Cheshire Youth Commission:

Final Report to the Police and Crime Commissioner

May 2019
Introduction

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire established Cheshire Youth Commission in 2016. Cheshire Youth Commission (CYC) aims to enable young people aged 14-25 years to inform decisions about policing and crime prevention in Cheshire, working in partnership with both the PCC and Cheshire Constabulary.

Following a highly successful year in 2017/2018, the PCC decided to further develop and expand CYC in 2018/2019. Over this period, the key objectives of the project were to:

- Recruit 25-30 new members from across Cheshire to join CYC alongside existing members who decided to continue on the project. We placed particular emphasis on engaging those from ‘hard to reach’ groups and those in new localities.
- Work with CYC members to identify the key priority topics which they wanted to tackle this year.
- Provide CYC members with the practical skills training they need for their role.
- Continue the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) as a subgroup of CYC to work closely with Cheshire Constabulary to inform decisions around policing and undertake collaborative work, and continue to involve guest speakers in the YAG meetings.
- Plan and deliver a ‘Big Conversation’ to enable CYC to gather meaningful views from at least 2,000 young people across Cheshire in relation to CYC chosen priorities.
- Support CYC to turn their research into key findings and effective recommendations to be presented at a final conference with the PCC, Cheshire Constabulary and partner agencies.

CYC is being delivered by Leaders Unlocked, a social enterprise which aims to enable young people to have a stronger say on the decisions that affect their lives. Leaders Unlocked has established Youth Commissions, working with PCCs in 7 other regions and is planning to expand further in the years ahead.

For more information about Leaders Unlocked please see [www.leaders-unlocked.org](http://www.leaders-unlocked.org)

About this report

This report is grounded in an extensive research base of over 2,000 conversations with young people across Cheshire during 2018-19. The findings from these conversations have been recorded using a range of methods including Youth Commission postcards and through detailed notes from one-to-one interviews and workshops.

The report is structured into 6 key sections that outline what CYC has found about each of their priorities. Each section features comprehensive analysis of young people’s responses, verbatim quotes from individual participants, and the key recommendations that have been put forward by CYC as a result of their findings.

This report is intended to act as an honest, independent record of what young people have told us through the ‘Big Conversation’ process. It is also intended to be a basis for further action on the part of the PCC, Cheshire Constabulary and relevant partner agencies.
About the Cheshire Youth Commission

Cheshire Youth Commission (CYC) aims to give young people across Cheshire a voice on policing and crime. CYC supports, challenges and informs the work of the PCC and Cheshire Constabulary.

A key part of CYC’s role is to gather the views of other young people through peer-to-peer research. This peer research process provides a safe environment for young people to talk to their peers about the issues. The views gathered from young people are analysed by CYC in order to create a set of recommendations to present back to the PCC, Cheshire Constabulary and partners.

What we did

Recruiting CYC members:

In May and June 2018, Leaders Unlocked carried out a rigorous two-part recruitment process, including an accessible application form and a second-stage telephone interview, to select a diverse group of young people to join CYC.

As a result, we recruited 27 CYC members, in addition to 10 members who were retained from the 2017/2018 cohort. These young people were recruited with the support of a wide range of local organisations to ensure they came from a diverse range of backgrounds and life experiences. These include:

- 4 looked-after children and care-leavers
- 4 BAME young people
- 9 young people with disabilities, and/or young people with mental health conditions
- 11 identifying as LGBTQ+
- 3 young people who have personal experience of the justice system and/or are victims of crime

Identifying priority issues:

At their inaugural meeting in August 2018, CYC worked together to identify 6 urgent issues they wanted to tackle through the project. The 6 priorities they chose to focus on were:

1) Hate Crime and Diversity
2) Unhealthy Relationships
3) Mental Health
4) Staying Safe Online
5) Substance Use Vs Abuse
6) Policing and Young People

Skills training:

CYC members took part in practical training sessions to acquire the key skills and knowledge needed for their role. This training included active listening, interview skills, communication and public speaking. It also included a briefing on safeguarding and staying safe online. These skills were further developed through practical experience throughout the project.
Creating the tools for CYC:

CYC members were actively involved in creating the tools that they used for their peer research. They co-designed workshop plans to address each of their 6 priorities, which were reviewed by OPCC and Constabulary leads, to ensure relevance and validity.

To capture young people’s responses, we developed a CYC postcard depicting the 6 priorities and providing young people with a structure to record their views and suggested solutions anonymously.

Continuing and developing the Cheshire Youth Advisory Group (YAG):

In July 2017, we worked with Cheshire Constabulary and the OPCC to set up the Youth Advisory Group (YAG) to allow CYC members to inform, advise and challenge the Constabulary on matters concerning young people and the community.

We have continued to meet regularly and the YAG has allowed groups of CYC members to come together with Cheshire Constabulary and partners, to have focused discussions in relation to priority topics including: Communication and Digital Engagement, Unhealthy Relationships & Domestic Abuse, Child Exploitation.

Joint work with the Constabulary:

8 CYC members have been out as ‘lay observers’ on police operations at night time, in order to facilitate two-way learning between young people and the Constabulary. The feedback from these operations has been hugely positive.

CYC members continually attended the Use of Police Powers Panel which was a useful experience and emphasised value in youth voice representatives.

CYC members were invited to attend the Hate Crime Scrutiny Panel and CYC members shall be continuing to attend these meetings on a quarterly basis.

IAG (Independent Advisory Group) has invited a CYC member to hold a seat on this influential panel.

We have also worked closely with the Constabulary by being invited to their Stop and Search training, with CYC members offering feedback on their practical training sessions. CYC members have continued to be invited to key events in the PCC diary such as the ‘Open the Door’ event, providing a huge insight into the collaborative work being done. We have included some of these stories in our research for the ‘Big Conversation’ 2018/2019.

In January 2019, a CYC member was given the privileged opportunity to sit on the interview panel for the new Chief Constable for Cheshire Constabulary, acting as a voice and representative for Cheshire’s young people.
Stop and Search Rights Film:

CYC worked closely with Cheshire Constabulary and PCC office to create an informative Stop and Search - Know Your Rights film. This came as a result of research completed in the first 2 years of CYC in which we discovered a lack of understanding among young people, of their stop and search rights. We ran an initial pilot of the film at a local college to over 100 young people who reported an increase of 87% improvement in their stop and search knowledge.

