

YOUTH WORK

EVALUATION OF YOUTHLINK SCOTLAND'S YOUTH WORK FUND AND THREE-YEAR PARTNERSHIPS

JUNE 2022
ROUND 5
YEAR2



By **CATCH THE LIGHT**



YouthLink
Scotland
The national agency for youth work

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All maps are from the
[Gazeteer for Scotland](#).

Photos are provided by individual projects.

INTRODUCTION

Background

As the world revives itself after two-years of pandemic restrictions and lockdowns, [YouthLink Scotland](#) has overseen the second year of the Scottish Government's [CashBack for Communities](#) funding (Round 5: 2020 to 2023).

This document reports on what was achieved in year two (2021 to 2022), reflecting on the lessons learned for the future, with the third and final year of round five already underway.

As the national umbrella organisation for the youth work sector, YouthLink Scotland created a Youth Work Fund to redistribute monies to local providers. Organisations are selected after bidding to an annual fund, with local panels in each authority assessing applications that best meet the funding criteria. Not all applications are successful and the fund is regularly oversubscribed.

The Youth Work Fund has run since the inception of CashBack for Communities 12 years ago. The sector welcomes the Government's decision to use of proceeds of crime to support the to delivery of skilled youth work that tackles the effects of deprivation with a preventative focus on early intervention to potential risks. In previous rounds the youth work sector has proved its ability to reach large numbers of young people, from diverse backgrounds to achieve targets set by the Scottish Government and managed by [Inspiring Scotland](#) on their behalf.

For round five of the CashBack for Communities fund, it was agreed that the annual youth work grant fund would continue, with successful local providers receiving an average of £4-5 thousand pounds. For the first time a new extra strand was introduced to test the viability of using a partnership approach to conduct targeted youth work in seven identified areas of multiple deprivation. Each locality received £15 thousand per annum.

CONTEXT

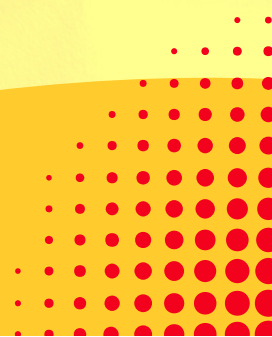
The Sector, the Pandemic and the Fund



The youth work sector consists of mainly small voluntary organisations, alongside public sector youth work teams and a few larger Scottish or UK charities. Services are delivered by a combination of professionally trained staff, sessional and part-time employees that are supplemented by a large volunteer workforce. The principles of youth work are to offer safe access to personal and social development that: starts where young people are at; is done in partnership with adults and that young people choose to take part [\[read more\]](#).

The pandemic posed unprecedented challenges to the sector. Aware of the risks to young people's well-being, workers were determined to provide a space for youth work during this crucial time; whilst bumping against major obstacles. Public buildings were closed, forcing activities outdoors in all seasons. With systems designed to enforce stringent safeguards between adults and young people, digital protocols took time to resolve. Although schools re-opened, school-based youth work providers were often denied access to buildings. As regulations demanded high adult ratios and social distancing; furlough, absence and regulations all stretched the often limited and largely volunteer led or supported workforce.

In both the main youth work fund and the pilot programme, there are growing signs of recovery with a sense that outcome indicator targets could be fully realised by the end of year three. Feedback and evaluation findings highlight the innovative ways that local providers responded to Covid-19 by adapting, pausing and re-organising to reach those young people that were vulnerable and isolated during the lockdown; and therefore most likely to benefit from the support provided, in whatever adapted form that took. Remarkably the sector has surpassed the target of 10,000 young people in year two by 74% and has reached 17,431 when figures from the Youth Work Fund and pilot projects are combined.



CRITERIA AND OUTCOMES

To be met by fund recipients and partners

Successful applications to both the fund and pilot programmes are required to:

- Provide support to young people **most at risk and communities most affected by antisocial behaviour, offending and crime.**
- **Achieve CashBack outcomes** for young people
- Provide **youth work opportunities** (in line with youth work principles).
- Take a proactive approach to **ensure the activities are accessible to the target group** of young people.
- **Demonstrate a “place based” approach** (i.e. add value through a joined up approach).
- **Support and encourage the involvement of young people** in the development, management and running of the project.

Adjustments were made to the analysis of outcomes to reflect the direct beneficiaries (11,319) reported on or accounted for as a proportion of the total (14,100). It shows that percentage targets are mainly on or above target, as explained in sections one and two. The outcomes are:

1. **Young people build their confidence and resilience, benefit from support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour.**
2. **Young people develop their physical and personal skills.**
3. **Young people's health and wellbeing improves.**
4. **Young people participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations).**
5. **Young people contribute positively to their communities**
6. **Young people are diverted from criminal behaviour or involvement with the criminal justice system.**

Therefore the report is presented in two sections:

Section 1 reports on the £725 thousand distributed via the 'Youth Work Fund' (YWF),
Section 2 focuses on the £94,335 invested the pilot partnership projects (PPP).

YOUTH WORK

YOUTH WORK FUND

SECTION

1



NUMBERS

For Year Two 2021-2022

14,100



+47%: Target
10,000

Young people engaged in
funded youth work activities

11,319 sampled*
109 average per
organisation



138

Organisations received
funding

Across all Local
Authorities



£725,766

Distributed to local youth
providers

£5,000 average



54%

Are in the target SIMD
deciles 1&2, the most
deprived
0-20% of datazones

34% are in
deciles 3&4

*The 'sample' refers to the number
of young people that were asked to
rate their progress against
outcomes, or that the staff and
stakeholders could verify.

OUTCOMES

For Year Two 2021-2022

The six national outcomes for CashBack funding are arranged in a series of indicators and targets that are agreed with and overseen by YouthLink Scotland as the fund holder.

The Youth Work fund is distributed into small bite-sized chunks for local youth providers, with the scope to opt out of outcomes that are not relevant to the project remit.

To accommodate this, the evaluators have carried out an analysis which adjusts percentages to reflect the actual number of young people reached by the fund, rather than the wider reach of the organisation. Also any forms with no response or a '0' are removed.

The results show the outcome indicator and the percentage of young people that achieved it, as a percentage of the direct beneficiaries (11,319). Underneath is the total number of young people that achieved that indicator/ the average number per organisation funded/ and the % target . The arrows and adjacent figures indicate whether this was above, below or on target (+/-5%).

1.1 Increased Confidence - 75%

→ 0% 8,522| Ave 66| 75% target

1.2 Able to do new things - 74%

→ -1% 8,219| Ave 65| 75% target

1.3 Positive support networks - 68%

↓ -7% 7,511| Ave 60| 75% target

1.4 Positive changes in behaviour - 59%

↑ +25% 6,689| Ave 53| 35% target

2.1 Gained accreditation - 27%

→ +2% 2,332| Ave 24| 25% target

2.2 Increased Skills - 59%

↑ +9% 6,365| Ave 52| 50% target

3. Improved Wellbeing - 78%

→ +3% 8,773| Ave 68| 75% target

4.1 Remain or return to school - 55%

4,640| Ave 48| 12% target +43%



4.2 Improved attendance - 33%

2,695| Ave 29| 15% target +18%



4.3 Participate in other learning - 19%

2,285| Ave 22| 50% target -25%



PROGRESS MADE

The majority of young people have **improved their confidence (75%)** which is on target. The **59% that report positive changes in behaviour** is 25% above target. It is interesting that those with **positive support networks (75%)** is below target by 7% as this may reflect the impact of the disruption during the pandemic. Those that have **gained accreditation (27%)** and **increased skills (59%)** are respectively on or above target. Young people that report **improvements on the SHANARRI well-being indicators (78%)** is slightly above target.

Those **remaining or returning to school (55%)** and **improving attendance (33%)** are above target (43% & 18% respectively). **Participation in other learning (19%)** is below target, which is likely to be impacted by the fact that planned programmes were curtailed.

There are mixed results for the contribution made to communities. The number of **volunteering hours** is substantially higher than anticipated (**over 33 thousand**), although the **number of young people that engaged in volunteering (14%)** is 18% below target.

Young people that feel they have **improved their contribution to the community (42%)** is also below target by 8%. Whereas those that **feel less inclined to engage in anti-social or criminal behaviour (47%)** are just above target by 7%.

5.1 Volunteer - 14%

1,245| Ave 12| 32% target

-18%



5.2 Improved contribution to the community - 42%

4,681| Ave 37| 50% target

-8%



33,832 hours of volunteering

+18,832



6. Less inclined to engage in ASB/ offending - 47%

5,145| Ave 41| 40% target

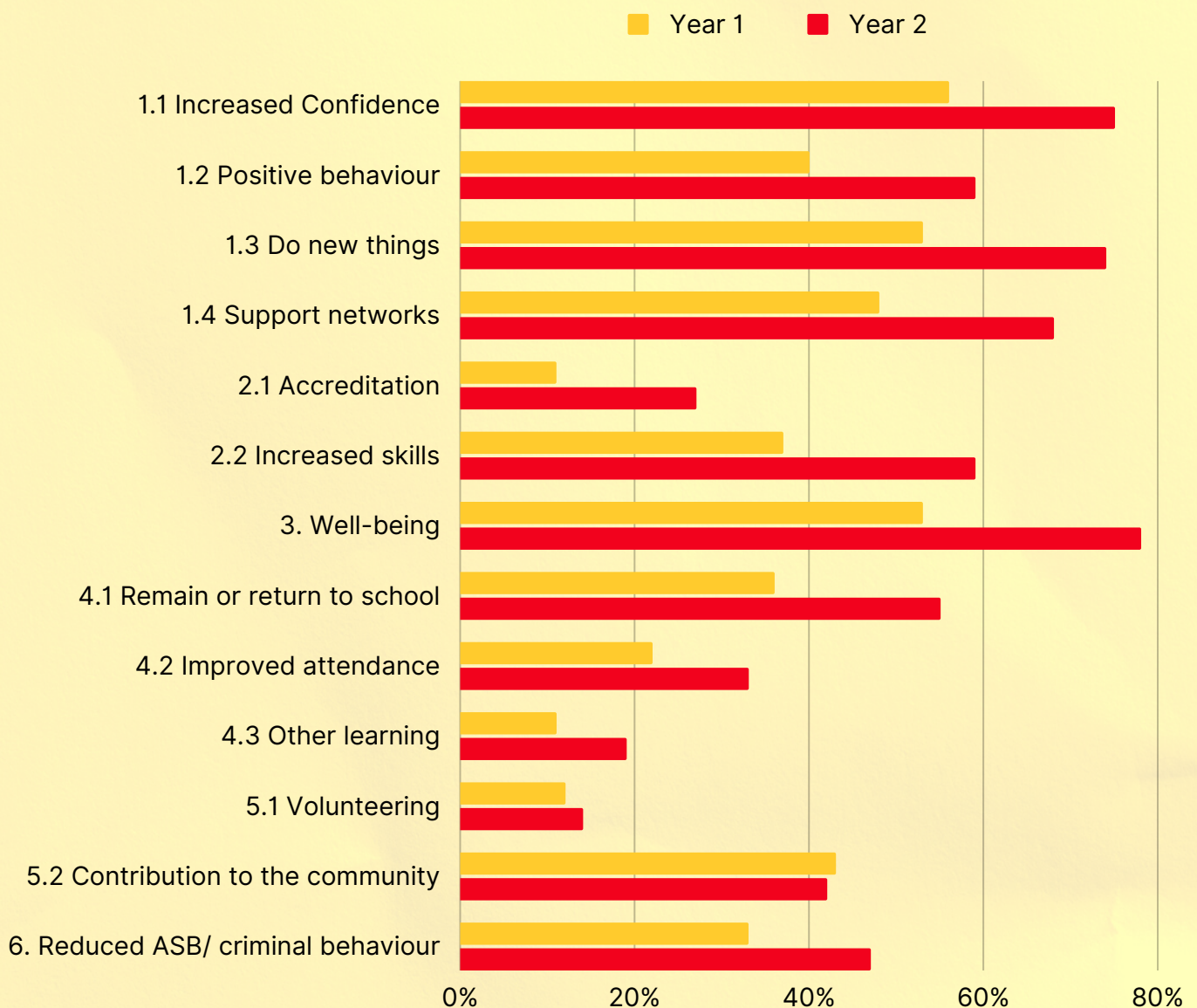
+7%



YEAR ON YEAR PROGRESS

Round 5, Years 1 & 2
2020-2021 and 2021-2022

A comparison of year one and two results shows improvements as normal operations return. Most significant is the 25% increase on those that feel their well-being has improved (Yr1 53% to Yr2 78%). The only indicator which reduced in year two is a 1% reduction (Yr1 43%, Yr 2 42%) for young people that feel their contribution to the community has improved, which shows that this staying at a consistent level. Although low numbers that entered volunteering roles, the amount of time spent volunteering increased. Based on these positive outcomes, it is anticipated that all targets are within reach in year three.



