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## The Central Line

As summer approaches and we start benefitting from the good weather there are some exciting developments and projects ahead of us. Centrally we continue to work with partners to explore and access additional funding and are prioritising the development of additional provision for our vulnerable and marginalised groups. We hope to pilot a NEET engagement programme in Cambridge City that will be a stepping stone to the Princes Trust Team Programme. We are exploring an exemption license with the NCS Trust to potentially engage our GRT communities and a programme that engages those young people that have complex special educational needs or disabilities. The working group created following a YPW development day hopes to launch the “Exploring Behaviours” group work programme in September and we are also keen to launch a new youth voice strategy in partnership with the third sector over the coming months.

Finally please remember to keep celebrating the achievements of the young people you work with and to highlight the elements of good youth work practice and youth work curriculum. We are happy to showcase good practice in this newsletter or to share good news. The recent [group work reports and evidence](#) from the Youth and Community Coordinators have been inspiring and have meaningfully highlighted practice and the impact on young people, families and their communities and if at all possible you might want to check out <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/eachcolouroftherainbow> (more details in the Other News and Information section of this newsletter)

Liz Morris, Youth & Community Manager

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Please send your feedback or articles to be included in this newsletter to Central YSS

The [YSS Portal](#) contains information, policies and procedures to help you in your work.

## NEET Performance and RPA

### NEET Data for April 2018

The NEET data for April with comparison to this time last year:

Measure	Result Apr 2018
16-18 yr olds NEET	2.7%
16-18 yr olds Not Known	0.6%
16/18 yr olds NEET and Not Known	3.3%
Year 12 In Learning	95.0%
Year 13 In Learning	90.7%

There is no comparison data for this time last year due to a technical problem that occurred in April 2017. Also no comparison data has come through yet for the Eastern Region and so unable to share this. However the performance is still very positive and everyone should be proud of the work that they doing to support young people into EET.

### Upcoming ASPIRE Training

Following the recent ASPIRE user questionnaire, we have identified the areas of the system which should be concentrated on for some ASPIRE training workshops. The dates that have been identified are:

- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – half day session 9:30am – 12:30pm – The Morris Room, Broadleas, St Ives

- June 22<sup>nd</sup> – half day session 1:30pm – 4:30pm – The Morris Room, Broadleas, St Ives
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – half day session 1:30pm – 4:30pm – IT Training Room, Stanton House, Huntingdon. (This one will be directed at EHAM's and DM's)

The objectives for the training for practitioners will be:

- Understand the functionality and use of ASPIRE
- Search for a client or group of clients
- Update information on a client (Address, Telephone Number etc.)
- Update Baseline for 'September Guarantee' on client record
- Update and confirm the Situation for a Young Person
- Add an Interaction for a Young Person
- Add Personal Notes for a Young Person
- Add Lead Worker and Lead Professional
- Add Individual circumstances
- Add and update consent information

The objectives for the training for managers will be:

- Understand the functionality and use of ASPIRE
- Search for a client
- Update Baseline for 'September Guarantee' on client record
- Update and confirm the Situation for a Young Person

- Add Lead Worker and Lead Professional
- Add Personal Notes for a young person
- Search for a group of clients

These training workshops have been added to iLearn and practitioners or managers should book onto one of these courses via that system. They will be designed to be in a workshop environment and so the subject matter covered will be led by the needs of the attendees as well as what has already been identified.

If anyone has any queries regarding ASPIRE training, please do contact Mark Cowdell or Helen Walsh and we will be happy to help if we can.

Mark Cowdell, County NEET Manager

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Emma Choolun on her appointment to the Essential Skills for Life Programme Coordinator post and I am sure colleagues across East Cambs and Fenland will engage with the opportunities Emma presents for young people as part of this new role and the DfE funding relating to the Social Mobility Opportunity Area.

Congratulations must also go to Kim Jeffries, Natalie Taylor and the NCS staff that delivered a truly inspirational SEND NCS programme to young people from our special schools in May. The outcomes were overwhelming for those young people and the school and FE staff that work with them on a daily basis.

## Policy and Information

### Violence Against Women and Girls – Newsletter

The latest VAWG newsletter is available on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership [website](#).

