

YouthWorks - Area Partnership Fund

1. Background

- 1.1. Youth Work is defined as an informal education practice that supports young people's social, emotional and educational development. Youth work can be adapted across a variety of settings, and typically engages with young people within their local community.
- 1.2. YouthWorks is an initiative made by young people, with young people, for young people. It seeks to improve both the resources, and young people's knowledge, of the Youth Work sector in the Northwest of Glasgow.
- 1.3. YouthWorks achieves this with a young-people-led steering group, which creates lessons for local schools and manages the public side of YouthWorks - including social media and the annual YouthWorks Night.
- 1.4. YouthWorks works in partnership with the Northwest Youth Network to improve the co-operation between local government decision-makers and aspects of the Youth Work Sector.

2. YouthWorks Fund

- 2.1. To achieve 1.2, we request that Area Partnerships welcome consideration to investment of their local budget towards:
 - 2.1.1. Providing or expanding initiatives designed as a safe space for young people.
 - 2.1.2. Providing or expanding initiatives designed to improve young people's skills.
 - 2.1.3. Providing or expanding initiatives designed to connect local young people.
- 2.2. Special consideration should be given to attracting new/start-up organisations in the sector.
- 2.3. Applicants should be advised, when creating applications, to link with the Northwest Youth Network if they are applying for youth-focused activities.

- 2.4. This initiative is different to YouthBank as it is accessible to Youth Work sector organisations rather than young people, and at a much larger scale of funding.

3. Impacts

- 3.1. A large portion of young people believe their lives would be better if they had safe spaces, with shelter, to hang out and connect with friends and others.
- 3.2. With the crisis in the sector only worsening, this initiative can provide genuine support for the most vital organisations in our communities, which passes on the benefits by reducing the number of young people on the streets, greatly reducing the risk of gang violence, and increasing young people's safety and mental health.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1. The Area Partnership is asked to note the contents of the report and;
- 4.2. Approve the recommendations set out in 2.1-4.