Below is a summary of each outcome accompanied with feedback to exemplify the diverse ways that outcomes were achieved by youth service providers across Scotland's communities.

OUTCOME ONE

“Young people build their confidence and resilience, benefit from support networks and reduce risk taking behaviour”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP report Increased levels of confidence and resilience	3,611	56%	8522	75%
YP feel able to do new things	3,400	53%	8219	74%
YP report that they have positive supportive networks	3,135	49%	7511	68%
YP report positive changes in their behaviour	2,693	42%	6689	59%

The 12+ Early Intervention, Aim High project explained that young people attending their alternative curriculum programme were able to gain confidence and resilience that helped overcome the affects of isolation:

" The young people are quite isolated and have lost friends because they do not attend school. So the youth club gave them an opportunity to build their confidence self esteem and work on their resilience, as well as making new friends. Most of them informed their key workers that they were excited about next week's activities." Youth Worker

OUTCOME TWO

“Young people develop their personal and physical skills”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP report increased personal skills, achieving accredited learning	704	11%	2,332	27%
YP report an increase in their skills	2,464	38%	6,365	59%
Attend other third sector learning			2,285	19%

About Youth in Edinburgh seized the opportunity to expand skills, through promoting interaction with greenspaces and going on an overnight break:

"Most of the young people we support live in flats with no access to private greenspace and our project helped them to get outside and enjoy their local community and environment. For many this was the first time they had visited parks and green spaces in their city and, via the residential overnight break, the first time some young people had ever spent the night away from home. Another key outcome was the project's intended aim of helping young people to forge new connections and knowledge of the local environment and, in particular, the Union Canal and its history." Youth Worker

OUTCOME THREE

“Young people’s health and wellbeing improves”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP report improved wellbeing against SHANARRI indicators	3,264	51%	8,773	78%

Regen:fx in South Lanarkshire identified a need among local girls to have a safe space with work that focussed on what it means to be a young woman growing up in Scotland:

"We've noticed a reduction in the girls' welfare and self-esteem since Lockdown. There has been a significant shift in the way the girls view themselves, their futures, their female role in the world, and the stereotypes and norms that influence these expectations in their lives and communities. For example, teen pregnancies, stay-at-home mums, early school dropouts, and a lack of goals where girls get trapped. As a result, we wanted to encourage them in challenging the status quo and creating empowered girls who are critical thinkers who believe they have the potential to defy gender norms and societal prejudices. On a one-on-one basis, we worked with the girls to build a development plan for their time at 'The Street' and other projects. It first came to light when the girls admitted to having low self-esteem and body image and expressed a need for a venue where only females address topics that affect them." Youth Worker

"I have got new friends that I don't have in school and that like me for being me. It has helped me to understand better when I have anxiety and don't want to go out , that I have coping mechanisms I can put in place now and that I can do anything I put my mind to. I have realised that my ideas, thoughts and opinions are valued. I have achieved my first aid certificate and a youth work certificate. I have gained confidence so I can leave the house more and know that I have new friends that are there for me and not making fun of me behind my back and they will stand up for me. I never knew a lot of the things that were brought up in the group with the girls as I just live with my dad and brother, so this group has taught me things about what it means to be a girl and answered questions I was too embarrassed to ask my Dad or Gran." Young Peron, Regen:fx

OUTCOME FOUR

“Young people participate in activity which improves their learning, employability and employment options (positive destinations)”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP will achieve a positive destination	3,209	32%	4,640	55%
YP will improve school attendance	1,094	15%	2,695	33%
Attend other third sector learning			2,285	19%

A participant at the Aberdeen Foyer project became more self-aware, noting:

I think coming to this project helped improve my attendance levels and helped me develop skills I didn't realise I already had. It helped improve my confidence and made me realise that I was able to do things, I wouldn't have considered before. I can work in a group and get on with others share my ways of doing things and be okay if it doesn't work first time, that's how we learn but it was good being able to talk it through instead of giving up. Young Person

Impact Arts, identified an example of a young 18 year old trans-male from West Lothian that learned a wide range of creative skills through inputs from a variety of organisations, as the worker continues:

"Brian has worked hard during sessions about Planitplus, built his own CV, searched for College courses and jobs and has now achieved his SQA Employability Awards, Level 3. Brian has an unconditional offer from Edinburgh College Basic Photography. Brian is also being referred to Enable - Stage 3 Employability Course this will keep him in a good routine until college starts."

OUTCOME FIVE

“Young people contribute positively to their communities”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP take on a volunteering role	473	7%	1,245	14%
Number of hours of volunteering by YP	12,208		33,832	
YP feel their contribution, links with communities and social interaction are improving	3,183	47%	4,681	42%

Edinburgh City Youth Cafe (6VT) observed that by offering alternatives to hanging about the streets the young people gained a sense of purpose in their home, school and community:

"We were able to ensure that they were properly cared for whilst parents/carers were out at work etc. Young people made new friends and got the opportunity to try out new things that they normally wouldn't have got the chance to do. Families reported better relationships at home and helped build new friendships which was beneficial as they transitioned to high school." Youth Worker

The Hut in Glasgow referred to flower beds and a memorial bench they installed, which prompted a local resident to comment:

"The Hut staff are great. They take the kids for what they are and give them trust and confidence. Lots of stuff going on after school for them they do a lot in the community and the area." Resident

OUTCOME SIX

“Young people are diverted from criminal behaviour or involvement with the criminal justice system”

Indicator	No Yr 1	% Yr 1	No Yr 2 Direct beneficiaries or sample	% Yr 2
YP feel less inclined to participate in anti-social and/or criminal behaviour	2,601	40%	5,145	47%

These examples highlight ways certain populations were targeted to address the challenges faced by young people engaged or affected by anti-social or criminal behaviour:

"My PCS teacher at school and criminal justice social worker were worried about my attendance at school as I was not going in very much after lockdown and the school were unsure if I could sit my exams. I was also getting involved in fights with people when I was drinking at the weekend, which led to police involvement and I had charges outstanding. I got involved to do something good with my time and hopefully avoid getting charged." Tayside Council on Alcohol, Young Person

"This group of boys in particular were completely disengaged from all services within the community during lockdown. One of the reasons for setting up the group was to target young males within the community engaging in anti - social behavior within the community and exploring risk management, substance misuse and criminal charges were a huge priority within the group. This was approached in various ways including 1-1 sessions with them to explore their concerns and create a plan for the young person to move forward with their future. We also carried out group work sessions to explore the risks of anti - social behavior within the community and the impact that can have on not only the young people but the community as a whole. To sum up the boys have fully engaged in the group and have built up positive relationships with staff and volunteers within the Citadel. They have approached staff on a number of occasions to support them through the criminal justice system and has resulted in them avoiding sentencing on the basis that they engage in positive avenues and services within the community." Citadel, Edinburgh

SUMMARY

Trends and Features of the Youth Work Fund



Feedback from Youth Work Fund recipients documents the widespread recovery at the end of year two (Round 5).

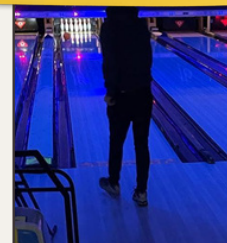
During this current period of pandemic recovery, many of the organisations continue to galvanise young people towards **giving active support to their local communities**, such as delivering meals or generally looking after their streets by making them clean and safe and attractive. On occasions this includes the young people changing their own behaviours, if they were previously deviant or antisocial. Overall there is evidence of workers targeting young people due to their demographics (areas of deprivation) or their exposure to risks, such as substance abuse, disengagement from schools or isolation and exposure to antisocial or criminal behaviour.

There are 14 instances where **outreach work** is mentioned and 17 references to **detached work**, giving this more prominence than in previous rounds. For instance in Perth and Kinross, an alliance collaborated on a detached youth work approach to deal with large gatherings of young people in Perth City.

Another continuing trend is more innovative **outdoor activities**, such as The Concrete Garden in South Glasgow that provided arts led free play sessions. Or the Place Youth Club in Alness that took the initiative to rent a field for 99 years. There is an upsurge in **digital youth work**, which taps into things like VR technology and gaming as with Fast Forward's 'Own-Its' - a series of thought provoking games created by young people on Activity Agreements. **Arts, sports and outdoor specialist programmes** co-exist alongside or integral to the heady mix of conventional and innovative youth work offerings.

"This is the first time where I have worked with others in a group and actually ended up liking those that I am with. That is genuinely a rarity for me! Feeling comfortable with openly sharing my thoughts on what have sometimes been some pretty emotive subjects has also been a big thing. Before the first session, I was really scared and nervous about coming. Now I really look forward to the sessions. It feels nice to know that by telling and creating our own stories we will make a difference to some of the choices that other people, just like us, will make. I would absolutely show my 'Own It' [game] to my family and my friends. I'm proud of it and I want them to see it."

Young Person, West Lothian Own It group (HYPE)





VIDEOS

View these examples.

