;
- Vision Express for eye tests;
- Library to use books for college work;
- The fountains – to spend time with friends to chat/relax; love them when they are lit up at night; layout looks neat tidy;
- Going for food – restaurants / takeaways (e.g. KFC, Caruso's, Borge);
- Shopping;
- To meet up with friends;

What's missing from the town centre?

- Big events that get lots of local people involved – example given was TV programme with Ashley Banjo and Diversity ("The town that danced again") was filmed in Stockton; involved hundreds of volunteers; filled town centre; created very positive impact which people still talk about today; (A lot of people still did not know it was happening, so publicity needs to be better for future events like this);
- A positive image – Stockton (town centre) has a stigma / negative image; need to change the image by getting local people more positive about the town and promoting it; do things to boost the town's reputation to attract people from outside;
- Cinema in Stockton – currently go to cinema's elsewhere and have food before/after;

- More shops – more choice at Teesside Park and Middlesbrough – taking people away from the town centre;
- More clothes shops (girls) e.g. Primark; Prefer to see, touch and try on clothes, than look on internet;
- Less clothes shops (boys);
- Bring non-retail shops – e.g. leisure facilities;
- Suggestion to convert ‘Glam’ night club building into a bowling alley and cinema;
- Suggestion to add a ‘spooky’ Halloween walk event around town centre, similar to ones held in grounds of Preston Park;
- Need to give people a reason to visit the town centre / get people to go to the town with a purpose in mind.

Concerns raised about:

- Anti-social behaviour of older teenagers in the high street and near / around the fountains at night; (generally feel safe; concerns increase at certain times);
- Safety checks on blocks of flats at town centres as a result of the Grenfell fire;
- One young person felt uncomfortable when the town centre is really busy with lots of people, but not related to fear of potential terrorist attacks;
- Safety of children at fountains – in various states of undress – may attract paedophiles.
- Parking for big events – review parking arrangements to see if they can be improved;
- Encourage town centre workers not to be selfish when parking – affecting residents and customers;

Lack of awareness amongst young people (and probably most residents) about:

- restrictions and limitations on Council to control or influence owners of buildings/ shops in Town Centre when owners not interested or not contactable;
- the difficulty of getting people to invest in the town centre;
- the extra money that is brought in to the economy by the town centre events;

How do you find out about events in the town centre?

- Friends / family / relatives;
- If you have a link to the event e.g. someone performing in it / involved in organising it;
- Posters / banners on walls/shops near “Goldies”;
- Posters on Arc windows;
- Used to get a lot of info about events through primary school; a lot less in secondary school;
- Suggestion that Council has a dedicated youth ‘events’ web page / twitter feed;

Arc

- Utilise shops and other businesses / buildings in the town centre to publicise Arc events to increase awareness / attendance;
- Impression that many acts are not ‘modern’, which probably means not aimed at young people and appeal to nostalgia of older adults:
- Make sure the publicity is clear about the audiences that the Arc shows are suitable for;
- Create a separate Council twitter account just for publicising events in the town centre and across the borough and nothing else;

Splash

- Splash very popular and believe it is a really good facility.
- A number of comments about it being different / preferred layout to the Forum pool;
- See Splash as being more for fun / leisure than Forum pool, which is seen as being more focussed on swimming for sport/training /competition.
- One comment about the Splash pool being smaller than the Forum pool. Led to discussion about them being same size but different depths at ‘deep’ end.

- One person goes to Dolphin Centre at Darlington as has more /better facilities (e.g. diving boards);
-

Hampton by Hilton Hotel

General lack of awareness about:

- what type of hotel it is, compared to others like 'Premier Inn' and 'Travelodge';
- what type of customer it's aimed at;
- facilities that will be provided;
- why the council is investing in it;
- how it links to other developments in the town centre;

The Globe

Think it will be great to get famous performers in Stockton to help boost reputation of the town.

General lack of awareness about:

- types of performance that it will focus on;
- who will run it and why they have been chosen;
- when it's due to open;
- why the council is investing in it;

Make sure the 'other' facilities needed for the new buildings are considered and provided:

- safety of people leaving the venue when performance ends – going off pavement in to the road;
- crossing the street;
- car parking provision;
- traffic congestion;

Other 'Globe' comments

- Concerns about Globe competing with acts at Arc and Leeds, Newcastle, Manchester;
- Reference made to the growth of Norton's evening economy leading to lack of parking; making it less safe to cross the road;
- Suggestion to let cars with more than 1 person in them go into certain areas of town centre (e.g. to park);
- Reference made to Bedale's parking arrangements at different times for residents to compare to Stockton residents' parking scheme;
- Give local schools, theatre groups the opportunity to perform/volunteer to help at the Globe;
- Having acts which are appropriate /suitable for young people;
- Not aware of the types of acts that would be performing at the Globe;

Swallow Hotel

Wanted to know if it was going to be put to use and when it was likely to be opened again.

