

## **The Review**

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## **The Report**

### **Introduction**

In the summer of 2003, the Regional Youth Work Unit was awarded the commission to carry out a review of services to Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) young people living in North Tyneside. This was partly due to the Unit's commitment to the participation of young people in the planning, delivery and evaluation of young people's services, and also because of its recent experience of carrying out a similar piece of work for Newcastle City Councils Play and Youth Service.

The work that had been carried out in Newcastle had an impact on the approach that the Regional Youth Work Unit took in developing this piece of work for North Tyneside. Central to both reviews has been the commitment to hearing the views of BME young people, and to young people themselves carrying out the research. In both instances, BME young people were recruited and trained to be peer researchers, who then participated by carrying out research sessions in schools, young people's projects and street environments. Meetings have been held with organisations across the borough who have been working with BME young people, (including asylum seekers and refugees), in order to ascertain the opinions of those using existing services regarding existing resources. The work carried out by the review team and the peer researchers has been complemented by observations and analysis of the current situation made by practitioners in the statutory youth service and the voluntary sector. Consultation has taken place involving youth workers from across the borough in order to explore barriers that may exist to the development of services, and to involve them in drawing up recommendations that may come out of the review.

This report is the culmination of this consultation with young people, with practitioners and with managers of youth services, from the statutory and the voluntary sector, in North Tyneside. It is anticipated that this review will form the foundations for developing improved access and better services for BME young people in North Tyneside.

## **The Brief**

The aim of this research has been to review services to Black and Minority Ethnic young people in North Tyneside.

Its terms of reference have been to:

- Identify current provision for young BME young people in North Tyneside
- Consult BME young people in youth projects and schools about what they would like to see develop
- Contact young people who are not in touch with existing services, via a street questionnaire
- Identify gaps in provision with North Tyneside youth workers and consider ways that services may be developed to meet identified need.

The process used for the review mapped the current provision available for BME young people, involved BME young people in the consultation of BME young people, and reflects the views of practitioners working within the youth service. Definitions used in The Review are contained in Appendix 1.

## **Background**

### **Relevant Reports**

This review of services to BME young people was commissioned as a result of a number of issues that had arisen in North Tyneside over the last few years. North Tyneside Youth Service was inspected by Ofsted from January to March 2001. Ofsted reported that the Youth Service mission statement identifies youth work in North Tyneside as “supporting young people in their transition from childhood to adulthood, encourages their social development and individual fulfilment, and helps them engage fully in society.” It states that the work is concerned “primarily with young people’s personal and social development within the context of equality of opportunity, and strives to treat young people as partners in learning and decision making.” The service prioritises the age group 13 – 19 years.

The Ofsted report, while identifying significant weaknesses in the service, comments that it has one of the lowest budgets in the country and “deserves credit for being able to achieve so much from what is an extremely low level of resource.” It is within this framework that the development of youth work with BME communities must be considered.

In the Ofsted report there are a number of observations and comments that can provide a context to the review of youth services to BME young people in North Tyneside.

- No targeted work is undertaken with young people from minority ethnic groups
- Data concerning the participation of young people from ethnic minorities are not recorded as part of the Youth Services Management Information Systems
- Creative arts and cultural diversity themes are underdeveloped
- Consultation with young people has been limited.

The report recommended that a priority for action was the implementation of a “borough wide needs assessment, statistical analysis, data collection and monitoring system.... to be put in place.” Ofsted commented that the lack of an assessment of need resulted in “significant gaps amongst those (young people) attending.....most particularly young people of minority ethnic heritage.”

Following the publication of the Ofsted report, North Tyneside prioritised a number of developments in order to improve its youth service. A consultation involving BME young people on services for BME young people was one such development.

Approximately one year later, in January 2002, a report was published by JTN Consultancy, on a ‘Review of Policies and Practices in relation to Equal Opportunities for Minority Ethnic Staff and Service Users.’ This report was the result of another North Tyneside review, following concerns raised by the former Black Employees Focus Group on the number of Black employees facing disciplinary action and/or seeking redress by having their complaints against the Council heard by the Employment Tribunal. Whilst this review focussed on issues for the whole council, JTN commented in their report that they “did not get a sense that they.... [departments within the Council].... were connected with minority ethnic community based organisations in any organic way.” They also commented that Leisure and Community Education (including the youth service) were “not focussed, both in respect of social inclusion and equality of opportunity.” They observed that, “not enough attention is paid, for example, to the barriers constraining BME people from accessing and progressing within these services.” One of their recommendations was to develop appropriate mechanisms for effecting genuine consultation with BME user groups and communities.

## Political and Social Context

In order to establish the review for Newcastle upon Tyne firmly in a political and social framework, thorough research was carried out into relevant policy and legislation. This documentation is relevant to the situation in North Tyneside, and provides a landscape for work with BME young people to take place. This section of the review is attributed to the research carried out for Newcastle upon Tyne.

*“Minority ethnic communities experience a double disadvantage. They are disproportionately concentrated in deprived areas. .... people from minority ethnic communities also suffer the consequences of racial discrimination; services that fail to reach them or meet their needs; and language and cultural barriers in gaining access to information and services.”*

(Social Exclusion Report 1999)

In February of this year, David Blunkett, Britain’s Home Secretary, warned that our society is *‘like a coiled spring’* where the tensions and frustrations could spill over into *‘the disintegration of community relations and social cohesion’* and Britain could *‘tip into a situation we could not control.’*

*‘There are now more than 5 million people from different ethnic communities living in multicultural Britain – more than the population of Ireland. ... Black and Minority Ethnic groups as a whole...tend to be considerably younger than the population at large - the median age of whites is 37, that of Afro-Caribbean’s 33, Indians 31 and Bangladeshis 18, and ...the majority of ethnic communities live in cities.’*

(Race in Britain - Observer 2001)

The above statements raise three key themes evident in the relationship between ethnicity and the development of youth services:

- Barriers exist which prevent BME communities from accessing services and information which meet their diverse needs
- Tensions are emerging within communities which face deprivation and socio-economic disadvantage
- The various BME groups are not homogeneous and are made up of a growing population of young people.

The issues facing British society are complex. Over recent years, many urban areas in particular have experienced tremendous change in their local populations. These changes have not always impacted positively on all sections of the community. Relationships between varying cultural communities have been deteriorating. However, racial tensions have not necessarily been greatest in the cities with the largest ethnic populations, but rather in those areas (particularly in the North West) which contain high levels of internal ethnic segregation.

The disturbances in the summer of 2001 in Burnley, Oldham and Bradford revealed huge divisions between communities. Such divisions are not unique to these particular areas. Government-commissioned reports into the causes of the civil unrest identified

that in these areas there was very little interaction between individuals of different cultural, religious and racial backgrounds. These towns are in danger of becoming fragmented, as different communities lead parallel lives, unengaged with each other.

A ministerial group on Public Order and Community Cohesion examined how national policies might be used to promote better community cohesion. Community Cohesion was identified as being crucial to promoting greater knowledge, respect and contact between various cultures and to establish a greater sense of citizenship. The stress placed in the government reports (The Cattle Review of Oldham and the Ousley Review of Bradford) was the need for citizenship education, identification and recognition of shared values, rights and responsibilities. Racism and religious bigotry must be tackled in order to build cohesive communities.

A cohesive community has been defined as one where:

- there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities;
- the diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances is appreciated and positively valued;
- those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities;
- strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods.

However, evidence of what is actually working in transforming fragmented communities into cohesive ones is still scarce.

The McPherson Inquiry (named after the Chair of the Inquiry, Sir William McPherson of Cluny) was set up in 1997 to inquire into matters arising from the death of Stephen Lawrence. It reported in 1999. Its main purpose was to identify lessons to be learned from the investigation and the prosecution of racially motivated crimes. The Report describes a wide range of detailed measures to achieve institutional change within agencies that will ensure that they are providing an *'appropriate and professional service'* to all sections of the community.

The McPherson report refers to multi agency partnerships that have been effective in combating racism. But, the Report highlights the need for greater cooperation between agencies, especially in collating, recording and exchanging information. The Report acknowledges the key role that education can play in eradicating racism. It recommends that local authorities, in creating strategies under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 should *'consider implementing community initiatives aimed at promoting cultural diversity and addressing racism, and the need for focused, consistent support for such initiatives.'*

It is essential for any strategy developing work around these themes to identify which legislation and legal statute is particularly relevant to the issues facing Black and Minority Ethnic communities. The murder of Stephen Lawrence and the disturbances in 2001 in Burnley, Oldham and Bradford have highlighted both the level of institutional

racism prevalent in some public services and the tensions that exist in many urban communities.

Recommendations from the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report persuaded the Home Secretary to implement The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 Act. This Act outlaws racial discrimination in public authority functions not previously covered by the 1976 Race Relations Act. ('Public authority' has been defined widely for this purpose.) This means that, backed by a legal framework, the police, local authorities or tax inspectors are for the first time subject to race discrimination laws. Certain public appointments, the termination and the terms and conditions of public appointments are also subject for the first time to race discrimination laws, as is the implementation of Government policies and services across the board. The Act also places a general duty on public authorities to work towards the elimination of unlawful discrimination and promote equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups. The Act came into force on April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2001

Equally important is the Local Government Act 2000, the aim of which is to enable people to participate in shaping their local communities and to secure better provision and delivery of local services. This includes funding support for local groups. The Local Government Act gives councils new powers to promote or improve the socio-economic or environmental well-being of their area. Councils will be required to prepare community strategies with local strategic partnerships and fully to involve local people in the process. Therefore strategic multi agency working and greater cohesion and coherence at a local level are crucial.