YOUTH WORK

A PILOT OF SEVEN THREE-YEAR YOUTH WORK
PARTNERSHIPS

SECTION

2



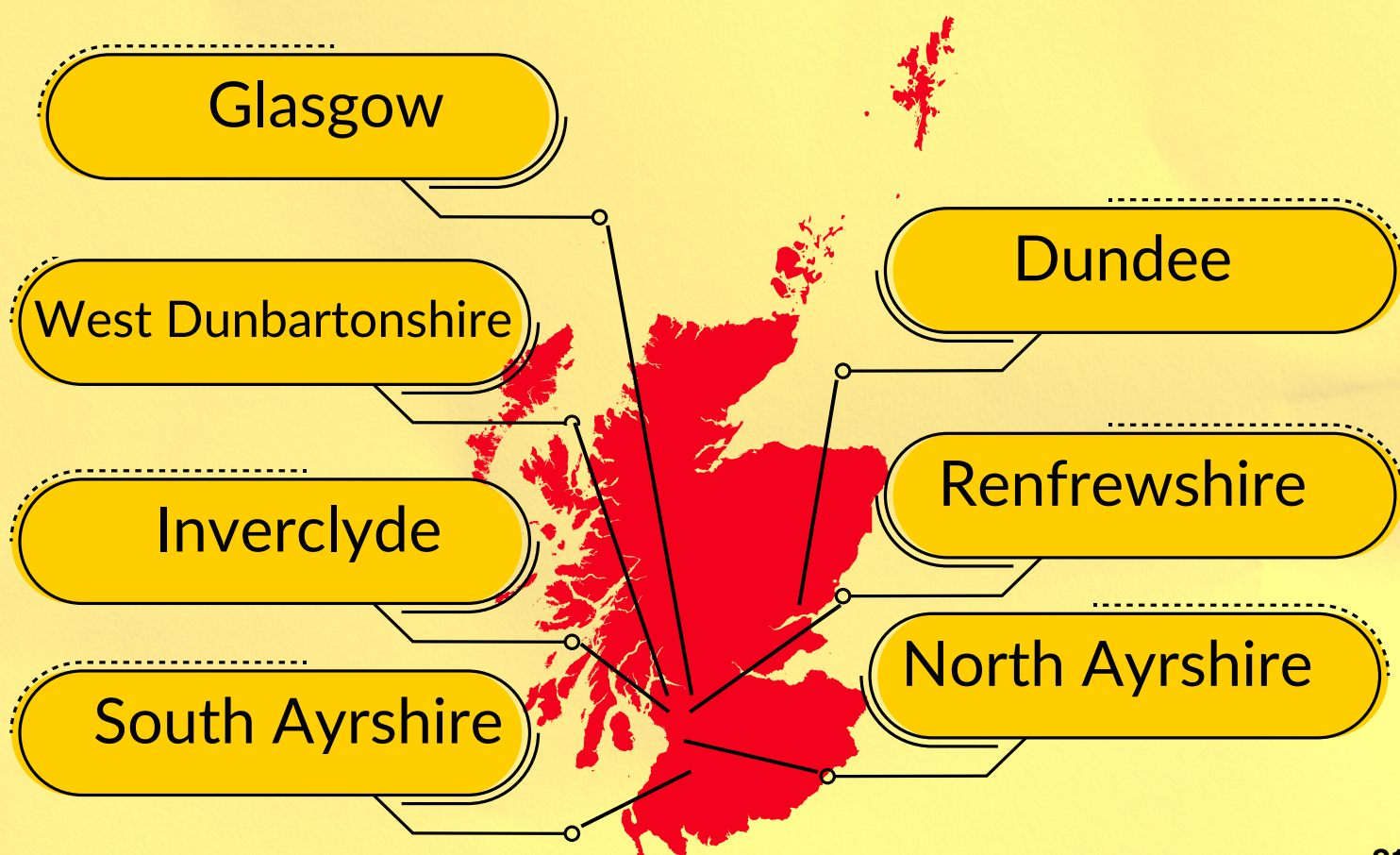
INTRODUCTION

TO THE PILOT PARTNERSHIPS

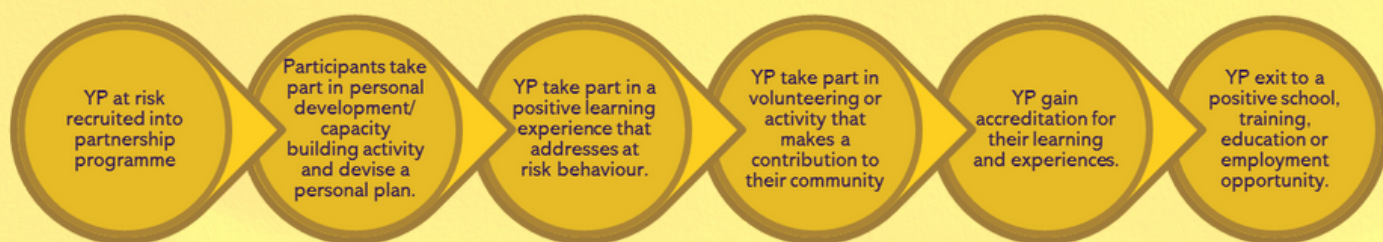
The purpose of the three-year pilots is to inject additional funds into a partnership approach to targeted youth work, with a view to:

- **Determine whether more secure and longer-term funding of a partnership project/programme supports CashBack for Communities outcomes.**
- **Assess whether a more strategic local approach to the use of funds (over three years) better supports CashBack for Communities outcomes.**
- **To review the impact on outcomes and targets.**

The partnerships are required to deliver work that is youth work in nature and delivery by, or in partnership with a youth work service provider. It must clearly contribute to CashBack for Communities outcomes, reach young people at risk and contribute to the most disadvantaged communities (as identified in local outcome plans). The pilot phase distributed £94,336 in total (£15,000 per annum) to partnerships in the following areas:



A typical pathway for young people taking part in a partnership approach to youth work is outlined in the diagram below. Instead of a single partner providing the whole process, partners link together to create a seamless process, as illustrated:



Most of year one was used to establish the framework that would fit each locality. Once the pandemic hit, the projects were brought to a halt before getting off the ground. Consequently, delivery was minimal in year one (as in the Annual Report), with surplus funds being carried forward to year two.

Disruptions continued in year two, with partners doing what they could to amend plans to overcome the obstacles, whenever it was feasible and safe to do so. For instance Renfrewshire staff were diverted into the local emergency response team, returning to programme delivery once Covid restrictions eased. In Glasgow restrictions on buildings and staff shortages prevented any delivery commencing until the final quarter of the year.

West Dunbartonshire took to delivering street work, which was innovative and positive in that it reached over 1,000 young people. However in the more direct regular engagement, the team tracked progress on around ten percent of the total that they made contact with and 'sighted'. This has affected reporting, as cumulative figures with such high contact numbers skew the percentage figures for progress on outcomes.

Therefore the YouthLink reports will in future contain an extra column to accommodate the total reach and the direct beneficiaries or sample group that are being reported on. Nevertheless a summary is presented on the next page to give an overview of what the Pilot Partnership Projects (PPP's) achieved. This is followed by individual case studies and figures for each partnership. The case studies include a table of young people engaged, a graph showing the outcomes achieved (and reported on) and a summary and feedback on the status of projects as they enter year three.

NUMBERS

Round Five Year Two 2021-2022



4,047

Young people engaged in funded youth work activities

1,619 average, although this represents high contact with targeted engagement at a lower level.

7 Partnerships

Seven partnerships formed to run a targeted programme of activities for vulnerable young people and received £15K each

35%

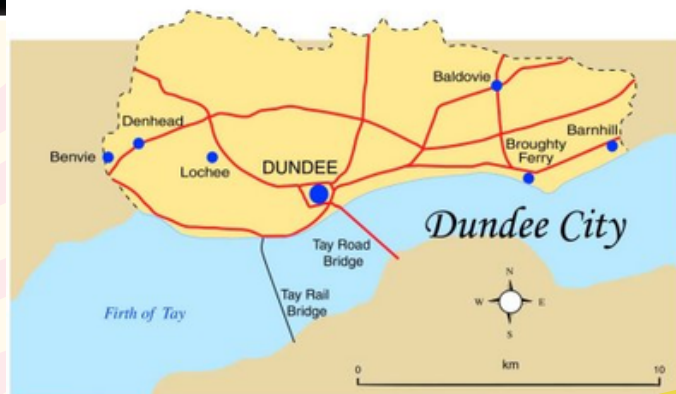
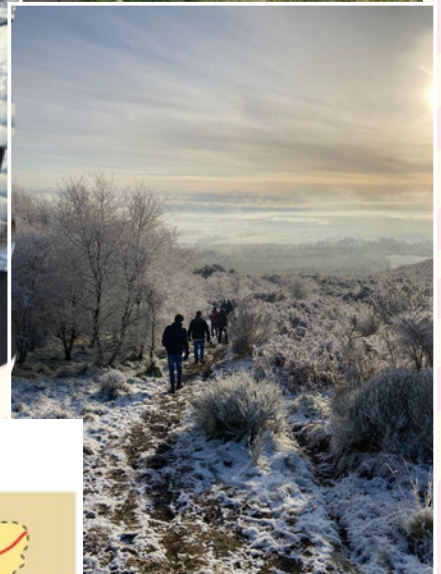
Are engaged or at risk of engagement in antisocial or criminal activity

93%

Are in the target SIMD deciles 1&2, the most deprived 0-20% of datazones

Percentage figures are adjusted to account for the direct beneficiaries or those that were sampled for the report.

DUNDEE CITY



DUNDEE CITY

Despite restrictions, the partners led by CLD team in Dundee City were able to engage with five young people. The young people were selected because they were deemed to be in the target as follows:

- **Behavioural issues**
- **Offending behaviours**
- **Exclusion from school**
- **School Non-attendance**
- **Non-participation in formal /informal learning opportunities within the Community**
- **Education (Rockwell Education Resource & Secondary schools)**
- **Social Work (Youth Adolescent Team)**
- **Police Scotland**
- **Ancrum Outdoor Education Service**
- **Parents /Carers**

The focus was to re-engage them and offer Outdoor Learning and appropriate socially distanced activities in a variety of locations outwith the Dundee area. These activities included : Golf Driving Range, Hillwalking Mountain Biking Football Golf Gorge Walking Fishing and bike repairs. These activities were delivered for a day each week by CLD Youth Work staff and a partner Outdoor Learning provider at Ancrum Outdoor Centre. It afforded young people the opportunity to re-engage with staff and also with their peers during a time of otherwise limited opportunities. This programme will meet one full day per week 9;30-3;30pm in Ardler Community Centre. The centre acts as a hub to leave from and return to as the young people engage in a range of outdoor activities.

The project is staffed by:

- **2 CLD Youth Work Staff,**
- **1 Social Worker and**
- **1 Outdoor Education Worker.**

The fund was beneficial as it enabled the team to:

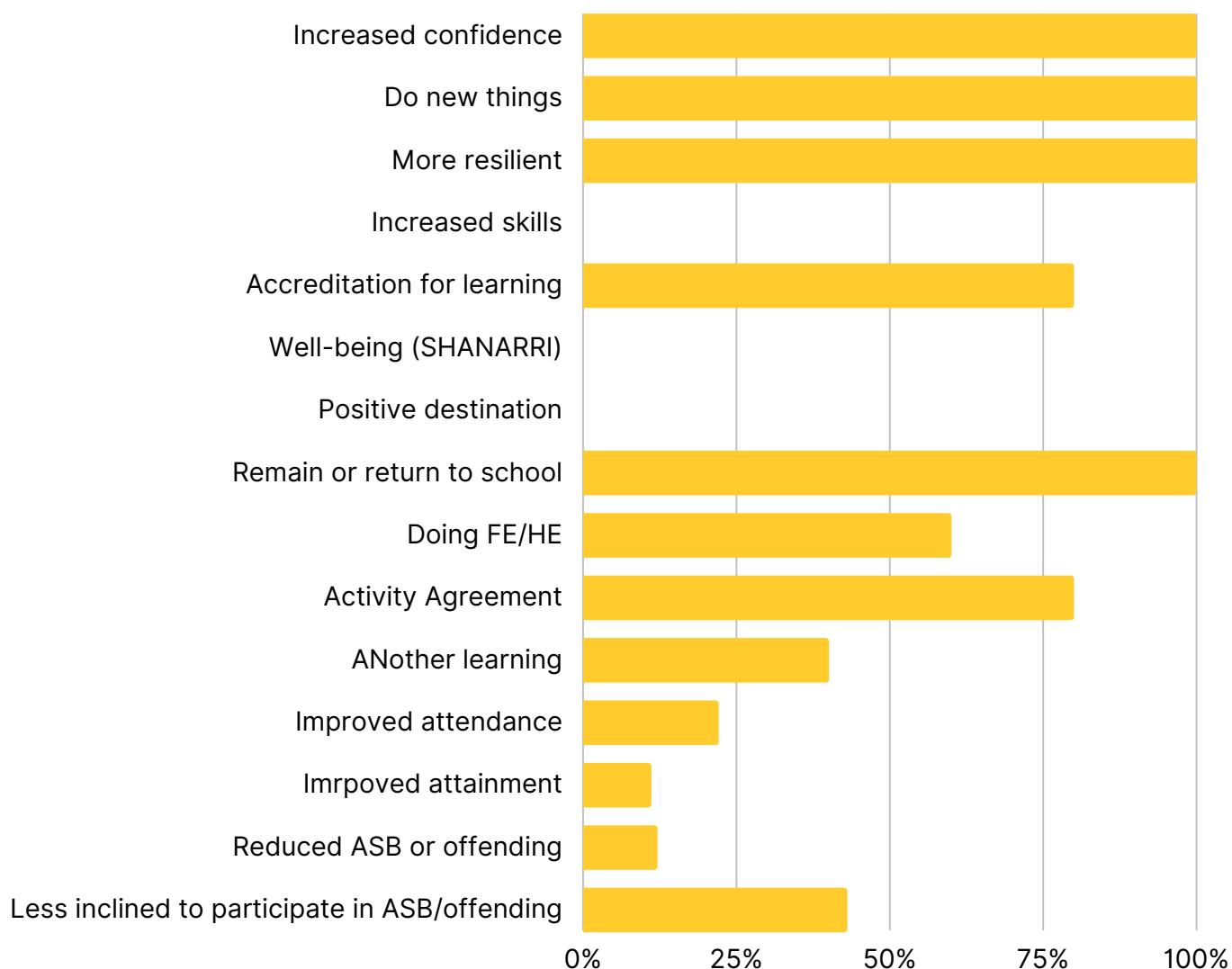
- Provide range of Outdoor learning experiences and associated travel costs
- Capacity to provide regular meals during programme
- Purchase of individual toolboxes for young people
- Funding of Residential Experience

As the project moved into its third year the staff have expressed a need to plan for sustained longer term meaningful engagement with young people and ongoing support beyond the term of the project. The strengths of the programme lies in its **direct targeting** through clear selection criteria and the links between professions. With a small group the work can afford to offer high intensity support with efforts made to maintain communication between professionals, parents and young people. A focus for year three is to fill the gaps in outcome monitoring and explore avenues for accreditation.

Dundee	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	5	5	100%
No of males	5	5	100%
No of females	0	0	0%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	0	0	0%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	5	5	100%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	5	5	100%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	5	3	100%
Able to do new things	5	3	100%
Feel more resilient	5	2	100%
Demonstrate increased skills	4	1	80%
Gained accreditation	0	0	0%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	0	0	0%
Achieved a positive destination	0	0	0%
Remain or return to school	5	2	100%
Taking an FE/HE course	3	1	60%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	4	1	80%
Participate in other learning	2	1	40%
Improved attendance	5	2	100%
Improved attainment	0	0	0%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	2	1	40%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	4	1	80%
Awards			
Saltire Award	0	0	N/A
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	
D of E Award	0	0	
Other Award	0	0	

DUNDEE CITY

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



Dundee (n=5)

"Year one of the programme was severely hampered with the National COVID restrictions. However we were able to maintain contact with those young people during the summer and offer them a range of outdoor learning experiences. We now have five young active in the programme. An important aspect throughout the process was to maintain communication with parents/carers and partner agencies as part of a weekly routine."

GLASGOW





GLASGOW

The project is based in Priesthill, south-west Glasgow (G53) and came from a desire in the community to tackle problematic anti-social behaviour issues in the neighbourhood. It is delivered in partnership between Greater Glasgow and Clyde HSCP that has also allocated funding in the project, Sanctuary Housing, Streetcones, Police Scotland and the community. Unfortunately the pandemic got in the way of all efforts to get the project off the ground in years one and only commenced in the final quarter of year two. However, the project is now picking up pace and moving forward as originally hoped.

Consultation

To date there have been six community breakfast sessions where Streetcones facilitators are building relationships and trust with the community. Around 10-15 people attended. By year three it is hoped that there will be a film produced to show the process being used.

Play

A short play will be written based on the information from the residents, making it specific to their experiences. This play is then going to be taken into schools alongside a bespoke lesson plan and we will work with P7's and S1 as they were identified as the age groups contributing most to local antisocial behaviour. The play is intended to develop a greater understanding of the impact that deviant behaviour has locally and share reflections on what they can do to support each other.

School Workshops and Participatory Budgeting

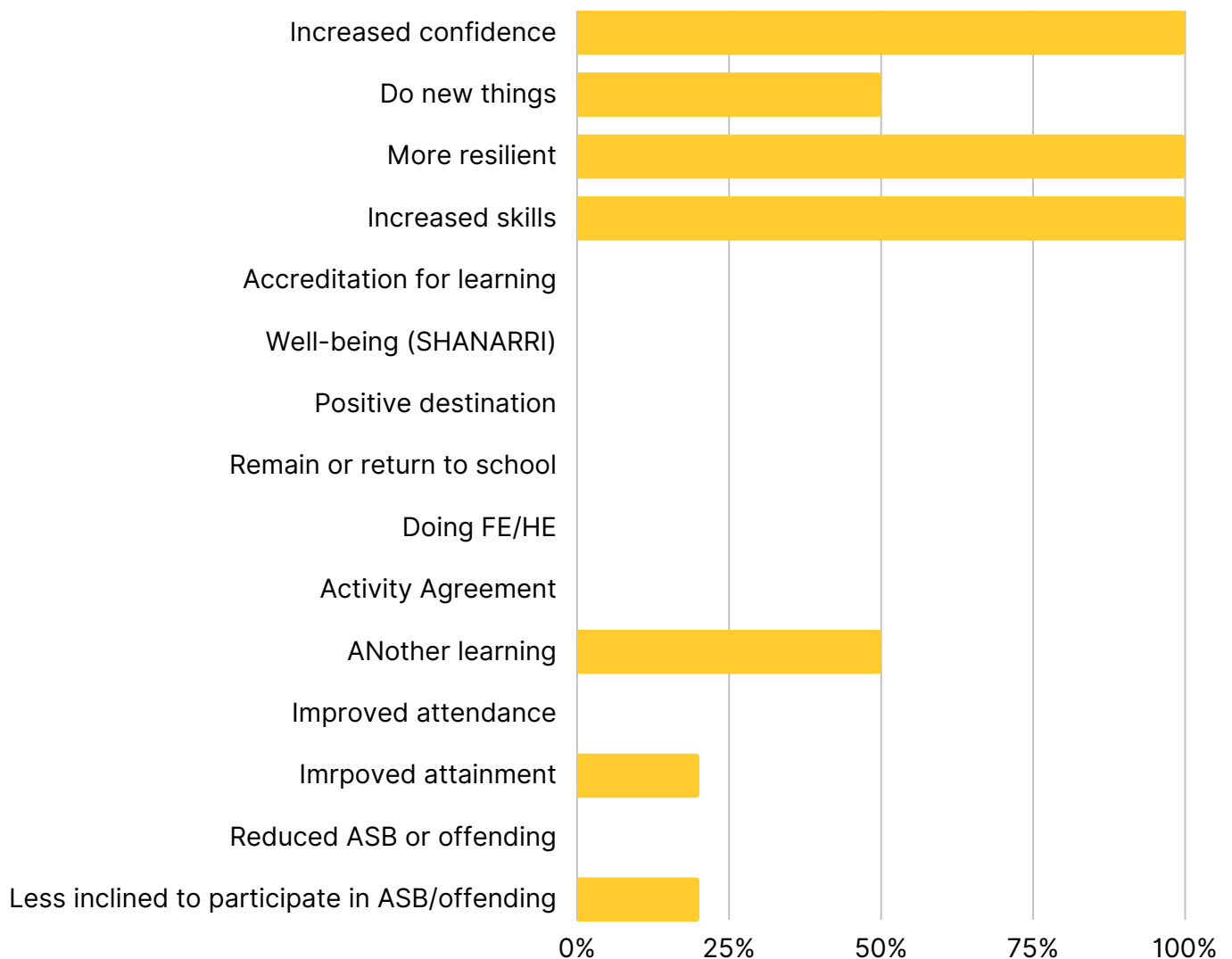
The Anti-Social Behaviour programme has started in the three primary schools across the Priesthill and Househillwood area. Two class sessions were delivered in each school by the HSCP Health Improvement Team and Police Scotland. The sessions included an exercise from Health Issues in the Community to help young people to identify what affects their health in their community and prioritise what could be improved. They also created a list of fun diversionary activities that they would like to see in the local area, this will create the criteria for the participatory budgeting. In time, participants will take part in a decision-making exercise deciding how a small budget can be spent to support activities that divert young people from antisocial behaviour.

Diversions Work

Streetcones are delivering 6 weekly sessions in each primary school to tackle the issue of antisocial behaviour. The Police Scotland session also addressed the issues of anti-social behaviour within the local area.

Glasgow City	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	109	27	100%
No of males	66	17	61%
No of females	43	11	39%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	0	0	0%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	109	27	100%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	22	22	20%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	109	27	100%
Able to do new things	54	14	50%
Feel more resilient	109	27	100%
Demonstrate increased skills	109	27	100%
Gained accreditation	0	0	0%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	0	0	0%
Achieved a positive destination	0	0	0%
Remain or return to school	0	0	0%
Taking an FE/HE course	0	0	0%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	0	0	0%
Participate in other learning	54	14	50%
Improved attendance	0	0	0%
Improved attainment	22	6	20%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	0	0	0%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	22	6	20%
Awards			
Saltire Award	0	0	N/A
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	
D of E Award	0	0	
Other Award	0	0	

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



Glasgow (n=109. ave. 27)

"It has been challenging for us to engage with the community where all the focus has been on dealing with the impact of the pandemic. The community sessions ask people to share their opinion and perception of anti social behaviour along with their understanding and experience of it and how it affects them. The information gathered will inform the writing for a play and lesson plans for schools."

SUMMARY

Overall the pandemic has caused severe delays to the project. Now that it is active, efforts are underway to complete as much as possible within the remaining phase (year three) of the pilot.

It is a bespoke place-based approach to address local needs and concerns. This is achieved through community conversations, production of a film and a play, educational inputs in schools and diversionary activities that target young people that are most likely to cause antisocial behaviour in the area. The use of film and writing a play to be performed is an innovative technique which will be interesting to observe further, to determine how well it enables participants to achieve the intended outcomes. With community representatives engaged from the outset, there are individuals that can be approached towards the end to ask whether they notice any differences in levels of anti-social behaviour that can be attributed to the project. Another element which is yet to be tested is participatory budgeting which gives participants a voice and agency over ways to tackle antisocial behaviour.

The connections between Streetcones, the health and social care partnership and the housing association is unique among the pilot projects and if successful it could catch the attention of other parts of Glasgow and beyond on whether it can be replicated or scaled-up. The voices of the community representatives that called for the project will have an important role to play in sharing their views on its impact and benefits.

In year three the project will focus on fulfilling more of its original intentions in the selected communities and schools, maintaining communication between partners and keeping a focus on the outcomes. This includes actively monitoring participants and reporting on them in the quarterly reports, as required by YouthLink Scotland. It should also be possible to identify appropriate forms of accreditation for young people's involvement as further progress is made.

INVERCLYDE



The project targeted two secondary schools: Inverclyde Academy and Port Glasgow High. Following the pandemic it was decided to focus on S2 to S6 pupils that disengaged from education with a view to understanding the effects of isolation/anxiety rather than behavioural needs. The programme included:

3 weeks of 1-2-1 support/building relationships/establishing needs & barriers creating an individual plan for each young person

- 1 week of outdoor learning @ Castle Semple
- 8 weeks of issue based programme content and volunteering opportunities if applicable. Group participation agreement & learner logs/accreditation log.
- Social Skills ie. confidence & self esteem/ Positive relationships
- Life Skills /First Aid
- Mental Health & Well-being
- Staying Safe ie. Alcohol/Drug Inputs & positive choices

ACCREDITATION

The following accreditation is planned, although to date no awards have been completed:

- Saltire Award
- Community Achievement Award
- Duke of Edinburgh
- First Aid Certificate
- Food Hygiene Certificate
- SQA Awards
- Youth Achievement/Dynamic Youth Awards
- Sports Leaders

PARTNERSHIPS

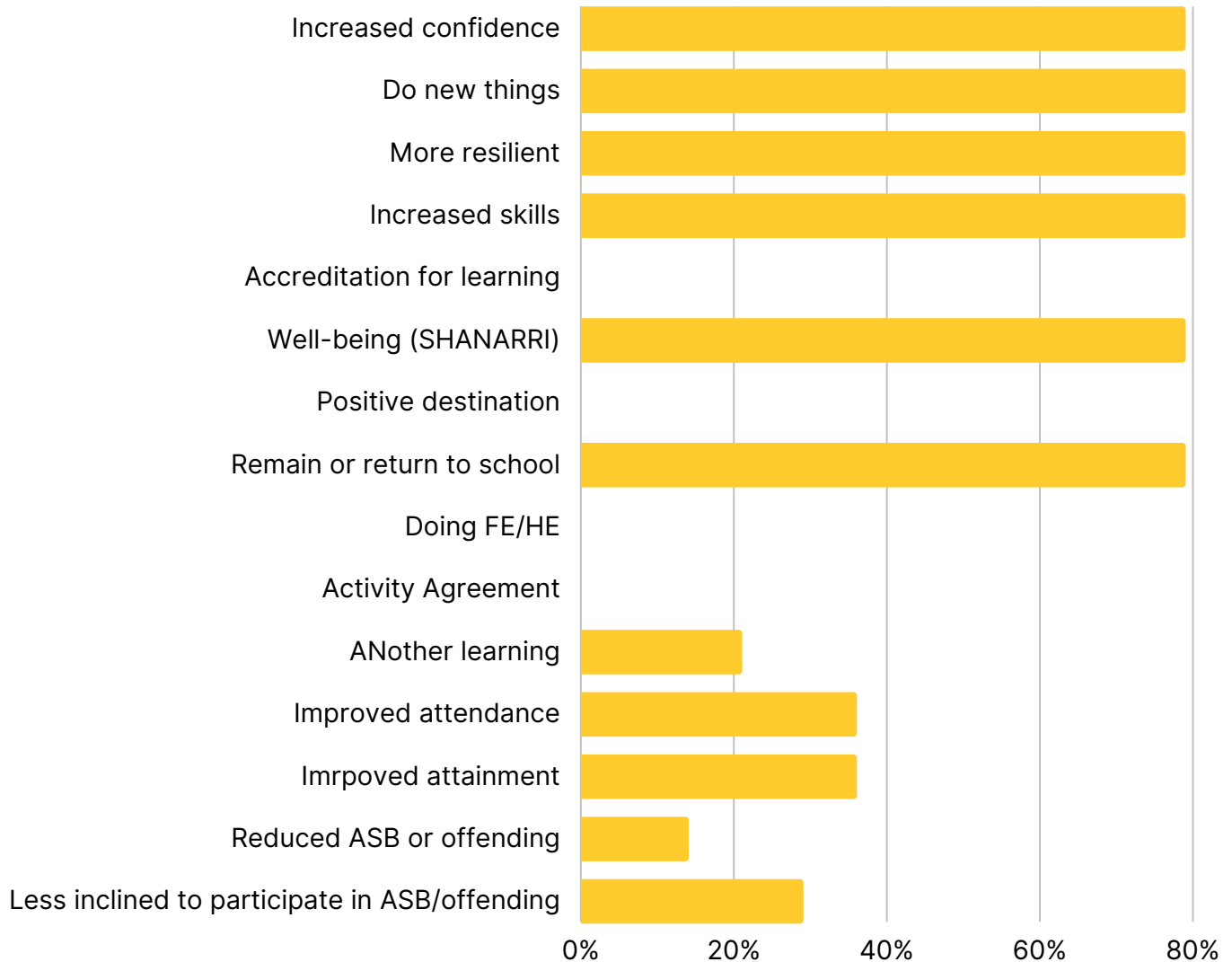
- Inverclyde Academy
- Port Glasgow High School
- Castle Semple
- Active Schools
- DofE
- Action for Children
- Barnardos
- Man On Inverclyde

The pilot provides a multiplier effect by targeting individuals and attracting additional funding. For instance the Youth Work Education Recovery Fund and Social Isolation funding was used to provide activities and equipment. Core budgets within the Council were allocated to the project and two new outreach youth worker posts were created with a view to finding future funds to continue this beyond the programme.

