



JANUARY 6TH

AAA Foundation Report 2020

Authored by: Cheryl Armatrading



Trustees Report

Dear All

The trustees of Antoin Akpom Achievements Foundation would like to thank all those who supported us throughout this challenging year 2020. Both successful and challenging experiences came our way. However, we are encouraged knowing that the work carried out by the charity had a positive impact in the community empowering others and implementing change.

Positive feedback from both participants and community groups who were involved in this year's projects and workshops
2020 proved to be a challenging year which tested our abilities and highlighted areas which needed development.

Surprisingly however we were still able to deliver a wide range of workshops and community group discussions. Some outreach field work, one to one sessions and a couple of classroom based workshops. The majority of workshops and group discussions were presented online. The charity developed new relationships with other youth work agencies across Leicester City and County and further developed existing relationships with Leicester City Council, Police & Crime Commissioner Department and Violent Reduction Network. This enabled us to expand services to young people in county and city areas, explore new innovative ideas and access other resources.

The trustees would like to express their appreciation for the public's continued support and look forward to progression into 2021

Yours faithfully

Antoin Akpom Achievements Foundation Trustee

Antoin Akpom Achievements Foundation

2020 started off with a promising projection plan, workshops, projects and events. We pre-booked venues for our Intervention & prevention workshops put things in place for external organization to support the participants in various areas (Radio Broadcast training, Well-Being, Employability Skills & Coding & Robotics).

Suddenly we were faced with a worldwide epidemic. We went into lockdown and with all good intentions all our plans came to a standstill. Initially panic mode set in, uncertainty and confusion as this was an unprecedented situation in which we found ourselves in. Everything ceased for a couple of weeks whilst we deliberated as to what step to take next. As a charity providing a physical classroom-based workshops to our young people it became very challenging. We had to re-evaluate how we could best continue delivering a quality service using other methods.

It meant re-designing our modules and methods of delivery, re-train members of the organization. Learn how to use various digital platforms.

Zoom meetings were set up with our affiliated organisations sharing ideas, experiences and map out a mechanism on how to cope with these major changes.

We looked at the following areas: **Coping with Covid19, Transition, Moving Forward, What would our new Normal look like.**

We put together an action plan to map our journey. Collaborating with our affiliated agencies during this period. Regular strategy meeting were held collaborating and supporting micro community groups. As a result of the group sessions we were able to deliver Community Conversation Discussions.

(Coping With Covid19, Leicester Lockdown, Families & Victims of Knife Crime & Increase of Violent Crime in Leicester – Influences, Impact, Solutions)

Projecting Workers/Volunteer Training

- Digital Technology
- Digital Marketing Tools
- Trauma Lead Care
- Mentoring
- Working with Gangs & Youth Violence OCN Level 3 Course
- Level 3 Mental Health

Promotional Workshop Videos

Coding, Isolation & Wellbeing, Intervention & Prevention, Exam Results Day, Father's Day Appreciation, Mother's Day Appreciation

Upcoming Event: Virtual Award Event

Comments from young people

We need to do is
speak to young people
that live it every day

Some suffer from
PTSD without
knowing it.

young people are
desensitized to
knife crime

Young people want
to make money

change the narrative
young people
want a sense of
belonging

What are we offering
in exchange
to come off the
streets

What have we been doing during lockdown:

Research

Investigate different ways to deliver workshops. Reviewed various social media and digital platforms. Investigated where the hang outs were for young people, looked into new methods of campaigning to expand our access to young people and our collaboration with similar agencies. We looked at new interactive methods of learning. Looked into new relevant knowledge-based learning to upskill our workers and volunteers. Search for various type of funding

Resources

- Designed five new workbooks
- Created new bespoke workshops
- Website
- Digital Platforms
- Affiliated Agencies
- Human Resource (young people/volunteers/project workers)

Deliver workshops

Workshops: Intervention & Prevention, Motivation, Victim Awareness, Coping with Isolation, Well-being, You Me & Covid19, The New Narrative, Safe Places, Escaping Exploitation, Self-Reflexion

Future Workshops - 2021:

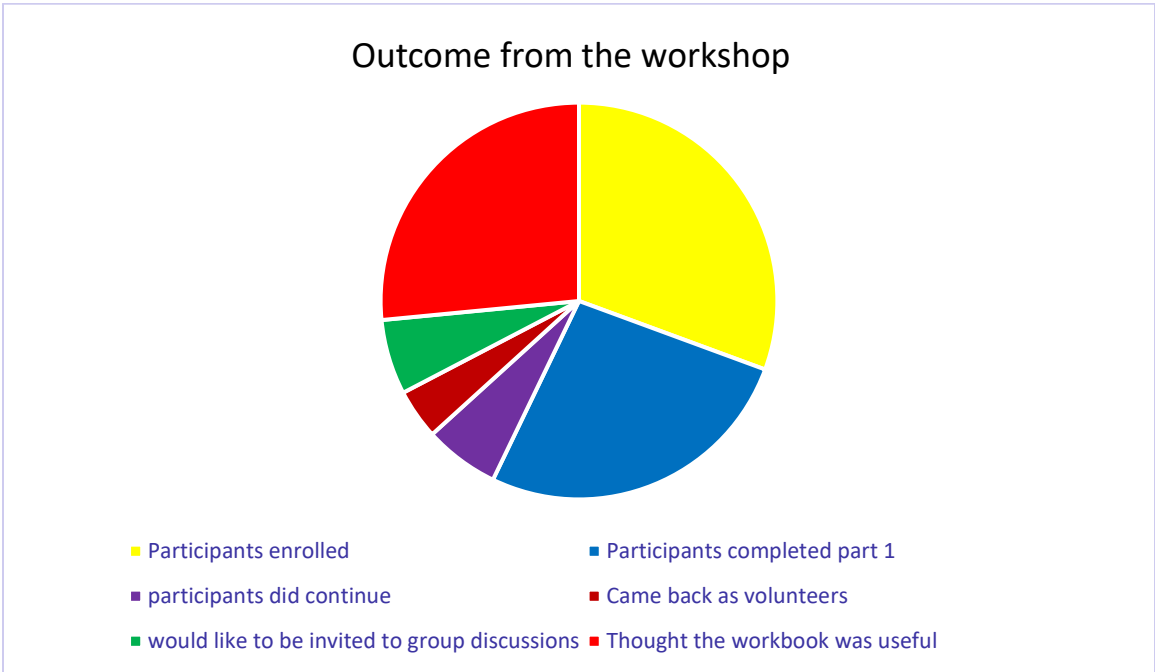
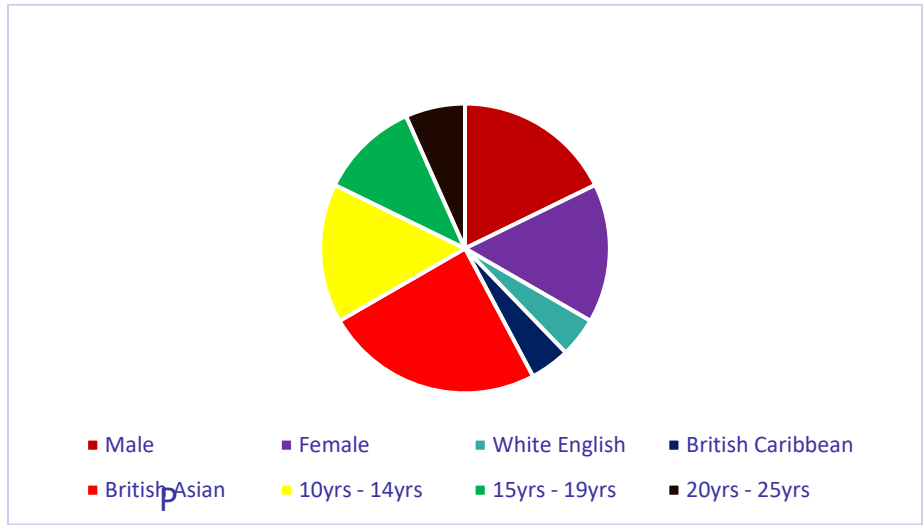
Coding & Robotics, Employability Skills, Young Enterprise

Metamorphosis School Program – support children in transition from primary to secondary school

Empowering Program for girls 14yrs – 19yrs – Girl Get Up – Started enrollment 28th November 20
16 girls registered for the program

Project 1 – Intervention & Prevention Workshops

15 Participants – March 20 – July 20



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

Community Conversations	Discussion Topics	Attendees
Leicester Lockdown	Social & Economical Impact, Physical & Emotional Well-Being	22
Covid19 & Crime	Overspill of virtual disputes, channeling emotions, Fear factors	7
Covid & Me	Staying Safe in Covid19 Epidemic Dos & Dont's	16
Lets Talk	Challenging behaviours, Identifying triggers Influences Impact Cause & Effects Grooming & Radicalisation	22
The New Narrative Part 1	Core value of safe spaces, understanding pro- social identity, adopt a safe space policy	10
Connect2.0 BLM - Leicester	Inequalities Education Crime	39
Befriending Briefing Discussion	Isolation Well-Being Support Safe Spaces	4
The New Narrative Safe Places	Puts safety first, offering clinical support	10
Developing Knife Crime Strategy	Concerns around knife crime in Leicester, impact on Victims & Families, Solutions	13
Knife Crime- From the Victims/Families Perception	Physical/Emotional scar on victims and families/ sharing victim lived experience	10
Coping With Change	Current crisis Moving forward Transition into the new normal Impact on mental health & well-being Social interaction	10
Affiliate Organisations catchup	Update on moving forward The new Norm	17

**Community Opinion – Roles to play in the responsibility of creating solutions
in order of priority 1 - 5**

Order of priority	Youth Centres	Local Community Groups	Schools	Social Enterprise	Employment Schemes
1	x	x	xx	xx	X
2	xx	xx	x		X
3	x	x	x	xxx	X
4	x	x		x	Xxxx
5	xx	x	xxx	x	