Joint work with other partners:

CYC members have continued to work closely with partner organisations such as CAMHS, Remedi, YMCA and Addaction. Remedi included a CYC member on their interview panel for the position as their new young victims support service - ‘Got your Back’. CYC members were also invited to form part of the E-Safety Strategy Task and Finish Group. Working closely on a bi-monthly basis with CWAC Safe Guarding and Quality Assurance Unit and other local partners, to create a clear user friendly E-Safety guide for anyone working with children and young people.

Running the ‘Big Conversation’:

To tackle their 6 priorities, Youth Commission members delivered a range of peer-led workshops and outreach stands with young people across Cheshire.

Between August 2018 and February 2019, this peer-to-peer ‘Big Conversation’ reached a wide range of local voluntary organisations, education institutions and statutory partners across the county. As a result, CYC was able to talk to over 2,000 other young people about its priorities.

Final conference and recommendations:

On 27th March 2019 CYC members hosted their ‘Big Conversation’ conference at Cheshire Police Headquarters and presented their findings and recommendations for change. The PCC David Keane, Chief Constable, Constabulary members joined over 80 partner agencies and organisations who attended the conference.
Who we reached:

Between August 2018 and February 2019, CYC gathered views from over 2,000 young people across Cheshire. This was achieved by carrying out a range of different peer-led consultation events and activities – including small scale workshops, larger consultation events, and outreach stands on college and university campuses. In total, CYC delivered 23 consultation events in a wide range of localities, across the breadth of the county.

CYC put particular effort and energy into engaging with harder-to-reach groups of young people; in order to gather vital insights from those who are most affected by some of the priority topics. We are delighted that CYC has succeeded in engaging those from underrepresented and minority groups – including: LGBTQ+ young people, those in supported housing & homeless, young people with disabilities and learning difficulties, those most at risk of committing crime and young carers.

The table below gives a breakdown of the sample reached:

Cohort of young people numbers reached

Students at Further Education Colleges and Sixth Forms 731
Students at Secondary Schools 661
Students at Universities 202
Young people in community settings including youth clubs, youth centres, young people in supported housing, LGBTQ+ youth groups, disabled young people’s groups, young carers and CAMHS service users 421

TOTAL 2,015

Acknowledgements

We are grateful for the support of a wide range of local partners who have allowed CYC to consult with the young people in their organisations. Thanks go to:

- Adult Mental Health Provision
- Arches Primary
- Bishop Heber High
- CAMHS
- Cheshire College Chester
- Cheshire College Ellesmere Port
- Chester University
- Dorrin Park School
- Helsby High
- Leighton Academy
- Live Jubilee Hub
- Middlewich High
- Queens School
- QueensberryAP
- Reaseheath College
- Remedi
- Sandbach High
- Warrington and Vale College
- Warrington and Vale LGBTQ+ Society
- Wilmslow Academy
- Winsford College
- YMCA Crewe
- Young Carers
A special thank you also goes to Cheshire Constabulary, who have worked closely with CYC throughout this project. In particular, we would like to thank PC Amy Fletcher and Supt Richard Rees for their invaluable time and the support they have given.

Finally, we’d like to congratulate all the young people who have worked so hard as members of the Cheshire Youth Commission including:

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<th>Amelia Hughes</th>
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Priority 1: Hate Crime and Diversity

What we did

Through the Big Conversation, CYC set out to raise awareness of hate crime and examine when ‘perceived banter becomes hate crime’. We also wanted to explore young people’s understanding of ‘diversity’ and what this means to them, listening to their views on hate crime and the effect it can have on the local community. CYC also wanted to explore young people’s opinions on reporting hate crime including current reporting systems that look to encourage victims to disclose hate crime incidents.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 341 responses on this topic from a range of education and community settings including: Chester University, LGBTQ+ Society, Warrington and Vale College, CAMHS Winsford, Middlewich High School, Sandbach High School, The Queens School Chester, and Young Carers Ellesmere Port.

What we found

During the Big Conversation, we found that there was a lack of diversity in Cheshire and many young people felt their community and education providers weren’t open minded about people’s lifestyles. Young people also spoke about their community not accepting their diversity, specifically around LGBTQ+ issues. We heard these concerns from a wide range of young people across Cheshire.

“Unconscious racism needs to be addressed. Someone may not think they are racially biased in a situation when they are”

“In my local area it’s not very diverse and I’ve seen people be treated different for the way they look”

“More information on the subjects, and making sure people are accepting. Don’t discriminate against others and make sure to involve them by using their preferred pronouns”
We also found that young people don’t fully understand what hate crime is or what diversity means. They felt that there isn’t enough education around this topic in general, including in education settings and for parents.

“We aren’t really taught about racism or LGBTQ+”

“Racism is just an opinion”

“School are rubbish with sex ed around LGBTQ+ relationships which I think is really unhealthy and dangerous for those who may want to experiment”

“I feel really lonely at home, I can’t tell anyone about my sexuality. I even find it difficult to talk about here in the LGBT club but I feel safer surrounded by like minded people”

“Have assemblies in school to make people aware of what is and isn’t acceptable to ask”

“How is safe sex for all relationships still not discussed as part of sex ed???”

“Schools don’t want to talk about hate crime just do tick box exercises which are offensive to those who are of mixed race”

Young people said that they wouldn’t report a hate crime as they felt there was little/no follow up or consequences, as well as feeling that reporting hate crime can make the situation worse. Many felt that the Constabulary should promote diversity as this may encourage more young people to report hate crime and feel supported.

