



Safer streets

Young people aged nine-12 from Chatham ward with PCSO Matthew Willsden and Sergeant Louise Gill; and in discussion during a

By
Miranda Yates



PANELS of young people from Hackney estates are meeting with Police and Council officers to discuss how to make their neighbourhoods safer.

The youth-led project aims to build trust between the authorities and young people; create a bond between the generations; and give young people a stronger voice to express concerns about safety within their communities.

Police will share up-to-

the-minute data on crime figures, and youth crime patterns as well as listening to young people's concerns.

// Young people often notice things that can be invisible to adults //

Police Community Support Officer, Matthew Wilsdon said: "Young people have a unique and important perspective on safety. They spend longer out and about on the streets

and often notice things that can be invisible to adults. Many also have strong views on the work the Police should be doing to protect them and their peers from harm."

The Youth Community Action Panels will mirror adult panels, which already run in every ward, discussing concerns and setting priorities for the Police and Council. An ambassador from the youth panel will attend adult meetings and vice versa.

There are currently youth panels in Haggerston and Chatham wards, but the Council is working with members of Hackney's

Youth Parliament and Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams to roll out the initiative across the borough.

In Haggerston, 16 Year Nine students from the Bridge Academy were voted onto the panel by classmates. Police asked students to consider voting for people who

MORE INFO

For details of the panels visit: www.met.police.uk/hackney



Shouting for more

By Antonio Akue, 15, Amrita Kaur-Landa, 14 and Ola Adeniran, 13

BRILLIANT performances at the all-singing all-dancing Jack Petchey Awards had the huge audience of young people on their feet shouting for more at the Hackney Empire.

Headliners reporters went along to cover the awards ceremony, organised by the Jack Petchey Foundation,

which recognises the achievements of young people involved in youth clubs across London.

The ceremony started with a street dance performance entitled "Glow in the Dark" from a young group called Estate of the Arts. They danced to a number of songs but the main appeal of the performance was a young Michael Jackson impersonator.

After this stunning introduction, the lucky 160 young people were

called to the stage one after the other to collect their awards.

We also had a great performance from the wonderful 17 year old singer, Ruth Brown (right). She gave us an amazing performance singing a couple of brilliant songs from the Dream Girls movie. Ruth was an



amazing performer, lighting up the stage while singing and her powerful voice was enough to get the audience crazy. The ceremony was

a celebration of the achievements of young people. We definitely appreciated this all the way from the compere's bad jokes to the great performances. We think the award winners should be proud of their accomplishments and keep up the hard work.

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MORE INFO

For more info visit: www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk