

Youth Service

Local Assessment of Need North & East Belfast

2023

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District Electoral Area

Executive Summary

The North & East Belfast Local Assessment of Need is the first phase of the process informing the direction of Youth services within North & East Belfast. The purpose of the assessment of need is to identify the big picture in terms of the needs and inequalities facing children and young people and vulnerable groups whose needs are not currently being met and who experience poor educational, health or social outcomes. This needs assessment identifies unmet need and informs service planning and resource allocation ensuring improved outcomes for children and young people and a reduction in inequalities.

Quantifying the needs of young people in North & East Belfast is a complex and difficult task. There is a clear variation and level of needs across the area, with some areas facing greater challenges than others. North & East Belfast is a large geographical area with broad ranging and diverse needs and issues.

A range of quantitative and qualitative research methods have been used to inform this Assessment of Need. The most up to date data and statistics from a range of government and statutory sources along with recent, relevant reports have been analysed and examined. An extensive consultation with young people and key stakeholders was also undertaken.

A total of 1036 children and young people in Belfast responded to a survey issued regionally on their needs. In addition to the survey, focus groups were held within the 6 DEA's in North & East Belfast during May 2022 with 340 respondents.

Priority Outputs for 2023

North & East Belfast have a population of 50,885 aged 5 -25 years with 75.6% (North Belfast) and 49% (East Belfast) living in areas with high levels of multiple deprivation indicators. Children and young people living in areas of the highest deprivation are more likely to underachieve at school due to the other competing needs in their lives not being met. They will come up against greater obstacles to live a life of fulfilled potential.

The Assessment of need clearly establishes the following Key Areas for Action for the delivery of Youth Services in North & East Belfast:

Learning and Achieving

- Leadership Development Opportunities for 14-18 year olds including YWIC & Horizons
- School based youth work
- Accredited programmes
- Life skills programmes

Living in Safety & Stability

- Street based youth work
- Delivery of strength-based youth work curriculum
- Youth services ENAGE programmes.
- Planned Intervention Programmes
- Youth services such as Bonfire Initiatives and SPARK.

Participation

- Delivery of a strength-based youth work curriculum
- Creation of welcoming and inclusive Centres

- Provision of local participative structures across all age bands
- Volunteering and Leadership Opportunities
- Global Service Learning including 3C programmes

Environment and Climate

- Delivery of community action environmental and climate Projects
- Delivery of Social Action Projects
- Greater use of outdoor learning

Inclusion Diversity Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations

- Equitable access to welcoming and inclusive Centres
- Improved participative opportunities for young people with additional needs / Section 75 children and young people
- Embedding of CRED within core youth service provision to improve good relations
- Delivery of TBUC programmes

Health and Wellbeing

- Wellbeing for All Programmes and Culture within youth provision supported by FLARE
- Early support group work programmes with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- Physical health and fitness programmes
- Establishing a positive peer culture within youth settings to nurture discussion with children and young people regarding health and wellbeing
- Drug and Alcohol awareness

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Introduction & Methodology

Introduction

Structured formal planning takes place throughout Youth Services to effectively allocate staff and resources in response to policy priorities, DE targets, and an objective assessment of need. Local Planning, therefore, is part of a coherent planning framework established within the Education Authority Youth Service.

An assessment of need is the first phase of the planning process. The purpose of this Local Assessment of Need is to identify the bespoke needs of children and young people including vulnerable groups within the geographical area of North & East Belfast. This needs assessment will be foundational in the planning and resource allocation to improved outcomes for children and young people.

Methodology

A range of quantitative and qualitative research methods have been used to inform this Assessment of Need. The most up to date data and statistics from a range of government and statutory sources along with recent, relevant reports have been analysed and examined. A full outline of statistics used, is provided in the separate Local Government District area profile for North & East Belfast. Statistical profiles by DEA, are also included later in the document. An extensive consultation with young people and key stakeholders was also undertaken.

The information gleaned from the research has been collated and analysed and the evidence gathered has been used to compile this report, highlighting the levels of need affecting young people in North & East Belfast.

All the information used was publicly available and is objective and unambiguous. The datasets are also related to outcomes and had a clear focus on educational underachievement and disadvantage.

It remains a policy imperative that young people are included in the design and development of youth services. Many young people engaging in youth services express their interest in actively participating in decision making.

A Local Advisory Group (LAG) is facilitated by Youth Services in North & East Belfast and they have been engaged in the development of the local assessment of need and the local youth development plan. The Local Advisory Group involves representation from the statutory and voluntary sector as well other key stakeholders.

Surveys

A survey focussing on key areas of enquiry was designed for young people and administered using Survey Monkey (appendix 1)

A total of 1036 children and young people in Belfast responded to the survey. Children and young people from a range of statutory, local and voluntary youth groups involved in DE funded youth work participated. Children and young people not currently involved in Youth Services were also canvassed.

In addition to the survey, focus groups were held within the 6 DEA's in North & East Belfast during May 2022. A minimum of 4 groups (48 young people) per District Electoral Area culminating in 27 focus groups

throughout with 340 respondents. The focus groups provided detailed analysis on a localised basis of the information contained within the survey (appendix 3).

The survey responses were analysed, and the results are outlined further in section 'Survey Headlines'

Stakeholder Engagement Events

Over the 3 year funding cycle there have been a series of Stakeholder Engagement Events completed on behalf of the Regional Advisory Group. They focused on the following topics:

- The Emerging Needs of Children & Young People
- Needs of Rural Young People
- Supporting Young People's Learning
- The Emerging Needs of Children and Young People
- Young People and Inclusion
- The Health & Wellbeing Needs of Children and Young People
- Research and Innovation in Youth Work
- Needs of Children and young people after lockdown
- Impact of Environmental and Climate Change
- The needs of Children and Young People affected by the Digital divide
- The impact of drugs and alcohol on children and young people
- The needs of Newcomer children and young people
- The inclusion of young parents
- Volunteering
- Violence against young women

These events were co-designed and co-delivered by young people. Along with young people, key stakeholders from a range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations attended and participated in these events. The findings from these stakeholder events have also been used to inform this Assessment of Need. <https://eanifunding.org.uk/home/publications-and-resources/>

Area Profile

North & East Belfast in Numbers

North & East Belfast Youth service

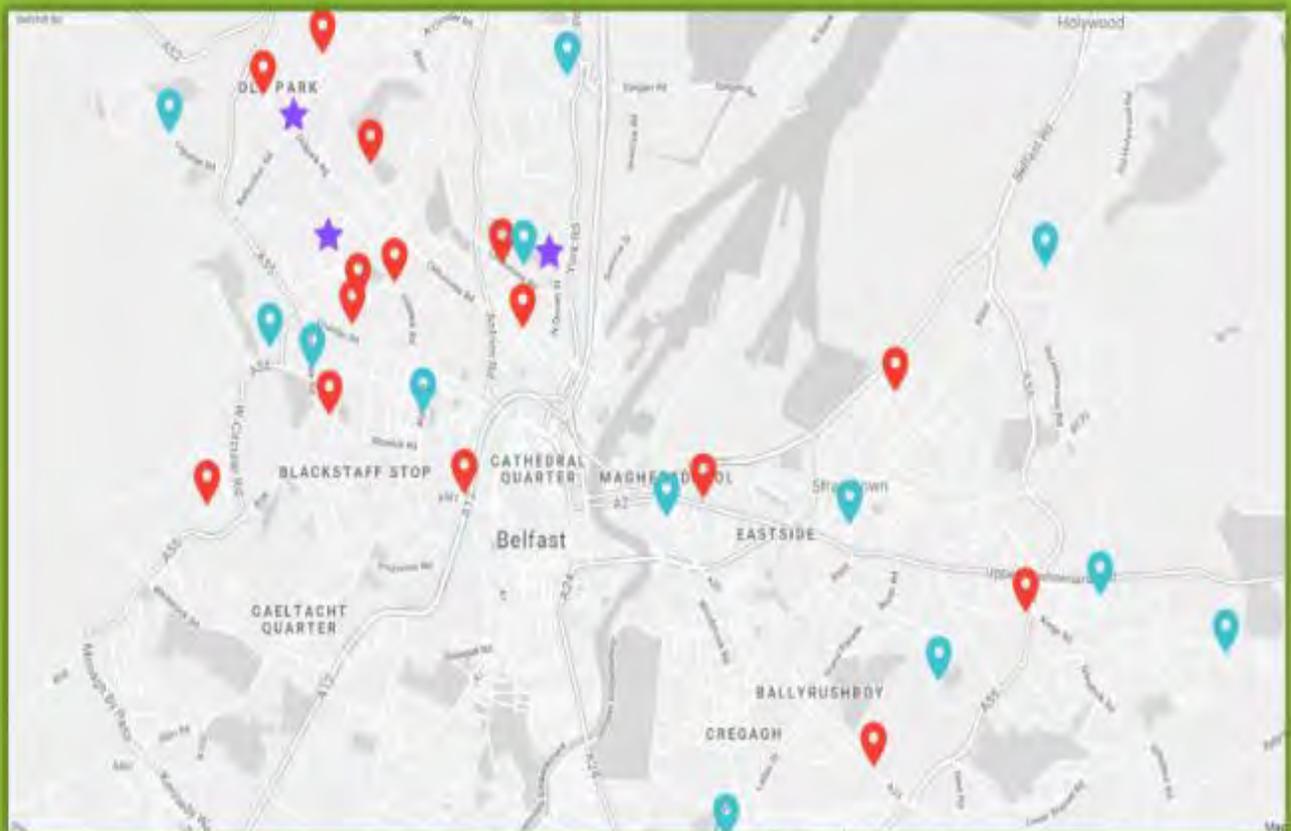
The Youth Service in the Belfast area is divided into two areas: North and East Belfast and South and West Belfast. Each area is managed by a Senior Youth Officer.

Youth Services in Belfast are constantly innovating to meet the present and emerging needs of young people. The current Education Authority Youth Service statutory team in North & East Belfast comprises 9 Full-time and 4 Part time units. There are also 18 Voluntary Youth sector organisations providing Youth Services in this area under the New EA Youth Service Funding Scheme.

Youth Units providing youth services are in areas defined by the greatest need and ease of access, for young people living in the vicinity as shown in the Map below. (Please note this map does not included Generic/Non targeted units)



EA Youth Provision in North & East Belfast



Voluntary



Controlled



Projects

The estimated population for Belfast Local District Council for 2020 is 344,161, of which 167,588 (48.7%) are male and 176,603 (51.3%) are female. More than one third of the total population of Belfast, 118,703 (34.5%) are aged 25 years or under. (NI average 32.6%). In North & East Belfast approximately 50,885 are aged 5-25 yrs. Moving forward these datasets will be reviewed in line with the published outcomes of the 2021 NI Census.

- 118,703 are aged 25 years or under.
 - 16,660 aged 0 – 3 years
 - 21,940 aged 4 – 8 years
 - 22,312 aged 9 – 13 years
 - 19,410 aged 14 – 18 years
 - 38,373 aged 19 – 25 years
-
- 9% of children and young people living in Belfast are from a different ethnic background
 - In terms of sexuality 2,423 young people identify as LGBT&Q (14-25) in 2017
 - 1 in 5 young people have a ‘wellbeing for all’ need (23,846) in Belfast
 - 26,084 (39.4% of the youth population) in Belfast are eligible for FSM. All Non-Grammar schools in North & East have between 44-68% of pupils attending eligible for Free School Meals
 - 19,550 (28.7%) of all pupils have a special Education Need or disability in Belfast. 9 Post Primary Schools in North & East have 28 – 53% of pupils attending with Special Education Needs
 - 3,331 Newcomer children and young people attend schools in Belfast

Highlights:

1. There will be a trend of increased 14-18 years old throughout the period of this plan
2. There will be a trend of decreased 4-8 years old throughout the period of this plan
3. Youth Services need to be considered to meet the needs of children and young people from different ethnic backgrounds
4. The Data indicates a range of vulnerabilities that youth work programmes can be designed to address

North & East Belfast Multiple Deprivation Measures (NIMDM)

According to figures released by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in 2018, 53% of young people in Belfast live in the most deprived Super Output Areas within Northern Ireland. Currently, this equates to approximately 54,082 young people living in areas of and experiencing high levels of multiple deprivation.

75.6% of all young people in North Belfast live in an Area of 50% most Deprived with 49% in East Belfast. By comparison, the Northern Ireland Average is 25.2%.

The North & East Belfast area consists of 84 Super Output Areas.

- 5 Super Output Areas are ranked in the top 10 most deprived in terms of **multiple deprivation**, these are all in North Belfast
- 10 Super Output Areas are in the top 20 most deprived in terms of **multiple deprivation**, these are all in North Belfast
- 8 Super Output Areas in North & East Belfast are ranked in the top 10 most deprived in terms of **Education, Skills and Training**.
- 5 Super Output Areas in North Belfast are in the top 10 most deprived in terms of **Health & Disability**
- 7 Super Output Areas in North Belfast are in the top 20 most deprived in terms of **Employment**
- 8 Super Output Areas in North Belfast are in the top 40 most deprived in terms of **Income**

Neighbourhood Renewal Areas Northern Ireland 2021

A Neighbourhood Renewal Area is defined as an area in the most top 10% deprived areas of Northern Ireland based upon the Multiple Deprivation Measures as identified by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA). Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRAs) are neighbourhoods identified as experiencing the most severe multiple deprivation and have been chosen to receive support under the Department for Communities People and Place strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal.

Northern Ireland has a total of 36 Neighbourhood renewal areas. There are 15 in Belfast, of which 6 are in North Belfast and 2 in East Belfast.

- Greater Shankill
- Crumlin/Ardoyne
- Inner North Belfast
- Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan
- Ligoniel
- Inner North Belfast
- Inner East Belfast
- Tullycarnet

Children and young people living in areas of the highest deprivation are more likely to underachieve at school due to the other competing needs in their lives not being met. They will come up against greater obstacles to live a life of fulfilled potential.

KEY FACTORS: LEARN & ACHIEVE

- The proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs including English and Maths in Non-Grammar schools from 2016/17 to 2018/19, show a three-year average ranging from 38 – 49% located within North Belfast and 45% in East Belfast.
- Free School Meal entitlement in Belfast is currently 26,084 pupils (39.4% of the youth population). All Non-Grammar schools in North & East have between 44-68% of pupils attending eligible for Free School Meals
- 19,550 (19.5%) of all pupils have a Special Education Need or disability in Belfast. 7 Post Primary Schools in North & East have 22% – 47% of pupils attending with Special Education Needs in 2020-2021.
- 0 (0%) pupils attend schools in the Belfast area that have been designated as rural. (NI Average 25.5%).
- 3,331 Newcomer children and young people attend schools in the Belfast area.
- 766 child or young person Looked After were supported by the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. Many of these children and young people live and attend schools in the Belfast.

Discussion & Key Trends

Statistics from DE indicate that young people in receipt of Free School Meals are more than twice as likely to leave school without any substantive qualifications. There is also a significant attainment gap between children and young people with a Special Educational Need or a disability and their peers. Children and young people experiencing prejudice and discrimination are less likely to feel part of a group and participate, withdraw from school and society, suffer poor mental health which can have a negative impact on their academic and social outcomes. Those most likely to encounter discrimination will include some of the following groups, although this list is not exhaustive: being a child or young person Looked After, those with a Special Educational Need or a Disability.

