

**INVOLVE Meeting**

**18th May 2016, 4pm, CRMZ, Kingsway, Widnes**

**Present:**

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| John Hunt - Halton Speak OutThomas Norris – Halton Speak Out/HYC /MYP, ChairPhil McClure – Young AddactionNikki Lamb – Halton LibrariesMegan Barlow – Reading HackJack Cosgrove – HYCJulie Sumner – Halton Impart | Sarah Jones – HBC Participation OfficerKelsie Roberts - CICCJohn Bucknall – HBC, Commissioning ManagerLynn Kenyon – Young AddactionLeanne Gould – INVOLVEKelly Collier - HBC |
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| **Apologies**Chloe Buglass – HFV, Matthew Walker, HYC. |
| 1. | **Review of Minutes and Actions:*** John B confirmed that minutes of Involve meetings can be posted to the Children’s Trust website
* John B and Kelly C explained a number of technical difficulties in establishing a HBC inbox for Involve. Phil M confirmed that Youth Cabinet had discussed this and were happy to create an Involve@haltonyc.com inbox for Involve. This would be administered by Youth Cabinet’s secretary and would also forward to John B. Future agenda items could be forwarded to this address.
* Nikki L informed the group that she will forward an link to an electronic version of the Books on Prescription leaflet which could be circulated.
* Nikki confirmed that the Library service was hopeful that many of the books will be available as E-books.

