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The Central Line

As the good weather continues we head towards the summer holidays, traditionally a time to explore creative group work and engage young people in exciting projects, especially those who may be at risk of not achieving EET status in September. We have recently received some very good group work reports, especially from the City team – thank you for your hard work and for continuing to evidence the impact of group work. In September we will launch the “Exploring Behaviours” modular group work programme and a pre EET engagement pilot called “Activ8” in Cambridge City to support young people to access the Princes Trust Team Programme and become EET.

This month we welcomed Emma Choolun to her new post within YSS as “Essential Skills for Life” Programme Coordinator. Emma’s role is part of the Social Mobility Opportunity Area work across East Cambs and Fenland and will see the delivery of the Aim Higher programme in secondary settings and an increase in extracurricular activities for young people aged 11-16. This work has been possible as a result of a grant awarded by the Department for Education, please continue to explore external funding and partnership work wherever possible as the impact on our Youth Offer is significant.

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 May 2018

The NEET data for May 2018:

Measure	Result May 2018
16-18 yr olds NEET	2.8%
16-18 yr olds Not Known	0.5%
16/18 yr olds NEET and Not Known	3.4%
Year 12 In Learning	94.7%
Year 13 In Learning	90.6%

There is no comparison data for this time last year due to a technical problem that occurred in May 2017.

Below is a table to show how we compare with our Eastern Region Neighbours.

	Academic age 16-17						Quintile
	NEET	NEET % (cohort - 710 - 720)	Not known	% not known (cohort - 710 - 720)	NEET and NK	% NEET and NK (NEET + NK) / (cohort - 710 - 720)	
EAST OF ENGLAND	4109	3.2%	2565	2.0%	6674	5.2%	
Thurrock	78	2.1%	0	0.0%	78	2.1%	1

Cambridgeshire	352	2.8%	68	0.5%	420	3.4%	1
Hertfordshire	663	2.6%	395	1.6%	1058	4.2%	2
Essex	932	3.0%	532	1.7%	1464	4.7%	2
Central Bedfordshire	142	2.5%	176	3.1%	318	5.6%	3
Bedford	162	4.4%	49	1.3%	211	5.7%	3
Peterborough	196	4.3%	71	1.6%	267	5.8%	4
Norfolk	716	4.2%	350	2.1%	1066	6.3%	4
Luton	171	3.3%	176	3.4%	347	6.8%	4
Suffolk	606	4.1%	529	3.6%	1135	7.7%	5
Southend-on-Sea	91	2.4%	219	5.7%	310	8.0%	5

This shows that we continue to achieve very well compared to other local authorities in the eastern region.

September Guarantee

We are now into the period of the year where we are statutorily required to record and report on all year 11's and Year 12's about whether they have an offer of learning for September in Year 12 and 13 respectively. I am really pleased to say that we have started off well in making sure we get this information on the system, as the below table shows in comparison to the first report that was run this time last year.

	05/07/17	27/06/18	Difference to last year
Year 11	81.3%	89.1%	+ 7.8%
Year 12	60.5%	82.1%	+ 21.6%

September guarantee monitoring reports will be coming out fortnightly so that we can see how we are progressing and we need to continue to improve on these figures and so if you are working with any Year 11's, please make sure that you check that their September Guarantee baseline has been recorded on ASPIRE. If you need any help with this, please contact Mark Cowdell or one of the Client Researchers.

Mark Cowdell, County NEET Manager

Aspire

Aspire Live Link

All Aspire users should be accessing Aspire through the Live system via <http://oneonline-live/>.

All other favourites and shortcuts should be deleted as these are out of date links. The landing page is used to ensure that you are always accessing Aspire through the latest URL and will ensure you are working on a stable platform. The landing page also makes users aware when the system is unavailable (icon turns red).

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 some partner organisations that many people have assumed Centre 33 are no longer able to offer services. This is not the case and they still provide counselling services to young people in some schools across South and East Cambs, counselling in hubs across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough for young people aged 13-25 as well as a range of other services including support around housing/homelessness, sexual health, money/budgeting, young carers and emotional wellbeing. For more details about the Someone to Talk to service at Centre 33 please see the links below and their website:

<http://centre33.org.uk/>

Drug Alert

LSD / Acid / Psychoactive Substance

The below tabs are believed to be some form of LSD / ACID / psychoactive substance and are believed to be in circulation in the Norwich / South Norfolk and Mid Suffolk area. Three young people have been hospitalised having taken the same substance in the past week. They are tiny (approx. 5mm square).



