

Cardiff Youth Service

REPORT OF Director of Education & LLL

PORTFOLIO: Education and Lifelong Learning

1. Reason for this report

- i) To update Scrutiny on the current position in relation to Youth Service provision in Cardiff.
- ii) To clarify for Scrutiny Cardiff's contribution to the East Wales European Social Fund programme, 'Inspire 2 Achieve'.

2. Background and context

- i) This report provides information on the operational focus and the changes in delivery of Cardiff Youth Service made in the past 12 months. During the period April 2014 to April 2016 the Youth Service has undertaken a significant service restructure to meet both budgetary requirements and to secure a coordinated 'Youth Offer' across the city.
- ii) The operational focus of the Youth Service is now centred on two areas of delivery; retaining community based open access youth work and meeting the aspirations of the 'Cardiff Commitment' to improve outcomes for young people.
- iii) Cardiff Council has sought to bring additional resource to support work with those young people not engaging or at risk of disengagement from education, training or employment (ETE). The Council has been successful in securing £1,630,288 of funding under an East Wales European Social Fund (ESF) programme bid.

3. Youth Service Structure - summary of position

- i) The Youth Service has undertaken a significant reorganisation of provision which was completed in April 2016. The new structure maintains a 'Youth Offer' across the city. Young people have the opportunity to access provision in a number of formats to meet their needs. The structure includes; the retention of six council youth centres, improved working arrangements with youth focused organisations, neighbourhood alignment of detached and outreach youth work, increased access to one to one support, maintained inclusive youth work provision and support for Cardiff Youth Council and the active participation of young people in decision making.

4. Retention of six council youth centres

- i) The Youth Service is currently operating from six Youth Activity Centres (YAC's) these are; North Ely Youth Centre, Butetown Pavilion, Eastmoors Youth Centre, St Mellons Youth and Community Centre, Llanedeyrn Hub, and Grassroots (Cardiff City centre). Five of the centres are providing activities for young people on three evenings a week (Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays) for a period of 44 weeks through the year. Grassroots continues to operate a five day, day time facility delivering information, advice and guidance as well as education activities to young people between the ages of 16 and 24.
- ii) Each of the six centres are staffed by professionally qualified youth workers including a full time Senior Youth Officer (Youth Offer). Officers are supported by an allocation of four part time youth work staff who are working with young people to deliver a range of youth focused activities in each of the centres. The Senior Youth Officers have responsibility for the management of the Youth Activity Centre and for overseeing the coordination and delivery of a wider neighbourhood 'Youth Offer'.

5. Improved partnership working arrangements with youth focused organisations

- i) The co-ordination of a 'Youth Offer' is being progressed through the establishment of Neighbourhood Youth Action Groups in each of the six existing Neighbourhood Partnership areas. The action groups are responsible for bringing organisations delivering out of school activities for young people together to act as focal point for the planning of a wider neighbourhood 'Youth Offer'. This will include, for example, collaboratively mapping and publicising youth activities through the year particularly highlighting the availability of activities during holiday periods.
- ii) The six Youth Activity Centres are being promoted as venues to host organisations that deliver youth focused services and activities. This will enable centres to open beyond the three evenings currently available to young people and potentially generate an income.
- iii) Investment is being made in the fabric of North Ely and Eastmoors Youth Activity Centres during 2016/17 to bring them up to a good standard of specification.
- iv) Beyond the Youth Activity Centres the Council has made a commitment to supporting the delivery of youth work throughout the city and is achieving this through a combination of council and community/third sector run provision. The allocation of fifteen 'Youth Innovation Grants' (Appendix 1) has provided an exciting opportunity to engage with young people, community groups and third sector providers in shaping and delivering youth services. This approach augments Youth Activity Centre provision, offering access to youth provision across the city in a variety of different

formats and providing a 'Youth Offer' for young people age 13-19 in all neighbourhood areas. Responsibility for supporting and monitoring the delivery of grant providers will be undertaken by a designated Senior Youth Officer.

- v) Whilst still early days, the initial take up by young people of activities delivered through the Innovation Grants is encouraging.