### Centre 33

Post the Cambs County Council / Peterborough City Council joint commissioning of CHUMS to deliver counselling service, Centre 33 have advised they are receiving feedback from service users and partner organisations that many people have assumed Centre 33 are closed or no longer able to offer services. This is not the case and they still have a counselling contract for 17-24 year olds with IAPT together with many other services across Cambs and Peterborough.

Please find attached a [flier](#) and [overview](#) of their current services.

## Opportunities for Young People

### Boxing Futures Ltd

My name is Joseph Osman and I am the Sports Development Officer at the Charity Boxing Futures, I am writing to you as my team are starting up a project funded by the Movember Foundation.

This project is already underway in Peterborough and has been given the green light to start in Cambridge at the beginning of June this year. The

project is to work alongside young men who have isolated themselves from the outside world and rarely leave their own homes, due to their social anxieties and other such barriers. Our Project is to work with these young men going through a tool set of different topics discussing these together and trying to help these young men to overcome their troubles. The sessions will run once a week for 90 minutes, with 30 minutes being used with the toolsets and then followed by an hours Boxing session to help them release any negative energy. We have had some great success in the Peterborough area and are really looking forward to bringing this to Cambridge.

As a result I would like to ask if you or any one in your team could help provide participants for our upcoming programme, or point us in the right direction to others who also can. I have attached a small [leaflet](#) with further information on the project and the [referral form](#).

We here at Boxing Futures feel the Cambridge area will be perfect for this project and benefit highly and I hope we can work together in the future.

Joseph Osman

Assistant Coach and Sports Development Officer (Peterborough)

Boxing Futures Ltd

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## Funding

### Support for Environmental Outreach Education for Disadvantaged Young People

Schools, colleges and youth groups can receive up to 80% towards the costs of providing environmental outreach education for groups of disadvantaged young people through the [Field Studies Council's Kids Fund](#).

There are two types of Kids Fund course Wildlife and Environment focusing on wildlife habitats and the environment with team building activities and Eco Adventure which combines environmental and personally challenging activities.

Groups who meet one of the following criteria will be eligible:

- Disadvantaged young people aged 4-18 years (or up to 25 years for those with special needs).
- Voluntary youth groups (either run by voluntary leaders, managed by a voluntary organisation, a registered charity) OR
- School groups may apply if they are aiming to provide benefits which are additional to the statutory school curriculum or clearly show added value, depth and breadth to the taught curriculum. FSC Kids Fund will not pay for young people to attend standard curriculum-focused FSC courses.

One free staff/adult place is provided for every 12 young people; additional adults pay 20% +VAT. This includes all equipment, tuition and waterproof hire costs. Food and accommodation are included for residential courses.

The next closing date for applications is the 1st June 2018.

## Holiday Grants for Disadvantaged and Disabled Children

Schools, youth groups, not for profit organisations and charities can apply for grants of £500 to £2,500 to support recreational trips or holidays within the UK between the 1st July and 31st August 2018 for groups of children experiencing disadvantage or who have disabilities.

Priority will be given to applications coming from the 20% most deprived areas in the UK. Funded by the [Henry Smith Charity](#), grants can cover up to two-thirds of the cost of a holiday or trip lasting one to seven days.

For more details and to apply, complete the eligibility quiz on the website and submit the application form online at least 6 weeks before the trip is due to take place.

Although the deadline is the 2nd July 2018, decisions are made on a first come-first served basis until all the funds have been allocated.

## Funding for Projects that Support Disadvantaged Young People

The next deadline for applications to the [Wessex Youth Trust](#) is the 1st November 2018. The Trust awards grants to registered charities (including schools pre-schools and PTAs) that help, support and advance the wellbeing of disadvantaged children and young people up to the age of 21 years.

Applications from self-help organisations and charities requiring seed corn funding or pump priming for the development of more extensive fund-raising initiatives are preferred, as are specific project funding requests rather than contributions to broader appeals.

## WHSmith Community Grant

Voluntary organisations, charities schools and pre-schools can apply for grants of up to £500 from the [WHSmith Trust](#). The WHSmith Trust is an independent registered charity that uses the proceeds of the compulsory carrier bag charges across the UK to offer the grants to support good causes in the local communities where WHSmith operates.

There are two application rounds each year. The deadline for the current funding round is the 30th September 2018. Applications can be submitted via an online applications form.