In order to address the gap between the highest and lowest achieving young people there is a clear need to tackle the root causes of educational disadvantage and barriers to learning through opportunities in both the formal education sector and in the non-formal Youth Service settings.

Youth Services in North & East Belfast therefore are ideally placed to contribute to the reduction in barriers to learning through personal and social development programmes, focusing on outcomes such as enhanced personal capabilities, improved health and well-being, the development of thinking skills, life skills and work skills, improved relationships with others, increased participative action and active citizenship. This, alongside the availability of accredited and non-accredited programmes in the youth setting can potentially increase educational attainment among the most vulnerable young people and minority groups.

Children and Young people from North & East Belfast have requested Youth Services to provide informal and vocational opportunities that support career and job prospects and qualifications that are accessible, meaningful and would meet their career and life opportunities.

It is interesting to report that children and young people from all age groups from within North & East Belfast stated that sport and fitness and life skills programmes were the top two most important in terms of them successfully transitioning into adulthood.

In North & East Belfast most children and young people report school anxiety as a key concern and identify stress management, supportive non-formal learning environments which promote learning through different styles as measures that will assist them in achieving their potential at each stage of their development.

Continued pathways to training, volunteering and leadership opportunities for young people in youth centres and youth programmes are essential in helping them to overcome barriers to learning by providing further opportunities to gain qualifications, to volunteer and to develop a range of life skills and attributes that will improve their life outcomes as individuals and as contributors to their local community and the wider economy.

Education is a positive factor in ensuring that young people thrive, learn and achieve allowing them to enjoy a prosperous and rewarding life. It is also a means of breaking the cycle of poverty and deprivation and a powerful way of stopping young people engaging in risk taking activities, crime or anti-social behaviour. As a society, we aspire for every child and young person to learn and achieve and reach their potential to become an active citizen. Acquiring a worthwhile education can make this a reality.

Therefore, we consider youth work within the community to be a vehicle to address this issue through creative youth work programmes.

KEY FACTORS: HEALTH & WELLBEING

- In terms of Health & Wellbeing 1 in 5 young people report a 'Wellbeing for all' need (23,846) in Belfast.
- In 2019 Belfast reported the number of suicides registered as 57 (Northern Ireland average 19)
- Recent figures continue to report death by suicide to be 3 times the NI average especially in key communities of North Belfast. Males aged 15 -25 years are a grouping deemed high risk within this figure.
- In 2019 Belfast reported the rate of drug related deaths as 25.9 per 100,000 population (Northern Ireland average 8.4)
- Male life expectancy in Belfast is 75.8 years. (Northern Ireland 78.5). In the most deprived areas it is 71.3 years. (Northern Ireland 74.2).
- Female life expectancy in Belfast is 81 years. (Northern Ireland 82.3). In the most deprived areas it is 77.6 years. (Northern Ireland 79.6).
- The standardised incidence rate for cancer in Belfast is 653 per 100,000 population (Northern Ireland 596). In the most deprived areas it is 767 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 689).
- The standardised admission rate for self-harm in Belfast is 191 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 154). In the most deprived areas it is 350 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 290).
- The standardised admission rate for alcohol related issues in Belfast is 1,119 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 691). In the most deprived areas it is 2,156 per 100,000 population. (Northern Ireland 1,491).
- The teenage birth rate for Belfast is 16 per 1,000 population. (Northern Ireland 9.5). In the most deprived areas it is 29.4 per population. (Northern Ireland 17.2).
- The proportion of Primary 1 pupils identified as obese or overweight is 21%. (Northern Ireland 21%). In the most deprived areas it is 23%. (Northern Ireland 36%).
- The proportion of Year 8 pupils identified as obese or overweight is 27%. (Northern Ireland 28%). In the most deprived areas it is 32%. (Northern Ireland 30%).
- The standardised prescription rate for Mood and Anxiety in Belfast is 248 per 1,000 population. (Northern Ireland 213). In the most deprived areas it is 340 per 1,000 population. (Northern Ireland 287).

Discussion & Key Trends

Health inequalities are directly linked to one's social status and this may explain some of the growing inequalities that many children and young people in North & East Belfast face in terms of their general health outcomes and their mental and emotional wellbeing

Children and young people living in low income households and in the most deprived communities in North & East Belfast are more likely to be obese, have lower life expectancies and are more likely to have worse physical, mental and sexual health outcomes.

In North & East Belfast young people living in disadvantaged areas are more likely to endure health deprivation and suffer mental health issues. Children and young people who live in relative poverty are 5.5 times more likely to go hungry than their peers. This can lead to poor health and education outcomes as well as exposing children and young people to bullying which can negatively impact on their emotional and mental health. These young people are more likely to be absent from school which will negatively impact on their educational attainment.

Vulnerable and marginalised groups of children and young people, including Children and Young People Looked After, those with Special Educational Needs or a disability, those from ethnic minorities, young carers, young people identifying as LGBTQ or those who have experienced adverse childhood experiences are also more likely to have poorer health outcomes than their peers.

Within North & East Belfast significant numbers of children and young people fall into these groups. Poor health outcomes are also linked to poor educational outcomes.

In response to the Assessment of Need, children and young people in North & East Belfast require a focus on programmes and activities developing resilience and wellbeing for all. Risk taking behaviour is also a particular concern noted by local statutory agencies in North & East Belfast.

The North & East Belfast Youth Service require educational programmes and activities that target specific areas of risk-taking behaviour, to provide opportunities for young people to participate in engaging activities that develop their personal, social and emotional skills to promote and enhance personal resilience, healthy decision-making and wellbeing and lead to a positive impact on the educational outcomes for children and young people.

KEY FACTORS: INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY AND GOOD RELATIONS

- Interface Areas: There are 16 interface clusters in Northern Ireland; 13 in Belfast
- 3,331 Newcomer children and young people attend schools in Belfast.
- 19,550 (28.7%) of all pupils have a special Education Need or disability in Belfast. Nine Post Primary Schools in North & East Belfast have between 28 – 53% of pupils attending with additional needs.
- According to the Office of National Statistics, 4.2% of young people in the UK aged 16-24 identify as either Lesbian, gay or bisexual. In Belfast this equates to approximately 2,423 young people.
- 154 Traveller children and young people attend schools in Belfast.
- 276 Roma children and young people attend schools in Belfast.
- In April-June 2019 there were 20,000 young people (aged 16-24) in Northern Ireland who were not in education, employment, or training (NEET). This represents 10.2% of all young people aged 16-24.
- According to the Simon Community there are at least 6,000 homeless young people across Northern Ireland. (Homeless can mean living in unsuitable and unstable accommodation).
- According to the last census (2011) there are 8,000 young carers in Northern Ireland.
- 766 child or young person Looked After were supported by the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust. Many of these children and young people live and attend schools in the Belfast.

Discussion & Key Trends

North & East Belfast Youth Services are committed to preventing discrimination, eliminating prejudice, promoting inclusion, and celebrating diversity. As an organisation, EA encourage staff and the children and young people they work with to have respect for themselves and others. The EA delivers services that recognise and build upon the strengths of the children and young people in our care from all cultures, religions, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and backgrounds, in ways that meet their needs and help them to achieve their full potential.

However, there are marginalised groups of vulnerable children and young people in North & East Belfast who experience discrimination and do not have the same levels of opportunity to access education or the curriculum, Youth Services or other activities because of their particular situation, such as race, gender, religion, disability or where they live.

Despite the Good Relations policy, North & East Belfast remains a divided community. The education system is segregated with most children and young people attending schools based on their religion.

Public and social housing in North & East Belfast is overwhelmingly segregated between the two communities and this can lead to inter-community tensions, involving children and young people especially at contentious times of the year and particularly at interface areas. This can also lead to children and young people coming under the influence of paramilitaries.

North & East Belfast has become a much more culturally diverse place in recent years. However, in the last number of years racist hate crimes have exceeded sectarian hate crimes. Through focus groups young people supported the view that Youth Services should provide safe spaces for children and young people and promote inclusion and embrace and celebrate difference. This should be addressed through Inclusion, diversity and equality of opportunity programmes, good relation opportunities; and T: BUC residentials or camps. Young people were clear that this work must go beyond the traditional focus on catholic and protestant young people.

Other marginal groups also experience intolerance and prejudice. For example, the LGBTQ community reported that they have been subjected to political and social intolerance, where their rights have been denied and not respected. For many within this community, discrimination and prejudice begins in school and many young people noted ongoing bullying and harassment.

KEY FACTORS: LIVING IN SAFETY & STABILITY

- Approximately 63,200 (53%) young people live in the most deprived areas of Belfast.
- 3/4 of all young people in North Belfast live in an Area of 50% most Deprived with just under ½ in East Belfast.
- There are 10 interface areas in North & East Belfast.
- The most recent figures reveal that there were 8,389 domestic abuse incidences in Belfast. (Northern Ireland 31,531).
- Counts of recorded domestic abuse incidents where the victim is under 18 years is 626 in 2019/20 in Belfast (Northern Ireland 2,725)
- The total number of movements within the Juvenile Justice Centre for Belfast in 2017/18 was 159. (Northern Ireland 582).
- In April - June 2019 there were 20,000 young people (aged 16-24) in Northern Ireland who were not in education, employment, or training (NEET). This represents 10.2% of all young people aged 16-24.
- According to the Simon Community there are at least 6,000 homeless young people across Northern Ireland. (Homeless can mean living in unsuitable and unstable accommodation).
- According to the last census (2011) there are 8,000 young carers in Northern Ireland.
- Sectarian Hate Crime incidents reported to the PSNI (2019-2020). Belfast reported 355 out of 884 incidents for the whole of Northern Ireland in 2020.
- Racial incidents reported to the PSNI (2019-2020). Belfast reported 416 out of 939 incidents for the whole of Northern Ireland in 2020.
- Homophobic incidents reported to the PSNI (2019-2020). Belfast reported 151 out of 360 incidents for the whole of Northern Ireland in 2020.
- Almost half of the Northern Ireland incidents for sectarianism, racial and homophobia take place in Belfast.

Discussion & Key Trends

Adverse childhood experiences can have a detrimental effect on a child or young person's personal and social development. As well as having negative consequences for the individual it can also impact on other children and young people in local communities. A recent study noted that a negative home environment can lead to a series of problems, including among others, poor language development, deficit in school readiness, behavioural problems, and wellbeing for all needs.

In North & East Belfast there are several risk factors such as socio-economic, demographic, environmental and cultural influences which directly impact on children and young people. These range from instability in terms of parenting, their home environment, lack of a male role model, education and employment and can include negative transitions which they may experience, such as family relationships, including divorce or remarriage, moving home and school, neglect and witnessing or being the victims of domestic abuse.

In North & East Belfast these negative influences on children and young people can have serious consequences for their future life chances. Children and young people are more inclined to have behavioural problems, poor educational attainment and limited career prospects and poorer general and mental health. They are also likely to have limited personal resilience and engage in risk taking activity including alcohol and drug misuse, anti-social behaviour, inappropriate use of social media and more susceptible to be influenced or threatened by paramilitaries. Children and young people from Section 75 groups are those most at risk of not living safely and securely.

Children and young people growing up in a stable, secure home and environment are more likely to achieve academically, have better health outcomes, more opportunities to participate in wider society and have better career opportunities.

A safe, secure, and loving home environment as well as a School, Youth Service and Community which is consistent and nurturing, makes a big difference for children and young people in our society.

However, In North & East Belfast, there are many children and young people experiencing significant adversity in their home lives and within their communities which can have a negative impact on their education, health, and social outcomes.

North Belfast currently has the highest number of interface areas in Northern Ireland especially where North Belfast meets West Belfast. Also, internally where predominant Catholic communities meet Protestant communities. East Belfast is largely Protestant in nature; however, several interface areas exist where neighbouring communities meet Short Strand, which is largely Catholic in makeup.

Children and young people living in areas of high rates of attacks and interface violence will feel unsafe in their communities and sometimes their homes and less likely to access services within or even outside their perceived community. In addition, young people are at greater risk of involvement in criminal behaviours or coercion.

Paramilitarism is a reality for many in Northern Ireland and a growing threat to children and young people, particularly those from the most deprived communities where paramilitaries exert the greatest control. A recent report noted that without a functioning Executive and the uncertainty regarding Brexit ending Paramilitarism is now more difficult. Young people supported the idea of community partnerships, based on trust and respect, involving all key stakeholders to provide children and young people with alternative, positive opportunities.

KEY FACTORS: ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

Environmental and climate change are key areas of concern for young people as the effects of climate change are being better understood and young people are becoming more active in highlighting this and acting on the matter. Young people and adults through focus groups agreed that environmental issues needed addressed urgently and came up with practical improvements that could be made at youth group level right through to RAG. During a Stakeholder event, it was highlighted the need for RAG to set priorities around Green Standards and education for Youth Workers and young people. It was also recommended that Local Youth Services act on making youth settings more environmentally friendly inside and out and to move towards green energy sources and materials. Youth groups can be proactive in keeping their area litter free, reducing plastic use, increasing recycling, and creating an environmentally friendly outdoor space

KEY FACTORS: PARTICIPATION

Article 12 of the United Nation's Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulates that: *Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.* Children and young people's participation in decision making on issues that affect them has increasingly been recognised and valued as a right. It has also been reported that successfully engaging children and young people in the institutions, communities and contexts in which they live and building their capacity as active citizens can be a critical factor in their positive development as individuals, enhance their career prospects and life chances and support their positive contribution to these same contexts and institutions.

Most children and young people in North & East Belfast have access to some form of social, cultural or sporting outlet. Participation in school, Youth Services and wider society helps children and young people become more confident and independent. It can also provide opportunities to socialise and make friends with people from different backgrounds.

Many young people engaging in youth services express their interest in actively participating in decision making. All statutory and EA Funded Voluntary Organisations operate an appropriate participation structure which enables the voice of young people to influence the organisations delivery.

The Local Youth Voice structure operating in North & East are active, participating in many consultations with Council, Youth Service, Local Advisory Group and other Statutory Partners.

Participation will continue to a be key priority for North & East Belfast Youth Services to ensure that Local Youth Voice is developed and sustained with a continued focus on membership to include young people from Section 75 groups in order to ensure a broad representation.

Survey Headlines

Survey Headlines – Regional

The survey was responded to by 1036 young people across the city of Belfast of which 44% were 14 – 18 years; 47 % were 9 – 13 years. There was 43% representation male and 55% female with 2 % not identifying as either. Those engaged were representative of the urban population within the area. Based on the responses from children and young people it highlighted that what is important to them is the fact that youth services provide safe, inclusive spaces where they are welcomed, have fun and meet friends whilst supporting their emotional health and wellbeing needs as they express their views in trusted relationships. This reinforces the importance of youth services providing core youth work currently.

When asked what programmes the youth service could provide to support these needs young people highlighted that the following were important to them:

- Physical health and wellbeing
- Life skills
- Emotional health and wellbeing including outdoor learning and activities
- Volunteering and leadership development
- Creative arts
- Outdoor learning

Survey Headlines - Local

In addition to the survey, North & East Belfast facilitated 27 focus groups with 340 participants to further investigate the responses from children and young people. Of these participants 96 were aged 9-13 years, 229 aged 14-18 years and 15 aged 19-25 years. In terms of settings 83% were from a youth centre, 7% engaged during street work, 7% in a school and 3% identified as section 75.

