

Sussex Youth Commission Update

Youth Offending

CRI Domestic Abuse: Children and Young People's Therapeutic Service

Safer Schools Survey

Youth Voice Network

Hate Crime and Young people

LGBT

Preventing Violent Extremism – New Duties for Schools



Last year more than 2,000 young people were asked for their views on policing issues in Sussex.

Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Katy Bourne said because young

people make up a large proportion of our local communities it was vital their views were represented.

The Youth Commission is a pilot project to allow police and crime commissioners to work in partnership with young people and is currently in operation in Leicestershire, Hampshire and Sussex. The Commission is made up of 24 members aged 14 to 25. They have now published their final report www.sussex-pcc.gov.uk/news/sussex-youth-commission-taking-it-forward/

2015 Membership & Priorities Members of the newly-formed 2015 Sussex Youth Commission (SYC) come from Littlehampton, Arun, Bexhill, Hailsham, Crawley, Brighton and Hove, Haywards Heath, Peacehaven, Eastbourne and many more locations.

The group contains a true diversity that reflects the varied nature of the youth population in Sussex. The SYC met for the first time on Saturday 31 January and discussed the issues they wanted to tackle in their communities and peer groups. They have identified the following five key priority topics to explore in 2015:

- **Hate Crime**
- **Cyber-bullying and Online Harassment**
- **Drug and Alcohol Abuse**
- **Supporting Young Offenders**
- **Relations with the Police**





**Sussex
Police & Crime
Commissioner**

YC:UK
Youth Commission

Sussex Youth Commission



An innovative pilot project to capture young people's views on policing & crime in Sussex



Young people aged 14-25 were recruited to the Sussex Youth Commission in January 2014



They identified 5 key priorities affecting young people in Sussex

1. Reducing offending & re-offending



3. Bullying & cyber-bullying



2. Drug & alcohol abuse



4. Domestic abuse & sexual assault

5. Relationship with the police



The Youth Commission delivered over 40 engagement events to reach out to their peers on these issues



Then sharing their findings with the PCC, Sussex Police & partners at a Big Conversation Conference



2000

Recording over 2,000 conversations between March & September 2014

16

Recommendations were highlighted in their final report



That will be taken forward by an independent advisory group of Youth Commission members and senior police officers

Have you had your say?

Get involved: sussex-pcc.gov.uk

#TalkSussex

The East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership is supported by the Safer East Sussex Team, made up from Community Safety staff from Sussex Police, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, Sussex & Surrey Probation Trust and East Sussex County Council.

Youth Offending

The East Sussex Youth Offending Team (YOT) was established in 2000. It sits within the Children's Services Department of East Sussex County Council. The East Sussex Youth Offending Team brings together workers from children's services, Sussex Police, the Probation Service, the NHS and the voluntary sector to work with young people aged 10 to 18 who have committed criminal offences, with the aim of preventing further offending behaviour.

The team works with young people who are referred to the service, predominantly by courts or criminal justice agencies, and carries out an assessment of the specific problems affecting the young person as well as the risk they pose to others, and how these problems and risks might be overcome. Team members also write pre-sentence reports to help courts decide what sentence to impose and then supervise the young offenders, when they receive a community sentence.

The Youth Offending Team (YOT) worker works with young people aged 10 to 18 who have been convicted of criminal offences. The worker will try to understand what has led the young person to commit the offences and work with them to prevent further offending behaviour.

When reparation is a requirement of a court order a young person will undertake a number of hours work.

Reparation is designed to help a young person pay back to an individual victim, or the wider community, for the wrong they have done. It is a way for them to take some responsibility for their offending behaviour.

The reparation team facilitates a number of charity/community based work projects across the whole of East Sussex. Work ranges from:

- upkeep of public parks and gardens, and school grounds, including the refurbishment of park benches and the removal of litter
- redecorating and refurbishing youth and sports club buildings
- charity bag drops
- preparing clothes and the production of bird boxes for sale in charity shops
- preparing Christmas gift boxes for needy children in other countries.

Pre-Sentence Reports When a young person is found guilty of a criminal offence, the court has to decide what sentence to give. In many cases they ask the YOT to prepare a pre-sentence report to help them make this decision.

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The YOT worker will meet with the young person to identify those issues most closely linked with their offending behaviour.

The report may include information about

- Why the young person offended
- Their personal and home life
- Education or employment
- The need to prevent further offending

It will advise the court about sentencing options and recommend how best to deal with the young person.