“Have a punishment for racists and more religious officers in the force”

“I hear and see reports of hate crime such as racist leaflets being handed out and a stabbing in a gay community. And no information on how this is dealt with whether it’s a lack of the reporting, publishing this or the police doing nothing on the subject”

“Urge people to speak out about this and encourage the police to report back on how crimes have been dealt with”

“Raise more awareness and places that people can report issues”

“Someone said they want to kill me and my friend on the bus because we are brown. He said ‘I’ve killed thousands of you people’. When I returned to school I told a teacher and the police were called. But nothing really happened as there was no evidence”

“I’ve heard things being said about the LGBT community in college and it makes me feel uncomfortable”

“Because I was dark skinned a boy targeted me calling me a terrorist and saying I was carrying bombs. I didn’t report it. I didn’t see the point”

“Lots of people don’t think it’s worth telling the police about hate crime like one thing has been said, there’s no point”

“I’m gay and have hate crime all the time. What’s the point in reporting it, they can help with one situation but not society as a whole”

“Someone reported a hate crime and there were consequences that lead to his death. Because society doesn’t like grasses”

“Although hate crime happens, we do not hear how the police solve it and what measures are in place”

“My family encourage me not to report hate crime against us and them as they believe it will cause more harm to the family and our business”
Young people reported a lack of support meaning victims of crime can feel alone and isolated. The young people we spoke to often couldn’t name any local support groups for LGBTQ+ and felt that if they attended any groups, they could become victims of abuse.

“Most support is online. Only 1 group locally that I know of. But difficult to attend as unsure of hate crime locally. Nastiness.”

“My dad and I have been racially abused many times. My dad owns a business here and pays taxes and contributes to the local community but we still get judged and abused”

“There are students who say minor racist words that could be harmful towards the target even if it is meant as a joke”

“Attending a support centre would probably lead to more abuse”

“There is nowhere to go for help locally as Cheshire isn’t open minded about diversity”

**Our key recommendations:**

**For Cheshire Constabulary:**

- Promote diversity within the Constabulary and be proud of officers from minority groups
- Follow up any hate crime cases with a full beginning to end victim process

**For the PCC & Partners:**

- Speak openly about hate crime & diversity and its effects on the community and young people
- Utilise social media as a platform to raise awareness of hate crime cases and how these have been positively dealt with
- Ensure support services are readily available and easy to access

**For the Youth Commission:**

- Assist agencies with peer to peer education around what hate crime is and how to get support & feel safe
- Design a poster aimed at young people to raise awareness of safe spaces and support services available locally
Examples of support services available:

**Body Positive North West:** Promoting healthy sex and relationships in Cheshire and North Wales. Call 01270 653150  www.bpcnw.co.uk

**Cheshire CARES:** (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

**Childline:** Childline helps anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they’re going through. Call 0800 1111: www.childline.org.uk

**Directory of Victims Services for Cheshire:** To access local support and help for victims: www.victimservicescheshire.co.uk

**Remedi:** “Got Your Back” is a service supporting victims of crime in Halton. Text GYB mentor: 82228 Email: halton@gyb.org.uk

**The LGBT Foundation:** National Charity based in Manchester, delivering advice, support and information services to lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans (LGBT) communities. 0345 330 3030 : lgbt.foundation

**The Proud Trust:** The home of LGBT & youth, based in Manchester. Call: 0161 660 3347: www.theproudtrust.org
Priority 2: Unhealthy Relationships

What we did

Through the Big Conversation, CYC set out to raise awareness of the characteristics of unhealthy relationships including; consent, emotional abuse, sexual and domestic abuse and CSE. We wanted to understand how unhealthy relationships can impact young people and explore what education and support services are currently offered, and young people’s awareness of these. CYC wanted to better understand what support the Constabulary and local organisations offer to victims and explore what could be done differently.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 323 responses on this topic from education and community settings including: Middlewich High, The Queens School, Winsford College Freshers Fayre, Chester University, Wilmslow Academy, Sandbach High, and Reaseheath College.

What we found

Many young people spoke about not fully understanding what an unhealthy relationship looks like. For instance, we found that some felt controlling behaviour such as being told what to wear and who they can speak to wasn’t concerning to them. Also, young people who choose not to be involved in certain friendship activities or consensual situations risk being socially excluded or humiliated via social media.

“Abusive relationships aren’t spoken about enough, like what an abusive relationship is, make it clear”

“Some girls just accept abusive relationships”

“The boy doesn’t mean to do any harm and you forgive them as you love them”

“I get worried if I don’t go along with things I could lose friends”

Unhealthy friendships, relationships and consent still feel like taboo topics to many young people. They felt...
they should be more openly discussed in schools, especially with younger audiences and that education needs to be more up to date and reflect the current local issues such as exploitation, gangs and county lines.

“It is just wrong and it happens too often and goes undetected”

“I feel in life there’s a massive social pressure to be in a relationship meaning this could lead to unhealthy and forced relationships meaning it could be abusive so you could talk with the youths more about this”

“I think young girls can be vulnerable to men exploiting them but sometimes they really can’t do anything or say anything to help themselves, they are told their families will be harmed etc. especially with girls who have no support e.g. the care system. We don’t really hear enough about exploitation”

“I was once in an unhealthy relationship with this boy who was very controlling. He wouldn’t let me talk to any friends who were lads and used to threaten me that he would kill them if I spoke to them”

“My boyfriend beats me up but I’m so dependant on him I can’t leave”

Young people generally felt the Constabulary dealt with unhealthy relationships well, however would like to hear more around consequences for perpetrators. Some young people spoke about being concerned about reporting sexual assaults due to criminal repercussions such as their own substance misuse or placing themselves in unsafe situations.

“Police should make it clear what punishment there is for abusive relationships as I don’t think there is any from personal experience”

“Lots of girls drunk walk home alone approached by non-student males and assaulted, not reported fear of repercussions of drug use”

“You don’t hear much about consequence. I think this could put people off reporting crimes like these”

“If you were drunk when attacked there would be no point in reporting it as Police would think it was your own fault”

“A friend of mine was assaulted and reported it. Nothing came of the case itself but the Police handled it brilliantly and offered lots of support”

Young people suggested that support services should be more focused on young people and offer guidance and a place of sanctuary rather than a bombardment of information and rules around reporting.