In summary the focus groups highlighted services which create positive change in many of the needs assessed: (All focus group responses were analysed, broken down into District Electoral Areas, and can be found in appendix 3)

Learning & Achieving

- Range of Informal learning and vocational opportunities
- Celebration of success
- Stress management

Living in Safety & Stability

- Outdoor learning and residentials
- Active citizenship and improved relationships with others.
- Access to food

Participation

- Promotion of Programme of Offer
- Local voice

Environment & Climate

- Use of green space around centres
- Social action projects
- Environmental education and awareness

Inclusion Diversity Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations

- Relationship building with those from other backgrounds
- Together Building United Communities (TBUC) and Global Service Learning (GSL) opportunities
- Welcoming Spaces

Health & Wellbeing

- Physical health and wellbeing activities
- Supportive space within youth centres to express views in trusted relationships
- Emotional Health and well-being opportunities

Establishing Key Priorities of Work for 2023

Based on the analysis of the Statistical data and the voice of stakeholders, children and young people, considering also the current uncertainty regarding the future of budgets, increasing cost of living and long lasting impacts on the lives of children and young people as a result of covid-19, there needs to be a clear focus on the priority to protect core services for children and young people. The Assessment of need clearly establishes the following Key Areas for Action for the delivery of Youth Services in North & East Belfast;

- Health and Wellbeing
- Learning and Achieving
- Participation
- Living in Safety and Stability
- Inclusion Diversity Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations
- Environment and Climate

Priority Outputs for 2023

Key Area for Action: Learning and Achieving

Addressing barriers to learning remains a significant need within North & East Belfast with many areas within the top 25% for education, skills and training deprivation indicator. This need is further deepened by the pandemic, increased newcomers, high levels of SEN and children looked after. Key concerns articulated by young people are, school stress/anxiety, lack of educational supports at home and in school resulting in low confidence.

Based on population data this will see an increase in children and young people transitioning from the 9-13 age range to the 14-18 age range over the planned period, which will result in an increased number of those taking examinations and considering employment/career pathways or routes into further and higher education.

There will be an opportunity and need to provide new and additional leadership and volunteer opportunities taking into account the bespoke needs at that time. The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that this can be addressed through youth work by:

- Leadership Development Opportunities for 14-18 year olds including YWIC & Horizons
- School based youth work
- Accredited programmes
- Life skills programmes

Key Area for Action: Living in Safety & Stability

Feeling safe, stable, and secure is central to our health and wellbeing. How safe we feel at home and in our community can influence our social habits and feeling of freedom. When we feel safe, we find it easier to relax, do all the things that comfort us, and focus on the work or study we need to do to help ensure our stability. Living and spending time in a secure and stable environment is incredibly important for all children and young people. Children and young people want to feel like they belong in a safe, secure, home, school and community.

Many factors can influence children and young people's sense of security – this is often dependent on relationships, trust, living arrangements, finances, security, and having supportive friends and family are all strongly linked with safety and stability. A stable home, school and community environment can support children and young people to develop positive trusting relationships in which they can thrive. However sadly for many children in Northern Ireland Paramilitarism is a reality and a growing threat to children and young people, particularly those from the most deprived communities where paramilitaries exert the greatest control.

During the local assessment of need focus groups young people recognised low income, unemployment alongside high levels of crime featuring as significant issues of safety and stability in their communities. They report from experience, this lack of employment adversely affects the income and food available in a household prompting concerns of domestic violence. In addition, the large number of interface areas and resulting conflict in North & East Belfast affects them by not feeling safe and impacts their mental health.

The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that this can be addressed through youth work by:

- Street based youth work to reach young people not engaged in Youth Services, but who are at risk of coercion and involved in risk taking behaviours
- Delivery of strength-based youth work curriculum for children and young people through generic / core youth service provision to as a means of early intervention.
 - Lawfulness Education
 - Child Sexual Exploitation
 - School Based Youth Work – SYTES and YVA
 - Anti-Bullying Programmes and Internet Safety
 - Domestic Violence
 - Risk Taking behaviours
- Youth services programmes to support young people with issues of safety and stability through the provision of ENAGE programmes.
- Planned Intervention Programmes
- Youth services programmes to support young people with issues of safety and stability at key cultural times through Bonfire Initiatives such as SPARK.

Key Area for Action: Participation

Youth participation strengthens personal and social development, provides expertise for children and youth services, and promotes a more democratic society. Youth participation actively involves young people in decision-making processes on issues that affect them. Young people make invaluable contributions to communities and are empowered themselves when they participate.

Participation actively encourages and supports the empowerment of young people imparting to them control over their lives through participation in decisions related to services they receive. Participation through purposeful

engagement sees young people taking on valued roles, addressing issues that are relevant to them, and influencing real outcomes.

Another critical component of equitable participation is inclusiveness, ensuring all young people are able and supported to fully participate.

The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that young people's participation needs can be addressed through youth work by;

- Delivery of a strength-based youth work curriculum for children and young people through generic / core youth service provision to enhance and encourage participation
- Creation of welcoming and inclusive Centres so that all young people can develop a sense of belonging and connection
- Provision of local participative structures across all age bands
- Volunteering and Leadership Opportunities
- Global Service Learning including 3C programmes

Key Area for Action: Environment & Climate

Environment and Climate change is a direct threat to children and young people's ability to survive, grow, and thrive. As extreme weather events such as storms and heatwaves increase in frequency and ferocity, they threaten children's lives and damage infrastructure critical to their well-being. Floods, compromise water, sanitation and community infrastructure, the destructive nature of environmental and climate change, leave children and young people particularly vulnerable.

Children are the least responsible for climate change, yet without doubt they will bear the greatest burden of its impact. Droughts and changing global rainfall patterns are leading to crop failures and rising food prices, which for the those in poverty mean food insecurity and nutritional deprivations that can have lifelong impacts.

Children are the most vulnerable to growing up in a world made far more dangerous and uncertain as a result of a changing climate and degraded environment. Addressing climate change and mitigating its impact is imperative to protect children and young people and fulfil their rights.

The Local Assessment of need has highlighted children and young people views on Environment and climate and how youth work can address these by:

- Delivery of strength-based youth work curriculum for children and young people through core youth service provision to become better informed on environmental and climate issues.
- Delivery of community action environmental and climate Projects
- Delivery of Social Action Projects
- Greater use of outdoor learning to support the development of and awareness of the environment and climate

Key Area for Action: Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity Good Relations

Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity Good Relations are said to exist where there is a high level of dignity, respect and mutual understanding and an absence of prejudice, hatred, hostility, or harassment. Initiatives that promote Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity such as good community relations programmes, are the pursuit for practical foundations of trust and harmony between all children and young people in Northern Ireland.

During the recent focus group consultation Young people reported an increase in sectarianism, racist and homophobic attitudes within their community and the limited work with other cultures. They are encouraged that youth service staff deliver inclusive youth work programmes for young people in their attempts to create a more inclusive, equitable and diverse society. Young people discussed at length how this work has created positive change in their own ability to accept and understand others while improving relationships.

The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that young people's Inclusion, Diversity and Equality of Opportunity and Good Relations needs can be addressed through youth work by:

- Delivery of strength-based youth work curriculum for children and young people through core youth service provision to enhance inclusion.
- Equitable access to welcoming and inclusive Centres
- Improved participative opportunities for young people with additional needs / Section 75 children and young people
- Embedding of CRED within core youth service provision to improve good relations
- Delivery of TBUC programmes

Key Area for Action: Health and Wellbeing

It has been clearly highlighted by the Voice of Children and Young People in North & East Belfast that health and wellbeing remain a core need. Concerns of young people relate to unhealthy lifestyles such as drug misuse, sexual behaviours, gambling. This impacts on the mental and sometimes physical health of children and young people causing them to feel isolated and struggling with low confidence and self-esteem. Suicide and self-harm is a prevalent issue across all the communities and remains three times above the Northern Ireland average in areas of significant deprivation.

The DE Emotional health and wellbeing framework has highlighted and evidenced that a focus needs to be placed on Wellbeing for All and Early Support programmes for children and young people to positively address this need long term impacts. The Local Assessment of need has highlighted that this can be address through youth work by:

- Wellbeing for All Programmes and Culture within youth provision supported by FLARE
- Early support group work programmes with a focus on emotional health and wellbeing
- Physical health and fitness programmes
- Establishing a positive peer culture within youth settings to nurture discussion with children and young people regarding health and wellbeing
- Drug and Alcohol awareness

Appendix 1: Regional Survey Results

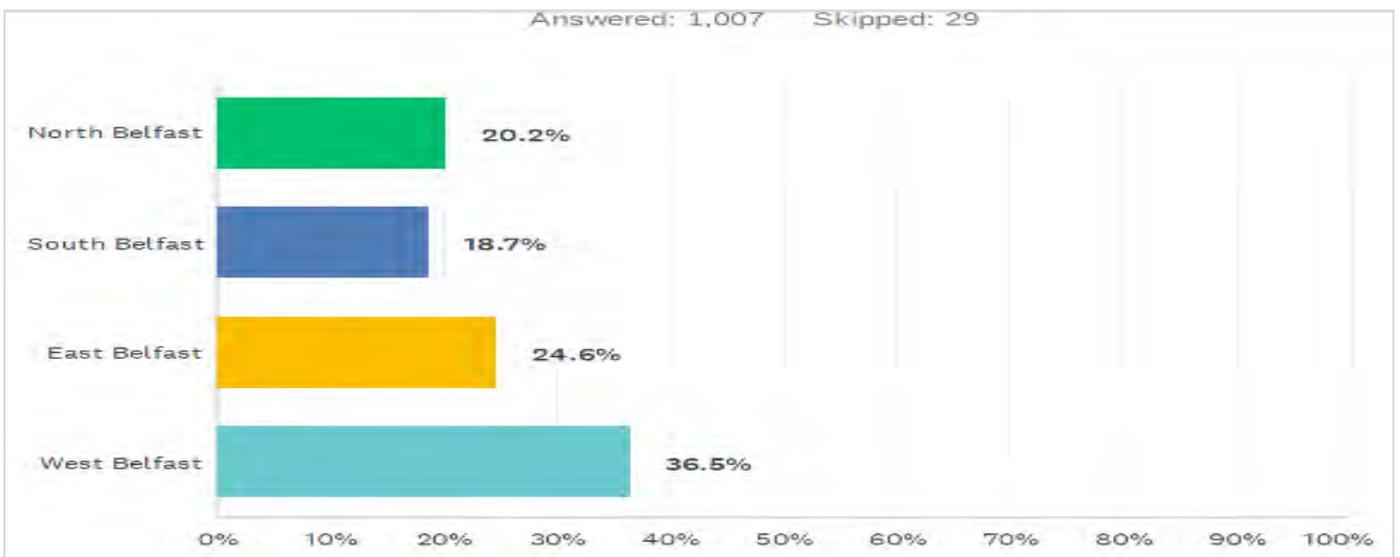
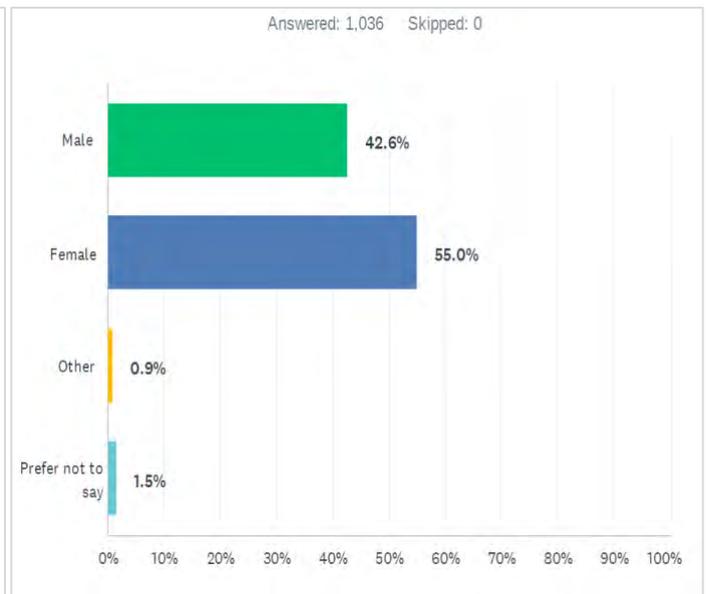
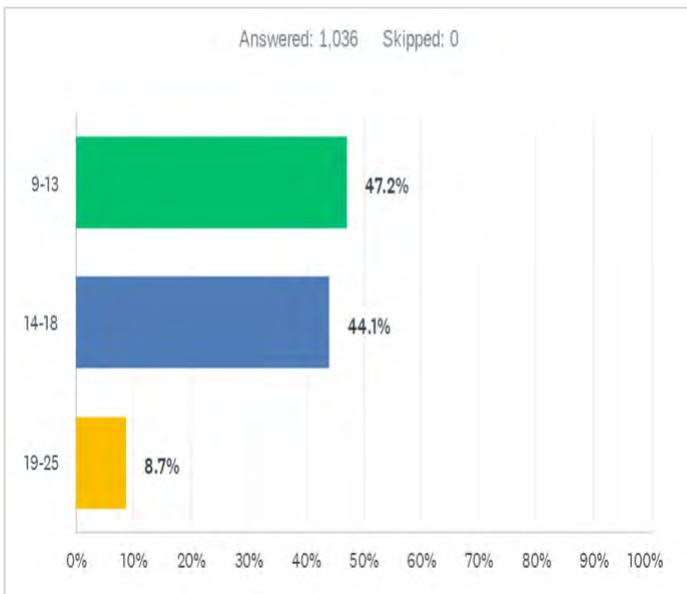
Appendix 1

Regional Assessment of Need Survey Headlines June 2022 – Belfast only

A survey focussing on key areas of enquiry was designed for young people and administered using Survey Monkey was released in June 2022 for 2 weeks

A total of 1036 children and young people in Belfast responded to the survey. Children and young people from a range of statutory, local and voluntary youth groups involved in DE funded youth work participated. Children and young people not currently involved in Youth Services were also canvassed.

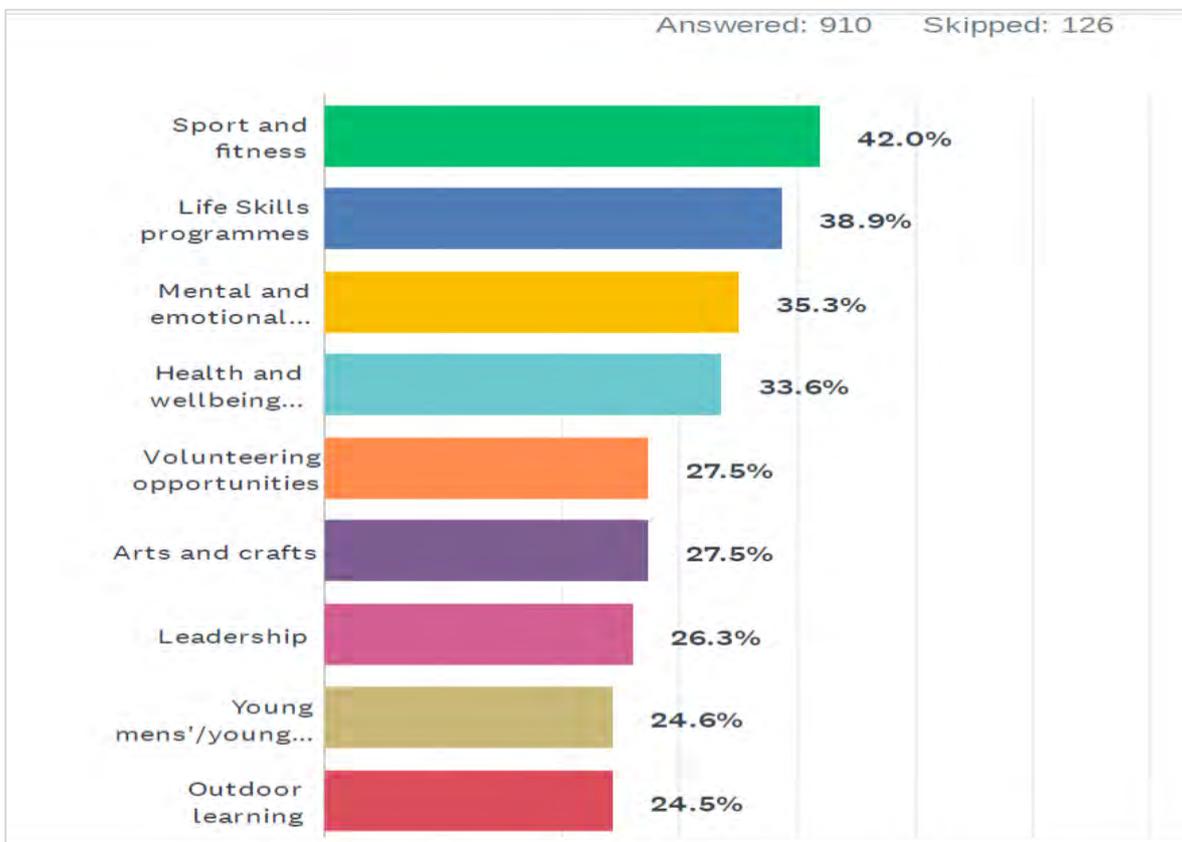
The tables below summarise the key Headlines for Belfast respondents



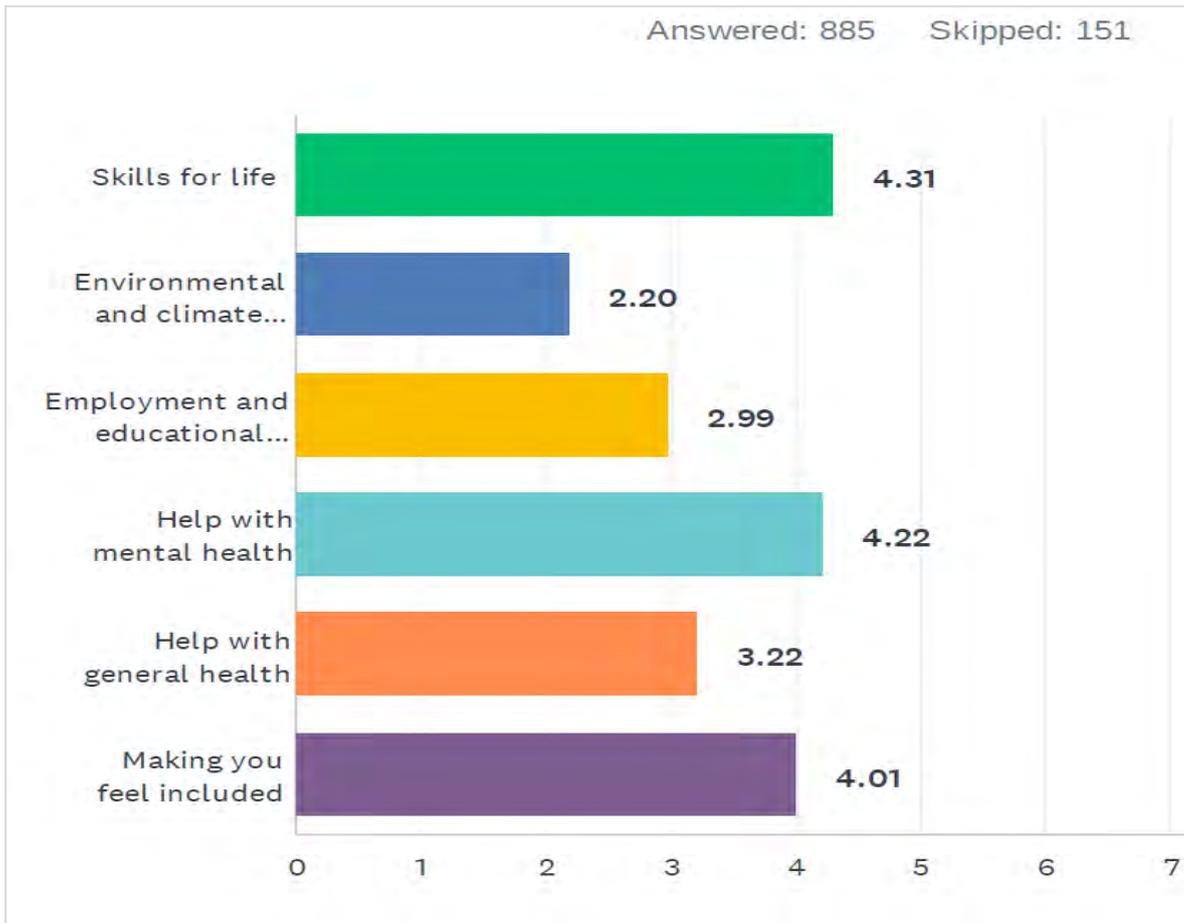
As a young person, what is most important to you?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Good friendships	52.1%	474
Having fun	47.1%	428
Mental health and wellbeing	37.8%	344
Family relationships	31.4%	285
Having somewhere to hang out	28.3%	257
Feeling safe in your community	25.0%	227
Making good educational choices	14.3%	130
Career/job/training opportunities	13.2%	120
Being happy at school	12.8%	116
The cost of living or money problems	11.8%	107
Help with bullying	7.7%	70
Exploring faith and values	3.0%	27
None of the above	0.4%	4
Total Respondents: 909		

What activities/programmes could Youth Services provide that would be most helpful?



Rank by importance the type of programmes Youth Services should provide for you?



Appendix 2: Stakeholder Feedback

Local Advisory Groups Feedback – North & East Belfast

Key recommendations regarding the prioritisation of Youth Service delivery in local communities are as follows:

- 48 weeks provision or less is recommended in an area to ensure appropriate periods of rest are in place for youth workers.
- Youth Units should not be expected to exceed a maximum of 5/6 nights in an area
- Provision should be spread across each night of the week in an area by various providers ensuring good partnership working between providers.
- Outreach is priority in communicating & connecting young people to available provision in the area
- Detached work is a priority to bring educational support to those not using local Youth Centres
- Targeted work is best focused on: Living in safety and stability, Health and Wellbeing, Inclusion and Diversity

Stakeholder Engagement Events Feedback

Event	Stakeholders	Actions
Inclusion of Young Parents February 2021	64 Young people 24 Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early interventions on a range of topics • Day time session to reflect responsibilities • Childcare facilities • Supports for young fathers
Environmental Space October 2021	67 Young people 24 Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Centre Based Provision – Promotion of Programme and development of outdoor space around centres • Area Youth Work – Youth work presence in cyber space and support to become active citizens • Detached Youth Work – Promotion of rights to safe spaces and relationship development with others
Needs affected by Drugs & Alcohol December 2021	119 Young people 28 Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs and alcohol programmes need to reflected current trends • Programmes should be offered to parents • Information offering support on what to do if under the influence • access in each local area one on one support services
Hate Crime March 2022	52 Young People 22 Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness on the issue • Educate young people • Introduce other cultures • Share stories

Appendix 3: Focus Groups North & East Belfast

Appendix 3

The regional survey was then broken into Focus Groups within North & East Belfast. 27 focus groups were facilitated in May and June 2022 with a total of 340 participants. This ensured a minimum of 4 focus groups (48 young people) took place in each of the 6 DEA's in North & East Belfast.

North Belfast – Concerns

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of green space Littering & Dog poo Climate change Peace walls Pollution Bonfires Not enough bins Roads issues (Pot holes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental and Physical Health Sexual Health Gambling Falling into wrong crowds Social media Unhealthy life styles Suicide Drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of awareness of consequences Aggressive disputes Separated parents and domestic violence Poverty & Poor Housing Bullying Interface & Riots Gangs Paramilitaries Not feeling safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety Peer pressure Informal learning support Homework support School stress Struggle with peers To much expected & not enough time No motivation Stress Low confidence No relationship with staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual orientation Gender Racism Rioting Refugees Sectarianism Not enough diversity other that protestant and catholic Should include old and young people Never experience other culture
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter Fires Smoking Anti social behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passive smoking Alcohol & Drugs Mental health (anxiety/self harm/suicide) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Money issues Food problems Rioting Abusive households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School stress due to Covid No confidence Bullying Learning Difficulties Lack of support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sectarianism Equal rights Racism Cultural Isolation divides depending where you live. Less opportunities depending where you live
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of recycling in Youth clubs Dumps taking up too much space in society Litter Pollution Flooding Forest Fires Increase in temp Green House gases Recycling Deforestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol/drug misuse Family trauma Poverty Mental/Physical health Eating disorder Health problems Covid Not being able to talk to people about things (confidently) Anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not feeling safe walking around our area Rioting & Interface Rise in drug use and paraphernalia in communities Crime rate Street fights Jobs/benefits Increased costs Feel police cant be trusted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough options for young people to choose from Commitment issues Lack of support from family Giving up No opportunities for new experiences Misleading information Bored after school No ICT access at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YP not accepting each other Youth clubs not physically appearing inclusive Too many protestant and catholic groups Sexism Sectarianism Living in deprived areas Nationality/languages Lack of trust from Stormont Lack creative cous, academic & sensory issues

North Belfast – Servicesby Youth Service

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental/Social action projects to make use of green space Spread awareness, use YP to litter pick and more use of bins Community clean up Promote recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health related programmes Signposting to organisations Social Media campaign Sports Drop in Mentoring Leaflets and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes around topics Bonfire Programme Therapy/relaxation sessions Mental health programmes to explore the issues Cross community groups Feeling safe within centre Could provide safe place to go Provide how young people can look after themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework clubs 1 to 1 support Provide materials/resources for revision GCSE Classes More OCR's other than GCSE Signpost to other services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential trips/activities TBUC Peace Ambassadors Cross community groups LGBTQ+ Groups Do intergenerational programmes Culture programmes about our own and other backgrounds
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased club hours Deliver courses to YP re environment. Increase recycling bins in youth centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking to YP about the dangers of Drugs. Counselling rooms Counsellors Drop in space Outside organisation advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teach about Adult life Come together as a community more often Help parents gain education Food banks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After school clubs Extra support in school Homework clubs Breakfast clubs More approachable qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outside agencies to provide information and learn YP of the issues Offer programmes Include everyone Celebration events of all religion and culture beliefs within clubs Cross community events
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate YP on how to recycle Creatively promote 2Do's & Don'ts to help tackle climate change Clean up More bins Schools promote and support recycling Gardening in YC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 1 to 1 support Link with families Guest speakers 1-1 counselling Keep fit Physical tournaments Complimentary therapies Confidence building Exercise programmes Safe space Open more hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate young people on consequence in long run Help YP make positive decisions Guest speakers with real life stories More access to Youth Centres Help to get to know the community more Link YP with members of the community Provide trips Support for parents Awareness of rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifications with more hands on approach Have youth workers in mainstream school to help After school clubs Exam support OCNs Programme work Celebration events Tutors Small groups in different skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote YP inclusive art work Quiet space within Youth club/sensory room Targeted afternoon sessions for YP with SEN Cross community banners Welcome signs Awareness groups Meet other ethnic groups Offer programmes

North Belfast – How do the issues affect you?

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change is detrimental to our health Food shortages Deforestation reduces oxygen and increases carbon dioxide Peace walls affect us negatively Bonfires make place look untidy and tipping ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bad mental health can leave us isolated Suicide Low self esteem/confidence Frighten people don't want to listen Will be judged/insecure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can lead to depression and mental health issues Less likely to get involved in stuff Scared to leave my area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can make you feel less confident Being put off the subjects Feeling isolated/judged Under pressure to do well High expectations from parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes me feel bad when people being criticised Getting into fights with different cultures arguments Don't get to meet people from different backgrounds
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destroying our environment Makes people unwell Lowers oxygen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family affected Mental health affected Breaks up families confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affects your mental health Food and environment within the family home Not feeling safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low self esteem Not enjoying education Not wanting to go to school Loss of sleep Underachieving parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not being treated the same Missing out on opportunities
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxious for the future Health issues Worried about animals Areas looking messy and run down 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor mental health, anxiety, isolated, confidence, suicide Temptation to drink due to boredom Lack of friends or people you can trust 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents struggling Having to stay in as area isn't safe and parents worrying Feeling of intimidation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling left out Comparing yourself to others Lack of support Leads to negative mental health Low self esteem Not many qualifications If not achieving feeling like failing Long days in school making you tired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling uncomfortable Intimidation Feeling excluded Not getting same opportunities Stereotyping Lack of trust No jobs in certain areas

North Belfast – Has the current work of YS created a positive change to these issues?