Assessments All the young people the Youth Offending team work with are assessed using the Youth Justice Board standard assessment tool called ASSET. This is designed to identify areas they need to work on together, which they write into a plan.

Restorative justice is a process to recognise and repair the harm that has been caused. It is based upon three principles: responsibility, restoration and reintegration.

One way in which a young person might make amends for their offending behaviour is by meeting with their victim, a process known as victim-offender mediation.

A trained facilitator will bring together the offender and victim to discuss what happened. The young person and their victim are given an opportunity to talk about the events surrounding the crime and how it has affected their lives. Sometimes a plan is agreed to address the harm caused by the crime.

Often both parties are able to gain a greater sense of closure simply through the process of talking with one another.



<http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/childrenandfamilies/youngpeople/youthoffending/default.htm>

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Domestic Abuse

Children and Young People's Therapeutic Service

The impact of domestic violence on children and young people whether it is directed to them or another person in the home can be detrimental, however not irreversible if they receive the right support.

CRI therapeutic service is for children and young people who have been witnesses or victims of domestic abuse. The service is for children and young people aged 4-17 years old and are based in Hastings and Eastbourne.

The Children's Service workers are therapeutically trained and experienced in working with children, young people and their parents or care givers.



This service provides support on an individual basis which responds to the needs of children and young people via a range of therapeutic interventions such as play and art therapy as well as cognitive methods. Designed to help children and young people to work through difficult and challenging emotions and come to terms with what they have witnessed, our aim is to build healthy sustainable interactions and relationships and increase the skills and coping strategies of children and young people.

CRI children's therapists work from a range of venues and use a variety of age appropriate media offering a confidential service which is age appropriate to the child or young person. Play equipment is provided and can include sand, water, dolls, puppets or art materials. Older children or young people may choose to talk and work creatively on their feelings.

For Eastbourne, Lewes and Wealden areas: 01323 419 340

For Hastings and Rother areas: 01424 716 629

http://www.cri.org.uk/eastsussex_cypts.php

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East Sussex Safer Schools Survey

The Safer Schools Survey is run every year between October and December and gathers students' perceptions and experiences of bullying behaviour across schools in East Sussex, together with a range of other wellbeing indicators. Schools take part in the survey in the lead up to and during National Anti-Bullying Week. This work is currently undertaken by the ISEND Provider Services ESCC



For the first time a set of community safety questions were included in the survey and are listed below:

- How safe do you feel when you are out and about in your own neighbourhood?
- What makes you feel unsafe in your local area?
- Have you been a victim of crime in the last 12 months?
- If yes then to provide details from a list

We have received over 3,000 responses from young people aged 11-16yrs and will be collating and analysing these results in order that local community safety partners are aware of emerging issues and concerns young people may have.



SPARK

A NETWORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORGANISATIONS

Youth Participation Workers Network

<http://www.sparknetwork.org.uk/youth-voice>

The Youth Voice Network provides support to adults that facilitate or wish to set up any kind of 'youth voice' group operating in the East Sussex area. The network is run by SPARK and funded by East Sussex County Council.

The network aims to help embed and sustain a 'culture of participation' within organisations across the East Sussex region. By coming together we want to support decision-makers to meaningfully involve young people in their plans and encourage a consistent approach to 'participation'. The Safer East Sussex Team will remain actively involved in this network in order to involve young people in future decision-making and consultations.

To join the Youth Voice Network or for more information please call Tracey Johnson on 07814 260359 or email traceyjohanson@sparknetwork.org.uk.

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Hate Crime

“Hate incidents hurt; they can be confusing and frightening. By recording and reporting them when they happen, you may be able to prevent these incidents from happening to someone else. You will also help the police understand the extent of hate crime in your local area so they can better respond to it”

Matt West, Hate Crime Coordinator.

Schools are advised to record all anti-social behaviour, hate incidents and bullying and Children’s Services asks all schools to report their incidents annually for the whole of the academic year. Out of 190 schools in the county, 116 returned their data in September 2014 (61% of schools)

The Equality and Participation team offer support to tackle hate incidents and prejudice based bullying in Schools and how to encourage pupils to have regard for people of all faiths, races and cultures which promote respect and tolerance.

Race was the most common motivator in relation to hate incidents and prejudice based bullying in this year’s data. The following table and chart shows the motivating factor behind hate incidents that have occurred. For further information please

Hate Incident Type/motivation	Number	Percentage
Gender	17	7%
Race	121	48%
Sexual Orientation	22	9%
SEND	7	3%
Trans	0	0%
Religion	2	1%
Other	82	33%
TOTAL	251	

contact:

charlotte.papworth@eastsussex.gov.uk

Equality and Participation Officer, Children’s Services

Schools can access anti-bullying support from the Education Support, Behaviour & Attendance Service, (ESBAS) who have packages and training ready to deliver to staff and pupils.

