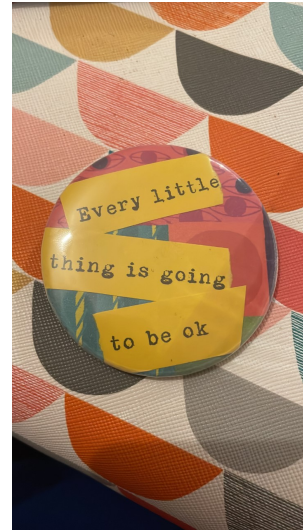


What's Next? Youth Sharing Event Development Suggestions & Evaluation



"Fantastic, inspiring, fun, Excellent event - do more and more."

On 17th February youth organisations around Bath came together at Bath Royal Scientific & Literary Institute to share the work, organisations and projects they were involved with. Young people presented to an audience of peers. The event was attended by key youth stakeholders including Rachel Potter from Kooth, Sarah McCluskey, (Strategic Commissioner Officer, Complex Care and Targeted Support Team); Clare Laker, (Public Health Development and Commissioning Manager) Dine Romero (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Communities and Culture) and Gill Welsh (CAMHS).

Youth Attendees consisted representatives from:

- The Care Experience Council (Off the Record)
- Bath Student Parliament
- Off the Record Youth Forum
- Wellbeing Ambassadors Oldfield School - room627.com
- Boys in Mind; Girls Mind Too
- CAMHS Participation Team
- Black Families Education Support Group
- Youth Connect South West

Apologies were sent in from

- The Carers Centre (Young Carers)
- Mentoring Plus
- Project 28 (DHI). They sent in a short film which was played.

Thomas Garner, Youth Form Participant, volunteered to be the journalist for the event. He has written an excellent summary of the event. Well done Thomas!

<https://www.offtherecord-banes.co.uk/news-content/as-young-people-we-are-the-future>

What's Next Suggestions

1. Set up a What's App Group for the young people attending, and or adults, to share opportunities relevant to the group and event/activity information.
2. Liaise with the Council & Dine Romero to establish how we can set up a council tour/ engagement activity. Ideas could include:

-Youth Sharing Members somehow get a glimpse of the council in action!

- Attend the Council for a 1/2 day or an evening (or whatever is realistic) to find out what happens in as many departments as possible (walk in my shoes type style); see how money is spent, what the conflicting priorities are, how hard the decisions can be.... Link with Dine Romero. Attend a joined up cross cabinet type meeting? Or H&Wellbeing Meeting to see decisions needing to be taken in action?
- Or 2 young people shadow different people for 2 hours in their day - everyone comes back to feed back...?
- Or adults set up a meeting with an agenda of the typical things they may need to discuss in relation to 'young people' and invite young people?
- Or a virtual meeting (using google jam board) with a theme?
- Or councillor speed dating event - find out what people do in their role/ask questions
- Dine with Dine (and possibly some others) and ask questions

3. Summer Session: A creative, sharing session in nice surroundings - a bell tent (in a school - you can hire one from St Stephens Church?), or lovely school hall, with creative facilitators to explore lots of topical themes - suggested style: simple - discursive workshops e.g. What does it mean to be Transgender today in Bath? What does it mean to be?.....race & equality; climate action etc. *Could Bath Student Parliament host?*

4. Youth Action Week in November - do something. Youth designed themes and led by young people. (Usually last week in November) and or World Mental Health Day- 10th Oct.

Can we access £2000 - £3000 from somewhere to make these next two events happen? It would be great if young people can hold & manage the budget?

Exit Ticket Comments:

- "Unjudgemental, safe space. We should do more."
- "Fantastic, inspiring, fun, Excellent event - do more and more."
- "Connection, communication, listening. Really good opportunity to link with others and hear about what's going on. A sense of purpose for young people."



- "Inspiring, creative, brilliant. Would love to see more of these and opportunities to link in and keep in touch with other YP groups. Hope."
- "Great, impressive, insightful. Very wonderful collection of young people and organisations. Mental Health is a big need. Good to see youth orgs responsive to that need."
- "I was also able to gain a lot from it as well as everyone else, such as possible new opportunities if I reach out to the groups that were there, but it was also simply amazing to hear that my generation was so active in supporting mental health and other issues that I also feel strongly about! I loved the creativity you allowed every group, though most of them opted for presentation, I can imagine it being a huge relief as one of the groups to have the freedom you allowed. Overall it was such a nice atmosphere, great people, discussions, and food! Also quite random, but I liked the location/room we were in."

Partner comments via email:

- "We are very keen to ensure a longer lasting structure for young people to participate and influence local decision making – there seem to be lots of attempts to do this but this one seems to have hit the spot with participation!"
- "Thank you so much for a fantastic evening.... It was a very informative evening and it was great to hear about so many innovative projects. Thank you also for your generous provision in terms of hospitality (everyone was so welcoming and the food was just delicious)!"
- "Thank you very much once again for hosting the event and inviting us - we look forward to hopefully finding opportunities to work together with many of these groups in the future!"
- "Will and Fedi both really enjoyed the event and have made some really useful connections."
- "The event was such a success, we all thought! Lots of the young people were buzzing afterwards – about the chance to share about their groups and meet others doing awesome things (and about the food!)"
- "I know from talking to Owen and Charlotte from Off the Record that they and other organisations are keen to partner up on further projects that young people have identified as being important to them."
- "It was lovely to hear them talk so passionately about their projects. I enjoyed being there and chatting with everyone, these things hardly ever stick to a plan and are usually the better for it."
- "...A lot of the young people there connected, so hopefully there will be partnerships between them going forward. It's definitely worth running a similar session again, in my opinion. I'd love to be involved if you do."

Good Bits & Things to do Better/reflections:

- The food from Lunch Box seemed to go down really well - use again (depending on budget).
- The creative session could have been encouraged more (maybe this was to do with room layout) & we should have left time to bring it together more.
- Choose a larger venue next time (we were unsure of attendance on this first meeting). This space was restrictive for networking and movement.
- Ensure all presentations are sent in, in advance, to make the tech side run more smoothly.
- Enable more time at the end for a better, more quality 'wrap up' & conversations.
- Enable everyone to say who there are/who is present themselves at the start of the event (we meant to do this and forgot!).
- Use a different taxi company (book community transport).
- People have commented on the relaxed, welcoming atmosphere.
- Consider if some of the content for videos/presentations/conversations was age appropriate and whether we may need to think differently about this next time.