For example, in the period October and March 2015/16;

- The Plasnewedd Project, a grant recipient partnership between YMCA Cardiff, Ethnic Support Team and Ministry of Life, offering provision two evenings a week, made a total of 668 contacts with young people. The programmes delivered included design and music workshops, issue based work, consultation events and with an additional £500 HYPE grant supported work to engage young people in volunteering opportunities.
- Cardiff City Foundation delivered 84 multi-sport and health focused sessions in Ely (Michaelston Barn), Trelai, Western Leisure Centre and Llanishen Leisure Centre. The programmes made a total of 2,642 contacts with young people of which 33% were female. 19 young people are engaged with the Foundation on a formal volunteer programme.
- Cathays and Central Youth and Community Project have been running services for young people using the Youth Innovation Grant to run three sessions per week during term time. The Project has made 1092 contacts with young people. During sessions young people engage with issue based work alongside sports, pool and cooking activities. Young people are additionally involved in accredited projects around learning sign language, independent living and work related education.
- Full Circle, a social enterprise organisation has been working since January with young people in the Llanrumney area. Meeting twice weekly at John Reynolds Centre and Llanrumney Hub the Youth TV Project is attracting 35 young people. The project is focused on engaging young people through creating a TV channel, created by young people for young people, building youth digital skills and competencies, leadership and presentation skills.

6. Neighbourhood alignment of detached and outreach youth work

- i) Recognising that not all young people access structured or centre based activities, the Youth Service has retained detached and outreach youth work teams which are delivering on two evenings during the week. These are aligned to each centre with a working brief across a neighbourhood area. The detached teams, using available data including anti-social behaviour information will continue to target 'hot spots' where young people are known to congregate.

7. Access to one to one support

- i) The Youth Service has a role to play in contributing to the delivery of the 'Cardiff Commitment'. In progressing this the Service has strengthened the relationship between youth work delivery and formal education enabling a more consistent and integrated offer to young people. Work delivered by the Youth Service will target support at young people at risk of disengagement from or not progressing in education, training or employment. On that basis, we expect this approach to support a sustained reduction in young people who are not in education, training or employment.
- ii) Utilising the Vulnerability Assessment Profile (VAP) and at post 16 the Neighbourhood panels, officers are working with secondary schools and Careers Wales to allocate Youth Mentors to support identified young people. Six Senior Youth Officer (Early Intervention and Prevention) are managing the delivery of mentor interventions including; assessing needs, arranging intensive one to one support, addressing risk taking behaviours, raising aspirations, managing referrals to specialist agencies. The delivery of targeted interventions is being supported by an allocation of twenty four Youth Mentors.
- iii) Funding for the mentoring programme has been secured from external sources which includes, Family First Funding, the Education Improvement Grant, and the Youth Work Strategy Support Grant. Using the latter two grants as a source of match funding has enabled the Council to access additional ESF money which will further enhance the programme. Programme details in Appendix 2.

8. Inclusive youth work provision

- i) The Council has a commitment to promoting access to youth work provision and inclusive youth work. Youth work for young people with a learning difficulty or disability and provision for young carers is retained. Provision is currently delivered on a weekly basis at Trelai, Cathays and Gabalfa with bespoke provision for young people who undertake caring responsibilities delivered from Butetown Pavilion.

9. Active participation of young people in decision making

- i) The Council has a strong reputation and commitment to a youth led approach and listening to the voice of young people. The Youth Service will continue to provide staff to support an Active Involvement Team working to support both young people in communities and Cardiff Youth Council to increase involvement in decision making and engagement in

the design and delivery of services.

10. Next Steps

- i) As we go forward it is vitally important that open-access provision is used to effectively connect young people with more targeted or specialised support where this is appropriate. To achieve this outcome the Youth Service has co-located Senior Youth Officers to promote referrals from open access provision into targeted support and encourage those young people that are targeted to access youth provision in their communities. To further support this outcome statutory and community/third sector providers need to take their collaborative working to new levels, maximising the impact of limited resources and present a high-quality and coherent Youth Offer to young people.

