FRONT COVER

The vision for the
Phoenix Detached
Youth Project 2017 – 2022

This document represents dialogue and input and contributions from a range of people including young people from the community, staff, trustees, businesses and local agencies.
Words describing Phoenix DYP and what it's about:

Identity
Fun
Dedicated
Caring
Empowerment
Independent
Liberation
Inspirational
Fair
Building up
Welcoming
Potential
Trustworthy
Committed
Creative
Flexible
Practical
Respect

Mission Statement

Working with young people to develop their ideas and supporting their life choices and education

Aims and Objectives

To help young people's personal development through leisure time activities. We aim to develop their physical, mental and spiritual capacities so that they grow to full maturity as individuals and members of society.

Background

The Phoenix Detached Youth Project (herein Phoenix DYP) started on 9th February 2004. We have successfully delivered detached youth work in Chirton and Riverside wards of North Tyneside for the past thirteen years. We have also increased our areas of work to include East Howdon and royal quays estates in the past three years. The area has a high level of deprivation with most young people we work with being in the top 1.16% of deprived young people in England.

Our last vision document 2011 – 2016 has been evaluated by young people, staff, Trustees and other agencies. This document includes a summary of the evaluation.

The experienced group of trustees and staff team are committed to delivering a service in partnership with the young ambassadors for local young people aged 12-25 years of age. The project is an Investor's in Children service which is a quality standard award which shows we listen, support and develop a young person led approach to developing ideas and tackling issues young people and the community face.

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Skills of the Trustees

Chair Person, Angela Horncastle has been an Education Welfare Officer for North Tyneside Council for the past 17-years. She has been the projects Treasurer for 5-years in the past and is now the chairperson. Angela brings her management skills as a team leader and expertise in working with parents and families in the Meadowell estate.

Company Secretary, The Rev'd Canon David Peel managed the Cedarwood Trust on the Meadow Well estate for 31 years. He has worked closely with the young people in this period and is greatly respected by the community and young people. He brings years of experience of working with the voluntary sector around company and charity matters.

Treasurer, Ben Appleby is a long running advisor with The Citizens Advice Bureau, freelance writer and poet in his spare time, with a particular interest in diversity and mental health issues affecting young people.

Trustee, The Rev'd Helen Gill is a local minister for the area and lives in our area. She is a qualified teacher and brings her knowledge of formal education and local issues to the project. This helps the team link formal education to our informal educational approach.

Trustee, Jane Cook who has recently been appointed worked for 9-years as a health promotion specialist for sexual health for Northumbria Health Care NHS Trust, a post that involved working across a range of community settings and organisations in North Tyneside. Jane is a registered general nurse and a specialist practitioner in public health. She has previously worked as a senior school nurse for 10-years in Newcastle upon Tyne and brings experience of working with children, young people and their parents/carers across a broad range of health issues.

Trustee, Jack Nicholls has been involved with the Phoenix since 2011 when he came to the project as a placement student. He is a qualified social worker who has worked principally in drug and alcohol and criminal justice services. He is now a graduate tutor in social work at Northumbria University and has been a Trustee of the Phoenix Detached Youth project since 2013.

Trustee, Ella Hannant is a local resident and has been a Trustee for the past 4-years and recently was awarded the chair of North Tyneside's silver commendations award for her services to Chirton Lodge elderly residents, and the young people of the Phoenix Detached Youth Project. She brings skills in intergenerational work between young and older residents on the estate.

Project Workers

Mike Burgess - Project Manager. Mike has been a qualified worker since 1989 and has been immersed in direct face-to-face work since 1989 and brings a wealth of experience and knowledge needed to manage the work in the area. He has skills in working with marginalised young people, working with men and creatively developing young person led projects. He has had numerous articles published about his work and is the author of "Don't shoot me I am a detached youth worker".

Becky Rowe– Senior Detached Youth Worker. Becky has been a qualified worker since 1998 and since then been involved with several detached youth projects and has worked at PDYP since 2008. Her specific interests are young people's sexual and mental health, working with young parents and young women.

Luke Johnston – Detached Youth Worker. Luke started working for the PDYP in 2012 after spending several years training and working for a detached project in Seaham. His main areas of interest are detached work and developing street spaces, working with young men's issues, and education around social media safety.

Detached Youth Work

Detached youth work is where youth workers go out on a regular basis and approach young people. The workers are guests in the young people's environment and via dialogue this leads to young person led ideas, projects and one to one work on a voluntary basis.

Summary of Evaluation of Vision Document 2010 – 2016

Providing safe space

We worked in partnership with young people to realise a dream to create an advanced skate park "Phoenix Bowls" on the estate. Supporting young people locally, the Mayor and local councillors who supported us, raised over £68,000 to build the park in 2017.

Successfully refurbished the projects office space in 2012 with funding secured in 2011.

Created two street spaces with young people for urban art, dance and music (street group work).

Offering things to do

Hopes and Fears project continues to support young parents and increased work with young dads via the Canny Dads group.

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Developed effective working partnership with Cedarwood Trust and Meadow Well Connected (local Charites). Improving young people's access to facilities.

Young people helped to re-design and improve the website of the project, to be more user friendly for mobile phones.

Continued to produce high quality annual reports for the last 5 years, highlighting the things that young people can do.

Building confidence, skills and self-esteem

Youth forum involved in external evaluation of service by Investors in Children achieved every year over the past 5 years.

Website allowed Rainmaker Foundation to identify the project and successfully fund a workers post and cover costs for 6 years.

Our detached youth work sessions continue to be the key to the project success and has proved an effective way to engage marginalised vulnerable young people whilst offering creative space for young person led activities, projects, one to one work to local young people 12-25 years. Over the last five years, we have been able to do consistent in depth work with over 400 young people a year, having over 4,000 interactions with local young people each year. This has allowed us to build effective trusting relationships with young people on a voluntary basis.

Supporting young people in to employment

We have developed more effective measuring systems to compliment the Star of Success and new 0-10 scales in supporting young people in to employment.

We have effectively worked in depth with 100 individuals over five years in our Living it Large programme, Meadow Well Notes and Who am I Where am I going programme.
We have developed effective relationships with local businesses resulting in direct funding and in kind funding and employment opportunities for young people.
Given out achievement awards to businesses, local partners and young people.

Reducing harm

Continued to support young people around knife crime via Cuts both Ways programme, looking at actions and consequences of using knifes. We initiated the Reece Allan award to celebrate young people's contribution to others after Reece sadly lost his life to knife crime.

Inspired and helped courageous young women create an educational pack on domestic violence called Respect Factor (in all schools in North Tyneside).

We have supported young people develop educational packs on self-harm and alcohol education (in all schools in North Tyneside).

Young people created their chemical Guinea Pigs film, educating young people around legal highs.

Improving wellbeing
Successfully tendered for contract North Tyneside Public Health and we were contracted to deliver health and wellbeing work to young people in NE29 for 3 years.

We have been involved on a strategic level to improve health and wellbeing in NE29 with North Tyneside Council via the Chirton and Riverside strategic partnership.

The Helping Hands group work (borough wide) has increased from two groups to five and work in-depth with 63 young people suffering mental health issues a year.

The Intergenerational Project continues to break down barriers between young and old with an older resident becoming a Trustee for the project.

Staffing achievements
We have increased staffing levels to increase part-time youth workers post to full-time and gained the funding for a part-time admin worker.

We have successfully increased capacity via sharing staff and resources and skills with Connections, Active NT (NTC), Owen Pugh Holdings Ltd.,

Five Year Development Plan for Future Youth Work 2017-2022

Outline of a Five Year vision
The foundation that underpins all Phoenix activities is the detached youth work. This is how relationships of trust and respect are built with young women and men, and young person led developments, around issues that are important to them, happen because of the quality of these relationships. Without the detached youth work there would be no outputs, outcomes or longer term impact in terms of Phoenix's work with young people and the difference it makes.

Four main 'strands of work' were identified for the next five years. The strands weave in and out of each other.

Sustainability
Making sure that the Phoenix continues to exist as an organisation with a clear set of values and principles, in line with feedback to "keep doing more of what they are doing because the need is becoming more and more apparent" in terms of working with young people with respect and care.

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Mental and emotional health and wellbeing
This is an area that is currently high priority at a national level, and local young people have highlighted need e.g. for Helping Hands group support. It involves preventative work that links young people up with the current public health agenda, and involves them in working out ways of reducing risk and harm to themselves and others, and improving their health. Building self-esteem, confidence, and mental and emotional wellbeing links with all the other areas of Phoenix's work;
direct work around poverty, gym activities and water based and other outdoor sports, raising self-confidence and levels of physical and emotional wellbeing. All of the creative arts work which is increasingly important as it disappears from the school curriculum. Supporting young people into work experience and paid employment i.e "completing the circle" with them to avoid poverty and the effects of economic disadvantage on health and wellbeing and continue ongoing Helping Hands group sessions.

Publicity and awareness-raising
There is already significant action in this strand, including input from Northumbria University. This can carry on over the next five years, with more digitisation, website updating, and focus on social media. Ideas were shared about developing;
Marketing via the website e.g. of resources produced by young people, as suggested by an interviewee during the evaluation process "Keep resource packs and explore the potential of young people marketing them". Continue to promote the Just Giving page and develop case studies and videos with messages from partner organisations about the big impact of relatively small financial investment or investment in kind. This links with sustainability strand.

Partnership building
The Phoenix DYP to be more strategic in its partnership building, prioritising going to meetings and events, where there is likely to be the most useful networking opportunities. Develop time to create more effective partnerships with businesses and other partners locally which will create real change for young people.

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