## Funding for Arts Projects that Work with Children and Young People

Not for profit organisations in the arts and cultural sector can apply for grants of up to £50,000 for projects that work with children and young people up to the age of 18 using the arts and creative media. Preference will be given to innovative projects which have a deep commitment to listening to children and allow the perceptions and feelings of children themselves to be better understood.

Organisations can apply for both one-off short-term projects and for projects lasting up to three years. The funding is being made available through the [Ragdoll Foundation](#).

Applications can be submitted at any time.

[Application Form](#)

[Guidance Notes](#)

## Funding to Celebrate Women Gaining the Right to Vote

The Government Equalities Office has announced that round 3 of the [Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme](#) will open for applications on the 12th July 2018. The Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme is a £1.5 million government fund that will support local and community groups across England in celebrating the centenary of women gaining the right to vote.

Approximately 150 Small Grants of from £300 to £2,000 will be made to grassroots projects to run small-scale events and activities to celebrate the centenary of women gaining the vote. The fund will close to applications on the 14th September 2018.

## Training

Please note staff must check with their line manager before applying to go on a course, whether or not there is a charge.

## Workforce Development Team

LGSS Learning and Development courses, including all the Social Care Workforce Development and Children's Early Help, are now listed on [iLearn](#).

### **iLearn Course Booking system**

All LGSS Learning and Development course bookings must now be made through iLearn. We are aware that some staff have been having some issues with logging in or creating account so please use the following details to help:

- Creating an account – if you do not already have an iLearn account then you must create one using your CCC email address
- If you require help with the technical aspects of logging in (password reset issues, etc) the please contact Learning Pool directly on 0845 0744 114 or email [support@learningpool.com](mailto:support@learningpool.com)
- If your query relates to course details, dates, etc then please email [LGSSLearning@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:LGSSLearning@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

When booking a place on a course you will need your team budget (cost centre) code and agreement from your manager to attend. Anyone not attending a course without giving prior notice or letting us know on the day will be charged a cancellation fee, so please do call 01480 373534 if an emergency arises on the day.

## LSCB Courses

Course descriptions and how to book onto LSCB courses can be found on the LSCB [website](#).

## Aspire Training

See page 2 for details.

## Other News and Information

### Youth Group Fundraiser

Please see below from a youth group the Cambridge City Early Help Team are supporting with a charity fundraising project.

Dear District Team

We are a group of young people who have been meeting since October, we wanted to do a project to help our community and have decided to raise money in support of East Anglia Children's Hospice (EACH). EACH are a Cambridgeshire Charity who help families and children with life threatening illnesses. EACH help to give the child the best opportunities to live their lives to the fullest during their illness, as well as aid the families with coping strategies at a really challenging time and provide them with ongoing support. We are raising money by taking part in an 5K inflatable colour run on 10th June, this will consist of running and climbing whilst having paint thrown at you, we are not the fittest as a group but will give it our best try and hope to raise as much money as possible for this fantastic Charity.

We would greatly appreciate donations for our colourful journey to help us raise money for the children whose lives are affected and support for their families. If you are able to donate you can do so through our Justgiving page which is <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/eachcolouroftherainbow> or alternatively you could give money to our youth workers Ian McLaughlin or Sophia Lawrence when you see them in the office. Thank you loads for taking the time to read email.

Project Action

Chantelle, JJ, Abbie and Charlene

### CASUS Bulletin

#### XANAX (also referred to as Alprazolam, or "Bars")

Please be aware that there has been a rapidly growing trend amongst young people, both nationally and in particular locally to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, to the distribution and use of Xanax. For young people this appears to be most prevalent in Southern Cambridgeshire, but is a growing issue across the county.

Xanax is a benzodiazepine (similar to, but much more powerful than, Valium or Diazepam) with strong sedative effects, which can quickly develop physical and psychological dependence. It usually comes in tablet form - long white "bars" that are scored to enable them to be broken into pieces. Locally, Xanax appears to be being purchased predominantly via the 'Dark Web' (clues for parents/teachers: does the child have a dark web application installed on their laptop, or a plug in USB device that allows instant and completely anonymous access? These are widely and easily available.) Most Xanax supplied from illegal production factories comes without any content or quality control. This means that the Xanax being taken is liable to adulteration with other psychoactive or untested filler ('bulking') substances – we have had unsubstantiated suspicions about adulteration with opiates (heroin-related drugs) in Cambridgeshire.