They have also produced a range of prejudice based bullying toolkits and training. Contact Tel: 01424 724187
angela.good@eastsussex.gov.uk

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LGBT Partnership Meeting (Children and Young People)

The Safer East Sussex Team are members of The East Sussex LGBT Partnership Group which was set up in November 2014. It aims to support and direct partners in challenging homophobia, biphobia and transphobia in schools/settings for the benefit of young people who are Lesbian, Gay or Bisexual or Trans, their carers and/or families and communities. The Equality and Participation team chair and meet administrative duties of the group. For further information please contact charlotte.papworth@eastsussex.gov.uk



New LGBT Project for Eastbourne

A new LGBT project for Eastbourne started on Monday 16th February and runs from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. If you know any young person that would benefit for attending this group you can refer them from now on. The project is being co-delivered with YMCA. Contact for referral – please call 01323411718 or 07827084680 or email jacy.kilvert@eastsussex.gov.uk Details of the venue will be disclosed at the referral point.



Safety concerns a barrier to active travel

A report by Brake suggests that young people's and parents' safety fears are a barrier to young people walking and cycling. Brake surveyed 1,301 11-17 year olds, finding almost half (47%) said parental worries were preventing them from starting cycling or cycling more. In the build up to the general election, Brake is calling on all parties to commit to a 20mph urban default speed limit and increased investment in walking and cycling infrastructure.

To read the guidance report please go to: <http://brake.org.uk/news/1369-walking-cycling-jan15>

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Prevent and Schools - *preventing violent extremism*



Update on the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill 2015

Following agreement by Parliament the Bill received Royal Assent on 12 February and is now an Act of Parliament.

This new legislation brings about new duties for certain authorities including Schools.

In England about eight million children are educated in some 23,000 publicly-funded and around 2,400 independent schools. The publicly-funded English school system comprises maintained schools (funded by local authorities), and academies (directly funded by central government).

What this means for Schools:

- Senior management and governors are now expected to assess the risk of pupils being drawn into terrorism
- Schools will need to demonstrate that they are protecting children and young people from being drawn into terrorism by having robust safeguarding policies in place to identify children at risk, and intervening as appropriate
- Schools should ensure that fundamental British values are promoted in the delivery of the curriculum and extra-curricular activities and reflected in the general conduct of the school.
- Senior school management and governors should make sure that staff have training that gives them the knowledge and confidence to identify children at risk and they should know where and how to refer children and young people for further help. Prevent awareness training will be a key part of this.
- Schools will be expected to ensure children are safe from terrorist and extremist material when accessing the internet in school.

All publicly-funded schools – including academies and free schools – are inspected by the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted) and Schools will be now be monitored to ensure they are meeting these new duties.

In preparation of this we will be running three workshops in conjunction with the LSCB.

- Monday 27th April 9.30 – 11.30 Eastbourne
- Tuesday 7th July 12.00 -2.00 Hastings
- Tuesday 6th October 2.30 – 4.30 Eastbourne

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This course is aimed at all front line professionals, including Managers, from ESCC Children's Services Social Care, Early Help, Children's Services Education, Schools, Adult Services, YOT. East Sussex Police, Health, Probation and the Voluntary and Independent sectors.

A maximum of two representatives from each team may have a confirmed place and further applications will be put on a wait list. Before attending any LSCB training course, participants must attend a Basic Signs and Indicators Child Protection course provided/commissioned by their own organisation or have accessed the Kwango Safeguarding Children e-learning training course. To complete the Kwango course please go to <http://www.kwango.com>

Information about username and password can be found on http://www.eastsussexlscb.org.uk/home_training.html

Learning outcomes of this workshop:

- How to recognise potentially vulnerable individuals and know when an intervention may be necessary to support them
- Gain an understanding on how to refer vulnerable young people to the Channel process
- An understanding of the PREVENT agenda and your role within it
- The ability to use your existing expertise and professional judgement to recognise potentially vulnerable individuals and know when an intervention may be necessary to support them
- Knowledge of when, how and where to refer concerns about vulnerable individuals

For an application form please contact the Training Events Team on 01323 466875 or email sis.training@eastsussex.gov.uk



Helping Hands Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day 18 March 2015

<http://www.national-awareness-days.com/child-sexual-exploitation-awareness-day.html>

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