



Advice needs to be available in places young people already go to such as youth drop-in centres offering co-located support services in accessible and safe locations. The needs of young people using the service are identified through the young people's committee/forum attached to each YES. These groups identify both social and recreational activities to be provided within the service and the educational programmes to be provided. Services provide activities and educational programmes that cater for the identified needs of all service users from 11-25.

Religion/ political opinion:

As part of the procurement process all YES applicants were asked how they would ensure equality of access and encourage good relations to all sections of the local community. Each YES apply their own approaches to this area to ensure mutual respect is paramount at all times.

Dependent status:

The needs of young people using the service are identified through the young people's committee/forum attached to each Youth Engagement Service. These groups identify both social and recreational activities to be provided within the service and the educational programmes to be provided. Where there are young people with dependent children using the service their needs have been

Uptake of services in relation to age will continue to be monitored by PHA.

Similar approach will be applied to upcoming procurement process.

identified and, where appropriate, they have been proactively addressed, e.g. by the formation of a young mothers group or young fathers group.

Disability:

All YES Managers have received training on disability and accessibility issues. All services have also proactively contacted local organisations that provide services to young people with disabilities to promote the YES services

Sexual orientation:

All YES Managers received a training input from the Rainbow Project on LGBT accessibility issues. Most of the services have developed an ongoing relationship with either Rainbow or CaraFriend and the services continue to run LGBT groups or LGBT awareness sessions according to identified need.

The specification for these services going forward includes a requirement for service providers to consult with young people and provide recreational services and educational programmes that attract equal numbers of service users of both genders. As with previous provision of these services under the name 'One Stop Shop', the YES Network will be used to ensure service providers have access to training around equality issues and

Training will be made available as and when required for YES staff.

obtain support from specialist organisations where appropriate.

**Ethnicity:**

The 2017 evaluation of the OSS's found that staff identified young people for whom English was not their first language as an issue they were keen to address. However the evaluation only picked up one case where this had been a significant issue and in that case the OSS concerned had made a concerted and effective effort to support the service user in question. The evaluation did not pick up any other issues related to ethnicity. Post Pandemic in 2022 has seen some new trends which has been reported by three YES's. There has been an increase of ethnic minority and migrant young people accessing the recreational element of the service. This is a new development for the services which requires further consideration and PHA are actively exploring training and support options for these YES's. This will then be addressed within the development of the Specification in the re-tendering of the service.