

# Big Local Spring Event Newcastle 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017

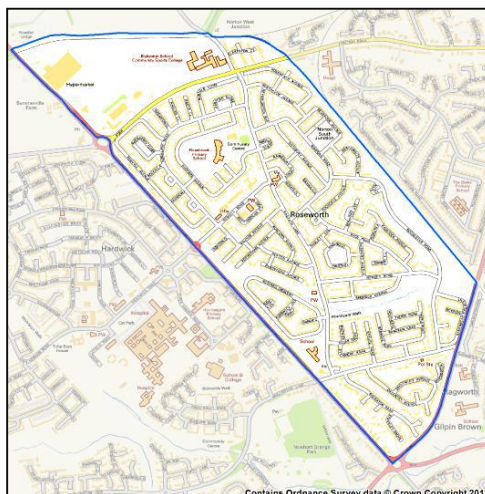
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Roseworth Big Local  
Stockton-on-Tees



# Involving Young People

- We will tell our story – warts and all
- Share issues
- Share learning

# Roseworth – where we live



- The Ward has an estimated population of 7,285
- The Ward is the 7th most deprived out of the 26 in the borough
- The Ward particularly experiences deprivation in education, skills and training, health & disability, employment and income

# Roseworth Big Local

- A wave 2 BL
- We began planning in January 2013
- We completed our plan in November 2014
- We began delivery in January 2015
- We are now moving into the third year of our plan

# Involving Young People – our story

- Needs of young people identified as a high priority early in our planning
- So we commissioned a local youth work organisation Eastern Ravens to carry out consultation, visioning and plan building with the young people
- The result was a big part of our plan

# Our original plans

- To work with the LTO to contract out youth provision work, to engage with at least 100 young people using outreach work
- Work to be directed by a children and young persons themed steering group
- The children and young people were encouraged to develop solutions to their own priorities
- Some work around reducing child poverty in the area
- To have Young people on our board

# Change of direction

- Development worker employed early 2015 - with his own ideas about how youth work should be delivered
- New (adult) board members joined – also with their own ideas
- The result was extended debate and disagreements
- And finally a change in direction from outreach to fixed location provision
- Meanwhile young people lost interest in being on the board

# Our results so far

## Strengths/Successes

- The MUGA – including Coaching Sessions
- The success of the youth club delivered by Iron Guidance
- Trips out
- Seasonal events – (Summer Fun Day, British Cycling Championship Event, Christmas Events)



# Weaknesses/Issues

- Relationships within the Board
- Conflicts of Interest becoming issues
- Communication between the Board and Providers
- How to get young people better involved in the decision making process
- Never really developed an effective young persons steering group as identified in the plan
- Not enough focus on early years work

# Opportunities

- Recent review into Youth Provision
- Development of a Local Providers Forum
- Static Youth Club is a great starting point
- Lots of young people attending sessions
- Lots of expertise on Board

# Threats

- Conflicts of interest
- Communication between Board and Providers
- Not listening to the needs of young people
- Approach not being adaptable
- Legacy
- Big Local seen as a solution for all of the issues around youth engagement

# Lessons learned/ issues to discuss

- Should you just let young people plan what they want or do adults know best when it comes to youth provision?
- Who should you target – all young people or some particular groups?
- How important are safe places (rather than activities)?
- How do you involve young people in the management of the Big Local?
- How do you measure success?

# Facilitated Session

- After listening to our 'journey' can we all come up with some top tips for youth engagement?

# Thank you

## **James Hadman**

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**Thanks also to Denise Mason and Samantha Pitchers!**