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of local community garden Raised awareness of the issues Clean ups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Would like more opportunities to try new things Drop in Mentoring Get people out of the house Make new friends Day trips and residential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does cross community groups Bring in outside speakers Group work Provide a place to go Coming to the centre in general helps me feel safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our Youth Leader encourages us to do well in school and are really understanding Creating a positive mindset Providing more opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross community groups helped to create friendships and break down the negative thoughts we have of everyone Visitors from other countries helped to teach about different cultures Importance of building relationships with others and everyone treated the same
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community clean ups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plenty of mental health programmes 1-1 mentoring Councillor in midnight club Lots of gym and boxing programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give everyone a chance Work with food banks Christmas appeals Trips Residential Helping people to get off the street 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the YP Different programmes to educate kids Help with CVs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion programmes Disability work with 174 Some cross community group
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate about small changes Clean ups Pot plants for residential 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing safe environment Walk and talk events Create resources for YP Workers always there to help 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group work Met new people Food parcels Club open more often 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration events helped with sense of achievement Job search and CV building Motivate us and listen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer youth centres in areas Cross community fun days Being involved in specialised programmes including all abilities

East Belfast – YP Issues

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse gases War Youth Space Recycling Bonfires Dog Poo Lack of forest Forest fires Lots of cars/pollution Ice caps melting Over population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Eating too much Cost of living Anxiety Stress Worried about appearance Staying indoors and not connecting No gym access or costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dangerous area Bonfires Paramilitaries Traffic esp when Rugby matches on Gangs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety Stress Pressure Struggling with motivation University costs Pressure to get good results Worried what to do after school YP leaving without 5+ GCSEs including M&E Negative experience of school Lack of motivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racism Sectarianism We live in a poor area with less accessibility than richer people People aren't treated the same Misogyny More cultures Disabled people judged unfairly Some YC not inclusive for YP with additional needs
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil dumped into ocean Plastics Forest fires Floods Animals Pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covid Mental Health Abuse Obesity Bullying Stress Healthy food expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kidnapping Gangs Paramilitaries Safety within areas Girls feeling unsafe due to degrading comments Increased concerns with Ukraine war Peer pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High anxiety and stress over exams Bullying Lack of motivation Being out of school due to Covid Club on late and cant get homework done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minorites and Racism amongst foreign nationals Sectarianism Boys get more opportunity than girls
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollution Global warming Littering Recycling Fly tipping Emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drugs/alcohol Healthy eating On social media and mobiles too much Mental health Self confidence & Self-esteem Domestic abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic Violence Paramilitaries Bullying Online Safety Exploitation Division in Communities Nowhere to go to at weekends Not feeling safe in community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Difficulties Lack of motivation Too much stress Too much work School pressure Lack of family support Lack of confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcomer children not being able to speak English LGBTQ Issues Areas surrounded with peace walls Not enough room in areas for everyone

East Belfast – YP Solutions by Youth Service

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better use of recycling bins, add to centres Local litter picking Invest money into clubs Create teenage areas within parks Information workshops Social action programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make use of small space More physical activities Deliver mental health programmes Be open and visible for young people to connect Encourage more to play sport More trips Speak with local gyms and offer programmes Link with agencies regarding mental health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with PSNI to build relationships with YP Fun day with information stalls Centre seen as a safe place and not be judged More info for good sexual health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a space for YP to study Homework/after school clubs Revision groups More approachable qualifications (OCNs) Bring tutors in to help support the YP Pathways experience for school leavers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer info/programmes around things like women's rights/sexism Outside speakers to engage with YP Make centres more accessible eg ramps posters. Give YP space to talk Many languages Make centres more inclusive
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter picking Spread awareness of climate change and educate Posters Plant trees Beach clean Recycling within youth clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness seminars on health and wellbeing Increase support services Have healthy tuck shop within centres Health programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Dept of justice to explain the justice system and how to stay safe Safety talks More club hours esp at summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a safe environment Creative learning Homework clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More TBUC programmes Learn about each others culture Mixed community working groups
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling programmes Litter picking Beach cleans Recycle within centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counselling in our own centre Mental/sexual health programmes Physical activities Sensory room Disability access programmes Education on alcohol/drugs Someone to talk to Give young people an alternative to social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More drug conferences Programmes about keeping safe online Promotion of additional support services Programmes during heightened tensions More Safe space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide informal learning opportunities Exam help/study support More qualification opportunities Programmes that offer sources of aspiration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target programmes for newcomers Print resources in many languages Programmes for disabled YP Provide more cross community programmes and trips

East Belfast – How do the issues affect you?

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonfire sites getting messy Areas looking untidy Global issues Not being able to use parks as damaged Reduced bin sizing means more recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depression, low motivation, don't want to do anything Bereavement Staying indoors Feeling unhappy Worried what others think To much screen time Lonely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear/apprehension walking outdoors Bonfire debris can impact upon play and social areas Can lead us into trouble If in trouble we could get beat up or shot Families unsafe, separated parents Rising costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worried about exams Struggling within main subjects Lack of confidence Stressed out Struggling with subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling uncomfortable around boys Not enough understanding of other cultures Disadvantage in services and resources Being stereotyped Young women can feel inferior, victims and unsafe Young men having to watch what they say
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear over increasing living costs Temperatures increasing Recycling and wasting less Pollution and flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having to follow restrictions Depression/depressed Difficulties in dealing with friends issues Feeling sad Peer pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not being able to walk where I want to walk Having mixed relations Don't like seeing people getting bullied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sore head from revising Anxiety and stress Lack of motivation Stops me socialising when exams Increased pressure Limited opportunities due to Covid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some YP from other religions can be rude Fighting over football teams Getting hard time due to religion
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The world ending Pollution making people sick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low confidence & self-esteem Depression Tiredness Feeling isolated Feeling like no support Bad eating habits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division Fear People being jumped Sexual attacks Paramilitary attacks Drugs Long-term mental health impacts of drinking Worried Not wanting to leave house 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling like your not good enough Feeling your not going to achieve Feeling exams define you and your future Negative attitudes Stop trying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feel different and isolated Hard to communicate needs with not speaking English Neglected Unimportant Sometimes cant get into Youth Club as its over packed

East Belfast – Has the current work of YS created a positive change to these issues?

DEA	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness amongst young people Some did a recycling project your younger YP Youth Workers are trying to advise Apply for grants to tidy up the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Centre a good place to go to connect with others and talk Lots of games and activities Help us get out of our local area Help with mental health Having 'wee rooms' to go to Young mums group helps a lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Centre being there and open helps to create a safe space and keep us out of trouble Staff are good at listening Encourages good behaviours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff are always encouraging and supportive Offering OCNs Work to help us to stay focused Mental health stuff Stress management and looking at exam revision Help to boost CV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased awareness around misogyny Work with other Youth Centres GSL & TBUC Programmes Bring communities together
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Centre has had several talks, recycling scheme and tree planting Raise awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports programmes Health and wellbeing programmes Support during Covid Leaders help us a lot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Somewhere safe to hang out with friends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning in different ways doing different programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoying the TBUC programme Creates a safe place for young people to spend time Gives us opportunities to meet new people from different communities, religion and cultures
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed cycling programmes instead of using buses Recycling programmes and litter picking events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental health conference in the club Counselling in our own club Boxing club and cycling group Residentials and walking External talks Sports programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Challenge bad behaviour Provide help and support Mental health programmes Summer programmes Engagement with PSNI Late night drop ins Safety programmes Antibullying programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide opportunities for accreditation Mental health support Homework and support clubs Get the YP motivated Give advise when in need 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good relations programmes Makaton training Target different cultures to get involved Inclusion programmes Open days Meet our neighbours

Good Relations		Participation					
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes – Interface issues still needing cross community programmes Helps against sectarianism Builds knowledge about different cultures and brings them together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes that support topics Provide groups cross community groups, activities, residential, speakers from different cultures, TBUC, Ambassadors Programmes. Give us a chance to do more community work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sense of belonging opportunities Friendships Keeping you off the streets and from trouble Provide opportunities Gain friendships/communication Teamwork skills Confidence and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Break down of relationships Not liking others there People nervous about meeting others Hard to mix because of disability Lack of accessibility to certain areas Different areas might be scared to attend YC Not liking the activities available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Range of opportunities More cross community groups More accessibility in the building More funding for youth leaders Promote the services more within the area Rewards for promoting attendance Different activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys Group work Talking to the Youth Leaders Speaking with the counsellor within our YC Youth committee's programmes Drop in idea board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes as you can work together and this is important 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make groups and bring people together Cross community Find more groups and YC's to work together Support good relation programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gain family with people we go to the club with Qualifications Somewhere to go and safe Education you don't get in school Opportunities to travel Chances to volunteer Provides mental health & stability Better communication skills and new skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because the building is too old Lack of confidence Culture religious area Sectarianism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New building More workers so more groups can happen More money More trips Free stuff Tuck shop facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth committee idea board One to ones Talking to staff Surveys Mentoring Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes – especially around certain times of year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More shared history projects Promote cross community programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting new friends Gain more confidence New opportunities Having a safe place where I feel comfortable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social or sensory issues To tired from school Feel too old Lack of confidence Negative relationships with others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertise and promote YC Open nights idea/suggestion boxes Youth committees make decisions to promote 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baselines online questionnaires Talking to staff Suggestion boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes

Good Relations		Participation					
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, its good to meet people from different area and backgrounds No we have lost the focus of cross community from the way it was before 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the way TBUC works, bring back the purposeful camps TBUC, GO Create Different competitions & activities between clubs Mini bus to help others feeling safe getting home More funding Love to meet other YP from international parts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoyment/fun Meeting others Trying new stuff Increase confidence and esteem Place to call out own Gain new opportunities Programmes Being around friends as often it's the only time Feel I can express myself Feel like we are listened to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes falling out with friends Other events on at the same time Not being part of a group Isn't open at the time YP are free Only found out about it at a later age Too small Not enough things for all age groups Lack of transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More workers in schools to meet YP More open nights Better promotion of club activities More space and bigger clubs More money for group work Knowing that the building is open outside and regular nights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The staff listen to us Evaluations/comments Social media Surveys and questionnaires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not really/doesn't matter Not a big issue Don't know what it is Treat others the same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community relations programmes/trips Visit other YC Raise awareness Provide programmes Encourage youth groups to be paired over year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good time Fun & new skills See friends & make new ones Social opportunities Increased physical fitness Taking part in new activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other members Different religions Afraid of not fitting in Some people like to just play computer games Too much school work Busy No interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make it more fun Different activities Advertisement and awareness Buddy YP up to make them feel at ease Better facilities/equipment Use the facilities more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to youth leaders Design posters Competitions Staff meeting Surveys Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes because its still important to build relationships within different communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more funding for groups Providing programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New opportunities Being active Friendships Trips & residential Safe space Support Adults you can trust Breakfast club Confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too lazy Not enough confidence Spending too much time of social media Not knowing others Feeling like they would get bullied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More promotions of activities Bill boards Make Doyle YC bigger Provide more programmes Bigger youth clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys Focus groups YWIL Youth Committees Questionnaires Committee meetings Suggestion boxes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes

Appendix 4: District Electoral Area Profiles

District Electoral Area: Court North



DEA Profile – Court North

Greater Shankill Neighbourhood Renewal Area is the largest in Belfast in terms of geographical area. The area stretches from Brown's Square close to Belfast City Centre up to Springmartin in the Belfast Hills.

Greater Shankill can be considered disadvantaged in relative terms as it has been designated by the NI Executive as a Neighbourhood Renewal Area. The area is characterised by a number of inherent problems, it has higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits, higher rates of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, youth disillusionment and problems with quality and maintenance of the environment. The area is also impoverished in terms of employment opportunities and income levels.

Key Statistics

Greater Shankill has an approximate population of 18,985. 4,221 are aged 0-15 years (22.2%, NI average 21%).

52% of those aged 0-19 live in poverty. Child Poverty levels are extremely high with 1,310 (67.8%, NI average 28.5%) primary school children eligible for Free School Meals.

Poverty and Income Deprivation remains a key issue in Greater Shankill. The relationship between poverty, poor educational attainment and ill health is well documented. The current economic crisis has also led to social problems and many families living in debt.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Greater Shankill is 18%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Greater Shankill is 28%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

458 (23.7%, NI average 18%) children attending primary schools in the area have a Special Educational Need.

District Electoral Area: Court North

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSES at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Greater Shankill was 57% (NI average 35.7%)

Between 2013 -2017 there was a 33% increase in deaths from suicide and undetermined intent.

Crime levels in Greater Shankill have increased in recent years with a considerable increase in instances of violence, sexual offences, robbery, drug offences and offences recorded with a domestic abuse motivation.

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- Blackmountain Action Group.
- CADi worker.
- FLARE worker.
- Glencairn Youth Centre.
- North Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.
- Street Beat Youth Project.
- TPP Engage Workers
- Pathways Worker
- Townsend Street Outreach.
- The Hammer Youth Centre.
- 34 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

The Greater Shankill has representation on the Local Advisory Group North Belfast in terms of statutory, voluntary and community groups.

The area is also supported by the Greater Shankill Partnership (GSP) which is a community support agency operating across the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. The Greater Shankill Partnership has played a key role in Neighbourhood Renewal and local regeneration activities and has, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for community development and regeneration in the area for the next ten years.

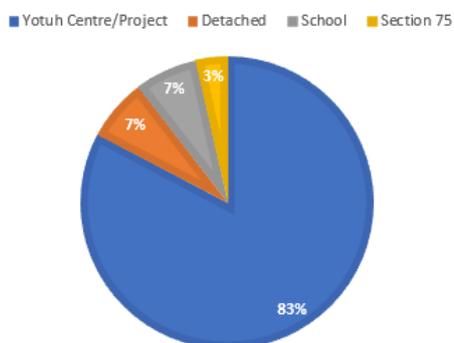
Central to these developments has been the designation of Greater Shankill as 'A Children and Young People Zone'. The zone has a vision of transforming the lives of a generation of children who, through their active participation in the zone and its activities, will more fully realise their potential.

The GSP and its Neighbourhood Renewal co-ordinator has had a large number of workshops to develop a new ten year housing strategy for the Greater Shankill area, which will have a strategic impact in the area over the next decade in terms of good quality social and affordable housing, employment and investment and health and wellbeing.

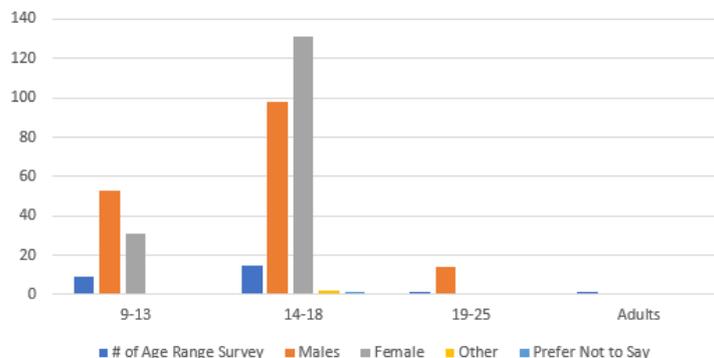
District Electoral Area: Court North

Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Court North

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP



Age Range and Identity



A total of 4 focus groups took place in Court North with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

NORTH BELFAST – Court North	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of green space Littering & Dog poo Climate change Peace walls Pollution Bonfires Not enough bins Roads issues (Pot holes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental and Physical Health Sexual Health Gambling Falling into wrong crowds Social media Unhealthy life styles Suicide Drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of awareness of consequences. Aggressive disputes Separated parents and domestic violence Poverty & Poor Housing Bullying Interface & Riots Gangs Paramilitaries Not feeling safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety Peer pressure Informal learning support Homework support School stress Struggle with peers To much expected & not enough time No motivation Stress Low confidence No relationship with staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sexual orientation Gender Racism Rioting Refugees Sectarianism Not enough diversity other than protestant and catholic Should include old and young people Never experience other culture
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change is detrimental to our health Food shortages Deforestation reduces oxygen and increases carbon dioxide Peace walls affect us negatively Bonfires make place look untidy and tipping ground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bad mental health can leave us isolated Suicide Low self esteem/confidence Frighten people don't want to listen Will be judged/insecure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can lead to depression and mental health issues Less likely to get involved in stuff Scared to leave my area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can make you feel less confident Being put off the subjects Feeling isolated/judged Under pressure to do well High expectations from parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Makes me feel bad when people being criticised Getting into fights with different cultures arguments Don't get to meet people from different backgrounds
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental/Social action projects to make use of green space Spread awareness, use YP to litter pick and more use of bins Community clean up Promote recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health related programmes Signposting to organisations Social Media campaign Sports Drop in Mentoring Leaflets and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programmes around topics Bonfire Programme Therapy/relaxation sessions Mental health programmes to explore the issues Cross community groups Feeling safe within centre Could provide safe place to go Provide how young people can look after themselves 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homework clubs 1 to 1 support Provide materials/resources for revision GCSE Classes More OCN's other than GCSE Signpost to other services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Residential trips/activities TBUC Peace Ambassadors Cross community groups LGBTQ+ Groups Do intergenerational programmes Culture programmes about our own and other backgrounds

District Electoral Area: Court North

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

DEA	Good Relations		Participation				
	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Court North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – Interface issues still needing cross community programmes • Helps against sectarianism • Builds knowledge about different cultures and brings them together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Programmes that support topics • Provide groups cross community groups, activities, residential, speakers from different cultures, TBUC, Ambassadors Programmes. • Give us a chance to do more community work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sense of belonging opportunities • Friendships • Keeping you off the streets and from trouble • Provide opportunities • Gain friendships/communication • Teamwork skills • Confidence and support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Break down of relationships • Not liking others there • People nervous about meeting others • Hard to mix because of disability • Lack of accessibility to certain areas • Different areas might be scared to attend YC • Not liking the activities available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Range of opportunities • More cross community groups • More accessibility in the building • More funding for youth leaders • Promote the services more within the area • Rewards for promoting attendance • Different activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys • Group work • Talking to the Youth Leaders • Speaking with the counsellor within our YC • Youth committee's programmes • Drop in idea board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes

Key priorities – Court North

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as a being a significant issue. Young people are particularly concerned about unhealthy lifestyles in terms of drug misuse, sexual behaviours, gambling. They note the impacts on their own mental and sometimes physical health causing them to feel isolated and struggling with low confidence and self-esteem. Suicide is a prevalent issue in the area. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them in terms of sport, group work, drop in and mentoring.

