

LSI YW23(SQA Unit Code-HE03 04)

Investigate the needs of young people and the community in relation to youth work



Overview

Investigating the needs of young people and the local community in relation to youth work helps to analyse existing provision and contributes to developing and enhancing the provision of youth work within the community.

This standard is about investigating those needs and analysing existing provision. It also covers identifying opportunities to improve and add to youth work provision.

It does not cover evaluating information in order to draw conclusions and make recommendations, which is covered in the following standard.

This standard is for those involved in informing or developing youth work strategy or operational planning in their organisations, as well as those who contribute to developing and improving youth work provision in the community.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 gather available information regarding the local community relevant to identifying their needs and issues regarding the provision of youth work
 - P2 determine the needs of young people within the community which impact upon their requirements from youth work provision
 - P3 explore with young people the opportunities for enhancing and developing its provision
 - P4 explore with relevant agencies and stakeholders working with young people their views regarding the current provision of youth work and the opportunities for its development
 - P5 collate and assess the feedback, identifying trends and patterns relevant to determining opportunities for youth work
 - P6 obtain and maintain accurate information on existing services and support networks available to young people in the community
 - P7 identify existing youth work provision in own community and how this addresses the existing and emerging needs of young people
 - P8 identify correctly those factors affecting take-up of existing youth work opportunities, including any constraints hindering access by young people to such opportunities
 - P9 identify any gaps in the current provision
 - P10 share analysis with young people and relevant agencies and other stakeholders, discussing and agreeing its impact towards identifying opportunities for youth work
 - P11 agree potential opportunities towards enhancing and developing youth work in own community

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 legal, regulatory and ethical requirements impacting upon the provision of youth work, and in investigating needs and their impact on investigations
- K2 the types of information that might be provided by young people, relevant agencies and other stakeholders appropriate to establishing community needs from youth work
- K3 methods of developing and maintaining consultative relationships with young people and other agencies and stakeholders
- K4 how to seek and obtain feedback from young people, agencies and stakeholders, including relevant research methods
- K5 factors influencing youth work provision in the community, such as broader social environments, the aspirations and behaviour of young people in the community, and common issues faced when enhancing provision
- K6 the importance of ensuring objectivity when evaluating feedback and the factors to consider when assessing its validity
- K7 how to assess the interests of those providing feedback, and the implications for identifying and evaluating the opportunities for youth work
- K8 which agencies and stakeholders can provide the information required
- K9 the nature and extent of current youth work provision in own local community
- K10 trends and developments in the provision of youth work of relevance to the area of work and own local community
- K11 techniques for analysing qualitative and quantitative information
- K12 the concept of needs analysis, and how to undertake such an analysis
- K13 the importance of ensuring that own research is sufficient to justify any conclusions drawn from its results
- K14 the importance of ensuring that the opportunities identified are of a size sufficient to warrant own organisation's attention, and are also accessible to others in own organisation
- K15 available sources of information and support in investigating community needs and identifying opportunities for youth work
- K16 the values and principles underpinning youth work

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Additional Information

Values

Working with representatives of the sectors within youth work, LSIS has agreed a suite of values and principles which distinguish youth work from other, sometimes related, activities involving young people. These values and principles are at the core of the work undertaken within youth work and underpin this standard. The behaviours required within this standard include those which reflect particular values and principles.

Behaviours

1. Develop systems to gather and manage information and knowledge effectively and ethically
2. Seek to understand young people's needs and motivations
3. Analyse and structure information to develop knowledge that can be shared
4. Present information clearly, concisely, accurately and in ways that promote understanding by young people and relevant agencies
5. Maintain confidentiality where required
6. Treat young people with respect

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