



ANNUAL REPORT 2016



"Where every child's voice matters"

staying Safe being Healthy enjoying and Achieving making a Positive contribution Economic wellbeing



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SHAPE Youth Forum

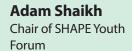
As Chair of the SHAPE Youth Forum, it is my pleasure to comment on the multitude of activities SHAPE has been involved with as a Forum. The Forum's role is to be the young person's voice in Sandwell. Your issues and concerns as young people are taken at the highest regard and SHAPE strives to not only help address these issues, but also help create a Sandwell that young people can find success in.

To reach these goals, SHAPE feeds in issues from the annual SHAPE Youth Conference and Annual Survey; results from these surveys include the highly successful annual SHAPE Youth Festival and SHAPE Your Talent events. These events allow young people to get together, have fun, but also give them an opportunity to share any opinions on services and ideas on what more Sandwell could offer to young people today.

Young people can benefit extraordinarily by being a part of the forum; not only will you help bring what matters most to you as a young person into SHAPE's perspective, but you'll be picking up essential transferable skills for life while being part of the voice Sandwell's young people require to have their issues addressed. As Chair, I've not only enjoyed the events SHAPE has hosted, but I've seen myself grow as an individual within SHAPE as I began with very little confidence. SHAPE allowed me to flourish and gain enough confidence in my own ability and ideas that I can now chair the Forum.

This is an opportunity for young people with aspirations and ambitions must not miss out on – you are the voice

for Sandwell, and your voices are there to be heard. By being involved with SHAPE, you will allow your voice to do just that.







SHAPE Democracy Award

We would like to congratulate Holly Lodge High School for winning the SHAPE Democracy Award 2016 for their contribution to the SHAPE Programme this year.

Holly Lodge have contributed through attending the conferences, taking part in surveys, the anti-bullying roadshow and National Youth Takeover challenges.

We look forward to working together again in 2017.

The **SHAPE** Programme

The SHAPE Programme is a child's voice initiative set up in December 2014. The Programme over the past 2 years has been extremely successful in engaging children and young people in positive activities. It has also enabled them to share their views and opinions about issues affecting their lives and how council and partner agencies can help shape services to cater for their needs.

SHAPE is led by Sandwell Council with the Director of Public Health, Jyoti Atri as the Strategic Lead for the Programme supported by Cabinet Member for Children's Services Councillor Hackett. The SHAPE Strategic Board consists of partners including West Midlands Police, the NHS, Voluntary Services and Sandwell College.

It focuses on five overarching outcomes which are fundamental to the wellbeing of all young people:

- Staying Safe
- Being Healthy
- Enjoying and Achieving
- Making a Positive Contribution
- Economic Wellbeing

The SHAPE Programme is funded by Sandwell Council

and partner agencies through Sandwell Safeguarding Children's Board. Funding this year has also been received in the form of sponsorship from independent construction and property services company Wilmott Dixon. In 2016 the SHAPE Programme had a total budget of £64,000.

Sandwell's Primary, Secondary, Community Schools and Sandwell College have played a significant role in working with the programme encouraging children and young people to participate and the SHAPE team is grateful for the continued support and commitment schools and college have made and look forward to working together in 2017.

The Annual Report showcases the series of events and opportunities that were held in 2016 for young people to come together and share their views and highlights important dates scheduled for 2017.



The **SHAPE** Pledges

Young People Said	We did
Increase awareness of online safety	Offered online safety awareness in our libraries
Increase awareness of CSE in schools	Offered Project 12 to schools which covers CSE as well as a number of other issues affecting young people
Provide information about sporting activities in Sandwell	Carried out a mapping exercise which has been undertaken in and out of school. Fit for Sport have been commissioned to undertake a needs analysis in schools and will then support schools to increase the offer of provision
Increase access to school nurses	Ensured all high schools and Sandwell Community Schools have a weekly drop in. Primary Schools offer a parental drop in session with the nurse
Raise awareness of SHAPE through schools	Ensured regular communication through bulletins to head teachers and school contacts to inform them about SHAPE initiatives and offered the democracy award to the school who contributes the most throughout the year to SHAPE
Provide feedback and increase awareness of apprenticeships	Provide a link from the Sandwell Council page to the Sandwell Guarantee web page which includes video clips from young people who have undertaken an apprenticeship

SHAPE Your Talent



SHAPE Your Talent is a talent show for 8- 19 year olds showcasing their talents in music, dance and entertainment. It took place at Sandwell Academy on 24th June 2016. The event was led by Sandwell Council in conjunction with the Library Service and Sandwell College.

