

Gwynedd Youth Service

Results of the December 2017 Questionnaire

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1. Introduction

This report presents the results from the consultation that the Youth Service ran from the 13th of November to the 22nd of December 2017. The consultation presented a preferred option for re-modelling the Youth Service, in accordance with the Cabinet decision in October 2017.

2. Methodology

A questionnaire was used as an information gathering tool for the consultation. The questionnaire was available to answer online from the 13th of November to the 22nd of December 2017, with paper copies also available from Gwynedd libraries and one-stop shops. It included a video to watch and then a series of questions to answer about the proposed changes to the Youth Service.

The consultation was promoted through the 'Have your say' page on the Gwynedd Council website, and also through the Council's social media, Facebook and Twitter. It was also being promoted and a campaign has been made for responses through a number of different clubs in the county such as the Council Youth Clubs, Young Farmers Clubs etc.

The success of these campaigns is reflected in the high number of responses to the consultation. It should be noted that there were a number of similar comments and quantitative solutions to each other within the same areas; we have fully included all of these responses in the analysis.

Responses were received by post and through online questionnaires.

3. Responses to the Questionnaire

This section of the report will analyse responses to the questionnaires. 3,391 valid responses was received.

3.01 Are you completing this survey as an individual or on behalf of an organisation or business?

Most respondents have responded as an individual, with a small percentage answering on behalf of an organisation or business.

	No	%
On behalf of an organisation (e.g. Police, NSPCC, Community Council)	34	1.0
As an individual	3,349	98.8
No response	8	0.2
	3,391	100.0

Some of the organisations or businesses included schools, colleges, sports clubs, community councils, carers, the Urdd, Young Farmers, and different services within Gwynedd Council.

3.02 How old are you?

Most respondents came from the 11 to 15 year old age group (69.4%, N = 2,354), with a small percentage of respondents being a young person under 11 years old (1.8%, N = 61).

	No	%
I'm a young person under the age of 11	61	1.8
I'm a young person 11-15 years old	2,354	69.4
I'm a 16-24 year old	475	14.0
I'm over 24	465	13.7
No response	36	1.1
	3,391	100.0

The table below shows in which secondary school catchment area the respondents lived.

Secondary School Catchment Area	No	%
Friars / Tryfan	513	15.1
Dyffryn Ogwen	356	10.5
Syr Hugh Owen	352	10.4
Dyffryn Nantlle	245	7.2
Brynrefail	193	5.7
Y Moelwyn	178	5.2

Ardudwy	110	3.2
Glan y Môr	87	2.6
Y Berwyn	87	2.6
Eifionydd	65	1.9
Botwnnog / Glan y Môr	60	1.8
Bro Idris	48	1.4
Uwchradd Tywyn	47	1.4
Botwnnog	45	1.3
Friars / Tryfan / Dyffryn Ogwen	14	0.4
Felinheli	9	0.3
No identifiable area	982	29.0
Total	3,391	100.0

3.03 Are you a parent or carer?

11.2% (N=379) of the respondents are a parent or carer.

	No	%
Yes	379	11.2
No	2,915	86.0
No response	97	2.9
	3,391	100.0

3.03 Gwynedd's young people have said that the Youth Service should concentrate on the following:

- Skills Development
- Personal Development
- Support Health and Wellbeing

What is your opinion?

From the table below, almost a third (30.2%, N = 1,023) of respondents felt this was great, with a score of 1, one third (33.1%, N = 1,122) giving a score of 2, and a quarter (25.3%, N = 857) giving a score of 3. Very few respondents have given a score of 4 and 5 (10.7% with each other).

	No	%
1 - great	1,023	30.2
2	1,122	33.1
3	857	25.3
4	214	6.3
5 - poor	149	4.4

No response	26	0.8
	3,391	100.0

It can be seen from the table below that there are a few differences of opinion between the age groups. A higher percentage of those over the age of 24 gives a score of 1, with a higher percentage of 11 to 15 year olds may not be able to determine and giving a score of 3, and a higher percentage of those under 11 giving a score of 5, which is poor.

