

Invitation to Participate

Last year Queensferry & District Community Council (QDCC) formed a Youth Engagement Group, designed to establish the needs of our younger community within Queensferry, Dalmeny & Kirkliston in the way of facilities, local environment and community engagement.

Since then we have been working with City of Edinburgh Council's (CEC) Lifelong Learning team and Queensferry Community High School (QCHS) pupils and management on a project named Youth Talk which is briefly outlined in the attached document.

To date, over 500 young people have been interviewed in QCHS and on the street by youth workers hired by CEC. We have now arranged stage two - 'the gathering' for the morning of **Fri 14th Sep 9:30am- 12noon** in the Scout Hall, Port Edgar. The event will consist of 100 - 120 people, half of them pupils from QCHS and the rest - community leaders, QCHS management, local facility leaders/organisers, service partners and local adults with an interest in engaging with the event by joining the discussion.

• How you can help

We need

- local adults (parents and non-parents)
- organisers of local clubs/groups/facilities

who can engage in constructive discussion at one of 10 tables of 6 young people and 6 adults. The aim is to encourage constructive discussion on the local facilities, what is good, needs altered and what new would be welcome and deliverable. The comfort and security of the local environment and the relationship with the adult community also will be discussed. It is a two way discussion, adults can constructively discuss with the young members their concerns and possible mutual support of ideas.

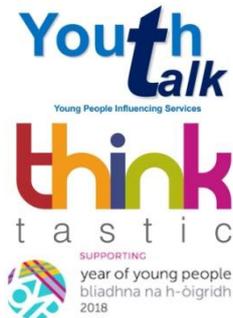
We have the services of a motivational speaker from 'thinktastic', who is sponsoring the event along with CEC, as the MC for the morning.

Spaces are limited so if you would like to get involved in this exciting discussion on the 14th Sept and help shape the future for the young people in our community, then please email us at youthtalkQDCC@gmail.com to register an interest and confirm availability on the morning of Fri 14 Sept. Please state if you are involved in the running or management of any existing local clubs, groups or facilities.

Thank you for your support

Youth Engagement Group,
QDCC

Youth Talk



South Queensferry / Kirkliston

To date, over 500 young people have been involved in one way or another to promote their views and concerns. This has involved supporting a core group of young people who have acted as the project sounding board and helped design aspects of the engagement processes. This group has also been involved in an art based project using digital imagery to highlight some of the issues locally.

Wider engagement has taken place through existing networks, school based activity and street based sessions.

What is YouthTalk?

YouthTalk is a programme that supports mass engagement of young people using four main elements:

1. **Engagement:** Support mass engagement opportunities for young people to promote any issues or concerns they have about local services, facilities or activities aimed at them. YouthTalk aims to gather as much feedback as possible before moving to a 'gathering'.
2. **The 'gathering':** Bring together young people and adults from the community and decision makers to get beneath the issues or suggestions raised during the engagement process to help identify how by working together, positive changes can be made using co-design approaches. The 'gathering' takes the raw information and breaks it into manageable themes to support informal discussion and workshop style activity.

Expect lots of discussion, positive involvement of young people and lots of ideas to create positive change being generated.

3. **The pledges:** Quickly after the gathering, the ideas are then developed into workable outcomes that can then be taken forward. These are promoted to 'owners' where they are asked to pledge how they will be involved and how they will help to make things happen.
4. **Delivery / Communication:** Once the pledges have been made, young people and the wider community will be informed of what will happen and regular updates will be supported using agreed communication channels identified by the young people as part of the gathering.

Young people will also be invited to maintain their involvement and where opportunities exist, help design outcomes.