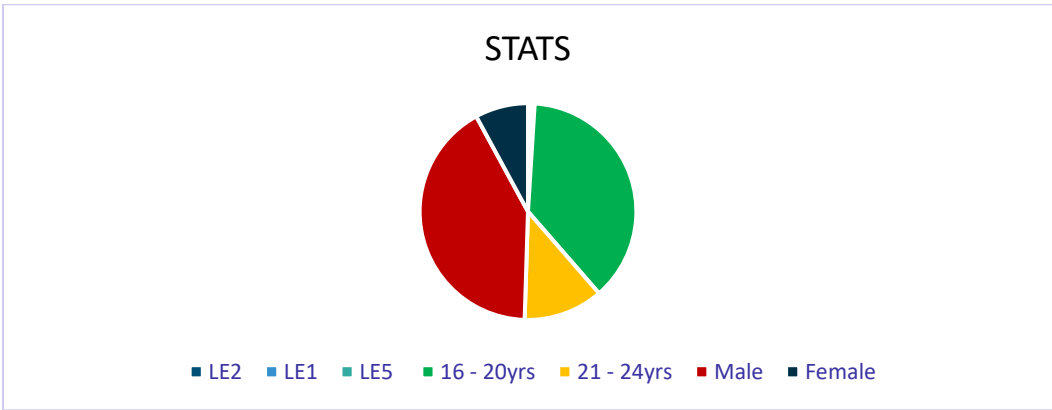




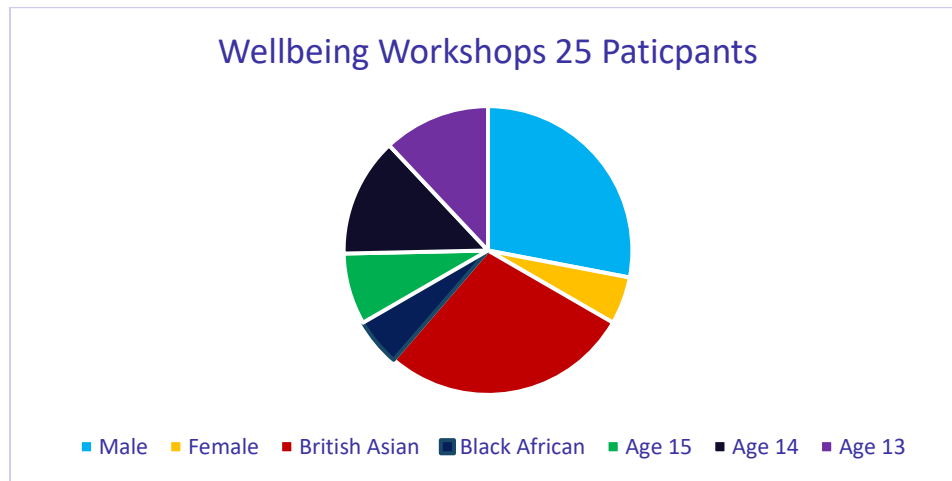
Violent Behaviours Survey STATS

Report: **Is there an alternative to violence?**
 Research carried out by: **RUKHSANA HUSSAIN - OUTSPOKEN**
 on behalf of **AAA FOUNDATION**
 Timeframe for research:
AUG -SEPT 2020
 Report completed: **08/09/2020**

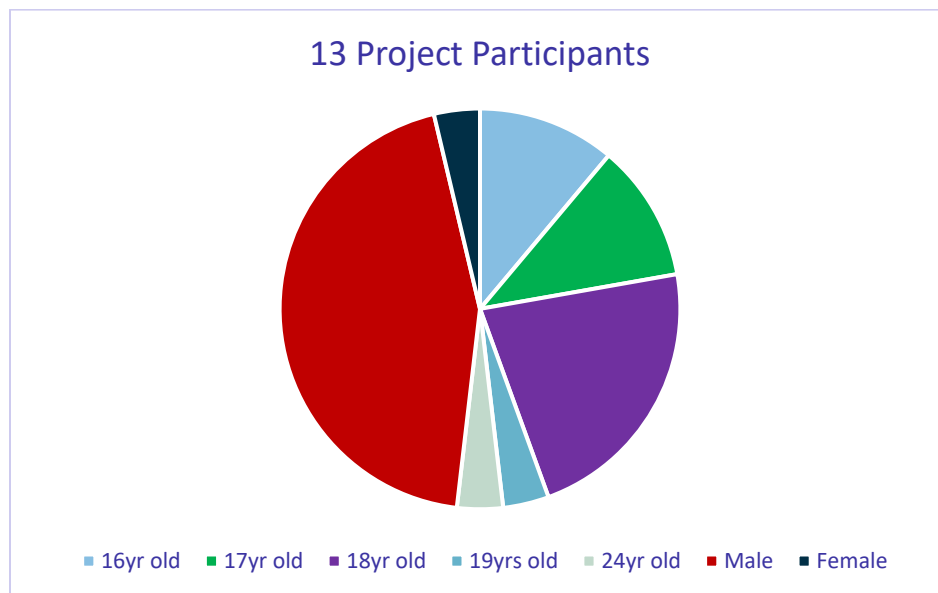
As part of our Intervention and prevention program, it was necessary to conduct a survey looking at young people’s involvement in violent behaviours within the city. We devised a questionnaire, research was carried out with 50 individuals between the age of 16-25 years. Information from the survey will be used to shape future programs to support young people into either transition to an exit pathway out of crime or interventiion preventing going into crime



