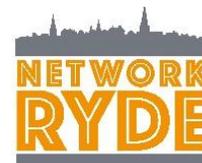


Network Ryde – Annual Report FY 2018-19

May 2019



About Network Ryde

Network Ryde was set up by Ryde Town Council in April 2017 to provide support and activities to young people aged 11-19. The project received some Youth Offer funding in the first year from the IW Council; this funding ended in March 2018. Since then Network Ryde has been funded by Ryde Town Council, with additional monies being sourced for specific projects that are offered in partnership with other professionals / local organisations.

Through the Financial Year 2018-19, the Network Ryde team comprised a full-time Youth Work Manager, four part-time Youth Workers and an Administrator, supported by one volunteer. The team are based at the Network Ryde youth café (147) on Ryde High Street. 147 offers young people a safe space to hang out within the framework of a programme of activities. Young people who attend 147 are asked for their feedback and suggestions; their responses are used to develop and broaden the service (a feedback box allows them to submit comments anonymously if preferred). In addition, the needs of the young people and any areas of concern identified by the Youth Workers also help shape the programme; alongside signposting the young people to relevant support / services, Youth Workers put up educational posters at 147, and invite experienced professionals to provide advice and guidance to the young people. Safeguarding issues are reported to relevant professionals and to parents / carers; the young people attending 147 know that the Youth Workers have a duty of care to follow up when they have a concern about a young person's wellbeing / safety. Some of the young people being supported are undertaking risky behaviour; all the Youth Workers are safeguarding trained and DBS checked. A leaflet rack is installed in the accessible toilet at 147 so the young people have privacy when picking up leaflets about issues / services. Free sanitary items are provided thanks to funding and donations from Ryde Rotary and the Red Box Project.

Network Ryde's programme design is overseen and agreed by a Steering Group made up of Town Council Members plus professionals from organisations including Barnardo's, Ryde Rotary, Foyer for the Island and the police. Further to the Steering Group organisations, Network Ryde also works collaboratively with organisations including Ryde Academy, the Wheatsheaf Trust, Isle of Wight Beach Soccer, Youth Trust, Ryde Library, the Community Safety Partnership team, Ryde Arts, the Red Box Project and others.

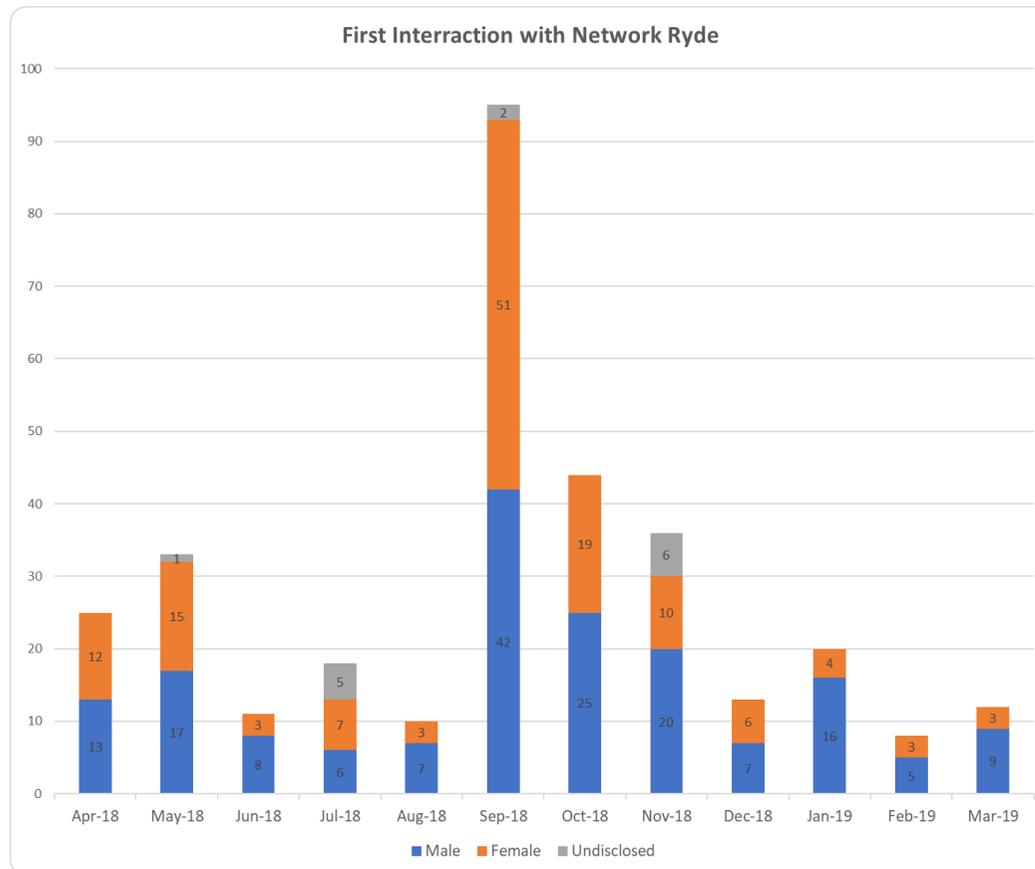
Network Ryde uses social media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) to communicate with young people, parents/carers and professionals.

Headline Statistics for this Financial Year

	FY 18-19	FY 17-18*	% change
No. of young people who have been supported and/or accessed activities	448	281	+ 59%
No. of sessions offered by Network Ryde (at 147 and elsewhere)	444	151	+ 194%
No. of individual attendances of young people at sessions	6903	1412	+ 388%

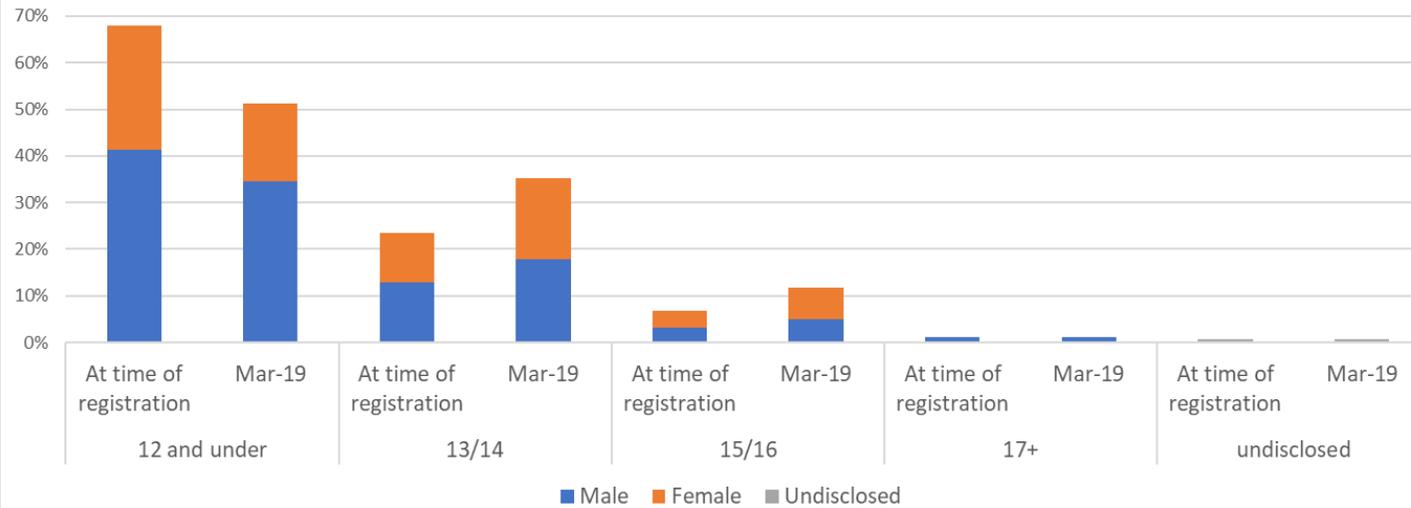
* includes sessions offered in Ryde prior to 147 opening in January 2018.