Living in safety and stability is also a significant issue featuring in low income, unemployment indicators alongside high levels of crime, this is particularly true of Shankill and Woodvale wards. Young people site concerns of domestic violence, interface riots, gangs/paramilitaries and not feeling safe. This affects them by not wanting to leave their own area or getting involved in local activities. Significant flashpoint areas are Lanark Way and the Springvale Innovation Factory site behind Woodvale Park. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces, cross community groups and programmes to encourage local community involvement.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring between 2 – 12 (Nisra data) in Shankill and Woodvale Wards. Young people are concerned about school stress/anxiety, lack of educational supports at home and in school, resulting in low confidence. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with the increase in sectarianism, racist and homophobic attitudes within their community and the limited work with other cultures. Young people want more opportunities such as TBUC, Community relations work including other cultures and intergenerational work.

District Electoral Area: Court North

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms peace walls causing negative mind sets, litter (dog poo) and fly tipping making the place untidy, lack of bins for recycling. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, opportunities for community involvement including social action projects.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise the high population of young people falling within the top 20% multiple deprivation measure, and their need to access provision within the large geographical area which is 5km in length. It is also made up of different areas such as Shankill, Lower Oldpark, Woodvale, Glencairn, Highfield and Lyndhurst. A range of provision is encouraged both EA controlled, and EA funded sectors which are collaborative in nature and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA Statutory will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through Full Time Youth providers, while part time providers can work in collaboration with North Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and can be deployed based upon need assessed regularly by North Belfast Area Project. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues.

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA Statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker). OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker), while requesting regional services when required.

ENGAGE (TPP youth worker) employed through EA funded to address the needs of young people

District Electoral Area: Oldpark



DEA Profile – Oldpark

Currently 4 Neighbourhood Renewal Areas (NRA) are designated within the DEA of Oldpark in Belfast. The area stretches from the Cathedral Quarter in Belfast City Centre up to Ligoniel in the Belfast Hills. This encapsulates Crumlin/Ardoyne, Inner North Belfast, Upper Ardoyne/Ballysillan and Ligoniel Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.

Oldpark DEA can be considered disadvantaged in relative terms as it has been designated by the NI Executive as a Neighbourhood Renewal Area siting the top 10% of multiple deprivation measures. The area is characterised by a number of inherent problems, it has higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits, higher rates of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, youth disillusionment and problems with quality and maintenance of the environment. The area is also impoverished in terms of employment opportunities and income levels.

Key Statistics

Oldpark DEA has an approximate population of 33,400. 7,990 are aged 0-15 years (23.8% NI average 21%).

Child Poverty levels are extremely high with 56.1% (NI average 25.6%) post primary school leavers eligible for Free School Meals in 2020/21

Poverty and Income Deprivation remains a key issue in Oldpark DEA. The relationship between poverty, poor educational attainment and ill health is well documented. The current economic crisis has also led to social problems and many families living in debt.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Oldpark is 17%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

District Electoral Area: Oldpark

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Oldpark is 24%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

12.8% of pupils attending special schools or who are attending post primary schools' key stages 3-5 in the area have a Special Educational Need.

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSES at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Oldpark DEA was 39.7% (NI average 35.7%)

Between 2013 -2017 there was a 33% increase in deaths from suicide and undetermined intent.

Crime levels in Oldpark have increased in recent years with a considerable increase in instances of violence, sexual offences, robbery, drug offences and offences recorded with a domestic abuse motivation.

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- New Lodge Youth Centre
- Holy Family Youth Centre
- Ardoyne Youth Club
- John Paul 11 Youth Club
- Deanby Youth Club
- Ballysillan Youth for Christ
- Streetbeat Youth Project.
- CADI worker.
- FLARE worker.
- North Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.
- TPP Engage Workers
- 18 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

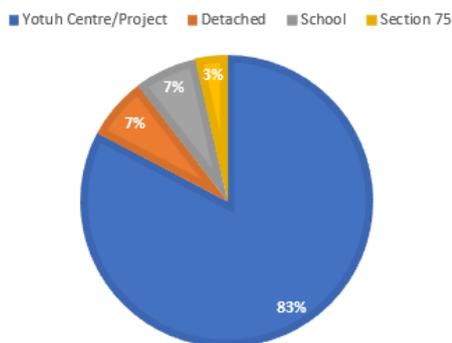
The Oldpark DEA has representation on the Local Advisory Group North Belfast in terms of voluntary and community groups.

The area is also supported by the Ashton Centre, Crumlin/Ardoyne Partnership, Ballysillan Community Forum and Ligoneil Improvement Association which are community support agencies operating across the Neighbourhood Renewal Areas. These agencies have played a key role in Neighbourhood Renewal and local regeneration activities and have, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for community development and regeneration in the areas.

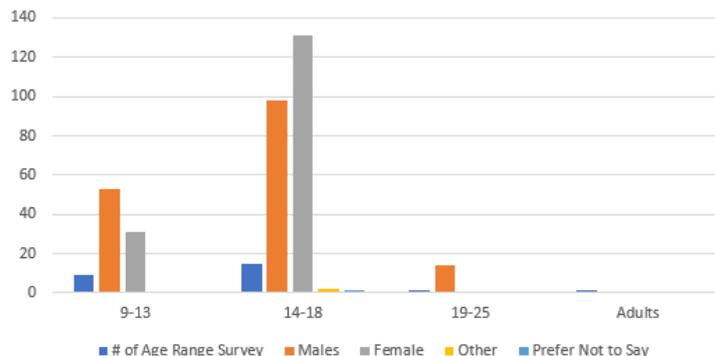
District Electoral Area: Oldpark

Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Oldpark

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP



Age Range and Identity



A total of 4 focus groups took place in Oldpark with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

NORTH BELFAST – Oldpark	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter Fires Smoking Anti social behaviour 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Passive smoking Alcohol & Drugs Mental health (anxiety/self harm/suicide) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Money issues Food problems Rioting Abusive households 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School stress due to Covid No confidence Bullying Learning Difficulties Lack of support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sectarianism Equal rights Racism Cultural Isolation divides depending where you live. Less opportunities depending where you live
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destroying our environment Makes people unwell Lowers oxygen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family affected Mental health affected Breaks up families confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affects your mental health Food and environment within the family home Not feeling safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low self esteem Not enjoying education Not wanting to go to school Loss of sleep Underachieving parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not being treated the same Missing out on opportunities
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased club hours Deliver courses to YP re environment. Increase recycling bins in youth centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talking to YP about the dangers of Drugs. Counselling rooms Counsellors Drop in space Outside organisation advice. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teach about Adult life Come together as a community more often Help parents gain education Food banks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After school clubs Extra support in school Homework clubs Breakfast clubs More approachable qualifications 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outside agencies to provide information and learn YP of the issues Offer programmes Include everyone Celebration events of all religion and culture beliefs within clubs Cross community events

District Electoral Area: Oldpark

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

Good Relations		Participation					
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Oldpark	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes as you can work together and this is important 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make groups and bring people together Cross community Fund more groups and YCs to work together Support good relation programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gain family with people we go to the club with Qualifications Somewhere to go and safe Education you don't get in school Opportunities to travel Chances to volunteer Provides mental health & stability Better communication skills and new skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because the building is too old Lack of confidence Culture religious area Sectarianism 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New building More workers so more groups can happen More money More trips Free stuff Tuck shop Facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth committee Idea board One to ones Talking to staff Surveys Mentoring Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes

Key priorities – Oldpark

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as a being in the top 20 indicators of Health Deprivation and Disability within Ardoyne, New Lodge and Waterworks: with Cliftonville 3 and Legoniel 1 in the top 25%. Young people are particularly concerned about lifestyle choices in terms of alcohol/drug misuse compounded by poor mental health presenting in anxiety, self-harm and suicide. They note the impacts of their own mental health on their confidence and their families. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them in terms of group work, drop in and counselling.

Living in safety and stability is also a significant issue featuring in low income, unemployment indicators alongside high levels of crime. Nearly all wards in Ardoyne, Waterworks and New Lodge are in the top 20 indicators of Employment, this lack of employment attainment adversely affects the income and food available in a household. Young people site concerns of domestic violence, interface riots, money issues and food problems. This affects them by not feeling safe and impacts their mental health. Significant flashpoint areas are Girdwood and the North Queen Street. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces with community involvement, access to food, support, and education in life skills.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring between 1 – 63 (Nisra data) in New Lodge, Waterworks & Ardoyne Super Output Areas with Cliftonville 1/3, Legoniel 1/2 and Ballysillan 1/2 in the top 25%. Young people are concerned about school stress/anxiety, lack of educational supports at home and in school resulting in low confidence. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities and after schools' clubs.

District Electoral Area: Oldpark

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with the increase in sectarianism, racist and homophobic attitudes within their community and the limited work with other cultures. Young people want more opportunities such as TBUC, Community relations work including other cultures and intergenerational work.

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms of litter and fly tipping making the place untidy, and random fires causing damage to property and the environment. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, opportunities for community involvement including social action projects and recycling within the centre.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise the high population of young people falling within the top 20% multiple deprivation measure, and their need to access provision within the large geographical area which is 5km in length covering areas in New Lodge, Waterworks, Cliftonville, Ardoyne, Ballysillan and Ligoneil. A range of provision is encouraged both EA statutory, and EA funded sectors which are collaborative in nature and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA controlled will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through Full Time Youth providers, while part time providers can work in collaboration with North Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and can be deployed collaboratively based upon need, assessed regularly by EA funded full time providers. This work will be coordinated collaboratively with North Belfast Area Project for consistency of approach. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker). OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker while requesting regional services when required.

ENGAGE (TPP youth worker) for New Lodge & Ardoyne areas will address the needs of young people

District Electoral Area: Castle



DEA Profile – Castle

Currently 1 Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is designated within the DEA of Castle in Belfast. This encapsulates the Protestant, Unionist and Loyalist community of Inner North Belfast. The Castle DEA stretches from Duncrue Docklands up to Cavehill and bounded by the M2 motorway.

Castle DEA is characterised by significant areas of affluence with the communities of Tigers Bay, Mount Vernon, Whitewell/Whitescity presenting several inherent problems. They have higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits, higher rates of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, youth disillusionment and problems with quality and maintenance of the environment. The areas highlighted are also impoverished in terms of employment opportunities and income levels.

Key Statistics

Castle DEA has an approximate population of 32,665. 6,561 are aged 0-15 years (20% NI average 21%).

Child Poverty levels are high with 31.8% (NI average 25.6%) post primary school leavers eligible for Free School Meals in 2020/21

Poverty and Income Deprivation remains a key issue in Tigers Bay, Mount Vernon, Whitewell/Whitescity. The relationship between poverty, poor educational attainment and ill health is well documented. The current economic crisis has also led to social problems and many families living in debt.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Castle is 13.4%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

District Electoral Area: Castle

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Castle is 19.9%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

11.2% of pupils attending special schools or who are attending post primary schools' key stages 3-5 in the area have a Special Educational Need.

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSEs at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Castle DEA was 24.9% (NI average 35.7%)

Between 2013 -2017 there was a 33% increase in deaths from suicide and undetermined intent.

Crime levels in the highlighted areas Castle DEA have increased in recent years with a considerable increase in instances of violence, sexual offences, robbery, drug offences and offences recorded with a domestic abuse motivation.

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- Mountcollyer Youth Centre
- Fortwilliam Youth Centre
- CADI worker.
- FLARE worker.
- North Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.
- TPP Engage Workers
- 19 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

The Castle DEA has representation on the Local Advisory Group North Belfast in terms of Statutory and community groups.

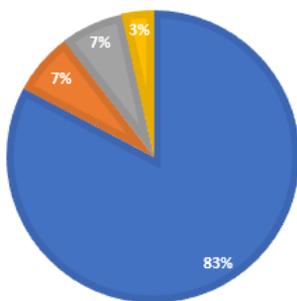
The area is also supported by Loughside Community Action Partnership (LCAP) which is a community support agency operating across the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. LCAP has played a key role in Neighbourhood Renewal and local regeneration activities and has, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for community development and regeneration in the area for the next ten years.

District Electoral Area: Castle

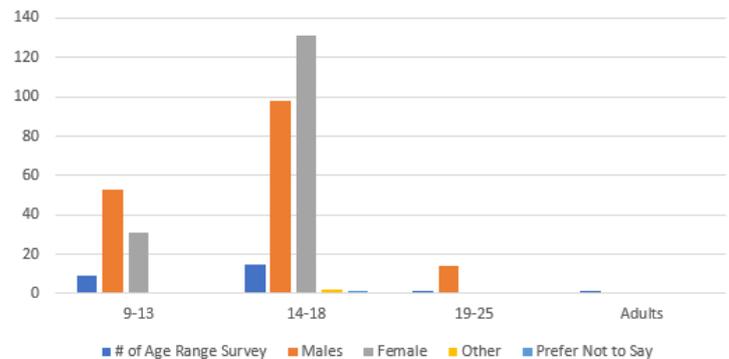
Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Castle

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP

■ Yotuh Centre/Project ■ Detached ■ School ■ Section 75



Age Range and Identity



A total of 5 focus groups took place in Castle with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

NORTH BELFAST – CASTLE	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of recycling in Youth clubs Dumps taking up too much space in society Litter Pollution Flooding Forest Fires Increase in temp Green House gases Recycling Deforestation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alcohol/drug misuse Family trauma Poverty Mental/Physical health Eating disorder Health problems Covid Not being able to talk to people about things (confidently) Anxiety 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not feeling safe walking around our area Rioting & Interface Rise in drug use and paraphernalia in communities Crime rate Street fights Jobs/benefits Increased costs Feel police cant be trusted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not enough options for young people to choose from Commitment issues Lack of support from family Giving up No opportunities for new experiences Misleading information Bored after school No ICT access at home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> YP not accepting each other Youth clubs not physically appearing inclusive Too many protestant and catholic groups Sexism Sectarianism Living in deprived areas Nationality/languages Lack of trust from Stormont Lack creative cous, academic & sensory issues
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Destroying our environment Makes people unwell Lowers oxygen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family affected Mental health affected Breaks up families confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affects your mental health Food and environment within the family home Not feeling safe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low self esteem Not enjoying education Not wanting to go to school. Loss of sleep Underachieving parents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not being treated the same Missing out on opportunities
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate YP on how to recycle Creatively promote 2Do's & Don'ts to help tackle climate change Clean up More bins Schools promote and support recycling Gardening in YC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide 1 to 1 support Link with families Guest speakers 1-1 counselling Keep fit Physical tournaments Complimentary therapies Confidence building Exercise programmes Safe space Open more hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate young people on consequence in long run Help YP make positive decisions Guest speakers with real life stories More access to Youth Centres Help to get to know the community more Link YP with members of the community Provide trips Support for parents Awareness of rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qualifications with more hands on approach Have youth workers in mainstream school to help After school clubs Exam support OCNs Programme work Celebration events Tutors Small groups in different skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote YP inclusive art work Quiet space within Youth club/sensory room Targeted afternoon sessions for YP with SEN Cross community banners Welcome signs Awareness groups Meet other ethnic groups Offer programmes

District Electoral Area: Castle

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

Good Relations		Participation					
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Castle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes – especially around certain times of year • Learn new things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More shared history projects • Promote cross community programmes • Club visits in other communities • International trips • More shared spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting new friends • Gain more confidence • New opportunities • Having a safe place where I feel comfortable • Motivation • Having a voice • Qualifications & reaching goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social or sensory issues • To tired from school • Feel too old • Lack of confidence • Negative relationships with others • No interests that appeal to some people • Not enough opportunities for some age groups • Trust issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advertise and promote YC • Open nights • Idea/suggestion boxes • Youth committees make decisions to promote • Rewards • Make accessible for disabled YP • Have a transition group from junior to senior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baselines online questionnaires • Talking to staff • Suggestion boxes youth committee • Focus groups • Local voice • Volunteer 	+ Yes

Key priorities – Castle

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as a being a significant issue especially in Duncairn ward with Fortwilliam 2 & Bellevue 3 in top 30%. Young people are particularly concerned about unhealthy lifestyles in terms of drug misuse and health problems. They note the impacts on their own mental health, self-confidence and the impacts on family life in terms of break ups. Trauma and poverty are prevalent issues in the area especially Duncairn. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them in terms of sport, group work, youth centres as a safe space and mentoring.

Living in safety and stability is also a significant issue within Duncairn Ward featuring in low income, unemployment indicators alongside high levels of crime. Crime also featured in Fortwilliam 2 and Bellevue 3. Young people site concerns of interface and street fights, Drug misuse, not feeling safe and low confidence in policing. This affects them by not feeling safe in their own area and the food/environment within their home. Significant flashpoint areas are Limestone road with occasional flare ups at the peace gate in Alexandra park. Adam’s Street Bonfire is deemed contentious due to its proximity to the interface. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces, life skills programmes and initiatives to encourage local community involvement.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring between 35 - 56 (Nisra data) in Duncairn Wards. Young people are concerned about Low self-esteem, lack of educational supports at home and in school resulting in them giving up. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities and aspirational events.

District Electoral Area: Castle

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with the increase in sectarianism and sexist attitudes within their community and the lack of inclusiveness. Young people want more opportunities in centre such as quiet/sensory space, time for SEN supports, welcoming spaces and, Community relations work including other cultures.

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms of litter and pollution making the place untidy, lack of bins for recycling. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, gardens in youth centre, opportunities for community involvement including social action projects.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise half or more of the youth population live in an area situated within the top 20% least deprived wards, and the large areas of green space, country park, playing fields and Zoological gardens. However, deprivation is still significant in smaller pockets of communities such as Duncairn ward and the SOA of Fortwilliam and Bellevue. Provision is encouraged on a full-time basis from EA statutory, and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA statutory will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through Full Time Youth providers, and work in collaboration with North Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and can be deployed based upon need assessed regularly by North Belfast Area Project. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues.

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA Statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker). OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker), to address the needs of young people while requesting regional services when required.

District Electoral Area: Titanic



DEA Profile – Titanic

Currently 1 Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is designated within the DEA Titanic in Belfast. This encapsulates the community known as Inner East Belfast. The Titanic DEA stretches from Titanic Docklands up to Knocknagoney and bounded by Woodstock and Connswater areas.

Titanic DEA can be considered disadvantaged in relative terms as it has been designated by the NI Executive as a Neighbourhood Renewal Area sitting the top 10% of multiple deprivation measures. The area is characterised by a number of inherent problems, it has higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits, higher rates of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, youth disillusionment and problems with quality and maintenance of the environment. The area is also impoverished in terms of employment opportunities and income levels.

Key Statistics

Titanic DEA has an approximate population of 36,551. 7,159 are aged 0-15 years (23.8% NI average 21%).

Child Poverty levels are extremely high with 50.7% (NI average 25.6%) post primary school leavers eligible for Free School Meals in 2020/21

Poverty and Income Deprivation remains a key issue in Titanic DEA. The relationship between poverty, poor educational attainment and ill health is well documented. The current economic crisis has also led to social problems and many families living in debt.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Titanic is 13.5%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

District Electoral Area: Titanic

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Titanic is 17.8%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

12.5% of pupils attending special schools or who are attending post primary schools' key stages 3-5 in the area have a Special Educational Need.

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSES at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Titanic DEA was 38.1% (NI average 35.7%)

Between 2013 -2017 there was a 33% increase in deaths from suicide and undetermined intent.

Crime levels in Titanic DEA have increased in recent years with a considerable increase in instances of violence, sexual offences, robbery, drug offences and offences recorded with a domestic abuse motivation.

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- Doyle Youth Centre
- Archway Youth Centre
- Ledley Hall Youth Club
- Walkway Community Association
- East Belfast Youth Initiatives covering Ballymacarrett and Sydenham
- CADi worker.
- FLARE worker.
- East Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.
- TPP Engage Workers
- 33 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

The Titanic DEA has representation on the Local Advisory Group East Belfast in terms of statutory, voluntary and community groups.

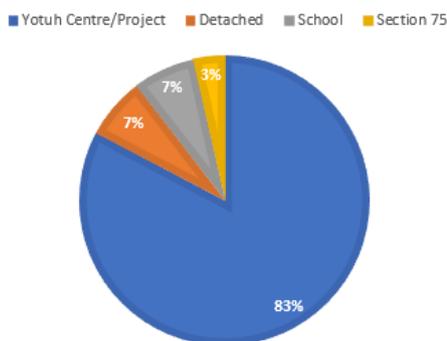
The area is also supported by East Side Partnership which is a community support agency operating across the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. East Side Partnership has played a key role in Neighbourhood Renewal and local regeneration activities and has, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for renewal in the areas of community, economic, social, and physical infrastructure.

The East Belfast Community Development Association (EBCDA) is an umbrella organisation working throughout the neighbourhood renewal area supporting community development with strategic themes of Support & Capacity, Resource & Finance Services, and Health development.

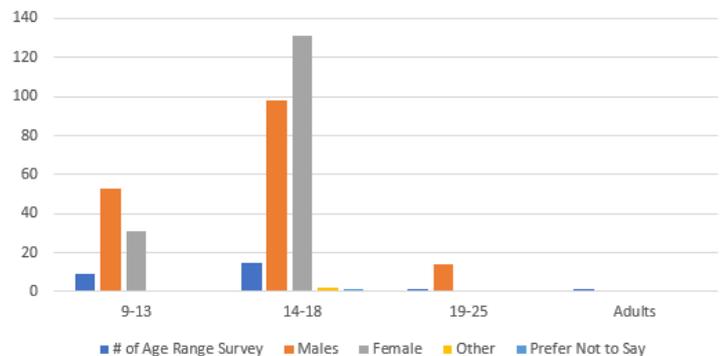
District Electoral Area: Titanic

Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Titanic

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP



Age Range and Identity



A total of 4 focus groups took place in Titanic with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

EAST BELFAST-Titanic	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pollution Global warming Littering Recycling Fly tipping Emissions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drugs/alcohol Healthy eating On social media and mobiles too much Mental health Self confidence & Self-esteem Domestic abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic Violence Paramilitaries Bullying Online Safety Exploitation Division in Communities Nowhere to go to at weekends Not feeling safe in community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning Difficulties Lack of motivation Too much stress Too much work School pressure Lack of family support Lack of confidence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newcomer children not being able to speak English LGBTQ issues Areas surrounded with peace walls Not enough room in areas for everyone
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The world ending Pollution making people sick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low confidence & self-esteem Depression Tiredness Feeling isolated Feeling like no support Bad eating habits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Division Fear People being jumped Sexual attacks Paramilitary attacks Drugs Long-term mental health impacts of drinking Worried Not wanting to leave house 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling like your not good enough Feeling your not going to achieve Feeling exams define you and your future Negative attitudes Stop trying 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feel different and isolated Hard to communicate needs with not speaking English Neglected Unimportant Sometimes cant get into Youth Club as its over packed
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling programmes Litter picking Beach cleans Recycle within centres 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counselling in our own centre Mental/sexual health programmes Physical activities Sensory room Disability access programmes Education on alcohol/drugs Someone to talk to Give young people an alternative to social media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More drug conferences Programmes about keeping safe online Promotion of additional support services Programmes during heightened tensions More Safe space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide informal learning opportunities Exam help/study support More qualification opportunities Programmes that offer sources of aspiration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Target programmes for newcomers Print resources in many languages Programmes for disabled YP Provide more cross community programmes and trips

District Electoral Area: Titanic

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

Good Relations		Participation					
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Titanic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes because its still important to build relationships within different communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide more funding for groups Providing programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New opportunities Being active Friendships Trips & residentials Safe space Support Adults you can trust Breakfast club Confidence New skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Too lazy Not enough confidence Spending too much time of social media Not knowing others Feeling like they would get bullied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More promotions of activities Bill boards Make Doyle YC bigger Provide more programmes Bigger youth clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys Focus groups YWIC Youth Committees Questionnaires Committee meetings Suggestion boxes Speaking with staff 	+ Yes

Key priorities – Titanic

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as being a significant issue. Ballymacarrett & The Mount Wards, with Woodstock 2 & Island 1 all within the top 100 indicators. Young people are particularly concerned about unhealthy lifestyles in terms of drug misuse, eating habits and prolonged social media usage. They note the impacts on their own mental and sometimes physical health causing them to feel isolated and struggling with low confidence and self-esteem. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them in terms of physical activities, group work, drop in and counselling.

Living in safety and stability is also a significant issue featuring high unemployment indicators particularly in Ballymacarrett Ward alongside high levels of crime within Ballymacarrett, The Mount and Woodstock Wards along with Bloomfield 3. Young people site concerns of domestic violence, division in community, paramilitaries and not feeling safe in own community. This affects them by feeling fearful of personal attacks and resultant impacts on their mental health from long term alcohol or drug use. Tensions periodically remain between the interface of Lower Newtownards Road and Short Strand. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces, and programmes to develop life skills and promote positive behaviours.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring between 8 - 100 (Nisra data) in Ballymacarrett, The Mount, Woodstock Wards with Island 1 & Bloomfield 1 included. Young people are concerned about school stress/anxiety, lack of educational supports at home resulting in low confidence and lack of motivation. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities and aspirational events.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with limited access or work with other cultures and LGBTQ within their community. Young people want more opportunities such as TBUC, Community relations work including other cultures which promote inclusion. They also feel that space for youth services is limited in size.

District Electoral Area: Titanic

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms of litter and fly tipping making the place untidy, lack of bins for recycling. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, recycling and opportunities for community involvement including social action projects.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise the high population of young people falling within the top 30% multiple deprivation measure, and their need to access provision within the large geographical area which is nearly 6km in length. It is also made up of different areas such as Short Strand, Woodstock, The Mount, Bloomfield, Ballymacarrett and Sydenham. A range of provision is encouraged both EA statutory, and EA funded sectors which are collaborative in nature and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA controlled will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through East Belfast Area Project, while part time providers can work in collaboration with East Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and will be deployed based upon need assessed regularly by East Belfast Area Project. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues.

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker). OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker), ENGAGE (TPP youth worker) to address the needs of young people while requesting regional services when required.

District Electoral Area: Ormiston



DEA Profile – Ormiston

Currently 1 Neighbourhood Renewal Area (NRA) is designated within the DEA Ormiston in Belfast. This encapsulates the community known as Tullycarnet. The Ormiston DEA stretches from Knocknagoney to the Braniel Hills, bounded by Stormont and Sandown areas.

Ormiston DEA is characterised by significant areas of affluence with the communities of Tullycarnet and Clarawood presenting several inherent problems. These areas are characterised by a number of issues, they have higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits, higher rates of crime, drug and alcohol abuse, youth disillusionment and problems with quality and maintenance of the environment.

Key Statistics

Ormiston DEA has an approximate population of 34,493. 6,520 are aged 0-15 years (18.9% NI average 21%).

Child Poverty levels are low with 15.3% (NI average 25.6%) post primary school leavers eligible for Free School Meals in 2020/21

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Ormiston is 8.6%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Ormiston is 11.6%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

District Electoral Area: Ormiston

8% of pupils attending special schools or who are attending post primary schools' key stages 3-5 in the area have a Special Educational Need.

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSES at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Ormiston DEA was 12.5% (NI average 35.7%)

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- Ardcarne Youth Centre
- Clarawood Youth Centre
- Knocknagoney Youth Centre
- Knock Presbyterian Church
- CADi worker.
- FLARE worker.
- East Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.
- TPP Engage Workers
- 20 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

The Ormiston DEA has representation on the Local Advisory Group East Belfast in terms of statutory, voluntary and community groups.

The area is also supported by East Side Partnership which is a community support agency operating across the Neighbourhood Renewal Area. East Side Partnership has played a key role in Neighbourhood Renewal and local regeneration activities and has, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for renewal in the areas of community, economic, social, and physical infrastructure.

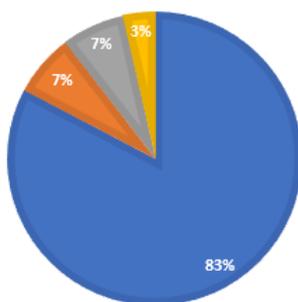
The East Belfast Community Development Association (EBCDA) is an umbrella organisation working throughout East Belfast area supporting community development with strategic themes of Support & Capacity, Resource & Finance Services, and Health development.

