

CONSULTATION RESPONSE

<i>INTRODUCTION – THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK</i>	
1. Should it always be for a young person to decide whether they want to take part in a youth work activity?	Generally yes but there will be occasions when a programme or activity will be of benefit to a young person e.g if there is a confidence building opportunity or diversionary activity or need identified through referral where the young person may be encouraged to attend.
2. Do you have any examples to share of good youth work?	

<p>3. To what extent should youth work opportunities be generally available to all young people, or be targeted on those who are particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged?</p>	<p>Youth work opportunities must be available to all young people. It is important that barriers are removed in order that disadvantaged young people can access opportunities e.g rurality, transport, inclusiveness and the range of activities extended.</p>
<p>4. To what extent will different types of youth work or youth organisations require different treatment in the National Youth Work Strategy?</p>	<p>The values and principles of Youth Work remains constant. However there is a perception in the community that young people who e.g engage in anti-social behaviour get treated better than those who do not. There needs to be greater understanding of why strategies like these are deployed. The social development aspects of this approach must be understood.</p>
<p>5. How do we attract and retain more volunteers to help deliver youth work opportunities?</p>	<p>We need to know more about the reasons why people do not feel able to volunteer in youth work.</p>
<p>6. How can better links be forged with schools and other providers to improve the opportunities available to young people?</p>	<p>Education Departments could make use of dedicated youth workers to help achieve targets linked to the journey to excellence.</p>
<p>7. What particular skills can youth workers bring to work within or around schools, especially to keep young people engaged?</p>	<p>It is the non authoritarian approach of the youth worker that helps to engage young people. Very often in schools there can be a considerable distance between the teacher and young person. In addition the youth worker is skilled in delivering the non academic curriculum e.g. confidence building, self-esteem and citizenship.</p>
<p><i>NATIONAL STRUCTURES</i></p>	
<p>8. What type of support is needed at national level to improve opportunities and outcomes for young people at a local level?</p>	<p>Setting national priorities and standards and ring-fencing of funds to deliver locally agreed youth work programmes.</p>
<p>9. Do you have any views on how YouthLink Scotland can best support and represent the range of youth work providers?</p>	<p>Training Sharing of best practice</p>
<p>10. How can we help national youth work organisations to work more with each other to share good practice, build capacity and make best use of their resources?</p>	<p>Should we have one national youth work agency?</p>
<p><i>BETTER INFORMATION FOR YOUNG PEOPLE</i></p>	
<p>11. What can be done to improve the information available to young people and their ability to access it?</p>	<p>More dedicated resources - people and buildings</p>

12. How can young people be more involved in developing information for other young people?	More dedicated resources - people and buildings
ACCESS TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	
13. What do you think are the priorities for youth work in the 21st century?	Opportunities for involvement with other young people in a social context where the end result is a young person who is able to make a positive contribution to her/his community. Youth Workers as role models Facilities for social engagement Young people are valued and are not perceived as cause of anti-social behaviour
14. 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?	Set standards and resource accordingly
15. How can youth work contribute to good community relations?	Young people being allowed to play a more active role in the community and being seen as being of value. Involving young people and adults equally in decision making processes.
16. What particular issues and barriers do young people from minority ethnic backgrounds, disabled young people and LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) young people encounter in accessing youth work opportunities?	We need to know more about what the barriers are. Youth workers need more expert training re equalities and dealing with discrimination
17. Are there any gender issues or other issues affecting equality groups that we need to consider?	
18. What can be done to provide the right kind of opportunities for young people of school age?	Space within the curriculum dedicated to youth work opportunities
19. And what can be done to provide the right kind of opportunities for young people who have left school?	Extra resources - people and buildings
20. How do we make sure that partnerships and youth work providers are focused on delivering better outcomes for young people at a local level?	Setting national priorities and standards and ring-fencing of funds to deliver locally agreed youth work plans and programmes that are monitored and evaluated.
21. What more can be done to enable all youth work providers to engage in and influence local networks and partnerships, including the community planning framework?	

22. How can youth organisations expand the numbers of young people they deal with?	Extra resources - people and buildings
23. What steps can be taken to make the best use of buildings and facilities to deliver youth work opportunities?	
EMPOWERING AND ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE	
24. What more can be done at national, local and organisational levels to make sure that young people can participate in decisions that affect them?	Legislation would be helpful
25. What more can be done at local or national level to support the Scottish Youth Parliament (SYP) to engage with and represent young people in Scotland?	The requirement to have local youth forums that feed into the SYP
IMPROVING QUALITY	
26. Are you getting enough support with self-evaluation and with identifying and measuring outcomes and impacts?	Training days for each LA
If no, what would help?	No
27. How can youth workers work more closely with others (for example, health workers) to make sure that young people's needs are identified and met?	Local Youth Development/Action Teams
28. How do we make sure that young people receive recognition for informal learning?	Use existing routes Youth Achievement Awards, Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Personal Reflection Diaries
29. How do we ensure that employers and others understand and value these achievements?	National awareness raising
30. How can we promote and encourage excellence in the youth work sector?	Self Evaluation applied (HGIOCLD2/) Use of the journey to excellence.
TRAINING	
31. What skills, qualities and support does a 21st century youth worker need?	Empathy, listening skills, knowledgeable of support structures for young people e.g. careers, training providers, health etc. Skilled in a variety of approaches to youth work.
32. Do volunteers need the same skills and support?	Yes
33. How do we attract and retain more people as youth workers on a full- or part-time basis?	Value and remunerate them. This is important. As less volunteers are coming forward we have to consider that we have to pay more youth workers in the future.

34. Are there specific types of training that are difficult to access and that workers or volunteers need to do their job more effectively?	As an island local authority the expense of attending mainland training events is prohibitive. Funding should be identified to allow equal participation.
35. Is there enough information about the training available?	
If no, what would help?	Yes
36. How do we make sure that any measures put in place to strengthen standards, including registration, are suitable and work effectively for volunteers?	Involve volunteers in the discussion
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS	
Any other comments?	

More About You

Question 1: What is your age? Please tick the most appropriate box.	36-45
Question 2: Are you?	Male
Question 3: What is your ethnicity? Please tick the most appropriate box.	White
Question 4: If responding as an individual, it would be helpful to know what your background is. Please tick the most appropriate box.	Community Learning and Development manager
If Other“ please give details:	
Question 5: Do You work:	Full-Time
Question 6: If responding on the behalf of a group or organisation, what age group(s) of young people do you mainly work with? Please tick as many boxes as appropriate.	12-15
Question 7: Do you work for:	Local Authority
If Other please specify:	
Question 8: Did you go to an event to discuss the youth work consultation?	Yes
If yes please give details:	Visit from Youthlink Scotland Chief Executive

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