

Resident Impact Assessment

Young Islington – New universal youth offer, procurement strategy

1. What are the intended outcomes of this policy, function etc?

Islington currently secures parts of its universal offer of youth work for young people aged 13 upwards through services which are delivered from Lift (45 White Lion Street), Platform (2 Tiltman Place) and Rose Bowl (St Paul's Park, delivers to children aged 8 upwards). There are currently two contracts in place; one for Lift and Platform and one for Rose Bowl. Both contracts are due to expire on the 31st October 2021.

During 2020 the council undertook a process of engagement with young people, young people, members, children's services professionals, local youth providing VCS organisations and other stakeholders in order to identify, agree and test different approaches and models for youth work delivery. The extensive discovery work, conversations, focus groups and larger consultation events carry out in partnership with two independent expert organisations, identified that stakeholders wanted to see a new offer that included:

- a youth work offer that is rooted in local, grassroots community delivery,
- a strengthened offer of detached and outreach youth work, and
- a connected offer that is effectively led, delivering quality youth work across the borough.

This new universal offer of youth work will be embedded within the wider 'Young Islington' work strand which will sit within Fairer Together, which is a developing partnership approach to delivering effective and responsive early help to all residents. The model will be community-focused, building sustainable networks across the borough, with a shared coherent vision linking into and building capacity amongst community youth providers and groups. The delivery model that is proposed will be made up of:

- a function which will provide support and stimulus for high quality youth work delivery across the model, for example, mentoring, buddying or training for youth workers, linking into regional and national support (eg NYA) and submitting joint bids for cross borough youth work programmes,
- delivery partners to operate and manage Lift and Rose Bowl, Platform and the new Andover site,

- three networks of local stakeholders and providers organised in North, Central and South Fairer Together localities,
- an enhanced offer of detached and outreach youth work and
- a co-ordination / operational management function which will be delivered in-house by the council through a new post.

The council wishes to openly procure a contract for the youth work leadership of Young Islington, which will include the operation, delivery and facilities management of Lift, Rose Bowl, Platform youth spaces from November 2021 and a new youth space at the Andover community centre. This will ensure that there is no break in the delivery of a universal offer for young people in Islington.

The intention is that the youth work leadership function will support the quality of the youth work delivered borough-wide, be the 'voice' of the sector and of young people as well as a focal point for the work of Young Islington to grow and develop in line with the Young Islington objectives.

Lift, Rose Bowl, Platform and Andover youth spaces will provide;

- high quality, innovative programmes of youth work activities, spaces, and multi-agency support services for young people's development,
- significant additional social value, e.g. to support young people's employment,
- a requirement for youth spaces to be opened up for community organisations to deliver youth work as part of a co-ordinated borough-wide programme, agreed and curated with the three locality networks,
- 'outward facing' provision which assertively seeks to engage young people who have not previously been reached by the universal youth work offer, through working with the locality networks and other community and grassroots groups, and
- connected programmes that support young people's mobilisation and access to the wider offer, cross borough and beyond.

In addition and aligned to the scale and cross borough reach intended for Lift within the new model, the specification for Lift will include the delivery of:

- Summerversity and Launchpad summer programmes which should be delivered from a range of venues and by a range of providers across the borough, and
- the Emotional Wellbeing Service; this is part of the Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) pathway, specified and funded by the CCG

2. Resident Profile

Who is going to be impacted by this change i.e. residents/service users/tenants? Please complete data for your service users. If your data does not fit into the categories in this table, please copy and paste your own table in the space below. Please refer to **section 3.3** of the guidance for more information.

		Borough profile	Service User profile
		Total: 206,285	Total: 48,514 [8 – 24 yrs – GLA data]
Gender	Female	51%	49%
	Male	49%	51%
	Under 8		n/a

Age	8-15	32,825	20,692
	16-24	29,418	27,822
	25-44	87,177	n/a
	45-64	38,669	n/a
	65+	18,036	n/a
Disability	Disabled	16%	Not known
	Non-disabled	84%	Not known
Sexual orientatio	LGBT	No data	Not Known
	Heterosexual/straight	No data	Not Known
Race	BME	52%	50.7%
	White	48%	49.3%
Religion or belief	Christian	40%	Not known
	Muslim	10%	Not known
	Other	4.5%	Not known
	No religion	30%	Not known
	Religion not stated	17%	Not known

3. Equality impacts

With reference to the [guidance](#), please describe what are the equality and socio-economic impacts for residents and what are the opportunities to challenge prejudice or promote understanding?

The intended service is likely to have positive impacts on residents of all ages as young people are supported through high quality youth work relationships to make the most of their teenage years and contribute positively to their communities. The service specification will require providers to have robust policies and procedures in place to ensure that the services provided eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and to advance equality of opportunity. The model of Young Islington has been developed to further reach more vulnerable young people who may have not engaged or benefited from youth work relationships before. The new offer will;

- Reach and engage further into Somali, Turkish and Bangladeshi communities,
- Engage young people who have previously not used universal youth services,
- More directly addresses inequalities issues, e.g. accessibility for young people with disabilities, and from LGBTQ communities,
- Attract those that are vulnerable to poorer outcomes,
- Attract those who are living in more deprived wards or households, and
- Better utilises spaces available to engage young people.

Failure to mobilise the new offer with delivery of youth services from Lift, Rose Bowl, Platform and Andover spaces would result in a negative impact on young people who already access the venues and services, many of whom have vulnerabilities. Islington has the highest child poverty rate in London, which makes it more important that high quality universal services are in existence to support children, young people and their families. A report written by Unison (2016), regarding

general cuts to the youth service sector over the last few years, highlights the impact that cuts to youth services and youth clubs have on young people including; young people indicating feelings of being less empowered, negative impacts on education and employment prospects, increased mental health issues, rise in alcohol and substance abuse and reported increases in crime and anti-social behaviour.

[<http://www.unison.org.uk/content/uploads/2016/08/23996.pdf>]. Monitoring data and information on the current offer confirms that young people with protected characteristics including age, gender, ethnicity, disabilities and sexual orientation use the current universal offer and would be negatively impacted if there was a gap in services at Lift and Rose Bowl and the vision of Young Islington is not secured.

4. Safeguarding and Human Rights impacts

a) Safeguarding risks and Human Rights breaches

Please describe any safeguarding risks for children or vulnerable adults AND any potential human rights breaches that may occur as a result of the proposal? Please refer to **section 4.8** of the [guidance](#) for more information.

n/a

If potential safeguarding and human rights risks are identified then **please contact equalities@islington.gov.uk to discuss further:**

5. Action

How will you respond to the impacts that you have identified in sections 3 and 4, or address any gaps in data or information?

For more information on identifying actions that will limit the negative impact of the policy for protected groups see the [guidance](#).

Action	Responsible person or team	Deadline
Ongoing monitoring will take place of the new youth work delivery through refreshed processes managed by the play & youth commissioning team	Holly Toft	Ongoing from 1 November 2021

