



Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner
STAFFORDSHIRE



Space 2016 Evaluation

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Space 2016

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1. Executive Summary

Spearheaded by the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for Staffordshire, the Space 2016 positive activities programme for young people operated between July and September 2016. This followed a successful proof of concept approach which ran through the 2015 school summer holiday period.

Funded by the PCC with commissioning of provision by Local Authority (LA) partners, Space once more sought to increase the numbers of young people aged between 11 and 17 years engaged in diversionary activities, to reduce levels of police recorded anti-social behaviour (ASB) / youth crime and increase volunteering. Additionally Space sought to promote personal, health and social development, team building and new experiences.

The total cost of Space 2016 was £139,297.41 which was allocated to LAs based on identified need. PCC funding provided the opportunity for thousands of young people to access over 1,000 activities and achieving 12,432 attendances.

This year's programme saw more defined engagement with hard to reach / difficult to engage cohorts through the targeted provision and 3,882 of these attendances were either by targeted youngsters identified by partner agencies as those that would benefit from positive intervention or at specifically targeted locations where ASB was identified as a specific issue by local partners.

In all areas, Space and LA funded positive activities worked hand in hand, with additional provision in some locations also put in place by a small number of local businesses too. In total, over 3,000 multi-agency funded activities were promoted on the Space website, inclusive of those funded by the PCC.

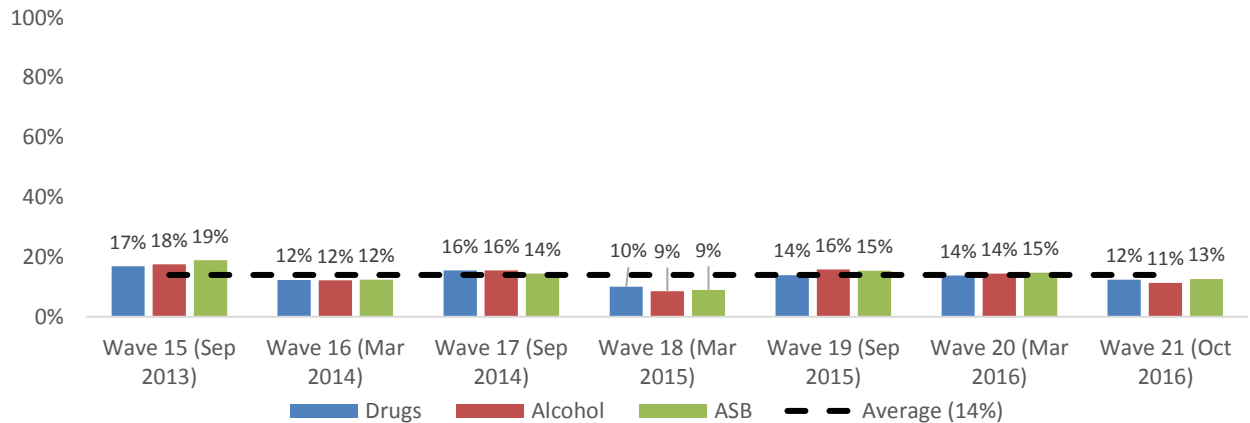
Promotion of these was led through a dedicated website, 'www.staffordshirespace.uk' and further marketed through a range of other communication channels.

a. Public Confidence

Staffordshire is a safe place to live with many quality of life measures supporting opinion that it is better than the national average.

The Staffordshire 'Feel the Difference Survey' delivers insight into the proportion of Staffordshire residents aged 16 and above who feel ASB to be a 'very or fairly big problem'. The following chart shows the proportion of respondents identifying a problem with ASB since September 2013.

% of Feeling the Difference respondents who perceive ASB to be a 'Very' or 'Fairly Big Problem' in their local area Sept 2013 - Oct 2016



Community Contact Records (CCR's) are completed by Staffordshire Police with data indicating the types of issues that constitute ASB for residents and businesses of Staffordshire. Over eight years and through more than 111,000 CCR interactions, around half of CCR respondents identify 'No issues'. However when issues are identified, many of the most common issues have perceived association with young people.

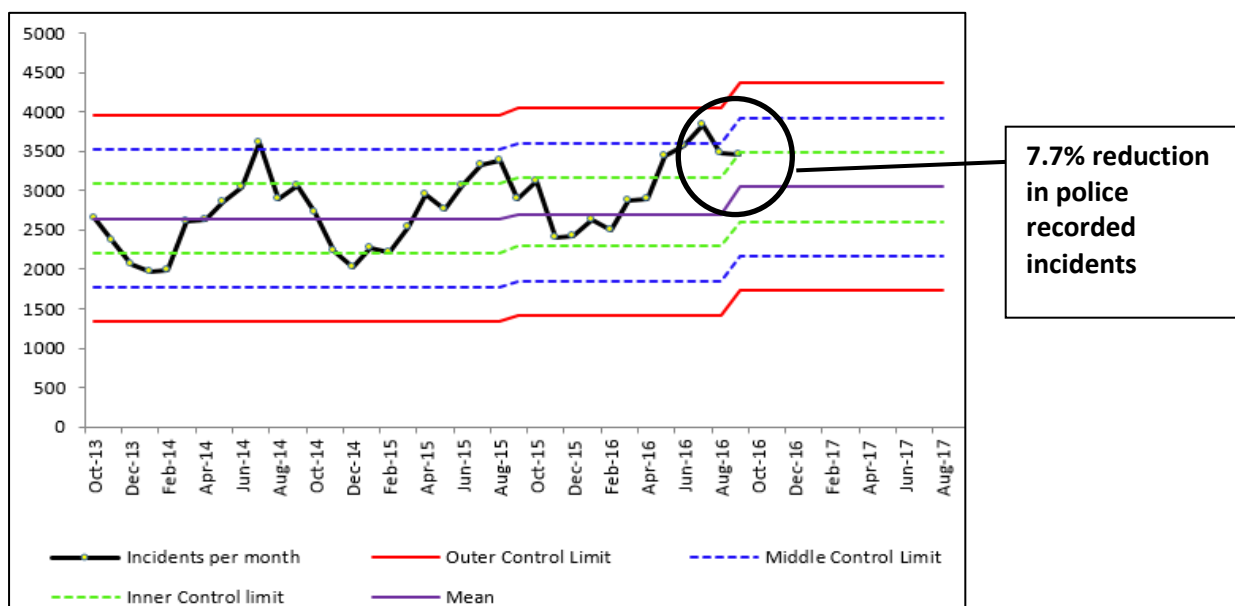
This suggests that development of targeted problem solving activity with young people could have value for the police and partners, with impact on both perceptions and levels of ASB for local residents and businesses.

b. Recorded Incidents of ASB

As in other areas of the UK, analysis clearly shows that Staffordshire Police recorded ASB statistics continue to fluctuate and are influenced by a wide range of factors including weather, opportunities to engage in activities of interest, operational activity together with changes to Force recording practices.

ASB recorded incidents in Staffordshire increased steadily from December 2015. Continuing this upward trend early in 2016 and whilst peaking early in July, Staffordshire-wide recorded incidents reduced during the Space period from 3,837 incidents in July 2016 to 3,630 incidents in August, maintaining a lower level into September 2016 of 3,462 incidents.

Staffordshire Police recorded ASB incidents Oct 2013 – October 2016

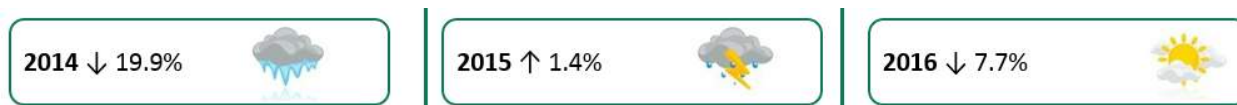


During the period September 2014 to August 2015, the Force recorded 32,560 incidents of ASB. During the same period in 2016, this figure was 11.7% higher, being 36,379 recorded incidents.

However, specifically during the month of August 2016, the Force recorded a reduction in incidents of 7.7% from July 2016's peak. (By comparison in 2015, there was an increase of 1.4% in ASB incidents from July (3,332 incidents) to August (3,380 incidents)).