Tees Barrage area

They like the facilities there, which include the water sports centre, the barrage and the 'Air Trail'; Suggestion to change the times of the Air Trail and water sports to increase availability/access to more people.

Town Centre Restaurants

It may have been useful to define the boundaries of the area being referred to as the town centre – with a map.

- Comments about best restaurants we have (Borge and Carpaccio) being out of the town centre, which seemed to indicate that they saw the High Street as being the 'town centre'.
- There are better restaurants at Teesside Park and Cineworld /Teesside Park than in town centre.
- Disappointed about losing the McDonald's restaurant and would like to get one back in the town centre.

- Some of the restaurants we do have need to make themselves more attractive to sit in if they want people to go in them.
-

Stockton Flyer

- The young people did not know what it was; what it represented; nothing at site to explain it, or tell people it would appear at 1pm each day;
- Some of them had not seen it and did not know where it was;
- Thought plinth had a public toilet in it;
- Said it was 'cool';
- Very loud! Most had heard the noise it makes from where they live across the borough;

"What is it? I don't get it. It's just a piece of metal that comes out of a box and it makes a really loud noise and it's not there all the time."

Stockton Sparkles

- love the launch; well planned;
 - issues about being able to see the stage / singers / performers;
 - suggested 'wheelchair' section at front and 'kids' at front to see; encouraging public to be considerate about blocking view of others;
-

Firework display

- love the fireworks – no idea about the cost;
 - "Free to watch so why pay?";
 - not confident about how well the large crowds are controlled / managed;
 - could the parking / traffic flow arrangements be better organised?;
-

Other comments

The young people asked for things to be provided that are already there, but they did not know about them, so work needs to be done to resolve this lack of awareness –

- Provide funding to get town centre buildings brought back into use – Heritage lottery funding; Business rate incentives; Council contributes money, advice, expertise
 - Information about events – council and Youth Direction use Facebook / Social media to provide event new/information but the young people are not accessing it / aware of it;
 - The opportunity to take part in theatre performances (behind scenes and on stage) if they can't afford to go to a theatre school – not aware of all the existing community / theatre activities at ARC; opportunities available through Stockton Stage Society; Centre Stage; Theatre above stairs;
 - Request for cinema – not seem to be aware of cinema in Arc;
-

New leisure centre being built at Ingleby

When asked what they thought about the new leisure centre at Ingleby, comments were made about concerns regarding safety of pupils at Myton Park Primary going to / from school:

- adequate road crossings with enough time to cross road;
- providing 'Lollipop' man/lady if needed;
- extra road traffic;
- potential impact on encouraging pupils to walk to school, instead of getting a lift.

(Parent of one young person is Head of Myton Park primary).

Whitehouse Farm traffic light crossings by Sainsburys

Not enough time to get across; Getting stuck on middle 'island'; Change time setting on lights to allow more time to cross;

Feedback from Aspirational Champions Workshop

What's important to you as a young person growing up in Stockton?

- Safety within community life & school life (not being worried/afraid to do/go to certain places)
- Being presented with advice on pathways within our lives that expand from Stockton into the wider world.
- Support with family life and emotional personal issues
- Youth Clubs
- Green spaces
- Parks
- Cheaper bus travel
- Decent careers advice
- Getting work experience under 16 – not just visiting colleges and education providers – we want to try it/go to a work place

After watching today's videos, have you any questions about the Youth Assembly or the role of the MYP? Would you like to be more involved?

- No we have not been made of any of these opportunities available, and being a certain topic that we are very interested in, we would love to be involved. How do we join, who do we talk to?

Do you feel that your voice is heard in Stockton and are you treated fairly and with respect? What could we do better?

- No we feel you have to be inclusive to a certain group or background to have your voice/thoughts heard
- Come into our schools
- Allow a wider variety of people to get involved in meetings such as these
- My voice is heard as my friend is in youth assembly and takes views across
- More
- Adults need to stop patronising us and using words which you think are young like 'cool', its cringe, talk to us properly stop trying to be young/acting like you think a young person does (*an example of a rep from a University who made them feel uncomfortable by trying to communicate like they perceived a young person would*)

Aspirational Champions – Is this a good idea? Who should they be? What topics should they cover?

- It is a good idea however we feel it should be offered to a wider variety of people
- The topics should cover important issues to us
- The name – call them representatives not champions – puts a hyper positive spin
- Representatives on SYA but a big role would be good including other people, like out-reach
- Would need a lot of work – I think not!
- Would need separate people for each area
- Would never be a specific opinion overall as every constituency has different opinions.
- The topics wouldn't work/be clear
- Age unclear as to who it could be (for example a young person doesn't understand everything perfectly but older people don't get what youth means & the middle aged people can be idiots etc)
- Issue like if you live in the Borough but attend a school outside it can you will be a champion/would it make sense?
- **Topic Area:** Bullying; healthcare (general & mental), acceptance, tolerance, race, religion etc
- **Topic Area:** Future: workshops & initiatives on tax, voting, life skills, young people's job centre, opportunity centre (we have one at school)

Is there anything you would have liked to have discussed that we have missed today?

