

## **The Aims of the Luton Youth Fund**

Luton Borough Council (LBC) and London Luton Airport Ltd. (LLAL) are working in partnership to improve the quality of life of the people of Luton. Of particular relevance to this fund are the key principles agreed by the partners of the Luton Forum in the Sustainable Community Strategy (2012 – 26) for residents of Luton to:

- Provide positive activities for children and young people and reduce anti-social behaviour.
- Support our children and young people to achieve skills and experience to enhance their prospects for the future.
- Ensure children and young people in Luton are safe and well cared for.

These values should clearly inform and underpin all of the activities covered by this specification and the following Method Statement,

- Improve lifelong learning opportunities for all.
- Strengthen community cohesion.
- Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear it causes.
- Empower, support and protect the vulnerable.
- Improve health and promote health equality.

### **The Council Prospectus 2013-2016**

In addition, the Council's Prospectus for 2013 – 2016 emphasises the crucial importance of working with key partners including the private and voluntary sectors to co-ordinate the provision of services so as to maintain standards, improve effectiveness and eliminate duplication.

The Prospectus sets out a focus on a further 3 specific objectives which should also shape the specification:

1. Promoting the conditions for Business Growth;
2. The development of skills across the population of the Borough so as to better equip residents of all ages to get jobs through investment education and training;
3. Keeping the most vulnerable people safe, supported and healthy by concentrating on achieving wellbeing outcomes and working together to commission and deliver services and putting organisational interests to one side in favour of the interests of Luton's vulnerable residents.

Youth Work in Luton is grounded on the principle and understanding that all young people benefit from additional opportunities and support but some, particularly the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, need specific additional and targeted help to address their challenges and reach their potential.

The model of service delivery is based upon a broad platform of universal youth work services for 11-19 year olds and up to 25 years for young people with a learning difficulty or disability (LDD). Alongside this is a Targeted Youth Support Service delivered by Luton Borough

Council, which aims to narrow the gap in outcomes between the most disadvantaged and vulnerable children and young people and their peers.

Both universal and targeted services are the key to Luton's Youth Offer, joining up universal provision with the early identification of young people who are vulnerable and require additional support. Universal youth services delivered by the Voluntary and Community Youth Sector will be expected to help identify those children and young people who need additional support, and identify gaps in current provision and refer these to Luton Borough Council. This model of service delivery is supported by a national policy push to develop the voluntary and community youth sector; and will enable all young people to access support, with more targeted and specialist support for the most vulnerable.

There are 18,600 young people aged 13-19, the priority age range for youth work services, living in Luton and in 2012-13 over 3000 or 19% of young people in this age range benefited from direct voluntary engagement with Luton Borough Council youth work services.

**All Luton Borough Council youth centres (Ashcroft; Barnfield South; Barnfield West; Challney Girls; Lealands (Sundon Park); Lea Manor; Putteridge) will be available for free or subsidised use by the voluntary youth sector and uniformed youth organisations.**

## **Outcomes**

All successful applicants will be required to demonstrate the impact their work has had on individual members of the community.

The preferred method is to use Outcome Stars – details of which can be found at [www.outcomesstar.org.uk](http://www.outcomesstar.org.uk). Any groups not using this method will need to provide an alternative that will be accepted by the fund holder.