What should be noted however is that whilst it's recognised that poor weather can play its part in a reduction of recorded incidents of ASB (July – August 2014), it is expected that in turn, drier warmer weather would result in an upturn in ASB. However weather was clearly not an influencing factor in 2016 as evident from the below.

Weather Status August 2014, 2015, 2016



Recognising the challenges from the previous year, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) engaged with policing colleagues to ensure a change in recording practices to enable the capture of baseline ASB data through introduction of a 'Youth Qualifier' marker (Recommendation Space Proof of Concept Report 2015).

As an indication, during the 2016 summer holiday period, findings from the application of the Youth Qualifier indicate that approximately 38% of police reported ASB was perceived to be attributable to youth activity. Formalising this data capture process will in future provide helpful data to the Force and partners in relation to youth related ASB.

Predominantly the types of ASB identified during the Space period related to recorded incidents within the categories of 'Rowdy and Inconsiderate Behaviour'. However there is also significant implications for youth involvement with 'Trespass', 'Nuisance Vehicles' and 'Fire related ASB' incidents.

At this point it is also key to recognise that whilst having a clear link, only a small minority of young people may be or are involved in ASB. Indeed, ASB can and does involve people from all walks of life and from all age generations – it is not limited in any way to young people.

c. Staffordshire Police led Activity

Recognising the opportunity to engage with young people and to carry-out enforcement activity where appropriate, the Force conducted 'Operation Athena' during the six week summer holiday period. Implemented at LPT Commander discretion based on need, Athena saw a range of engagement and enforcement activities in hotspot locations. Localised actions included:

- Promotion of activities through schools and sign-posting young people to Space and other local authority provision and activities;
- Visits and contact with repeat victims and vulnerable members;
- Hi-visibility reassurance patrols;
- Completion of CCRs;
- Patrolling by the dedicated ASB vehicle;
- Call back/visits within 24 hours to ASB victims and witnesses;
- Match funding from community safety to provide increased patrols;
- Patrols with volunteer youth groups and special constables;
- Issuing Fixed Penalty Notices (FPN's), Community Protection Notices (CPN's), ASB warnings and Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's);
- Officers attending Space activities, engaging with parents to re-inforce the importance of knowing where young people were and what they were doing, and encouraging them to participate in further Space activities.

Initial anecdotal evidence suggests police engagement with young people to have been helpful and felt to have contributed to an overall reduction in ASB during the school holiday period.

d. The Model

Space 2016 encompassed both a universal and a targeted offer for youngsters across the area. More definitive based on learnings from the previous year, LAs were required to allocate a minimum of 30% of PCC provided funds to providing activities for a targeted cohort of youngsters through defined referral pathways established with relevant agencies, e.g. Youth Offending Services(YOS) and Local Support Teams(LSTs).

Using the 2015 model, the PCC's programme supplemented arrangements provided by LAs and supported in part by the business community.

e. Marketing and Communication

In early 2016 the Space website, 'www.staffordshirespace.uk' was created and used to promote the programme, providing details of up and coming activities to local youngsters, their parents/guardians, partners and providers (Recommendation Space Proof of Concept Report 2015).

Activities on the website were categorised into two sections;

- Those funded by the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- Those funded from alternative sources (including local businesses).

The aim of this approach was to combine all young people's positive activities in one location to make awareness of and attendance easier for all audiences.

- A total of 3,082 activities were featured on the Space website, of these 1,114 were OPCC funded and 1,968 were non-funded. There were also 292 tags/descriptions of individual activities e.g. Multi-sport or drama.

Activities featured on the website could be filtered by the following:

- Date;
- Day;
- Time;
- Activity name;
- Location;
- Activity provider;
- Activity type ;
- Category e.g. OPCC funded or non OPCC funded.

Space 2016 was pro-actively promoted through:

- Promotional leaflets distributed at the Staffordshire Police Open Day, attended by more than 15,000 people;
- Electronic OPCC newsletter issued to over 6,400 people;
- A feature in Stoke-on-Trent City News, distributed to 120,000 homes across Stoke-on-Trent;
- Interviews with PCC Matthew Ellis on Touch FM, Staffordshire Moorlands Radio, Radio Stoke and Signal One;
- A feature in Staffordshire Living Magazine, distributed to 25,000 homes in Staffordshire;
- 3,000 leaflets distributed by Staffordshire Police Cadets across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent;
- Space 2016 poster featured on every Arriva bus in Staffordshire;
- Posters and leaflets issued for display in a total of 733 community locations including doctor surgeries, supermarkets, Parish Council offices, and libraries;
- Information provided to 80 schools and colleges;
- A full page feature in East Staffordshire Council magazine, delivered to 50,000 homes;
- Parental information via the Staffordshire County Council e-school bag;

- ITV media coverage in August 2016;
- Other more localised activities.

f. Evaluations & Audit

The Space 2016 programme has seen comprehensive evaluations to aid outcome measurement (Recommendation Space Proof of Concept Report 2015). These included;

- Young People's Attendance, capturing names, dates of birth, home postcode and school attended (activity provider completion);
- Young People's Feedback forms, designed to capture how the youngster heard about Space, the types of activity enjoyed and rating the activity;
- Provider and Commissioner (local authorities) Evaluation returns, securing detailed information about activities and outcomes achieved.

Documented dip-sampled Activity Audits were introduced this year conducted by OPCC staff. These monitored:

- Activity environment (monitoring the cleanliness of the location / base / activity, Health and Safety, availability of First Aid kits etc.);
- Leadership skills of Providers (monitoring that Leaders were clearly identifiable, Registers were completed, Leaders had control of sessions);
- Sessional Monitoring (Activity delivered as expected, equipment availability, attendees engaged).

g. Policy and Risk Management

Service Level Agreements (SLAs) held between the OPCC and LAs ensured that Providers held liability insurance, DBS certification for staff, First Aid certificates and that they were able to meet Health and Safety Risk management requirements.

Additionally the Space website included a legal declaration, providing advice for parents, together with a copy of the service level agreement utilised (Recommendation Space Proof of Concept 2015).

2. Outcomes by Local Authority Area

Individual reports were requested from each LA area and from individual Providers. Information received forms part of this analysis and is collated below. Whilst seeking some uniformity to the qualitative and quantitative data provided, this has not always been readily available to the OPCC for inclusion.

a. Cannock Chase District Council (CCDC): PCC Funding Allocation £13,193

The Cannock area planned a universal offer of a broad selection of activities as well as an effective targeted approach which sought to engage with hard to reach groups such as the Building Resilient Families Cohort (BRFC).

There were 1,565 attendances by local youngsters in Cannock and (681 Universal and 884 targeted). 7 volunteers already involved with projects were able to support activities. Cannock's offer consisted of a variety of sporting, physical and cultural events including theatre trips, visits to theme parks and iconic sporting venues, extreme experiences, ice skating etc. and an extravaganza event delivered through Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles who also provided Swim passes, allowing the bearer free access to public open swim sessions for the duration of the six week holidays. Other activities included Judo sessions at Norton Canes Judo Club and multisport sessions including inflatables delivered by Achieving Goals and Dreamz.

Cannock's Space offer is considered to have provided young people with an opportunity to become involved in a wide variety of activities that may not have normally been available to them; increasing health/fitness/wellbeing of participants, created opportunities to find new interests and hobbies and for building character/confidence and diversion away from criminal activity and ASB.

CCDC fed back that Space had helped to develop effective partnership working by increasing exposure and understanding of services and organisations in the area. The authority also felt that Space provided opportunities for improved community cohesion, with the local community viewing young people more positively and also saw reductions of ASB and criminality in the area.

CCDC have agreed to meet quarterly with providers of activities for young people to further strengthen relationships with providers and to increase awareness of services available.



Cannock Chase area Space Activities

b. East Staffordshire Borough Council (ESBC) : PCC Funding Allocation £12,423.37

The East Staffordshire Space offer consisted of a Sports Leader Qualifications, Leisure Centre Memberships, Sport in the Hood sessions, Arts, Fashion, Dance and DJ sessions, a Market Square Event and an End of Summer Event. Activities were delivered at a range of locations including Meadowside and Uttoxeter Leisure Centres, Brewhouse Arts Centre, Shobnall Leisure Complex, Carver Road Community Centre, Waterside Community Centre, Queen Street Community Centre, Heath Community Centre and the Market Square in Burton.