Young People Who Attended Sessions in this Financial Year



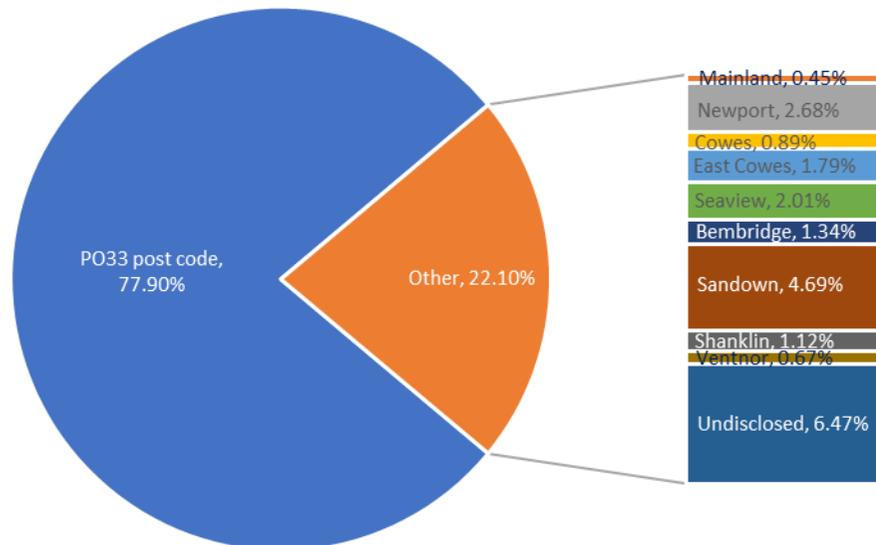
- The peak in young people registering with Network Ryde coincided with the start of the new school year, when Network Ryde staff gave assemblies at Ryde Academy and distributed flyers to other secondary schools.
- There continued to be a steady flow of registrations throughout the rest of the financial year.
- Young people choose how to declare their gender on the registration form, some choose to leave the field blank (undisclosed).

Gender Split & Age of Current Young People



- A snapshot of young people attending 147 in March 2019.
- There is a fairly equal gender split until age 17+.
- Some young people who were 11 when they registered are now 13, which partly explains the move towards the older age groups.
- Sessions such as DofE and the Wheatsheaf Trust are aimed at an older age group (14+ / 16+).

Location of Young People



- Just over 3/4 of the young people who attended Network Ryde sessions live in the Ryde postcode (PO33).
- Of those living outside PO33, most live in Sandown.
- A small number of young people live on the mainland and attended Network Ryde sessions while visiting the Island.
- 83% of young people registered with Network Ryde attend Ryde Academy, 10% are home educated, and 3% attend Christ the King. A smaller number attend Medina, Sandown Bay, St George's and the Island Learning Centre.

Sessions Offered in this Financial Year

Drop-in @ 147

Monday to Friday, after school, from 3-6pm. For young people in School Years 7-10.

The core sessions at 147, held every weekday afternoon. Young people can use the PCs and iPads, play together on the Xbox or Wii, play boardgames, use art materials, do their homework, or just hang out with their friends in a safe and supportive environment. Free toast (with hot chocolate / marmite / jam) is available, along with free hot / cold drinks.

Sessions are sometimes themed to tie in with local / national events, eg. offering pancakes and fresh fruit on pancake day instead of toast; delivering a presentation on online safety to tie in with Safer Internet Day; marking Valentine's Day by asking 'What do you love about yourself?'

Partner organisations are occasionally invited to talk to the young people and / or to ask their views, eg. the Youth Trust led a discussion on mental health as part of their mental health roadshow; Ryde Carnival and Shademakers talked about circus workshops and Ryde carnival; Arc led a consultation about what young people like / don't like about living in Ryde (to feed into a regeneration discussion).

Short Breaks Arts & Crafts @ 147

Monday evenings from 6.15-8pm. For young people (and their siblings) aged 13-16 who have an IW Council issued Gateway Card.

Short Breaks sessions are for young people with a disability and/or learning difficulty; these sessions are co-funded by the IW Council as part of their Short Breaks programme. Young people are assisted by an artist and a Youth Worker to take part in various arts and crafts activities including painting, mosaic, pop art, wool structures, models, etc. Following feedback from the young people attending, the sessions will change to a more general 'youth club' session for the next financial year.

STEPS - Wheatsheaf Trust @ 147

Tuesday mornings from 10am-1pm. For young people aged 16-25 who are not in employment, education or training (NEET).

1:1 support offered by the Wheatsheaf Trust. Young people not in employment, education or training are supported in gaining employment or training opportunities. There was a gap in delivery for several months due to a change in staffing at the Wheatsheaf Trust.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award @ 147

Occasional Wednesday evenings (6.15-8pm) and Saturdays / Sundays. For young people age 14+.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DofE) offers young people a programme of activities across four categories: volunteering, physical, skills and expedition. There are three Award levels (Bronze, Silver and Gold), which allow either stand-alone participation or progression. Network Ryde's DofE programme began in February 2018 with one Bronze group; 11 young people completed their Award over a period of 14 months.

