

Report from Jo Baynam, Yorkshire Youth Development Worker to Quakers in Yorkshire - January 2023

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What done in 2022

Delivery by area

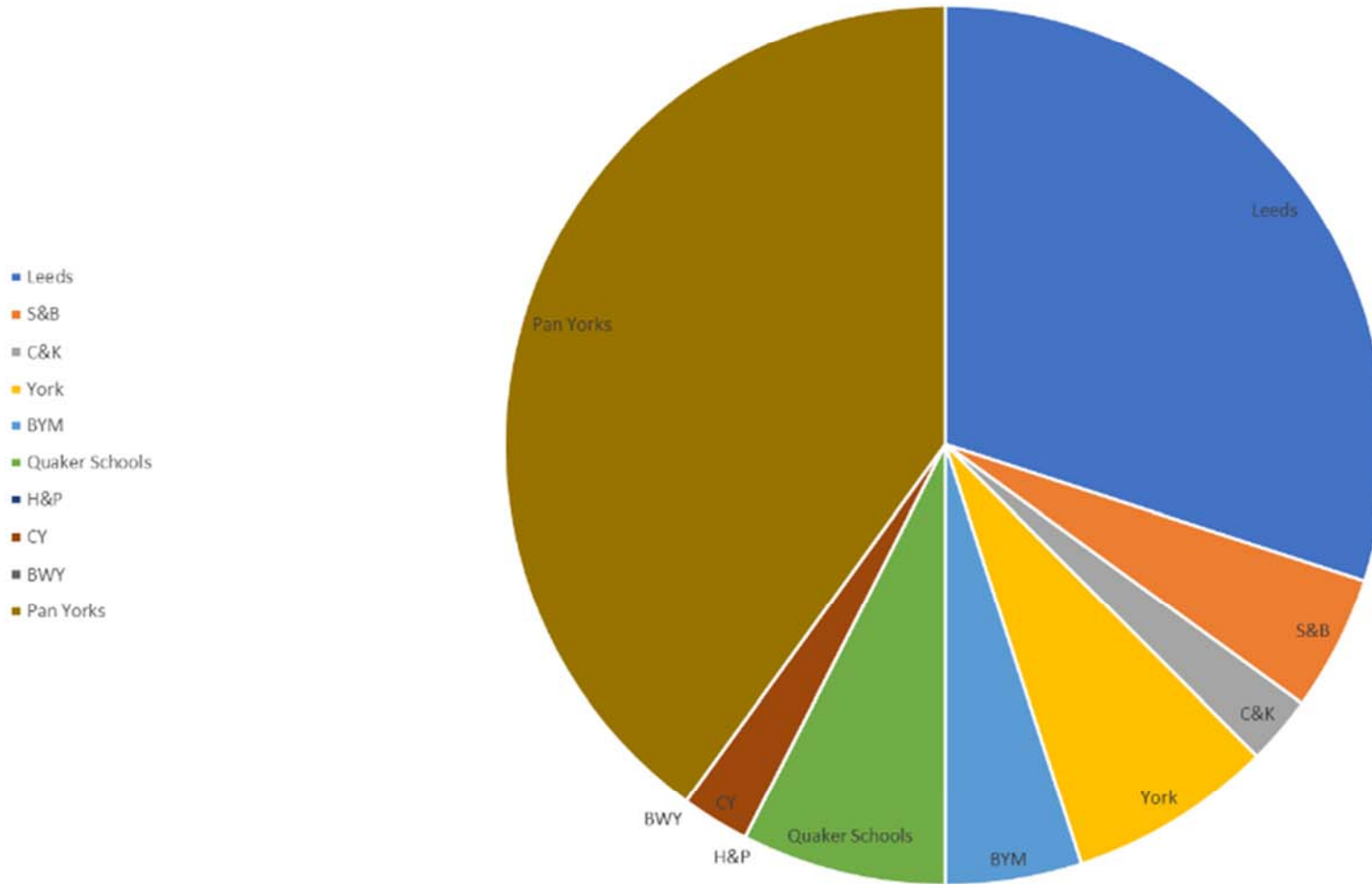
Theory of change map

What will the YDW do in 2023

What has the Yorkshire Youth Development Worker done in 2022?

