

Newsletter

May 2022



Direction
for Bedfordshire

What is Direction for Bedfordshire?

Direction for Bedfordshire is a service originally commissioned by the Police and Crime Commissioner. It was developed to provide a 'one stop shop' approach for professionals and service users to get guidance on how to access the myriad of services available across the county to help rehabilitate and make a positive contribution to our communities.

As a charity, YouTurn Futures has grown this service by sourcing additional funding from 2 members of staff in 2019, to 5 now in 2022.

We have also broadened the reach of Direction to also include delivering Conditional Cautions and Community Resolution interventions for Bedfordshire Police and Supported Pathways for Central Bedfordshire and Luton to help young people 16-25 years of age to be supported away from a life of gangs and crime.

At the heart of our service is still the website:

www.directionforbedfordshire.co.uk

& Our Freephone number 0800 917 5579

We also pride ourselves in networking professionals through the online forums, which are next being held:

South Forum: 26th May 2022, 2pm

North Forum: 11th May 2022, 10:30am via Microsoft Teams.

Please get in touch for the Teams link.

In this newsletter we will also explain what else YouTurn Futures delivers.

At the core of Direction for Bedfordshire are our coordinators:

North of County: Emma Freeman & Olivia Ingle

South of County: Tommy McCollin, Nicky Stewart, & Sharon Simpson

Contact any of our staff: name.surname@youturnfutures.com

Or info@directionforbedfordshire.co.uk

YouTurn Futures has been recognised by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Service for its significant contribution in ensuring Bedfordshire Police are the first police force to achieve an 'Outstanding' grade for the way it manages offenders and suspects. IOM (Integrated Offender Management) is coordinated by YouTurn and supported by our 'Direction for Bedfordshire service'. The HMICFRS inspection report on Bedfordshire Police acknowledged the 'highly effective IOM and how Bedfordshire Police 'works closely with You Turn Futures, a charity responsible for managing Bedfordshire's multi-agency IOM programme.' (Link to HMICFRS PEEL 2021/22 Inspection [Bedfordshire - HMICFRS \(justiceinspectorates.gov.uk\)](https://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmicfrs/))

YouTurn has also been shortlisted for a Charity Governance Award for Transforming with Digital. The awards ceremony is in London at the end of May. [YouTurn Futures - The Charity Governance Awards](#)

This month Emma attended an Uprising evening webinar for one of their leadership programmes. Emma presented about the work that we do within Direction and answered questions from a panel of young people. Uprising regularly attend our networking forums but it was great to be a part of what they do and to experience one of their sessions first hand.

This month has finished working with the first person who completed an intervention for the Pubwatch, BedfordBID scheme. The person was banned from the Pubs in Bedford after being aggressive; the intervention took a total of 11 weeks, we completed a programme using the Intervention Hub, the 'thinking skills'. This enabled us to be able to explore why our clients behaviour was erratic the night in which they were banned and we were able to discuss strategies that they can now use to hopefully prevent the situation happening again. The client fully engaged with the intervention which enabled us to get a positive outcome. Whilst supporting this client; Olivia has also been able to signpost the person to other supporting services for other issues which were disclosed in the intervention which will hopefully enable the person to move forward with his life.

Case Studies

A referral from MAGpan was received detailing a 17-year-old who had been stopped and arrested for numerous offences including possession with intent to supply. On initial contact with the young person, he disclosed that he had been forced to work for a Somali drugs gang since the age of 12/13 years old. This included being forced to travel to another county to deliver and deal class A drugs. The young person stated that he felt trapped as he had been told after his arrest by the gang that he now owed them £3000. He wanted to leave the life that he was stuck in and break the cycle.

The first thing we have done together is to provide him with a new mobile phone number which is funded for 6 months and includes unlimited calls and texts with a data allowance also. This is to make it easier to contact him and start to give him a clean break from the drugs gang so they can no longer contact him.

We have discussed options and what he wants to do with his life and in what direction he wants to take in finding employment or training. The young person has indicated that he would like to get into the construction industry and focus on plastering. We have discussed options and managed to secure an interview for a 3-week traineeship with Wilmott-Dixon through the Prince's Trust. This traineeship consists of 2 weeks training where he will receive his CSCS card and a week's work experience which could lead to employment.

Our work together will continue with mentoring and giving the young person a safe place to talk and discuss any issues he has as well as continuing to secure suitable employment so an exit plan can be

***Names have been changed to maintain confidentiality.**

[Direction for Bedfordshire](#)

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Getting to know the team!

YouTurn Futures is growing, and we have decided to dedicate this section each month to a different team member for you to get to know a bit about what we all do.

Teri Parish, HR/Business Manager.

I am very excited to have recently joined YouTurn Futures as HR/Business Manager where I am responsible for the day-to-day management of the HR function. I work closely with all members of the team to create the building blocks that drive efficiency, shape the people's agenda and help ensure our organisational structures and processes can facilitate growth.

My priorities have been reviewing our current state and making recommendations for where improvements can be made, creating an internship proposal, and familiarising myself with the team and the work we do.

I am now focused on creating an engagement strategy to include reward, recognition and wellbeing and creating a HR SharePoint site.

Outside of work I enjoy spending time with my family and new puppy. Goals I have set myself this year include learning the art of calligraphy and taking more surf lessons when we travel to Wales in our VW Camper.

Service Shout Out!



**EMMAUS PROFESSIONAL OPEN DAY
TUESDAY 10th MAY 2022**

Following the success of their previous Professional Open Days, they are holding another two sessions for those of you that were unable to attend or for new colleagues in your organisation.

On offer is two half day sessions to give you a short talk about Emmaus and a tour of our site:

Morning: 10.00am – 12 noon

Afternoon: 2.00pm – 4.00pm

Although they do not open for public trading on Tuesday's, they will be offering you an exclusive shopping experience as part of your tour!

They will have our Em's Bistro open to offer you a FREE drink and cake and an opportunity to network.

To book your ticket please go to:

<https://bit.ly/3JQtanF>

Please continue to use our online directory which we do try to keep up to date, if you have a new website or contact details that need to go on there, please let us know.

As a reminder, referrals can be made with a quick phone call email and one of the team will respond as soon as we can.

We accept referrals for signposting, advice and support for any ex-offenders and anyone who is at risk of being involved in crime. We work with people directly but also with professionals to offer support and guidance where needed.



YouTurn
Restore, Reform & Reintegrate