



## **Young People Cornwall: Liskeard Youth Work Proposal**

### **Background:**

Young People Cornwall successfully gained funding through the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Programme, through which the 'You Decide' Project was created.

The project focuses on key areas within Cornwall to work with young people and the community to create positive youth work in the area. We provide a dedicated team of outreach youth workers whose roles are to engage and build relationships with young people aged 11-19 years, provide fun and positive activities, and support young people within their communities. The project also has a dedicated co-ordinator and community worker whose role is to work with and support community members and volunteers to initiate and sustain youth provision in their community.

From November 2016 the project focused on the town of Liskeard. A series of outreach and consultation work was conducted around the town, going into schools, meeting with local community members and organisations and young people. It became apparent that a vital youth provision at Liskerrett youth centre had been lost and there was a desire from the community to provide youth work within the area again.

On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017 the club was launched, with over 80 young people attending and parents and community members showing their support. Since its inception the club has gone from strength to strength and offers 2 nights of provision for young people aged 11-19 years.

Young People Cornwall has been running the only open access youth centre in Liskeard which provides a safe space for young people to meet, receive information, advice and guidance on a wide range of issues and access a range of positive activities designed to build the personal and social development of young people.

The centre is equipped with kitchen/cafe facilities, outdoor sports area, meeting rooms and a games area. The sessions are staffed by a minimum of 2 youth workers who are often supported by a team of volunteers.

### **What have we done?**

Between Jan & September 2017, Liskeard Youth Club worked with 166 young people, many young people have visited over 33 times.

Through outreach and detached work on the estates, town centre and through schools over 1161 young people have been engaged.

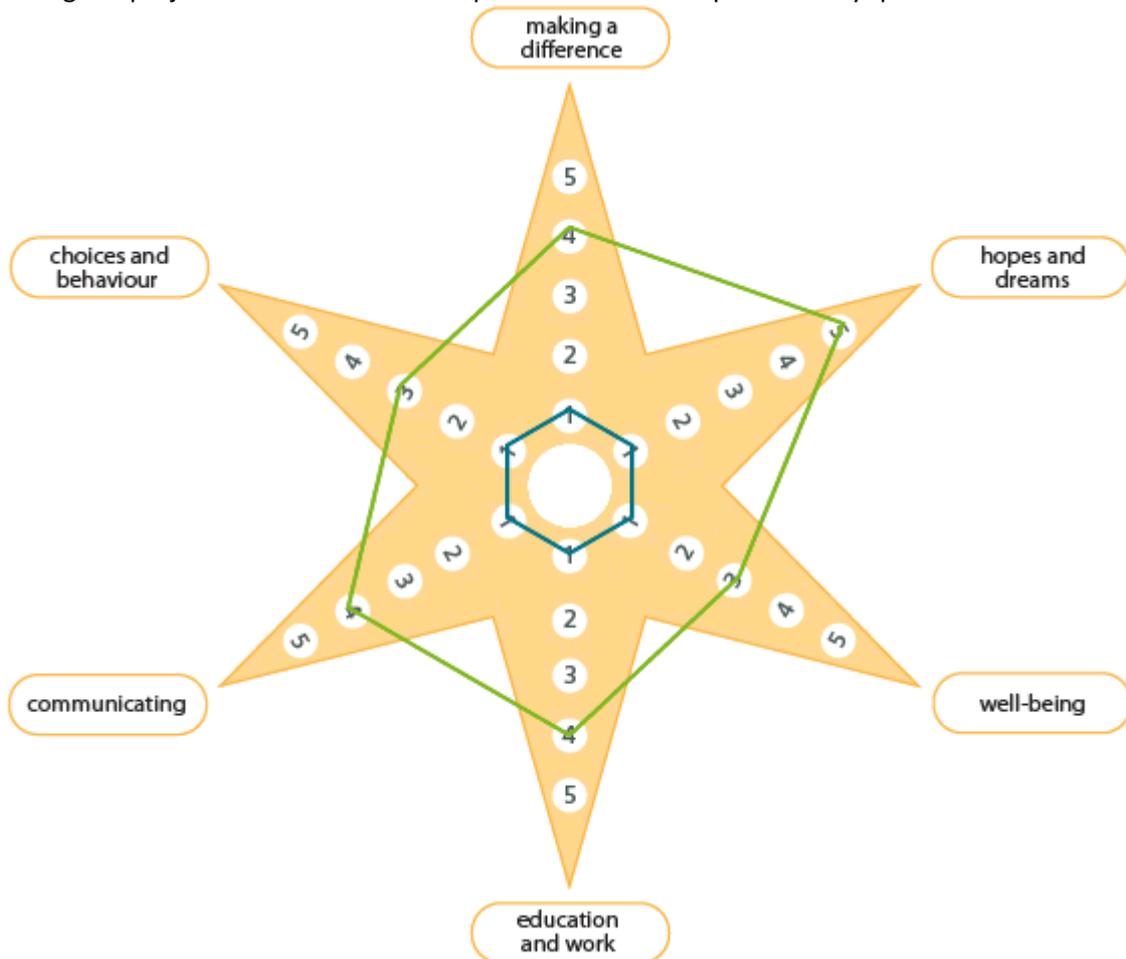
Young people report to us they are experiencing issues including bullying, family breakdown, school, being victims and perpetrators of crime, ASB, mental and sexual health and drug/alcohol issues

