



With Financial Support from the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union

Children Rough Sleepers and Runaways Workshop: Summary Evaluation Report

[1] General

Date: Wednesday 17th December 2014

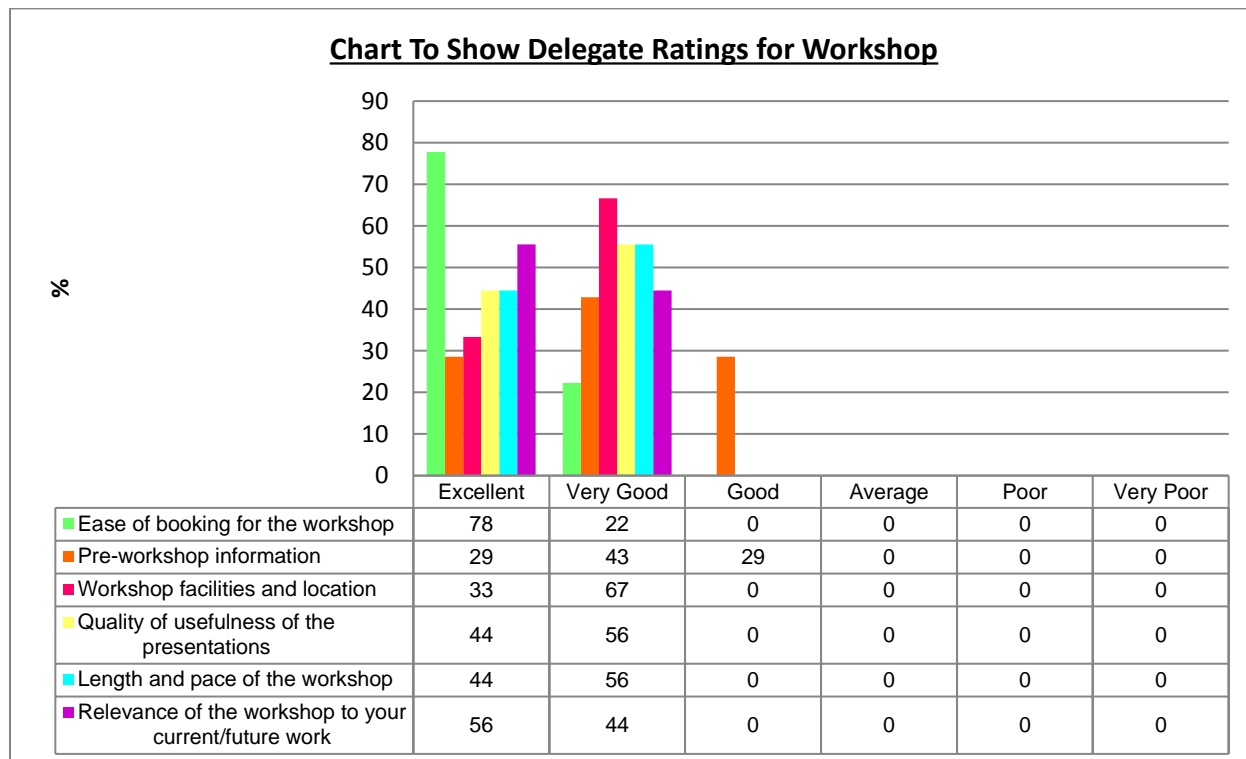
Location: The Phoenix Centre
Bermuda Rd
Nuneaton
Warwickshire
CV10 7HU

Numbers Booked: 21

Numbers Attended on the Day: 21

Completed Feedback Forms Returned: 9

[2] Rating of Workshop



Overall the event achieved a 100% satisfaction rating from delegates with the majority of responses in the Excellent to Very Good ratings.

- ✚ Ease of booking for the workshop: This achieved a rating of 78% of delegates finding this excellent and 22% finding this very good. Delegates were most satisfied with this category with a 100% satisfaction rating overall.
- ✚ Pre-workshop information: 72% of delegates found this to be excellent/very good. 29% stated this to be good.
- ✚ Workshop facilities and location: 100% of delegates rated this within the excellent to very good categories. The majority of responses – 67% - rated this to be very good.
- ✚ Quality and usefulness of the presentations: Overall 100% of the delegates rated this in the excellent to very good categories. Overall delegates were satisfied with this with 44% rating this to be excellent and 56% rating this as very good.
- ✚ Length and pace of the workshop: 44% of delegates rated this to be excellent and 56% found this to be very good. Overall a 100% satisfaction rating was achieved.
- ✚ Relevance of the workshop to your current/future work: Overall 100% of delegates rated this as positive, with majority 56% stating this to be excellent and 44% stating this to be very good.