- General healthcare
- Job Opportunities (under 16)
- Tolerance etc.

- Workshops for tax, voting, money management & OPPORTUNITIES
- Bullying – cultural respect & morals and emotional issues such as family life problems
- Can we meet with you and tell you about ideas we have about Growing Up in Stockton (*I am taking four for coffee after SIRF, they have set up a messenger group (with me) to feed ideas through, all their idea!*)

Jane Webb

Session Facilitator

19/07/17

Borough wide annual conversation

Emotional health and wellbeing

Sessions were led by a youth worker and young person from the Hartlepool Young Inspectors who led on work to explore issues around emotional health and wellbeing and the possible use of online support on behalf of Hartlepool and Stockton CCG.

The focus was on:

- What is emotional health and wellbeing?
- What support is there, and what else could be provided
- What are views about an app / or online support
- Who should be doing more?

Group 1

- Should be a focus on making people happier and prevention, rather than just providing CAMHS etc
- Concerns that schools remain too focused on achievement of good grades and don't focus enough on being happy in school
- Pressure on young people to always show their best, rather than admit they are struggling or unhappy
- Too much 'talking about talking about' the issues and not enough doing the talking
- Mixed views on whether online / app based systems are a solution – some feel they could provide help for those with no other option, but others feel they reinforce a culture of not connecting with others, feeling isolated, and not talking about issues
- Some interest in the '5 steps to wellbeing' ideas as the basis for more work in schools

Group 2

- Some personal and direct experience of CAMHS services – cases being closed when they should not be and waiting times
- Interest in an app: should include information; chat forums and messaging to be effective
- Key issue is all young people being able to trust someone or something – for some this would be an app
- Some mention of mental health ambassadors in school – older pupils who are someone to talk to
- A desire for prevention and early intervention – more info in school and on social media – this would enable more young people to understand what is happening to them, and also how to recognise the signs in others
- Issues with lack of counselling – not available in all schools, so not consistent,
- Tootoot available in some schools (<https://tootoot.co.uk/>)

Group 3

- Feeling that people still don't understand the issues and are afraid to show ignorance
- Some schools have effective 'guidance teams' for each year group which provide an opportunity of being able to discuss issues outside class
- Bullying discussed in assemblies, but mental health isn't
- Bullying raised as an issue of concern which can lead to mental health issues
- There need to be more options than counselling – this doesn't work for everyone, and some of the language eg the terms 'assessment;' are frightening
- An approach needs also to include parents – building understanding and awareness
- Online support and counselling might work for some, but might just internalise issues where they really need to be discussed
- Not just about new technology – helplines such as: Childline; B-EAT (<https://www.b-eat.co.uk/support-services/helpline>); Samaritans are equally helpful, cheap and free

WHAT CAN HELP CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE BE MORE ACTIVE

GENERIC

- More choice in sport and opportunity try new things
- Enjoying competitive side
- Start early with exercise to make it normal and enjoyable
- Using schools grounds after 3pm
- Media influencing attitudes on body image
- Not everyone understanding the benefits of exercise
- Focus on diet instead of exercise to stay healthy
- Perception of exercise to stay slim
- Focussing on things to do locally not only places you need a car to get to
- Fun and social with friends
- Scary to try new things by yourself
- Sports clubs to come into Schools
- More promotion of physical activities for the disabled CYP and their families

SCHOOL

- Try to get professional sportsman/sportswoman to talk/train with schools
- Be able to pick you own sport in PE
- Larger variety of sports available e.g. trips to swimming, martial arts and more unusual types of sports
- More engaging sports staff
- More popular activities
- Inter-School activities/Competitions
- More outdoor trips i.e. Roseberry
- More planned activities during break times
- After School activities
- Changing the views of sports in Schools
- Rewards systems
- Changing culture (self-confidence)
- Recognising/need privacy when changing
- Designing circuits
- Free school gym facilities
- Learning more about living a healthy lifestyle
- Tournaments to get Students to be more competitive and engaged
- Impression that some PE teachers don't enjoying PE

FAMILY

- Family bike rides
- Family games
- Family walks/trips
- Family holidays to mountains, walking and biking
- Go to public places
- Go to the shop for mam
- Volleyball
- Going to a public sports park
- Hiking
- Cricket

GETTING AROUND ACTIVELY

- Have public transport in Port Clarence
- Football
- Swimming
- Nothing to do in Port Clarence (make more fun places, parks and sports centres)
- Roller skating in the street
- Walking a dog
- Riding a bike
- After school club
- Playing rounder's or being active with friends