Space funding was used in the main for targeted activities, excepting for the launch and end of summer fun day with a wide range of universally available activities available through local authority funding arrangements.

East Staffordshire area Space Activities



ESBC achieved 1,348 attendances (982 Universal and 367 Targeted). 6 young people achieved their Sports Leaders Award and completed 10 hours of volunteering (with a number of other young people completing over the 10 hours), supporting Space activities. ESBC's view was that Space activities and events made a difference to those taking part, by giving young people more to do, at times where nothing else happens in their area. The Authority felt that activities occupied their time in a meaningful way, particularly sport and physical activity.

It was felt that by aligning Space funding to local provision, ESBC were able to take the role of local provision lead, expanding the Authority's programme and making it more varied and open to all young people in the Borough. The additional funding allowed teams such as the Brewhouse to try more female orientated activities, ensuring programmes were more diverse.

ESBC reported that Space made a difference to the local community by highlighting key safe areas to play including community parks and community centres. Focussing on future plans or activities and events for young people in the local area, the Brewhouse are aiming to continue with workshops for Fashion, DJ'ing and Dance following an excellent attendance through the Space programme. The LA is also looking to introduce a Sports 'Intervention' Team, to be deployed where areas of ASB are reported.

c. Lichfield District Council (LDC) : PCC Funding Allocation £13,390

The Lichfield area Space provision consisted of community fun days at Lichfield and Burntwood, youth sessions and a residential delivered by Entrust. Activity sessions were provided for young people with physical disabilities and additional needs including art, sensory work, off site trip to bowling, graffiti art, a nature trip, pond dipping, bird watching, summer party team games and a disco.

Lichfield Leisure Services a made available 100 activity passes for young people identified by Local Support Teams and Police. They provided pass holders free access to swimming, courts, and specific coaching sessions including Trampolining, Parkour, Boxing and Street Cheer and sessions were available at Burntwood Leisure Centre, Friary Grange Leisure Centre and Beacon Park.

Lichfield achieved 1505 attendances (405 universal and 1100 Targeted). At least 10 local young people helped out at the family days along with 5 over 18 year old 'Young leaders' who supported on a rota basis at the events.

Positive feedback was received from young people who enjoyed the sessions, advising that they made positive friendships with other youngsters from across the area. Summary feedback provided was:

- “10/10 great summer”;
- “Are we doing this again next year?”;
- “My youngsters enjoyed the family days as local and free, on their doorstep”;
- “Good activities, good company”



Lichfield area Space Activities

d. Staffordshire Moorlands District Council (SMDC) : PCC Funding Allocation £12,716.74

Staffordshire Moorlands used a number of providers for the provision of Space activities, which were A1 Solutions, Leek Town Football Club, Leek Rugby Club, Biddulph Youth and Community Zone and Sporting Communities. These organisations delivered a mixture of military and first aid themed, football, rugby and multisport activities, achieving 879 (857 universal and 22 targeted) attendances by young people.

SMDC feedback that Space had locally worked well, supporting the provision of a range of positive activities for local youngsters. Young people enjoyed the chance to play organised sporting activities and met new friends. Locations were felt to be convenient to their homes in the main with sporting coaches and staff friendly and familiar with many already working in some local schools.

Parents felt it good to have free, healthy activities in the summer holidays which was considered an expensive time for them. The age-range and mix of sexes attending sessions was managed well so that younger players and girls could join-in safely. As part of SMDC's Community Safety Partnership Plans to reduce ASB, there are plans to provide ongoing activities for young people.



Staffordshire Moorland's Space activities

e. Newcastle Borough Council (NBC) : PCC Funding Allocation £12,220.00

Newcastle achieved 3,424 (3,362 universal and 62 targeted) attendances through leisure centre activities, Standon Bowers outdoor activities and a targeted residential programme, a significant increase on Space 2015 attendances the previous year.