“I don’t have any experiences with this but I only found out today that there are local places to go that will help you and guide you in circumstances like rape sex drugs etc”

“School and college don’t take relationships seriously unless they are violent and even then, only sometimes”

“My friend was in a really unhealthy relationship and school didn’t take it seriously”

“I think this happens a lot but people don’t report it as it’s too scary”

“Help should be there to help you, not make you feel pressured to make decisions and choices”

“Media and local news about false rape claims makes the thought of reporting and looking for help too much for people”

The solutions suggested by young people included: Education to be focused around what an unhealthy relationship looks like; Clear information and support around gang crime and exploitation; Information on the support available should be clear, concise and easy to access; Support services available targeted at younger people; Education to be geared towards younger people and communication to be on their level; Open conversations with perpetrators to have more of an understanding of what is going on.
Our key recommendations:

**For Cheshire Constabulary:**
- Openly discuss with young people how seriously the force takes concerns of abuse and unhealthy relationships
- Promote the use of dialling ‘55’ in a 999 situation to indicate you are unable to talk

**For the PCC and partners:**
- Work in partnership & support CYC and local organisations on the concept of a social media game to educate and inform young people, as well as gather data around unhealthy relationships
- PCC to support training around unhealthy relationships and for CYC members to act as mentors/advocates on the topic

**For CYC:**
- Collaborative work with the local council Early Help & Prevention Teams to continue to complete peer to peer research & deliver informative workshops

Examples of support services available:

**Body Positive North West:** Promoting healthy sex and relationships in Cheshire and North Wales. Call 01270 653150  www.bpcnw.co.uk

**Cheshire CARES:** (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

**Local Safeguarding Children Boards:** www.cheshirewestlscb.org.uk www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/homepage.aspx www.warringtonlscb.org www.haltonsafeguarding.co.uk

**The RASASC (Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Centre)** provide an ageless sexual violence support service across Cheshire, Warrington & Halton including counselling and ISVA provision. Contact for advice and support without having reported to the Police: 0330 363 063 www.rapecentre.org.uk

**Women’s Aid:** A range of services including training, consultancy, online training and helpline: 0808 2000 247 for links to more information www.womensaid.org.uk
Priority 3: Mental Health

What we did

CYC set out to explore how mental health can impact an individual’s everyday life and the factors that can impact their mental health, for example; relationships, exams, social media. We also wanted to raise awareness of mental health and the stigma surrounding mental illness, including exploring what support is currently working and what could be improved.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 302 responses on this topic from education and community settings including: Cheshire College Chester, Cheshire College Ellesmere Port, CAMHS, and Reaseheath College, Sandbach High, Young Carers.

What we found

During the Big Conversation, we found social media played a big part in the mental health of young people. Many young people spoke of social media being a positive source of help and support, but also felt it was a contributing factor in terms of negative comments and feeling targeted, with no escape.

“It’s good to be able to get help online without anyone knowing or pressuring you”

“Bullying effected my mental health and then I couldn’t stop looking online at the comments”

“Social media is evil and causes so many issues with mental health”

“I look at websites to help me with my mental health but I think some of these can be dangerous because of trolls”
Pressure from schools and the education system were also felt to be a large factor negatively impacting mental health. Young people felt they were constantly pressured in a results-driven environment with little regard for mental health and happiness.

“Currently students are being put under pressure by the education system to achieve passing grades, this exposes many to high levels of stress as they are made to believe that GCSEs mean everything in life, this can often lead to mental health issues”

“Schools don’t care if you are happy. They just care about results”

“Schools should promote mindfulness, being calm and positivity but they don’t. It’s just constant pressure and an awful place to be”

“School know I suffer with anxiety but still apply loads of pressure around exams. I hate it”

Young people felt that there is a dark stigma surrounding mental health and the issue is often swept under the carpet. Those young people with family and friends affected by mental health often felt overlooked and forgotten and that the impact it has on their lives is underestimated. Young people felt there was a general lack of understanding of mental health within education, communities and between young people. This makes it hard for people to speak out when they need help.

“My opinion on mental health is that people need to speak more about it and be open about the way you feel, because people need to be understood”

“Affects not only the person but the family and not everybody understands”

“My mum suffers with bi polar and I’m left to manage it. I get no support”

“I don’t really talk to anyone about my mental health as you are branded a weirdo and strange when sometimes you just want a chat”

“My family don’t understand my mental health battles. They tell me to toughen up and that my mood effects them too much. I feel really lonely at home”

Young people felt support services and help were flawed and could often make the situation worse. Many felt you had to be in a critical situation to receive the care you had required for a long time.

“There are too many people involved in a mental health situation. First school, then parents, then different professionals. It gets completely overwhelming and can make the situation worse”

“There should be a more streamlined beginning to end process, with 1 professional rather than changing all the time”

“There is not enough information given to people about mental health and the helplines are not clear, also parents don’t know how to deal with their child having a mental health problem”

“This needs to have more focus and attention. You need to hit rock bottom before anything is taken seriously”

“I saw various people due to weight issues over a number of years. The system isn’t there to help-flawed. I ended up losing faith in the system”

“To increase the support available in schools and colleges like wellbeing services so students can receive the support they need, more opportunities to express their concerns on this issue”

“Mental health is becoming more visible in our society and many people are not aware of the services that are available to them to provide support”

“Young females who predominantly in all girls schools often suffer from mental health issues, I
personally know several girls who self harm”

“I think that mental health is a big problem in teenagers and they don’t know how to deal with it properly”

“You have to hit lower than rock bottom before anyone will help you”

The solutions suggested by young people included: Processes should be streamlined and offer clear support; Mental health should be openly spoken about rather than holding a stigma; Support services for those in crisis should be easy to access and be advertised clearly; Raising awareness of mental health and the effect it can have on anyone within the community; Education should be supportive of those with mental health issues and be spoken about more often within schools; More people should speak freely about mental health.

Our key recommendations:

For Cheshire Constabulary:
- Become actively involved in a positive mental health movement alongside CYC and partners, creating short social media videos, blogging / writing about how mental health affects officers and the force in general

For the PCC and partners:
- Actively encourage the Constabulary and partners to speak openly about mental health in the work place
- Promote support services that can assist those immediately in a mental health crisis

For CYC:
- Work with Constabulary, PCC & partners to develop a positive mental health campaign with clear signposting to localised support services

Examples of support services available:

Bodygossip: Body Gossip is a charity that combines Arts and Education to empower everybody to be the best and rock their own brand of gorgeous. www.bodygossip.org/what-we-do

Cheshire CARES: (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Cheshire and Wirral Partnership (CWP): CWP provides mental health, substance misuse, learning disability and community physical health services. These services are provided in partnership with commissioners, local authorities, voluntary and independent organisations, people who use our services and their carers. We also provide specialist services within Liverpool, Sefton, Bolton, Warrington, Halton and Trafford. www.cwp.nhs.uk

