



NETWORK RYDE OFFICER REPORT

Committee:	<i>Network Ryde Management Committee</i>
Date:	<i>2nd March 2022</i>
Title of Report:	<i>Youth Work Manager Report</i>
Context:	<i>Update on activities at Network Ryde since last committee meeting</i>
Report Author:	<i>Bex Swan</i>

Network Ryde @ 147

Our full timetable has been continuing to run with a full timetable of drop ins, Short Breaks sessions and wellbeing sessions as well as the monthly “Meet the Experts” sessions. We are regularly having 20-25 young people in for the drop-in sessions with several new young people registering with us. We have kept in the enhanced cleaning after and in between sessions as well as hand sanitizer throughout the building. Due to a member of staff leaving at the start of January we have temporarily cancelled the Home Ed sessions as this was the session with the lowest attendance and we have had to cancel one drop in session due to a lack of staff. All the staff are working additional hours at the moment to cover the gaps to ensure that we continue to offer as many sessions as we are able to.

In December we had 70 young people attend at least one session with Network Ryde and we offered 21 sessions.

In January we had 82 young people attend at least one session with Network Ryde and we offered 30 sessions.

Up until February 19th we have had 81 young people attend at least one session with Network Ryde and we offered 24 sessions.

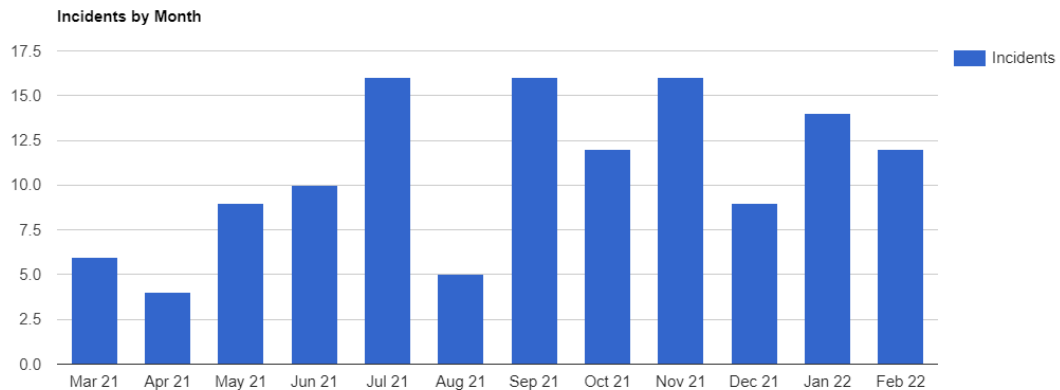
We also have Space 4 U, Paragon and Idol Mind attend monthly drop in sessions.

We are continuing with the weekly Instagram quiz as this continues to have a good following and sharing our activities through our social media accounts.

We will continue to have the flexibility in the timetable to adapt should Covid restrictions change and we will continue to ensure we monitor any young people who test positive for Covid and support the Track and Trace process. As a staff team we are all double vaccinated and we have lateral flow tests in the centre should any young person or staff member present with symptoms.

Safeguarding

We continue to have a high level of safeguarding incidents since the last committee meeting. We have attended an Initial Child Protection Conference, 3 Child In Need Meetings, 1 Team Around Family Meeting and supported a young person to complete their Police Video Recorded Interview. I attend weekly safeguarding meetings with Ryde Academy and we also shared concerns with the LADO regarding a teacher and their comments.



We have had a range of safeguarding incidents including self-harm, family violence and drug and alcohol issues as well as some anti-social behaviour within the Network Ryde neighbourhood.

Network Ryde @ the Allotment and the Ryde Academy Allotment Sessions

We are currently running two different allotment sessions. We are running a general Network Ryde Allotment session, which takes place on a Saturday morning 10am – 12pm. We have small numbers of young people at this session however the young people use it towards their DofE Volunteering. The Saturday morning session will stay in place until the clocks change and revert back to a Friday after school session.

Ryde Academy VRU Allotment Sessions

Sessions continue to run every Wednesday morning throughout term time. We have 4 young people attending the session. The young people are currently playing with the layout, and making good use of the tiller and looking at what they would like to grow. The VRU funding ends in March but as last year we continue to run this session until the end of the academic year so that the young people get to spend the whole year at the plot.

Duke of Edinburgh

We have 3 day walks planned for the February half term as part of the expedition training for the young people completing their Bronze Awards. We have provisional dates throughout the year for expeditions for both Bronze and Silver practice and assessed expeditions. We are also looking at options for our Gold group's expeditions. We are looking at using an Approved Activity Provider to support with the Gold expeditions as we do not have the capacity within the staff team to support with the Gold Expedition.

This is the end of the first full financial year where we have paid for young people to complete their Award. We have paid for 51 spaces in 21/22 however we have had a group of young people from Christ The King all sign up and then not even start their Awards. We are looking at an agreement to put in place that looks at repaying the sign up cost if a young person does not wish to continue with the Award.

Bronze – 33 young people working towards their Award.

Silver – 15 young people working towards their Award.

Gold – 7 young people working towards their Award.

Ryde Academy DofE Alternative Provision Group

We have a group of 4 young people who are working with Phil every week on their Bronze Award. They are currently working on their Skill and Volunteering section and have created some fantastic pieces of woodwork for the plot and are looking at restoring a bench for the grassy area. After the Easter Break the group will work on their Physical section as well as their expedition section. The young people are really enjoying their sessions and very excited about the camping element of the expedition.

Kickstart

The scheme is almost officially ended. Young people have to be referred for any remaining placements by the 1st March and be in placement by 31st March. We have a remaining vacancy here at Network Ryde for a Youth Support Worker – this was initially filled in January however the young person decided to take another placement.

As a Gateway Representative, Ryde Town Council was approved to support the smaller employers to access the scheme. Under our umbrella, we have supported 14 employers within Ryde and had 52 placements originally approved by the DWP. However, due to COVID restrictions within the businesses, 33 placements were available for the young people to apply to. With 19 placements being started, we have achieved a 58% fill.

Unfortunately, a couple of placements did not manage to make the full 6-month placements, but we have also seen 9 young people fully completing their placements, as well as at least 3 of them going into further employment with their placement employers.

As of the 5th December 2021, nationally around 311,200 jobs have been approved for funding and around 112,000 Kickstart jobs have been started by young people. The scheme has now closed for new applications as of the 17th December 2021, so these figures are subject to adjustments.

Location	Jobs Made Available	Cumulative Jobs Started	
Scotland	16780	9730	58%
Wales	11300	5330	47%
East Midlands	13420	6860	51%
East of England	17380	8010	46%
London	49100	23920	49%
North East	9290	5310	57%
North West	28110	14180	50%

South East	25180	12030	48%
South West	14870	6940	47%
West Midlands	19900	10490	53%
Yorkshire and The Humber	17840	9020	51%

Short Breaks

We are running weekly Short Breaks sessions with funding from the Isle of Wight Council – Kaiya is leading and running these sessions. We have approximately 4 young people attending these weekly and these young people do not access any other sessions with us. We have just been successful in applying for funding for Short Breaks for 22/23 for £2708.00 with an application in for the equipment grant for a further £419.

Future Plans

PCC Safer Communities Fund – I submitted an application for £107k for 3 years funding for Network Ryde Mentors in January. We do not find out about this application until April with the funding starting in July should we be successful