Objectives of the community strategy are to:

- Allow local communities (based on geography and/or interest) to articulate their aspirations, needs and priorities
- Coordinate the actions of the council, and of the public, private, voluntary, and community organizations that operate locally
- Focus and shape existing and future activities of those organisations that effectively meet community needs and aspirations
- Contribute to the achievements of sustainable developments.

In analysing the political context for Black and Minority Ethnic communities, it is important to consider the issues facing asylum seekers and refugees separately.

There has been a significant increase in the number of separated asylum-seeking children arriving in the UK in recent years, from 631 in 1996 to 8,500 in 2003. Once in England, the support and care these young people receive can be a lottery and separated children face many difficulties, including poor housing, emotional health problems, social isolation, difficulties in accessing mainstream services and confusion throughout asylum application procedures.

Policy governing the rights and welfare of asylum seekers and refugees in the UK is complex and ever changing. In 1999, the Home Office stated that: *'Integration is not only essential for refugees themselves, but also in the wider context of the Government's policies on social exclusion generally, community and race relations.'* In the same year, however, a consultation paper on 'The Integration of Recognised Refugees' was dominated by themes of control and dispersal, with very little reference to social integration and support at all.

The UK Government has ratified the 1951 UN Convention on the status of refugees which binds it to provide protection to refugees. In 1991 the Government signed and ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). However, the Government has reserved the right not to apply the UNCRC to asylum-seeking and other non-citizen children. This reservation clearly discriminates against asylum-seeking and refugee children, and means that there are discrepancies in the Government's responsibilities towards asylum-seeking children and its commitment to social inclusion.

The most recent Act governing immigration and asylum policy is the Nationality, Immigration and Asylum Act 2002, which has substantially reformed nationality, immigration and asylum policy. This policy has had huge implications for asylum-seekers who have no say in where they end up, and has led to many feeling isolated and having problems accessing crucial services. It has also had a great impact on the host communities where the newly-arrived asylum-seekers are placed, and makes the co-ordination and development of effective integration policies increasingly important.

In April 2000, The Social Exclusion Unit published 'A National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal: a Framework for Consultation'. This report focused on Britain's deprived neighbourhoods - the areas most likely to be receiving asylum seekers

and refugees under the new dispersal policies. It is a source of consternation that asylum seekers are not mentioned in a single one of the report's 600 recommendations. Similarly the DfEE (and the Social Exclusion Unit) have issued a number of reports on the position of young people and specifically on the future shape of the Youth services. Here too, there is no mention of asylum seekers and refugees.

It is clear that there is a lack of joined-up policy for asylum-seeking and refugee children within central Government. Any decisions about the rights and welfare of this vulnerable group are passed onto the Home Office, and so little has been done to develop policies for the social integration of asylum seekers and those who have been given leave to stay.

### **Good practice**

In order to build stronger communities for all and to improve services to BME young people (including asylum seekers and refugees), it is crucial that some core principles are followed. The Government's Children and Young People's Unit have issued a useful guidance document 'Learning to Listen: Core principles for the investment of Children and Young People'.

Involving children and young people in the planning, delivery and evaluation of government services brings benefits. The effectiveness of services depends on listening and responding to customers. Giving children and young people an active say in how policies and services are developed, provided, evaluated and improved should ensure that policies and services more genuinely meet their needs. Listening to disadvantaged young people is a powerful means of persuading them that they count and can contribute.

The development of services to BME young people must include young people's views. In this way, services can be tailored to meet real, rather than presumed need.

## The Local Situation

North Tyneside, one of the five metropolitan districts that comprise the area Tyne and Wear, covers an area of 84 square kilometres. In the 2001 census the population of the borough was recorded to be 191,659 with a minority population of about 1.8 percent. This compares with its neighbours Newcastle, which has a BME population of 6.9%, and South Tyneside which has a BME population of 2.5 % according to the 2001 Census.

**Table 1: North Tyneside Ethnic composition (2001)**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>% of population</b>
White: British	96.96
White: Irish	0.3
White: Other white	0.82
Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	0.11
Mixed: White and Black African	0.09
Mixed: White and Asian	0.17
Mixed : Other mixed	0.11
Asian or Asian British: Indian	0.34
Asian or Asian British: Pakistani	0.09
Asian or Asian British: Bangladeshi	0.26
Asian or Asian British: Other Asian	0.06
Black or Black British: Caribbean	0.03
Black or Black British: African	0.14
Black or Black British: Other Black	0.01
Chinese or other Ethnic Group: Chinese	0.36
Chinese or other Ethnic Group: Other Ethnic Group	0.14

Source: National Statistics website [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

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In standard output, the most detailed classification used is the above 16 groups. The census ethnic group question records each person's perceived ethnic group and cultural background. The largest minority population in North Tyneside is categorised as 'White: other white' who effectively make up 0.82% of the boroughs population. This category, 'White: other white' may include asylum seekers, refugees, foreign students, or white British people of European or other ancestry. The second, third and fourth largest minority groups in North Tyneside are Chinese (0.36%) Indian (0.34%) and Bangladeshi (0.26%). These four ethnic groups are quite evenly placed across the borough in relatively small numbers. (See Appendix 2)

Whitley Bay has the largest BME community of 534 people, constituting approximately 5.87% of its total population. (This does not include those who categorise themselves as White: Irish). Holystone, North Shields, Northumberland, Riverside, Seatonville,

Tynemouth and Wallsend also have significant BME population of over 300 inhabitants, with roughly between 3 and 4% of these wards being made up of BME communities.

During the last two years, there have also been significant changes in the makeup of the population, particularly concerning the increase in refugees and asylum seekers in the area. There are no accurate statistics available, either from the Home Office or the Refugee Council on how many refugees and asylum seekers are living in North Tyneside. The Census does not enable us to gain a truer picture as it classifies asylum seekers by ethnicity and not status. However, NECASS were able to confirm that, in July 2003 they had housed 426 people in supported NECASS accommodation in the borough. This figure, incidentally, only relates to those asylum seekers who are still awaiting a decision on their asylum application, and are living in accommodation provided through NASS. It therefore, does not include those asylum seekers who are supporting themselves privately whilst awaiting a decision, or those who are now refugees ( have got a decision and refugee status) or those who have had all NASS support terminated because they have had a final negative decision, but have not yet been deported.

The figures from NECASS indicate that 426 have arrived from 41 different countries from across the world. Significant numbers have arrived from Iran (76), the Czech republic (63), Albania (38), Russia (26) Afghanistan (24) and Iraq (24). Some of these are families, some of them young people, and some of them individuals over the age of 25. The figures from NECASS do not allow us to determine the age of all asylum seekers that have been re-housed in North Tyneside. They only give us the age of the head of the family and, if living by themselves, the age of that individual. However, these figures do demonstrate that asylum seekers and refugees are moving into the area in significant numbers, and need to be considered in terms of appropriate service delivery. Out of 426 asylum seekers in the borough, 304 are living in Wallsend and 120 are living in North Shields. (2 have been moved into accommodation in Newcastle upon Tyne). Whilst again it is not possible to ascertain how many are aged between 13 and 25 years old, this information does enable us to deduce that asylum seekers and refugees are being re-housed in areas where existing residents have multiple needs and tensions already exist. The policy of dispersal has meant that those who are most vulnerable and fleeing violence and torture in their own countries are likely to end up in Britain's most deprived neighbourhoods, where creating a strong cohesive community and a sense of belonging will require some investment, time and commitment.

The priorities for the youth service are to work with 13 – 19 year olds. Census statistics here do not allow the actual number of BME young people within these specific age groups to be determined. In the 2001 Census, the overall population age range is recorded as follows:

**Table 2: Age Range of Population of North Tyneside**

Age range	Total	Males	Females
10 – 14	12355	6304	6051
20 – 24	11053	5453	5600
20 – 24	9749	4807	4942

Assuming that over 3% of this population of young people will be from BME communities,( and as BME people tend to be considerably younger than the population at large) this means that there are at the very least 1000 BME young people aged between 10 – 24 in North Tyneside at the time of the 2001 census.

### **Methods of Research**

In December 2002, Newcastle City Councils Play and Youth Service commissioned the Regional Youth Work Unit and Save the Children to carry out a review of services to Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) young people. In order to do this, the review team recruited 22 young people to become ‘peer researchers’ all of whom were aged between 15 and 25 years old. The purpose of recruiting these researchers was to ensure that young people were at the heart of the review and to enable young people themselves to be at the centre of researching the needs of their peers.

To carry out a review of services for BME young people in North Tyneside, it was decided to use some of the skills and expertise gained from the Newcastle experience. The review team consisted of a fully qualified and experienced youth and community worker, working alongside one of the young BME researchers, who had some experience of youth work, and many contacts of BME young people in North Tyneside. In addition, 4 more of the young BME peer researchers were recruited to carry out this consultation with BME young people. This group of four, all aged over 16, came from a diverse cross section of ethnic communities; two of them were asylum seekers from Kenya and Rwanda, one of them was Vietnamese, and one Bangladeshi. A mixed gender balance was sought and the review team consisted of 4 females and two males in total. Throughout the review, the peer researchers were accompanied by a youth and community worker at all times.