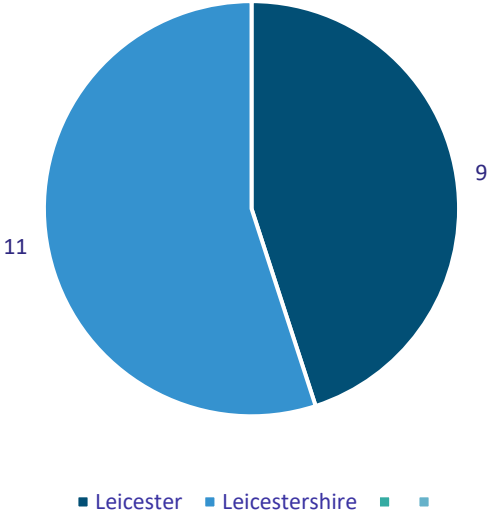
Well-Being Workshop 8th September – 2nd November 2020



Safer Places Project - Escaping Exploitation Workshop 10th September – 18th December 2020

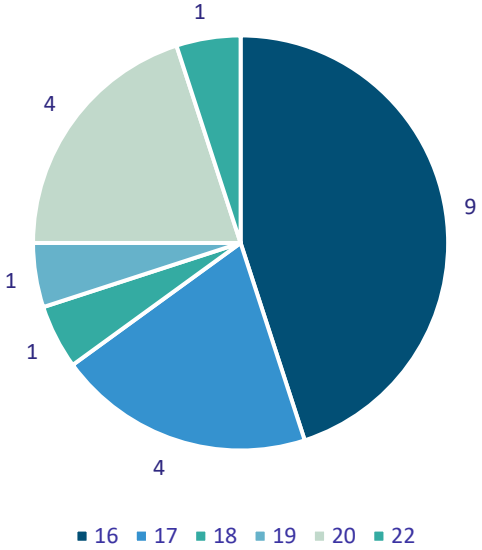


What area of Leicester do you live in?



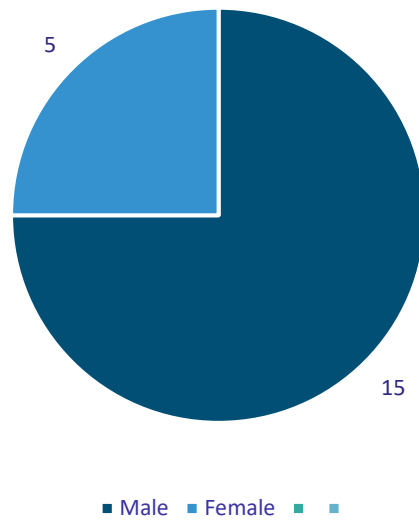
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Age



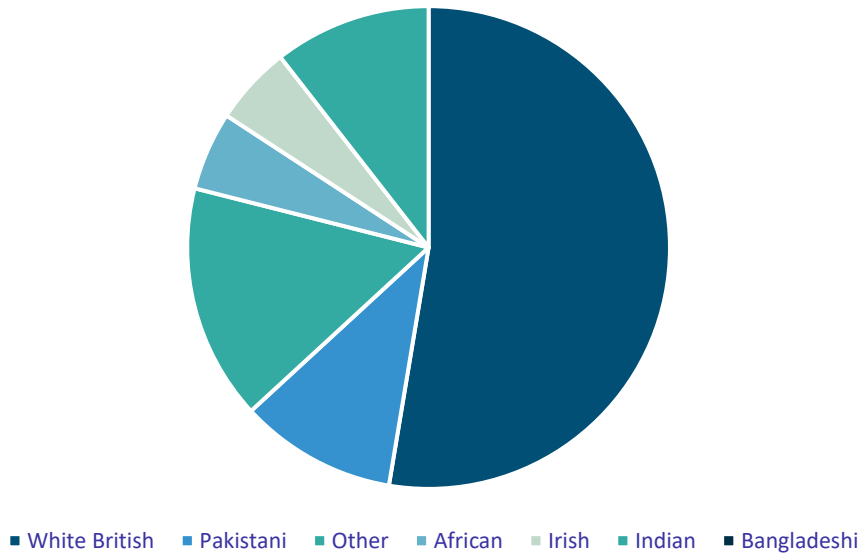
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Gender