Networks This is about connecting people, gather and growing communities of support and interest, putting them in touch with each other, communicating with them and enabling them to contribute to the aspirations describing in Our Faith in the Future as they are led.	Events and Learning This is about providing opportunities to develop and deepen Quakers' knowledge, understanding and skills to build capacity. This could be 'foundational' or about 'extending' or 'flourishing'.	Accompaniment This is about walking alongside Quakers, worshipping together, listening, encouraging, (gently) questioning, providing advice and guidance.	Resources This is about offering information, tools or materials to support accompaniment, learning or networking, or enabling Quakers to act themselves.	YDW Skills development Time spent growing the YDW skills and knowledge base
YFHS reunion Glenthorne weekend away with Ilkley Youth walk Wakefield Cakes and games Leeds Hello Holidays picnic Pizza social Leeds (ongoing) Leeds Youth walk	Big Questions? Live YPP Easter Settlement Bootham Student leadership training Junior Holidays YFHS session Session at Shindig Junior Holidays 2 Bootham School council and QBM training Big Questions? blended Finally in 3D! Ackworth white poppy work Link Group	SWYFAN SYFAN Sheffield teen meeting support Cake and games Sheffield Link Group online Leed AM all age meeting Craven and Keighley All Age Social Restart teen meeting at Carlton Hill (ongoing) All age facilitation at Harrogate Acomb AAW Epilogue U19's support	Special Ukraine TYFON Youth work support day Junior Holiday safeguarding contextualisation training Carlton Hill CYP Training for Friargate online	Conflict Resolution Disability awareness EDI (various) Youth mental Health First Aid Safety in the field and lone working First Aid Facilitation Noodle reflections

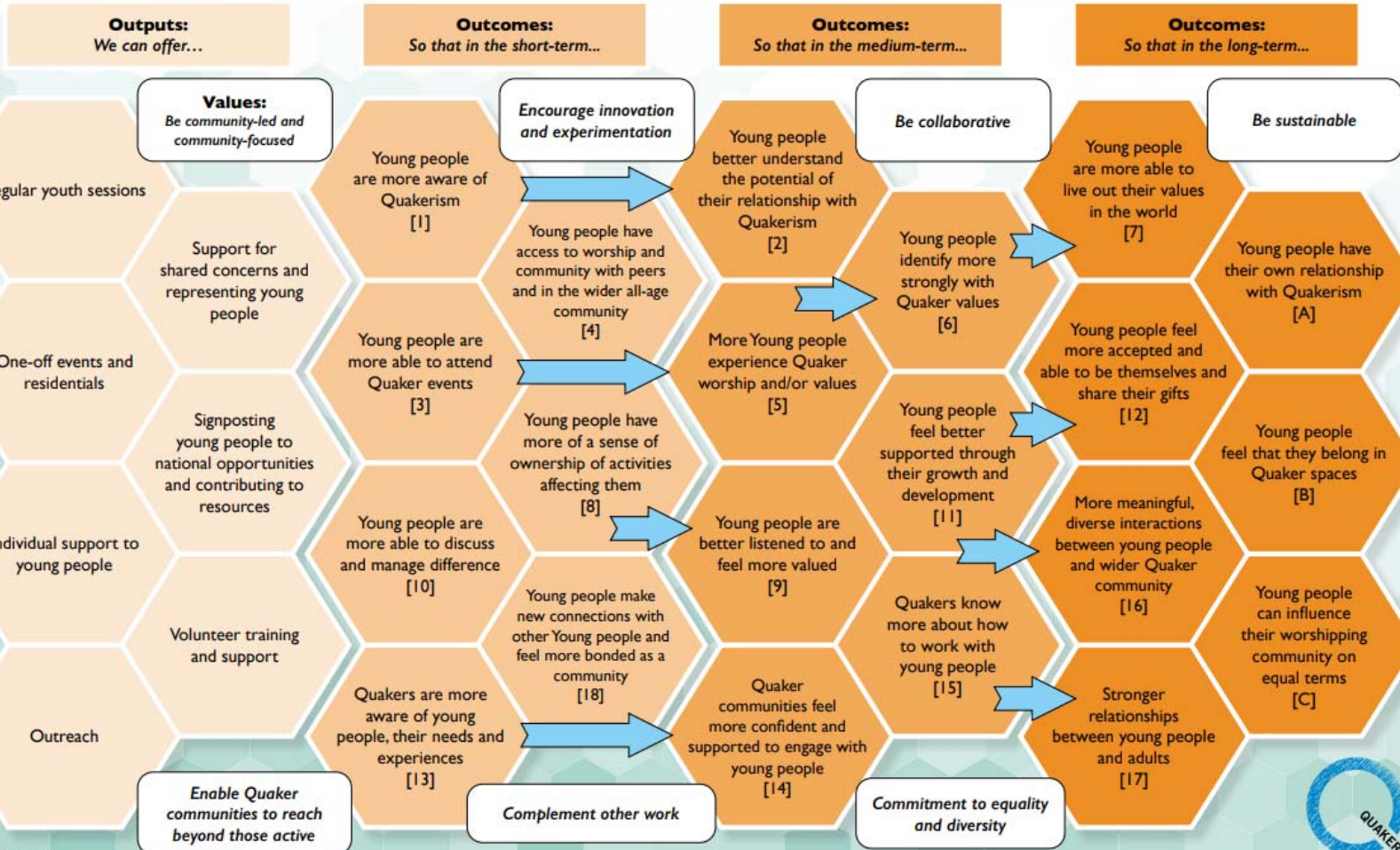
A chart to show volume of delivery of the YDW by area



Quaker Youth Development Work – Theory of change map

Impact: Young people aged 11-18 are welcome, integrated and can participate within a loving, all-age Quaker community on equal terms.

