

Education, Children and Families Committee

10am, Tuesday, 11 December 2012

Youth work survey, report and interactive map

Item number	7.7
Report number	
Wards	ALL

Links

Coalition pledges	P12 , P32 , P33
Council outcomes	CO2 , CO4 , CO5 , CO6 , CO23
Single Outcome Agreement	SO3

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Executive summary

Youth work survey, report and interactive map

Summary

The recent survey, report and online map of youth work services in Edinburgh show that young people have access to a wide range of opportunities. The map is available at www.edinburgh.gov.uk/youthworkmap

Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. Note the diversity of youth work provision across the city, in terms of location, activities, target groups and youth workers
2. Consider the application of the mapping process to other services across the city
3. Recognise the large amount of volunteer hours generated by youth work in the city at a value of at least £444,000 per annum
4. Work to ensure that youth work agencies, both in house and partners, have access to premises fit for purpose and that access is free or at minimum cost.

Measures of success

Overall the survey shows the healthy state of youth work in Edinburgh. The key positive features of the youth work report are:

- Over 8,500 young people aged 11-25 are involved in youth work across the city
- Over 1,100 volunteers are involved in delivering youth work.
- A quarter of the workforce are themselves under 25
- At least a quarter of Edinburgh 11-14 year olds are involved in youth work.
- A very diverse range of youth work provision across at least 265 youth work projects

Financial impact

The project has so far been completed within current CLD budgets and core services from key partner agencies such as LAYC. Future development of the interactive map could be achieved within the Council, but may require additional resources.

Equalities impact

The report contributes positively to the Council's duty to i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, ii) advance equality of opportunity, and iii) foster good relations.

- The project serves to discover existing strengths and weaknesses for equalities in youth work.
- One of the aims of the online map is to ensure that young people are made fully aware of youth work opportunities. Although this is achieved for most people the technology that supports the map means that it is not accessible for young people with visual impairments, those with low literacy or those who cannot read English. Two things have been done to counter this; 1. the map data is available in other formats, 2. Disability and Black and Minority Ethnic community groups have been made aware of the map and asked to support people using the map.
- The online map can be used by workers to discover projects locally and across the city. This will help to build partnerships between organisations.

The findings of the report demonstrate that there is a need to ensure consistency of reporting of equalities data as well as monitoring the actual impact on equalities groups. The next step will be a full Equality and Rights Impact Assessment (ERIA) for the youth work sector. This will be carried out before 31 March 2012

Sustainability impact

There are no adverse environmental impacts from the production of the report or map

The report and map are both available electronically, and there are no plans to print bulk copies. This saves both financially and environmentally.

Consultation and engagement

The youth work report and accompanying map have been produced in partnership with a range of internal and external partners. The Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium (EYWC) are the key agency that has facilitated the creation of the survey and gathering

of the data. All EYWC members are committed to youth work as defined by the Youthlink Scotland statement on the nature and purpose of youth work which has engagement with young people at its core. A key purpose of the report and map is to promote the community engagement that is taking place at Council and partner youth work projects.

Background reading / external references

Executive summary of the mapping report attached

Map of youth work services in the city – www.edinburgh.gov.uk/youthworkmap.

Screenshot of the map attached

Believing in Young People - a framework for youth work in Edinburgh – available here: https://orb.edinburgh.gov.uk/downloads/file/3820/believing_in_young_people

Youth work survey, report and interactive map

1. Background

- 1.1 The Youth Work framework, Believing In Young People (BIYP) was commissioned by the City of Edinburgh Council. The framework was produced by the Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium (EYWC) and approved by Council in 2010.
- 1.2 The EYWC is a partnership between the City of Edinburgh Council and key organisations in other sectors, such as Lothian Association of Youth clubs (LAYC), national youth work projects, and Edinburgh Leisure
- 1.3 There are seven aims within BIYP:
 - A universal service for young people
 - Evaluating and promoting quality youth work
 - Supporting quality youth workers
 - Suitable venues and equipment
 - Cooperation and collaboration in service provision
 - Addressing inequalities
 - Resources and funding
- 1.4 The mapping survey aimed to touch on all seven of the aims and develop understanding of the provision of youth work in the city by gaining a baseline understanding of youth work in the city, regardless of who provides it.
- 1.5 There were two proposed products from the survey, a report on key features of youth work in the city and an interactive map of provision for use by young people, parents and workers.
- 1.6 The survey was carried out electronically in Summer 2011. It is important to note that the survey only includes youth work projects, as defined by the Youthlink Scotland statement on the Nature and Purpose of Youth Work. This means that projects such as youth sports teams are not included. The EYWC in no way wish

to devalue other services for young people, but wanted to know specifically about youth work services.