LSD stands for its chemical name, lysergic acid diethylamide, and is commonly called ‘acid’. It’s a powerful hallucinogenic drug – this means that users are likely to experience a distorted view of objects and reality, including seeing and sometimes hearing things that aren’t there (these are hallucinations).

CGL Norfolk

Useful Resources

The Royal College of Psychiatrists has an A – Z of mental health resources which can be found on their [website](#).

Funding

BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme

The BBC Children in Need [Emergency Essentials Programme](#) which supports children and young people up to the age of 18 living with severe poverty as well as additional pressures such as domestic violence, disability or poor health in the family is currently open for applications from referral organisations that will be able to apply for grants on behalf of families or young people.

The fund will cover the purchase of critical items such as:

Gas or electric cookers	Essential household items
Furniture and kitchen equipment	Children’s beds and bedding

Washing machines

Fridges and freezers

Baby equipment

Clothing in exceptional or emergency situations.

Applications must be completed by a registered referrer who is part of an organisation that is supporting the family or young person and capable of assessing their needs. The referrer’s organisation should also be able to administer and supervise the grant on behalf of the BBC Children in Need Emergency Essentials Programme.

Useful Links:

[Referrer Guidelines](#)

Equipment Grants for Youth Clubs

[Variety](#), the Childrens Charity, has grants of £250 to £600 available to youth organisations that are affiliated to either Ambition, UK Youth or the National Association of Boys and Girls Clubs. The grants can be used to buy equipment to provide challenging activities that engage young people aged 8-18 and provide them with alternatives to becoming involved in the anti-social behaviour that often stems from boredom and peer pressure.

On occasion, applications for improvement of youth club premises, refurbishment of existing equipment or facilities will also be considered. Applicants have to raise some of the funds and applications that have young people involved in the fund raising will be looked upon favourably.

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

Useful Links: [Application Form](#) / [Application Guidance Notes](#)

Funding for Community Facilities

Registered Charities, churches, Parish Councils, Local Authorities and CASC registered sports clubs can apply for grants of between £2,000 and £100,000 for the provision, maintenance or improvement of community facilities.

This can include village Halls and community centres, public play areas, publicly available multi use games areas, skate parks and BMX tracks and sport and recreation grounds including pavilions and clubhouses with full public access.

The funding is being made available through the [Landfill Operator Wren](#) and is available to projects sited within their operating areas within 10 miles of eligible FCC environment site. (There are several sites in Cambridgeshire.)

The fund opens for applications on the 27th June 2018 with a closing date of 5pm on the 12th September 2018.

Useful Links:

[Application Guidelines](#) / [Distance to a qualifying FCC Environment Site](#)

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](#).

LSCB Courses

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

ASPIRE

ASPIRE Training Managers

This training is designed for staff in Early Help District Teams. It is a half-day session for users to understand the functionality and what the system is used for, and to navigate and add essential and accurate data for reporting to DfE.

Wednesday 4th July 2018, 1.30pm – 4.30pm, Stanton House IT Training Room, Huntingdon

Details and booking are on [iLearn](#).

Other News and Information

Citizenship and Civic Engagement in the 21st Century

The government's approach to volunteering, and specifically the [National Citizen Service](#) (NCS) programme, needs to be better integrated into a wider civic engagement policy, according to a recent report by a group of peers. It also calls for the government to consider NCS as a citizenship scheme and for it to continue to work more closely with other youth organisations. You can read more [here](#).

My Money Now project

The Money Advice Service (MAS) funded My Money Now (MMN) programme, delivered by the National Youth Agency to 591 young adults, was initiated to help young people, aged 16-21 years, to improve their knowledge about financial matters and to help them make good decisions about finances in the future; as featured in the Natwest Financial Capability and Young Workers Report.

The full report and case studies are found on the [NYA website](#).

Government to retain Prevent anti-radicalisation programme

The government's controversial anti-radicalisation initiative Prevent is to be retained as part of a revised counter-terrorism strategy, it has been announced.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid said that while he recognised the criticisms levelled at Prevent, but it will remain a "vital part" of the government's counter-terrorism work going forward.

Javid said the overall counter-terrorism strategy, renamed [Contest](#), has been informed by latest research and secret intelligence, incorporating lessons learned from the 2017 terror attacks and the government response to them.

The retention of Prevent was one of six key areas highlighted by the Home Secretary as he launched the new strategy in a speech delivered in central London.

Prevent, which was brought in after the 2005 London bombings to identify and work with those at risk of radicalisation, works with and supports community groups, faith groups and social enterprise projects supporting vulnerable people.

