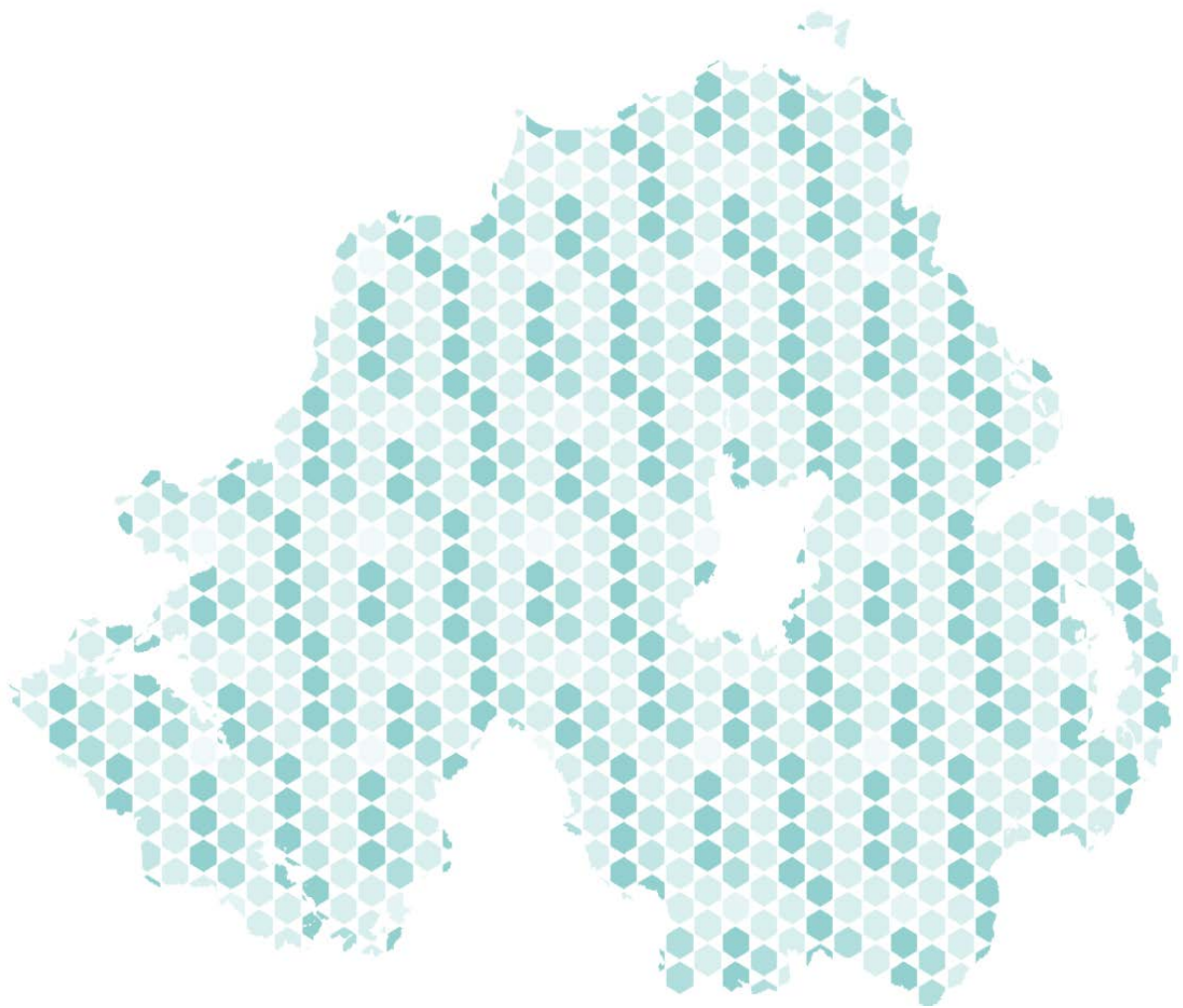


YOUTH INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Crossgar, Saintfield, Killyleagh
Area Project

Report of an Inspection in
October 2014



Providing Inspection Services for

Department of Education
Department for Employment and Learning
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



In this report, proportions may be described as percentages, common fractions and in more general quantitative terms. Where more general terms are used, they should be interpreted as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---------------|
| Almost/nearly all | - | more than 90% |
| Most | - | 75%-90% |
| A majority | - | 50%-74% |
| A significant minority | - | 30%-49% |
| A minority | - | 10%-29% |
| Very few/a small number | - | less than 10% |

In assessing the various features of the provision, Inspectors relate their evaluations to six descriptors as set out below:

| PERFORMANCE LEVEL |
|-------------------|
| Outstanding |
| Very Good |
| Good |
| Satisfactory |
| Inadequate |
| Unsatisfactory |

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1. Focus of inspection

The inspection focused on:

- the young people's achievements and standards;
- the quality of the provision; and
- the quality of the leadership and management, including the processes for self-evaluation leading to improvement.

2. Context

The Crossgar, Saintfield, Killyleagh Area Project is a controlled youth provision that is funded and managed by the South Eastern Education and Library Board. There is a full-time youth support worker-in-charge and six part-time paid staff. All of these staff deliver outreach youth work to targeted areas of social and economic need, within the towns and surrounding areas of Crossgar, Saintfield and Killyleagh. The full-time worker also provides support and supervision for two part-time staff in the Killyleagh/Shrigley youth club.

The staff team provide programmes on five evenings each week, including Friday. The full-time worker delivers two personal and social development accredited programmes in a local post-primary school and a summer term transitions programme for year 7 primary school pupils. During the summer, the project provides activity and diversionary programmes for the young people for four weeks. According to figures supplied by the organisation, there are currently 344 registered young people, almost all of whom are of post-primary age.

3. Overall findings of the inspection

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Overall effectiveness | Very good |
| Achievements and standards | Very good |
| Provision | Very good |
| Leadership and management | Very good |

4. Achievements and standards

- The young people demonstrate high levels of motivation, commitment and enjoyment. They are keen to progress their learning and participate confidently in discussion groups and suitable issue-based programmes. During discussions, they all contribute well to the debate and increase significantly their knowledge and understanding about the subject. For example, a recently formed group of young people were observed thinking critically about issues impacting negatively on their area. Consequently, they recognise the need to build their own capacity and skills to help promote a more positive image of young people in the local community.
- According to figures supplied by the organisation, in the past two years, over 100 young people have achieved appropriate accreditation in personal and social development courses. There is typically full attendance at the training, and the

success rate was also one hundred percent in six out of the eight courses delivered.

- The young people enjoy a range of innovative programmes including the Royal Yachting Association level 1 Powerboat Training. This course enhances the young people's employability opportunities, and addresses an identified skills deficit for sailing and other water-based activities in this coastal area.
- The young people develop and achieve excellent leadership skills, which they use in their volunteering roles across a range of youth programmes for younger members and their peers. They work closely with their youth workers and local political representatives to make well-informed decisions, which benefit their lives and their local community.
- The young people demonstrate the ability to articulate, connect and apply their learning in new and different situations. For example, the Peer Mentoring and Learning Together programmes are valued highly by the participating schools and the young people recognise and build on the connections between their formal and non-formal education.

5. Provision

- The youth workers have purposeful relationships with the young people. They know the young people well and have a sound understanding of their needs. They are enthusiastic in their work and provide a welcoming, friendly environment for the young people.
- The programme planning is well conceived and is embedded in a culture of participation. The progression of the young people into leadership roles is planned effectively and given a high priority by all of the staff. In addition, the staff have recruited and sustained successfully new young people into the programmes.
- In the sessions observed all of the practice was good or very good. In the most effective practice, the youth workers facilitate sensitively the young people to discuss and debate topics, such as the excellent 'Are you OK' mental health programme. The young people are enabled to reflect on their own attitudes and on the opinions of others. In the youth forum, the young people are provided with programmes, which challenge them to think creatively, develop their advocacy skills and political awareness.
- The curriculum provides a very good range of learning experiences and a particular strength is the issue-based group work. For example, the bespoke and accredited 'HEADZ' programme was designed specifically by the staff in the area and raised the awareness of the importance of young people adopting a healthy lifestyle.
- The youth workers have a strong focus on what the young people have learnt in the end of session and end of course evaluations. However, they need to review and consolidate this learning more regularly during the sessions.

