Child Friendly Rotherham

Improving Lives Select Commission 13th March 2018

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For Rotherham to be a great place to grow up in; where children, young people and their families have fun and enjoy living, learning and working.



Why are we doing this?

- Ambition to become a child friendly borough result of CSE report and Council's Fresh Start Improvement Plan
- The Council wanting to improve the borough for all children and young people – not just focusing on 'children's services'



Our approach

- Established a local Child Friendly Board; providing governance and help steer the work, this ensured:
- Local leaders were engaged: elected members, chief executives and senior managers
- Partners were engaged who already work with children and young people:
 - voluntary and community sector
 - health, police and education



Our approach

Children and young people engaged from the start



- Ensured it wasn't 'adult-led' but children and young people had their voices heard and acted on
- Feeding this into everything we do in the council
- Influencing other partners



Who we spoke to

- We spoke to around 4000 children and young people using a range of methodologies:
 - Attending meetings (youth cabinet/Youth Parliament)
 - Events and activities led by young people
 - Embassy for Reimagining Rotherham consultation and manifesto
 - Online survey
 - Lifestyle survey for schools
 - Rotherham Show



What children, young people and their families told us…

Children and young people feel positive and proud of where they live

Enjoy opportunities to be with friends and family and celebrate their cultural diversity

Enjoy what was on offer - just wanted to have a bit more "fun"!

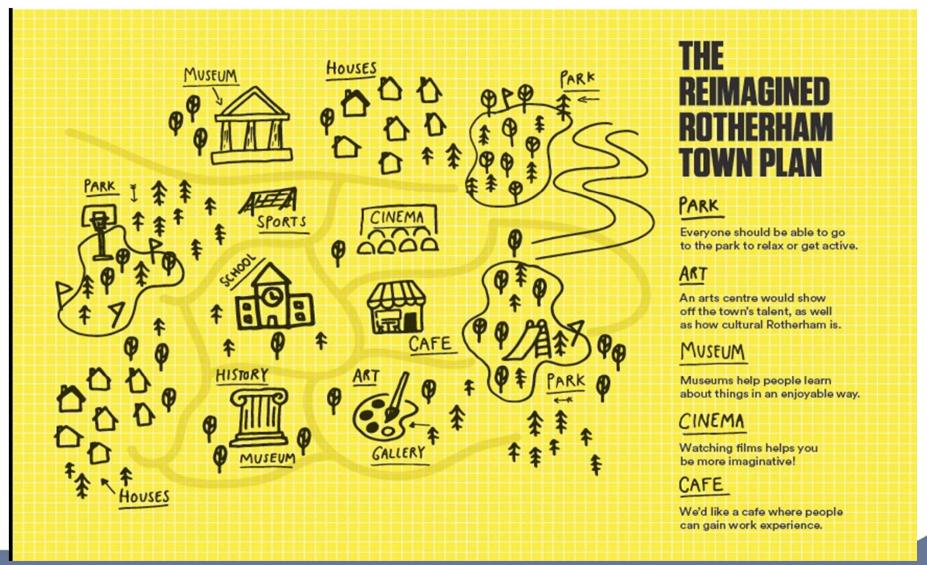
Adults much more likely to be negative, critical and concerned about diversity and lack of things to do...







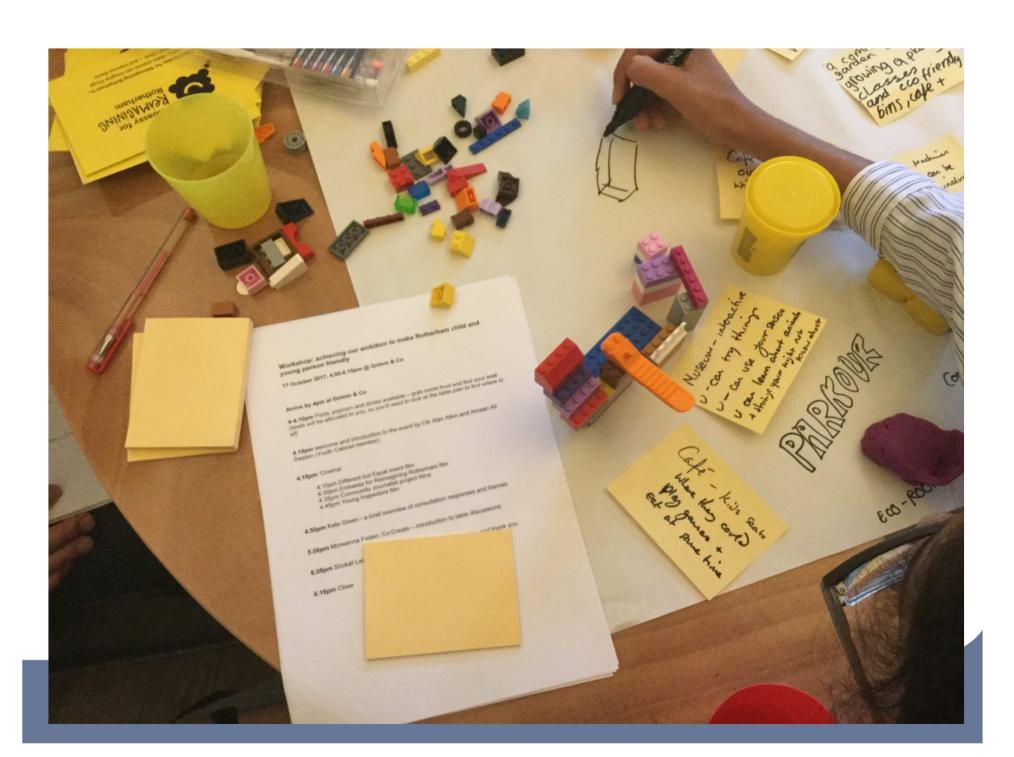
Reimagining Rotherham Project…





Bringing together 'thinkers' and 'actors'





4 Themes for 'Child Friendly Rotherham'...

Analysis of all consultation and CF Board workshop highlighted 4 themes:

- a vibrant borough with age-appropriate, fun things to do
- places in Rotherham to be safe, clean and welcoming
- All children and young people have a voice and are listened to
- opportunities to bring together and celebrate Rotherham's diverse communities



'Our Rotherham': achieving the ambition to be a child and young person friendly borough 2018–2025

- Using consultation responses and event the board and young people co-produced an action plan
- Plan for 2018 2025 in line with other key strategies and plans
- CF Board identified champions for each theme



'Child Friendly Rotherham' already in action…

- Young people influencing town centre masterplan
- Influenced ambition to be Children's Capital of Culture 2025
- Influencing policy and strategic agendas e.g. Safer Rotherham Partnership and Building Stronger Communities Forum
- Continuing to work with the Different but Equal Board and Grimm & Co as key partners
- Community journalist project and 'Our Rotherham' website https://www.ourrotherham.com
- Programme of workshops/events being developed throughout the year



What next…

- Continue to use this initiative to influence everything we do; always asking "what is the impact on children and young people?"
- Ensure co-production and meaningful engagement is the norm
- Not just focusing on what children and young people want, but using their influence to make Rotherham great for all ages!
- Where can you contribute to the agenda...?



Thank you!

