

East wards LCPP – Cafe Conversation

26th February 2026 – Douglas Community Centre

THEME - YOUNG PEOPLE

Extremely well attended cafe conversation with 14 young people from Greenfield Academy in attendance, supported by Mr Lothian and CLD youth staff.

Total attendance - 54

Adult community members - 3

Greenfield students - 14

INPUT

Jemma Kiernan – Planet Youth – provided an input following the city wide school survey which was undertaken late 2025. City wide messages around risk and protective factors were shared then discussed around tables.

DISCUSSION

Consider what you've heard, are there any surprises, what responses can we champion locally – what and who?

Surprise (in video) that classrooms are opened as safe spaces in the school day.

Many young people report feeling safe in the community, but some still say they do not.

Contradiction between numbers reporting to feel safe in their community yet not wanting to stay here in the future.

Numbers claiming to vape are questionable – seem very low compared to what is seen.

Feel that from P6/P7 young people need someone to talk with re personal feelings and struggles, perhaps introduce a key worker to primary age children to support and encourage.

Do young people really know what is available to them in the community, need to share programmes widely.

Build positive relationships with families and between generations.

Share positive stories and experiences of young people with the wider community.

Need very early engagement in advance of risky behaviours becoming an issue.

Input by Greenfield Academy students – pupil engagement

A number of Greenfield students were supported to undertake youth consultation around the themes of green space and the environment, things to do in the community, what young people want to see in their community and youth voice.

Discussion

What can be done to respond to or address the issues?

What resources and opportunities can we offer?

How can we continue to hear the voice of our young people?

Continue to support strong links with youth teams and attend youth groups for ongoing insight.

Continue to gather feedback from Planet Youth surveys.

Report findings back to young people.

Use social media to amplify young people's voices.

Young people want a peer support or wellbeing focused group for ages 13–15.

Young people want more sessions addressing everyday problems. They suggest separate groups for different age ranges or for different needs.

Significant interest from young people in potential volunteering and training opportunities.

Recognise the value of intergenerational perspectives and different voices.

Idea of creating a forum for young people to be involved in decisions going forward.

Suggestion of a practical community event, such as a local cleanup day.

Not enough advertising for afterschool/extension clubs.

Use social media to advertise and share via school bulletins, with parents and carers.

Young people want a Youth Voice group that feels fun and rewarding, for example by including trips or vouchers as incentives.

Summary of session: next steps/ideas to progress – from the floor

Develop and support a local Youth Voice Group with opportunity to influence local “adult decision making structures”. Make it in the school day, possible reward for participants to recognise commitment

Explore the possibility of offering smaller youth groups as part of evening provision, look at hosting some for specific genders and with an age focus

Poor quality Green Spaces, concerns about litter etc – promote litter picks/community cleans ups alongside Saltire Awards to ensure that young people can maximise volunteer hours across a variety of activities.

Campaign for improved lighting in greens spaces, safety for all.

Host a fayre to profile community provision/opportunities to take part in/ lead on/volunteer within the community

Promote young people in a positive light and challenge negative perceptions – possibility of se intergenerational work

Planet Youth – ideal if something similar could be done with P6/P7 to support transition

Drill into Greenfield Academy Planet Youth information to establish other actions.