Inverclyde	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	14	8	100%
No of males	9	5	64%
No of females	6	3	43%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	1	0	7%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	13	7	93%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	11	5	79%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	11	4	79%
Able to do new things	11	4	79%
Feel more resilient	11	4	79%
Demonstrate increased skills	11	4	79%
Gained accreditation	0	0	0%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	11	4	79%
Achieved a positive destination	0	0	0%
Remain or return to school	11	4	79%
Taking an FE/HE course	0	0	0%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	0	0	0%
Participate in other learning	3	1	21%
Improved attendance	5	2	36%
Improved attainment	5	2	36%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	2	1	14%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	4	1	29%
Awards			
Saltire Award	0	0	N/A
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	
D of E Award	0	0	
Other Award	0	0	

INVERCLYDE

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



Inverclyde (n=14 ave. 8)

"We've struggled to meet the expectations we set in terms of using detached work as a way of engaging young people. To address this we organised an event locally that attracted over 200 young people, and used this to identify young people for our Back on Track programme. We are confident that as connections with young people and partners are re-established the Back on Track programme will start to take off and get us back to a place where we can deliver and evidence a positive impact on the funding outcomes."

FEEDBACK & SUMMARY

Workers noted that full time and part time CLD Youth Work staff were out 2 evenings, and a Saturday afternoon and evening across Inverclyde for 4 hour shifts at a time doing detached youth work. They were mapping and making contact with young people to look at building contacts for the back on track project. This gave workers information to use to guide delivery and recruitment for the summer programme (in year three).

Staff gave individuals support in and out of the school setting. Working agreements were established in partnership with the young people and the team ran a block of interventions each term. This included team building, communication, self-esteem and confidence building. Staff have also delivered a life skills programme, cooking workshops and alcohol and drugs workshops, which took place in Greenock's Youth Zone - a dedicated youth facility.

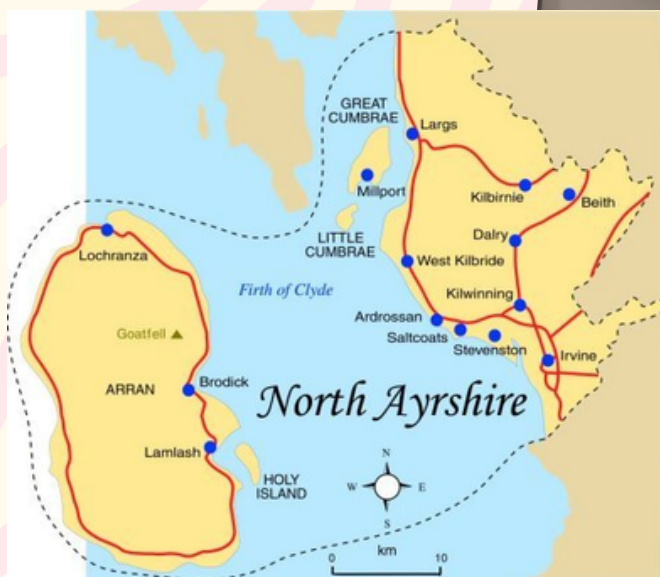
SUMMARY

Evidence shows that Inverclyde is getting on-track with its programme and progressing on most outcomes. Its strengths are in working with schools to select young people within the relevant criteria, with 93% in SIMD areas 1 and 2 and 79% affected by antisocial behaviour and offending.

Good progress also emerged in relation to improving young people's levels of confidence, able to do new things, feeling more resilient and demonstrating an increased level of skills. This is attributed to the regular workshop activities. The creation of two new posts by the local authority is a mark of success that this project taps into a dimension of youth work that was missing. The project enables youth providers to suitably tackle issues faced by the target group.

There is scope for supporting participants to achieve accreditation for taking part. Given the proportion of young people affected by antisocial behaviour and offending, it will also be interesting to see whether progress on these indicators rises in year three when the programme is fully operational.

NORTH AYRSHIRE



NORTH AYRSHIRE

Locations and Targetting

North Ayrshire deployed detached youth workers across five localities, as reflected in reaching over one thousand young people in the area. From these contacts, the teams engaged young people showing signs that they needed more targeted support. Work was done with S2 pupils in Kilwinning Academy and St Mathew's Academy.

Workers feel on reflection that the work achieving the greatest impact was outdoors and through detached work rather than in clubs and community centres. Largs Academy's catchment area has experienced the biggest number of teenage suicides in the area and because of that their primary focus has been on Mental Health as opposed to behavioral issues. A member of youth work staff has built a good working relationship with the campus officer in the school, and the team used that connection to engage young people either in or out of school.

The Programme

The first couple of sessions are about getting to know the young people and working towards building a relationship with them. Core elements are: **Anger Management** and **What Is Your Role In Society**. A key component is that participants work towards gaining accreditation either through a Hi5 Award or a Dynamic Youth Award.

Added Value

The partnership approach brought about added value to existing youth work provision, such as:

- Building new relationships with partners
- Recognition of Youth work and the added value it brings to working with disengaged young people, as discovered through feedback from schools and the police.

Examples

The following highlights an example of detached work in the Garnock Valley area. This is followed by a table detailing the young people that were engaged and a chart of progress made in relation to the outcomes.

NORTH AYRSHIRE

Examples of Practice

Location 1

The Garnock Valley Locality is one of the places 2 detached workers were deployed to engage with young people identified as being involved in anti-social behaviour and youth disorder. It took place over 10 weeks with young people aged 11-26.

The work was conducted over two, four hour shifts every Friday and Saturday evenings (7-9pm) to try and engage with young people to build relationships to discourage participation in risk taking behaviours and identify and address the reasons why they are getting involved.

Activities

The workers organised sports activities with partners such as football, rounders and monkey ball. A popular activity was run-around-games such as Cornflakes, Dizzy Penalties, Port-and-Starboard, clap catch, or header.

Targeting

For those unfamiliar to detached youth work it is often asked how it is initiated. In this instance, the mobile youth team parked at a location on the promenade and waited to see who would show up. The young people soon work out when the team work it in turns to engage with young people around the town at identified hotspots known for anti-social behaviour. These hot-spots are usually made known by the police or community safety officers.

Feedback from Detached Youth Workers

"We spoke to young people and checked that everything was alright consulting them on what they wanted to see in the town. This took place for 2 hrs (usually 6pm-8pm) on a Friday Night. We spoke to around 20 Young People each night. Many were new (no previous contact) but there was some young people we had seen on a regular weekly basis."

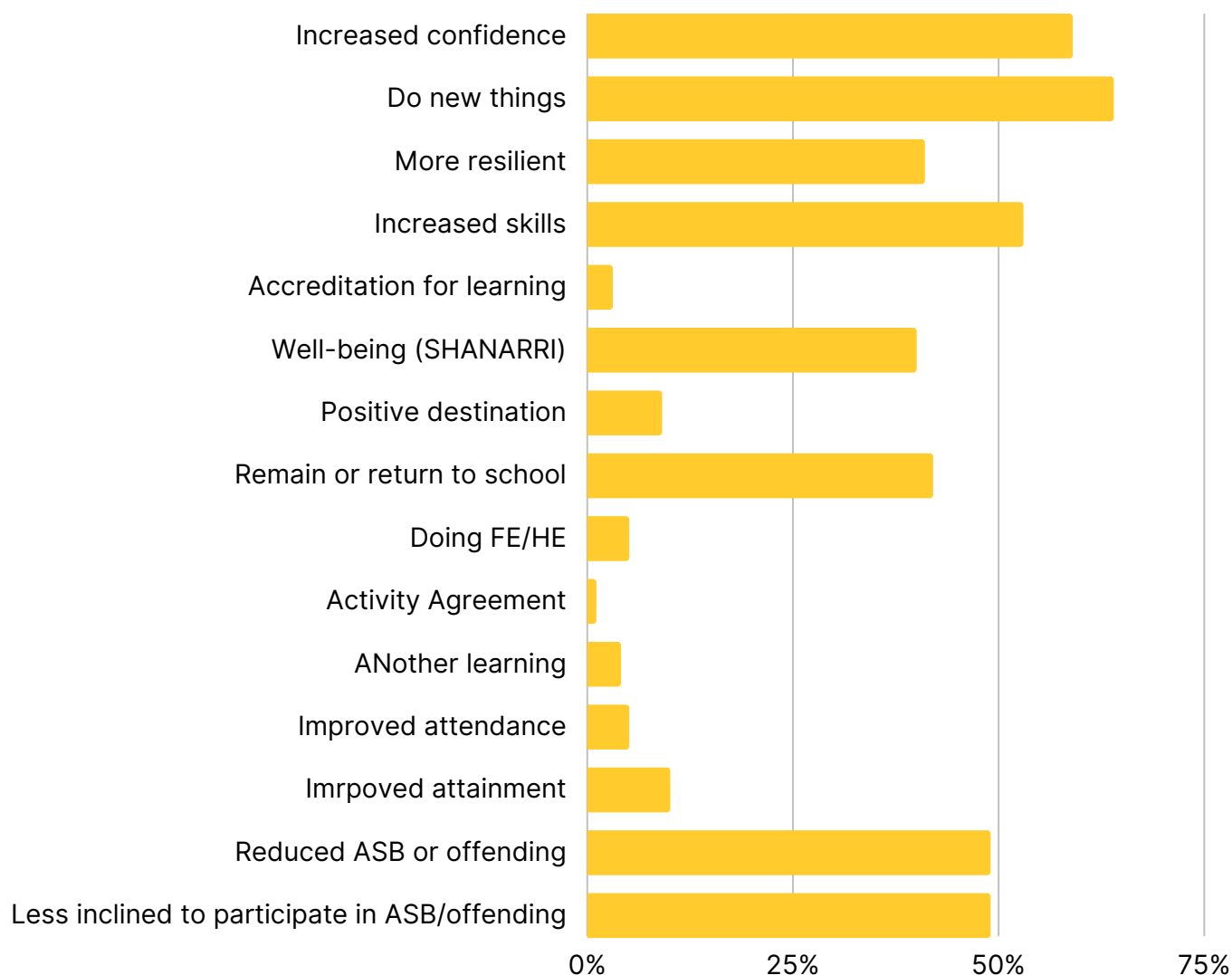
**"We partnered with local football group to provide a space for diversionary youth work, as well as engaging with young people out with this setting for detached youth work
Delivered 10 weeks of youth diversionary work in the Kilwinning locality. This was delivered in areas of the town which has been identified a problem area with anti-social behaviour."**

**"We had the mobile youth centre with games consoles, retro games consoles, arts and crafts, numerous outdoor games and activities and we will had the portable football pitch
10-week media course delivered by an Ayrshire Film Company. The aim of the course is to create awareness of social and digital safety towards young people who may be at risk of anti-social behaviour."**

North Ayrshire	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	1165	492	100%
No of males	215	123	44%
No of females	289	135	59%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	11	6	2%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	488	214	100%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	273	165	46%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	289	149	59%
Able to do new things	311	156	64%
Feel more resilient	198	105	41%
Demonstrate increased skills	256	135	53%
Gained accreditation	16	7	3%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	195	123	40%
Achieved a positive destination	46	22	9%
Remain or return to school	206	125	42%
Taking an FE/HE course	26	10	5%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	5	2	1%
Participate in other learning	21	9	4%
Improved attendance	26	13	5%
Improved attainment	48	25	10%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	236	132	49%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	238	173	49%
Awards			
Saltire Award	15	5	3%
Youth Achievement Award	5	2	1%
D of E Award	25	7	5%
Other Award	35	10	7%

NORTH AYRSHIRE

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



North Ayrshire (n=1,165 ave. 492)

"The youth worker, worked in school primarily with 2 boys who were in S3. In the course of the year he worked hard to build a relationship with 1 of the boys and discussed issues that were causing him difficulties. The input was valued highly by the pupil as well as by his parents. The pupil and his parents wish for the support to continue in to S4. I also feel that this input would be a valuable addition to the support that this young person has." Tony Ross, Depute Head Teacher St Mathew's Academy

SUMMARY

SUMMARY

The approach of detached work in five North Ayrshire locations is proving highly effective in terms of the wide reach and the vast numbers, having contacted over one thousand young people. Feedback from the youth workers suggests that they are finding young people that were previously hidden or unknown to them. This is particularly true in hot-spot areas identified by the police where the youth workers have a different role and influence from police officers with a duty to law enforcement. Schools are appreciative of the care and attention taken with individuals at risk. The connections made with parents is also proving its worth.

