

October – Young Carers' Forum

Date: 23rd October 2024

Attendees: 4 young carers

Members of the NTC executive group

Discussion topic:

Young Advisors Survey Results:

Main areas:

- Where do you feel safe?
- Anti-Social Behaviour
- Knife crime
- Social media/sexting
- School life
- Access to mental health support

The presentation was delivered by two young people to everyone in the room. The survey highlighted the severity of the topics discussed and the answers provided throughout the survey by young people.

Which included:

Knife Crime

- Nearly 9% of young people take a knife with them when they go out (759)
- 35% know someone who carries a knife (808)
- 36% have witnessed knife crime (749)

When asked why they /or other people they know carry knives:

- 38% said it was to protect themselves (757)
- 10% said because other people do (757)

Social media/sexting

- 91% of young people surveyed had a social media account (851)

- Nearly 80% take their phone to bed (820)
- Nearly 45 % have been a victim of cyberbullying (805)
- 61% have communicated with a stranger online (819)
- 25% have been asked to take inappropriate images of themselves (831)
- Nearly 45% have received inappropriate images (808)

School Life

- 83% of young people said they feel safe at school, all the time or most of the time (843)
- When asked who they would talk to if they felt uncomfortable/worried about anything (820)

41% would tell the adult they live with

36% would talk to a friend and other responses included a sibling, other family member, school staff, other professional and Childline Access to mental health support

- 79% of young people know how to access MH support in school
- Nearly 21% have used it
- Nearly 75% young people know how to access MH support outside of school
- 15% have used it

The young people were put into groups with members of NTC executive board who represent different areas of service such as Childrens social care, health, police and welfare. Discussions were held on each topic which gave the young people opportunities to share real stories and highlight what is important to them.

The NTSCP young advisors then grouped together to arrange to come back together next month and review one area to focus on and raise awareness.

Next session to be held: **19th November**

Wallsend Customer First Centre

Next discussion topics-

Young Carers Consultation

Ward Data

Young Carers' Guide