NBC created opportunities for young people at risk of ASB and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) to engage in outdoor educational activities as part of a targeted element of their Space programme. A range of interactive sessions delivered at Standon Bowers by targeted prevention services was delivered by LST staff; using accredited and evidence based resources. The topics covered during the sessions were:

- An introduction to ASB and CSE;
- Staying safe and recognising dangerous/risky situations;
- Developing protective behaviours;
- Body image, self-esteem and confidence;
- Where to access support and make referrals to specialist services.

Overall NBC advised they had seen increased participation of young people in positive activities over the summer holiday period. It was felt that the programme created an opportunity for youngsters to participate in activities that they would not normally have been undertaking, broadening aspirations, skills and experience. The programme was considered to have contributed to a reduction in ASB in the Borough through increased opportunities to engage in diversionary activities whilst also healthy lifestyles.

The Authority felt that future diversionary activities for youngsters would benefit from a partnership approach, working closer with local schools to develop community based approaches.



Newcastle Borough Council Space activities

f. South Staffordshire Council (SSC) : PCC Funding Allocation £12,500.00

South Staffordshire delivered a combination of Multi Sports, Multi Media workshops, a Skate Park Trip, a Skate Tournament and a Celebration Event covering the areas of Perton, Codsall, Featherstone, Pattingham, Huntington, Great Wryley, Penkridge, Wombourne and Kinver, operating from Tuesday to Friday for the 6 week holiday period.

South Staffordshire Space delivered an open access to activities, with an element of closed spaces reserved for targeted young people. There were a total of 170 attendances across the South Staffordshire activities compared to 630 for last year. Work is ongoing with South Staffordshire Council to understand in more detail the downturn in attendance with the aim of ensuring greater programme development and youngster participation in future years.

From information provided, youngster's feedback was positive, from 'Yeah, it was fun nothing to do normally', 'to 'It was awesome' and 'Thanks for putting this on. Parental feedback showed appreciation for the activities, demonstrating growth in youngster's confidence, ability to engage and opportunity to try new activities.



South Staffordshire's Space activities

g. Stafford Borough Council (SBC) PCC Funding Allocation £12,060.00

Stafford's Borough Council Space activities were in three parts and built on the successes from Space 2015. Right Stuff Boxing were commissioned to deliver boxing activities, Stafford Borough Council Leisure Services delivered a programme of sporting and leisure activities and Entrust delivered a programme of outdoor activities which together provided over 787 (386 universal and 401 targeted) attendances by young people.

Youngsters attending the boxing activities were able to strive for awards and certificates as well as engaging in non-contact activities. Youngsters received a student book at the start of the course which covered details of the awards available together with information on healthy eating, hydration, advice about the negative effects of consumption of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Partner agencies and police also provide an input to youngsters on the dangers of substance misuse.

Youngsters and parents responded very positively to the Right Stuff sessions;

- “Absolutely fab. Would recommend this to everyone. [Name] has really enjoyed it for the second year running and is coming on amazing with his boxing. Thank you to all of you for your hard work. See you again next year”;
- “[Name]” loves going to Right Stuff Boxing Club, Great for learning about fitness, new skills, discipline and fun with passionate and dedicated coaches!”;
- “Very proud of the work you do for our kids they love attending these classes, well done all”; and
- “Our boys have had a fantastic time”.

SBC Leisure Services additionally delivered Footie Fest at Rowley Park Sports Stadium, Beaconside Sports Centre, Alleyne's Sports Centre, Pony Trekking at Cannock Chase Trekking Centre, Mountain Biking at Cannock Chase, Segway at Cannock Chase, Jedi Training at Stafford Leisure Centre, Outdoor Adventure Day and BMXing at Shugborough and Standon Bowers Outdoor Education Centres, Dance Freestyle Street at Stafford Leisure Centre, Flip Out Trampolining at Flip Out Arena in Stone, Kayaking at Shugborough Outdoor Education Centre and Cheerleading at Stafford Leisure Centre.

Young people and parents confirmed their interest in the activities provided:

- “Super, super good, loved the activities. I can't wait to see what you offer next year”;
- “Wonderful diverse range of activities on offer”;
- “It's been great and I believe most activities sold out, so please keep it up for next year”.