This year's auditions were held in 6 town libraries with 70 artists including soloists, bands, dance groups and entertainers applying.

14 were shortlisted going through to a You Tube public vote. After an astounding 107,000 votes 8 finalists were chosen for the final.

Lydia Lucy from The Voice, You Tube artist, Dapz on the Map, Emily Badger, SHAPE Your Talent 2016 winner and Daniel, Sandwell's very own X factor contestant wowed the audience with their performances.





Winner Bethany Spencer with runner up Rockin n Rollin and 3rd place Cole Ore and 4th place Ben Haywood

Sandwell Community Schools

In April 2016 an event was held at Coneygre Arts Centre for pupils from Sandwell Community Schools. 40 young people attended the conference. The following awareness raising and interactive workshops took place:

- Knife Crime Inspirational Speaker Andy T Clarke delivered an inspirational speech about his own life and the consequences of carrying a knife from a young age
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Adellah Snape delivered an inspirational true story about being a CSE survivor
- Gangs/Drugs/Bullying
 – Richard Grant, better
 known as Dreadlock Alien undertook a workshop
 enabling young people to create a poem or rap
 around these hard hitting issues affecting their lives.
- Innovation Workshop A dragon's den style workshop delivered by Generation England encouraging young people to think of inventions or new ideas to improve Sandwell.

The SHAPE Team received some positive feedback from Sandwell Community Schools stating we:

have a very good understanding of the students that attend Sandwell Community School and how to address their emotional and behavioural needs. The partnership between Sandwell Community School and The Shape team is developing and is providing opportunities and activities for our students to engage in positive activities.

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In July 2016 we saw the second SHAPE Youth Festival take place. The Festival, based on the recommendations and learning from 2015, launched the Parks Summer Activities on Saturday 23rd July 2016 at Dartmouth Park, West Bromwich. Both programmes were introduced to offer positive activities for children and young people to engage with during the 6-week summer holidays.

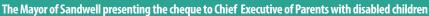
As requested by the young people, the festival was aimed at young people aged 0-19. It attracted approximately 8,000 people, more than double the figures from last year.

There were a range of activities designed for all ages including taster sessions from the Parks Summer Activities. These included zorb football, golf, racket sports, magic show and arts and crafts.

Centre stage which was sponsored by Wilmott Dixon was occupied by the SHAPE Music Festival, including celebrity acts, girl group Stooshe, British Asian artist Zack Knight and You Tube artist Dapz on the Map, as well as local acts and finalists from SHAPE Your Talent.

A number of stalls were also present, representing both council and partner services including the Fire Service who conducted a fire safety display, Sandwell's apprenticeship service Think Local, Holiday Lunch Club who provided healthy eating tasters, DECCA and Born to Move.







Young Carers Consultation

In July 2016 a young carers consultation took place with 35 children and young people aged 8 – 16.

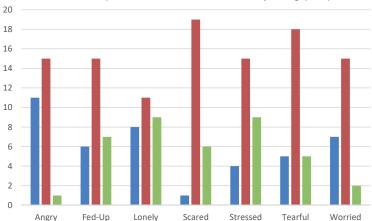
Their views on services offered by the council were sought through creative workshops.

The children were asked how they feel being a young carer, many emotions were discussed. Most young carers had felt these emotions at some point in their lives. Young carers can feel under a lot of pressure because of their caring role and responsibilities. It is important that these feelings are recognised and they get the support they need.

The young people were proud of their caring role and responsibilities. Young carers play a vital role in their family homes and have a lot of responsibility in their caring role. They understand that their families rely on them.

