

eti

*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
Promoting Improvement*

**Providing Inspection Services for
Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Rosemount Youth Centre
Londonderry**

April 2015

FOLLOW-UP TO THE STANDARD INSPECTION OF ROSEMOUNT YOUTH CENTRE, LONDONDERRY

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Rosemount Youth Centre in May 2010 when the overall effectiveness was evaluated as satisfactory. The ETI indicated that a follow-up inspection would take place and, in the interim, follow-up visits would evaluate the progress being made in bringing about the necessary improvements.

The inspection report highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- the need to analyse more carefully the membership and attendance statistics, and to use these to inform future provision;
- the need for the full-time youth worker to provide more effective leadership to help the staff reflect and critically evaluate their practice, with a view to its improvement; and
- the need for almost all of the staff to improve their interaction with the young people to help them achieve new skills through the better use of planned and unplanned learning experiences.

The post-inspection action plan was of a satisfactory quality, and identified the actions the organisation had made, and planned to make, regarding the areas for improvement identified in the inspection report. In addition, the staff reported that they were very satisfied with the level of support received from the Education Authority (EA), Western Region¹.

There have been a number of significant changes since the original inspection that has affected the work of the centre, including:

- a significant demographic change, with the number of young people of school age in the catchment area falling by two-thirds since the original inspection, according to the data supplied by the EA, Western Region;
- a high turnover of staff since the original inspection in 2010, including five full-time youth workers-in-charge and four part-time youth support workers-in-charge;
- the evening programme is now staffed by a newly appointed part-time youth support worker-in-charge and three other youth support workers;
- the afternoon provision is separately managed by a part-time youth support worker-in-charge;
- the new part-time youth support worker-in-charge of the evening provision is involved in a period of appropriate training facilitated by the staff from the Western Region of the EA;
- the centre has been reduced to opening on three evenings and two afternoons per week; and
- the centre has been refurbished to a high standard.

¹ Formerly the Western Education and Library Board

The ETI met on several occasions with the EA, Western Region area youth officer and Team Leader prior to the two interim follow-up visits in February and September 2014, and carried out a follow-up inspection in April 2015.

The following are the most important improvements since the original inspection:

- an analysis by the EA, Western Region of the membership and attendance statistics has informed the strategic direction of the provision. For example, it has invested in an appropriate area-based and detached youth work strategy, enhanced by resources from the Department of Regional Development, to work with local community groups to meet the needs of the young people more effectively. To enhance this strategy further the EA, Western Region is currently in the process of appointing a full-time, area post to be based in the centre, to support the development and management of the part-time staff in Rosemount youth centre;
- the EA, Western Region has provided effective training and support to all of the staff, including visits to other youth centres, facilitating youth support workers training and training for the young leaders programme; and
- in the absence of a full-time youth worker-in-charge, the team leader from the EA, Western Region has been supporting well the staff as they develop processes to record and evaluate their work with a view to critically evaluating the programme.

It continues to be important that the employing authority and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the youth provision in order to address the current and future needs of the young people of the area.

Conclusion

Overall, the quality of youth work provided by the centre remains satisfactory. The follow-up inspection has identified an area for improvement in the quality of the provision, which needs to be addressed if the centre is to meet effectively the needs of all of the young people. The area for improvement is the remaining need for:

- the staff to continue to develop their interaction with the young people; in particular, the strategies for engaging purposefully with the young people, to involve them in the planning, implementation and evaluation of their own programmes so that their needs are met more effectively.

The Education and Training Inspectorate will monitor and report on the centre's progress in addressing the area for improvement, over the next 18 to 24 month period.

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