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| **2.** | **Thomas Norris – Speak Up Not Down Presentation**Thomas offered apologies and asked that this be carried forward to a future Involve meeting. This was agreed.**Action:*** Item to carry forward to future agenda.
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| **3.** | **Child and Young People Plan Update – Kelly Collier.** Kelly explained that the Children and Young People plan was a document in which Halton Children’s Trust and its partners set forward its vision for young people and children. The current plan runs until 2017 and is reviewed yearly. A draft version of this year’s review is ready for people to provide feedback on. The review has been drafted on the basis provided by leads for each area of the plan and includes contributions from a wide variety of organisations and individuals. Kelly requested that INVOLVE member organisations look at the draft version and provide feedback. She stressed that it has not yet been to the design team so may end up looking different but at this stage they were particularly interested in the words and language used and the format – is it young person friendly? Is it understandable?It was confirmed that there was no money available at this stage to completely overhaul the booklet to include for example a comic strip version but that there is a clear commitment to making it as user friendly as possible.Kelly requested that all INVOLVE partners take a look at the plan and provide feedback to her on the format and wording by Monday 13th June**Action:*** All partners to share the draft plan with their members and provide feedback to Kelly Collier by Monday 13th June.
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| **4.** | **Mental Health Campaign – Health Improvement Team**Maria McNulty introduced herself and spoke about shop currently running at The Box in Halton Lea Shopping Centre. This is a space in the shopping centre where people can access information and advice in relation to mental health. The shop is currently open during mental health awareness week and has seen between 100 – 120 people a day attending. Thomas N noted that he had attended the shop this week (following the footsteps that run through out the shopping centre and found it to be excellent).The shop will also open during half term (Tuesday 31/5 – Sat 4/06) with a focus on Children and Young People and be staffed by a variety of organisations with an interest in positive mental health. There will be an emphasis on the promotion of the 5 Ways to Wellbeing: Learn/Connect/Give/Notice/Be Active. There will be a range of activities and competitions offered throughout the week.It was requested that all partner organisations promote this initiative to young people and families.**Action:*** All organisation to promote the half term mental health initiative including through social media.
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| **5.** | **Halton Youth Cabinet Democracy Award**HYC is developing an award for schools (and potentially, in the future, other organisations) to acknowledge where there is good promotion and involvement in youth voice and democracy and the positive promotion of understanding of democracy in general.To achieve the award schools will have to meet a range of criteria which will include the promotion of youth voice and democracy structures both within school and on a local and national basis. They will also have to show that they teaching students about politics and democracy and doing things like encouraging voter registration.Youth Cabinet are pulling together a pack for schools explaining the award but are also keen to ensure that include any information necessary for schools to promote awareness around youth voice and involvement. They will also include lesson and assembly plans, curriculum links and resources to help schools achieve the award.Youth Cabinet is keen that the pack contains information from INVOLVE partner organisations to show the range of youth involvement and voice structures available in Halton and requested that any organisation with information to share email it to them. They would also be happy to hear any views INVOLVE partners have on the development of the award.**Action:*** All organisations to consider if they have any information they wish to share as part of the HYC Democracy Award and to forward this to enquiries@HaltonYC.com
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| **6.** | **Tom Dillon – Wellbeing Enterprises**Tom Dillon did not attend.Thomas Norris explained that Tom D had attended a Youth Cabinet meeting last month and was able to give an update. Wellbeing Enterprises in partnership with UnLtd are running a scheme to support social entrepreneurship. They have grants available (up to £2,500) to help young people set up projects which can demonstrate social worth. Tom Norris confirmed that he had benefit from the funding which had enabled him to deliver SpeakUpNotDown disability awareness sessions to primary schools across the borough.John H also confirmed that another young person has had received a grant and support to establish a shop in The Box which provides employment and training opportunities for young people with disabilities.**Action:*** Phil M will contact Tom Dillon and request information that can be circulated to INVOLVE partners.
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| **7.** | **Police Youth Commission**Sarah J provided the group an update on Cheshire Police and Crime Commissioner’s Youth Commission. She informed the group that this was established by former PCC John Dwyer to provide young people’s views around police and crime issues.The Commission is made up of young people aged 14 – 25 from across Cheshire. The Youth Commission has established its current priorities as hate crime, mental health and vulnerable young people, abusive relationships, Online safety and drug and alcohol abuse.The commission will pull together a young person conference to look at these issues in October. Views from young people across Cheshire about and police and crime are sought. This can be given at [www.youthcommission.co.uk](http://www.youthcommission.co.uk)There was some discussion over the role to the Commission following the election of David Keane. Sarah confirmed that she believed the Commission was guaranteed until at least November.**Actions:*** Young people’s views are sought at [www.youthcommission.co.uk](http://www.youthcommission.co.uk)
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| **8.** | **Children’s Trust** John B gave an update on the last Childen’s trust meeting. This was under a new format which saw more young people involved in the actual meeting. The meeting is now essentially in two parts – the first of which sees young people providing input and scrutiny.It is hoped that the this will be ramped up even more in future meetings and the hope is that young people will have a greater input in to agendas – deciding on areas for scrutiny etc.John B said that feedback from young people and partners suggested that he new format was welcomed and provided greater challenge for the council from young people. It was also discussed that there was still work to do to ensure a friendlier approach to young people – through simplified agendas/minutes, less jargon, etc.It was confirmed that the next meeting (in July) would be switched to CRMZ – again to provide a more young person friendly environment and to allow greater numbers of young people could attend.It was also confirmed that this new look meeting would remove the need for the Young People Opportunity Development Board (YPODB) which covered similar topics.Julie S raised the fact that Halton Impart represented a large number of parents/carers but that currently many of the children and young people in those families would not be represented. Phil M suggested that promotion of and involvement in current youth involvement structures could help fill this gap and happily**Actions:*** To encourage involvement from partners in the Children’s Trust meetings.
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| **9.**  | Production between meetingsIt was confirmed that anyone wishing to raise INVOLVE agenda items could now email them to Involve@haltonYC.comIt was confirmed that future INVOLVE minutes could still be published on Children’s Trust Website.It was agreed that the meetings could be chaired on a rotating basis.**Actions:*** Email future agenda items to Involve@haltonyc.com
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| **10.** | **AOB****Young Commissioner training:** Following an enquiry from Sarah J, John B confirmed that Young Commissioner training would take place on the 2nd & 9th August. More Info to follow.**Action:*** John B to circulate information about Young Commissioner Training

**Halton Against Hate:** Thomas N reminded the group that HYC and himself were hoping to pull together a meeting to re-launch Halton Against Hate. Halton Against Hate had previously been delivered by Catch22 when it operated the Youth Provision. This time Thomas would like to see multiagency approach to organising a festival to celebrate difference and diversity. **Action:*** Thomas will email partners with details of a planning meeting to be arranged following the exam period.

**New Psychoactive Substances:** John B reminded the group that Halton has produced a new animation about NPS (Legal highs). Addaction to circulate information about this.Julie S mentioned that Impart had an awareness session for parents from The Amy Winehouse Foundation but would welcome more specific information about drugs and alcohol. |
| Next Meeting: **Tuesday 5th July****4 – 6pm****Grangeway Youth Centre**Agenda items to:**involve@haltonyc.com** |