

App 4: Detached and Outreach – Heathrow Villages update

Please find below an update on the detached youth work in the Heathrow Villages area. Despite facing challenges due to staffing, we have continued our reconnaissance work to gather valuable knowledge about the local area.

Update:

1. Learning about the Villages:

- . We have conducted an analysis of the three villages. Our findings to date indicate that these areas are mainly residential with limited recreational facilities. Harmondsworth, in particular, has a large proportion of hotels along Bath Road, which is a dual carriageway. We have identified that young people tend to hang out in the recreation areas near Harmondsworth/Sipson and Heathrow Bowl. As the evenings get lighter, we expect more children and young people to be out later.

2. Recreational Areas:

- . We have evaluated the recreational facilities in the vicinity and spoken to residents to gather information. Our goal is to understand the needs of children and young people in the local area. We have planned further evaluations for Sipson and Harmondsworth. The team will continue to compile detailed observations and recommendations for each area, which will be instrumental in guiding our work.

3. Engaging with Key Stakeholders:

- . We have been collaborating with key stakeholders such as Axis, Stronger Families, Youth Offer, and the Police to gather comprehensive insights into the area. Efforts have been made to establish connections with the hotel management at the Holiday Inn to better understand the needs of asylum seekers' children and young people. For example, we have identified that for some children and young people English is not their primary language which can be a barrier, however using technology to support with translation has allowed us to engage with them and several are attending sessions at Harlington Young Peoples Centre. We will continue our efforts to engage with the community in Sipson Village.

4. Ongoing Reconnaissance in Sipson Village:

- . The team will continue to engage with the local community in Sipson and Harmondsworth Villages during our visit March 21st, 2025. We will also be in the area on March 27th to further build our local knowledge.

Review: Our team will be in the Sipson/Harmondsworth area to review our reconnaissance work over the next few weeks. We aim to gather insights into community dynamics and identify potential areas where young people spend their leisure time.

Next Steps:

- Finalise the report of the reconnaissance work.
- Develop and implement weekly sessions in the Heathrow Villages area and remove another session, to be able to deliver this session.
- Continue building relationships with children, young people, local stakeholders, and community members to ensure we are delivering at the right time and in the right places. There is a need to get to know the community better and we will be sharing our new NextGen postcards and marketing resources.

The team have recently recruited two new staff members to support with the delivery of our offer. Until they are in post, the team are not in a position to open any new sessions. However, there is some consideration taking place around the need to potentially review one of the existing provisions and relocate to Heathrow Villages.