The risks associated with taking Xanax, especially if it is mixed with alcohol, are serious. It is well known to cause respiratory arrest and death in high doses, especially if combined with alcohol.

It is highly addictive, so that tolerance develops (the user needs more to achieve the same effect) and sudden withdrawal from heavy use can trigger potentially fatal epileptic seizures.



CASUS has received reports of Xanax being distributed through social media, and cases of Xanax being taken and distributed in schools and other settings, so please be vigilant to the distribution and use of Xanax in your work setting.

More information can be found on [FRANK](#). CASUS can be contacted by [email](#) or call 01480 445316 / 214614 (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm).

## Young people to get rewards for social action in £1m initiative

A £1m rewards scheme is to launch in a bid to encourage young people to take part in social action projects.

Youth volunteering charity Vinspired will run the UK-wide reward card scheme - which will be called the [Inspired card](#) - offering a range of discounts for shops, events and attractions, to young people aged between 14 and 30.

Points will be earned for volunteering and taking part in social action initiatives.

Vinspired's card is part of a newly created Inspired programme that digitally matches young people to volunteering opportunities that best suit their interests, location and skills they are looking to develop.

Other rewards offered through the programme will include work experience and skill-building classes.

The programme and card have been funded by a £500,000 investment by Vinspired, which has been match funded by the Big Lottery and government-backed #iwill Fund, which promotes social action.

## Scale of Youth Homelessness Revealed

Centrepoin't's research estimates 86,000 young people in the UK asked for help from their local council in 2016-17 because they're homeless or at risk.

Key findings are:

- In England 13% of these young people were accepted as statutorily homeless.
- 58% of young people in England were not recorded as having received positive actions leading to their homelessness being successfully prevented or dealt with.

The full report can be read on [Centrepoin't's website](#).

Centrepoin't has launched its [Youth Homelessness Databank](#) to collect the most up-to-date data on the issue.

## Prince's Trust chief to lead Social Mobility Commission

The government has named Prince's Trust chief executive Dame Martina Milburn as its preferred choice to chair the Social Mobility Commission.

Milburn joined The Prince's Trust in 2004 and has previously been chief executive of the BBC's Children in Need appeal and the Association of Spinal Injury Research Rehabilitation and Reintegration. She is also a non-executive director of the National Citizen Service.

The announcement has been made in the government's [response](#) to a report on the future of the commission published in March by the education select committee.



The committee's report says the commission, which was created in 2010 as an independent body to promote social mobility, needs stronger powers as it is proving ineffective due to a lack of clout among ministers.

The education committee wants the commission to be given specific powers to publish social justice impact assessments on government policy and "proactively" advise ministers on social justice issues.

But the government's response says that departments are best placed to consider the impact of policy on social justice.

The education select committee is due to meet Milburn and advise the Education Secretary prior to a final decision being taken on the appointment.

## MPs launch inquiry into role of youth work

An inquiry has been launched by a cross-party group of MPs into the role and impact of youth work.

The [all-party parliamentary group \(APPG\) for youth affairs](#) will work with youth sector groups including the National Youth Agency, British Youth Council and YMCA England and Wales to stage the inquiry, which will consider whether current youth work provision is sufficient to meet the needs of young people.

It is the first parliamentary inquiry into youth services and youth work since the [education select committee looked at the sector in 2011](#).

Other issues being considered include the role of youth work in providing opportunities for young people and whether youth provision is addressing the issues and challenges they face.

It will also look at whether there are enough youth workers to support young people, the range of delivery models in the sector, and the training and development needs of youth workers.

The APPG is inviting submissions to the inquiry until 27 June and will stage parliamentary hearings as well as visiting youth services and projects over the summer.

## Young people living independently need a stable foundation

The Social Security Advisory Committee (SSAC) has called on the UK government to do more to help young people living independently take advantage of training and employment opportunities.

A report published on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018 by the SSAC calls on the UK government to do more to help young people living independently take advantage of training and employment opportunities by easing the immediate – and in some cases very significant – pressure on their day-to-day budgets.

At least 300,000 young people live independently on benefits – that's 1 in 25 of all 16 to 24 year olds. Many of them have absolutely no choice but to live independently due to circumstances outside of their control. They may, for example, be care leavers without any close family or unable to live at home because they are at risk of abuse or violence.

Read more on the [Gov.uk website](#).

If you would like this information in an alternative format please contact  
01223 715492

