

Annex 3

LOCAL AUTHORITY PLEDGE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Clearly local authorities, in considering the pledge which they wish to adopt, will need to give careful consideration to the curriculum framework and the resources they will need to ensure that young people, particularly disengaged young people, are able to access provision through outreach or detached youth workers. They will also want to consider how they will secure sufficient facilities to deliver the pledge in the Standards of Provision and Resources Sections. The pledge should provide:

- a safe, warm, well equipped meeting place within reasonable distance of home, accessible to young people at times defined by young people, giving an opportunity to participate in personal and social development activities including arts, drama, music, sport, international experience and voluntary action;
- a wide diversity of youth clubs, projects and youth activities;
- a set of programmes, related to core youth work values and principles, based on a curriculum framework which supports young people's development in citizenship, the arts, drama, music, sport, international experience and personal and social development, including through residential experiences and peer education;
- a comprehensive generic, confidential information, advice and counselling service;
- mechanisms for ensuring that their voice is heard, perhaps (though not exclusively) through a youth council or youth forum for each locality, with the intention of supporting youth engagement in local democracy in a wide range of ways;
- an annual youth service questionnaire involving young people in auditing and evaluating the services (provided by the local authority youth service) available to them locally;
- a defined project to promote and secure youth volunteering and voluntary action; and
- the opportunity to participate in programmes which offer accreditation for learning such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, Youth Achievement Award or similar.

The pledge should cross reference with the Youth Service SLA (Service Level Agreement) with Connexions and also to the Connexions Youth Charter.

Annex 4

STANDARDS OF YOUTH WORK PROVISION

This is a National Youth Agency document and we will encourage youth services to work to these standards in the context of their total resource allocation.

This document represents an agreed set of standards for youth work provision which is designed to promote young people's social development and personal achievement. It should be taken fully into account alongside other standards to secure effective policy for young people across various services. In particular, they complement those of Ofsted in respect of the quality and outcomes of youth work. Locally agreed standards may improve on these minimum national standards.

Throughout these standards youth work provision means a staffed youth work service point in a dedicated building, including schools or vehicles; detached and outreach work.

Objective 1

Authorities must specify their key target groups, and identify and plan the range of interventions designed to promote their personal and social development.

Youth Standard 1:

Clear definition of target group, by age and any other relevant characteristics, including ethnic diversity.

Youth Standard 2:

Clear specification, in a planning framework, of the needs and of the range of opportunities for personal and social development to which young people in the target group have access (to include cultural activities; counselling; international and residential experiences; sport and outdoor adventure; voluntary action).

Youth Standard 3:

A defined curriculum framework document which links YS1 and YS2 in 90% of the provision secured by the local authority.



Objective 2

Authorities must secure convenient and suitable access for young people to high-quality youth work in safe, warm, well-equipped locations and secure adequate opening of youth provision within these locations.

Youth Standard 4:

Percentage of youth population within a safe 30 minute journey time to youth work provision.

Target:

- 100% of young people in inner London
- 95% of young people in outer London and Metropolitan District area
- 85% of young people in Unitary Authority areas
- 80% of young people in County Council areas

Youth Standard 5:

Opening hours of provision.

Target:

- All youth provision per 1,000 youth population is accessible for a minimum of 4 hours per week
- 90% of larger youth provision are open at least 24 hours per week
- 80% of larger youth provision is open for 80% of school holidays, and weekends.

Youth Standard 6:

Electronic access to youth information

Target:

- 80% of youth access points which are open more than ten hours per week have access to on-line youth information services.