[3] How The Workshop Could Be Improved

- The links between homelessness and CSE/drug abuse/alcohol abuse
- Delegate list and/or name badges would be helpful
- Children's team attending would have been useful. Possible other landlords attending.
- Very informative
- More attendees

[4] Other Comments

- Really useful day
- Very interesting presentations and useful work

[5] Recommending Workshop to a Colleague?

100% of delegates stated that they would recommend this workshop to a colleague.

[6] Workshop Groups

Workshop 1: Winter Night Shelters

- ✚ Difficult to count homeless people
- ✚ Victims of violence on the streets
- ✚ Sofa surfing – numbers unknown but happens a lot

- ✚ We provide a meal and place of comfort to stay at night
- ✚ We can cater for 25 people
- ✚ Started breakfast club
- ✚ Don't want to turn homeless adults and young people away on cold winter nights as they could die in the cold
- ✚ Have many stories of rejection of young people at home who are not wanted, family arguments, etc...
- ✚ Many firms will not employ young people if they have no fixed address
- ✚ Landlords do not want you if you are on benefits
- ✚ Many homeless young people are hidden because they will not sleep in town centres because of dangers of violence
- ✚ To give an example 3 young people stayed together in a tent. They were attacked and got beaten up quite badly
- ✚ Police are uncaring and simply move people on
- ✚ Local authorities don't care and hide behind saying 'you are not priority need'.
- ✚ Landlords use and exploit young people
- ✚ Young females in particular are highly vulnerable and live in fear of violence and exploitation
- ✚ The housing offered by some landlords is in very poor condition and full of damp
- ✚ If a young person complains about the landlord they are evicted
- ✚ We need 7 churches open 1 day a week at night to cater for demand. At moment we only have 6 churches.
- ✚ We rely on volunteers
- ✚ We have people on waiting lists
- ✚ Whatever the weather young people are out for 13 hours in the cold each day before churches open at night for them
- ✚ Last year we gave beds to 45 people for 3 months
- ✚ In last 2 weeks 19 people have slept in the night shelter
- ✚ Our rules state they must be sober when they arrive otherwise they are turned away
- ✚ Welfare reform puts people on the street if you are sanctioned.

Workshop 2: National Landlords Association

- ✚ Do budgeting and money advice with young people

- + Work with the National Landlords Association
- + Not all landlords are bad / unscrupulous
- + Private sector accounts for 16.5% of housing stock. Private sector is increasing and social housing declining
- + Level of demand for decent properties is very high
- + When housing a vulnerable adult / young person the rent is much lower than going into open market
- + There is a perception that young people are going to be bad tenants. This however is not the fact – many young people are good
- + Perception that if you house young people your rent arrears will be higher, many damage the property.....so it is better to stick to private sector for landlords
- + Open market is most attractive proposition for landlords

How are we going to make renting your property attractive to landlords to take on young people when it is better to go to private tenants?

Not all landlords are bad and need Government support to make taking on vulnerable young people in safe and secure accommodation if it's financially worthwhile.

Have a written program for schools on how to be good tenants.

Workshop 3: Targeted Support for Young People

- + We do a range of activity including:
 - o One to one support for young people vital and open dialogue based on what's happening with them
 - o Parents and carers
 - o Structured group work
 - o Disability group 13+ age
 - o Undertake work around diversity
 - o Work with LGBT – group meets once a week
 - o Sports with young people as a way of relationship building
 - o Take young people fishing
 - o Young people sometimes become dependent on alcohol so we do alcohol misuse work
 - o Young people who come to us are very angry and don't feel part of anything so we do anger / aggression work with them

- Healthy story – advice service for young people to access health advice and hand out condoms and do pregnancy tests
- Sewing classes with young people
- Work quite closely with youth justice service and do prevention work
- Do testing for diseases
- Enabling young people to get back into education
- Work with NEET
- Work with looked after children
- Listening to young people very important and talking about feelings
- Celebrate young people’s achievements
- 600 young people came through our service this year
- See leaflet handed out for further details

Workshop 4: Young People’s Protocol

- ✚ A handout on ‘Young People’s Protocol’ was handed out
- ✚ If 16/17 year old presents as homeless they are priority need under Children’s Act and Homeless Act
- ✚ We do a needs assessment for a homeless child
- ✚ Options then include – foster care, supported care, mediation
- ✚ We look at homeless need, local connections, etc..., and if necessary signpost back