More than 350,000 children 'destitute', study finds

A study has found around 365,000 children experienced destitution at some point last year due to lacking a number of the basic daily living essentials such as shelter, food, heating, lighting, clothing or basic toiletries.

A [report](#), published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, found over the whole of 2017, 785,000 households experienced destitution in UK, defined as lacking two or more of six essentials over the past month, involving a total 1,550,000 people of whom 365,000 were children.

The calculation is based on a survey of users of crisis services across 16 areas, with those findings extrapolated across the UK based on indicators of groups and factors associated with high risks of destitution.

The report cites case studies from parents who regularly missed meals so their children would have enough food to eat. Children's clothing was also reported as a major issue for parents because of the frequent need for new clothes and the expense of school uniforms was also highlighted as a particular challenge.

The report's authors said a combination of factors including benefit delays and sanctions, harsh debt recovery practices, poor health and disability as well as high costs of housing, fuel and other essentials contributed to the causes of destitution.

Youth (Service and Provision) 10 minute rule Bill

A parliamentary debate was secured and read on the 6th June 2018 by Lloyd Russell Moyle, MP for Brighton Kemptown, for a [bill](#) seeking to introduce a statutory youth services. During the ten-minute rule bill debate, Russell Moyle, chair of the all-party group on youth affairs, announced an [inquiry into youth services](#) and the charity [Choose Youth](#) held an event in parliament enabling young people and youth workers to meet with MPs.

Further drop in youth work courses, figures indicate

The number of youth work courses on offer from higher education institutions in the UK has fallen to its lowest level in a decade, figures published by the National Youth Agency (NYA) suggest.

The latest [NYA-collated database](#) indicates that there are now 39 validated higher education youth work courses on offer across 28 universities and colleges in the UK as of June 2018.

That is a drop of five courses since November 2017, when the NYA reported that there were 44 validated courses across 28 higher education institutions.

The NYA has stressed that the figures for June 2018 are provisional, and could be subject to change, but the findings tally with a trend of declining choice for those wishing to study youth work.

The NYA said it would not comment on the figures until it had finished compiling its annual monitoring report on youth work courses, which is expected to be released next month.

Young people 'central to government loneliness strategy'

Initiatives to tackle loneliness among young people will be central to a forthcoming strategy on the issue, the government has said.

Plans to launch a loneliness strategy, which is being led by youth minister Tracey Crouch who is the ministerial lead for loneliness, were first

announced in January amid concerns that increasing numbers of people are experiencing loneliness.

The government has now launched a four-week consultation, asking for organisations with expertise and experience in tackling loneliness to help us by providing views on how the strategy should be developed.

It said it is interested in approaches that reduce the risk of loneliness, prevent loneliness, or intervene early before loneliness becomes entrenched.

The four-week [consultation](#) on the basis for the loneliness strategy is due to run until 20 July.

SEN employment initiative set to expand

A programme helping young people with special educational needs (SEN) into employment is set to double in size over the next three years, it has been announced.

The initiative, called Project SEARCH is open to final-year school students with special educational needs, who undertake a year-long placement at a host business or organisation.

All students receive advice and guidance from job coaches and tutors alongside workplace mentors who provide coaching and support as the young person learns new work skills. As well as gaining year-long "on the job" experience, students also complete an employability skills curriculum that teaches practical skills and knowledge including CV writing and interview skills.

The initiative currently runs across the UK through partnerships with local authorities, NHS trusts, and businesses including GlaxoSmithKline and Marriott Hotels, having initially originated in the United States.

In order to increase the number of students taking part from 500 to more than 1,000 by 2021, a new charity called DFN Project SEARCH is being established by businessman and philanthropist David Forbes-Nixon.

Last year, around two-thirds of participants gained paid work following participation in the programme, compared with a national employment rate for young people with SEN of six per cent.

This is Me

This is Me: A devised theatre production by LGBT+ young people

This is Me is a funny, tender exploration of what it means to be young and queer in Cambridge today. Devised by LGBT+ young people themselves and in collaboration with Acting Now and The Kite Trust, the play details the experience of coming out and the magic of celebrating difference.

The play explores what it's like to come out in several different ways. What is it like to come out about your gender? Your sexuality or your religion? Coming out about who we are is an ongoing process and one that is not always safe.

7pm, Tuesday 10th July 2018

7pm, Thursday 12th July 2018

Location: Acting Now 47 – 51 Norfolk Street Cambridge, CB1 2LD
Booking required - get your tickets through [Eventbrite](#) or email hello@actingnow.co.uk

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