Since February 2017 the project has worked with 10 young people who have received on-going one-to-one support and referrals into appropriate services.

We currently have a number of other projects operating from the centre through the 'Your Way' Project (offering a variety of services for young people aged 11-19 years) which brings added value to the youth work without additional costs to the town council – 'Create Your Way' will provide ongoing community work support to the youth work steering committee including help with securing additional funding and supporting volunteers, 'Mind Your Way' will continue to run a volunteer led weekly emotional wellbeing group for young people, and 'Find Your Way' will continue to run weekly information, advice and guidance sessions for young people aged 11-19years.

**Impact:**

Our youth work team uses an outcomes measurement tool to track the personal and social development of individual young people accessing the Liskerrett Youth Project. Young People Cornwall use an outcomes measurement system which highlights an individual's progress in 6 key areas of their lives all of which are considered to be vital in reducing risk factors, raising aspirations, developing confidence & increasing social good. We are beginning to use this tool with young people accessing the project and will be able to report on their development every quarter.



## **What is on offer?**

Liskeard Youth Centre is open 2 nights a week. Offering a variety of sessions which include;

- Sessions targeting 11-13year olds & 14-18 year olds including positive activities (arts, sports, music, cooking, IT) informal education, targeted youth support and a variety of issue based work.
- Older session targeting 14 to 19 year olds including issue based work, targeted youth support, early identification, volunteering opportunities.
- Young people's steering group which shapes the work of the project. Young people are able to participate and get involved on many levels from attending through to assisting in the delivery of the activities.
- Support group for young people with mental health issues run by Hear our Voice.
- Wide network of partner referral agencies, and community organisations – Cornwall Council, Your Way, Clear, Kooth etc.

We enable young people to be better engaged with youth & community services who offer information, advice and guidance.

Since launching in February 62 young people have been involved in helping to plan and steer the project, a more formal youth steering group is currently being set up.

## **Benefits to Liskeard:**

The initial funding was for a years' worth of provision. The aim in this time is to work alongside communities to set up their own provision. This has and still remains the aim of the project, in consultation with community representatives we are approaching the Town Council for financial support whilst the current youth work committee seek to become a constituted group which will then be able to identify and secure its own funding to maintain youth provision.

We began youth sessions as it was seen as a need by the community and in particular to address a rise in anti-social behaviour. The Liskerett Centre had reported experiencing difficulties with young people both within & outside the building. Working alongside with Liskerett and the local police it has been reported that these issues have now stopped and our work will continue to be responsive to the needs of both the community and the young people.

We work alongside other groups in the community such as Liskeard Community Action: young people have volunteered in sorting clothes for them and assisting at party in the park, and we hope to get involved in Liskeard Christmas activities. With the town council and steering group working together we can ensure the project evolves and seek more opportunities to bring the community and young people together – helping to build a resilient and inclusive community for all.

By working together we improve the outcomes for young people and their communities. The positive working relationships that young people develop with our youth work team enables us to provide a gateway for young people to access additional specialist support including counselling and practical help to assist with managing health issues etc. Our staff work as closely as possible with parents, and have organised Open Days to provide opportunities to meet workers. Young people are prevented from becoming involved with other Statutory agencies including the Youth Offending Team, safeguarding services and Child and Adolescent Mental health Services and are given

opportunities to develop informed decision-making skills, their emotional resilience, self-esteem and sense of self-worth.

At every level of contact with young people we encourage them to get involved. Participation can range from taking part in a workshop to representing their peers at local and national decision making levels. By encouraging young people to volunteer, they acquire skills and a sense of purpose, and are involved in and understand their wider community. By using art and sport we have run community projects that increase important social skills such as teamwork, co-operation, leadership, ability to resolve conflict. We organise training for adult volunteers who gain skills and can then support the delivery of youth work sessions.

### **Current Funding:**

The Youth project is currently funded through the Reaching Communities grant secured by Young People Cornwall however this funding is due to end in October 2017. The aim is that The Liskeard Youth Project will continue providing vital youth services for the young people of Liskeard and the surrounding area.

The current steering committee are committed to becoming a constituted group which will enable them to apply for their own funding sources to continue the youth group and enhance services available for young people both within Liskerett Community Centre and perhaps elsewhere in Liskeard.

Other sources of funding could be sourced from a number of grants, trusts and potential donors including Children in need, Awards for All, Comic Relief, Cornwall Community foundation, Community Chest grants etc. The group will be supported by Young People Cornwall's 'Your Way' community worker to apply for these and develop their fund raising skills.

### **Where else is this model working?**

A number of town councils across Cornwall have already committed funding to young people's services in their area. In doing so they have helped to continue vital youth provision when large scale public sector cuts meant cuts to Cornwall's Youth Service and threatened vital early help services. There is a general lack of accessible and affordable youth provision across the county and the likelihood is that universal youth work support for young people will continue to be negatively affected by budget cuts. Without accessible youth work provision young people are more likely to be isolated from their communities, more likely to be involved in ASB, more likely to be affected by mental health issues and more likely to suffer from a lack of aspiration and feeling of usefulness.

For the past three years, St Austell and Truro Town Councils have provided £20,000 per year of funding to Young People Cornwall to support nearly 50% of the running costs of 'The House' and 'Zebs' youth projects this is matched with grant funding which Young People Cornwall has continued to secure from a variety of sources including but not limited to Children in Need and Global Make Some Noise. The likelihood of securing match funding for youth projects such as this is greatly enhanced when there is support from the community and financial support from local organisations.

For more information or references please contact David Pooley, St. Austell Town Clerk at [David.Pooley@staustell-tc.gov.uk](mailto:David.Pooley@staustell-tc.gov.uk) or Roger Gazzard, Clerk to Truro City Council at [Roger@truro.gov.uk](mailto:Roger@truro.gov.uk)

Saltash Town Council provide £40,000 a year to cover 3 projects in the town, which includes a mix of centre based provision and outreach services and Falmouth Town Council also help fund youth activities based at The Draceana Centre.

‘Your Way’ works with a number of small community groups and resident’s committees who have applied for their own funding for youth work, through small grants such as Awards for All. These sessions are then shaped by the community and young people, be it outreach, centre based, and initiatives such as one worker supported by volunteers.

### **Funding requested November 2017 – March 2018:**

To keep provision open as it currently stands at 2 evenings a week, a 2 hour session on a Tuesday and a 4 hr session on a Friday evening.

Maintain Provision at 6 hours face to face, 2 hours admin time @£25 per hour per worker.  
2 workers = £8,400.

The £25 per hour breaks down to cover; Staff salaries, NI and pension costs. Resource costs incl. stationery & printing, telephones, publicity, Insurances, training, legal & compliance, Health and safety, HR, Data from Views database & the Outcome Star, Line management and supervision of staff, reporting and administration costs, Travel for staff to meetings/ events or activities, Resource costs associated with workshops or activities.

We would also be seeking funds to cover venue rental costs, this would currently be to cover use of 3 rooms, games room, music and counselling room at the Liskerett centre a cost of £35.50 per session - we have use of the café room for free from the Children’s Centre.

**Projected Annual costs for 2018-19; \*this is the ideal and the committee plus Young People Cornwall would be working towards achieving this via funding bids plus any support from the Town Council.**

<b><i>Item:</i></b>	<b><i>Detail:</i></b>	<b><i>Cost:</i></b>
Youth Work Salaries per year	1 x 18.5 hr post & 1 x 25 hr post	£28,049.76
Office Costs per year	Stationery, Telephones, publicity, insurance etc.	£1613.00
Travel – Staff & Young People per year	Travel to and from events, meetings, activities, residential etc	£1114.00
IT & Resources	Maintenance of IT and communications, workshop resources and activities	£1295.60
Management Costs	Line-management & supervision of staff, reporting and administration support	£3748
Organisational Support costs	Contribution to core costs of YPC including HR, Payroll, H&S, training, legal, and compliance.	£5609
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£41,429.36</b>

