

Report on	EA Youth Engagement Mid Ulster
Date of Meeting	10 th September 2020
Reporting Officer	Claire Linney, Head Community Development
Contact Officers	Philip Clarke Community Services Manager, Oliver Morgan Good Relations Manager, Michael McCrory PCSP Manager

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To update members on the Education Authority (EA) funding support for Youth Services in Mid Ulster.
2.0	Background
2.1	At March Council, Members asked for an update on the EA Youth extended provision for youth club activity in areas of deprivation. In response to the closure of this fund, officers were asked to follow up with EA Youth on support for youth work that was previously funded by the extended provision and support for young people dealing with Covid 19.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	<p>Engagement has taken place with the Divisional Youth Office for Mid Ulster and the following support is being provided:</p> <p>EA Youth Extended Provision Funding for Youth Clubs EA Youth ended extended provision at end September 2020, it was originally to end 31st March 2020 as part of a review of funding. The EA Youth is encouraging Clubs to review their current provision to target its core funding resources. It has currently opened a post Covid fund to support initiatives for young people re-experiences or issues relating to Covid, this funding is currently being allocated at present.</p> <p>Future Funding Model A new funding model has been opened which provides a more sustainable solution for clubs focused in deprived areas. There are 4 specifications out for clubs in Mid Ulster to apply; they are Dungannon, Coalisland, Maghera North and Maghera South. These funds are up to £130,000 and are contracted to deliver a range of targets for this funding, from outreach, centre activity base to health and wellbeing and training activity. The reference to the funded contracts is:- https://www.eani.org.uk/publications/youth-service/new-funding-scheme</p>

The contracts will close at the end of September and successful awards will be known November with the funding contract commencing in April 2021. The funding will be for 3 years for up to a maximum of £130,000 per annum based on an annual review of targets. Some of the criteria for applying to the contracts includes local knowledge and experience of local delivery, proven track record with The Education Authority (EA), good internal governance, achievement of set targets based on an assessed need within the area and high quality delivery of programmes for young people that is monitored and quality assured by EA on a quarterly basis.

Alongside the Centre and outreach activity by the voluntary clubs, EA Youth remain committed with 1 worker in Dungannon, 1 in Coalisland and 1 in the Clogher Valley area to support voluntary clubs and outreach activity.

Targeted Funding

Alongside above there maybe project specifications open up to £30,000 per theme for thematic pieces of work in relation to section 75 work and other areas , based on the assessed need of young people within a particular geographical area or across the region. One current local specification, under the theme of Good Relations, is to work with Newcomer young people in the Dungannon NRA. Full details of this specification can be downloaded and viewed on the EA funding scheme website.

Direct Provision

EA Youth continues to have Centre based and outreach provision in Cookstown (3 workers) and Magherafelt (2 workers), and continues to provide funding under grants to smaller clubs around the District alongside direct provision in Draperstown and Maghera. Additional provision includes part – time 3 and 4 night a week Youth Annexes within Cornstore YC (St Colms HS, Draperstown), Fivemiletown YC (Fivemiletown College) and St Ciaran's YC, (St Ciaran's College, Ballygawley). All statutory EA workers also work with the post primary schools for the areas they are within (8 schools) to support the delivery of Key stage 2 – 4 programmes, peer mentoring and transitions programmes.

Targeted EA Youth Programmes

EA Youth currently delivers its FLARE (mental health) programme in post primary schools targeting the schools within the neighbourhood renewal areas due to the link between mental health and poverty and deprivation (1 Mid Ulster worker).

EA Youth has just commenced a new programme called REACH again working with schools in Mid Ulster (post primary) to support young people at key stage 2-4 (1 MU worker) with educational attainment and again focusing on schools where attainment may be falling.

EA Youth linkages to the Schools for Hope Model to be developed; which is looking at training teachers across the post primary schools in a new resilience programme for young people.

EA Youth is currently partnering with Council In the establishment of the new Youth Forum to give young people a voice.

	<p>EA Youth is currently partnering with Council in the delivery of a good relations and resilience programme with primary schools in Mid Ulster. A dedicated worker has partnerships with 10 primary schools under the theme of Good Relations and post Covid-19 response to self-esteem, resilience and mental health support to pupils. The Good Relations programme is funded by MU Council (Targeting Good Relations). The programme is being run using innovative online methods and engagement via social distancing.</p> <p>Community Development & Good Relations sections of Council will continue to engage with the EA Youth regarding delivery of youth programmes in Mid Ulster.</p>
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	<p><u>Financial & Human Resources Implications</u> None</p> <p><u>Professional Support</u> None</p>
4.2	<p><u>Equality and Good Relations Implications</u> None</p>
4.3	<p><u>Risk Management Implications</u> None</p>
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	To note the content of the report.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	None