Directory of Victims Services for Cheshire: www.victimservicescheshire.co.uk
**Headmeds:** Advice specifically for young people about medication, treatments, general information and contacts. www.headmeds.org.uk/general-advice

**Local Safeguarding Children Boards:** www.cheshirewestlscb.org.uk www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/homepage.aspx www.warringtonlscb.org www.haltonsafeguarding.co.uk

**North West Boroughs Healthcare:** www.nwbh.nhs.uk

**The Charlie Waller Memorial Trust:** Working with young people, parents, Royal College of Psychiatrists and Young Minds, this Trust has produced 3 short films concerning self-harm. www.cwmt.org.uk/noharmdone

**Time to Change:** Works to counter stigma and discrimination. Information, downloadable resources, quiz, films & personal stories. www.time-to-change.org.uk/mental-health-stigma

**Young Minds:** Information and support for children, young people, parents and professionals www.youngminds.org.uk/about
Priority 4: Staying Safe Online

What we did
Through the Big Conversation, CYC set out to listen to young people’s experiences of social media and understand the problems they are facing, including the risks and dangers of being online. Through this, we wanted to raise awareness of online safety and the impact social media can have on mental health. We also wanted to support the Constabulary to better understand how to communicate with young people online.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 412 responses on this topic from education and community settings including: CAMHS, Cheshire College, Middlewich High, Sandbach High, Chester University, Young Carers, YMCA Crewe, Arches Primary School, and Dorrin Park School.

What we found
Many young people believe the misuse of social media should be taken more seriously by schools and colleges, with many raising questions around the current consequences of social media misuse. Young people felt that school environments act as a catalyst for spreading inappropriate content and new trends, with many fearing being implicated through group chats.

“In my past experience with social media I have been asked to send or if I wish to receive nude photos”

“Quite a few people do it (send nudes) that I have heard but the worst thing is when the other person leaks/shares it and gives it to other people”

“I think that it is too easy for people to be groomed pressured or manipulated online”

“I was in a group chat and other people were sending inappropriate photos of other people”
“In the summer holidays I was given a gift card by someone I met on-line and my parent felt that it was necessary to contact the police, I didn’t see what the big deal was”

“School know it happens but only do something if a parent or Police get involved”

“I believe that this is what should be taught, I believe that people should be taught to be able to say no, no matter what the circumstances are”

Many young people are concerned about grooming online and that apps can make it easy to target younger people. Apps such as Snapchat and Instagram make young people vulnerable and easy to contact, with younger people feeling appreciated and popular.

“It’s bad because if people go to meet them it can get worse and worse something bad can happen to them, they could get peer pressured into it”

“Young people add other people they don’t know on apps like Snapchat and Instagram and start talking to them for a while and ask to meet up when they do, they are not the safe people that they are online”

Young people expressed the view that the Constabulary knowledge is outdated. They felt that the Constabulary were slow to pick up latest dangers or trends and that perhaps their role isn’t to provide education about online safety. They felt the Constabulary lacked the skills and knowledge to discuss social media on a young person’s level, due to the quick turnaround of social media. Some expressed the view that it was unfair to expect police officers to have these skills. Young people felt that consequences of misuse of social media are rarely talked about and often misunderstood. Therefore the inappropriate use of social media can feel ‘risk free.’ Generally, young people felt that the Constabulary had reacted well when they had reported an issue to the Constabulary.

“People who groom others online and pressure them into sending nudes/sexting need to be given a bigger consequence. Especially if it emotionally scares the victim”

“Make it easier for people to report people and accounts to the Police. Make people more aware of the different types of grooming”

“I believe it is far too easy for a paedophile or someone underage to sex groom someone online and that young people don’t understand the consequences of saving these photos as a ‘joke’”

“Make sure teens know it’s illegal to save a nude image of someone of their age so they can’t get into trouble for something they thought funny at the time”

“The Police have more important things to do than chase cyber-crime”

“The Police’s knowledge is outdated so they’re never going to be able to keep up”

“It’s not the Police’s job to educate us. It’s their job to enforce the law. So if they are going to talk to us about it, it should be around the laws and rules”

The solutions suggested by young people included: We should hear more about when individuals have been convicted of cyber-crime; More promotion of the positive uses of social media; Any education around social media and internet should be up to date; Education should be delivered by those who fully understand the internet and social media: Ensure young people are aware of settings and how these can impact on privacy; Parents and young people need to take more responsibility of social media misuse and how this can impact their lives.
Our key recommendations:

For Cheshire Constabulary:

- Have CYC members scrutinise Constabulary social media posts and give feedback
- Promote more cases in which people have been convicted of a cyber-crime, or how online intelligence has led to an arrest

For the PCC and partners:

- Challenge privacy laws & social media app settings – “Police should have the right to search phones with warrants”
- Deliver up to date training with the help of CYC, to schools, NHS, CAMHS, and partners involved with young people

For CYC:

- Discuss our own ideas and knowledge with our peers
- Have a space on the PCC website to blog, discuss priorities and share support services on an open platform

Examples of support services available:

Cheshire CARES: (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk


Childline: Helps anyone under 19 in the UK with any issue they’re going through. Call 0800 1111: www.childline.org.uk

Directory of Victims Services for Cheshire: To access local support and help for victims: www.victimservicescheshire.co.uk


NSPCC: www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety

UK Safer Internet Centre: www.saferinternet.org.uk
Priority 5: Substance use vs Abuse

What we did

Through the Big Conversation, CYC set out to understand how drugs can lead to a young person being involved in crime and its effect on the local community. We also wanted to have a more thorough understanding of the issues young people have with drugs and alcohol on nights out. CYC wanted to explore what young people believed the emergency services roles were in this area and the impact drugs and alcohol have on a young person’s general health and life. We were also keen to understand how young people with addictions could be supported or dealt with by the Constabulary and partners.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 238 responses on this topic from education and community settings including: Warrington Jubilee Hub, YMCA Crewe, Chester University, Warrington and Vale College, Reaseheath College, and Helsby High.

What we found

During the Big Conversation, we found that young people across Cheshire are concerned that society has created an allowance for drug use. Young people felt that it has become a fashion statement to be seen using or selling drugs. They also discussed that the age of those using drugs is getting younger and that drug use has become normalised.

