



### Quarter 1 report April – June 2019

Following the successful tender opportunity this first quarter monitoring report details the work/progress so far of Children North East on behalf of the Prudhoe Youth Project.

#### **Detached Sessions**

From April 30<sup>th</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> we have completed a total of 17 two hour detached youth work sessions with young people and 2 community event/activity days (Prudhoe Town Fair and Highfield Fest). We estimate to have made contact with well over 70 different young people through our detached sessions plus many more through school assemblies and community days. On average we have spoken to 12 young people per session. We have broken down the demographic of young people who have completed either our client profile forms or questionnaire. We aim to get all young people to complete a client profile and questionnaire, however it is not always possible to collect this information, as such not every young person is included below. To date 40 young people have completed client profiles, and 33 completed questionnaires.

| <b>Gender</b> | <b>Percentage</b> |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Male          | 46.6              |
| Female        | 53.4              |

| <b>Age</b> | <b>Percentage (rounded)</b> |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 19         | 1.6                         |
| 18         | 1.6                         |
| 17         | 1.6                         |
| 16         | 18.8                        |
| 15         | 37.5                        |
| 14         | 14.1                        |
| 13         | 3.1                         |
| 12         | 10.9                        |
| 11         | 1.6                         |
| 10         | 6.3                         |
| 9          | 3.1                         |

| <b>Postcode</b> | <b>Percentage (rounded)</b> |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| NE42            | 80                          |
| NE40            | 10.8                        |
| NE13            | 1.5                         |
| NE21            | 1.5                         |
| NE44            | 1.5                         |
| NE46            | 3.1                         |
| NE43            | 1.5                         |

| <b>Ethnicity</b> | <b>Percentage (rounded)</b> |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| White British    | 97.4                        |
| Other            | 5.3                         |

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Any other mixed | 2.6 |
|-----------------|-----|

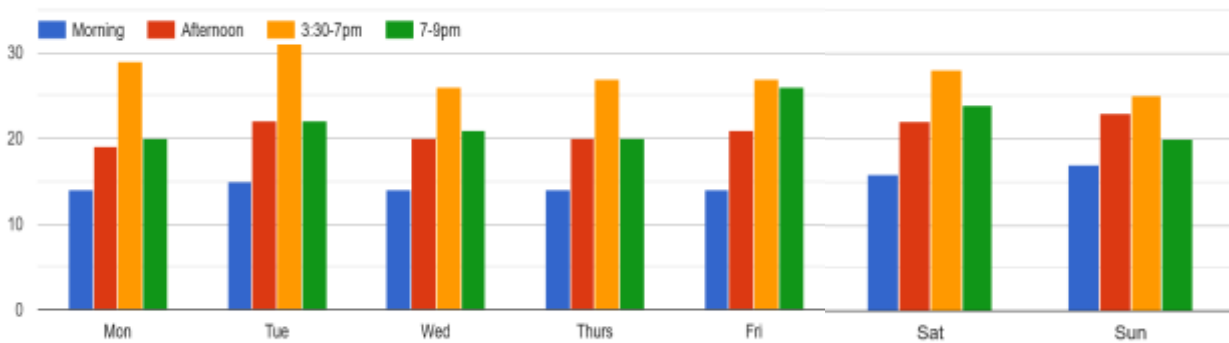
## Main findings to date

### Questionnaire

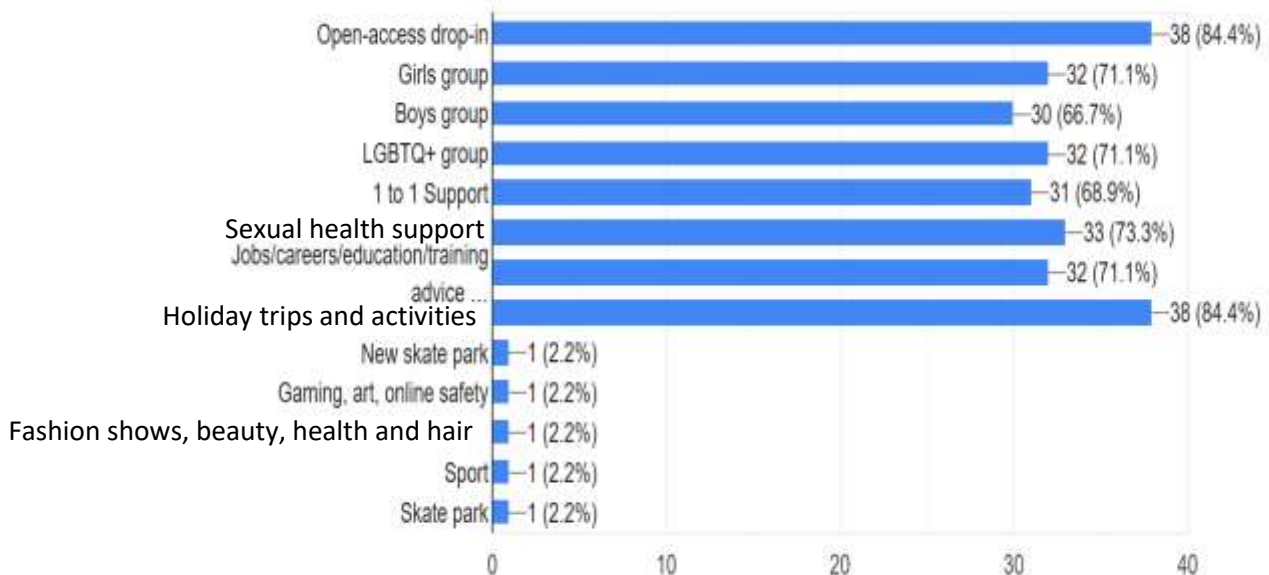
We have been using a paper-based questionnaire to take out on detached sessions. To date we have had 33 responses. We have just launched the online version for responses. Findings so far include:

- 93.9% of young people believe there is not enough youth provision
- 100% of young people believe a new youth project would be good for Prudhoe
- Most young people gave Front street or Highfield/Eastwood parks as their preferred locations

So far there hasn't been a real consensus around preferred opening times, though it should be noted some of the schools in the area don't finish until 3:35pm. The graph below indicates preferred opening times so far of a new project;



A graph showing preferred sessions and support



Early indications from the findings above show that young people are most interested in open access drop-in's and holiday trips/activities, closely followed by sexual health support, gender based work and access to some form job club offering training/careers advice/support.

Young people have spoken to us about a wide range of issues which are important to them, including:

- Young people feel there is nothing to do
- Nowhere to sit with shelter and toilets
- Young people are being moved on for being in large groups in the town
- Young people believe they are poorly perceived by adults and others
- A few mentioned bad influences from social media
- Mental health in young people including stress from school
- Bullying in school, not just online

Young people offered a range of other suggestions including needing job support, more spaces for young people and arts and crafts. A large group of around 30 young people spoke wanted a new skatepark and one young person wanted opportunities to work with women's charities.

### **Workers observations and information from conversations**

We have noticed from our conversations with young people that there is a huge need for sexual health support in the area. Young people can currently get free condoms from the East centre however this is only open a few days a week. Free testing is offered from the doctors practice via postal packs however many young people are worried about confidentiality in this. We have spoken to the local Boots store about the potential to offer free condoms and C-card however they do not currently have the capacity for this. We can now offer C-card repeats on the street but to offer new C-cards or testing we need to arrange to meet the young person in a suitable environment such as the Miners Lamp Café.

There seems to be a large demand for a new skate park as outline above. The young people we spoke to mentioned they had tried to contact Prudhoe Conservatives about this online via Facebook but had received no response. This had left them feeling as though they are not listened to.

Young people have also spoken a lot to us about older people thinking poorly of them and have suggested using 'good news stories' via a newsletter or similar to combat this and show the positive side that the majority of young people have.

There are a range of activities for young people but lots don't know about them or do not have the funds to access them. We have thought about putting together a 'yellow pages' of young people's activities in the town.

### **Community links**

We have worked hard to make contact not only with young people but also the wider community in and around Prudhoe. We have so far completed two community days via Prudhoe Town Fair and Highfield Festival offering glitter, tattoos, jewels and spoke about the projects and young people's ideas. Through our community outreach we have made links with the Miners Lamp Café and Eastwood Park who have offered us space to use if needed. A local care home, Redbrick House are keen for the young people to do some social action in their garden space. We have made links with the local schools and this will be discussed in more detail later in the report. The Tynedale Rotary club have also been in contact. We have met with the local police officers in the Spetchells Centre and they have informed us about the area, any issues and spoken to us about the young people. We have received support from the local community pages via Facebook, which have resulted in a lot more engagement from the wider community online. Other organisations such as the Riverside café and Waterworld have been supportive and have also offered space to use if needed.

## Key fund

We have been making regular contact with one particular group of young people on a Tuesday detached and we have supported them to start work towards planning their own trip. We had a group of 8 initially interested though this number fluctuates. The group can apply for and access their own funds via The Key, if they successfully complete the planning and pitch to a panel. The first stage is for £250.

## School updates

We have completed a whole school assembly in Highfield Middle to discuss the work we are doing. The young people were excited about the project and asked lots of questions. We also completed 4 separate assemblies in Prudhoe High speaking to each year group in turn. We have also established a drop-in offering extra support on a Friday 1:10-2pm. In September we will be completing an assembly in Ovingham school.

## Logo competition

We ran a logo competition for PYP in June. We received a total of 7 entries which have some great potential. The winner is to be decided and announced as well as a prize offered.



## School holiday funding

Prudhoe Youth Project were successful in obtaining 'Prudhoe Town Council 42 Days of Summer' funding for 5 sessions of outdoor activities in partnership with the Natural History Society of Northumbria. This will be a great opportunity for young people in Prudhoe.