

Forum Area or Division:	Barrow-in-Furness - Barrow-in-Furness
Reference:	CGA/355-21
Group Name:	Drop Zone Youth Projects
Community Development Officer:	Alison Meadows
Community Development Assistant:	Michelle Rigg
Amount Requested:	£16,042.00
Total Project Cost:	£24,462.00

APPLICATION REPORT

Application Summary

Furness Youth Work Partnership has been set up for local youth organisations to co-ordinate and work together to support children, young people and families across Furness.

In previous year Universal funding has been used to grant fund individual Universal service organisations to delivery youth and wider support to children, young people and their families. In order that funding can be looked at more strategically and collaboratively across the Barrow Borough area and utilised according to needs and priorities it is recommended that funding is awarded to Furness Youth Work Partnership with Dropzone being the accountable body.

Dropzone are one organisation who deliver youth work and informal education for young people in the local area. They work in close partnership with other organisations within the voluntary and statutory sector and are currently developing plans and strategies to deliver preventative work within a fit for purpose building with partners.

The Universal funding will be used to compliment current support for children and young people across Furness. The Covid pandemic has had a direct impact on support services across the County. The majority of statutory support services have moved to virtual platforms and have been stretched significantly through these difficult times. There are issues with young people being bounced back from services and as a partnership Dropzone has supported increased numbers of young people who are struggling with education, home life, mental health and isolation as a result. Due to current restrictions children and young people are not out and about socialising and are unaware of opportunities to engage and access support, information and guidance.

Working as a partnership Dropzone would like to develop their offer of support through detached work, offering a multi agency approach with professionals from a range of organisations to re-engage young people in services. They would like to be able to hold those initial conversations through doorstep services and or detached work to then signpost young people if needed. One of the main areas of focus will be mental health support with trained professionals, working with young people to build up their emotional resilience and confidence of being able to access all provision. Linking with Barrow Police to provide a proactive response to young people reaching crisis on a rota system between the Youth Work partnership. The funding will be used to cover staffing, safeguarding and supervision, resources, transport and management

Key Themes Met

Children and young people across Furness between the ages of 5-19 years will benefit. They will keep young people safe, support them in their own and, hopefully, their environments to access opportunities, projects and activities and to consider local and national factors to shape future services. This will give young people an equal choice to fulfil their potential and to support them in leading an active healthy life. Furness Youth Work partnership will benefit from working closely together and being able to advocate on behalf of all young people so they receive a needs led service. Local businesses will be involved and will be part of a project that brings people and communities together. This could offer multiple opportunities and young people will see the benefits of their local area.

The project meets the Council Plan and local priorities:

To safeguard children, and ensure that Cumbria is a great place to be a child and grow up

To enable communities to live safely and shape services locally

To promote health and well being and tackle poverty

As a youth work partnership their main priority is keeping young people safe, offering safe spaces and environments for children and young people to thrive in with qualified, trained staff. Partnership working will enable them to shape their services for children and young people which benefits local communities by breaking down barriers. Working with young people to build self esteem and resilience benefits young people's mental health enabling them to have a positive outlook. By engaging in activities children and young people gain a sense of worth and responsibility for their future, motivating them to learn transferrable essential life skills and contribute to society.

Number of People Benefiting

100 +

Breakdown of Project Costs

£16,042

Previous CCC Funding

Universal Funding 2019/20

Grant Amount Recommended

£16,042

Officer comments

Comments from Elected Member(s) / Neighbourhood Forum / Grant Panel

Member Signature:

Date: