

Mentoring Questionnaire

Findings

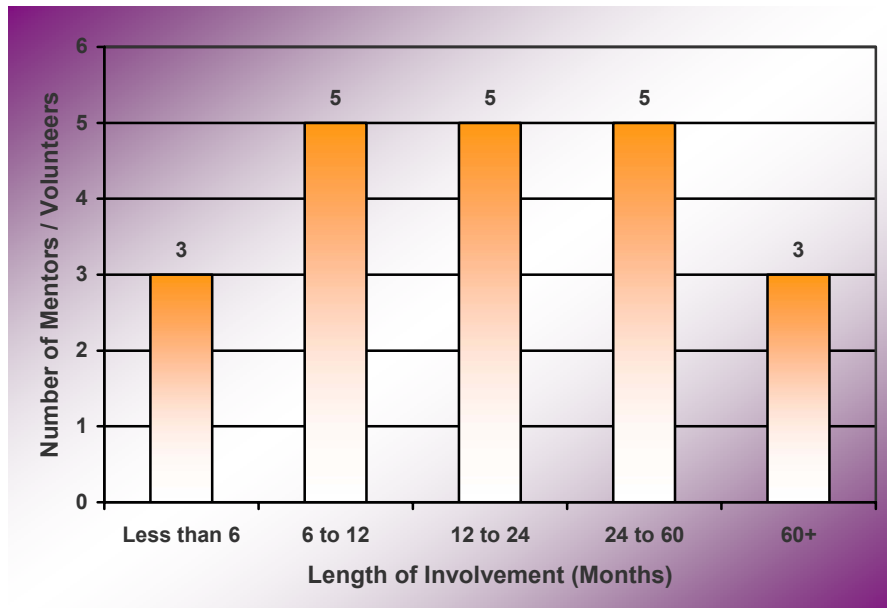
February 2006

Questionnaires were sent out to all current mentors and those who had left the Mentoring Scheme in the past 12 months.

Out of 65 questionnaires sent out, 21 were returned, which gave us a return rate of 32%.

From these returned questionnaires we have compiled the following results.

Question 1. How long have you been a Mentor / Volunteer?



Question 2. What was your reason for leaving?

Out of the responses we received, 8 (40%) had left the scheme for various reasons, these include:

- Study and job commitments, including weekends
- University commitments
- Work commitments
- Child care duties
- Left to undertake Sessional work

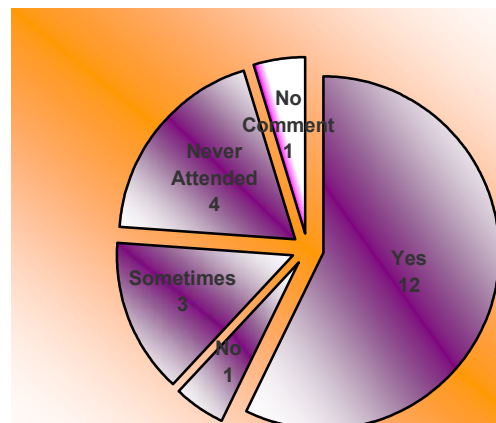
Question 3. Do you find the monthly Mentor meetings useful?

“I am able to unload, meet with other Mentors, and we also get the sense of being part of a team”

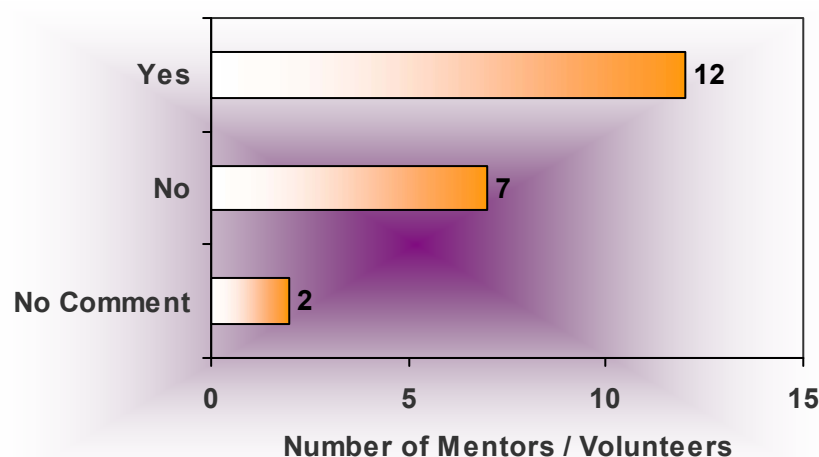
“Informative and keeps you up to date”

“Extremely useful and informative”

“Yes very, guest speakers interesting plus food is great.”



Question 4. Do you feel you receive adequate support from the YOT?



- “Always available either on telephone or e-mail, received regular letters, never any problems.”
- “The YOT are very supportive and helpful”
- “The support is good”
- “It varies depending on which YOT Officer you are dealing with.”

Question 5. Do you feel the role of the Mentor / Volunteer is valued and respected by the Young Person you work with?

This produced a varied response in that every Young Person is different and will respond differently. In the main, the responses have been positive.

- “Yes, in the vast majority of young people.”
- “Very much so, I feel Mentors / Volunteers have a great impact on youths, and respect the time you give because you care and it’s not seen as a job.”
- “Yes, however often because they are taken out, getting a free lunch etc. and it gets their YOT Officer “off their back”
- “I was told by a particular young person that he could open up to me easier and he felt that I was more approachable than his officer and that he sees me a lot more than his officer.”

Question 6. Do you feel the role of the Mentor / Volunteer is valued and respected by YOT staff?

A varied response, but in the main answers were positive.

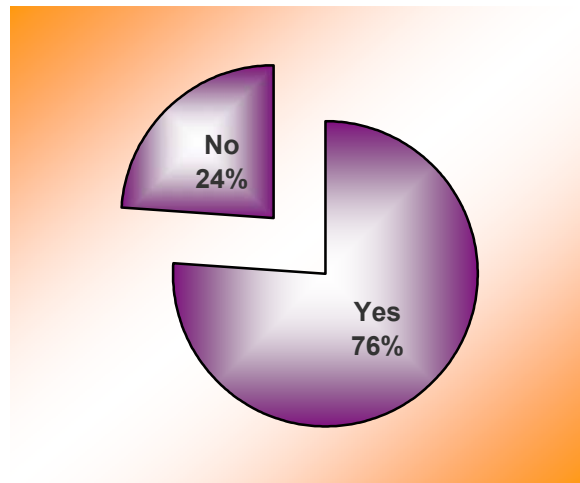
- “Very much so, I feel I was valued greatly and opinions and ideas were taken on board.”
- “Yes I am always being told how appreciated I am.”
- “They take people seriously and value your feedback”
- “Yes very much, it’s helpful to them.”

Question 7. Do you feel that the skills you have to offer as a Mentor / Volunteer have been fully utilised by the YOT?

“Yes I explained my past experiences and qualifications and I feel I was used in the best way possible.”

“We was given ongoing training to enhance our skills.”

“Yes I am time limited and they utilize the time I have effectively.”

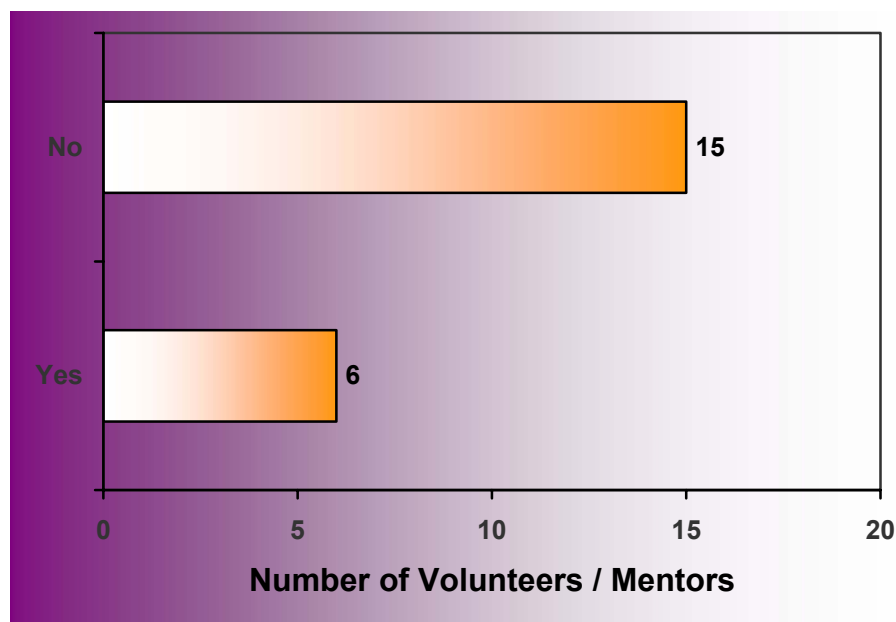


Question 8. Please list any concerns that you may have about the Mentoring Scheme / 'PACE' Scheme.

