

DRAFT NATIONAL YOUTH WORK STRATEGY PUBLISHED

12 December 2013

A draft National Youth Work Strategy ([insert hyperlink](#)) has been published today. The Scottish Government, Education Scotland and YouthLink Scotland are working together towards ensuring all young people have access to high quality and effective youth work practice. This draft strategy outlines the recommended approaches to help make Scotland one of the best places in the world to grow up in.

The draft strategy outlines 5 ambition statements and associated outcomes that will be consulted on:

- Putting young people at the heart of policy;
- ensuring Scotland is the best place to be young and grow up in;
- recognising the value of youth work;
- building workforce capacity and
- ensuring that we evaluate our impact

An implementation plan will be developed based following the consultation. It will outline the key actions that will be taken forward in partnership and delivered over the next five years to ensure young people receive the best opportunities to improve their life chances.

Minister for Children and Young People Aileen Campbell said,

“We want Scotland to be the best place to grow up and the publication of the Draft National Youth Work Strategy recognises youth work as a key component of our present and future agenda for young people.

“Informed by the National Discussion on Implementation of the Strategy, the Scottish Government, Education Scotland and YouthLink will continue to work collaboratively and in partnership with others to realise our ambition for maximising the wellbeing and life chances of young people. We want to build on these partnerships to deliver effective youth work and community learning and development services for our young people.”

Dr Bill Maxwell, Chief Executive of Education Scotland said, “We have worked with Youthlink Scotland to prepare this draft strategy and we will use the coming months to engage with young people on its ambitions. It is of the utmost importance that the voice of our young people is reflected in this important strategy as we want to be able to ensure we are delivering what’s best for them and what’s best for their communities. We look forward to receiving feedback on the strategy and I would encourage all young people to get involved.”

Jim Sweeney, Chief Executive of YouthLink Scotland said, “YouthLink Scotland recognises the need for a high level strategy that gives Youth Work practice a strong policy

framework. This linked to an implementation plan and a supported workforce will allow us to help Scotland's young people achieve their full potential and contribute positively to society."

Over the coming months Education Scotland will work with young people and other key stakeholders to develop an implementation plan. A series of events will take place across Scotland to stimulate debate and gather feedback on the draft strategy throughout February. YouthLink Scotland will collate this feedback. A final strategy will be launched in the spring time.

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