- 1.7 The survey, report and map were produced with no additional budget, utilising existing Council staff and goodwill from other agencies.

2. Main report

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to summarise the results and findings of the recent report and interactive map of youth work services in Edinburgh. The survey not only includes comprehensive results from Council provision but also results from a wide range of partner agencies

- 2.2 Overall the survey shows the healthy state of youth work in Edinburgh

- 2.3 The key positive features of the youth work report are:

- Over 8,500 young people aged 11-25 are involved in youth work across the city
- Over 1,100 volunteers are involved in delivering youth work.
- A quarter of the workforce are themselves under 25
- At least a quarter of Edinburgh 11-14 year olds are involved in youth work.
- A very diverse range of youth work provision across at least 265 youth work projects

- 2.4 The key areas of development for the youth work sector include:

- Although provision is spread out across the city, some areas have higher concentrations of some type of projects than other areas. For example, the north of the city has more dedicated youth projects than other areas. However, it appears from the survey that greatest supply of youth work broadly aligns with the areas of multiple deprivation.
- The City of Edinburgh Council units and some partner agencies record gender, age and ethnicity information for participants. However, for other partners this information is incomplete, and very few agencies recorded data on sexual orientation. The informal nature of much youth work can mean that collecting equalities data is impractical, as young people 'drop in' to services. Even with better recording it is still likely that some equalities groups are under represented in youth work. It is positive that youth work staffing levels are closer to all of the Council's equalities targets than the Council as a whole.

- 2.5 The survey and report were unusual in their sector wide approach. Similar surveys have taken place, but they focus on one provider – such as uniformed groups. The reasoning was that young people do not really mind who provides their services as long as they meet their needs.
- 2.6 The report makes several recommendations for the Council, the EYWC and the wider youth work sector.
- 2.7 The map that has been produced appears to be unique in Scotland and the UK. Maps of community services have been produced in Edinburgh before, but this is the first time that the map is dedicated to youth work and is interactive to help people discover new services.
- 2.8 Although some youth work projects chose not to complete the original survey, the hope is that the online interactive map will encourage more services to come forward with information to make the map more and more complete.
- 2.9 Other services within the council have expressed an interest in using the map structure to map their own services. This was always an aim of the project and the EYWC are proud to lead the way in this. Future development of the map could be expanded to include many other service types. Any map development will include the ability to 'pre search' the map so a website will still show a youth work only, or indeed any other provision, map.
- 2.10 Resources are required to develop the map. CLD and the EYWC acknowledge the support from our mapping colleagues in the Services for Communities department. By using in house tools to produce the map CLD not only saved money but also ensured future compatibility with other Council mapping projects, notably school catchment areas. Currently the Total Craigroyston project is taking the next steps with the map structure. Although their focus will be geographically specific, any changes to the structure of the map will be available for the whole city. Though in house tools are used, there may still be budget requirements to take the project further.
- 2.11 The report and online map were launched and publicised in May 2012. A press release was issued through the normal Council channels and the report and map were promoted to all contacts within CLD and the Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium.
- 2.12 The survey records around 80% of all youth work in the city – 100% of Council youth work is recorded. Although there are known agencies missing, the range of 'types' of work is very broad so that the statistical findings can be seen as accurate. The report and accompanying map paint a true and up to date picture

of youth work in the city. The report and map are a demonstration of CLD and the Council's commitment to partnership.

- 2.13 The map and report represent a significant project from CLD and partner agencies. The processes and map are ready to be developed and added to within youth work but also in other areas of Council and partner provision.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 3.1. Note the diversity of youth work provision across the city, in terms of location, activities, target groups and youth workers
- 3.2 Consider the application of the mapping process to other services across the city
- 3.3 Recognise the large amount of volunteer hours generated by youth work in the city at a value of at least £444,000 per annum
- 3.4 Work to ensure that youth work agencies, both in house and partners, have access to premises fit for purpose and that access is free or at minimum cost.

