

YOUTH INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Lagmore Area Project,
Belfast

Report of a Follow-up Inspection
in December 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

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CUSTOMER
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FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF LAGMORE AREA PROJECT, BELFAST, BT17 0PP

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection of Lagmore Area Project in September 2016¹, which concluded that the project needed to address the following important areas for improvement in the interest of all the learners:

- to evaluate more effectively the overall provision, including the quality of the youth work practice and the quality of learning outcomes achieved by the young people;
- to make more effective use of facilitation skills to develop purposeful relationships with the young people consistently across all of the group work sessions; and
- to increase the participation of senior members in more meaningful and planned volunteering activities and to engage in the governance of the organisation.

The project's action plan was of a good quality and was adjusted appropriately following the interim follow-up visit. The ETI carried out an interim follow-up visit in June 2017 and a follow-up inspection in December 2017.

In the interval since the initial inspection, the following actions or changes which affect the work of the project have taken place:

- There have been significant changes to the staffing of the project: the full-time area youth worker post has been replaced three times since the time of the inspection.
- The staff team has received additional training from within the Education Authority (EA) on facilitation skills and self-evaluation.
- The young people in the area completed an assessment of needs process administered by the EA which has been used to inform programme planning.
- The target set by the EA to increase the number of senior members was significantly exceeded.
- A new volunteering group of young people and a youth forum has been established since the inspection.
- The EA's 'Target Monitor System' has been introduced recently to capture the progress of the young people and to monitor the progress of the curriculum delivery agreement.

Key Findings

The outcomes for learners are now good. The number of senior members engaged in the project has increased significantly and they are developing well their leadership and interpersonal skills. The youth forum and volunteer group are well involved in the life of the project. They demonstrate a sound understanding of social action and are good role models for the younger members.

¹ [Youth Inspection - Lagmore Area Project | Education Training Inspectorate](#)

The quality of provision is now good. The overall provision, has a broad range of programmes well matched to the interests and needs of the young people. In the generic activities with the intermediate age group, the part-time staff need to continue to develop further their facilitation skills. The strong focus on programmes to develop a sense of social responsibility and understanding of other communities is well conceived and benefits the young people and their wider community.

The quality and effectiveness of leadership, management and their action to promote improvement is now good. The efficacy of the assessment of young people's needs in this area has provided a good foundation for the future planning of programmes for this provision. Through the youth forum, the young people are now more involved in the governance of this project. In addition, the staff and management are engaging in regular monitoring and evaluation of the project, with a stronger focus on continuous improvement.

Overall Effectiveness

Lagmore Area Project demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement in the interest of all the learners. The ETI will monitor how the project sustains improvement in the further development of the staffs' facilitation skills when working with the intermediate age group.

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