“As being part of the Cheshire community, I feel that there is far too much drug abuse which leads onto other types of crime”

“People on buses smoking week on back of buses”
“Young adults feel it’s socially acceptable to take drugs, this is when they are more vulnerable and people take advantage of them”

“People on drugs in public places with little kids around which shouldn’t be growing up in that environment”

“I don’t see much wrong with it as it’s a way of not seeing reality although it can damage communities and relationships”

Young people also felt that **drugs are easily accessible to all age groups**, with many saying they are easier to access than alcohol. They also spoke about primary-aged children regularly using and distributing substances in the community.

“I think that teenagers and young adults can gain access to illegal drugs to easily which could potential endanger their lives as they don’t have enough knowledge on taking drugs”

“Kids around selling and taking drugs everywhere”

“I know 11 and 12 year olds who sell drugs locally. They are so easy to get hold of”

“Younger and younger people are taking drugs now. I know primary aged kids that smoke weed”

“They are too easy to come across like drugs are easier to get your hands on than alcohol”

Young people feel that **education around drug use is overloaded and boring**. Support services aren’t readily available with young people stating that getting help comes with a negative stigma of being a drug user. This makes it **much harder for young people to ask for help in the first place**.

“Educate young adults about the dangers of drug use or show them how to take drugs safely. What to look out for, what drugs look like”

“Overloaded with information from charities and organisations. It gets boring”

“If someone is addicted to something it’s really hard to ask for help because of the stigma”

Young people are concerned that the punishments for those who have drug related issues can be harsh and counterproductive. Many young people felt that there needed to be **more action around supporting those with addiction issues**, with a focus on changing the perception of addiction in the community and positive rehabilitation.

“Maybe support them more, help them get off the substance”

“More help given to people who are a victim of substance abuse”

“More rehabs and day places for substance users to go and talk about how their feeling”

“The addict isn’t the issue, the dealer is. Help those who are addicted”

“Communities and local people talk about addicts as druggies and a drain. This needs to stop”

College and University students spoke highly of the **police officers on duty during busy student nights** who had often offered help and support to young people during difficult times.

“The cops in Chester on a night out are awesome to be fair”

“The Police helped me when I got too drunk and wasn’t sure which direction to go to get home. They phoned my friend to come and walk with me”

“The Police have given me a lift home in the past as I was trying to help my friend who was drunk get back to halls”
“I know the Police in Chester around the Uni look out for girls who are alone late at night”

The solutions suggested by young people included: Rehabilitate those with ongoing substance issues rather than punishing them; Help people with issues and ensure they have the right support; Show individuals how being a positive member of the community can benefit them; Target finding the main dealers rather than punishing the addicts; Education shouldn’t be overcomplicated or lecturing; Lessons in drug use should be interesting and up to date; Show us what street drugs look like and the dangers of being involved in drug use; Be open about the impact drug use has on the community and emergency services.

Our key recommendations:

For Cheshire Constabulary:

• Consider different approaches to educate young people about alcohol and drug misuse
• Explore what more can be done to promote constructive and rehabilitative routes to support diversion and early intervention for offenders

For the PCC and partners:

• Learn from partners such as Queensberry AP and look at how their models can positively impact upon the community
• Community Safety Partnerships to support more community-based schemes that work positively to support & rehabilitate as well as encourage engagement in local communities

For CYC:

• Work with partners on community rehabilitate based events and promote these to young people via our networks
• Continue to offer a youth voice to those from the most diverse communities
Examples of support services available:

**Cheshire CARES:** (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

**Cheshire and Wirral Partnership (CWP):** CWP provides mental health, substance misuse, learning disability and community physical health services. These services are provided in partnership with commissioners, local authorities, voluntary and independent organisations, people who use our services and their carers. They also provide specialist services within Liverpool, Sefton, Bolton, Warrington, Halton and Trafford. www.cwp.nhs.uk

**Directory of Victims Services for Cheshire:** To access local support and help for victims: www.victimservicescheshire.co.uk

**Drinkaware:** Provides advice about reducing drinking and staying safe while drinking www.drinkaware.co.uk

**Drugwise:** Promotes evidence-based information on drugs, alcohol and tobacco. www.drugwise.org.uk
Priority 6: Policing and Young People

What we did

CYC aimed to support the Constabulary and local young people to ensure they were involved in the monitoring of key areas such as stop and search rights. This was done through CYC members observing stop and search training and also through the creation of a stop and search rights film. We also wanted to raise awareness of the different roles and panels within the Constabulary and how the Constabulary take young people’s opinions seriously and value their input on policing matters and crime. CYC were keen to explore young people’s experiences with the Constabulary, both positive and negative, and how these experiences shape their perception of the police force.

The Youth Commission gathered a total of 399 responses on this topic from education and community settings including YMCA Crewe, Queensberry AP, Helsby High, Leighton Academy, Reaseheath College, Cheshire College, Chester University, and CAMHS.

What we found

Young people felt that they can be stereotyped by the Constabulary based on their clothing, age and gender. Most young males felt they were more likely to be stopped by the police officers than a young female and that the Constabulary believe young males were more likely to commit a crime than other age groups. Young people also felt that there is an ongoing negative relationship between the Constabulary and youths which may be down to young people not having a full understanding of what the Constabulary do. They felt that this can act as a barrier between the Constabulary and young people.

“Youths are judged on what they wear, who they hang around with and what other youths do”
“I think that they should approach with a friendly smile and start the situation with a calm and kind voice so that the person who they are dealing with doesn’t feel scared”

“They judge us based on gender, car you drive, what you wear, they have a sense of entitlement”

“Stop being so arsey. You were young once too”

“Spend more time with positive young people, we aren’t all as bad as you think”

“The Police have no way to communicate with children, I think that the children and police officers don’t respect each other and don’t understand how to deal with each other”

“Lots of people around here don’t like the police because they judge everyone from this area as criminals”

“They are always in their cars and never just around. People say we should speak to them more but they are just always in their cars anyway”

“There seems to be a lack of diversity at times. Should be more openly diverse”

“They need to communicate with the youth more and not judge someone by the way they are dressed or their gender”

“Literally no idea what Police do on a day to day basis”

“I see them just sitting in car parks which makes me question what they are doing with their time”

“People on buses smoking week on back of buses”

Online worldwide media and fake news has a big impact on Constabulary perception. Many young people are basing their opinions of the Constabulary on social media videos, many of which are from other areas of the UK and America.