To gain as broad a picture as possible of services to BME young people, the review team employed a number of methods to gather information and views. The peer researchers had been trained in various research methods, including participatory appraisal techniques (visual community research tools, such as spider diagrams and H forms) and we were able to use these tools in situations where we had a considerable amount of time to spend with the young people. We also used questionnaires, focus groups and individual interviews. Questionnaires were particularly appropriate to street settings;

participatory appraisal techniques for work in projects and schools; focus groups and individual interviews for hearing the views of key practitioners and managers.

Combining different types of data, methods and approaches within a single research piece is termed Triangulation and is common when gathering views and opinions from different sources and stakeholders. By using this variety of methods we were able to gather a considerable body of information to inform the reviews' final recommendations.

## **Consulting Young People**

A critical part of the review has been to listen to the views of BME young people in North Tyneside. Equally important has been the involvement of young people in researching the needs of their peers. Throughout the review, the team made contact with BME young people using a variety of methods across the area of North Tyneside. An analysis was made of projects that were working with BME young people and contact was established with these projects, in order to communicate with the young people directly. We were able to meet with a group of young asylum seekers and refugees using Battle Hill Community Centre, and had been involved in a number of different initiatives, mainly around drama and dance. Contact was made with a number of schools across the borough and we were able to carry out a session with 9 young people from John Spence Community High School in North Shields. We also visited Motive 8 and talked to one young woman who had recently completed a residential training programme in preparation for overseas volunteering.

All other contacts that we made with BME young people came from street sessions where we talked to young people in street environments, cafes, sports facilities, leisure facilities or informal groupings of young people. We worked closely with a group of young Asian men who lived mainly in the coastal area of the borough, the majority of whom met to play football together at Marden Bridge High School and also with a group of Asian young women, who were a friendship group but had no meeting place or methods of meeting together other than at each others houses. An arrangement was made to meet a group of 12 Bangladeshi young men (aged between 15 -20) in a café in Whitley Bay and we also met up with a group of about 22 BME young people on a trip to a bowling alley. We also carried out 8 street sessions in Wallsend, North Shields, Whitley Bay, near North Tyneside College and the wards of Collingwood and Northumberland the ward neighbouring Wallsend. The review team also made visits to a number of other projects in the area, including, Northumbria Youth Action Project, and Wallsend Peoples Centre.

## Projects, Schools and informal gatherings

Using participatory research methods we were able to gather the views of young people in two projects, a school and 2 informal 'friendship' groups. We consulted with 30 young people using these methods of research; 11 young women and 19 young men.

- At **John Spence High School, North Shields**, we talked to 9 young people; 4 females and 5 males, all aged between 13 and 15 years old. 4 of the young people were Bangladeshi, 2 Indian, one was Zimbabwean and 2 mixed race. (Appendix 3)
- At Motive 8, we consulted with 1 young woman, aged 18 who was from the Philippines. (Appendix 4)
- At Battle Hill Community Centre, we talked to four young people, aged between 12 and 14 years old, two males and two females. Two of the young people were Albanian, one was Kosovan and one was from Azerbaijan. All of this group were either asylum seekers or refugees. ( Appendix 5)
- At the Grapes Café in Whitley Bay we talked to 12 young men, aged between 15 and 22 years old, all of whom were Bangladeshi(Appendix 6)
- In Park Parade in Whitley Bay we contacted four young women aged between 15 and 23 ; all of Bangladeshi origin.( Appendix 7)
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There were a number of common themes that came out of the research from all of these groups of BME young people.

- Very few of the young people were involved in any youth provision in their area. (Only 5 of young people throughout the research were contacted within existing youth provision. These 5 were from The Battle Hill group and Motive 8, and they were part of their youth groups whilst they were being researched). One of the young people from John Spence Community High School used to attend a youth club next to the police station in North Shields, but did not go there now. All of the other young people contacted did not presently use any existing youth provision.
- Lack of Information about what was available in the area was raised on numerous occasions. The young people were also not sure about where they could find out about things happening in their area. It was felt by some that by increasing publicity locally about what was available it would have a high impact on BME young peoples use of services and this would be quite easy to implement.
- Distance and travel were a common theme. It was felt that there were quite a lot of things happening in Newcastle but either it was too far or too expensive to travel to. Cost of public transport was mentioned and it was felt that the more rural areas have a poor public transport system, therefore have an additional barrier. It was suggested that support could be provided for BME young people to use existing services in the form of a minibus –a pick up and drop off service. This was particularly crucial for the young Asian women in Whitley Bay. ( See

Appendix 7) A number of young Bangladeshi men would like to be involved in a Mela' close to home'.

- Racism was a key reason for BME young people not being able to get involved in youth services. Some of the young people felt that very little was being done about racist attitudes and it was expressed that there were no Black projects or workers to enable BME young people to feel more confident and less fearful. There was also an issue about the external environment preventing young people from accessing youth provision, i.e. that they did not feel safe. One 17 year old male said "(From) Percy Main and the Meadowell area we get a lot of abuse" and that "Scottish people who visit Whitley Bay are found to be racist". For the young Bangladeshi women they felt that "Lots of drunken people in the streets of Whitley Bay will stop us from going out at night" and they feared "White girls, charvas and sluts" attacking them or giving them abuse. Some of the BME young men felt that leisure places, like amusement arcades were very intimidating places. They commented that "The amusements on the seafront are far too intimidating for us to use due to charvas hanging out." They decided to approach this problem by hanging out in groups of fours or fives so that "you always have back up". Solutions to other racist incidents included exclusion straight away from a club for anyone being racist; introduce more Asian and Black people to existing projects, and have specific sports clubs for Black young people. From two of these groups, the failure of the police to do anything about racist incidents further prevented them from getting involved. . "Police don't do anything, neither do the teachers" said one young Indian male. Another young male Bangladeshi suggested that it might be an idea to " meet up with police and get to know them better...introduce them to the sporting events that we organise and organise something together would be a positive way of breaking down some of the apprehension and hostility that some BME young people may have."
- Parents not allowing young people to take part in out of school activities were discussed at three of the sessions that we had. It was particularly crucial for the young Bangladeshi women from Whitley Bay that timings of activities and groups were negotiated with their parents. We "can't be out too late... (the) perfect time is Sundays or the Summer time...not on Saturdays or Fridays," said one 15 year old girl. This group were insistent that there might be people around who would disapprove. "Some men and women (religious people) would say that girls should not go dancing or play football.... but we want to do these things." They also felt that having a club in Whitley Bay might prevent them from getting involved as "people would recognise us." It was suggested that there were a number of things that might encourage parental support: if there were pick-up and drop-off services; if parents could come and see what their children were getting involved in; and if youth workers talked to parents about what they were hoping and planning on organising with the young people. The Bangladeshi young women stressed that, "Parents must have information in the form of a letter" stating the nature of the activity and where it would take place, and, if events were to take place in the evenings, they must be back home before 9pm.

- Cost also became a barrier particularly for those who wanted to get involved in sport and playing football who felt that it was really expensive to book football pitches. Cost appeared to be an issue for all of the BME groups that we spoke to.

The review team asked what they would like to see developed in North Tyneside. There were a huge variety of ideas for projects that these young people would like to be involved in if they had the opportunity. (See Appendix 3 - 7)

- The Bangladeshi young women were particularly keen to be involved in things that focussed around learning (learning and understanding Arabic, reading books, learning to drive, help with applying for jobs) and creative projects (painting, drawing, textiles, cooking, making clothes etc). They were keen to have a space where they could talk, "...a private area where girls can go to, to talk about their problems or get advice and a confidential, listening ear." They also had a desire to get involved in sporting activities - something that they often felt excluded from. They wanted "sport for Asian women – football, dancing, basketball, tennis, rounders, indoor hockey, swimming" but one young woman said that she "can't show my body though" and that "leisure centres must accept this." Interestingly football was mentioned by a number of the Bangladeshi young women. They also would like the opportunity to travel and visit places – London, Glasgow, art galleries were examples that they gave.
- The young Bangladeshi men had many ideas for things that they would like to see develop, but it was important for them to become "part of setting something up and... [getting involved in]... organising it". They wanted to become part of setting up a new project for BME young people, where there was easy access and no racism. The place would have music facilities where they could make and record their own music, listen to music, have access to internet and technology systems, drama and video work and a "chill out [place] and somewhere to be."
- The young people from John Spence High School wanted specific organised activities, camping, go carts, trips and days out, the opportunity to play more sports, DJing and also the opportunity to learn to drive again was raised as an issue.
- The young asylum seekers and refugees at Battle Hill Community Centre appeared to lay an emphasis on mixed gender and mixed cultural groups to come together. They were also keen to get involved in more sporting activities including football, tennis and trampolining and the opportunity to dance.
- The young woman from Motive 8 wanted to encourage the involvement of BME young people in Motive 8 and fundraise for people to volunteer abroad. She wanted the opportunity to be involved in "extreme sports" and would like to see the development of a young people's community radio channel in North Tyneside.
- Out of the five groups visited, 3 of them expressed an interest in being involved in a multi-cultural centre that would provide a venue and activities for different BME communities to come together.