Concerns mentioned included;

- “Mentoring initial meeting – felt a little bit ‘in at the deep end’ ... could do with more preparation.”
- “None, it’s a very good scheme.”

Question 9. Have you ever experienced any difficulties since volunteering as a Mentor / Volunteer?



Question 10. Do you have any recommendations on how to improve the Mentoring Service offered?

- “To draw more Mentors who have a wide variety of skills that they can use on the Young Person.”
- “Maybe offer other areas where you could get different experiences.”
- “Encourage Mentors to find ways of utilising their new training and skills in other areas of the YOT i.e. paid employment.
- “Shadowing opportunities in order to gain more experience.”
- “Perhaps more training should be given to Mentors.”

Question 11. Are you unhappy with any aspect of the scheme?

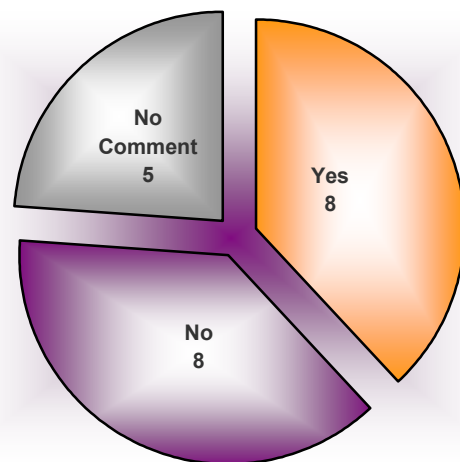
- “More mentees allocated to you”
- Appropriate Adult – “Being left in reception waiting at the Police Station ... could there be a corner somewhere for us to sit quietly and read etc.”

Question 12. Do you feel adequately used?

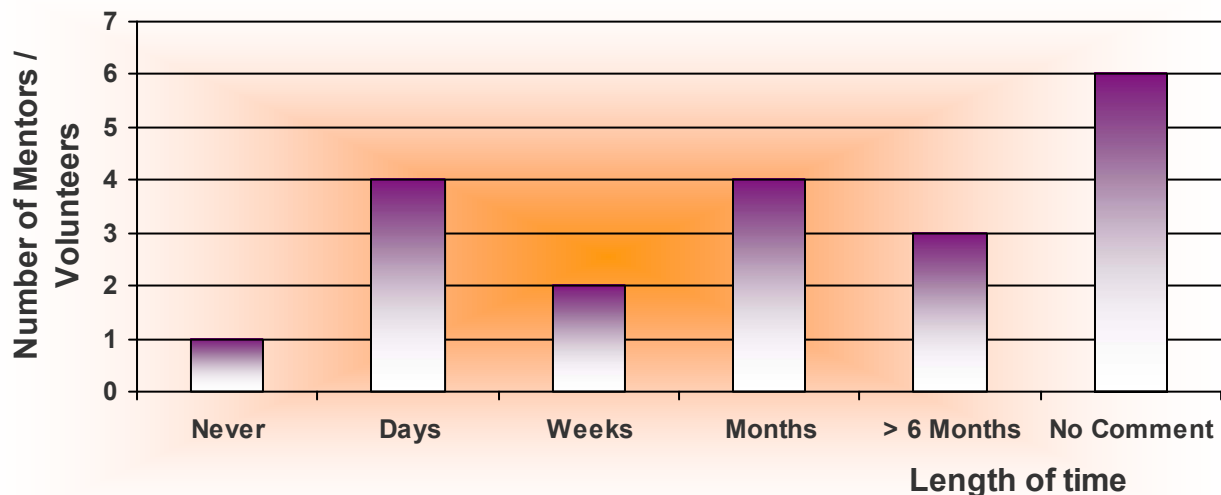
Responses to this question gave us recurring themes – mentors trained and not used, lack of information sharing, not valued and so on. Only 35% of Mentors feel they are adequately used.