The lack of awareness in schools was highlighted, as our young carers reported that many teachers are unaware of the roles of young carers. Young carers would want this to be recognised as their home life will have an impact in school.

Overall there was positive feedback from the young people about the services they received.



They wanted more activities organised for them and more advice on how to care for their family members who required support including more knowledge of their health issues and medication they require. The consultation also fed into a commissioning review of support services for young carers



4-8 Year Olds Targeted Consultation

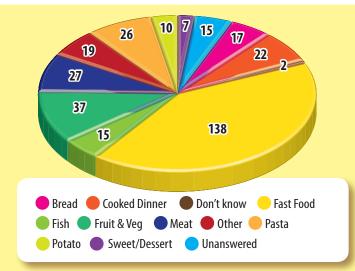
A total of 335 participants aged 4-8 who took part in this consultation, from 21 different schools/nurseries in the Borough. Based on the schools/nurseries the surveys were sent out to there was an 18% response rate which was extremely positive considering the short timescale that was provided to schools at the end of term to complete and send the surveys back.

Children were asked questions about their home and school life.

Children were asked what activities they enjoy doing by looking through a set of photo cards with the following categories. The results opposite show that all activities are popular amongst the children asked with the most popular 'being with family'. This is important for children as it will have a positive influence on their wellbeing. Growing up in a loving and nurturing environment is likely to have a healthy impact on a child through their developmental stages. 'Going to the park' was another popular answer reflected in other consultations SHAPE has conducted with older age groups.

Children were asked what they would like to do for a job. The responses were varied but the most popular answers were teacher, doctor, police officer, firefighter and footballer. Children of this age identify with good role models and professionals. It is important for children to explore and learn about themselves.





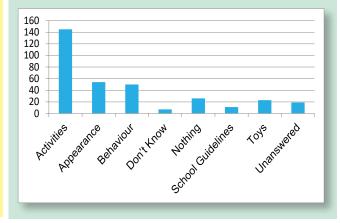
Children were asked what their favourite meal was. The majority stated fast food. This includes answers such as 'McDonalds,' and 'KFC.'. Although fast food may be the preferred option, we are unaware of how often the child has their favourite meal. Parents may offer this as a treat. It is important for children to recognise the qualities of healthy and nutritious food and which foods are 'good' for them. The 'bread' category includes any bread based foods such as sandwiches, pancakes and wraps. The 'other' category included foods such as rice and curry.

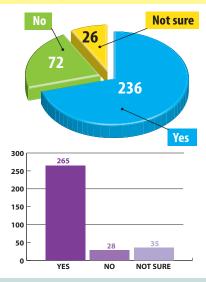
When asked about their least favourite meal there were varied answers with many specific fruit and vegetable answers such as tomato and broccoli. Another common answer was for potato based products mainly mash.

In 2017 a consultation will take place with parents on school meals and packed lunches provided in primary schools, to identify issues and for school meal providers to make improvements to ensure children are provided with a healthy meal in school.

Children were asked what they would like to change about their school. Many of the answers related to 'activities' children would like to do at school such as introducing 'exercise, climbing wall, dancing' to school. Some children wanted to be able to play with specific 'toys,' mainly toys from home. Children who stated 'behaviour' of other children wanted 'everyone to be nice' and no 'bullying'.

These are important factors that will make the school a positive environment for the young people. Some children mentioned 'appearance,' for many they wanted their school to be tidier; others wanted it decorated to their preference. This shows the importance of appearance and creating an environment that is visually pleasing for children. The 'school guidelines' answer consisted of children who wanted to make changes to their school timetable.





The majority of children feel safe in their school and home environment. When asked however if they feel safe with people around them, almost 70% of children felt safe. The children that answered no were mainly because of 'strangers'. It is important that children know about 'stranger danger' and looking at the results some children already have awareness of this. Many of the children who answered as unsure felt safe around some people but not around others.

When asked if adults listen to them, the children mainly answered 'yes'. The children that answered 'no' had different explanations why they feel they are not listened to by adults including parents are 'always on the phone' and 'busy.' It is important that adults take time out and listen to children as it encourages them to talk to you and makes them feel confident in telling you how they feel. Adults need to show they are interested when talking to children, prompting them to explain further. Not only does this advance their social skills but will also improve the bonds that adults have with children.