What became evident out of these discussions was that there are a huge variety of needs that BME young people have, but that many of these needs are exactly the same as those of 'other' young people who live in North Tyneside. In short, BME young people wanted to be involved in the same things that most white young people get involved in but would like the experience to be free from racist abuse and to be able to be free from the fear of it.

### **Street Settings**

Using the method of consultation of a questionnaire we were able to gather the views of 55 young people. (See Appendix 8) At varied times throughout the day, the researchers contacted young people in street settings; in shopping centres and malls, leaving metro stations, in college grounds, leaving school, in leisure facilities and going about their daily business. In most instances, young people were keen to talk to the researchers and contributions to the review have been constructive. This method of research enabled BME young people who had no contact with existing services to have an input into the recommendations.

**Table 3: Areas of research**

Area of research	Number of Contacts
Whitley Bay	28
Battle Hill and Collingwood	5
Wallsend and Northumberland	3
North Shields	17
Benton XS Bowling	2

The areas we prioritised were those where we felt we would be able to make contact with BME young people. However it can be said that BME young people are not very visible in North Tyneside and contact through this method was not particularly easy. However, we did meet a group of young Bangladeshi boys at XS Bowling. They met as a team building event to discuss setting up their own projects as an after school club.

**Table 4: Age and Gender of young people contacted**

Age group	Male	Female	Total in age group
Under 13	1	1	2
13 - 15	12	7	19
16 - 19	11	3	14
20 - 25	14	1	15
Over 25	5	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>55</b>

This table demonstrates that we were able to contact 43 young men via street questionnaires, and 12 young women. This figure would suggest that young BME young women are not in evidence and easy to contact via standard methods of research and that in order to develop youth work services with BME young women further exploration must take place concerning establishing contact with young women.

**Table 5: Identified ethnic group of those contacted via the questionnaire**

Albanian	2
Asian – other	1
Azerbaijani	2
Bangladeshi	29
Black African	2
English	1
Ethiopian	1
Indian	4
Iranian	1
Kenyan	1
Kosovan	1
Mixed race	2
Mongolian	1
Moroccan	2
Muslim	1
Pakistani	3
Zimbabwean	1

We asked young people to describe the ethnic group that they perceived that they belonged to. Young people identified that they belonged to 17 different ethnic groupings, whilst the majority we were able to contact in the street environment were from Bangladesh. Most of these Bangladeshi young people we contacted were in the vicinity of Whitley Bay. Other young people identified themselves as being Indian, Pakistani, Albanian, Moroccan, Black African, Azerbaijani and mixed race. It is interesting to note that despite numerous attempts to contact young Chinese people, by walking around the area where they live and the areas that they are likely to visit, by contacting local councillors and youth projects in the area, and by contacting local businesses, we were unable to canvas their views for this review. This ethnic group is the largest in North Tyneside with significant numbers, 219 living in the ward of Northumberland. This constitutes 1.91% of the ward's population. The researchers did not feel it was appropriate to identify status of the individual young people interviewed therefore it is not possible to determine how many of the young people contacted via this method were refugees or asylum seekers.

**Table 6 : Area where the BME young people live**

<b>Area where young people live</b>	<b>Number of young people</b>
Battle Hill	4
Benton	1
Killingworth	1
North Shields	15
Seatonville	1
Tynemouth	2
Wallsend	5
Whitley Bay	25

The review team asked the young people where they lived. The top answer was Whitley Bay, with 25 of the young people living in this town; the second highest answer was North Shields. It is therefore, evident that, of the young people we were able to establish contact with in street settings, the majority came from the coastal region. This point is worth taking into account when considering the development of projects aiming to work with BME communities.

### ***Use of existing services in North Tyneside***

Out of the 55 young people that we contacted via the questionnaire, 35 of the respondents did not get involved in any youth provision at all. 6 young women, (50% of our cohort) said that they were currently involved in youth activities whilst 14 young men (approximately 33%) said that they were currently using 'services' in the borough or elsewhere. Therefore 36% of our respondents contacted through street settings are using some kind of 'service' which supports young people, either from the statutory, the voluntary or the community sector.

### ***Services used by BME young people***

The young people themselves identified that they used:

- Northumbria Youth Action
- Whitley Bay Football Academy
- Roshni
- Careers Centre
- Learning Disabilities Federation
- Refugee Project
- Whitley Bay Boys Club
- Princes Trust Development Training Project
- Motive 8
- Rally International
- Battle Hill Community Centre
- Wallsend Peoples Centre
- After School Football Team

The only project that was used by more than one respondent was Wallsend Peoples Centre, where two people confirmed that they had used this centre at some time in their life.

### ***Aspects that BME young people enjoyed about projects they used***

We asked young people about the particular aspects they enjoyed about the projects that they used.

- One of the most important reasons for BME using youth projects or services was that they liked talking and meeting with friends. 14 of the young people expressed that this was important to them. Interestingly this was important to 5 out of the 6 young women who were using existing services.
- Getting involved in activities was equally important to the respondents, with again 14 young respondents prioritising this. This was important to 3 of the young women.
- 9 young people felt that it was necessary for the project to be close to home (2 young women felt that this was particularly important to them) and equally, 9 young people used the projects that they did because of their relationship with staff and workers.
- 6 young people felt that it was important for the activities and project entry to be free, and 1 male and 1 female felt that it was important for them to be involved in single gender work. They specifically attended youth projects because this was the case.
- Other reasons that young people used particular projects included: wanting to be involved in specific activities, e.g. football; training opportunities; good sports facilities; access to IT and computers; and the opportunity and chance to make contact with white workers.

***Table 7: Barriers to using existing projects***

<b>Barriers to using projects</b>	<b>Number of young people</b>
Lack of Information about what is available	36
Lack of services and facilities in area	23
Too far to travel	16
Other priorities with their time	11
Racism within a project	10
Cost	10
No Black youth workers	9
None	6
Safety issues	5
Opening times not appropriate	4

We asked young people what the barriers are to them using existing youth projects in North Tyneside. (They could tick more than one box) By far the biggest reason for our respondents not using existing services was lack of information about what was available. This was followed by lack of services and facilities in the area, and then projects were situated in places that were too far to travel. Other reasons that young BME people identified as why they did not use existing provision, can be assembled around the theme of fear and isolation. 3 respondents cited bullying and fighting as an issue: one young Bangladeshi young man said that there was no other Bangladeshi

community around where he lived whilst one young women also talked about being isolated with “no others girls from Bangladesh living in my area”: Another reason included “parents might not allow it”, and one respondent quoted that there were language barriers to him using existing facilities. In contrast to this, one Bangladeshi 16 year old said that he was “not able to mix with Bengali kids... but had no problems with whites.”

**Table 8: Projects BME young people would you like to see develop**

<b>Types of Projects</b>	<b>Number of young people</b>
Mixed provision for Black and white young people	30
Multi cultural centre for young people	24
Projects with BME youth workers	15
More projects for Black young people	15
Single gender groups	8

58% of the young women and 53% of the young men would like to see mixed provision with Black and white young people, and 42% of the female respondents and 44% of the male respondents would like to see a multi-cultural centre for different groups from diverse ethnic backgrounds come together. Particularly popular with the young Bangladeshis was the idea of more BME youth workers and more projects for Black young people.

22 young people also identified that they would like to see an increase in sports facilities in the area, including football, cricket and judo. A significant number of the young women (41%) wanted to be able to access sport facilities and a number of the young women wanted the opportunity to play football. One respondent requested a club with Black workers only, one respondent would like to be involved in working for the good of the community, one young woman requested the opportunity to be able to dance, 2 young people wanted access to the internet, and an internet café, 3 young people (2 males and 1 female) requested mixed gender groups, and one respondent wanted to be involved in developing and making photography and video.

**Table 9: Ideas for their Ideal Project**

<b>Project ideas</b>	<b>Numbers</b>
Sports facilities	23
Music Facilities, playing, DJing etc, making	10
Meeting Point	8
ICT facilities / Internet cafe	8
Mixed race	7
Media facilities	4
Active Participation	3
Support for BME YP with disabilities	1
Hair and beauty classes	1
Asian Youth Club	1

From this table, it can be deduced that accessing sporting opportunities is important for BME communities and that being able to be involved in making and playing music is also popular. 75% of the respondents wanted new services to be located in the coastal regions of either Whitley Bay, North Shields or Tynemouth. They wanted to go to places where “people are kind to you”, where “having Black workers might encourage attendance” of BME young people. One 16 year old Bangladeshi male said “My ideal project will be a mixture of boys and girls and people of different cultures and background.....[it would be] ideal for everyone to go without any problems”.

## **Consulting Statutory and Voluntary Youth Workers and Organisations**

In carrying out the review the research team involved workers and projects from North Tyneside in the review process.

The review team:

- Visited projects that were identified to us as working with BME young people
- Attended a meeting with BME youth workers and consulted them on their views
- Attended a borough staff meeting and invited all youth workers to be involved in the review, via completion of the questionnaire or individual interview on request
- Sent out a questionnaire to all statutory and voluntary sector youth workers in the borough using local authority and voluntary sector mailing lists

## **Review of current work with BME groups and projects in North Tyneside**

In carrying out this review for North Tyneside Youth Service, the researchers made contact with all groups we were able to identify working with BME young people in the borough. The aim of this was to establish what currently existed and to identify any gaps in service provision. What is apparent is that little work is happening with specific BME group and that mainstream provision is not attracting BME young people to it.