“Wish I could do more, I don’t like saying no when requested to attend.”

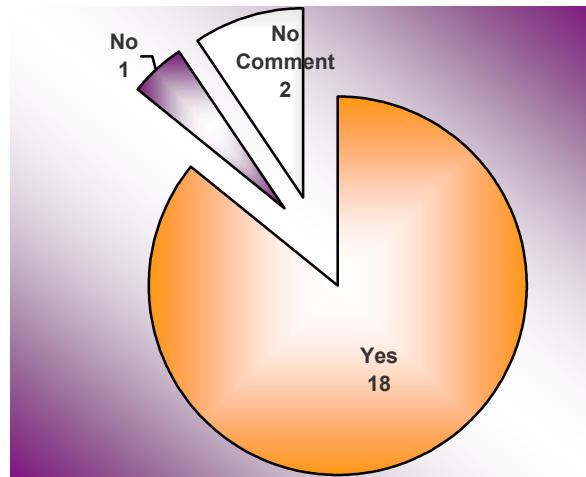
“Yes, and they were understanding of my need to put things on hold for a few weeks, which was good”



Question 13. When was the last time you were paired up with a young person, or used as an appropriate adult?



Question 14. Would you recommend Mentoring to a friend?



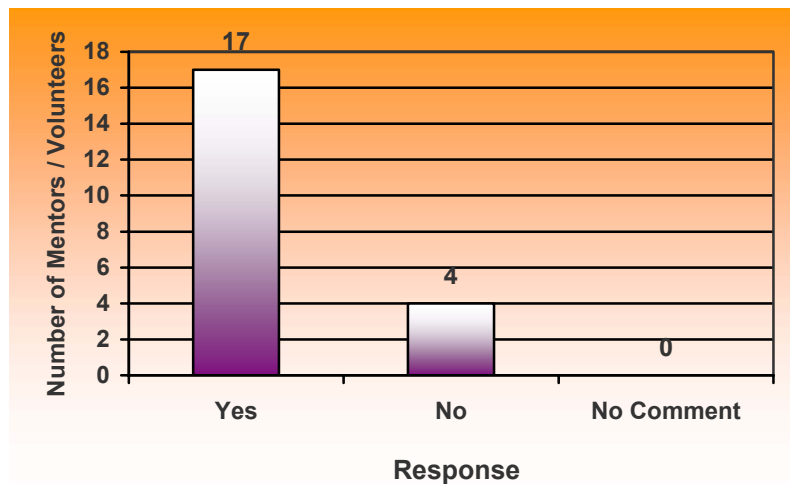
Question 15. Was the mentoring training adequate and did it prepare you for your role?

“Yes but I was a little nervous at first.”

“Yes, very informative, useful and I feel it will be worthwhile in the future.”

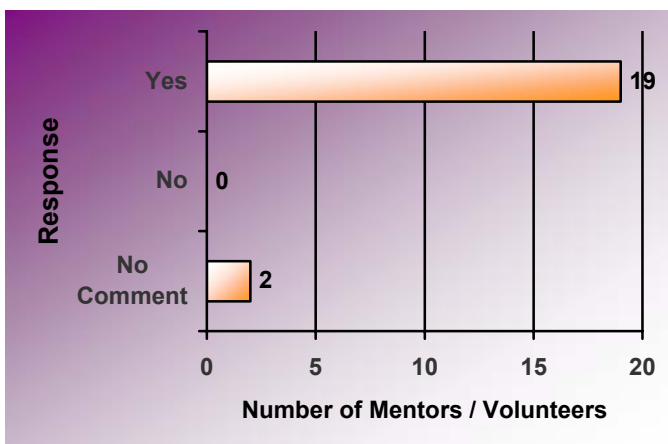
“I feel it was a great help and provided me with all the knowledge I needed for being a successful productive volunteer”

“Training was adequate, however I feel I must now shadow someone experienced.”



“Yes personally rewarding knowing that you are supporting a young person.”

Question 16. Do you enjoy your work as a Mentor / Volunteer and is it worthwhile?



“I do enjoy my work, I believe it is worthwhile for me and the mentee.”

“Yes I feel the kids need a friendly face and someone who listens and doesn’t judge them.”

“Personally rewarding knowing you are supporting a young person.”

“I am happy to be helping in a small way

Question 17. How would you describe the Mentoring Scheme in Kirklees?

