

**Southwark Services for Young People**

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To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: CYPA -Community Youth Provision Association**

Southwark Services for Young People have been funding CYPA, for the past four years.

Over the past two years, they were 1 of 19 Voluntary Sector organisations that were funded under The London Youth Offer Targeted Youth Support Programme, to work with 16-18 year old NEET young people

The young people that CYPA have worked with under the offer are all local young people who are living in one of the most deprived boroughs in the England.

Although there are areas of significant wealth and prosperity, the majority of wards in Southwark are in the 10% most deprived wards in England in terms of income deprivation affecting children. Southwark has the 8<sup>th</sup> highest rate of long-term unemployment in England and Wales, Further, Southwark has the third highest NEET rate across Central London (10%) and second highest number of young people NEET (439)

CYPA, through their knowledge of both the local area and the needs of the young people in the local area, are able to engage and build strong relationships with the cohort of young people that they engage.

The organisation works closely with Schools, Education Welfare, Social Services, and Youth Offending teams, in providing support for young people.

The services that are on offer for the young people via CYPA NEET Programme are as follows

- PAYP-A young person being supported in a positive activity or designing and suggesting a positive activity.
- Employment Support- Information, Advice and Guidance career advice, CV preparation, interview skills or work experience, employer presentations, mentoring by employer representative etc.
- Skills Support-Additional support given to young people that raises and adds to the Young Persons skills/knowledge.

Core Aspects-

- ICT, Numeracy literacy and Communication Skills
- Work experience/Volunteering
- Personal and Social development (incl.1:1 support session, building self-confidence and esteem etc)
- IAG input(Careers input)
- Specialist field (e.g. sport, music, new media)
- Accredited learning.

Over the course of the London Youth Offer, CYPA have worked with a high level of disaffected hard to reach young people, who are not accessing mainstream provisions.

The staff at CYPA, have a high level of commitment and care to the young people who attend the NEET programme.

They have had a high success rate and due to the quality of their work between 2008-10, they have been awarded further funding for 1 year 2010-11, to continue the important and productive work that they have been doing with NEET young people in The London Borough of Southwark.

Maya Lipski



London Youth Offer Co-Ordinator