Key Themes:

Bullying - In the consultation the behaviour of peers was an emerging theme. Many children felt their school would be a better place if there was 'no bullying' and 'everyone was nice.' It is apparent that bullying can occur even in early childhood as it has been identified by the children in the consultation.

Activities - The consultation revealed that children would like to incorporate more physical activity into their school

timetable. This stood out as the most popular answer when being asked about improvements for school. Children suggested doing this by doing 'exercise,' 'dance' and 'having a climbing wall.'

Stranger Awareness – Some of the children in the consultation had awareness of stranger danger, it is important that all children have awareness of this even from a young age.

The key themes from the consultation were discussed and focussed on in the Primary Schools conference which took place in December 2016.

West Midlands Police Youth Engagement Project

As well as reducing the amount of people entering the criminal justice system, West Midlands Police regard increasing engagement with young people as one of their key priorities. In the Sandwell area the police have asked the SHAPE team to enhance and facilitate their engagement with young people through the SHAPE Youth Forum.

On 29 September 2016 SHAPE facilitated a session at West Bromwich Police Station where a workshop was held with 30 young people, aged 16-24, from SHAPE Youth Forum, focusing on Fairness in Policing.

Eighteen members were selected from this cohort to attend the follow-up session on 20 October 2016 at Tally Ho Conference Suite in Birmingham, where they had the opportunity to meet the Chief Constable of the West Midlands.

They worked together to design a young people friendly version of the Stop and Search Policy, as well as presenting a pitch for future funding for the SHAPE Programme through the Active Citizens Fund.

It was extremely positive to see the young people challenge police on their policies and share their views on fairness in policing.

They found both sessions enjoyable and informative and were pleased to have the opportunity to meet the Chief Constable.

The SHAPE Programme continues to build strong links with the police, and SHAPE Youth Forum will be developing a full proposal for funding in the near future.





The SHAPE Team and Youth Forum received positive feedback from West Midlands Police.



"I just wanted to say a huge thank you for your ongoing help and support.

You are definitely putting Sandwell on the map!

I am very grateful to the huge difference your project is making, not least because of your passion and commitment to Sandwell's young people"

Sergeant Sarah Smyth

"Can I say how proud I was last night to be the officer who represented you all last night. You are individually a credit to your parents but as a group Sandwell young people were very well represented by you."

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PC Treasure

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Youth Police Crime Commissioners

The role of a Youth Police Crime Commissioner (YPCC) is to closely engage with young people to have their issues and concerns raised while being in direct contact with West Midlands Police. In order to ensure these problems are taken seriously and worked on, YPCCs campaign on key issues over a period of time and present their efforts at an annual Youth Summit at Tally Ho in Birmingham. YPCCs usually meet once every three months.

The role not only gives young people the opportunity to work closely with

West Midlands Police, but also allows young people to directly impact the way young people are supported by Police resources and much more. YPCC's represent Sandwell at the Safer Sandwell Partnership Police and Crime Board where the chairs of subgroups and Chief Superintendent of the Police make many key decisions on dealing effectively and efficiently with Sandwell's crime and disorder issues, priorities and emerging trends.

In Sandwell there are 2 Youth Police Crime Commissioners who have been elected through SHAPE Youth Forum, Adam Shaikh and Lucy Hunt.



Youth Summit

On 13th December, 20 members of SHAPE Youth Forum attended the annual Youth Summit. Sandwell had the biggest turnout in terms of representatives. Sandwell were proud to have the chair of SHAPE Youth Forum and YPCC Adam Shaikh present the summit.

Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson gave an opening address in which he talked about the direct ways in which he wishes to ensure that West Midlands Police harnesses the talents of young people and allow them to help build stronger, safer and prosperous communities beginning today, for tomorrow. Three groups of Youth Commissioners gave short pitches about the campaigns they had organised this year with help from the UpRising leadership programme. The three pitches included work being done on travel and transport, raising awareness on the effects of pornography addiction on young people, and the dangers of sexting. These campaigns will be taken forward into 2017

At the end of the evening, New YC's were welcomed into the 2017 Youth Commission with a farewell to those who completed their term. Sandwell's leaving YC Jardell Miller was recognised for his excellent work in the Police Cadet proposal.

