

1302

Young People & Opportunities

1) Should it always be for a young person to decide whether they want to take part in a youth work activity? (1)

No, there are times when this could be prescribed by a court or children's Panel as part of rehabilitation. However, the recipient organisation should have some control over where the child is placed to optimise support.

Generally it should be the young person's decision.

2) What do you think are the priorities for youth work in the 21st century in your area? (13)

- ▶ More places to enable participation
- ▶ Lost of meeting resources
- ▶ Adult volunteers / training
- ▶ Making attractive variety of opportunities.

3) How do we make sure that youth work is accessible to all young people, including equality groups and those in rural areas, and respects their differences? (14)

▷ No entrance restrictions

▷ Training leaders to manage all types and to be flexible in approach

▷ Providing specific support for some 'conditions' or severe problems e.g. disability or of custodial sentence

▷ Respecting volunteer leaders rights to say that they can't cope with particular issues / circumstances

and being able to provide an alternative.

4) What more can be done at national, local and organisational levels to make sure that young people can participate in decisions that affect them? (24)

Fora for voicing opinions; a requirement on consultative groups to take youth into a/c at the planning as well as consultative stage.

But needs to be the type of forum that young people will feel comfortable with.

5) How do we make sure that young people receive recognition for informal learning? (28)

- ▶ Make clear to employers what awards mean in terms of achievement.
- ▶ Do not give awards away - rarity has a value; common only has a value if the standard is respected (e.g. Highers/standard Grades)

Community Involvement

6) How can youth work contribute to good community relations? (15)

- ▶ Raise profile of youth; gives those receiving service from youth a confidence in youngsters
- ▶ Improves young people's understanding & respect for own community ∴ increases their support in all ways from pride (less litter / vandalism) to volunteering to assist with Gala Days etc.
- ▶ Young people are less discriminatory and more open to change than older folk.

7) What can be done to enable all youth work providers to engage in and influence local networks and partnerships, including the Community Planning framework? (which is co-ordinated by the local authority) (21)

- ▶ Meetings at times volunteers can attend
- ▶ Proving the providers will benefit from the contact
- none goes up there when it is precious if there is a risk it will be wasted.
- ▶ Make certain that they can influence and see their influence in policy / initiatives
- ▶ Funding

- ▶ Be more imaginative in capturing input - why should they only write ideas or attend a conference?

Volunteers

8) How do we attract and retain more volunteers to help deliver youth work opportunities? (5)

Staffing

- ▶ Paid leave from work for ~~only~~ holidays/breaks for the young folk
- ▶ Flexible packages of support eg. Once a month on a roster even tho' club meets every week
- ▶ Do not be lulled into paying volunteers

9) What skills, qualities and support does a 21st century youth worker need? (31)

QUALITIES

- ▶ Open minded; ~~leadership~~; good leader; Self confidence; integrity; energy; love

SKILLS

- ▶ Leadership; organisational skills; listening skills

SUPPORT

- ▶ Training; resources; support network provision; statutory requirements

10) Do volunteer youth workers need the same skills and support as paid youth workers? (32)

Yes PLUS more energy
more self sufficiency
more enthusiasm

11) Are there specific types of training that are difficult to access and that volunteers need to do their job more effectively? (34)

- ▶ First Aid / First Response
- ▶ Basic PC & Internet skills
- ▶ Transactional skills - eg NLP / TA / etc. - the stuff that helps one understand why people behave the way they do and how to manage it most effectively.

We don't do anything like enough of this, nor leadership training

- ▶ Leadership

12) How do we make sure that any measures put in place to strengthen standards, including registration, are suitable and work effectively for volunteers? (36)

Pilot & test

Ask the volunteers what the impact is —
and trust them.

Resources & Capacity

13) What type of support is needed at national level to improve opportunities and outcomes for young people at a local level?

(8)

- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Publicity
- ▶ Encouragement to employers to support through providing opportunities for young people and volunteers

14) How can youth organisations expand the numbers of young people they deal with? (22)

- ▶ Have leaders
- ▶ Better meeting resources — cost of hiring schools is too high but alternatives are limited. Schools are currently a wasted resource — as are health centres which have

meeting rooms, all shut at night

- ▶ Better 'pr' profile with young

Any other comments that you would like to make?

We would be most grateful if you could complete the following details.

Name:	Dinah Faulds			
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Are you responding:	(Please tick box)			
	As an individual member			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	On behalf of a unit/district/division/county or other grouping			<input type="checkbox"/>
If as an individual, what is your age?	Under 16 <input type="checkbox"/>	16-18 <input type="checkbox"/>	19-25 <input type="checkbox"/>	
	26-35 <input type="checkbox"/>	36-45 <input type="checkbox"/>	46-60 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Over 60 <input type="checkbox"/>
If as a group, what is the name of your unit/district/division/county/other?				
What is your ethnicity?	White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mixed	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British			<input type="checkbox"/>
	Black, Black Scottish or Black British			<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other Ethnic Background			<input type="checkbox"/>