

Youth Panel Report January 2014

What Happened?

12 members of the Youth Panel met in London in January with Jo Huxtable, Interim Client Services Director for the South East .

The meeting involved:

- Ask the Panel
- Planning a 'Youth Panel' workshop
- Operational Priorities Consultation
- Mag & Welcome Magazine Consultation



Ask the Panel

Q1: Rural Involvement

Question from Jo Huxtable:

Some of our services are delivered in the community (often in rural locations) to people living in their own homes. What can staff working in these services do to ensure all clients have an opportunity to be involved in Home and in the development and delivery of our services?

Answer:

- Use skype
- Send quick involvement texts; involvement doesn't always require travel and time
- Customers and clients can be part of anyone@home online involvement forum



- Face time/l pads
- Services can use community centres
- Ask people in rural areas how they would like to get involved

Question 2: Domestic Abuse

Question from Claire Hilton, Business Development Partner-Women and Families

These questions prompted some really interesting and important discussion. Many young people expressed distrust in the police and said they would try to handle a domestic abuse situation themselves.

- What do you perceive as domestic abuse?
Someone is trapped and can't get out, weak men hurting women, relationship problems, problems with someone you know/live with, victim might not realise it's domestic abuse, men or women can commit domestic abuse, it can be mental, physical, financial, emotional
- Do you know anyone currently in/has been in a domestic abuse relationship?
9 out of 15 said yes
- What advice, if any did you provide?
Speak to someone, counselling, get someone to teach the perpetrator a lesson, speak to the police, speak to Citizens Advice Bureaux
- Would you know where to go/who to talk to if it happened to you?
Doctors, Citizens Advice, maybe police but that might cause more trouble,
- Have you ever had relationship education/training?
Some young people had relationship training, the majority hadn't, one client didn't know what domestic abuse was and most young people didn't know what the signs were



Operational Planning priorities

Jo Huxtable talked through Home's operational plan for 2014-15 and asked the Youth Panel for their feedback and ideas. The Youth Panel would like to see employment for customers and clients on the plan.

The Mag Consultation

We consulted the Youth Panel on the Mag and Welcome Magazine. The group gave lots of ideas including;

- Agony aunt page/ relationship advice from experts on different subjects e.g. domestic abuse
- Comic strips designed by clients
- More 'happy' pictures that make you smile and feel inspired

The Next Step.....

The next Youth Panel meeting will be on **6th February in London.**

If you have any questions about the Youth Panel, or have any clients or customers that would like to get involved please contact:

Sophie Cox: Involvement Advisor

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and please visit.....

['Family at Home Group 16-25'](#) youth Facebook page