Arrows highlight particularly strong links



What will the YDW do in 2023?

I am part of the Quaker Life team, under the management of the Quaker Life, Youth Children and Families Team Leader. There is some nuance, but broadly speaking, the 7 area meetings bare the cost associated with the things I deliver and BYM funds my management and oversight. This is a strong position for me to work from as it allows a genuinely local focus supported from experienced, resourced and professional foundation. Oftentimes these kind of regional youth roles can feel, overwhelming, under resourced and very much DIY. This one doesn't, because of the way that it is structured.

The aims and conclusions of the YDW workers strategy as expressed in the "Navigating the River" document largely remain. There are copies available on the Quakers in Yorkshire Website, however, broadly the document concludes we need more pan-Yorkshire experiences and connections in the year to connect the already existing high-points of the Quaker youth calendar.

Key to the work is the proliferation a regular, accessible uniting experience that gathers Quaker associated young people in Yorkshire and allows Friendship and relationship to be maintained throughout the year. The first "Link Group" was a run-away success with 17 young people attending, I and the link group volunteers are indebted to Keighley meeting for their hospitality. Young people joined Keighley Friends for Worship on the Sunday morning, and this was the most positively reported on aspect of the 27 hours event. Our next residential is Balby meeting (Doncaster) 11th – 12th of March.

Link Group aims are as follows,

- Be distinctively Quaker
- Be attractive, welcoming and inclusive
- Be built on friendship (big and small "F")

The link group volunteer team seek additional members, to help plan, facilitate and promote events. One does not need to attend to be involved. Quite apart from a role, we would ask that you *all* be our Ambassadors, promoting link group to those 11-18's as you meet them, be they attenders, children, grandchildren, neighbors or otherwise. Link group is, as the name suggests a ramp in the various Quaker youth activities of Yorkshire and beyond.

I will continue to support Junior Holidays, Easter Settlement and Holiday School as much as they require.

I have been a full member of the team for last two Junior Holidays and have been involved in the unpicking of some of the structural issues as well as moving bookings online.

It seems very likely that Easter Settlement will take bookings from individual young people (ie without parents or guardians) this year. It is hoped that this will significantly boost young attendance at the event. I and a team of volunteers, will be delivering the youth and children's programme at Easter Settlement.

I have supported YFHS mostly with marketing and signposting. In truth YFHS require little support from me, being such an established team. I delivered a session with Bridget Holtom in 2022 and hope to do so again in 2023. In truth the best thing I can do for HS is support Junior Holidays **and work on the transition from one event to the other** and keep up link group and signpost those young people to Holiday school as well as JYM and YPP and other Quaker youth events.

A significant part of my work last year has been with Quaker Schools. Our Friend, Graham Ralph and I delivered two half days' worth of training to Ackworth, Bootham and the Mount student leaders, on Quaker History, Testimonies, Worship and Business Method. This was very well received, has bolstered relationships between the schools and represented Quaker faith and practice well to the student bodies.

I will continue to support young worshipping groups in 2023. Leeds Area youth meeting has seen a successful restart and is growing, it is not quite ready to be "left" yet, however the aim is to have this owned entirely by LAM, without my input by mid 2023.

Further support for Sheffield Central Teen meeting has been sought and will begin in earnest next month.

I hope to find other meetings (both local and area) with a desire to start or restart a teen meeting. I will be working, investigating and cajoling to find where these might be throughout the year. Further to this I will be offering at least two "Working with Young People in a Quaker context" workshops in 2023, I hope to have all seven area meetings represented at these. Our Anglican friends did much research on post-covid youth work in 2022 and offer two conclusions, which I would suggest apply in a Quaker context. 1) Young people desire meaningful relationship and good conversations. 2) The key requirements of the youth working volunteer are the ability to form relationships and have good conversations. May I assure you therefore, that you are not too old for youthwork, nor do you lack the key skills to deliver it well. As Link group feedback suggests, our worship and testimonies, and the relationships with which we build are plenty enough to attract and hold young people in relationship with Quakerism. Our challenge is to be confident and be prepared.

Jo Baynhan

21 January 2023