“I saw a video of a police officer pulling a gun out on a guy and it was really bad”

“Police are racist as you see stuff online all the time that backs this up”

“Social media doesn’t really help the reputation of the Police. Like people actually see videos from USA and think it’s this country”

“I see videos of Police acting badly and being rude all the time”

“Police have a bad attitude and are bullies. There are clips of them throwing innocent people around and being racist”

Following anonymous Q&A feedback forms with young people, it was clear that young people do not have regular police officer or PCSO contact with less than 3% knowing or recognising their local PCSO. They felt that this could affect their opinion on local officers, as they lack a regular familiar face, which could have an impact on trust when reporting. Those who did know their local PCSO or police officer spoke highly of them and said they would feel comfortable reporting a crime directly to these officers.

“I don’t know who my PCSO is”

“I have seen one around but wouldn’t know who they are or approach them”

“We have an officer who comes into school and they’re really nice”

“I don’t even know what a PCSO is, let alone seen one around here. You never see Police around here”
“I think the Police are scared of the kids in this school as we’ve seen them in assembly once but that’s all”

“If Police bothered to come into school and speak to us like people then maybe we wouldn’t be worried about reporting things to them”

“There is a PCSO who comes in but she looks really unapproachable and never speaks to us”

Young people were concerned about funding cuts and the impact this can have on the Constabulary with many saying they feel the Constabulary are overworked and a lot is expected of them. The youngest members of the community held the Constabulary in high regard, with many aspiring to be police officers in the future. They felt that they were an important part of the community and respected the work that they do.

“I think the Police do a great job and seeing them in school has inspired me to be a police officer”

“If there was more police crime rates would drop. It would reduce work load for them also reduce mental health problems thus increasing efficiency of them doing their job”

“Maybe people should have more of a voice about how policing is conducted”

“Police officers are struggling to deal with crimes. The government needs to take responsibility for rising crime rates”

“Good at catching criminals always on the job, considerate, helpful, get here as fast as possible”

“There was a guy asking us if we wanted a lift on his bike we said no but then he picked us up, we got away and told an adult. The police helped and were amazing!”

“You are doing a great job carry on just if anything please talk to us as we feel less anxious when you talk to us rather than just watch”

“The police should organise things like 5 a side football matches / netball matches to improve relationships with young people at colleges and uni”

The solutions suggested by young people included: The PCSO’s should come into schools more regularly so we feel they are familiar; The Constabulary should be more open about what they do and talk to us about this; Education by the Constabulary should be interesting and everyone should have the chance to speak and ask questions; Make sure lessons are up to date on topics that we relate to; We should know more about our rights and what they mean to us; Schools should promote the Constabulary more.

Our key recommendations:

For Cheshire Constabulary:

• Visit education institutions more regularly and talk openly about topics such as harassment, hate crime and ensure that rising topics are covered

• Increased transparency on what the Constabulary do through positive policing promotion

• Greater promotion of local PCSOs within the community

• Interactive workshops and informal discussions to ensure young people feel that the communication is inclusive and build trust
For the PCC & Partners:

- Education to be collaboratively delivered by partners and CYC, alongside the Constabulary
- PCC to promote an inclusive culture with emphasis around the CYC work and listening to young people’s views and needs in Cheshire

For the Cheshire Youth Commission:

- Continue to regularly update the Constabulary and PCC with CYC research and be a voice for young people across Cheshire
- Utilise peer to peer workshops to educate young people on their stop & search rights and changes to legislation

Examples of support services available:

Cheshire CARES: (Cope and Recovery Enhanced Service) is the Commissioner’s dedicated service providing support to all victims of crime in Cheshire based on individual needs. Email Cheshire.cares@cheshire.pnn.police.uk

Cheshire Constabulary provides web pages containing information about Stop and Search rights, how to feedback and how to make a complaint.
www.cheshire.police.uk/advice-and-support/your-rights-stop-and-search
www.cheshire.police.uk/contact/make-a-complaint www.cheshire-pcc.gov.uk/contact-me/feedback

Local Safeguarding Children Boards:
www.cheshirewestlscb.org.uk
www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/homepage.aspx www.warringtonlscb.org
www.haltonsafeguarding.co.uk
Conclusion

We are extremely grateful to the members of CYC and all the partners who have been involved in making this piece of work a success.

Through their ‘Big Conversation’ with over 2,000 young people, CYC has managed to reach and engage a hugely diverse cross-section of the youth population across Cheshire. They have made particular efforts to hear from those young people whose views are seldom heard. The insights and recommendations contained in this report represent a very significant contribution to the work of the PCC and Cheshire Constabulary.

On 27th March 2019, over 80 key stakeholders came together at the Cheshire Youth Commission conference. Delegates included the PCC, Chief Constable, statutory agencies, and VCS organisations. At the event, delegates were actively involved in roundtable discussions about the future of CYC. Some of the key messages arising from these discussions were:

• Mental health was mentioned as a general concern within all priority topic discussions

• That there should be more focus on listening to young people who have been victims of crime or those involved in crime such as Youth Justice services

• Many organisations were keen on collaborative work with other partners and CYC

• Working together to get key messages across to young people in the community, specifically around safety and reporting crime/support services.

Moving forward, Cheshire Youth Commission will be further developed as a channel for engaging young people in the work of both the PCC and Cheshire Constabulary. As shown through the project, CYC can help bridge the gap between young people and policing, through ongoing engagement with the youth population. They can provide youth-centred advice on a range of policing and crime matters affecting young people. They also have an important role to play in the development and evaluation of the recommendations they have set out in this report. Over the year ahead, CYC will work with the OPCC and Cheshire Constabulary, to develop and implement an action plan for the delivery of the recommendations within this report.
Testimonials

**David Keane, PCC for Cheshire**

With more than a quarter of Cheshire residents under the age of 25, it is vitally important that young people have the ability to influence key decisions within policing and criminal justice.

Cheshire’s Youth Commission plays an incredibly important part in ensuring young people across the county have a voice.

Members of the Youth Commission have engaged with their peers on key issues such as mental health, hate crime and unhealthy relationships to ensure leaders within the policing sector and beyond understand their priorities and concerns.

This year’s Youth Commission cohort has worked incredibly hard over the last 12 months to capture as many views as possible, with more than 2,000 young people consulted. I am incredibly proud of their work.