### ***Action 4 Employment, North Shields***

This project is located in North Shields, above the offices for the Department of Immigration. It has been developed in order to provide ESOL services, has been in existence since May 2003, is targeted at those aged 18 and over, and is currently being used by asylum seekers and refugees (mainly from Iraq, Iran, Kosovo and Turkey). Referrals are made from the Job Centre New Deal programmes and are for those people who have been out of work for a six month period and who are available for work. Students enrol for a 26 week period and attend for 21 hours per week. Numbers are low at present but this initiative is new and has had very little time to establish itself. There appears to be some unease from users of this service because of its location. The office is based above the Department for Immigration where the asylum seekers and refugees claim to the right to stay in this country is heard!

### ***North East Refugee Service (NERS) - Wallsend***

This service supports all refugees and asylum seekers living in the North Tyneside area. Numbers of asylum seekers and refugees living in the area are vague, but it has been estimated that there 1200 asylum seekers and refugees currently being supported by NASS. The majority are single males; Iranian, Iraqi, Kurdish, a number of African groups, Czechs and Afghans. NERS offers an outreach service and individual counselling, advice, information and support, in order to enable asylum seekers and refugees establish

themselves within the community. There are hostilities and tensions within the community and it is reported that specific groups of asylum seekers and refugees (particularly the Czechs) are targeted by the indigenous white community. All refugees and asylum seekers are supported by NERS but there are no specialist services for young people. It is estimated that there are currently 12 unaccompanied minors in the borough, mainly from Africa and the Cameroon. These young people are supported by Social Services and tap into provision specifically for unaccompanied minors in Newcastle upon Tyne. They have apparently little involvement in community life in the Wallsend area.

NERS are presently involved in developing The Young Refugee Forums in Newcastle, North Tyneside and Gateshead. Newcastle and Gateshead Young Refugee Forums are in the early stages of their evolution, whilst there has been little progress to date in North Tyneside.

NERS work very closely with North Tyneside Council Asylum team, North Tyneside Youth Action and Northumbria Police in the development of integrated provision and a coordinated service.

### ***Battle Hill Community Gateway Project***

This voluntary project funded through ESF, North Tyneside at Work, the Community Fund and Neighbourhood Renewal, is a sub-development of Battle Hill Community Project. It has not specifically set out to develop services for refugees and asylum seekers as it is felt that this may cause conflict within the community, but has worked, using a community development approach, responding to identified need of the area's diverse population. It has organised drop in/advice sessions, and short courses for refugees and asylum seekers living in the area, and this has enabled the project to build up strong relationships with both parents and their children. Due to language difficulties, many of the young people, who have learned English very quickly, have acted as interpreters for their parents. Likewise, working with young people has helped developed the confidence and trust of parents and older members of the communities. This project has recently been running a time limited drama group in conjunction with Northern Stage. It also has a well established dance group involving both white young people and asylum seekers and refugees co-ordinated by one of the young refugees themselves. The project is keen to reaffirm its commitment to the rights of all of the residents of Battle Hill, and has recently held an event entitled "The Celebration of Cultural Diversity" at Churchill Community College attended by over 100 people. This event involved members of the community, the police, community organisations, professionals and young people. The project would like to continue to develop its work with refugees and asylum seekers, approaching themes of integration and equality using street theatre and street play. In the long term it aims to develop a centre for young people in the area, with homework clubs, drop-ins and activities for young people all operating under the umbrella organisation of Battle Hill Community Project.

### ***North Tyneside Youth Action***

This project is based in North Shields and focuses on training young people in motor mechanics. Young people who are not in school may be referred to this project during the day to develop their mechanical skills, and there are sessions for youth groups in the evenings to build and repair cars. An offshoot of this organisation is a Motor Project for young refugees and asylums seekers to retrain as motor mechanics. The project targets those who have qualifications in motor mechanics in their country of origin, and are seeking to update their qualifications here in this country so that they are recognised currency here. The project is targeted those under the age of 30, and works with a relatively small group of about 8 people.

### ***Motive 8***

Motive 8 are an organisation that recruits volunteers for the Raleigh international Overseas volunteering Programme. They specifically target those who are 16 – 24 years old and who have been unemployed for a period of over 6 months. They are keen to develop work and contacts with BME communities, and until now have had limited uptake from BME communities.

### ***Farsi Group***

There are a group of Farsi speakers who meet every Saturday at an undisclosed venue. We were unable to make direct contact with this group despite having a lead contact. We were advised that the group were apprehensive of our intentions.

### ***Wallsend Peoples Centre***

Every Saturday there is a gathering of asylum seekers and refugees who meet on an informal basis. This group does not specifically target young people and provides an opportunity for families to meet and eat together.

### ***Triangle Anti racist project***

During the review a number of comments and references were made to the Triangle Anti-Racist project. The Ofsted report commented that “Anti-racist work had been successfully carried out at the Triangle Project as a direct response to an alleged racist incident, and this in turn resulted in training for staff.” The ‘Review of Policies and Practices in relation to Equal Opportunities for Minority Ethnic Staff and Service Users.’ also refers to The Triangle Project and includes it in its examples of good practice, “where joint working between the Youth Service and the Police focussing on “racist attitudes amongst white youth “were encouraging in its effectiveness. Unfortunately the funding for this project appears to have ceased and this work no longer exists.

### **Interviews with BME North Tyneside Youth Workers**

In a meeting of BME workers a number of issues were identified that may enable the development of a more integrated and ethnically diverse youth service. The workers felt that evaluation sheets completed by youth projects confirmed the evidence that BME young people were not using mainstream Youth Service provision and that provision was located in traditional historical areas rather than developing in response to newly identified needs.

### ***The barriers to developing work with BME young people***

In order to identify how services may be developed, it was considered necessary to highlight some of the existing barriers to the development of services to BME young people.

- Not having information about the population of the area the workers are responsible for
- BME young people not being visible in the community and on the streets
- Workers not been aware of who is out there
- Relatively small BME communities across a large area, therefore population is fairly widely dispersed
- Youth workers are unsure as to how to go about making contact with BME young people
- Cultural and religious barriers
- Language barriers
- Need for BME youth workers from diverse ethnic backgrounds within the service
- There are territorial issues in that some youth projects would not be open to young people from a diversity of backgrounds

- Many youth projects in North Tyneside are located in isolated places and not necessarily where BME young people are living
- White workers are not equipped to deal effectively with racist attitudes of white young people and racist incidents
- North Tyneside Youth Service suffers from very limited resources. There is a reluctance to take resources away from existing projects to support the development of new work with BME young people. This may also have a negative impact on young people using existing services and reinforce some racist attitudes of white young people.
- Lack of publicity or information about what exists now, and what is out there already
- Detached workers are sent to police “hotspots”, identified by the police as a problem area, where groups of young people are gathering, rather than being encouraged to develop work with specific communities or groups of young people

### ***Possible solutions***

The review team, with workers and practitioners, endeavoured to identify ways in which more effective services to BME young people could be realised.

- Involve all youth workers across the city in a strategy to develop work with BME young people
- Develop separate provision for BME young people, thus enabling the service to work towards integration and equal participation within mainstream resources
- Employ BME workers to work with BME young people in mainstream provision. Having BME workers in mainly white provision may begin to create positive role models for young people and begin to challenge attitudes and encourage BME young people in using that mainstream provision.
- Specific funding sources for BME groups within statutory service and also within the voluntary sector
- Establish some publicity across the borough about what is there at the moment and what resources are available
- Community needs assessment of each area across the borough, mapping what is there, identifying groups that are supported and developing work around identified shortfalls, reflecting the make up of the population and the priorities of North Tyneside’s Youth Service
- Ring fence new resources rather than redirect existing ones
- Training for youth workers on challenging racist attitudes and implementing equal opportunities and participation within their work
- The development of clear guidelines about how to develop work with BME young people in both separate and integrated provision
- Organise some multi-cultural events bringing together groups of BME young people and white young people in order to begin to break down some of the barriers and create more understanding between the diverse ethnic groups

Involve BME young people and white young people in the planning and delivery of these.

- Support the development of small BME groups in locations close to where they live and where they feel safe
- Work with the schools on the borough in order to combat racist attitudes and racism in both schools and their communities.
- The establishment of a sub-group across the borough to develop the work.

## Questionnaire

The Regional Youth Work Unit, supported by VODA sent out 100 questionnaires to voluntary organisations working in North Tyneside (See Appendix 9). This exercise was repeated after a poor response. Questionnaires were also given to **all** statutory youth workers. We received 1 response from the voluntary sector and two responses from the statutory youth sector. There are a number of deductions that could be made to such a low level of replies, but increasingly the review team moved towards the inescapable conclusion that work with BME communities is not taking place, and that organisations felt unable or unwilling to complete the questionnaire because of this.