- The quality of the pastoral care of the young people is very good. The young people enjoy consistently good relationships with one another and with the youth workers. In the discussions with the young people, they spoke positively about the programmes which they enjoy, and in particular, their increased levels of self-confidence and engagement in team building activities. They feel safe and secure and are aware of what to do if they have any concerns about their safety and well-being. The parents spoke highly of the committed staff, the progress of their children's personal and social development and the excellent levels of care, guidance and support.

6. Leadership and management

- There is very good management and leadership of the project at all levels. The Down three-year area plan provides a clear direction for the delivery of youth work across the area. The overarching goals, which management have agreed with staff, inform the priorities for youth work at a local level.
- The youth work managers and staff demonstrate continuous quality improvement across all areas of the provision. They are self-critical and reflective of their work and understand where improvements are needed. They recognise appropriately the need to review and improve the quality of the system for assessing the needs of young people at the area level. The good qualitative information collated at a local level should inform more directly the needs assessment process at an area level.
- The project recruits, supports and sustains very effectively the involvement of volunteers. At all levels, there are very effective support and supervision structures for the staff to improve their practice and to build on the achievements of the young people.
- The quality of the external links is very good. The well-informed and highly committed advisory committee provides local knowledge to the youth workers, in order that positive intervention strategies can be planned, targeted and implemented.
- On the basis of the evidence available at the time of the inspection the organisation has comprehensive arrangements in place for safeguarding young people. These arrangements reflect the guidance issued by the Department of Education.

7. Conclusion

In the areas inspected, the quality of the overall provision for the young people is very good. Crossgar, Saintfield, Killyleagh Area Project is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the young people; and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

APPENDIX

Table 1: Total Membership

| Age | 4-9 | | 10-15 | | 16-18 | | 19-25 | | Total |
|---------|------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | male | female | male | female | male | female | male | female | |
| 2011/12 | 45 | 55 | 60 | 63 | 34 | 24 | 8 | 15 | 304 |
| 2012/13 | 0 | 0 | 115 | 150 | 24 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 321 |
| 2013/14 | 0 | 0 | 68 | 107 | 95 | 111 | 0 | 0 | 381 |
| Current | 0 | 0 | 113 | 142 | 37 | 51 | 0 | 0 | 344 |

Total local population of young people aged 12-25 years: 3045

Percentage of local youth population attending youth centre/project: 11.29%

Table 2: Leadership training (Information supplied by the organisation)

| Title and date of course including accreditation details | Number of young people enrolled | Number of adults enrolled | Percentage completing successfully |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| OCN Level 1 Peer Mentoring | 16 12 | | 100% 100% |
| OCN Level 1 HEADZ | 20 | | 80% |
| RYA Level 1 Power Boating | 12 | | 100% |
| RYA Level 2 Power Boating | 12 | | 66% |
| OCN Level 1 LIYW | | | |
| 13/14 | 16 | | 100% |
| 14/15 | 10 | | 100% |
| OCN Level 2 Learning to Live Together | 25 | | 100% |
| Millennium Volunteers | | | |
| 200 Hours | 2 | | |
| 100 Hours | 5 | | |
| 50 Hours | 10 | | |
| First Aid 3 rd November 2012 | | * | 100% |
| First Aid 1 st February 2014 | | * | 100% |
| First Aid at Work 13/14 | | * | 100% |
| Understanding Ulster 13/14 | | * | 100% |
| Level 1 Seminar Divisional Seminar Feb 2014 | | * | 100% |
| Part Time Staff Residential Nov –Dec 13 | | 7 | 100% |
| Child Protection Training October 2013 | | * | 100% |
| OCN Introduction to Youth Work L2 12-13 | | * | 100% |
| OCN Programme Development L3 12-13 | | * | 100% |
| ELB Youth Support Worker Qualification 13-14 | | * | In process |
| RYA Power Boating training Level 1 13/14 | | * | 100% |
| BA Hons Informal Education & Community Development 2010/2014 | | * | 100% |
| Post Graduate Certificate Working in Diverse Society Sept 13 | | * | 100% |

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|--|--------------|
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