	I'm a young person under the age of 11		I'm a young person 11-15 years old		I'm a 16-24 year old		I'm over 24		No response	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1 - great	15	25.0	626	26.8	146	30.9	217	47.4	19	54.3
2	21	35.0	788	33.7	187	39.5	117	25.5	9	25.7
3	7	11.7	681	29.1	101	21.4	66	14.4	2	5.7
4	5	8.3	138	5.9	29	6.1	38	8.3	4	11.4
5 - poor	12	20.0	106	4.5	10	2.1	20	4.4	1	2.9
Total	60	100.0	2,339	100.0	473	100.0	458	100.0	35	100.0

3.04 Young people have told us that they need different things as they grow up. They would like,

- A program of fun activities when aged between 11-19
- One to one support when between 16-25

What is your opinion?

There are quite similar results to this question with the previous question. Almost a third of respondents give a score of 1 (31.8%, N = 1,078), almost a third giving a score of 2 (30.6%, N = 1,036), and a quarter of respondents rated a score of 3 (25.5%, N = 864). Very few respondents have given a score of 4 and 5 (11.3% with each other).

	No	%
1 - great	1,078	31.8
2	1,036	30.6
3	864	25.5
4	214	6.3
5 - poor	170	5.0
No response	29	0.9
	3,391	100.0

A similar pattern to the previous question is seen in the differences of opinion between different ages. More children under the age of 11 give a score 5 that is poor, a higher % of those over the age of 24 give a score of 1 that is great, and a higher percentage of children between the ages of 11 and 15 give a score of 3.

	I'm a young person under the age of 11		I'm a young person 11-15 years old		I'm a 16-24 year old		I'm over 24		No response	
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
1 - great	21	35.6	704	30.0	149	31.6	187	41.3	17	48.6
2	18	30.5	718	30.6	166	35.2	125	27.6	9	25.7
3	3	5.1	668	28.5	106	22.5	82	18.1	5	14.3
4	4	6.8	136	5.8	34	7.2	37	8.2	3	8.6
5 - poor	13	22.0	118	5.0	16	3.4	22	4.9	1	2.9
Total	59	100.0	2344	100.0	471	100.0	453	100.0	35	100.0

3.05 The video at the beginning of this survey explains how the Youth Service could work in the future. Note anything that is good about this.

The following table shows the themes that arose in response to the above question. See that almost one in five responses have given a general negative response, e.g. 'Nothing'. Nearly one in 10 had indicated that it gave young people more activities / good opportunities, and almost one in 10 responds positively overall, e.g. 'Good'.

Theme	No	%
General negative response e.e no, nothing	833	21.0
No response	465	11.7
Good opportunities for young people / more activities	348	8.8
Overall positive response e.g. good	333	8.4
Skills Development / Learning / Accreditation	293	7.4
Socialising	271	6.8
Support / Help / Advice	231	5.8
Opportunity for more people	170	4.3
Fun	138	3.5
A clear package	103	2.6
Free membership	95	2.4
Something for the children to do (out of the house / out of trouble etc.)	75	1.9
Traveling clubs	69	1.7
Keeping clubs open	57	1.4
Opportunity to stay healthy / fitness / sports	55	1.4

Raising confidence	52	1.3
Working with other organizations	49	1.2
Other / Unclear response / Not Applicable	46	1.2
Good they ask young people's views	45	1.1
Do not need to travel far away	42	1.1
Working with schools	32	0.8
Saving money to the Council	24	0.6
Helping people get a job	16	0.4
cooking club	13	0.3
Helping children with health problems	13	0.3
Collaboration between clubs	11	0.3
More money for the service	11	0.3
Keeping communities together	10	0.3
Money going to community	10	0.3
Duke of Edinburgh Need	10	0.3
Safe	9	0.2
art group	8	0.2
Against the closure of centers	8	0.2
Young people value the service	6	0.2
Need more detail	4	0.1
More trips	4	0.1
Activities in Welsh	1	0.0
Risk that some young people will miss out	1	0.0
	3,961	100.0

