

Appendix 1

The C Card Website

Nottinghamshire's C Card Scheme's Website, was developed with the Young People's Board through a series of planning and development meetings. The first meeting discussed an existing website, looking at what young people liked about it, what they didn't like, what was missing and what could be improved. Some important findings that fed into the development of the new website was; the colours, text, and what information young people felt was important to have. Young people were very keen for the website to be easy to use, and find information all in one place, so this was extremely important when developing the site. Young people who are seeking information on the C Card Scheme can now visit a young person friendly website for this information.

Participation Structures

Nottinghamshire County Council's Youth Service manages the planning and delivery of the Children and Young People's Participation structure in Nottinghamshire. The service develops and coordinates mechanisms to ensure children and young people are at the heart of the design and delivery of services available to them. In Nottinghamshire, we have an established system for active participation, which includes:

- The Young People's Board (Made up of 8 MYP's, Chair of the CiCC and the Chair of the Support After Adoption Forum, and an independent Chair)
- 8 Members of Youth Parliament (who represent the 7 Districts/Boroughs of Nottinghamshire, and the voice of disabled young people). Over 12,500 young people took part in the election of the eight Nottinghamshire members of the Youth Parliament in 2015.
- 7 District Youth Forums (Chaired by 7 MYP's)
- Pioneers (Chaired by 1 MYP)
- No Labels' (Children in Care Council)
- CiCC sub groups (Play, Juniors, Seniors and Care Leavers)

Young people's involvement is facilitated through a request by services/organisations via an Expression of Interest form (which are assessed by young people).

Pioneers Youth Forum for disabled Young People

Nottinghamshire Pioneers have been working with the County Council on their Local Offer including the Notts help yourself website. The information available on the website aims to enable individuals and families who live within Nottinghamshire, with key information about organisations, services, and groups that they can access. Pioneers helped develop the website by undertaking digital testing. The aim was to ensure that service users were able to:

- Navigate around the website with ease.
- Identify missing information.

- Test the practicalities of using the website for people with visual impairments, this included ensuring that colour filter, zoom functions and read aloud functions were enabled and worked.
- Testing the search button, particularly to ensure that incorrect spellings would be picked up and a recommended “did you mean” function would be included.
- General consultation and advice around the images, language and layout.

East Midlands Waterways

East Midlands Waterways asked young people to share their views and ideas about this project, looking at opportunities and barriers for attracting and engaging more young people to access waterways and experience local wildlife.

A total of twelve young people took part in an initial consultation on a boat in Nottingham to identify barriers through group work and discussions with Waterways. The information they received was then taken back and an action plan was developed and presented at the No Labels meeting. The key findings highlighted barriers to involvement being mainly finances, time and awareness of opportunities. The chairs of the CiCC sub groups discussed the barriers and solutions, which were highlighted, and suggested that the next steps should include developing a multimedia campaign to promote the waterways.

Youth Work with Looked After Young People

Looked after young people from across the county regularly engage with youth workers through a range of participation days, which has included consultation on the LAC Strategy and Pathway Plan. Looked after children and young people also have a voice about their life in care through the work of the Children in Care Council (CiCC). The CiCC listens to what children and young people are saying and these views are taken forward and acted upon. The chair of the CiCC sits on the Young People’s Board to ensure the views and needs of the Looked After cohort contribute to improving services for all of Nottinghamshire’s children and young people.