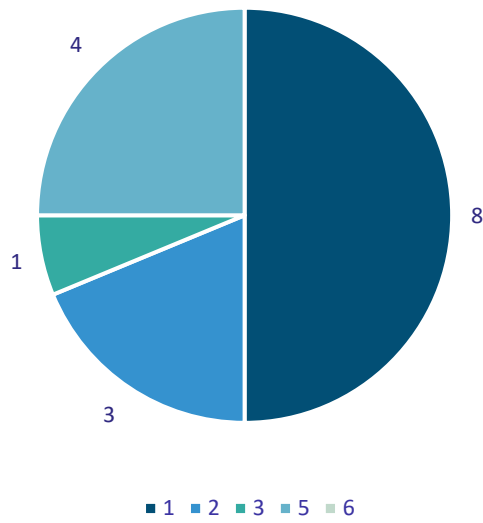
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Ethnicity



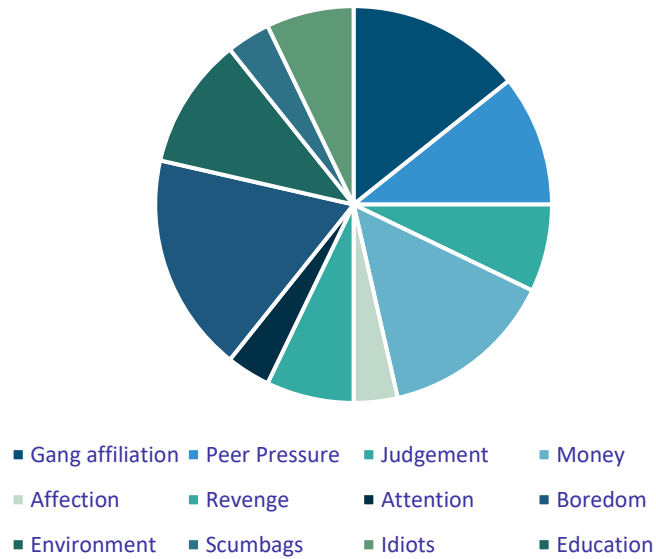
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Level of Violent Involvement Level 1-6



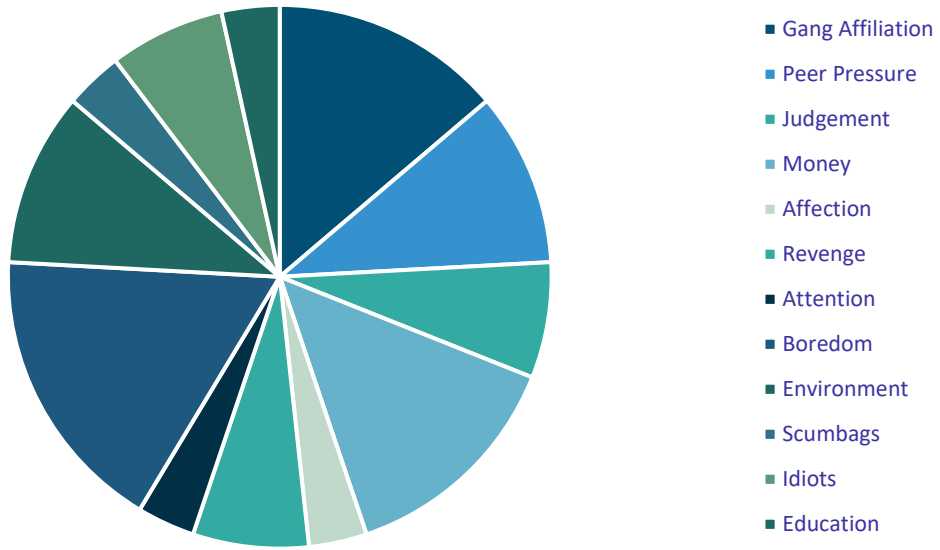
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Why do young people join gangs?

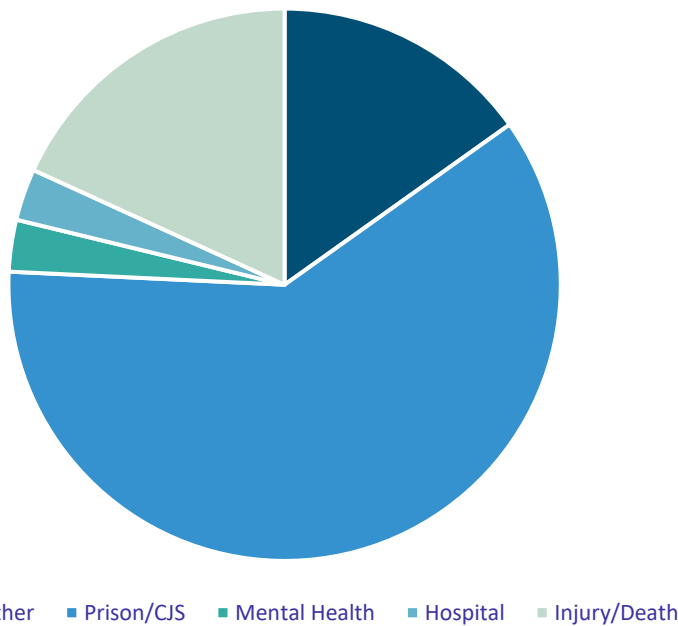


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Why do young people get involved in violent crime

