

COUNCIL

17 March 2022

COMPOSITE MOTION – SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN CARDIFF

This Council notes:

The quality and value of youth workers and youth work supporting young people in Cardiff and congratulates Cardiff's Youth Service on being re-awarded the Bronze Level Youth Work Quality Mark.

That youth workers are valuable role models for young people.

The key role youth work has in supporting young people to realise their full potential and that youth work is a distinct educational process across a variety of settings which could include street based youth workers, youth mentors and centre based youth workers.

That youth centres can be an important part of communities as is the work carried out by our street based youth work teams, youth mentors who operate across the city responding to local need working with some of the most vulnerable young people in the city wherever they are and our EOTAS team who support some of the city's most vulnerable learners.

The hard work and dedication of volunteers who work with young people across Cardiff.

The partners that work with the Council to deliver quality youth work in Cardiff including those benefiting from Youth Innovation Grants and the council's financial support for Menter Caerdydd used to run provision for Welsh speakers around the city.

The needs of young people are not limited to one particular arc of Cardiff and there is need in every ward but that the needs of certain groups of young people and areas are greater particularly with the cut in Universal Credit, increasing cost of living and increasing numbers of children and young people falling into poverty. Youth work can also play an important part in addressing the differential impact of covid on our young people.

The 15 minute neighbourhood concept includes young people, their needs and access to facilities.

The fantastic work of Cardiff Commitment and youth mentors across the city and in all of our schools which has resulted in a fall in the number of young people not in education or training from 8.8% in 2010, well above the Welsh average, to 1.5% at a time of great economic uncertainty.

The work carried out by youth workers around the city over the summer including the youth bus.

The work of the digital youth team in engaging with young people virtually

Cardiff Council welcomes the decision to undertake a review of our youth service provision to ensure we can meet the needs of young people and develop sustainable, long term investment in youth services.

This council believes the review should include:

Widening access as well as ensuring that qualified youth workers continue to cover the whole of Cardiff enabling them to reach young people wherever they are and whenever they are needed.

Ensuring youth workers, police, education, childrens services, youth justice teams, community safety and the 3rd sector continue to work closely together so that the best practice is in place across the whole of Cardiff in matters involving young people. Making sure that young people, no matter where in the city they live, have access to youth facilities and can access youth work-based support when they need it.

How we can share good practice whilst ensuring the quality of youth work practice across all youth support services is effective and listens to the voices of young people, providing youth work training to all organisations working with young people.

Developing a workforce strategy that invests in a diverse and inclusive workforce that is representative of our communities and provides opportunities for young people through corporate apprenticeships and traineeships.

Cardiff Council recognises that as we aim to become a Child Friendly City the Council must continue to engage with young people themselves about the services that impact on them.

To make representations to Welsh Government with regards to placing youth services on a statutory footing