Key Issues identified as barriers to developing effective work with BME young people included:

- Lack of information available relating to specific interest groups
- Lack of funding initiatives to enable projects to be developed
- Lack of information about what is out there
- Lack of training available for staff in developing work with BME communities
- Lack of knowledge of where BME communities are living or spending their time

Ideas for responses to these issues include:

- More publicity about the youth service
- Establishment of a multi-cultural centre for BME young people
- Multi-cultural days/ events with food, music, dance etc.
- More integrated projects for young people
- Consultation, and the making of findings from this review available to youth workers

## Summary

In a service where the voice of young people is seen to be critical, this review of youth work with Black and Minority Ethnic young people has put young people at the heart of it. Our experience has raised a number of issues which have had a significant impact on the findings from the research with young people. Perhaps the first point to highlight, is that the overall quality of the data gathered by the peer researchers has increased because of the role that young people have played in opening up and developing these discussions. BME young people have been more likely and willing to talk to other BME young people about their experiences and needs than if they had been interviewed by an adult. BME young people have been less suspicious about engaging in this process than they would have otherwise and have been relaxed and forthcoming in their contributions. In a number of instances, where there might have been cultural barriers to young people taking part, having BME young people taking the lead in this, has led to people feeling secure and confident to talk around sensitive or problematic areas. In addition, on many occasions, the peer researchers were able to share with the 'researched' their insight and knowledge about projects and resources appropriate to BME young people. This sharing of information by young people is probably the most successful and effective way of publicising what exists, in that it is presented as a recommendation and endorsement from BME young people themselves.

This project has attempted to try and redress some of the imbalances of power created by the subjects of the research and the researchers. However, using peers has come with its own set of problems. By using young people, the support and time commitment is far greater than that of using a qualified researcher. The skills involved in interviewing or gathering views of young people may at times have impacted on the quality of the responses. The peer researchers themselves have had little experience of youth work, its principles and values, and therefore at times may not have been able to direct questions that might have been relevant to the process. At times there appeared to be a tension between the requirements of the review and that of participation by young people in the review process.

Despite some of these difficulties though, this piece of work has been about a partnership between young people and adults throughout the process. It is inevitable that projects such as these will begin to impact on the situation and lives of BME ( and ultimately other) young people living in North Tyneside more profoundly than standard methods of research. The ultimate question is as to whether there is a political will to respond to the issues highlighted, and whether the views of the young people will impact on the decision making process in terms of the development of youth services to BME young people in the borough.

**Black** refers to people of African, Afro-Caribbean, Asian or Chinese origin

**Ethnicity** denotes a number of shared characteristics including a shared background or origin, culture, tradition and language. All people, Black or white, have an ethnicity. But to distinguish groups whose beliefs and practices are not shared to a significant degree with the majority group, the word **minority** is either placed before or after the word ethnic.

**Black and Minority Ethnic (BME)** is the term preferred by this review. **BME** is an inclusive way of seeking to reflect both the common elements and the diversity of those who form ethnic, cultural or religious minority groups.

By **young people**, we mean those who are aged between 13 and 25. However, we have specifically targeted young people aged between 13 and 19, as this age group is a priority for North Tyneside's Youth Service.

**Racism** is used to describe prejudice and discrimination towards people on the basis of their skin colour, culture, language or religion.

**Asylum Seekers and Refugees.** Throughout the report, we have included young asylum seekers and refugees in the definition of BME young people. However, we have also, at times, referred specifically to asylum seekers and refugees. BME young people, asylum seekers and refugees may face similar issues, but they do not form one homogenous group. As a review team, we have adopted the definition from the UN Convention on Refugees, Geneva 1951, which defines a refugee as someone who has a 'well-founded fear' of persecution due to race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a political group.

A refugee is a person who had applied for asylum and met the Geneva Convention criteria, which entitles them to remain in the UK indefinitely.

An asylum seeker is a person who has applied for refugee status in the UK and has not received a final decision on their asylum application.

The two definitions above embrace young people from many countries who speak many languages. They include those who have arrived here in the last few weeks, those who have lived here for a few years, and those who have been born here as children of refugees. The definitions include those whose permanent or temporary residence in the UK has been approved and those whose application for asylum is being considered.

**Unaccompanied** refers to children under 18 years of age who are outside their country of origin and **not** accompanied by a close relative.

**Accompanied** children are those under 18 years of age, who are outside their country of origin, and are accompanied by an adult who is **not** their parent or legal/customary care-giver. The adult is not necessarily able, suitable or willing to care for the child. The adult may be an uncle, cousin, sibling or non-blood relation with whom they have some relationship, such as being from the same village.



**A Summary of the Population Breakdown of some of the Ethnic Groupings in a number of North Tyneside Wards. Appendix 2**

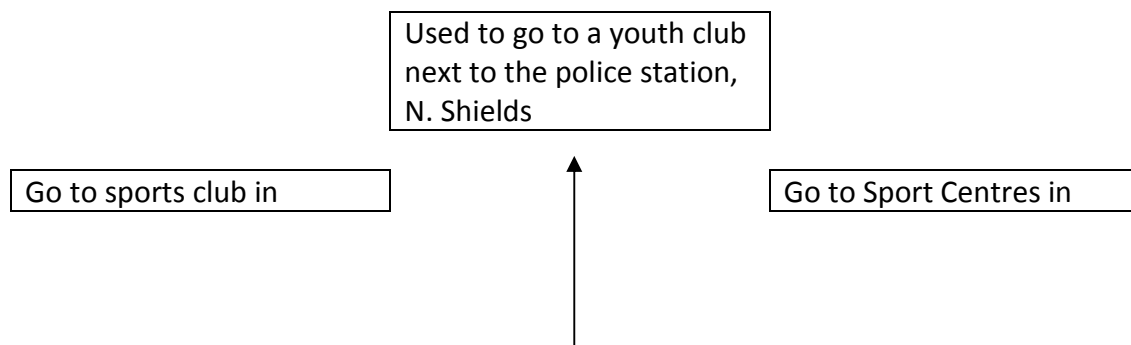
Variables Area	All people	White: other white	Asian or Asian British Indian	Asian or Asian British Bangladeshi	Chinese or other ethnic group Chinese
North Tyneside	191,659	1,566	647	493	692
Battle Hill	11,781	136	29	11	17
Holystone	13,453	85	42	7	83
North Shields	10,654	88	28	19	15
Northumberland	11,466	56	19	18	219
Riverside	9,766	116	47	23	8
Seatonville	9,706	77	53	91	25
Tynemouth	8,667	116	31	26	23
Wallsend	8,821	86	38	18	55
Whitley Bay	9,098	136	42	154	29

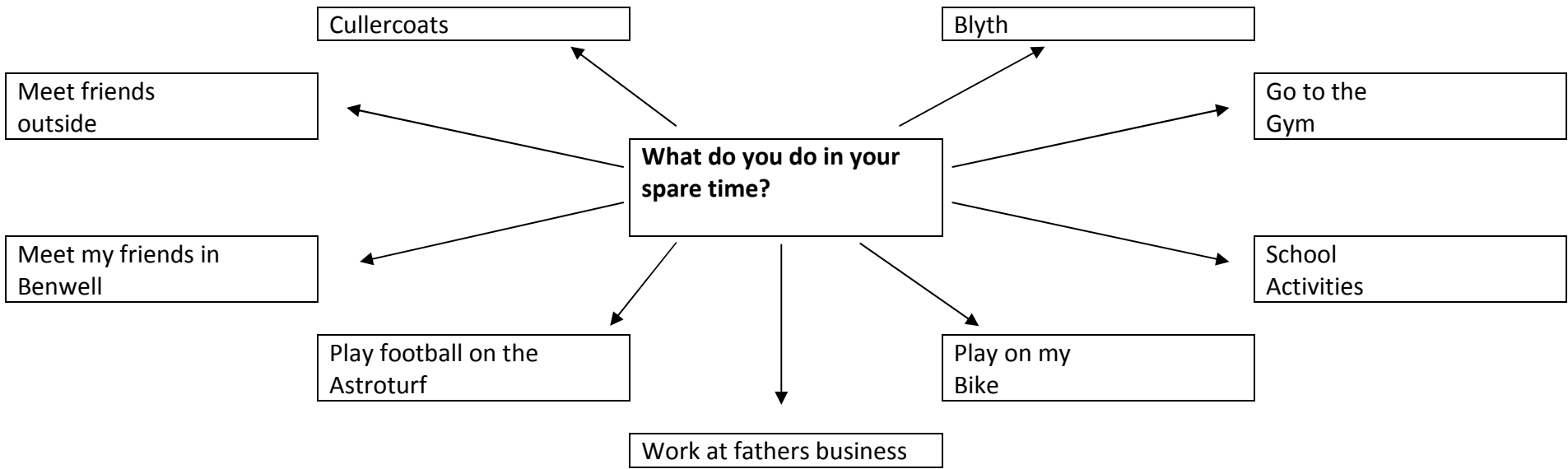
Source: National Statistics website [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)

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**John Spence School, North Shields**

**Appendix 3A**





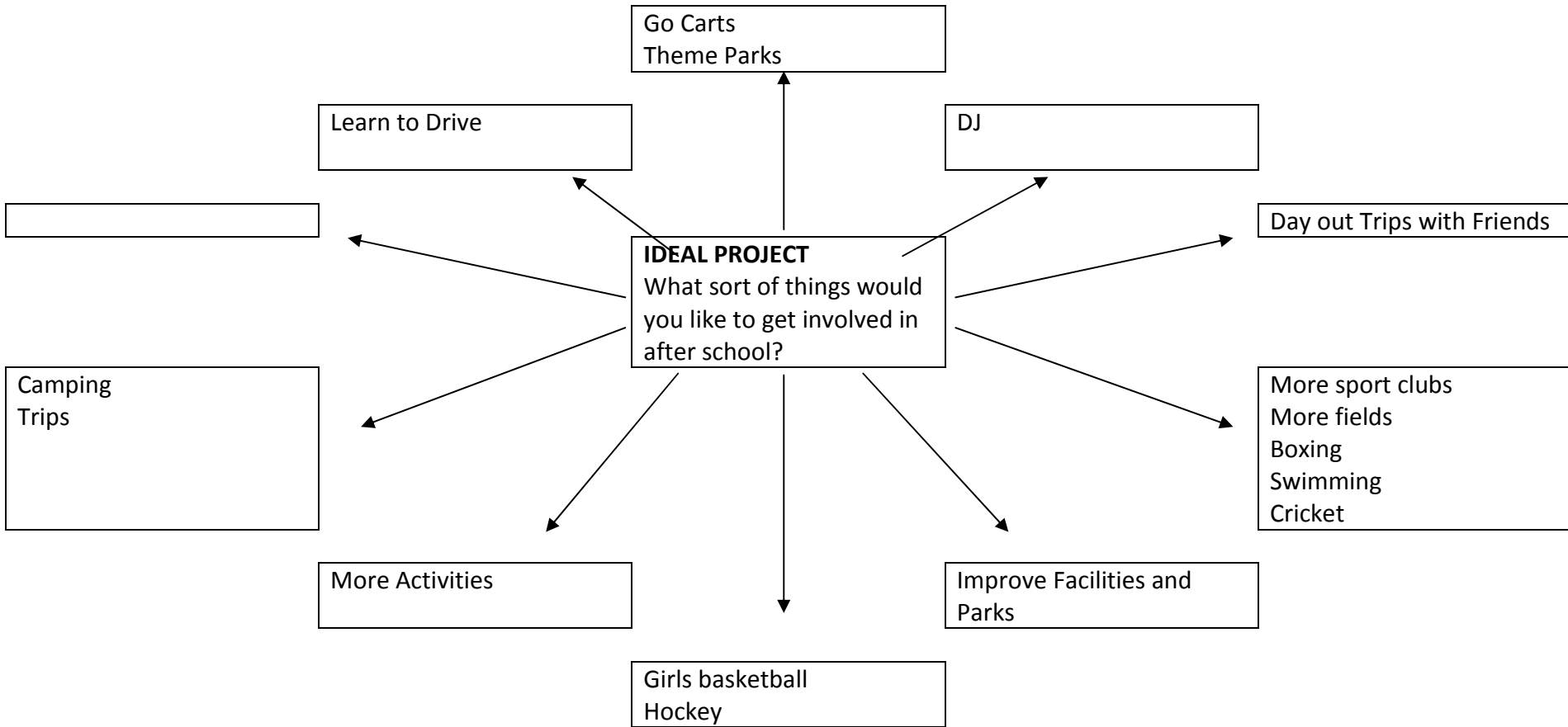


**John Spence School, North Shields**

**Appendix 3B**

9 young People – 4 girls, 5 boys

2 Mixed race, 4 Bangladeshi, 1 Zimbabwean, 2 Indian





**Barriers to getting involved in youth projects**

Boring

A wider variety of activities

Transport

Minibus

Pickups

More transport

Too expensive

Lazy

Too Far

Parents stop you

Let me come down and see

Pick up and drop off services

Talk to them about it

Gang fights

Have more Bobbies on the beat

They think there hard

Drugs/Alcemy's

Racial

Police don't do anything about racism

Neither do teachers

Exclusion straightaway

Have sports clubs for black people

Might not have time

Might live in a rough area

**Impact Ranking**

This exercise focussed on key issues that the young people would like to see happen. These issues were then ranked as to whether they would have a high, medium or low impact on the lives of the young people and whether they thought these things would be easy, medium or difficult to achieve.

	High	Medium	Low
Easy			
Medium			
Difficult	Inter-cultural in house centre Orienteering Project		Project to help fundraise and fund young people ( e.g. to go on Raleigh International projects Young peoples Community Radio Channel

**Research Sessions at Battle Hill Community Centre**

**Appendix 5**

4 young people aged between 12 and 14;  
 2 male and 2 female;  
 1 young person from Azerbaijan, 2 from Albania and one from Kosovo

**What are the barriers to you getting involved in Projects in your area?**

- Lack of Information about what is available
- Safety issues
- Lack of facilities/ services in the area
- People not concentrating in the groups
- Opening Times – too restrictive
- None

**What would you like to see develop?**

Spots facilities	Days Out / Trips	Activities	Issues
Football	To the beach	Dance groups	Mixed gender
Trampolining	To the woods		Mixed culture
Tennis	Cinema		Mixed provision for Black and white young people

	Library		Multi cultural centre for young people
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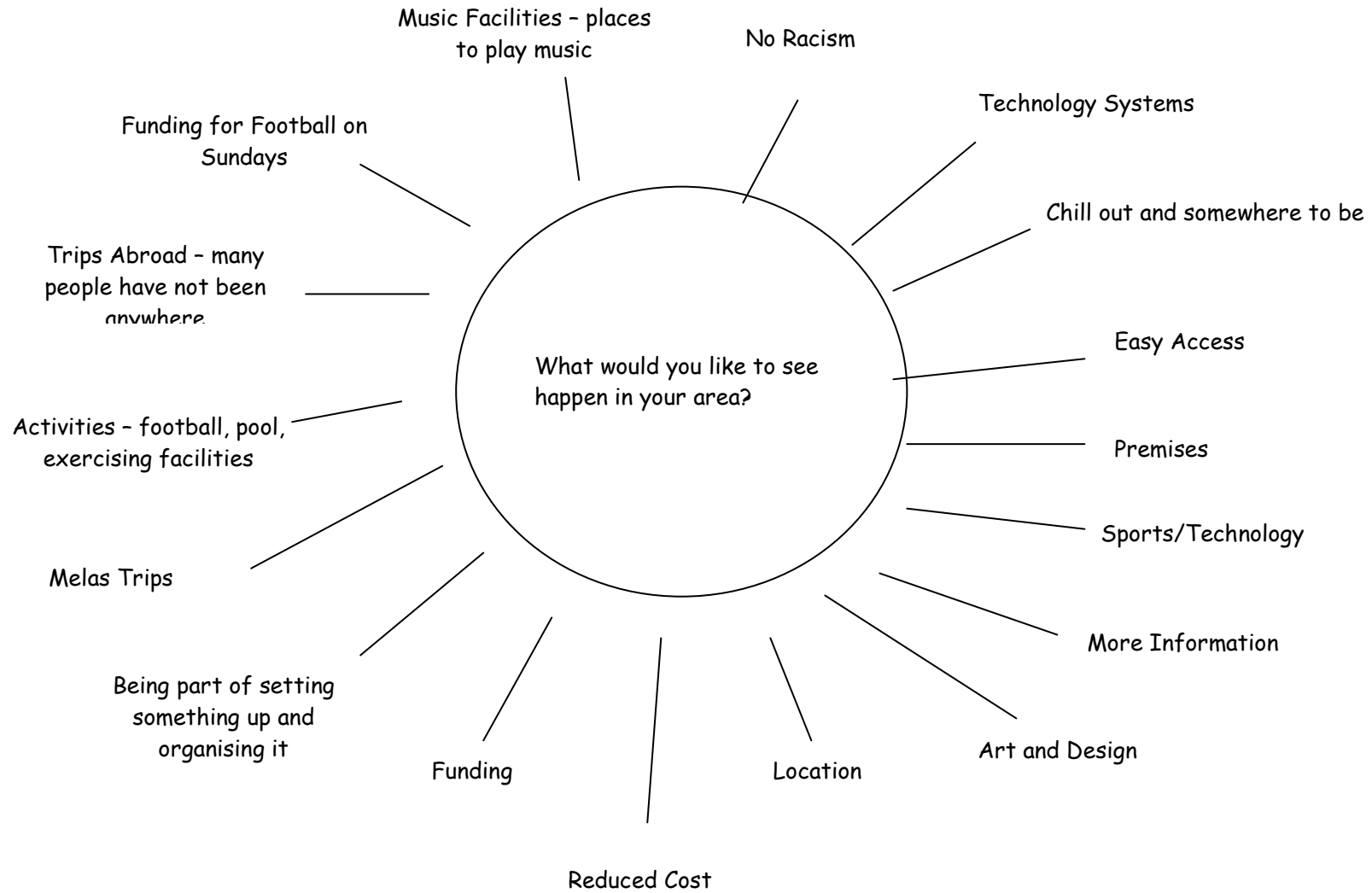
**Research session with Young Bangladeshi men aged between 15 and 17 from Whitley Bay  
Appendix 6A**

<b>What are the barriers to you using existing services?</b>	<b>What are the solutions?</b>
1. Lack of information	More publicity about what is going on
2. Travel – lots of things happening in Newcastle and it is too far to travel	Have a Mela close to home – Metz MC, Punjabi MC Location in Whitley bay
3. Racism – Meadowell, Percy main area we get a lot of abuse, Scottish people who visit Whitley Bay are found to be racist`	Introduce more Black and Asian people to existing projects
4. Police don't do anything about racist attacks to young Black youths	Meet up with the police and get to know them better. Introduce them to the sporting events that we organise and organise something together
5. Costs – too expensive to hire out football pitches and halls	Make it cheaper and get funding so that young lads don't have to pay anything
6. Snooker facilities are too expensive and too far to travel to	Make it cheaper and closer to home
7. Amusements on seafront are too intimidating for us to use due to charvers hanging out	Go in groups of 4 or 5's so that you always have back up
8. Music in clubs and pubs too rubbish to listen to	Play a variety of music {R & B, hip hop, Rap) have some premises so that we can create our own music

**Impact Ranking**

This exercise focussed on key issues that the young people would like to see happen. These issues were then ranked as to whether they would have a high, medium or low impact on the lives of the young people and whether they thought these things would be easy, medium or difficult to achieve.

