

COUNCIL SEMINAR
18th July, 2017

Present:- Councillor Atkin (in the Chair); Councillors Bird, Cooksey, Elliot, Jarvis, McNeely, Mallinder, Reeder, Senior, Short, Simpson, John Turner, Walsh and Wyatt.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allen, Beck, Jepson, Napper, Pitchley and Sheppard.

THE PRINCE'S TRUST

Councillor Atkin, the Council's representative on the South Yorkshire Fire Authority, welcomed Paul Newman, South Yorkshire Police, and Rhian Oxley, Team Leader, Prince's Trust Team Programme, who gave an overview of the Prince's Trust programme as follows:-

- Unique in South Yorkshire in that it was a joint Programme with both the Fire and Police Services
- The third course was currently coming to an end. It was far more successful in Rotherham than Barnsley due to the buy-in from agencies
- The fourth course would start in September in Barnsley
- Nominations were required of young people aged 16-25 years who were not in Employment, Education and Training (NEET) as well as any projects that would take one week to complete
- The young people were recruited from recommendations, NEET and Job Centre Plus. There were 15 young people per course together with 2 instructors – Rhian (Team Leader) and Paul
- The desire was to have a bank of projects and people in Rotherham that could be used to make the programme more successful going forward. Preferred projects would be those that would involve the young people meeting people/events they would not ordinarily come into contact with i.e. people with disabilities, tea dances etc.
- 5 qualifications were achieved during the programme whilst embedding Maths and English throughout, working on the young person's self-confidence and self-esteem and providing a safe environment for them to grow. The qualifications included Level 2 Food Hygiene, Level 1 ISOH (Institute of Occupation Safety and Health) and Level 2 First Aid
- It was a 12 weeks' programme based at the Dearne Fire Station:-

Week 1 – at the Fire station getting to know each other. At the end of the week they had to compile a shopping list ready for Week 2

Week 2 – residential at Edale – climbing, canoeing etc. and cooking what they had bought in Week 1

Weeks 3 and 4 – return to the Fire Station looking at projects. The 15 split into 3 groups with a project for each group. It was hoped they would find a project themselves if not the bank of nominated projects would be consulted. At the end of week 4 there was a presentation to a “dragons den” scenario with the dragons there to advise and give constructive criticism. The young people had the final say on the projects selected

Fundraising took place for the projects e.g. raffles, sponsored walks with an average of £500 raised in a week

Week 5 – deliver the week long project

Week 6 – Back in the classroom preparing for work considering why it was important to be on time, wearing the right clothes for work, how to speak to people in a work scenario

Weeks 7 and 8 – The young people were sent on 2 weeks’ work experience with welfare visits every couple of days

Week 9 – Return to the Fire Station and work on a professional CV and interview skills. Siemens at Wakefield provided members of staff who gave a presentation on CV writing, mock interviews and feedback provided. Each young person, if met the qualifying criteria, received £40 per person to buy interview clothes

Week 10 – Planning of the team challenge e.g. work with elderly people, people with disabilities, ex-military veterans, homeless

Week 11 – Delivery of the team challenge and preparation for week 12

Week 12 – Graduation. The ceremony for the current Rotherham group was Thursday, 27th July in the Town Hall. The young people had to prepare a speech on what they had done over the past 12 weeks, what their achievements had been, what they had found challenging. Friends and family, Police/Fire colleagues, employers, colleges attended

- Due to a change in funding there would now only be 2 programmes in Rotherham:-

Rotherham – 22nd January and 7th May 2018
Barnsley September 2017

Extra funding was being sought to hopefully run another Rotherham programme in September 2017.

Discussion ensued with the following issues raised/clarified:-

- Visits had been made to speak to staff at Carnson House and Clearways with visits planned to Job Centre Plus and Early Help Teams
- Encourage the young people to contact their local Ward Councillor to discuss possible donation from their Community Leadership Fund
- Dependent upon the young person's family household income, bus fares could be paid through Barnsley College
- Possible linkage with RotherFed

The Chairman thanked Paul and Rhian for their presentation and Members for their attendance.

An invitation was extended to All Members to attend the graduation ceremony on Thursday, 27th July in the Town Hall at 2.00 p.m.