All participants (100%) live within SIMD areas 1 and 2 and more than half (56%) are affected by or at risk of engagement in antisocial behaviour or offending.

Outcome indicators show that a large number of young people have reported a positive impact through engagement with the project. The percentages may in this instance misrepresent the true impact on young people. With the overall reach being so wide and untargeted, the individuals that then report on the outcomes looks low when calculated as a proportion of the maximum number engaged. This is something that will be reviewed with evaluators in year three in order to get a more accurate reflection of impact. on increased confidence, able to do new things. Despite this figures still show a positive impact on confidence for most (59%) and the majority (64%) are able to do new things.

Some accreditation was attained, with 15 young people gaining a Saltire Award for volunteering, 25 getting Duke of Edinburgh's Award and 35 gained another award. Therefore it is expected that impact percentages will be greater if adjustments are made to report on the direct beneficiaries when reporting on outcomes. Given that schools are partners in this project it will be interesting to observe whether more is achieved in relation to school attendance and attainment in year three.

[See North Ayrshire's [Tik Tok](#)]

RENFREWSHIRE

EVOLVE
IDENTIFY • DEVELOP • CHANGE



RENFREWSHIRE

Youth Services in Renfrewshire delivered a flexible programme of indoor and outdoor activities with partners including Social Work and schools.

Programme

The delivery consists of personal and social development, underpinned by mental health and wellbeing, with an element of planning for social action to give young people more of a say in decisions that affect them. Youth work; health and well-being; accredited learning; personal and social development; and a community project are all part of the programme. One of the youth workers spoke more about the activities:

"Because of the restrictions in place the programme has focused primarily on outdoor learning. We have a local park that we used to work with the P7 group. With the older young people we used Lapwing Lodge Outdoor Activity Centre where young people engaged in activities such as raft building and archery. Because of the challenges young people faced mental health and wellbeing underpinned our approach and a key part of our work was on building confidence and getting young people to be part of a group. We also took the older group to a learning centre in Foxbar where they experienced cooking and they prepared a meal."

Reach

Young people are referred from several different groups. Some have transitioned to High School and a few have gone on to college.

Group 1: Social Work (partners) in a base or Foxbar Drop-in (open group). It is a group of young people 16+ years, which has been attended by 11 young people (8 male and 3 female) - 7 of these young people attended regularly. Attendance was affected by personal appointments E.g. asylum seeking; health; most at risk of anti-social behaviour. There was a change made to the day and time of meetings to allow young people to follow their faith at the Mosque on Fridays .

Group 2: Castlehead High School - 4-5 young people (all female) regularly attended Fridays 2 hours weekly at Foxbar Youth Drop In.

Group 3: West Primary School (partner) 18/5/21-22/6/21, 9:15am-11:45am, 13-14 young people (8 female/ 5 male) attend the West base on Thursdays for 2 hours weekly.

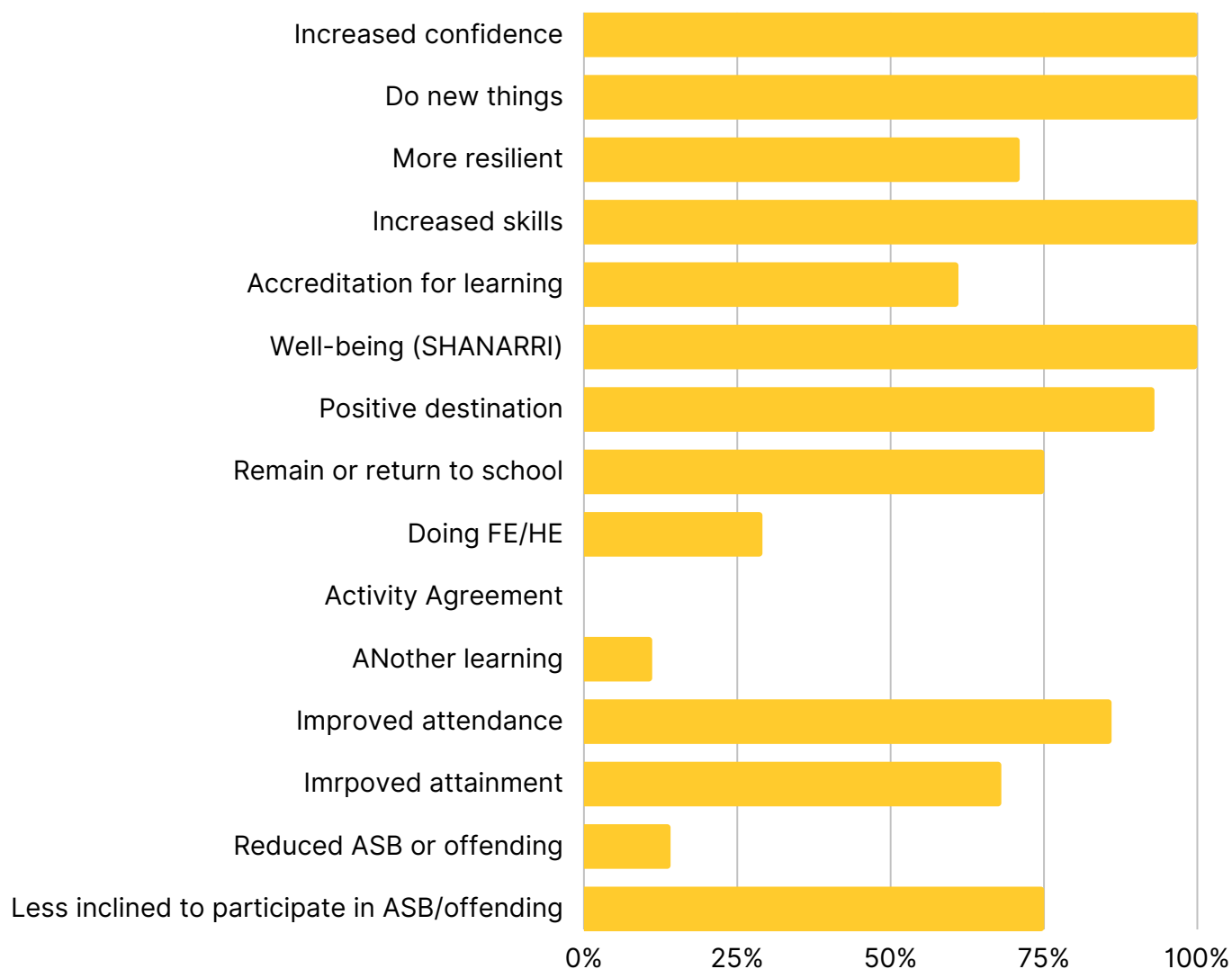
Achievements

Two young people have gained employments since taking part in the sessions. The other regular attenders have remained at school. Some members went on to voluntarily attend a summer programme as a result of taking part in the programme and received positive feedback from professionals working with them in other settings such as school and social work.

Renfrewshire	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	26	21	93%
No of males	14	11	50%
No of females	12	10	43%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	1	1	4%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	16	12	57%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	11	7	39%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	28	19	100%
Able to do new things	28	22	100%
Feel more resilient	20	14	71%
Demonstrate increased skills	28	22	100%
Gained accreditation	17	11	61%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	28	19	100%
Achieved a positive destination	26	9	93%
Remain or return to school	21	12	75%
Taking an FE/HE course	8	5	29%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	0	0	0%
Participate in other learning	3	1	11%
Improved attendance	24	14	86%
Improved attainment	19	9	68%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	4	1	14%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	21	7	75%
Awards			
Saltire Award	1	0	4%
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	0%
D of E Award	0	0	0%
Other Award	16	14	57%

RENFREWSHIRE

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



Renfrewshire (n=26 ave. 21)

"The 6 young people we worked with were S2 school refusers. They were a challenging group. Developmentally they were a bit behind where you'd expect them to be, and this was exacerbated by the impact of the pandemic restrictions. So we did the best we could in the time we had with them. Towards the end a few of them were in discussion with the head teacher about their behaviour and they stopped coming. However through word of mouth the young people that stayed were able to recruit a number of their peers to attend."

Youth Worker

FEEDBACK & SUMMARY

FEEDBACK

Observations were made by youth workers that the progress was influenced by where young people were at and the wider supports around them. For instance one group was affected by attendance, whereas the work with one primary school proved to be more successful, as the feedback explains:

"Following discussion with the head teacher we identified a group of 14 young P7's who were transitioning to secondary school. This was a really successful piece of work and we've had positive feedback from the school and the young people which we are following up with the head teacher and the P7 teacher. We also intend to do some follow up work when they start the High School. The young people were all taken through the Hi5 award. Interestingly some of this group came along to our Summer Programme and they were totally different people. Also we had ESOL young people as part of this group and partners that work with them commented that their attendance at the Summer Programme was because of our work in the school."

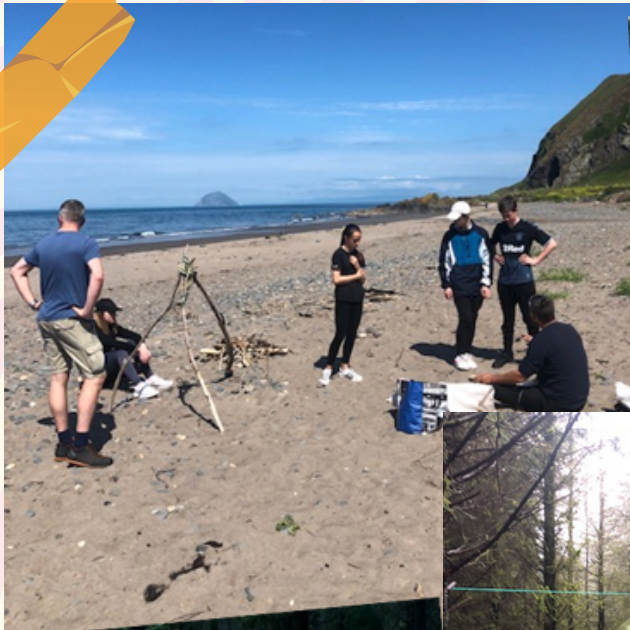
SUMMARY

Results report a positive impact across all indicators. The numbers from SIMD 1 and 2 areas is lower than other projects (57%) although the targeting is designed to address wider risks such as being refugees or asylum seekers or refusing to attend school. Over a third (39%) are at risk or affected by antisocial behaviour or offending. The outcomes confirm that three quarters (75%) now feel less inclined to participate in antisocial or offending behaviour.

All participants (100%) have improved their confidence, are able to do new things, demonstrate increased skills and show improvements in health and well-being against SHANARRI indicators. Almost all participants (93%) were able to achieve a positive destination. As part of this three quarters (75%) returned to school. Slightly fewer (71%) reported that they feel more resilient and over half (61%) have gained accreditation. This signals that the approach to targeting is working and benefits are recognised by individuals and stakeholders alike.

The type of accreditation used is not among the suite of nationally recognised awards, which lends scope to pursue this in year three.