In November / December 2018, a second intake of young people signed up to a newly expanded DofE programme with Network Ryde: 41 young people in total, with 28 doing their Bronze Award, 11 doing Silver and 2 undertaking Gold (in conjunction with the IW Council for their Gold expedition). Sessions are held at 147 and at outdoor venues across the Island (some arranged in partnership with Challenge and Adventure).

Home Educated drop-in @ 147

Thursday lunchtimes from 1pm-2.30pm, term-time only. For young people of secondary school age who are educated at home.

A lunchtime drop-in session for young people who are home educated; they can access all the equipment at 147 along with the boardgames and art materials. Free toast and drinks are on offer. Youth Workers support and are able to signpost to other organisations. A good opportunity to socialise with other young people.

Xbox and Wii Night / Year 10 Chill Out @ 147

Thursday evenings from 6.15-8pm. For young people in School Years 9-10.

The Xbox / Wii sessions were for older young people who wanted to socialise in real life with their friends while playing games consoles, rather than playing them online at home. Some of the young people who regularly attended organised FIFA tournaments for the group. After several months the numbers attending fell, so the young people were consulted about what they would like in its place: a 'chill out' session for Year 10 was set up as a result of their feedback.

CAP Art Project @ 147

A Saturday workshop + Tuesday evenings from 6.15-8pm. From October 2018 - January 2019. For young people living in Ryde and in School Years 9-13.

A collaborative project working with young people to produce artwork raising awareness of the harm that alcohol misuse can cause. The five artists, age 13-14 and residents of Ryde, produced their art over a ten-week period with weekly support at 147 from Youth Workers and local artist Jo Johnson. The resulting artwork shows the negative impact that alcohol can have on the person drinking, on family / friends and on people in the community. The art was displayed for several months at 147 alongside feedback from young people responding to its important message. The project was part of the Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP), established in Ryde in 2018. The CAP encourages local partnership working to tackle underage alcohol misuse and associated anti-social behaviour. The project was part-funded by the Local Alcohol Action Areas (LAAA) programme; a Home Office initiative aimed at reducing alcohol related crime / harm. After the exhibition at 147, the art was displayed at Ryde Academy and Ryde Library.

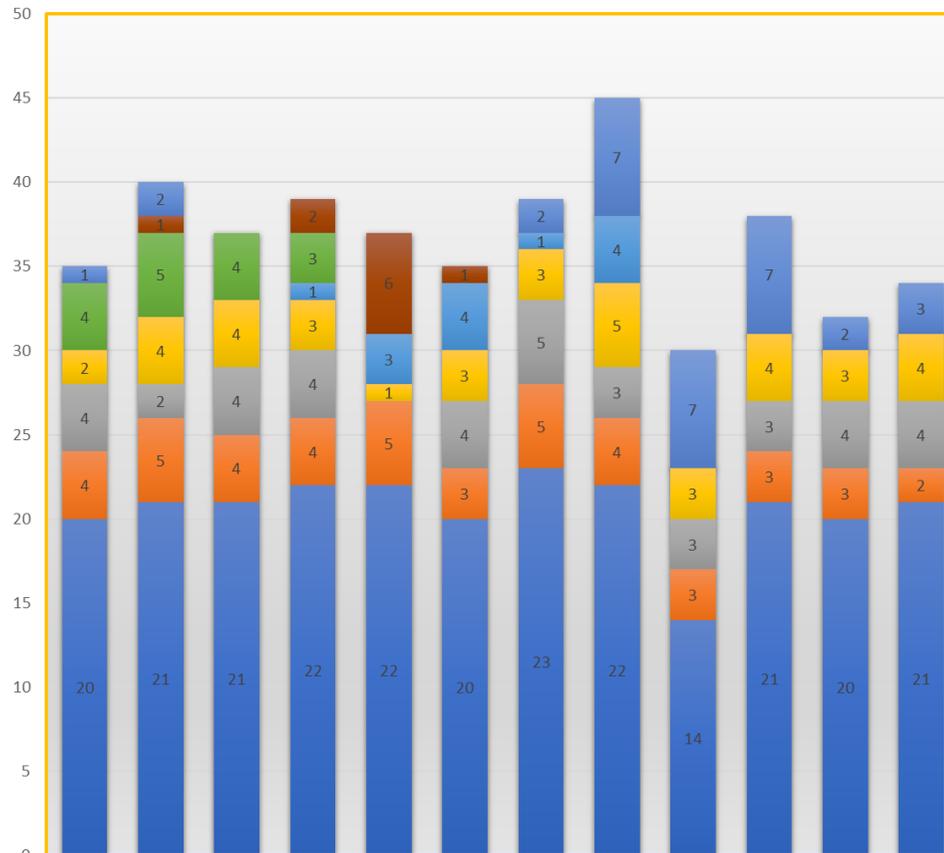
Skateboarding @ Ryde Skatepark

Sessions in the May half-term and through the summer holiday. Mixed ages.

The summer skateboarding sessions were run by John Cattle's Skate Club and mainly funded by Network Ryde, with a small donation from the IW Council's Sports Development Unit. They were part of a programme of summer skateboarding sessions across the Island; this was the third year that Ryde Town Council had been involved. The Ryde sessions ran weekly through the summer holidays; they were free to young people of all ages and all equipment was provided.

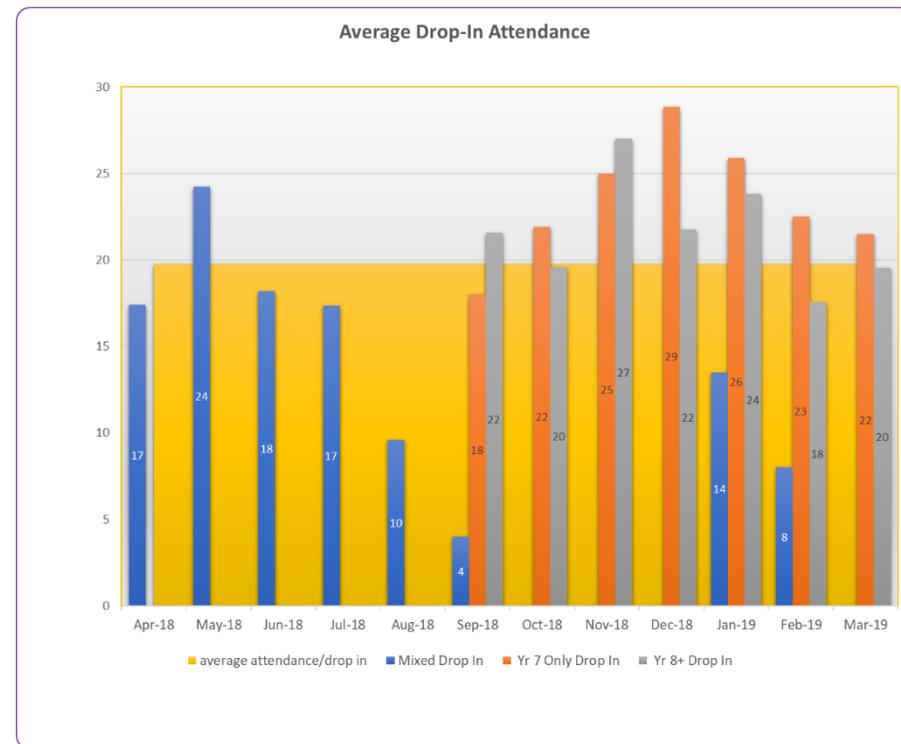
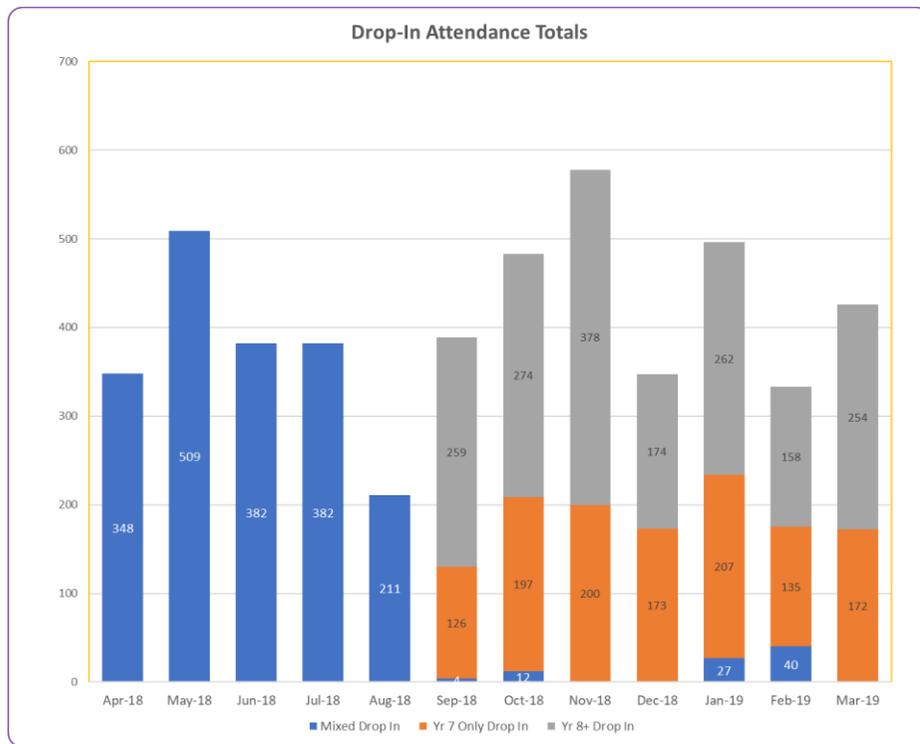
The May half-term sessions were run by John Cattle's Skate Club especially for Network Ryde. They were free to young people of secondary school age; all equipment was provided.

