

NEWS IN BRIEF

Yorkshire and Humberside

Buddying scheme a big success

Ever wanted a councillor as a buddy? Young people in East Riding of Yorkshire do. For the past four years, the East Riding Youth Assembly has been bringing councillors and young people together in a creative project to get young people's voices heard.

The project enables young people to put forward ideas on a one to one level, to someone who can bring about change more directly. It also enables the East Riding Youth Assembly to put forward its views to the councillors responsible for each specific area, such as transport, environment or more local issues.

The buddying scheme works by East Riding Youth Assembly members assigning themselves to a councillor, by negotiation and advice provided by youth service participation workers. The buddies meet on a regular basis so each can keep the other informed of issues affecting young people.

At present the Youth Assembly has buddies in Goole, South Hunsley, Beverley, Cottingham and Hornsea and involves 12 councillors. The scheme is set to be extended to Howden and other areas in the next two months as it is proving very popular with young people

and councillors alike.

For more information on the buddying scheme, please contact Richard Moulson on 01482 392807.



MYPs from the North East take over The BBC Politics Show North East

mentions in The Guardian, The Independent and The Mirror to name a few. To find out more about UKYP's media work, go to www.ukyp.org.uk/newsroom

West Midlands

MYPs grill Olympic boss

MYPs from the West Midlands were given the opportunity to put questions to Lord Coe (aka the man organising the Olympics) in an event held at Millennium Point, Birmingham.

After workshops in the morning, MYPs were given the chance to ask Lord Coe and Cllr Chris Saint (Chair of the West Midlands Leadership Group for the 2012 Games) a number of questions about the opportunities the Games will offer young people in the West Midlands. The questions ranged from whether the 2012 Games would deliver new sporting facilities for young people in the West Midlands, to how talented sportsmen and women could go about getting funding or sponsorship for training.

Lord Coe said, "I agree with the Members of the region's Youth Parliament that the London 2012 vision of inspiring more young people to take up sport must be supported through this sort of investment into facilities and coaching. It is evident that the West Midlands is working

National

UK Youth Parliament hits the headlines

UK Youth Parliament press coverage hit a record high in 2008 with over 1,500 press mentions. Throughout the year, MYPs bombarded the airwaves and pages of national and local media across the UK. Highlights included the spectacular MYP elections coverage in over 450 papers, numerous appearances on BBC Breakfast News,

hard to make our vision a reality for young people in the region."

South East

Young people ask for more emotional support

A campaign to improve the mental health and well-being provisions for young people has been getting bigger and bigger. The "Mind Matters" campaign started in the South East after frustrated MYPs felt they didn't have any emotional support to deal with the stress and pressures from everyday life. This campaign has grown into a national concern after MYPs in different parts of the country have started circulating the survey in their regions to improve the services in their area. If you would like more information about this campaign, contact kajal@ukyp.org.uk

National

Annual Sitting to be held in Canterbury

UKYP's 2009 Annual Sitting will be held at the University of Kent. This is the first time the Annual Sitting has been held in the South East. The Annual Sitting will take place between 24th – 27th July 2009. MYPs from all across the UK will come together to take part in workshops, debates, and develop the national campaigns for the year ahead.

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