

# **FRAMEWORK FOR GEOGRAPHICALLY TARGETED YOUTH WORK**

## **Purpose:**

To promote greater accountability in the provision of youth work. To indicate the requirements for the provision of geographically targeted Youth Work Services delivered by the in-house Youth Service and commissioned external providers.

To strengthen the role and influence of Community Committees and enable elected members influence and appropriately determine local youth work provision that best helps address agreed priority outcomes for each particular area.

To set out the outcomes expected of the youth work provider/s within the Community Committee's boundaries and how success will be measured.

To ensure all targeted youth work that falls within the scope of this agreement, effectively contributes to enable the Local Authority to meet its duties outlined in "The Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on Services and Activities to Improve Young People's Well-being" (Revised DFE 2012).

## **Background:**

In March 2013 Executive Board agreed:

The development of a new "Youth Offer" that clearly defines an outcome focussed role for a new targeted youth work service to be delivered by the best possible providers. This will be part of a new city-wide provision, embedded within one simple framework:

- *A universal guarantee:* supporting all young people to be active, well informed and engaged. Building on Breeze and maximizing the diversity of partnerships and organisations in the city.
- *A targeted guarantee:* enabling young people who are identified as vulnerable or who have specific needs in accessing the range of opportunities to do so.
- *A specialist guarantee:* ensuring that young people with specialist needs (those with the most complex challenges, requiring workers with very specialist skills) are able to be on a path to success and contribute positively to society through the provision of restorative services for them, their families and communities.

A clear expectation that the voice of children and young people will be at the heart of how the new approach develops, with clear evidence of how young people's views have informed decisions at a local level, in terms of design, delivery and governance.

## **Service Principles and Priorities**

In Leeds, Youth Work is seen as a preventative and early intervention service to children and young people. As such, youth work providers will work towards the priorities defined in the Leeds Children & Young People's Plan.

Youth work supports the personal and social development of young people through which they build the capabilities they need for learning, work and the transition to adulthood. This is achieved through the voluntary engagement of young people with skilled Youth Workers.

Programmes of Youth Work support young people to connect with their communities, enabling them to belong and contribute to society, including through volunteering, and supporting them to have a voice in decisions which affect their lives.

Youth Work providers advocate on behalf of young people and as their champions, to promote and increase the number of opportunities for young people to have a voice and influence decisions across their city; to enable Leeds to become a fully Child Friendly City.

Change is driven by the use Restorative Practice and Outcomes Based Accountability.

Youth work providers will give due regard to equality & diversity. All services delivered must fall within the legislative and policy framework of Equalities Act 2010.

## **Service Activity**

Youth work programmes will be delivered predominantly in the targeted neighbourhoods i.e. 40% most deprived lower super output areas, within the Community committee boundary.

Youth work opportunities will be targeted at young people, aged 11-17. There may be some discretion to provide opportunities within the wider age group of 11-19yrs (to 24 years where young people have learning difficulties).

Youth work delivery will be predominantly characterised by group work, with provision taking place mainly outside of school hours (i.e. evenings, weekends and school holidays).

Emphasis will be given to programmes which aim to address the needs of local young people, particularly the needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, taking full account of equality and diversity issues; thereby reducing the demand for more specialist services.

The planning of Youth work programmes will be evidence led, based on available data relevant to local priorities and what young people have told us they want.

Young people will be involved in a meaningful way in all elements of the delivery, including design, governance and quality assurance.

Youth work programmes will support young people to be involved in local decision making and become active citizens in their local community and beyond.

The purpose of the youth work activity will be to raise young people's aspirations, build their resilience, and inform their decisions; thereby reducing teenage conception, risky behaviours such as substance misuse and involvement in crime and anti-social behaviour.

Where there is more than one provider within the area, joint planning should take place on a regular basis to ensure provision is co-ordinated and duplication of work and/or gaps in service are avoided.

Regular liaison between the youth work provider/s and other services working with young people in the area will take place in a meaningful way to ensure youth work delivery compliments and enhances the outcomes for young people requiring more targeted/specialist interventions.

All the youth work provision that falls within the scope of this agreement will be publicised effectively to young people and their families within the locality, utilising appropriate methods, such as via the Breeze website.

Where appropriate, the Youth Work provider/s will support the local authority to comply with its responsibilities of involving young people and securing access to sufficient services and activities by actively participating in city-wide events and contributing to strategies that will drive the continuous improvement of the Leeds Youth Offer.

## **Service Outcomes**

The overall outcomes expected from this agreement are to meet and address the citywide outcomes identified below in relation to making Leeds a Child Friendly City. These are as follows;

Children and Young People in Leeds:

- Are safe from harm
- Do well in learning and have the skills for life
- Choose healthy lifestyles
- Have fun growing up; and
- Are active citizens who feel they have voice and influence

Youth work provision contributes to improving outcomes for young people against the following priorities;

- Support children to live in safe and supportive families
- Ensure that the most vulnerable are protected
- Improve behaviour, attendance and achievement
- Increase the levels of young people in employment, education or training
- Support children to be ready for learning
- Improve support where there are additional health needs
- Encourage activity and healthy eating
- Promote sexual health
- Reduce youth crime and anti-social behaviour
- Increase participation, voice and influence.
- Minimise the misuse of drugs, alcohol & tobacco by children & young.

## **Reporting and Performance Monitoring**

The performance of the service will be measured using the following:

- Reports, drawn down from the Outreach Management Information System, relating to the number of young people worked with, gender, ethnicity, age, provision attended, frequency of attendance etc. Attendances claimed but not endorsed by Outreach will not be deemed acceptable.
- Narrative reports from the provider, the nature of which will be determined by the requirements of the Community Committee and Children's Services.
- Evidence of outcomes achieved by young people worked with, using an appropriate outcome measurement tool, deemed acceptable by the Directorate of Children Services. This evidence can be in any appropriate form, including text, narrative via and by young people, photographic evidence, etc. Outcomes claimed but lacking evidence will not be acceptable.
- The service provider will supply reports and quarterly data monitoring returns as agreed to an appropriate Children's Services Officer who will monitor and review the service targets, performance indicators, outcomes and the progress of the service.
- The format of the quarterly data monitoring returns will be mutually agreed between the Community Committee, Children's Services and Service Provider during quarter 1. As a minimum it will contain information detailed below:

<b>Information Required</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
The number of young people accessing the service broken down by age, ethnicity, status (i.e. LAC, NEET) and geographical/cluster area of residence	Quarterly
Progress of young people once engaged with the service as measured via an appropriate Youth Work Outcome Assessment Tool	Quarterly
The total number of youth work sessions delivered & details of times/days and venues	Quarterly
Details of young people's engagement in Social Action projects and activities	Quarterly
Details of how young people have been involved in service planning, delivery and review.	Quarterly
The total number of complaints/compliments received by the service during the period, number ongoing and number resolved	Quarterly
The total number of safeguarding reports received and /or safeguarding concerns identified by the service during the period, details of actions taken and outcomes	Quarterly
Details of enhanced DBS checks for staff and volunteers	Quarterly
Any prosecutions, or pending prosecutions, for any breach of employment law or legislation relating to equal opportunities	Quarterly
Any allegations of improper conduct, and their outcome, brought to the attention of the service provider	Quarterly
Any disciplinary action taken by the service provider relevant to the provision of the services	Quarterly
Service Cost Analysis Form (SCAF) and annual accounts (If applicable)	Annually
Any other such information as may be reasonably requested by Leeds Children's Services	As & when necessary

- Monitoring returns will cover the periods 1 April to 30 June (quarter 1); 1 July to 30 September (quarter 2); 1 October to 31 December (quarter 3); and 1 January to 31 March (quarter 4) in each year.
- The monitoring returns will be submitted to Leeds Children's Services within 2 weeks following the end of each period as stated above. Any issues and/or risks arising from the data will be discussed with the Service Provider.
- Reporting and performance monitoring meetings will cover issues relating to this framework document. The aim will be to identify any risks and agree actions to reduce or eliminate those risks. The focus will be on continuous improvement through a partnership approach.
- Quality Assurance / audit visits may be carried out by an appropriate member of staff from the Children's Services Directorate if there are concerns about performance or delivery.
- Children's Services will provide needs data related to the Community committee in order to support informed decision making.

## **Resources**

For the period of ..... the approximate available resource for the Community Committee is £

The Youth Work providers currently funded from this resource are;

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>% of total resource for Committee</b>