Youth Police Crime Commissioner Jardell Miller

During my two years as Youth Police and Crime Commissioner, the most rewarding part of it has been working with young people and getting them to engage with the police. I have particularly enjoyed speaking to young people who have made the wrong choices, subsequently making them think twice about decisions they will make in the future. I particularly value being a trusted member of the community, someone who young people felt they could come to if they had issues or questions that they wanted to address, that is what I saw being a Youth Police and Crime Commissioner was all about.

A lot of people would challenge me, with dissatisfaction as to why I'd decided to become a YPCC

because there was a huge gap between the police and young people, but when I explained that I've come to have an impact in the West Midlands they'd grew an interest in the role and what it was all about.

I realised that there wasn't many opportunities for young people to explore what West Midlands Police is all about, I developed a cadets scheme proposal which the Police and Crime Commissioner and the command team of West Midlands Police took interest to, they are now investing in the idea and hoping to get uniformed cadets in the future.





Anti-bullying Roadshow

The SHAPE Team teamed up with the police and Youth Services to deliver an Anti-Bullying Roadshow during this week to approximately 350 children and young people in Sandwell.

The Roadshow went to four primary and two secondary schools, from priority areas, to carry out interactive workshops with children and young people on the ongoing issue of bullying. Through the SHAPE Programme this issue has been highlighted as a concern to young people from children as young as 4 up to young people aged 18.

The theme for anti-bullying week was "Power for Good" and the workshops followed this theme. The children and young people had the opportunity to go on the council's Youth Bus, where they designed anti-bullying campaign posters. They also took part in role plays with bullying scenarios.

Schools and academies that took part: St Phillips Catholic Primary, Crocketts Primary, Wednesbury Oak Academy, Glebefields Primary, Wodensborough Ormiston Academy and Holly Lodge 11-19 Science College

The Pupils from Wednesbury Oak with Councillor Simon Hackett and PC Treasure



- **92 (34%)** would tell someone. This included teachers, friends and Police
- 46 (17%) would stand up to the bully
- 43 (16%) would punish the bully through taking away their playtimes, introducing a law to abide to or sterner methods of excluding or suspending them for a short period of time
- 36 (13%) wanted to do something positive through

campaigning against bullying, introducing anti-bullying ambassadors, having an anti-bullying council and having a buddying system

- 21 (8%) would reason and talk to the bully
- 15 (6%) would support the victim and promote being nice
- 11 (4%) said they would do other things
- 7 (2%) said they would ignore the bully

The anti-bullying week had a huge impact in those schools which took part with reductions in the number of bullying incidents reported.

Youth Services will be using the anti-bullying presentation as part of their youth work curriculum and rolling the workshop out in youth provision.

The winning poster design pictured opposite was created by Megan from Crocketts Primary School. The poster will be used for future antibullying campaigns through the SHAPE programme

Just wanted to express my thanks for the Anti-Bullying Workshop on Friday.

Y6 and I thoroughly enjoyed taking part in it.
I therefore intend to roll the programme out throughout KS2, so impressed was I with the quality.

Thank you for a well prepared and thought-provoking resource.

Head Teacher Maria Bull – Wednesbury Oak Primary





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National Youth Takeover Challenge

Annually the SHAPE Programme has taken part in the National Youth Takeover Challenge and after last year's success of receiving a gold commendation from the Children's Commissioner, this year has also been successful with around 25 young people taking part.

The National Youth Takeover Challenge started on Friday 18 November when Sandwell and partner agencies opened their doors to young people and allowed them to take over their roles.

Takeovers have taken place in DECCA, Public Health, Legal Services, Parks and Countryside Management, with Cllr Hackett and Chief Superintendent of West Midlands Police. Young people have enjoyed their experience and found out lots of information about the areas where they have worked.







