

Making Leeds a child friendly city



**Noticeably better for our youth
Amsterdam 2019**

Hello from Leeds



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sgoi0qunncs>



Leeds



- 187,000 children and young people
- 1 partnership, 1 vision, 1 plan
- 5 outcomes
- 3 obsessions
- Schools at the heart of communities
- Approx. 75,000 people working with children and families



Only one question

What is it like
to be a child or young person
growing up in Leeds...

and how do we make it
better?



Values are everything ...

- “Culture eats strategy for breakfast”
- It is all about relationships
- Processes are important and cannot be ignored but ...
- ... processes don't bring about change, **people do!**



Two quotes ...

- We cannot waste our **precious children**. Not another one, not another day. It is long past time for us to act on their behalf.
- Nelson Mandela and Graça Machel: 2000
- A child's current behaviour often reflects an essentially sane response to an **untenable set of life circumstances**.
- Madge Bray: 1997



5

Five outcomes

Conditions of well-being we want for all our children and young people

All children and young people:

1. are safe from harm
2. do well at all levels of learning and have skills for life
3. enjoy healthy lifestyles
4. have fun growing up
5. are active citizens who feel they have a voice and influence





Three obsessions

1. Safely and appropriately reduce the number of children looked after
2. Reduce the number of young people not in education, employment and training
3. Improve achievement, attainment and attendance at school





Leeds has a bold ambition ...

- ... to be the best city for children and young people to grow up in – a child friendly city
- All-party political support in Leeds
- Officially launched by HRH The Queen in July 2012



Child friendly city

- Put the child at the heart of the growth strategy of the city
- Children live in families, families create communities, communities make cities
- A whole city approach



Child Friendly Neighbourhoods - Play Streets



School Engagement



Child friendly Leeds ambassadors

- Over 900 child friendly Leeds ambassadors
- All helping to raise the profile of Child friendly Leeds and share what it is about.
- Inspiring others to make Leeds a better place for children and young people





Making Leeds a child friendly city



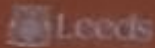




Making
Leeds a child
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Well
done
in your
exams!

Leeds celebrating children
and young people



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The child at the centre

- Listen to the voice of the child – and let that voice have influence.
- The children's mayor
- Consultation and appointments



Wania – Leeds Children’s Mayor



Wania’s Manifesto: good mental health for children

- **Wania will address the full Leeds council meeting**
- **Her manifesto will be adopted as council policy**
- **Officers will then work with Wania to develop her manifesto**



The City Centre Project



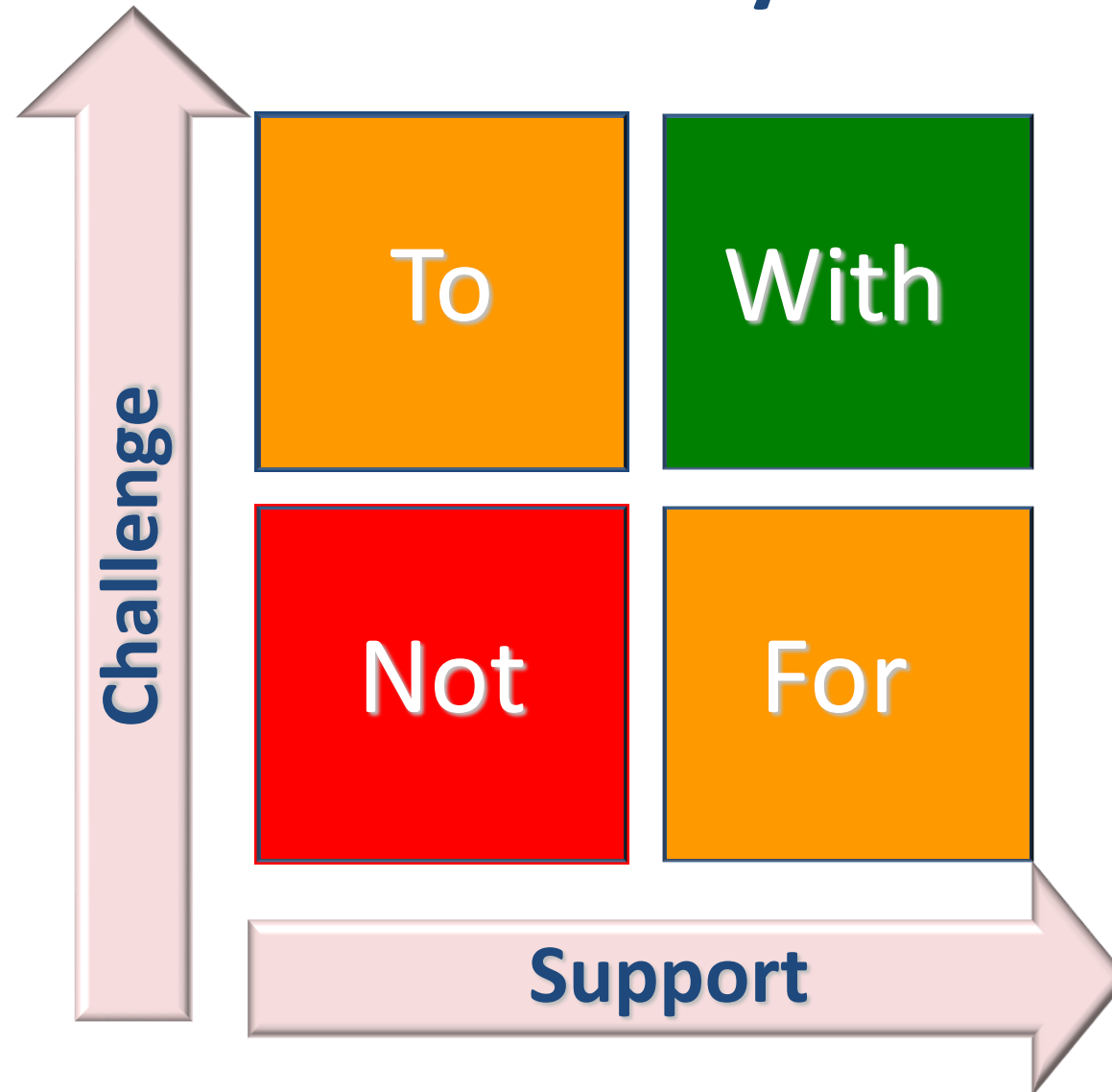
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jww2ASC3utI>

Restorative Practice is ...

- About building, maintaining and restoring relationships.
- It is not a model or a tool, it is a way of being.
- High challenge, High support



Four ways...



Adapted from: Wachtel T & McCold P in Strang H & Braithwaite J (eds), (2001),
Restorative Justice and Civil Society, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge

It's all about relationships!



THANK YOU!

Andy Lloyd

Head of Children's Workforce Development

Leeds City Council

: andy.lloyd@leeds.gov.uk

[@andywlloyd](#)