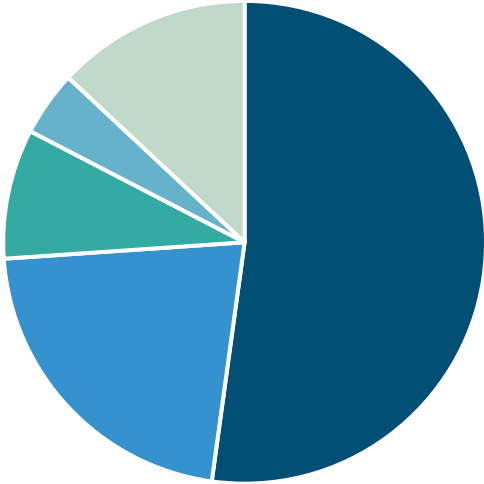


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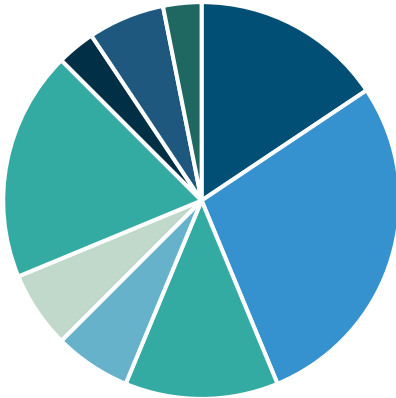
What keeps young people involved in crime



■ Money ■ Family/Friends (relationships) ■ Peer Pressure/Fear ■ Boredom ■ Other

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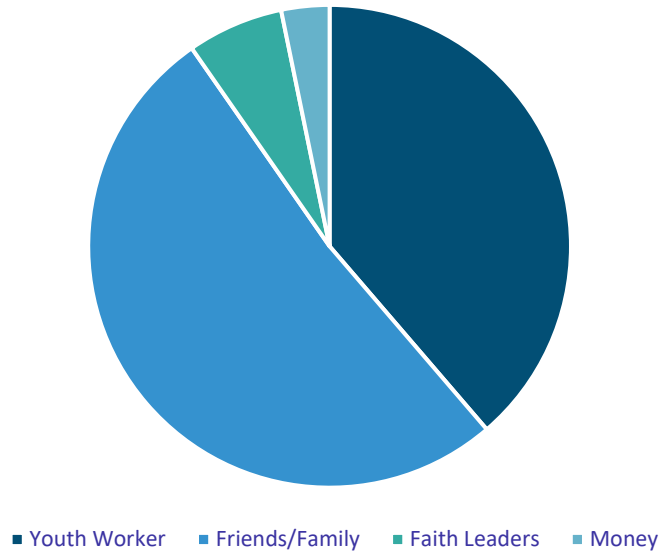
What are the exit barriers



■ N/A ■ Threats/Pressure ■ Poor Education
 ■ The Past ■ Situation ■ Lack of support
 ■ Environment ■ Money ■ Being able to move

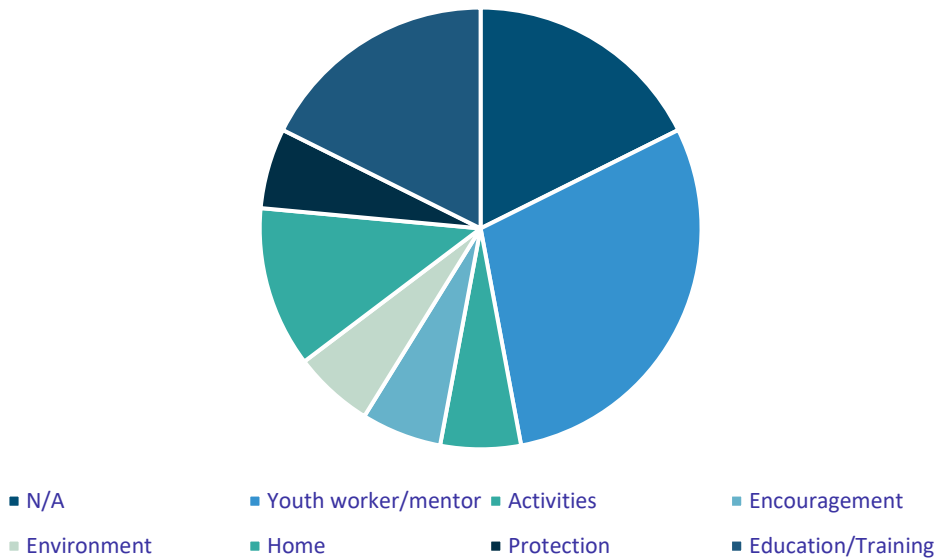
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Who to go to for help