On Wednesday 30th November I took part in the National Youth Takeover Challenge at West Bromwich Police. During this day, I got the opportunity to have a first-hand look at what goes on in a Police Station, ask questions and gain insight into what the police force do.

When I arrived, I sat in on the daily

morning meeting lead by Chief Superintendent Mr Ward where leaders of each team got together and discussed important events that had recently happened.

After this, I got the chance to ask questions and even was able to go out and see what work the police do outside of the Station.

Next, I was able to see members of other teams and what they do including the response team during this time I was even able to try on a police vest.

Overall, this day gave me a chance to experience policing on a more personal level and appreciate what it takes to work in the police and what the police do for our communities.

Lastly, I would like to thank everyone who took time out of the day to give me this amazing opportunity which will help me in the near future when deciding my career choice.

Shyla Scarlett – from Oldbury is a student at Halesowen College

On 30 November 2016 they also have had the chance to takeover Leaders and Directors of the Council asking them some probing questions including:

- Can young people get involved with the UK Youth Parliament in order to get their voice heard?

A – It was agreed that elections could be held. Process to be developed for 2017/18

Only In light of the recent allegations of abuse by sports coaches, what is the Council doing to protect children and young people

The Director and Cabinet Member of Children's Services to raise concerns with the Sandwell Safeguarding Children's Board with a view to writing to various clubs and societies in Sandwell, in order to raise awareness

- What was the Council's long term vision for SHAPE?

A - It was acknowledged that SHAPE had grown from strength to strength and it was envisaged this would continue.



This year's annual SHAPE Our Future Conference took place in 3 parts, Primary, Secondary and Over 16s.

The Primary School conference received a positive attendance of 60 children. It focussed on **stranger awareness** where they were asked questions on their awareness of strangers, **healthy eating** where they were stunned by the sugar content of everyday foods and what they could potentially use as a healthy substitute, activities they wished to have during the **summer holidays** and **future aspirations** and careers, playing an innovative game where young people assess useful skills of professionals and how they can be used effectively to solve problems.

The Secondary School conference had a total of 30 young people. Workshops were held on **anti-bullying** delivered by Creative Academies, where young people were asked to develop a bullying campaign for their school through role play, a programme delivered by Brook identifying what makes them happy in life and how they can **improve wellbeing**, Sandwell College conducted a presentation on **apprenticeships and careers**.

The over 16s had an attendance of 20 young people. There was a thought provoking inspirational speech by Alison Cope, a mother of a **knife crime** victim, who spoke about the dangers of carrying a knife at a young age, Kaleidoscope led a workshop on **mental health and wellbeing** and SHAPE led a dragon's den workshop on creating an **over 16s event** for holiday periods.









"Very good experience. Well done team" (Q3 Academy)

"Very positive conference for the pupils. You did the activities in a very interactive way. Continue with the "good work"

(Ocker Hill Academy)

"Inspired children to want to lead activities in school using what they have learnt" (King Georges V)

"A truly fantastic day, all of our children enjoyed the day and we will want to come back. Congratulations to all of your staff"

(Ferndale)

"Well organised event with short, pacey workshops! Would love to see students 'team teach' with facilitators!"

(St Michaels C OF E)

Outcomes of the conference will feature as pledges for 2017/18 and feedback from teachers and staff will be considered when organising the 2017 conference.



If you are a young person who would like to be part of SHAPE Programme through SHAPE Youth Forum, which meets every two weeks or if you are a school who would like to be involved and nominate SHAPE Champions or would like further information on SHAPE, please contact us on:



email:

SHAPE_Events@sandwell.gov.uk



web:

www.sandwell.gov.uk/SHAPEevents



phone: 0121 569 6164

twitter:



@SHAPESandwell

Save the dates!

April 2017

Sandwell Community
Schools Event

June 2017

SHAPE Consultation survey for parents and young people

May/June 2017

SHAPE Your Talent Auditions 3rd - 13th May 2017, Grand Final 30th June July 2017

SHAPE Youth Festival Saturday 22nd July

November 2017

Anti-Bullying Week Monday 13th -Friday 17th November November 2017

National Youth Takeover Challenge

December 2017

SHAPE Our Future Conference