Stafford Borough's Space activities

h. Stoke on Trent City Council (SoT) PCC Funding Allocation £38,942.30

Stoke-on-Trent City Council's offer consisted of a diverse range of activities which included a substantial offer for targeted young people through the Youth Offending and Families Matter Services. 1,989 (1,402 universal and 587 targeted) attendances were recorded.

Stoke-on-Trent's targeted offer consisted of horse riding (where young people could achieve an AQA award), fishing including coaching and mentoring, golf, running, and mountain biking and canoeing. Officers from the Youth Offending were proactive in transporting and motivating young people to attend the activities. City's universal offer was varied and included wheelchair basketball, StreetGames and multisport, youth sessions, drama workshops, photography hair and beauty.

SoT fed back that young people had been diverted away from being involved ASB. Some activities were able to provide food, via the local authority, at each to help tackle Holiday Hunger for those young people who would have otherwise been in receipt of Free School Meals. Young people built relationships with services that they had previously not known about and many tried new activities such as free running. The Space funding allowed previously utilised budgets to support other initiatives, such as residential trips.

Feedback from young people and parents was very positive:

- "Come back again";
- "Can't wait to join free running";
- "Never been exploring before, really want to go to the Roaches again".



Stoke on Trent City Space activities

i. Tamworth Borough Council : PCC Allocated Funding £11,852.00

The Tamworth area delivered a range of activities including Boxing at Tamworth Boxing Club building on the successes from Space 2015 and Multi-sports delivered by Burton Albion Football Club Community Trust (BAFC) in identified hotspot areas. Additionally and for the second year, Namco were commissioned to deliver computer game access and bowling. Funds were also used for 'Jump Xtreme', a trampolining activity centre which proved incredibly successful and popular.

Tamworth achieved 765 attendances (391 Universal and 374 Targeted). The Borough Council are planning to use existing vulnerability partnership groups to identify potential providers and provision next year which will include taking activities out into the community.

