

YOUTH INSPECTION



Education and Training
Inspectorate

Omagh Youth Centre

Report of a Follow-up Inspection
in May 2017



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
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CUSTOMER
SERVICE
EXCELLENCE



FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF OMAGH YOUTH CENTRE, MAY 2017

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection¹ of Omagh Youth Centre in June 2015, when the overall effectiveness was evaluated as satisfactory².

The inspection report highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- to provide a more engaging range of experiences, to increase the attendance of senior members and to develop their leadership skills;
- for the staff and the young people to plan, review and evaluate the provision regularly to improve the quality of the generic and developmental group work provision; and
- to improve the youth work skills of the staff through training, to develop further their capacity to meet the personal and social developmental needs of the young people.

The post-inspection action plan submitted was of good quality and has been updated twice since the original inspection. The ETI carried out an interim follow-up visit in October 2016, met with representatives of the Education Authority and a conducted a follow-up inspection in May 2017.

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

- the full-time youth worker, who was absent during the inspection, returned to the youth centre in September 2015;
- a new senior members committee has been re-established and is representing the voice of the young people;
- the advisory committee have met three times since the inspection and young people have been represented on one occasion; and
- a new centre action plan has been developed by the staff team and informed by consultation with the young people.

Key findings

- The outcomes for the young people are now very good. The senior members are well integrated into the life and work of the centre through their involvement in the senior members committee, the Buddy Programme, the Millennium Volunteers Award and their participation in the consultation for the area plan. The overall membership has increased since the inspection and at the time of the follow-up inspection, there was a significant increase in the number of senior members engaged in the Buddy Programme. The young people contribute effectively to the evaluation of their own programmes including young people with additional learning needs.

¹ [Youth Inspection – Omagh Youth Centre, Co Tyrone | Education Training Inspectorate](#)

² The Education and training Inspectorate changed the overall effectiveness from satisfactory to having important areas for improvement in Sept 2015

- The quality of the provision is now good. The staff have engaged in appropriate additional training including programme development and session planning. They have regular recorded staff meetings and receive appropriate individual feedback once a year. The part-time staff have received four training sessions relevant to the areas for improvement highlighted at the time of the original inspection, including programme planning. While the staff team are beginning to evaluate the impact of the learning on the young people, there is a need to continue to develop the staff skills and to review and evaluate their work further.
- The quality of the leadership and management is now very good. The management of the centre has worked effectively to build the confidence of the staff team and has increased significantly the number of volunteers and young people progressing into leadership roles. An appropriate public relations strategy has been devised and implemented to communicate more effectively with key stakeholders and young people.

Overall Effectiveness

Omagh Youth Centre demonstrates a high capacity to bring about improvement in the interests of the learners. The ETI will monitor how the organisation sustains improvement.

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