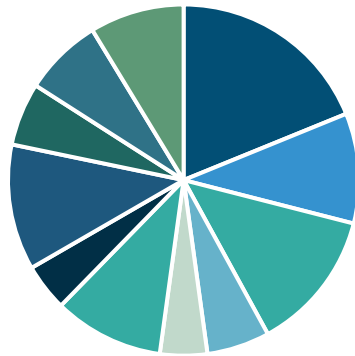
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What support should be in place



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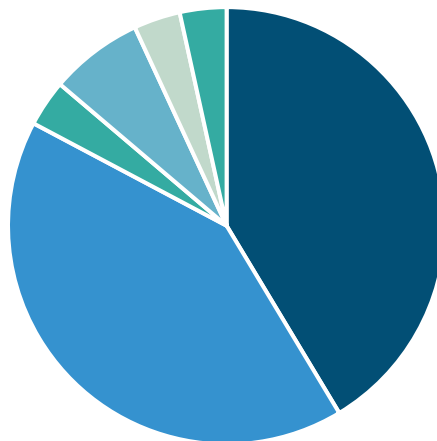
what do young people in this situation need the most help with



- Employment
- Protection
- Finance
- Health
- Substance Misuse
- Family
- Street mediation
- Business Development
- Relocation
- Housing
- Education/Training

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Where in the community would you feel comfortable accessing support

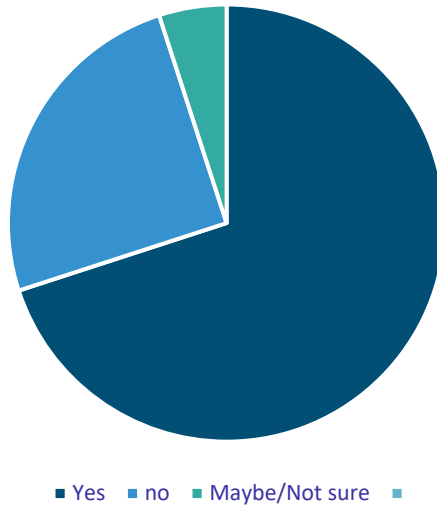


- At home
- Community/Youth Center
- School
- Nowhere
- Faith Centre
- Street Project

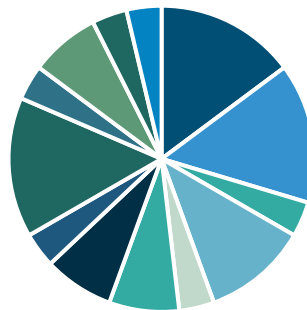
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Would you or someone you know use a secure phone to access Support

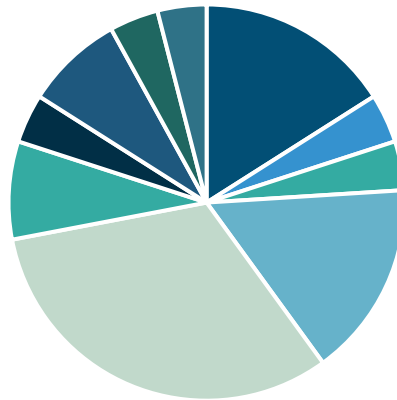


What would make you or anyone else exit from violent/criminal activity



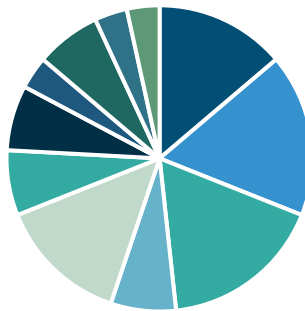
- More support
- Youth Clubs/projects
- Hope
- Family
- Freedom
- Education/Training
- Better life prospects
- Relocation
- Work
- Love
- Money
- N/A
- Religion

What support would your family need as a result of your criminal engagement



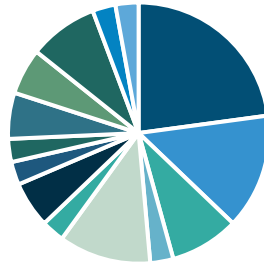
- Key worker
- Relocation
- Honour
- Protection
- Finance
- Belief
- Good Vibes
- Reassurance
- N/A
- Employment

If you could change how young people are supported what would it be?



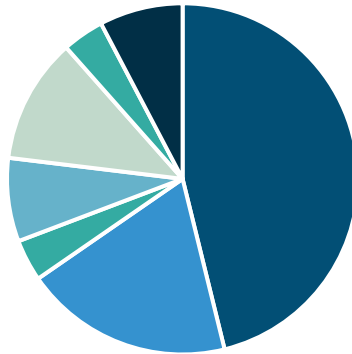
- Education/Training
- Trustworthy Youth Worker
- Opportunities
- Rehab
- Support
- Early Intervention
- Hearing both sides
- Sports
- Money
- Police training
- NA

What support needs to be in place to prevent young people returning to criminal activity



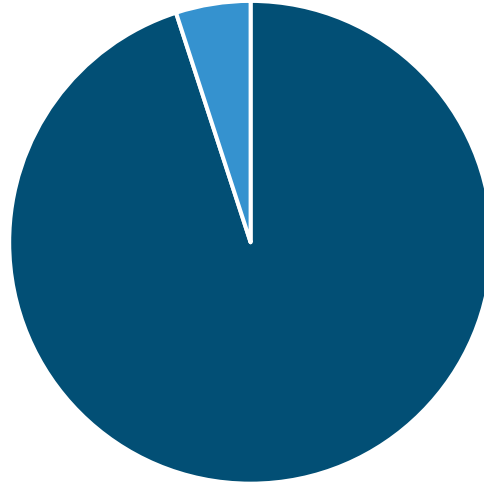
- Prospects
- More to do
- Lived experience mentors
- Protection
- Employment & Education
- Different Path
- Better place to live
- Support
- Not grooming
- Youth workers
- Money
- Sports
- Rewards
- Family

What could have been done to support you through your exit strategy



- More support
- Early intervention/Guidance
- benefits
- Opportunities
- N/A
- Better relationships
- Money

Any other comments



■ No ■ More funding needed to help support young people ■ ■

Funding Streams 2020

- Lotto 25 Community Fund
- Leicestershire Community Fund – Sustainability Program
- Vulnerable Children’s Charity Fund (Home Office)
- Violent Reduction Network

Our Trustees

Charlene Oduro -Mensah • Lianne Murray • Denny Armatrading • Cheryl Armatrading

The Team:-

Head of Departments – Cheryl Armatrading
Project Coordinator Intervention & prevention – Cindy Hamdan
Trainee Project Coordinator – Allie-Ellen Barber
Youth Outreach worker – Norman Perrin
Youth Outreach worker/Researcher – Aysha Ghanchi
Youth Outreach Researcher – Rukhsana Hussain
Youth Outreach Researcher – Jahmaine Davis
Youth Outreach worker – Fatima Khalifa
Project Leader/Facilitator– Brian Simmonds

Affiliated Organisations:-

- First Contact 2.0 – Brian Simmonds
- CSES Training – Cindy Hamdan
- Charnwood Safety – Vikash Mistry
- Sported East Midlands – Steve White MBE
- Pink Lizard – Adrian Hinds
- Cave In The Community - Karl Brown
- St Matthew Big Local – Ish Latif
- Leicestershire Cares – Siobhan Hirrell

Support Partnerships

- Leicester/shire Police Commissioner Department
- Violent Reduction Network
- Leicester City Mayor Office

Comments from our workers/volunteers

I have been so lucky to be given the chance to work with Cheryl and AAA. I never would have seen myself working with young people, but I feel my path has taken me here for a reason. We all can see how challenging it is for young people and especially with the pandemic, it's made things tougher. I find working with AAA really gets my mind whirring and it's been such a good experience when we bring people together to discuss the issues that need addressing. The training course I am on is hard work, but so enlightening, and what I'm learning will help us come up with even more informed solutions for young people. I am proud to be working for AAA and I'm excited about the future with them.

Allyce Ellen-Barber

Volunteering at AAA Foundation has been a really great experience. Not only has everyone been so friendly and helpful, but it has also helped me to gain valuable experience. I am a marketing intern at the charity, so I oversee the social media platforms and help with promoting the charity. Cheryl has given great support to me to help me to expand my experience in marketing, for example one of my tasks was to create a marketing campaign to promote the charity. Through creating this marketing campaign, it has helped to give me a sense of how marketing works in a real-life context. This experience is valuable to me as I can write on my CV the skills I have learnt from the charity. As well as this, Cheryl and the team have given great support in helping me to achieve in my academic success. For example, they are willing to give me support on my assignments at university. As one of my assignments was to create a podcast, one of the trustees (Denny) gave me some training on podcasts and this training involved how to produce and develop a podcast. This experience helps me in an academic sense, but also increases my skill base that will be helpful in my future employment.

Shania Dhesi

Cheryl Armatrading (managing director of AAA Foundation) has actively contributed to the development of Leicester's knife crime strategy as a member of our strategy taskforce; a group of recognised key community leads within Leicester who are able to deliver community work to support the development and implementation of the strategy. Cheryl kindly led a community conversation with those who have sadly been affected by knife crime and other serious violence. This valuable discussion provided families, friends, victims and young people with an opportunity to share their experiences, and also provide insight into the specific areas which require additional focus going forward. The discussion also highlighted how agencies can work together to effectively address and reduce knife crime within the community of Leicester.'

Hannah Keys – Technical Manager of Standards & Development Leicester City Council

Plan for 2021

- To forge networks with new local and regional youth agencies and organisations. Create a youth hub with joint community agencies. This resource will be used as a point of reference to support young people as part of our exit strategy on completing the programs. The option is there (if needed) to provide a follow up support for 18 months.
- To Source funding needed to meet our long-term objectives
- To create a youth hub in Leicester
- To have a building that houses multiple youth agencies & activities