Sessions Offered



	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19
Other	1	2	0	0	0	0	2	7	7	7	2	3
Skate	0	1	0	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Xbox / Wii night	4	5	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yr 10+ Chill session	0	0	0	1	3	4	1	4	0	0	0	0
Home Ed	2	4	4	3	1	3	3	5	3	4	3	4
Short Breaks	4	2	4	4	0	4	5	3	3	3	4	4
D of E	4	5	4	4	5	3	5	4	3	3	3	2
Drop-In	20	21	21	22	22	20	23	22	14	21	20	21

- 444 sessions in total this financial year.
- Fewer sessions are offered in December due to 147 closing over Christmas.
- The Xbox / Wii night was replaced by the Year 10+ Chill Out session following feedback from young people.
- ‘Other’ sessions include:
 - 1:1 education/employment advice from the Wheatsheaf Trust
 - CAP Art Exhibition sessions about the dangers of alcohol misuse
 - A festive evening drop-in session to tie in with Ryde Business Association’s Christmas late night shopping event



- 247 after school drop-in sessions offered this financial year.
- ‘Attendance’ is the number of ticks to show young people’s attendance at a session; one young person may have attended 12 different sessions in one month, while another young person may only have attended twice that month.
- The capacity of the drop-in sessions at 147 is approximately 25 young people on the premises at the same time (depending on staff numbers and activity type). As the sessions are ‘drop-in’ the young people can come and go, so attendance can sometimes go above 30 young people in one session, as not all the young people are in at the same time.
- Drop-in sessions were originally offered for young people in School Years 7-10. At the beginning of the new school year in September 2018, there was not enough room for new Year 7 pupils to join the existing sessions, so the decision was made to separate drop-in sessions by Year groups: Year 7 on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Year 8-10 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- During school holidays the attendance numbers fall, so mixed Year group drop-ins are offered (Years 7-10 each day).
- Fewer sessions are offered in December due to 147 closing over Christmas.

Partnership Working and Referrals

Collaborative working and developing a 'Network' is an important part of Network Ryde's work in supporting young people. In this financial year:

- 183 sessions were offered in collaboration with partner organisations / other professionals (including Wheatsheaf Trust, IW Council, John Cattle's Skate Club, Community Alcohol Partnership, Arc, Youth Trust, Ryde Carnival, Shademakers and Challenge & Adventure).
- 48 referrals / contacts were made to professionals about safeguarding concerns (regarding the young people's wellbeing / welfare).
- 8 peer supervision sessions (monthly) were had with Barnardo's.

