

Kent Youth Voice Virtual Meetings Summary – July 2021

During July 2021, we held our Kent Youth Voice Saturday as a virtual meeting. Due to current COVID-19 restrictions the monthly meetings will be continuing to be virtual for the foreseeable future.

We started the day in with 24 members split between a Kent Youth County Council (KYCC) members session or a Headstart members session. Both sessions had a guest speaker, Tabitha Collumbell from the Mental health Schools teams, that came to introduce herself and raise awareness of their services for young people. Both groups also discussed forthcoming summer holiday activities and opportunities.

Campaign updates:

Developing resilience in young people –

Curriculum for life – The group reviewed the animation developed so far for the campaign group for social media to raise awareness on the areas they are working on. Changes and suggestions were discussed and will be fed back to the developer. Progress on the development of sourcing political workshops for young people was also discussed.

Environmental Awareness – The group reviewed the animation developed for the campaign group for social media. Canva graphics and social posts on sustainability were discussed and group were asked to complete their versions so they can be posted during the summer holidays

Mental Health – Group discussed social media blogs and posts that had gone out and their success and reactions. Discussion on next posts and how they could promote Hello Yellow mental health day in October.

Project Groups:

Keeping Kent safe: The group reviewed a presentation of the questions they were developing on street lighting and discussed the next steps for this project and created a list of questions for the Police on how they deal with mental health issues and young people for a panel taking place in September.

Opportunities for young people: Group discussed volunteering survey that had created and where to circulate further as not had many responses yet. The KCC Reconnect programme was discussed and how young people could get involved with events as well as future ideas for the project group to work on researching and promoting.

Social media: Group discussed social media content for forthcoming months and the importance of deadlines and using the correct Canvas template. Group to support the Mental Health campaign in adding posts ahead of the Hello Yellow Mental Health Day. The group also created a form that they asked members to complete about why they joined Kent Youth County Council so that quotes could be used to promote in raising awareness of the elections in November.

UKYP: The Vice Chair updated the group on information gained from recent British Youth Council event he attended and discussed the future events planned. The group discussed progress on lobbying MP's to support single use plastics and mental health support for young people and decided they wanted to develop a presentation for secondary schools on facts from the British Youth Council to highlight awareness of mental health issues.

Joint afternoon session

The final session of the day brought together all the Kent Youth Voice members to discuss the feedback and actions from all the sessions of the day. In this session the group welcomed Debbie and Oonagh from CHUMS bereavement services to discuss their work and promote awareness to young people about the services they could offer young people. The day ended with a football themed trivia quiz in preparation for the Euro final football match due this weekend.