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Links

Coalition pledges

P12. Work with health, police and third sector agencies to expand existing and effective drug and alcohol treatment programmes

P32. Develop and strengthen local community links with the police

P33. Strengthen Neighbourhood Partnerships and further involve local people in decisions on how Council resources are used

Council outcomes

CO2. Our children and young people are successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens making a positive contribution to their communities

CO4. Our children and young people are physically and emotionally healthy

CO5. Our children and young people are safe from harm or fear of harm, and do not harm others within their communities

CO6. Our children and young people's outcomes are not undermined by poverty and inequality

Single Outcome Agreement

SO3. Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential

Appendices

1. Youth work mapping executive summary

2. Map of youth work services

Youth work in Edinburgh

A mapping of current provision

May 2012

Executive summary

Introduction

- 1 The Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium (EYWC) was established in 2006 in order to support and develop youth work in Edinburgh. It is a strategic partnership composed of all the key players – in both statutory and voluntary sectors - involved in the delivery and resourcing of youth work in the city.
- 2 Youth work is a specific approach to work with young people. The ‘Youth Link Scotland Statement on the Nature and Purpose of Youth Work’ is used to define youth work; In summary this states that the participation of young people must be voluntary, the work must be a partnership of learning between the worker and the young people and that the work should build from the place that young people are now. The statement also defines the age for youth work as 11-25 year olds. Work with children under 11 is purposely not included in this survey. The Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium’s aims are youth work and young people as defined in the Youth Link Statement, recognising the key transitions and development that happen during adolescence and young adulthood.
- 3 In 2009, the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) commissioned EYWC to develop a framework for youth work in the city. The resulting document ‘Believing in young people’ (BIYP) was endorsed by the Council and launched in 2010.
- 4 In 2011 EYWC carried out a survey of youth work in Edinburgh in line with one of the key objectives of BIYP.

Headlines

- 5 The survey points to a large number of young people choosing youth work activities. Since the survey was not completed by all youth work agencies we know our figure of 8,500 young people involved is conservative. It is important to note that this figure does not include sports clubs or similar, as these are outside of the youth work definition.
- 6 The survey records over 1,100 volunteers as being involved in youth work. This represents huge value as well as being evidence of the appeal of the youth work approach to a wide range of people who want to share their skills and experience with young people.
- 7 Large numbers of 'young' workers are recorded. Under 25's make up a quarter of the youth work workforce. This points not only to the appeal of youth work to young people, even when they "grow out" of services, but also to the great employability, training and development opportunities offered through youth work.
- 8 At least a quarter of Edinburgh 11-14 year olds are involved in youth work.
- 9 A wide range of 'spaces' are used to deliver youth work. Young people can choose a range of places to undertake youth work activities, from parks and open spaces to formal offices and all points in between. This demonstrates that variety of youth work services, offering activities to suit all young people.

Methodology

- 10 The overall aim of the survey was to develop our understanding of youth work in the City; what work is happening, where it takes place, who attends and who delivers the work.
- 11 There were five specific objectives:
 - To highlight the diversity of youth work services in the City
 - To examine provision against the themes laid out in 'Believing in young people'
 - To identify gaps in provision
 - To uncover previously unknown youth work provision
 - To identify the scale and scope of youth work provision
- 12 An online survey was developed and the weblink circulated widely through the following networks:
 - Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium (including City of Edinburgh council)

- LAYC (formerly Lothian Association of Youth Clubs)
- The network of voluntary organisations working with children and families

- 13 Organisations were also encouraged to forward the survey link to others if they thought they had not already been included.
- 14 83 responses were received online and data was gathered by interview from four uniformed youth organisations (Scout Association, Girlguiding Edinburgh, Boys Brigade and Air Cadets).
- 15 From the outset, the Consortium acknowledged the ambitious nature of the survey, and that complete coverage was unlikely to be achieved. We estimate that we have captured the majority of youth work services in the City, and we welcome contact from any organisation that feels that they have been missed.

Conclusions

The importance of the research

- 16 This report provides for the first time an important set of baseline data about youth work in Edinburgh. It is far from comprehensive, but offers nonetheless valuable insights into the scale and scope of youth work in the city. It represents a significant tool to inform both the supporting of current services, and the planning of future ones.

Youth work provision

- 17 Youth work provision in Edinburgh is both diverse in nature and geographically widespread throughout the city. It is delivered by a wide range of organisations in both the statutory and voluntary sectors. Youth work takes place in a wide variety of spaces, from dedicated centres to outdoor spaces. Opportunities are available throughout the week, with a slight increase on Friday evenings, mainly as a result of the high level of uniformed provision at this time. There are a small number of full time youth work projects delivering activity across the whole week. Although spread out, there are gaps in the provision of this type of project, notably in the east of the City. However, other types of provision are available in this area.
- 18 Some established youth work projects are missing from the data, and so the numbers of workers and young people involved should be seen as conservative estimates.

Engaging Young People

- 19 Significant numbers of young people choose one or more youth work opportunities during their spare time. This is particularly true for 11-14 year olds, where a quarter of all young people take part. Although participation in youth work drops dramatically after age 16, over a quarter of youth work staff are under 25, and therefore 'young people' under our definition.
- 20 Most young people have access to some form of youth work in their area, although some areas are better served than others. There would be little value in dismantling successful services in order to try to replicate them in another area. However, the map of service provision could be a useful tool when planning future services. It is recognised that success is not simply a case of services being available. Trust, local knowledge and organisational history also play a major part in gaining a community's confidence to work appropriately with its young people.
- 21 There are, however, young people who are not involved in youth work. Engagement with these young people could help to identify why they do not attend, and if they have needs that are not being met. It may be that better advertising or re-design of existing services is needed. At the same time, we acknowledge that sometimes what young people want is 'a place to hang out'. Youth work by its definition (in the Youthlink Scotland statement) includes purposeful intervention by youth workers, and so for some young people, youth work may not what they are looking for.

Support for youth work

- 22 Volunteers deliver a large proportion of youth work opportunities, particularly through the uniformed youth organisations. Overall, volunteers represent over two thirds of the whole youth work workforce.
- 23 With a function which encompasses direct delivery of youth work services, funding partner organisations, and facilitating partnerships, the City of Edinburgh Council has a fundamental role in supporting youth work in the city. This is a cause for celebration. This report provides evidence of the value that youth work can generate from comparatively small investment, without which the youth work sector would struggle. As noted above, youth work does not always require a dedicated space to take place. However, having access to community spaces, especially local authority buildings, is a key means of support for youth work.

Equalities

- 24 Data on equalities in youth work, both for young people and staff, is not complete. In general, apart from gender and age, youth work agencies appear not to accurately record equalities data.
- 25 This is an area where increased knowledge and engagement is needed. Specific work is required in each equality strand in order to develop a better understanding of the needs of young people in these groups. Young people from existing equalities groups could be involved (both those who attend youth work and those who do not) in helping to think this through. Involving those agencies who work specifically with young people from equalities groups would be useful to build trust and gain credibility. Work on how best to record current involvement in youth work also needs to be carefully considered.

Youth Work Training

- 26 Youth workers are trained in the delivery of their work. However, there is no indication as to whether this is specific to their organisation or more general youth work training.
- 27 The youth work training pathway for the sector in Edinburgh is now in place and this should actively support the sector to improve the quality of youth work provision. There would be value in looking at all of the various induction and training programmes for youth workers from different agencies in order to better coordinate training for youth work staff and volunteers. 'Mapping' courses against the accredited pathway will help both agencies and staff plan their training and development opportunities and minimise duplication.

Recommendations

For The City of Edinburgh Council

28 Profile of youth work

We would encourage the City of Edinburgh Council to use this report and the accompanying map to showcase the value of youth work, in particular the important role played by open access provision.

29 Youth work space

Support is needed to ensure that spaces to deliver youth work are available at appropriate times, are suitable for the type of work taking place and are affordable -

especially to volunteer-led groups. Greater affordable access to school buildings is needed.

30 Future commissioning of youth work

This report should inform discussions about the future commissioning and procurement of youth work services for the city.

For the Edinburgh Youth Work Consortium

31 Engaging young people

Attempts should be made to gain the views of young people not currently engaged in youth work in order to inform future youth work development.

32 Youth work data collection

Consideration should be given to undertaking a similar survey on a regular basis, in order to ensure that accurate and up-to-date data on youth work is available for planning purposes.

33 Youth work map

A public facing youth work map should be made available to promote youth work opportunities to young people and youth workers.

For the youth work sector

34 Equalities

Specific work should take place with young people and youth workers in order to have a better understanding of the needs of young people in these groups.

35 Universal Access

Consideration should be given to ensuring equality of access to youth work opportunities for young people across the city.

36 Youth Work Training

A training needs assessment of youth workers should be considered, in order to ensure that future training programmes are informed by the expressed needs of youth workers.

Youth work in Edinburgh

Youth projects map

This map shows youth work opportunities from agencies across the City. If you are delivering a youth work project that does not feature on the map, you can get in touch with us to get your project included by emailing Community.LearningandDevelopment@edinburgh.gov.uk.

Please note that this map does not currently work with Internet Explorer. Please try an alternative browser whilst we work to resolve this issue.

How to use the map

1. By default, all projects are shown
2. You can browse by area using the zoom function and clicking and dragging the map
3. You can open the search panes and deselect themes and activities that are not relevant to you
4. Click 'reload' the map once you have selected your chosen themes
5. Click a map dot to bring up their contact details

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Edinburgh Youth Projects

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