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*The Education and Training Inspectorate -
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CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE

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



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Corpus Christi Youth Centre
Belfast**

June 2008

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF CORPUS CHRISTI YOUTH CENTRE, BELFAST, BT12 7JL

The inspection of Corpus Christi Youth Centre, Belfast in November 2006 highlighted strengths in the provision including the excellent quality of the working relationships, the inclusive aspect of the programme, the opportunities for the involvement of the young people in the programme planning, the valuable external links established with other youth providers and the commitment and dedication of the full-time youth worker, part-time staff, volunteers and members of the management committee.

The inspection identified the need for improvement in the following key areas:

- the appropriateness of the provision to meet the developmental needs of the junior section;
- the opportunity for the staff team to set specific targets for project-based work in response to the identified needs of the young people;
- the continuous development of suitable quality assurance measures to evidence the outcomes for the young people attending the centre; and
- the attention to health and safety in the use of the current accommodation.

The Education and Training Inspectorate carried out a follow-up inspection in June 2008. The inspector talked to the full-time youth workers, key part-time staff and volunteers, the Area Youth Officer in the Belfast Education and Library Board and the Chairperson of the Management Committee.

The centre continues to make a significant commitment to providing training opportunities for young people often enhancing their employability and access to gain professional youth work qualifications. Since the inspection three senior members have received external awards in recognition of their contribution to the centre.

In the interval since the inspection, the following actions which affect the work of the centre have taken place.

- A refurbished facility for children between 8-11 years of age has been developed offering a range of educational and recreational activities based on the specific developmental needs of this age group three days per week.
- All staff have developed personal action plans which clearly identify their roles and targets. Staff are required to work along side their line manager to monitor their practice against the goals which they have set for themselves.
- The staff make effective use of the 'Practical Quality Assurance System for Small Organisations', to maintain high standards of youth work practice. The staff have embraced this system and acknowledge its usefulness as an evaluation tool to demonstrate the outcomes for the young people.

- Since the inspection £120,000 of work has been completed addressing the urgent health and safety concerns and providing age-appropriate accommodation.

The centre has made excellent progress in the areas for improvement identified during the original inspection. The educational and pastoral needs of the learners are being well met. The parents and broader community can have confidence in the effectiveness of the youth centre's response to the findings of the inspection and its capacity for sustained self-improvement.

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