SOUTH AYRSHIRE



Programme

The combined generic and targeted programme is informed by intelligence from the police and local liaison officers who identify hot spots for youth anti-social behaviour. The team provide Friday night football with street workers and detached youth workers engaging young people in the hot spot locations and encourage them to take part in the targeted activities on offer.

Reach

The programme has delivered 42 detached youth work sessions across three localities. Links are made back to schools to get young people referred on to the more intense targeted programmes.

Challenges

Although work is done with schools to generate appropriate referrals, the team were faced with a situation where only 6 out of 12 of those referred attended. This meant the referrals had to be revisited and follow-up work was carried out with individuals to understand what the barriers were.

Opportunities

Despite the challenges the programme is gaining strategic recognition, as this worker declared:

"We are in the process of a Local Authority review. It's a thematic restructure and the team we've built around the CB5 initiative includes schools, employment services and as a result it has more support than it might have had previously. When people get to hear about the approach we are taking there's real demand to get young people referred on to the programme. So instead of working with a group of 12 young people we could potentially be looking at working with two groups of 12. We're also part of a Whole System Group that look at interventions for young people who pick up charges and a couple of young people have been identified as potential referrals for the targeted programme."

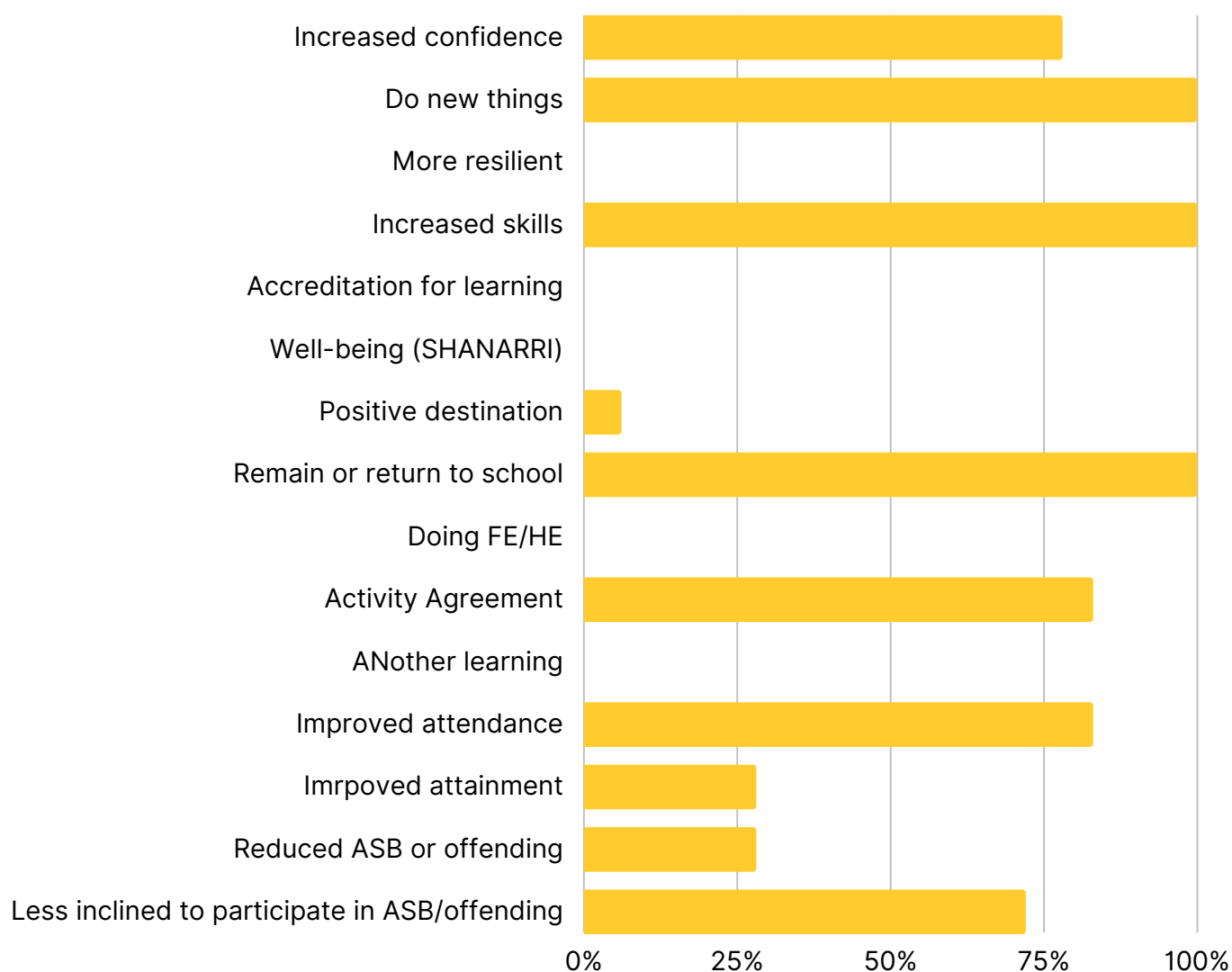
Added Value

The additional benefit of the detached sessions is that they've helped to build connections and relationships with young people that don't normally take part in wider youth services. In response the young people extended their engagement and chose to take part in the Summer Programme. The police acknowledged that increased engagement in identified areas has led to a decrease in public reports of anti-social behaviour.

South Ayrshire	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	18	14	100%
No of males	16	14	89%
No of females	3	3	17%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	1	0	6%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	18	16	100%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	18	12	100%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	14	4	78%
Able to do new things	18	12	100%
Feel more resilient	0	0	0%
Demonstrate increased skills	18	12	100%
Gained accreditation	0	0	0%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	0	0	0%
Achieved a positive destination	1	0	6%
Remain or return to school	18	14	100%
Taking an FE/HE course	0	0	0%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	15	4	83%
Participate in other learning	0	0	0%
Improved attendance	15	7	83%
Improved attainment	5	2	28%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	5	1	28%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	13	5	72%
Awards			
Saltire Award	0	0	0%
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	0%
D of E Award	0	0	0%
Other Award	0	0	0%

SOUTH AYRSHIRE

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



South Ayrshire (n=18 ave. 14)

"Three dates were incorporated into the programme for a national initiative called bothy watch. It focussed on monitoring a bothy that had been targeted by vandals. Working with Police Scotland they visited a bothy and asked to do an environmental audit. They then visited 4 bothies and sent their data on to the scheme. Young people identified a need to paint one bothy, which will hopefully be a session they do in the summer. " Youth Worker

FEEDBACK & SUMMARY

South Ayrshire adopted a combination of indoor and outdoor activities that engaged local statutory partners and local businesses, such as:

- Bushcraft working with the Adventure Centre for Education in Pinclanty Forest,
- Detached youth work out on the streets, led by local authority workers
- Personal development skills such as drugs and alcohol awareness and cooking, and
- Fitness and wellbeing activities, including sessions at the Wasombama gym

Young People were given regular opportunities to influence the shape and feel of the experience. This helped give a sense of agency and buy in to keep people engaged and interested.

Staff training was identified as a gap that partners wanted to address. For instance a Sessional Worker was taught outdoor skills. This creates new capacity for the worker lead future sessions. There were also teambuilding sessions for staff who are supporting this initiative, ensuring all are aware of the project outline, and ultimate aims.

SUMMARY

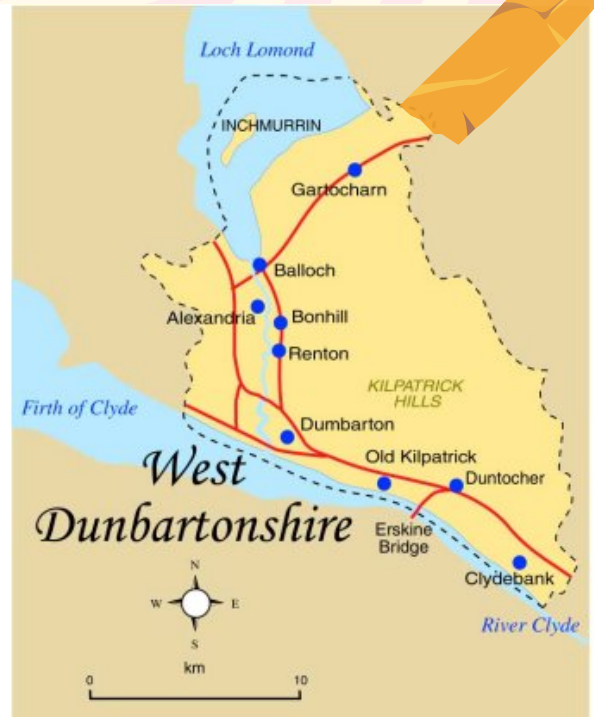
The reach is fully focussed on the target group with 18 participants in South Ayrshire. This has meant that all (100%) are within SIMD areas 1 and 2 and all (100%) are also at risk or affected by antisocial or offending behaviour. This represents the type of approach this fund promotes.

The high intensity of the work has generated wider local strategic interest, which may lead to leveraging other investments in future. The results are positive with the majority (78%) reporting improved levels of confidence and all participants (100%) able to do new things and demonstrate increased skills. Evidence highlighted that the range of activities assisted in making an impact.

Positive results are presented in relation to remaining or returning to school (83%) and improved attendance (83%). More than two-thirds (72%) say that they feel less inclined to participate in anti-social or criminal behaviour, although only 28% report any reduction in this area.

Accreditation, that recognises the skills being developed, is more likely to emerge in the third year of the programme. Given the emphasis on health and well-being activities there is ample scope to track and report on progress made in year three.

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE



WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

West Dunbartonshire benefits from having an established youth alliance.

The partnership relationships came to the fore when plans were reorganised throughout the pandemic. In year two, the alliance chose to deliver an Outreach programme, as this worker explained:

"In year 1 from October to April we were out delivering the "staying safe" message giving out PPE resources. In April [year 2] we then went into planning mode for our Summer Programme that's funded through [the main Youth Work] fund and supports our Youth Alliance work. We mobilised the detached teams to engage young people and raise awareness of and encourage participation in the summer programme. For example in Balloch there were issues are around anti-social behaviour and water safety, where there's been fatalities due to drowning. Part of the challenge is people coming to Balloch that may not reside in West Dunbartonshire. We could only identify through getting out and exploring what was going on."

A measure of success is that the NHS Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) gave additional funding for diversionary activities on a Friday night, an issue they had already identified. The outreach team used the extra funding to provide Friday night football sessions, with arts delivered on the sidelines. Specialists are brought in for both activities. From there the workers actively encouraged the targeted participants to access the other Summer Sessions that were part of the mainstream offer. During a difficult time to start new activities, this gave the team enough of a grounding in the community to design more targeted work for year three.