I now look forward to working with our partners to implement the recommendations in this report to ensure the services we deliver are relevant and accessible to young people across Cheshire.

**Curtis Rae, Cheshire Youth Commission member**

The Cheshire Youth Commission has been a thoroughly enjoyable experience that has given me a much more detailed idea of what policing in Cheshire (and in the rest of the country) actually involves especially in regards to the efforts that the police put in in order to make positive changes and progress in tackling issues such as knife crime and drug abuse. It has been a truly educational experience that I would recommend to anyone who is interested in making a positive change to policing in Cheshire.

**Jessie Owens, Youth Commission member**

The past two years, since I began my journey with the Youth Commission, have been most beneficial - discovering where my personal areas of strength are. Especially in the last year, I have built more and more confidence. With thanks to the Youth Commission, I have made new friendships (which is not naturally something I would be inclined to do); and am now able to voice my opinions, and help others to discuss theirs.

Through the Youth Commission, a whole manor of experiences have opened up to me, such as the ‘Stop and Search Training’ day.

I cannot fault my time with this Commission, the final Conference was a tremendous experience! Just through the conference, I was able to speak with some representatives of charity organisations. Now, I am joining a couple as a volunteer. This will help to shape my future even more, and it is a result of assistance from the Youth Commission. It is with great hope that my membership with the Youth Commission continues and grows.

Thank you for this wonderful experience!
Maphefo Mokae, Cheshire Youth Commission member

I wanted to say that overall my experience volunteering with the youth commission has been very positive and enriching one. I have been lucky enough to have the day off work as my employer said that it’s a commendable thing that I am participating in. I wanted to be a part of the Cheshire Youth Commission as I thought I would be able to give a different perspective of a young person as I work full time and I am from an ethnic minority. I felt that I had a different experience to my counterparts and I was born in South Africa and have lived in Cheshire for 16 years.

I have had some exciting opportunities and I have learnt a lot about recruitment; which will be useful in my future studies as I hope to embark on a degree in human resource management and business. In January this year, I invited to be a part of the external stakeholder panel at the recruitment of a new chief constable for Cheshire. I was honoured to be able to ask questions on behalf of the Cheshire Youth Commission. This experience gave me an in-depth insight of recruitment within the police force. It was a good way to network and meet professionals from prominent institutions and I learned more about the issues at the forefront of our society.

Ella Redmond, Youth Commission Member

I joined the Youth Commission for the first time last year after hearing of it through my school, and thought it would be a good way to gain experience and expand my skills with presentations and working in a team towards a goal, as well as voice young people’s views about police issues from across Cheshire.

Since joining the Youth Commission, I have grown so much as a person. It allowed me to massively improve in my confidence in myself and my abilities, and work with others to use our strengths to our advantage to create our presentation. I also had the opportunity to work on a short film about stop and search to educate young people on their rights. This was massively beneficial to me, as I got to see how a short film is created and how stop and searches work.

I would recommend the Youth Commission to anyone looking to enhance their skills and gain new ones, as well as work in a team and meet lots of great people.

Supt Richard Rees, Cheshire Constabulary

I have been hugely impressed with the passion and enthusiasm of the Youth Commission in providing a voice to the wider community of young people in Cheshire. The stop and search film they have written and produced is top quality and makes it really simple for young people to know what their rights are on this very difficult and sometimes devise topic. It has had some great feedback already and am sure will help to maintain positive relationships between young people and the police in to the future. It has been great to see individuals gain in confidence as they have worked on various projects and experienced different aspects of policing in Cheshire. For so many of them to stand up in the conference and deliver their findings to a large audience is a credit to them and the whole team.
PC Amy Fletcher, SSYP Cheshire Constabulary

As part of the Safer Schools and Young People Partnership it’s been a pleasure to be involved with the Youth Commission over the last 12 months, which is well coordinated by the Leaders Unlocked team.

The Stop/Search ride along observations that we were able to arrange certainly seemed to be very popular and impactful. This group have proved they are motivated and dedicated, gathering the views of young people is vitally important to ensure we are aware of the concerns, how we can best engage or offer support and identify areas of improvement, their views will influence our future engagement.

I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with such inspirational, confident and interested young people who have no doubt seen policing from a different perspective, increasing their awareness of the work Cheshire Constabulary currently do and had a great opportunity to link in with other agencies who support or work alongside the Police.

Kerry Gray, Safeguarding Children in Education Officer CWAC

Members of the Youth Commission generously agreed to be part of the LSCB and Cheshire West and Chester’s e-safety strategy task and finish group. Their contributions in shaping the strategy were invaluable and meant that the strategy better fit the needs of the young people in the local authority. Their insights into which aspects of awareness raising works with young people and which doesn’t, meant that the group did not focus on areas that would have little or no impact. It was a pleasure to work with Cheshire Youth Commission members and I look forward to collaborating on future projects.

Rebecca Kinnear, CAMHS

We have worked with the Cheshire Youth Commission for the past few years and feel honoured to be included in the work that they do.

The young people from CAMHS always feel valued by the Youth Commission and enjoy being given the opportunity to talk about issues which are affecting them and other young people with mental health difficulties.

The work that the Youth Commission do really does make a difference and we feel extremely privileged to be able to feed into that.

Lisa Johnson, The Arches Primary School

Millie, Charlotte and William from Cheshire Youth Commission visited our Year 5 and Year 6 classes in October 2018. Their sessions totally engaged the children and gave them a whole new perspective on e-Safety, giving them the opportunity to explore new ideas about what online strangers might look like and whether digital crime is as serious as real world crime. The ambassadors were professional, knowledgeable and approachable, they really connected with our children. Charlotte sharing her personal online experiences brought digital safety to life. I would thoroughly recommend inviting Cheshire Youth Commission to your school. I can’t wait to see them again next year!
Paul Flannery, Live Wire Warrington

We had the pleasure of having a session with you guys as part of our Summer holiday hunger project based in Warrington.

The group involved felt that the session was extremely well run and that the staff facilitating were warm and friendly.

In terms of the themes, the group had some fascinating perspectives on community safety and lots of interesting conversations were had! The session was a great part of our Summer project and we would welcome you back again!

Get in Touch

@cheshirepcc @leadersunlocked info@leaders-unlocked.org