



Youth Forum

A meeting of the Youth Forum will be held at the The Jeffrey Room - The Guildhall, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Wednesday 13 September 2023 at 4.30 pm

Agenda

1.	Welcomes, Introductions and Apologies
2.	Memorandum of Understanding (Pages 3 - 4)
3.	Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 5 - 10)
4.	UK Parliament Week
5.	Heritage Tours
6.	Youth Summit and Period Poverty-Workshop/Poster Update
7.	Community Information Exchange
8.	Items for Future Meetings
9.	Date of Next Meeting

Queries Regarding this Agenda

If you have any queries about this agenda please contact Aimee Luck, Housing and Communities via the following:

Tel:

Email: aimee.luck@westnorthants.gov.uk

Or by writing to:

West Northamptonshire Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton
NN1 1ED

Northampton Youth Forum Memorandum of Understanding

Scope: This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is between West Northamptonshire Council, Northampton Secondary Schools or local youth organisations, Parents and the Young People representing the Youth Forum.

It is understood that the Youth Forum will be elected, by their School or Youth Organisation. The MoU sets out responsibilities, frequency of meetings, support and management arrangements and principles, and purposes of the agreement for the Forum.

Principles and Purposes: The MoU has the key principle of creating an understandable and clear agreement on operational arrangements for the Youth Forum. The MoU will establish an open communication channel between young people, the Council, other statutory organisations and community and voluntary organisations, representing and supporting young people.

The purposes of the Youth Forum:

1. Ensure that all young people in Northampton have a voice
2. Young people are not just representing themselves but providing a voice for young people's thoughts on issues locally
3. To engage young people (aged 13-19 yrs) in a consultative process that empowers them to share their views, interests and needs with each other so that their collective voice will inform Service Providers, and contribute to the decision making process in relation to service planning and the deployment of identified resources
4. Ensure political leaders and officers engage proactively with young people via consultation and engagement
5. To promote equality for young people
6. To stimulate and improve communication between WNC, young people and other organisations in the West Northants
7. To act on issues that are, important to young people accessing our services and in the local community
8. To feed back information from meetings and projects to their school and peers, and promote public youth forum events

Frequency of meetings

Youth Forum meetings will be held during school holidays, usually on a Thursday between 10am and 3pm. Where meetings fall in term-time they will be shorter meetings after school for no more than two hours. The Covid pandemic has also introduced the use of virtual meetings where necessary.

There will also be other meetings or activities to attend throughout the year. The forum dates will be circulated via email.

There is an expectation that members attend as many meetings as possible and send apologies if unable to attend. If two consecutive meetings are missed, a valid reason will be requested.

Staff Support

This involves ensuring the youth forum is influential within the Council and that their voices are heard and acted upon. An officer from West Northamptonshire Council will be present at each meeting. They will help co-ordinate, guide and support the young group by giving them confidence to make positive contribution to the meetings.

It is the role of the staff to promote the forum across West Northants, while acting as an advocate for the forum and establish links with other youth and community programmes. All officers will have DBS clearance.

Chair and other Responsibilities

The aim is for the group to be run by the youth members with staff present for support. The members will take on responsibilities such as chairing the meeting with an internal election to choose these positions to be filled. Elections will take place annually.

Areas of work:

The Youth Forum will develop a 12 month rolling action plan, focusing on issues that matter most to young people.

Refreshments

Tea, coffee and cold drinks will be provided at each meeting. There will be an expectation for youth forum members to bring lunch with them, or money to purchase lunch. However, if there is a difficulty with these, please get in touch with us to discuss alternative arrangements. No refreshments can be provided for virtual meetings.

Travel

There will be an expectation that youth forum members arrange suitable travel arrangements to and from face to face meetings and forum led events. However, if there is a difficulty in arranging travel to and from meetings, please get in touch with us to discuss alternative arrangements.

Review: This document will be reviewed annually, along with the action plan.

If you would like to discuss further, please contact:

Aimee Luck (Community Safety and Engagement Project Officer)

Tel: 07557496415

Email: aimee.luck@westnorthants.gov.uk



Youth Forum

Minutes of a meeting of the Youth Forum held at The Jeffrey Room - The Guildhall, Northampton, NN1 1DE on Wednesday 16 August 2023 at 10.00 am.

Present:

Substitute Members:

Also Present:

Apologies for Absence:

Officers:

1. Welcomes, Introductions and Apologies- 10am

Attendance: Lissy, Skye, Henry, Morcea, Kayla, Lilybo, Jessica, Honey, Haroon, Jamie, Debs, Leonie-Jane, Aimee (pm)

Apologies. Anna, Fiona,

2. Memorandum of Understanding

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

4. Disproportionality Project- 10:15am

Leonie-Jane introduced herself to the Youth Forum and gave a brief overview of her role/job. The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) prosecutes criminal cases that have been investigated by the police and other investigative organisations in England and Wales. The CPS is independent, and we make our decisions independently of the police and government.

Our duty is to make sure that the right person is prosecuted for the right offence, and to bring offenders to justice wherever possible.

The CPS:

- decides which cases should be prosecuted.
- determines the appropriate charges in more serious or complex cases and advises the police during the early stages of investigations.
- prepares cases and presents them at court; and
- provides information, assistance and support to victims and prosecution witnesses.

Prosecutors must be fair, objective, and independent. When deciding whether to prosecute a criminal case, our lawyers must follow the Code for Crown Prosecutors. This means that to charge someone with a criminal offence, prosecutors must be satisfied that there is sufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction, and that prosecuting is in the public interest.

The CPS works closely with the police, courts, the Judiciary, and other partners to deliver justice.

Aim today was to ask the forum members thoughts on the Race Action Plan, improve experiences for black individuals, how can we turn it around, what can we do to improve? Police Race Action Plan | College of Policing Police Race Action Plan: Improving policing for Black people (college.police.uk) Disproportionate use of police powers: A spotlight on stop and search and the use of force (justiceinspectorates.gov.uk)

4 Workstreams:

1. Represented (Internal culture and inclusivity)
2. Not over Policed (use of Powers)
3. Involvement (Community)

4. Not under-protected against victimisation.

Changes have happened but would like the views of members and the community.

- Pulled over in a car: NOW have to be documented, previously Police did not have to record.
- If pulled over, can ask for a female officer to attend. Check they are who they say they are, just ask for the badge number, ring 101.

Questions / Observations

Do officers who get interviewed / disciplined – is this available publicly? Advised internal processes but if disciplinary stage, this is in the public domain.

Make the Race Action Plan more public - should be shared to the community, schools, places of worship – need to build up on trust.

Asked if Police with a good record get a thank you or is it recorded anywhere?

Action: All to review the Police Race Action Plan and share any questions / thoughts to AL/JW. Discussed County Lines and Cuckooing. LJW gave a brief overview of each area. Signs to look out for. Report a crime | Northamptonshire Police (northants.police.uk) Agreed for LJW to attend a further sessions. Brief discussion on careers

Useful links to share to Youth Forum members

Safer nights out | West Northamptonshire Council (westnorthants.gov.uk) IT ONLY TAKES ONE CAMPAIGN It Only Takes One

Flare Report app | Northamptonshire Police (northants.police.uk)

Independent UK charity taking crime information anonymously | Crimestoppers (crimestoppers-uk.org)

5. **Youth summit/ Substance misuse project work- 11am**

Event date: add here

b. Workshops 16th / 30th September & 14th October (share poster here)

c. Weekend event: 25th – 26th October

· Members worked in groups with designs and plans for them to present at the Youth Summit

· Agreed item to presented on Substance Misuse & Vaping

· Discussed thoughts on being interactive, presentation, quiz etc. Canva shared

6. **Lunch-YAY!! 12:15pm**

7. **Heritage tour training- 12:45pm**

Members took part in the Guildhall building tour to gain insight and understanding as to what would be required from them on the day. The tour can be edited and adjusted to each young person's preference, as long as the main route is followed on the day. Free lunch will be available

Recap will be done during the next forum meeting, including identifying who will be supporting the event.

8. **Items for Future Meetings**

9. **Sanitary Products poster session- 2pm**

Work continued on this youth summit materials, as well as the sanitary projects poster. More time will be spent on this during the next forum meeting.

10. **Community Information Exchange**

11. **Date of Next Meeting**

13th September-4:30 to 6:30pm. Jeffery Room, Guildhall

The meeting closed at Time Not Specified

Chair: _____

Date: _____

This page is intentionally left blank