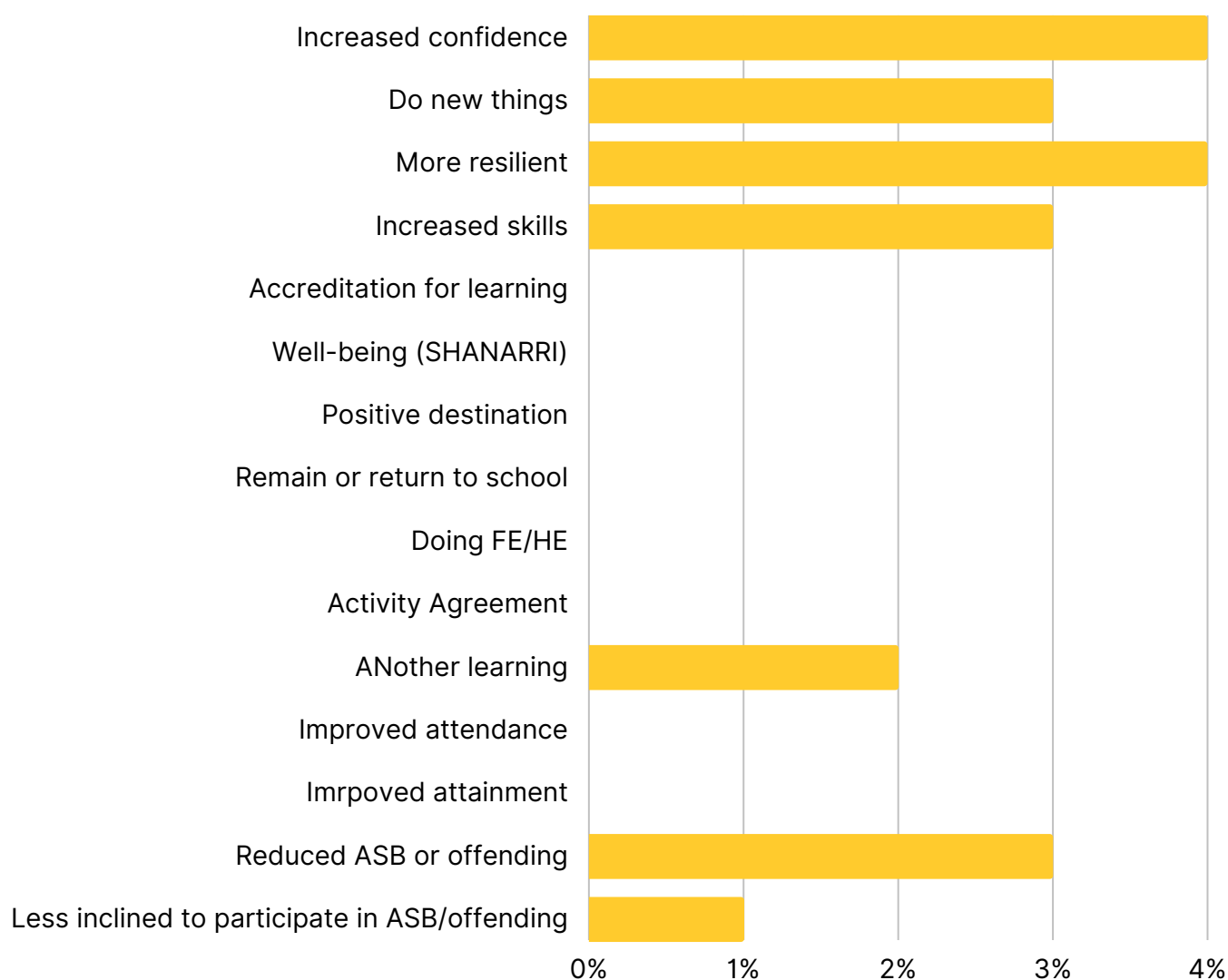
Despite the existing partnership in the area, this was the first time they had delivered an outreach programme. Previously the recruitment phase was delivered through schools. Whereas, outreach builds up knowledge of where young people are meeting and who they are and what they need, in ways which cannot be achieved in a school setting. The team came up with the idea of creating a digital QR code that takes young people straight to information on what's on and the ability to register there and then.

Results are positive, noting levels of engagement that reached 528 young people and sighted a further 559 young people. Digital data indicates that over 300 young people used the QR code. Although funded through another programme, with possible double counting there were 153 young people that engaged with the summer programme and gained access to bubble football, wood carving, mosaic making, trips to Dounans Outdoor Centre, Loch Ard for Watersports, Sports such as football and educational inputs from Fire and Rescue and Loch Lomond National Park on water safety and willful fire raising in an effort to address known risks and hazards.

West Dunbartonshire	Total (Max)	Ave.	%
Young People			
Number of young people engaged	1,133	446	100%
No of males	278	88	25%
No of females	250	74	22%
No of non-binary (LGBTQ+)	0	0	0%
No in SIMD 1 & 2	520	160	46%
Nos at risk/engaged in ASB/ offending	7	4	1%
Outcomes			
Increased confidence	17	4	3%
Able to do new things	12	3	71%
Feel more resilient	17	4	4%
Demonstrate increased skills	14	4	3%
Gained accreditation	0	0	0%
Improved SHANARRI well-being	0	0	0%
Achieved a positive destination	0	0	0%
Remain or return to school	0	0	0%
Taking an FE/HE course	0	0	0%
Engaged in Activity Agreement	0	0	0%
Participate in other learning	8	2	2%
Improved attendance	0	0	0%
Improved attainment	0	0	0%
Report reductions in ASB/ offending	14	3	3%
Less inclined to ASB/ offending	4	1	1%
Awards			
Saltire Award	0	0	0%
Youth Achievement Award	0	0	0%
D of E Award	0	0	0%
Other Award	0	0	0%

WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE

CHART OF PROGRESS MADE ON OUTCOMES



West Dunbartonshire (n=1133 ave. 446)

"During the pandemic, the restrictions forced us to limit the numbers in our summer programme. This was good for us because we built better relationships and we all got more out of it - the young people and the workers. That convinced us to re-start the outreach programme after summer."

FEEDBACK & SUMMARY

FEEDBACK

West Dunbartonshire Youth Learning Team have continued to develop and deliver our Outreach provision for young people. Although numbers reported on by the team are exceptionally high, there are differences in their experiences in year one. For instance the team said that contact during the Winter months were much lower than expected. Staff difficulties and changes also hampered the team's ability to continue the outreach in the way they had hoped.

Quarter four (January to April) was therefore a time of reassessing what was being delivered and where. Dalmuir in Clydebank had reports of issues with young people putting themselves at risk in train stations and on railway lines. A mapping exercise carried out by the outreach team identified two groups: one aged between 12-15 and another older group of 17-22 year olds.

To combat staffing difficulties four additional youth outreach workers were recruited to target more than one area at a time. After the Friday night football and arts sessions came to an end, workers liaised with West Dunbartonshire Leisure Trust to re-start the programme in year three.

Youth Outreach staff will get back to delivering Streetwork sessions to encourage more young people to attend. With the gaps now addressed and with a more continuous flow to the contact with young people, the team are delivering the Friday Night programme in both Dumbarton and Clydebank in year three. Participants will get involved in sports, arts and issue based workshops as positive leisure pursuits designed to divert young people from the alternatives of involvement in drugs and alcohol and anti-social behaviour.

SUMMARY

It is clear from reports that West Dunbartonshire and the Youth Alliance is delivering on outcomes. Nevertheless the figures do not currently match. The vast numbers reached through outreach work skews the small numbers that are asked to report on outcomes, which reduces the percentage impact.

A focus for year three lies in focusing on gathering information from targeted outreach participants or a sample of them throughout their engagement so that a clearer understanding of progress is made. This is especially important if those young people are benefiting from additional investment, in for example the Friday night football and arts programme and transitioning on to other parts of the mainstream provision. If this is achieved it is also more likely that wider outcomes will be observed in relation to school and accreditation.

REFLECTION

REFLECTION

The pandemic has been detrimental and disruptive to delivering generic services in the Youth Work Fund and setting up new partnerships for youth work delivery. Despite best efforts, when activities were permitted there were often bouts of illness, staff shortages and restrictions which impinged on delivery often halting it completely, putting it on hold or requiring a complete change of tack.

Nevertheless it is evident that what was provided has provided a crucial lifeline to many young people across the whole of Scotland that took part. Below is a summary of the strengths and opportunities for the Youth Work Fund (YWF) and the Pilot Partnership Project (PPP).

YOUTH WORK FUND - STRENGTHS

The universality of the Youth Work Fund makes it an essential foundation for all delivery of CashBack funded initiatives. The instances of direct targeting of young people engaged in antisocial behaviour or offending are not necessarily the primary objectives of the youth work fund recipients. Nevertheless, their knowledge of their communities and positive relationships and status ensures that the interventions are skilled and relevant to the needs of young people in each area. During the pandemic this has often shifted towards mental health, bereavements and suicide prevention. Many examples of youth work are innovative and attuned to the desires and aspirations of young people and the times we live in. The burgeoning development of outdoor activities and digital youth work combined with taking care of mental well being are representative of this flexible and sensitive approach. Similarly, there are many examples of young people contributing to their communities to recover from the pandemic and re-emerge as vibrant and positive places to grow up. Although the outcomes ask providers to focus on problematic youth behaviour, the youth work sector sees events like the pandemic as an opportunity for young people to be a positive part of the solution.

YOUTH WORK FUND - OPPORTUNITIES

The distribution of the YWF in small annual funding packages, makes it difficult for YouthLink Scotland as the fund managers to make disproportionate demands from reports. Particularly in these times when larger threats to survival are looming. Nevertheless the reports received feature stories filled with green shoots of hope and opportunity with access to safe spaces and good adults to turn to.

PILOT PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Despite several factors getting in the way, the pilots are beginning to show their worth. The information gathered highlights ways that with additional investment, workers can build up from a more generic form of youth work provision seen in the YWF, to work with partners to reach and give deeper levels of support to young people that are most vulnerable or at risk.

PPP - STRENGTHS

A key observation from the partnership model is that each partner gets to play to their strengths. For instance, the schools carry on teaching, but identify young people that may benefit from extra input. The police carry on with their police work, whilst identifying hot-spots. For YouthLink Scotland and their members, most encouraging of all is that the youth workers returned to street work and outreach work to build new relationships and trust with young people showing up on official radars for the wrong reasons.

Another common thread is that the youth workers enlist support from other services in the area, be it sports, arts, bushcraft or beyond. They are also linking up with other CashBack funded projects either to recruit into the targeted programme or to provide a pathway out of it.

An area for some partners to address, is to differentiate this work more clearly from the wider generic work. It is also important to know and understand that progress on outcomes requires to be reported on for all young people. Therefore the total number should relate directly to the numbers given in the outcome report. Otherwise the outcome report will be inaccurate.

PPP - OPPORTUNITIES

In year three, with the PPP's back in operation there is hope that the projects will return to what was originally intended, with the added advantage of having learned from the experiences so far. Further opportunity exists to strengthen the in-kind and financial support from local strategic partners so that projects can progress, regardless of the funding decisions that projects eagerly await for round six.

Moreover, there is further scope in bringing partners together in year three to share learning and experiences. Although peer to peer learning is not an identified outcome for CashBack funding it is useful to know and understand whether this model offers benefits for the providers as well as the young people that are engaged.

Returning to that more fundamental aspect, there is growing evidence among the PPP's that young people are benefiting from have a worker looking out for them, taking an interest in them and giving them a range of positive activities to engage in. They are learning skills for life that can easily be transferred to other contexts. This is being noticed both by reductions in offending and criminal activity as fed back to partners by the police, and in the school community. Although there is an opportunity to seek out this information and see if data supports these claims. Another way to raise standards across PPP's is by encouraging young people to partake in accreditation schemes that recognise their experiences and achievements.

LESSONS LEARNED

ORGANISATIONAL HEALTH CHECK

Questions over how well youth work services are recovering remains unclear. Investigation is required to identify gaps, areas with no youth work support, or where quality of services is compromised in the wake of the pandemic. This is vital for CashBack for Communities priorities necessitate safe, high quality and reliable services.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Aligned with this, there is scope in year three to offer YWF recipients support via training and access to advice. This is with a view to making sure that monitoring and evaluation is clear, accurate and consistent. YouthLink Scotland has also made provisions in the reporting framework to differentiate between the numbers that organisations reach overall, and the sample group or direct beneficiaries of the project. That change along with training and advice should address anomalies that ran throughout this reporting phase that limits levels of confidence in the results.

PLACE BASED PARTNERSHIPS

The PPP's are demonstrating that a place-based approach could facilitate improved outcomes in the longer term. The [local authority pages](#) created by Inspiring Scotland show the accumulated levels of investment in each area. It presents scope to bring the locality partners together to ensure that young people have access to a pipeline of support from the funded partners. For example early intervention can be provided by the YWF recipients alongside more specialist and intensive targeted options for those young people that are most exposed to identified risks. YouthLink Scotland oversees a major share of the funds in each local authority, and already works with local service providers with direct access to the the local strategic priorities. Given that local authorities and health partnerships and others have taken an interest in the pilot areas and found ways to lever more support, there are definite avenues for YouthLink Scotland, the other fund holders and Inspiring Scotland as the national fund managers to explore.

For local YWF recipients there is potential for YouthLink Scotland to offer incentives for partnership approaches. This could further build their capacity to identify and enlist the engagement of young people that are affected by deprivation and/or at risk of antisocial behaviour and offending. Early intervention of this nature can alleviate cost pressures further into the 'cycle of offending'.

USE OF DATA, RESEARCH, TRAINING AND EXPERT MENTORING

Stepping back from the largely positive achievements of fund recipients, there is a risk of drifting from the priorities of CashBack funding, due to a lack of theoretical constructs to monitoring and evaluation. For instance, joint learn from criminology and social research would appear to be beneficial to all stakeholders. Particularly in relation to onset, escalation, deescalation, and desistance patterns. This would expand common knowledge on what interventions work at different phases of young poeple's exposure to antisocial behaviour and offending. The evaluators, Catch the Light believe that this would improve the quality of monitoring and evaluation carried out by fund recipients in the YWF, PPP's and national fund holders.



CATCH THE LIGHT