Impact Outcomes

The following impact outcomes (originally established as part of the IW Council's Youth Offer funding) have all been met in this financial year:

- Working with disadvantaged young people who participate and engage in sessions.
- Delivering safe and secure places for young people to go.
- Improving health, wellbeing and feeling / being safe.
- Improving young people's confidence and self-esteem.
- Supporting the delivery of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award.
- Contributing to improving young people's educational / training / employment outcomes.
- Improving young people's knowledge in relation to: sexual health, relationships, education, healthy eating, physical exercise, substance misuse, crime prevention, mental health, smoking cessation, life skills, equality and diversity, anti-bullying work, volunteering, housing support, etc.

Feedback from young people in this financial year:

'I like coming to 147 because....'

'I can have somewhere to go when it's cold instead of going home & being bored'

'It is fun and friendly! Everyone is kind. There are fun games to play and lots of things to do 😊'

'I like it and its chill. You get free Wi-Fi and toast. The workers are nice, good place to come after school'

'You get to relax and spend time with your mates and be happy'

'I make friends'

'The Youth Workers help me by....'

'Keeping me feeling safe'

'Talking to me'

'Keeping me out of trouble'

'Listening'

'Helping with DofE'

'147 provides me with....'

'Support and help when I need it'

'Somewhere safe and comforting/welcoming'

'A safe place to go! 😊'

'Support and advice for relationships and friendships'

'Food and good care'

'Someone to talk to'

'Without 147 I would be....'

'Lonely, sat on my bed on my own'

'Sad'

'Anti-social and always at home'

'Lost'

'Bored at home'

'Out in the cold'

'At home watching tv or at home, this place is really helpful for socialising'

'Getting [in] trouble'

General comments about 147

'I like it because I get to eat and play games'

'Because you can socialise with your friends and its FREE!'

'There is now a new shelf by the iPad which is really useful'

'147 is great as it's a cool place to socialise'

'147 is great, I have Wi-Fi'

'Network 147 is GREAT'

Feedback from parent/carers this financial year:

'Thank you for entertaining my son X on a Wednesday after school. He loves coming to Network Ryde. Thank you and Happy Christmas.'

Feedback from people who attended the 147 Open Day (March 2019)

'Such a great facility for the young people of Ryde. Amazing opportunity to socialise after school in a safe environment. Thank you very much.'

'Very good what you do for young people!'

'What a good idea! A welcoming venue – really for all ages. Can see why young people would be attracted to meet here – games, computers, etc.'

'A great place for young people in Ryde!'

'Appears a very positive place for young people – giving [...] a purpose to them. Well done! Looking around it seems to provide 'entertainment', refreshment but also social education and where to go for help.'

'Love this place. Every time I have visited it's busy with young people interacting with the staff. Noisy, chaotic but clearly somewhere the young people feel safe and happy to engage.'

'Seems a great place to be. The young people I spoke to said how much they enjoy coming here.'

'It is great! Everyone is friendly and kind.'

'A friendly environment. Lovely staff. I would happily recommend to friends and family to tell teenage children to come along.'

'Great place to hang out, good atmosphere.'

Feedback from partner organisations

‘Working in partnership with Network Ryde and Café 147 has grown from strength to strength. We regularly liaise regarding young people of Ryde and help and support each other’s settings to ensure all students are safe, happy members of the community. The staff are always very diligent in recognising the early warning signs of safeguarding concerns and always have time for the young people they interact with. As a link resource to the wider community Network Ryde are invaluable. Students love Café 147 and would access the resource even more if it was big enough. They speak of the resources, warm and clean environment, great staff (who they can talk to) and the toast and hot chocolate is a massive hit! It's proved so popular with the students that age groups have been split to ensure everyone can access the Café. A vital resource that can only be excellent value for money and funding well spent.’ **Will Doyle – Vice Principal, Ryde Academy**

‘Over the past seven months we have been working in partnership with Network Ryde providing peer supervision on a monthly basis. This has proved to be instrumental in ensuring that Children and Young People are able to reach their full potential and improve their long-term outcomes. Having this time has provided us with better knowledge and understanding of services that are available for Children and Young People and the referral pathway. It has helped in building a more cohesive community approach through united multi-agency practitioners taking greater ownership and responsibility for addressing local needs jointly, thus avoiding duplication or overlap of provision. This partnership working has offered mutual support, encouraging the exchange of ideas between practitioners and the sharing of expertise and knowledge. It has provided a broader perspective and has helped in improving understanding of the wider issues faced by families. There has been an increased level of trust between partners and I believe an increase in staff morale as they do not feel they are working in isolation. This collaborative working will go from strength to strength as we discuss and plan ways to move forward for the benefit of the whole community that we serve.’ **Sarah Riddick – Team Leader, Family Support, Barnardo’s**

‘Ryde Neighbourhood Policing Team and Network Ryde work together to a high standard; it is an excellent example of joint community working within Ryde. I look forward to working with the Network Ryde team in the future, they are a credit to Ryde Town Council.’ **PCSO Steve Hull – Child Centred Policing Youth Ambassador, Hampshire Constabulary**

‘I was first introduced to Network Ryde during the early stages of the Ryde Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP). A fundamental part of any CAP project is partnership working and the identifying organisations that deliver work that is key to the project having a positive result. All members of Network Ryde positioned partnership at the forefront of the work they delivered within the project and there was clear communication at all levels. The Ryde CAP and Network Ryde currently work together within the main CAP project with attendance to project steering group meetings, they will attend educational events where they have opportunity to share best practice and showcase their work. Most importantly is with education of young people and the provision of diversionary activities at their main office [147]. Ryde CAP are also able to signpost people to these activities. I had the opportunity to join Network Ryde at a couple of events and their skills and professionalism shone through at all times, I look forward to working with the team in the future with the Ryde CAP.’ **Matthew Knight – Regional Adviser, Community Alcohol Partnerships CIC (London)**

'The Rotary Club of Ryde has been privileged to provide support to the valuable work of 147, the hub of Network Ryde. The club has benefitted by gaining insight into the needs of young people in our community and to contribute skills, knowledge and on occasions; even money that has proved helpful in endeavouring to support this most excellent work. When the Youth Work Manager gave the club a presentation into the work of 147 the whole membership were enthralled and totally absorbed, as well as educated in the social changes in the lives of young people in our town. A visit to 147 by the Rotary District Governor ended with him saying: *"That was an excellent testimony of what communities could achieve in better understanding the needs of those communities, I wish that all Rotary clubs had the chance to participate in such far sighted and well thought out provision for young people".*' **Paul Ferguson – Community Service, Rotary Club of Ryde**

'The constitution of Ryde Arts emphasises the importance of fostering and enabling all Ryde residents to further their cultural enrichment by participating in a rich variety of art forms. Working with Network Ryde, Ryde Arts enjoys the collaborative challenge with both staff and young people to develop new and relevant ways to build a sustainable programme of events across the town; enabling the young people to take ownership, enhance their creativity and build a platform for sustainability and personal growth. Thank you, Ryde Town Council and Network Ryde, for providing a wonderful base for exciting ideas to grow.' **Carol Jaye – Chair, Ryde Arts**

'Since the opening of Network Ryde, a DofE evening has been an integral part of the local youth offer. Activities have been arranged with other community partners, and the young people have benefitted from interaction with those other than school peers. Recruitment of volunteers has been successful, and the current DofE team have a vast range of experience and knowledge to support the participants. The first recruits have now completed their Bronze Award and already registered for the Silver level. Far more participants are now regularly attending at the Bronze level. Local Guides and Scouts have also benefitted from the expeditions organised by the experienced leaders at Network Ryde. As a result, the DofE numbers are growing in Ryde. Free DofE training courses have been well attended by the Network Ryde team, and the enthusiasm of the leaders is infectious. The future is to recruit more Gold level participants and we look forward to hearing of the first Network Ryde achiever receiving his/her Gold certificate at St. James' Palace in the not too distant future.' **Carol Taverner – DofE Facilitator, Isle of Wight Council (DofE Operating Authority)**

Future Plans

Through Network Ryde and 147, Ryde Town Council is providing a much-needed service for young people; with a safe space to hang out and the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. Safeguarding the young people is an essential part of modern Youth Work, as is creating a collaborative Network from which young people – and their families – can be better supported. There is a need not just to continue the good work that has been started at Network Ryde, but also to build on this solid foundation to reach other young people in the town. This includes the different, and often difficult, approach of establishing a street-based, mobile service to engage with traditionally harder to reach young people who hang out on the street and in public areas, sometimes (not always) engaging in high risk and/or antisocial behaviour – this 'outreach' work would be an extension to the service already offered at 147. Successful outreach youth work requires considerable planning and investment, to ensure longevity and consistency for the young people and the Youth Workers. Developing an outreach programme at Network Ryde will require additional funding. This is part of the strategic planning for Network Ryde's future.

