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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)

I don't think we can force any young person to participate.

What we should do is make the activity attractive to take part in by giving good PR and info so the young person can make an informed decision.

If you find a young person to take part then they are not interested they can't opt out for the time involved.

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

We need to make youth work up to date, fun, better PR. to make youth work trendy. More choice for young people. More funding, more staff, accommodation, resources.

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)

Keep it fresh. Make sure no religion, sectarianism.
Rural more difficult. Transport, safety, can be a
problem for rural areas. Not enough young people in a
ward willing to warrant/fund a youth project, so improve
transport links to allow villages, towns to be able to mix
and run groups. Keep working on themes that include all
ages, cultures, religions.

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)

Communicate! Not enough done. Listen in schools from
primary onwards. Excellent listening base here!
Start getting ideas from kids at a young age and
let them know what is going on. What they can change +
~~Get groups~~ how to do it. Involve them from an early
age.

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

Like we could build up modules making the qualifications nationally recognised to employers, colleges, universities etc. What is learned during informal learning can be a great selling point to an employer etc.

Community Involvement

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

In Canada, all we do is for the good of the neighbourhood, never
but also the community at large. In my time we work
with the local school where we meet. The head teacher
allows us to use some gym equipment. This is kept in all
the weeks - we pupils at the school and the 2 of the most
leaders (1) staff member 2) parent in the PTA.
I think we need more involvement with other groups in the
community. Perhaps organ. P.A. helps too. We need to be able to
meet up and talk. Share good practice etc.

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)

We need local groups to be able to feed views into
the local authority, whether by e-mail, face to face meetings.
Please do not have top down a Director only. You get better
info from the people on the ground, especially along the weekly
routines on work. They know the problems and good points in other
words the reality and what is needed!

Volunteers

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

Again, better P.R.
Less paperwork, this can take up too much time and put volunteers off.
Volunteers can be put off if they need to pay for uniform, membership fees etc. Grants should be available to help meet this.
Also the worry of running a small budget. Especially in poorer areas again funding is required to set up and then assist groups.

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

Good communicator, excellent budgeting, organisational skills, sense of fun, good humour, patience IT skills help too.
Support in running the financial, paperwork etc. Access to funding, ideas for things to do in your group, transport is always a hassle to be so cheap, safe bus companies etc.

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

Yes, we are all doing a great job helping to shape the young people we deal with.

I think volunteers get a range of skills as being young I should think. People do not realise the dedication, time and effort put in by unpaid volunteers. There is a lot of planning, preparation done. Its not just turning up at the night and giving an hour or so of your time.

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

Resilience. I have not experienced any problems.

Burnouts: More demanding, can need help with bullying, abuse, domestic problems, poverty issues. None that we are trained for so common sense has to prevail.

Guides need a variety of training needs. i.e. I.T, drugs, alcohol, and as I mentioned above. None of this is available to guides.

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)

All measures must be flexible. If they are too rigid we could lose volunteers. They must be operational too depending what you are prepared to be doing time wise. Disclosure should be a one off. One done should not have to be done again if you move or are involved in more than 1 organisation. It does need to be reviewed every 5 yrs as is now but needs to be tightened up as it is ~~not~~ very valid + take a lot of time it is OK'd, in follow up done.

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)

Make sure organisations are not all doing the same thing. Give lots of choice. Keep things up to date. Provide good equipment - be it balls, IT, paint or whatever is needed. You cannot ~~etc~~ supply opportunities without it costing money, so do it right or not better!

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

Need more staff!

We want to solve adult: child ratios. We have kids on waiting lists all the time with nothing we can do to relieve it as ~~our~~ hands are tied.

Any other comments that you would like to make?

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

Name: Gill Scott				
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(Please tick box)				
Are you responding:	As an individual member			<input type="checkbox"/>
	On behalf of a unit/district/division/county or other grouping			<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	46-60 <input type="checkbox"/>	Over 60 <input type="checkbox"/>
If as a group, what is the name of your unit/district/division/county/other? Perthshire / Campus district Gringueling Scotland				
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"/>		