Appendix 1

Youth Innovation Grants

A two stage application process during the summer and autumn of 2015 drew applications from 16 individual organisations ranging from community providers to national organisations. Following a robust assessment process which involved interviews with a panel made up of young people, third sector (C3SC and Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services (CWVYS)) and Council officer representation, fifteen grants have been awarded, the details of which are set out below;

Neighbourhood Partnership Area and Youth Activity Centre (YAC)	Area	Youth Work Delivery Partner	Youth Innovation Grant Award
City & South (Butetown, Grangetown) Council maintained YAC – Butetown Pavilion Maintained YAC – Grassroots, City Centre	Grangetown	South Riverside Community Development Centre / Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales	£18,000
	Riverside	South Riverside Community Development Centre / Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales	£18,000
East (Trowbridge, Llanrumney, Rumney & Trowbridge) Council maintained YAC – St Mellons Community Education Centre	Llanrumney	Full Circle Education	£18,000
	Rumney	Cardiff City FC Foundation	£12,000
North (Rhiwbina, Llanishen, Heath, Penylan, Cyncoed, Lisvane, Llanederyn, Pentwyn & Pontprennau) Council maintained YAC – The Powerhouse, Llanederyn	Llanishen	Cardiff City FC Foundation	£12,000
	Pentwyn & Pontprennau	Ministry of Life	£12,000
South East (Gabalfa, Cathays (part), Plasnewydd, Adamsdown & Splott) Council maintained YAC – Eastmoors Youth	Cathays	Cathays and Central Youth and Community Project	£18,000
	Tremorfa	Ministry of Life	£12,000
	Plasnewydd	YMCA	£18,000

Centre, Splott			
South West (Ely, Caerau, Canton & Riverside)	Caerau	Cardiff City FC Foundation	£18,000
	Ely	Cardiff City FC Foundation	£12,000
Council maintained YAC – North Ely Youth Centre			
West (St Fagans, Pentyrch, Radyr & Morganstown, Whitchurch & Tongwynlais, Llandaff North, Llandaff, Fairwater)	Fairwater	ACE	£18,000
	Whitchurch	YMCA	£18,000
	Radyr	YMCA	£12,000
	Gabalfa	Ministry of Life	£12,000
Welsh Medium Youth Work	Cardiff wide	Urdd Gobaith and Menter Caerdydd	£30,000

Appendix 2

European Social Fund

i. Background and context

- Inspire 2 Achieve (I2A) is a three year operational programme which was applied for under the East Wales ESF programme, Priority 3 Youth Employment and Attainment Specific Objective 2.
- Programme objective; to reduce the number of those at risk of becoming NEET amongst 11 - 16 year olds.
- The operation will be delivered across the Local Authority areas of Cardiff, Newport, Monmouthshire and the Vale of Glamorgan. Careers Wales and Cardiff and Vale College are additional recipients of ESF funding under this Priority.
- Newport City Council is the lead authority responsible for the funding application and the overall management of the programme.
- The total value of the funding over the period of April 2016 to March 2019 is £1,630,228.
- Of the total funding £652,091 is new ESF funding. £978,137 is brought as match funding raised through Education Improvement Grant and Youth Work Strategy Support Grant.

ii. Operational focus

- The operation has a clear focus on retention of those targeted at risk of disengagement with education. Inspire 2 Achieve will provide early interventions aimed at addressing individual barriers and supportive actions to reduce the risk of them dropping out.
- The provision in Cardiff will be delivered by Cardiff Youth Service and Careers Wales as a joint beneficiary on Inspire 2 Achieve.
- An ESF Project Co-ordinator is being appointed to manage the programme delivery.
- Inspire 2 Achieve will enhance existing provision offered to schools through ;
 - ❖ Increased access to Youth Mentors (additional 2.5 mentors)
 - ❖ Careers Wales Activate Advisers
 - ❖ Careers Wales Business Engagement Adviser

- Funding is available to commission additional provision to address the barriers to engagement and progression where identified as required.
- A requirement of the programme is that schools will have access to services for pupils in years 7-11 identified as red through the VAP process.

iii. Outcomes and outputs

- Outcomes and outputs are required to be reported on a quarterly basis.
- The programme will deliver to 1500 pupils over the duration of the programme.
- Measurable outcomes are;
 - ❖ Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-16) gaining qualifications upon leaving.
 - ❖ Participants at risk of becoming NEET (11-16) in education or training upon leaving
 - ❖ Participants at Risk of becoming NEET (11-16) at reduced risk of becoming NEET upon leaving