District Electoral Area: Ormiston

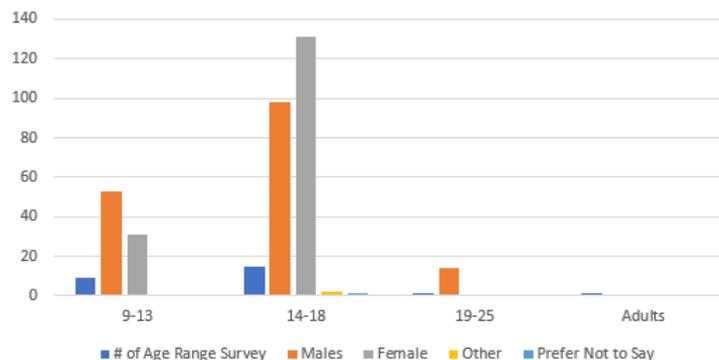
Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Ormiston

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP

■ Yotuh Centre/Project ■ Detached ■ School ■ Section 75



Age Range and Identity



A total of 4 focus groups took place in Ormiston with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

EAST BELFAST-Ormiston	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil dumped into ocean Plastics Forest fires Floods Animals Pollution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covid Mental Health Abuse Obesity Bullying Stress Healthy food expensive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kidnapping Gangs Paramilitaries Safety within areas Girls feeling unsafe due to degrading comments Increased concerns with Ukraine war Peer pressures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High anxiety and stress over exams Bullying Lack of motivation Being out of school due to Covid Club on late and cant get homework done 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minorites and Racism amongst foreign nationals Sectionarism Boys get more opportunity than girls
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear over increasing living costs Temperatures increasing Recycling and wasting less Pollution and flooding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having to follow restrictions Depression/depressed Difficulties in dealing with friends issues Feeling sad Peer pressure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not being able to walk where I want to walk Having mixed relations Don't like seeing people getting bullied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sore head from revising Anxiety and stress Lack of motivation Stops me socialising when exams Increased pressure Limited opportunities due to Covid 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some YP from other religions can be rude Fighting over football teams Getting hard time due to religion
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Litter picking Spread awareness of climate change and educate Posters Plant trees Beach clean Recycling within youth clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness seminars on health and wellbeing Increase support services Have healthy tuck shop within centres Health programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Dept of justice to explain the justice system and how to stay safe Safety talks More club hours esp at summer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a safe environment Creative learning Homework clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More TBUC programmes Learn about each others culture Mixed community working groups

District Electoral Area: Ormiston

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

		Good Relations		Participation			
DEA	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Ormiston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not really/doesn't matter Not a big issue Don't know what it is Treat others the same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community relations programmes/trips Visit other YC Raise awareness Provide programmes Encourage youth groups to be paired over year 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good time Fun & new skills See friends & make new ones Social opportunities Increased physical fitness Taking part in new activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other members Different religions Afraid of not fitting in Some people like to just play computer games Too much school work Busy No interest 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make it more fun Different activities Advertisement and awareness Buddy YP up to make them feel at ease Better facilities/equipment Use the facilities more 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk to youth leaders Design posters Competitions Staff meeting Surveys Focus groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes

Key priorities – Ormiston

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as a being an issue especially in Tullycarnet ward with Knock 1 in top 40%. Young people are particularly concerned about unhealthy lifestyles in terms of obesity, abuse/bullying, and stress. They note the impacts on their own mental health such as depression and peer pressure. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them such as health programmes, access to support services and awareness raising initiatives.

Living in safety and stability is also an issue within Tullycarnet Ward & Knock 1 featuring in the top 30% of low income, unemployment indicators. Young people site concerns of Safety within own area, paramilitaries/gangs and misogyny. This affects them by not feeling they are safe to walk everywhere or to have mixed relationships. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces and further work with justice agencies.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring 74 (Nisra data) in Tullycarnet Wards. Young people are concerned about exam stress/anxiety and motivation due to pressure to achieve. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities and a safe environment.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with the increase in sectarianism, racist and sexist attitudes within their community. Young people want more opportunities such as TBUC, Community relations work including other cultures.

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms of fires and pollution harming wildlife. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, planting trees, recycling in youth centre, opportunities for community involvement including social action projects.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise 75% or more of the youth population live in an area situated within the top 20% least deprived wards with access to greenway, Stormont estate and Braniel hills. However, deprivation is still an issue in smaller pockets of communities such as Tullycarnet ward and the SOA of Knock 1. Provision is encouraged from EA statutory, EA funded, EA funded Faith Based sectors which are collaborative in nature, and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA controlled will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

District Electoral Area: Ormiston

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through EA Full Time Youth providers, and work in collaboration with East Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and can be deployed based upon need assessed regularly by East Belfast Area Project. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues.

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker), OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker), ENGAGE (TPP youth worker) to address the needs of young people while requesting regional services when required.

District Electoral Area: Lisnasharragh



The Lisnasharragh DEA stretches from Orangefield ward to Forestside and the Castlereagh Hills.

Lisnasharragh DEA is characterised by significant areas of affluence with the community of Cregagh presenting several inherent problems. This area is characterised by a few issues, it has higher than average rates of unemployment and economic inactivity, physical and mental ill health, lower levels of educational attainment and qualifications, skills deficits.

Key Statistics

Lisnasharragh DEA has an approximate population of 29,669. 5,360 are aged 0-15 years (18% NI average 21%).

Child Poverty levels are low with 17.8% (NI average 25.6%) post primary school leavers eligible for Free School Meals in 2020/21

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score for Lisnasharragh is 8.3%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

The Deprivation 2017 Income Score aged 15 and under for Lisnasharragh is 11.1%. This Income Score measures the proportion of the population aged 15 and under living in households whose equivalised income is below 60 per cent of the NI median.

8.9% of pupils attending special schools or who are attending post primary schools key stages 3-5 in the area have a Special Educational Need.

The proportion of school leavers not achieving 5 or more GCSES at A*-C (or equiv) including Maths and English in Lisnasharragh DEA was 15.8% (NI average 35.7%)

Youth Provision funded through EA Youth Service

- Cregagh Youth Centre
- Orangefield Presbyterian church
- CADi worker.
- FLARE worker.
- East Belfast Area Project.
- Outdoor Learning Service.

District Electoral Area: Lisnasharragh

- TPP Engage Workers
- 38 registered Generic Non – targeted youth units

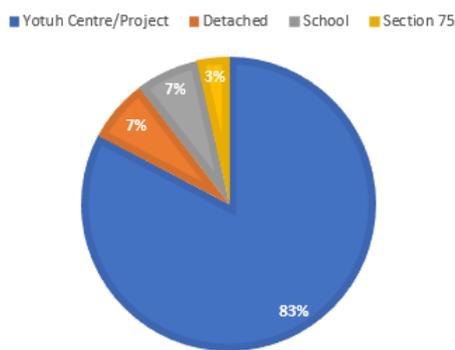
The Lisnasharragh DEA has representation on the Local Advisory Group East Belfast in terms of statutory groups

The area is also supported by East Side Partnership which is a community support agency operating across East Belfast. East Side Partnership has played a key role in local regeneration activities and has, through a range of initiatives, been laying the foundations for renewal in the areas of community, economic, social, and physical infrastructure.

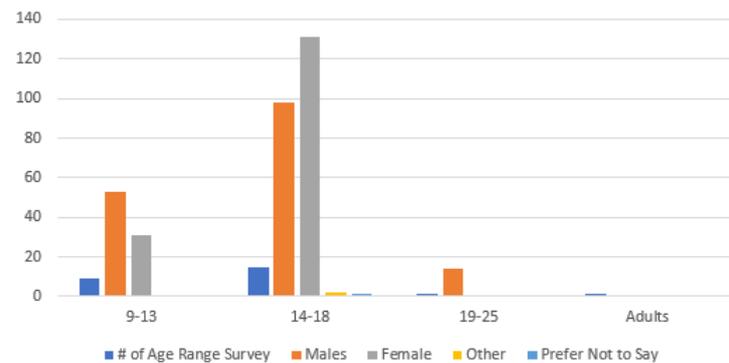
The East Belfast Community Development Association (EBCDA) is an umbrella organisation working throughout East Belfast area supporting community development with strategic themes of Support & Capacity, Resource & Finance Services, and Health development.

Survey Findings – Focus Groups in Lisnasharragh

NORTH & EAST FOCUS GROUP



Age Range and Identity



A total of 6 focus groups took place in Lisnasharragh with 12 young people in each facilitated by a youth worker. The tables collate the responses below:

District Electoral Area: Lisnasharragh

Table 1 – Focus groups response broken into Areas for Action:

EAST BELFAST– Lisnasharragh	Environment & Climate	Health & Wellbeing	Living In Safety & Stability	Learning & Achieving	Diversity & Equality of Opportunity
Concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greenhouse gases War Youth Space Recycling Bonfires Dog Poo Lack of forest Forest fires Lots of cars/pollution Ice caps melting Over population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health Eating too much Cost of living Anxiety Stress Worried about appearance Staying indoors and not connecting No gym access or costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dangerous area Bonfires Paramilitaries Traffic esp when Rugby matches on Gangs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Anxiety Stress Pressure Struggling with motivation University costs Pressure to get good results Worried what to do after school YP leaving without 5+ GCSEs including M&E Negative experience of school Lack of motivation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Racism Sectarianism We live in a poor area with less accessibility than richer people People aren't treated the same Misogyny More cultures Disabled people judged unfairly Some YC not inclusive for YP with additional needs
How it affects us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bonfire sites getting messy Areas looking untidy Global issues Not being able to use parks as damaged Reduced bin sizing means more recycling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depression, low motivation, don't want to do anything Bereavement Staying indoors Feeling unhappy Worried what others think Too much screen time Lonely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fear/apprehension, walking outdoors Bonfire debris can impact upon play and social areas Can lead us into trouble If in trouble we could get beat up or shot Families unsafe, separated parents Rising costs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Worried about exams Struggling within main subjects. Lack of confidence Stressed out Struggling with subjects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feeling uncomfortable around boys Not enough understanding of other cultures Disadvantage in services and resources Being stereotyped Young women can feel inferior, victims and unsafe Young men having to watch what they say
What Youth Services are needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better use of recycling bins, add to centres Local litter picking Invest money into clubs Create teenage areas within parks Information workshops Social action programmes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make use of small space More physical activities Deliver mental health programmes Be open and visible for young people to connect Encourage more to play sport More trips Speak with local gyms and offer programmes Link with agencies regarding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with PSNI to build relationships with YP Fun day with information stalls Centre seen as a safe place and not be judged More info for good sexual health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide a space for YP to study Homework/after school clubs Revision groups More approachable qualifications (OCNs) Bring tutors in to help support the YP Pathways experience for school leavers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offer info/programmes around things like women's rights/sexism Outside speakers to engage with YP Make centres more accessible eg ramps posters. Give YP space to talk Many languages Make centres more inclusive

Table 2 – Focus groups responses broken into Good Relations and Participation

DEA	Good Relations		Participation				
	Is it relevant?	What can Youth Service do to support you with Good Relations?	What do you gain from attending Youth Service in your area?	Why Would Young People not access Youth Services in your area?	Can you recommend changes to increase participation?	How are Young Peoples thoughts and opinions heard in the Youth Services you attend?	Are you aware of the volunteer opportunities within your Youth Service?
Lisnasharragh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, its good to meet people from different area and backgrounds No we have lost the focus of cross community from the way it was before 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change the way TBUC works, bring back the purposeful camps TBUC, GO Create Different competitions & activities between clubs Mini bus to help others feeling safe getting home More funding Love to meet other YP from international parts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enjoyment/fun Meeting others Trying new stuff Increase confidence and esteem Place to call out own Gain new opportunities Programmes Being around friends as often it's the only time Feel I can express myself Feel like we are listened to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sometimes falling out with friends Other events on at the same time Not being part of a group Isn't open at the time YP are free Only found out about it at a later age Too small Not enough things for all age groups Lack of transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More workers in schools to meet YP More open nights Better promotion of club activities More space and bigger clubs More money for group work Knowing that the building is open outside and regular nights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The staff listen to us Evaluations/commenents Social media Surveys and questionnaires 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes

District Electoral Area: Lisnasharragh

Key priorities – Lisnasharragh

Health & Wellbeing is highlighted in NISRA data tables and other research as a being an issue especially with Cregagh ward in top 40%. Young people are particularly concerned about unhealthy lifestyles in terms of obesity, loneliness, and stress. They note the impacts on their own mental health such as depression and peer pressure. Young people recognise that key programmes are supporting them such as sport, health programmes, access to support services and awareness raising initiatives.

Living in safety and stability is also an issue within Cregagh featuring in the top 40% of employment indicators. Young people site concerns of Safety within own area, paramilitaries/gangs, and bonfire debris. This affects them by not feeling they are safe to walk everywhere or leading them into trouble, as well as family breakdown. However, young people welcome youth centres as safe spaces, sexual health programmes, and further work with PSNI.

Learning & Achieving remains a priority with education, skills, and training scoring 80 (Nisra data) in Cregagh Ward. Young people are concerned about exam stress/anxiety and motivation due to pressure to achieve. Young people would like a range of learning supports, informal/vocational opportunities and a safe environment.

Inclusion, Diversity, Equality of Opportunity, and Good Relations. Young people are concerned with the increase in sectarianism, racist and sexist attitudes within their community. Young people want more opportunities such as TBUC, Community relations work including other cultures and more inclusive spaces.

Environment & Climate raises concerns in terms of fires, litter (dog poo), messy bonfire sites and lack of recycling. Actions would include awareness raising programmes, planting trees, recycling in youth centre, opportunities for community involvement including social action projects.

Location of youth provision decisions recognise 80% or more of the youth population live in an area situated within the top 40% least deprived wards with access to greenway, large playing fields and Castlereagh hills. However, deprivation is still an issue in smaller pockets of communities such as Cregagh ward. Provision is encouraged from EA statutory, EA funded, EA funded Faith Based sectors which are collaborative in nature, and EA Generic non targeted to have greatest impact. EA controlled will also have responsibility for delivery of youth work initiatives within school life determined by resourcing levels.

Core Provision will be prioritised throughout offering a wide range of curriculum programmes as defined by 'Model for Effective Practice' (DE 2011). The priority message from the regional survey is that young people want space to make friends, have fun and feel safe. The focus of the curriculum will be reflective of issues raised in the area profile and the highlighted programmes requested by young people in the focus groups. Outreach Youth Work will operate as and when needed within this provision.

Targeted Provision can be offered through EA Full Time Youth providers, and work in collaboration with East Belfast Area Project to identify young people in need of this focused work.

Streetbased Youth Work as a methodology and can be deployed based upon need assessed regularly by East Belfast Area Project. An education first approach will be taken by youth workers deployed under this remit, with limited capacity to support key partners in addressing other youth issues. Priority will be given to Outreach Youth Work in particular.

District Electoral Area: Lisnasharragh

Additional Supports are required to address many of the issues identified. It is recognised that Youth Services have a limited role to play in supporting other lead statutory and voluntary organisations to address these issues. As such youth services will be a supportive partner in these instances. Local EA statutory Youth Services will also employ the use of FLARE (Mental Health Worker), CADI (Creative and Digital Arts Worker). OLS peripatetic (Outdoor Learning Worker), to address the needs of young people while requesting regional services when required.

Youth Service