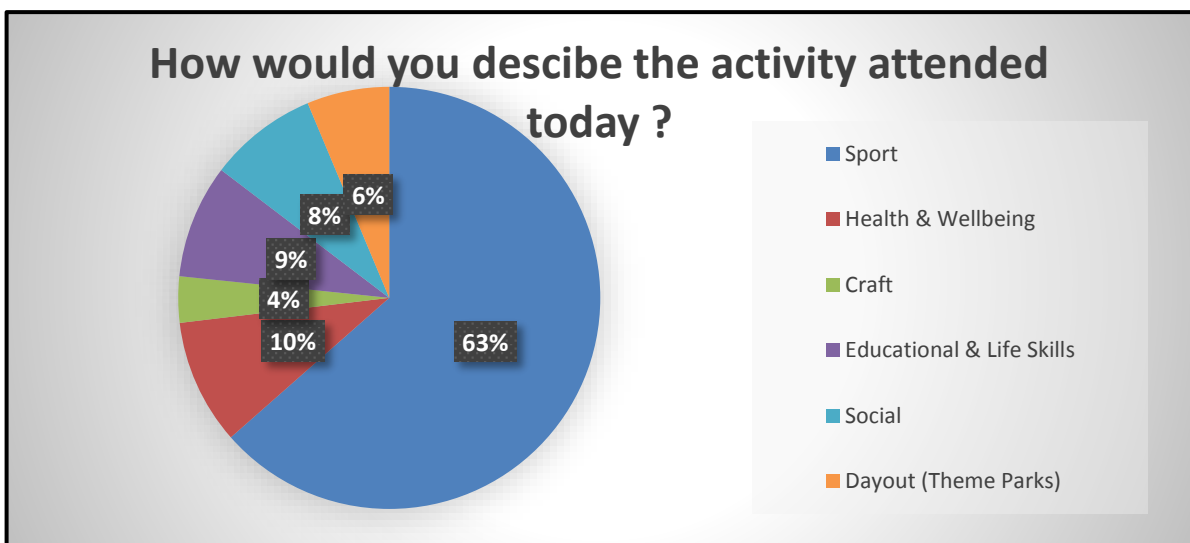


Tamworth's Space Activity 2016

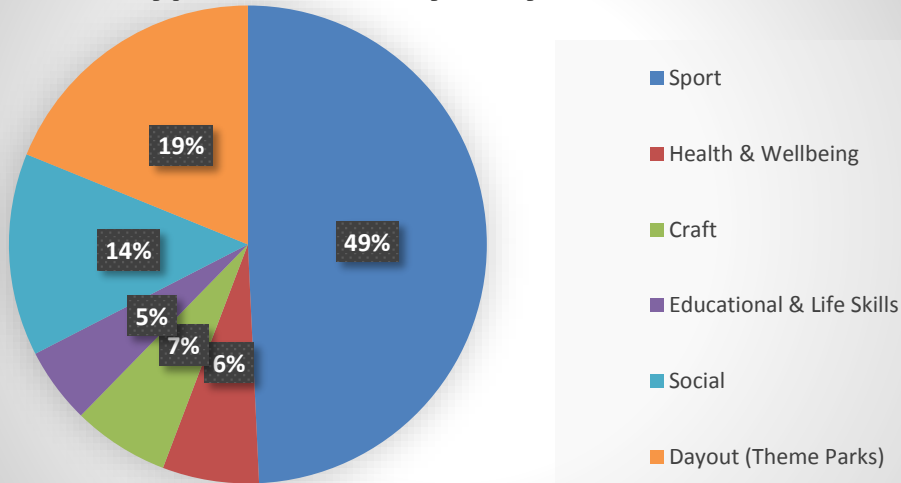
3. Summary

Officers from the OPCC have spent considerable time with partner agencies, assessing feedback from the Commissioners, Providers, Participants and Parents/Guardians, together with information from other key partner agencies.

- The opportunity for more detailed engagement with key partners at the outset was identified as a key element for successful development of the programme.
- Due regard has been given to the finding of Loughborough University who examined the effectiveness of appropriately delivered neighbourhood based sports interventions in reducing demand for police service in response to youth crime and ASB which correlates extremely well with the Space aims and ambition.
- It should be recognised that whilst levels of ASB in the area have fallen by 7%, July 2016 into August, that clearly defining the contribution by the Space 2016 programme is challenging, however it is absolutely recognised that it has played a part.
- Feedback and evidence received, together with the level of support for the programme defines its success in positively engaging young people of Staffordshire during the summer Holiday period. 585 (average age 12.2 years) young people complete OPCC questionnaires, findings were:



What types of activity do you like to attend?



Can you rate today's activity?	TRUE		NOT SURE		FALSE	
	Respondents	%	Respondents	%	Respondents	%
The activity was what I thought it would be	554	97%	15	3%	4	1%
I felt involved in the activity	573	98%	10	2%	0	0%
I have learned a new skill or done something completely new to me today	457	81%	33	6%	75	13%
Today's session has encouraged me to do this type of activity in the future	543	93%	35	6%	5	1%
Taking part in the activity today has made me feel happier	517	89%	66	11%	0	0%
I would do this activity again	559	96%	24	4%	0	0%

Some of the Comments Received



4. Future Planning

Learning from the feedback and evaluations indicates that future plans should consider:

- Appropriate pathways between organisers, targeted services and providers to be strengthened in future years;
- Development of opportunities to increase the involvement of local businesses in future years;
- Commissioners and Providers to give specific attention to the provision of transport for young people to attend certain activities and to explore the provision of food to support youngsters attending Space and prevent 'holiday hunger';
- Volunteering opportunities to continue to be explored, giving due regard to safeguarding;
- Capture contributions from young people as Space 2017 develops, the OPCC will aim to engage with the recently developed Youth Commission to seek feedback.
- Development of technology and maximisation of mobile information / social media platforms to engage targeted audiences and promote Space. It is considered that this would then further increase participation and ultimately positive outcomes for the areas.

5. Conclusions

Recognising the opportunities the Space programme has created in terms of benefits for young people and indeed communities and businesses of Staffordshire and following partner dialogue, the Police and Crime Commissioner, Matthew Ellis intends to commence plans for the growth of Space in Staffordshire, early in 2017 following ongoing partner dialogue.

Thanks are extended by the PCC and his team to all those who contributed to and participated in Space 2016.

Ends.