	<b>High</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Easy</b>	Lack of Information		
<b>Medium</b>	Distance		
<b>Difficult</b>	Racism in project Black workers		



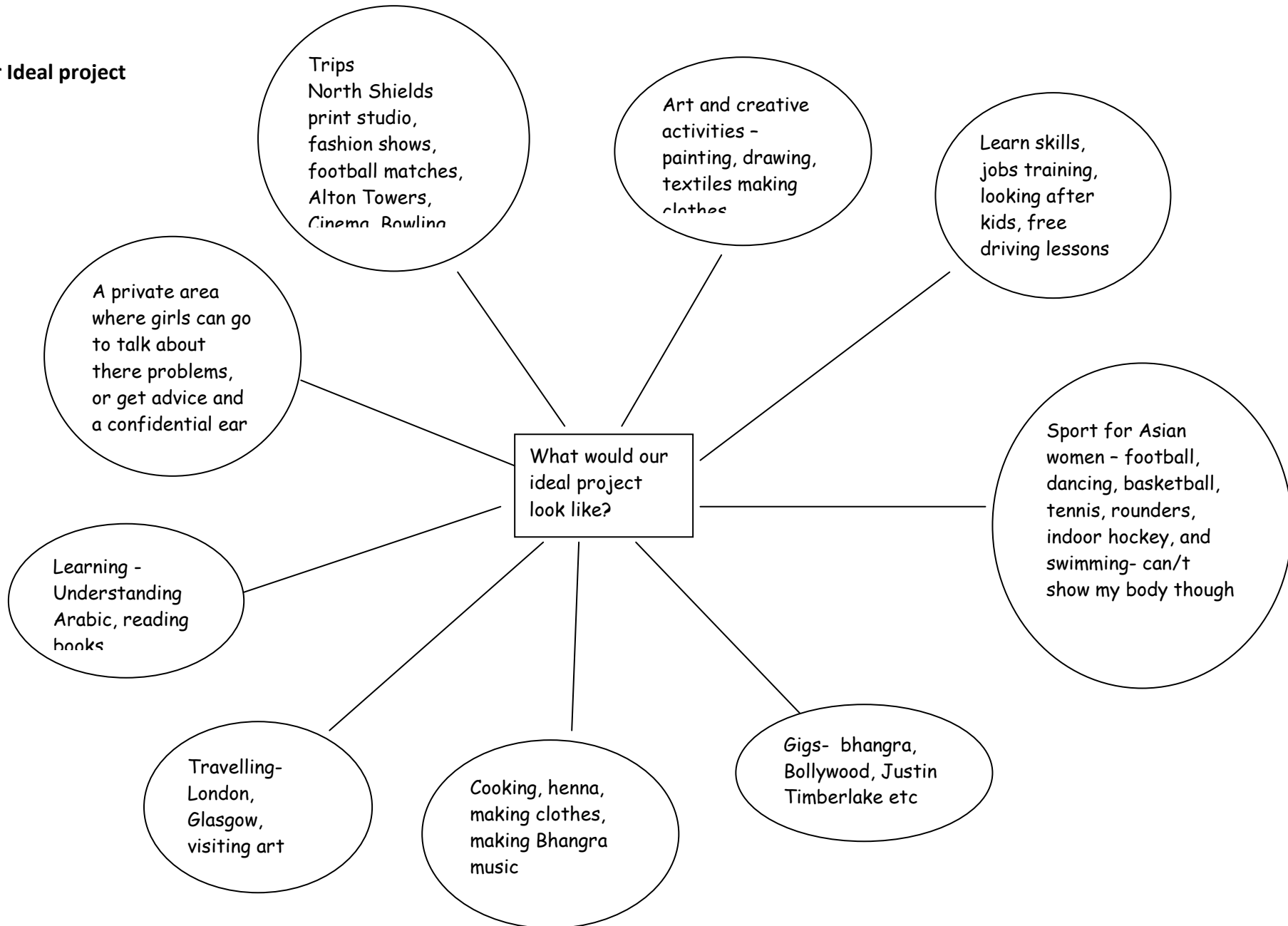
**Issues that are important for young Bangladeshi women**

- Girls Only
- After School and we must return home before 9pm
- Not in Whitley bay – we would like to go to places where people do not recognise us
- Mini bus – pick up and drop off service
- Open to all Black people – Hindus, Pakistani etc
- Female workers -Asian women
- Parent s must have letters and be informed about where we are going and where we might be travelling to
- Cost- cannot be too expensive
- Age group- 14 up to 22 year olds

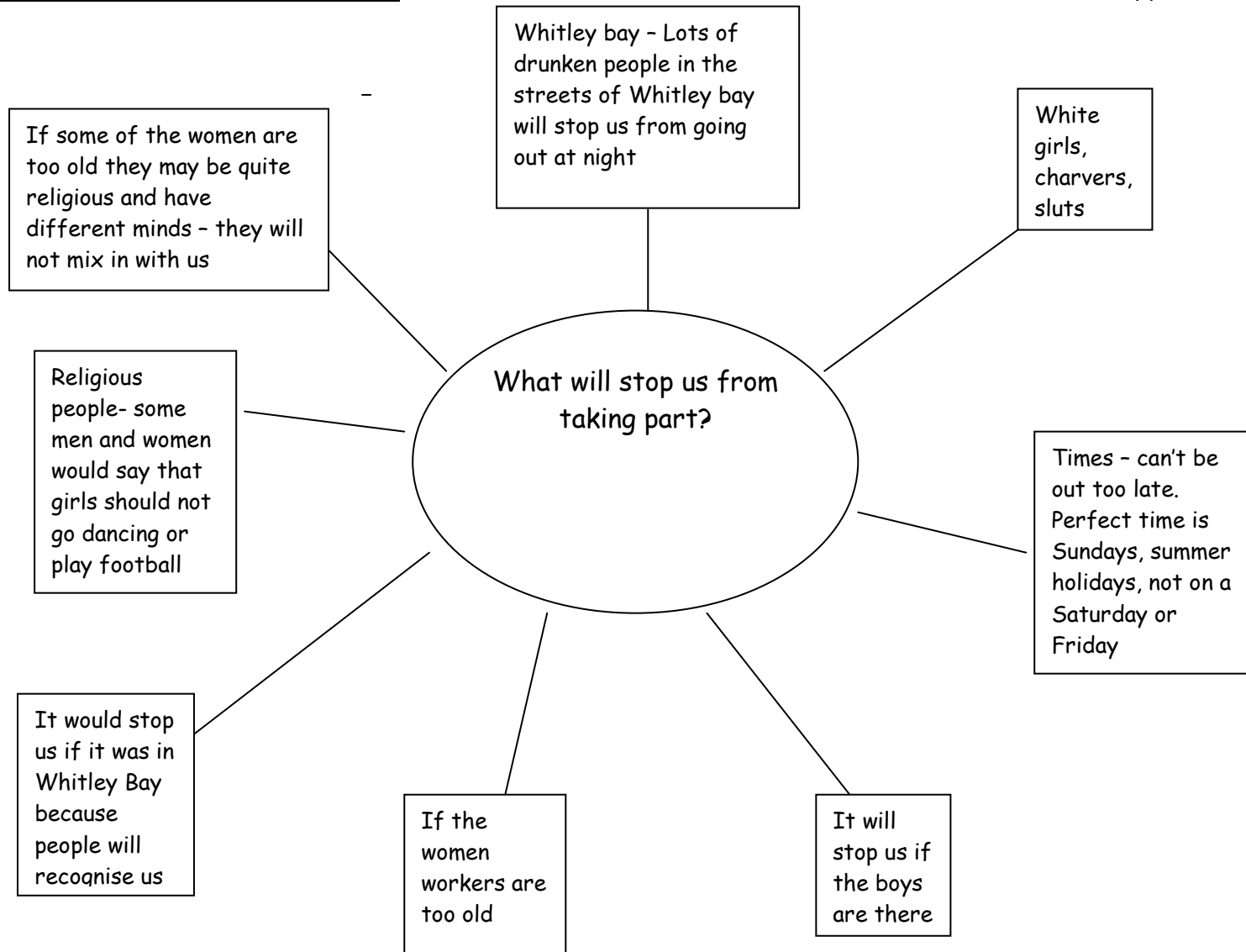
We asked the young Asian women what they felt about Whitley Bay

<b>Positives</b>	<b>What would you like to change?</b>	<b>Negatives</b>
Good ice cream shops	Clean the beaches	Dirty beaches
Lighthouse	Prefer to have less people around	Too many people
Schools	Prefer to have fewer pubs	Drunken people
Houses	Refer to have fewer India restaurants	To many Asian restaurants
Not much litter	Close the charity shops down	A lot of shops that are not good
Good hairdressers	There should be a certain amount of Asians in all of the areas	Too many Asian people

**Our Ideal project**







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