

## **Swanage Town & Community Partnership AGM – Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

### **Item 11) Youth Strategy - update**

#### **Swanage Youth Strategy – 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting**

**Tuesday 23 January 2024 – held at Cumulus Outdoors – 2-4pm**

#### **1. Additional data/information since last meeting**

- Margaret Guy, PPG: Youth patient participation group (Youth PPG) was set up for the Purbeck Primary Care Network (collective of the six Purbeck GP surgeries) pre-COVID. A survey was sent out in 2021 to three local secondary schools asking for their priorities in health services. With over 540 responses, the main priority that became apparent was mental health followed by sexual health. PCN have responded to that by increasing the funding and providing additional counselling time in schools through Dorset Mind. There is a YPPG Instagram page called 'YPPG' for information.
- Joyce Spiller, Purbeck Local Alliance Group: One of the main priorities for the Purbeck LAG is youth mental health and wellbeing and as a response are bringing together a group to create a strategy to understand the issues, opportunities and how local groups/services/volunteers/organisations can work better together to improve the mental health and wellbeing of our local young people.
- Tim Ives, Swanage Cricket Club: Concern that young carers are a group which are hard to reach. MyTime Young Carers charity works across Purbeck and Dorset but not clear if they have a presence in Swanage. Need to find out if they could be the link to young carers locally.

#### **2. Dorset Youth**

Mike Bennett, CEO of Dorset Youth: Dorset Youth is an organization which brings together youth organizations and activities across the county and facilitates the 0-25 VCS Forum in Dorset. Provides a range of support to clubs and activities including setting up new groups, policies and procedures, networking and funding. Have a website [dorsetyouth.com](http://dorsetyouth.com) which was created by young people providing relevant information and links to services and activities.

Also facilitates VoiceX , a platform which supports young people to ensure their voices are heard, shared and actioned on. Young people are able to feed directly into relevant issues through surveys and through social media. This up-to-date and specific data can then be shared with relevant organizations to help to e.g. shape or create services and inform funding bids. Over 800 young people have engaged with VoiceX to date and the most important current topic is mental

health, wellbeing and able to access support. The data is open access and for the latest data email [mikebennett@dorsetyouth.com](mailto:mikebennett@dorsetyouth.com)

Dorset Youth is working in several areas across the county and can support Swanage through linking up with different organisations, supporting new services, youth surveys, helping with partnership bids and other support.

### **3. Services and organizations that need to be part of the creation of the youth strategy**

- All local schools including consortiums and academies
- Statutory Services
- Youth PPG
- Swanage Youth Club
- A potential local Sports Partnership could be set up
- Young Carers services

### **4. Themes, outcomes, outputs and evaluation**

Smaller groups discussed the themes identified in the first meeting in more depth. Notes from those below:

#### **Mental Health:**

- Opportunity to influence the community e.g. volunteer pathways
- Supporting your family hub and their outcomes
- Opportunity to safely meet friends
- Stories of success
- Shorter waiting lists for CAMHS
- Increased local authorities includes creative
- Facilitating opportunities joining up
- Suicide awareness training to go wide
- Month taster sessions across all activities – engage with people who work with families who find it hard to get there

#### **SEND:**

- Local opportunities in Purbeck
- Employment opportunities
- Disability awareness training – measure who attends
- Ensure good physical access in Swanage

#### **Multigenerational community:**

- Connection to communication – young people could work with this youth strategy group to create content for social channels and CYP

- Set projects through correct organisations e.g. Dorset Youth which would allow for more volunteers (e.g. adult mentoring for young people)
- Skatepark running the community events will attract multigenerational survey as baseline then re-survey to measure impact/changes in the number and demographics of users
- Continue community growth by surveying participants and listening to what the community wants to provide the right things
- Long standing relationships – options for young people to be young/youth leaders. They become volunteer advocates which could be measure e.g. scouts
- Flexibility – allowing options for young people to join in on their terms
- Creating work experience opportunities that provides real value & benefit to young people. Businesses may need support on how to do this effectively. Measure outputs – continuous employment, year on year seasonal work for young people returning to the same employers, work experiences develop beyond seasonal roles.
- Issue identified: communicating roles & opportunities to young people

### **Communication:**

- How do we communicate with young people?
- Community page Insta/Tiktok page e.g. transport to events, sports clubs, whether there is funding, social events
- Young people running page advising on events and activities
- How do you get communication to the YP?

### **Transport:**

- Where do they want to go? When do they want to go?
- Free bus passes – is there an option for YP to access these if they need support for training and education/jobs/accessing services?
- Cycleways
- Car share scheme
- LTP4 consultation

### **Youth voices**

- Action things quickly – need to be quick wins
- They need to see it – e.g. social media and schools
- Peer support – needs to be youth led, training/support
- Relatable
- Do they know what they want?

### **Girls/young women in sport**

- Girls only sessions (rugby, football, tennis)
- Mixed sessions
- Collaborating with services aimed at young women/girls

- Increased participation of girls in outdoor education and work experience
- Increase in number of women outdoor instructors

**Mentoring and coaching:**

- Sports programmes to build confidence, skills applicable for interviews
- Work experience
- D of E

**Career pathways:**

- Sports clubs – coaching pathway
- Outdoor education – instructor & teacher training
- Swanage carnival – providing funding for coaching courses e.g. £200-300 per course

**5. Taking the strategy forward**

- What are the main priorities – each participant was asked to tick three themes they would like to see prioritised. Results below:

**Prioritisation ranking:**

Transport	1
Mental Health	2
Communicating avenues to young people	9
Youth voices	12
Special Educational Needs/'inclusion'	2
Mentoring & coaching	9
Multigenerational community (to go with above?)	3
Girls/young women in sport	5
Career pathways	2

- Potential creation of sub-groups which then feed into a wider meeting
- Set up online communication – Google file sharing was suggested
- Time of the meetings to not clash with school pick up times
- Dorset Youth to help with youth voices consultation
- A smaller committee to be set up to have a more in-depth conversation about some of these issues

With the themes in mind, trying to collate a table of all the existing/in motion/high potential strategies, partnerships, projects and action already in existence which would be delivering the aims of this strategy:

<b>Theme</b>	<b>What is already happening</b>	<b>Strategies/partnerships in place</b>	<b>Potential new partnership to develop or unknown</b>
Mental health	YP mental health forum led by Purbeck Local Alliance Group  PPG Youth/PCN/Local Health & Care group providing direct funding for mental health services in Purbeck	Purbeck Local Alliance Group  Youth PPG	Youth Swanage sports clubs partnerships working together on themes  School alliance?
Transport	LTP4	PTAG PCRCP	
SEND	All Sorted, Durlston	Purbeck Local Alliance Group	
Mentoring/coaching opportunities		Purbeck Nature & CYP vision (led by National Trust)	
Girls/young women in sport	Skatepark		
Youth voices	Schools Youth clubs	Youth PPG School councils/youth forums	
Communication avenues	Dorset Youth		