We have looked at the differences in responses between the different school catchment areas. There are some differences in themes that arise within specific areas. A higher percentage of children in the Botwnnog / Glan y Môr and Eifionydd school catchment area identifies a general positive response, e.g. good. A higher percentage of people in Arduwy, Botwnnog and Glan y Môr catchment areas indicate opportunities for more people. The general negative response theme e.g. nothing, was quite high in every catchment area, but slightly less in the Glan y Môr, Eifionydd, Nantlle Valley, Bro Idris and Botwnnog areas. A higher percentage of respondents in the Y Berwyn school catchment area had identified the theme of socialising. A higher percentage of respondents in Friars, Tryfan, Dyffryn Ogwen and Brynrefail catchment areas had identified the theme of support / help / advice.

Differences between different age groups can also be seen within the themes that arose in the question. In general, a percentage of people who had responded negatively e.g. 'nothing', was high across all age groups, but slightly less in the group over the age of 24. A higher percentage of respondents under 11 had indicated socialising as something good. A higher percentage of the 16-24 age group had identified support / assistance / advice. A higher percentage of respondents aged under 11 had indicated fun.

3.06 The video at the beginning of this survey explains how the Youth Service could work in the future. Note anything that worries you about this.

The table below shows the themes that arose from the above question. Over a third of the responses indicate that nothing worries them about the change. Of the matters that do cause concern, those that rank the highest is that their youth club is closing / nowhere to go / lack money, having to travel far / no local provision and that it is too similar to a school / need fun activities / do not enjoy the activities.

Theme	No	%
Nothing / no worrise	1,386	38.0
My youth club closes / nowhere to go / lack of money	510	14.0
No response	395	10.8
Travelling distance (especially in the dark) / no local provision - fewer children attending	287	7.9
Too similar to school / Need more fun activities / do not enjoy activities	217	6.0
Fewer support for clubs / organisations e.g. Young Farmers and the Urdd - less support and experiences for individuals	155	4.3
Club schedule / not regular enough	87	2.4
More children on the street / Increase in crime / anti-social behavior if clubs close	80	2.2
Cost of the new service	52	1.4
Clubs being too large in the future - too many children / too wide range of age	48	1.3
Not sure what is being offered / how this proposal was reached to start	43	1.2
Worried about bullying / clashes	41	1.1
Losing friends because the local club closes	41	1.1
Rural villages and communities are ignored	39	1.1
Lack of support for older children / outside of a school who are in work or training	38	1.0
These changes are not going to work	38	1.0
Losing relationship with individual youth workers / no consistency	36	1.0
Meeting neu children / people	34	0.9
If it was maintained as a school	32	0.9
Getting information about the club in the future	19	0.5
No provision for different groups of children e.g. disabled children, learning needs	17	0.5
No one-to-one service offered to all ages	14	0.4
Decline in the Welsh language	8	0.2
Other	7	0.2
No services for children under 11	6	0.2
Need to stop funding external groups	6	0.2
Location is not safe / clean and tidy	5	0.1
Loss of valuable buildings to the community if the club closes	4	0.1
Total Comments	3,645	100.0

Differences between school catchment areas and the emerging themes can be seen. A fairly high percentage across the different areas indicated that nothing worried them. A higher percentage of respondents in Glan y Môr and Bro Idris areas indicated less support for clubs / organisations. A higher percentage of respondents in the catchment areas of Y Moelwyn, Syr Hugh Owen, and Tywyn stated that their youth club was closing / nowhere to go / lack of money worried them.

Differences can also be seen in different age groups. A much smaller percentage of respondents over the age of 24 had indicated that they had no worries. A much higher percentage of children under the age of 11 had indicated that their youth club was closing / nowhere to go / lack of money worried them.

3.07 What would stop you from taking part?

The table below shows the themes that arose from the answers to the above question. See that just over a third of respondents have indicated that there would be no barrier preventing them from taking part. But the biggest obstacle identified was distance to venue / travelling there.

Theme	No	%
No barrier	1,344	36.8
Distance / venue / travelling there	609	16.7
Not answered / not applicable	513	14.0
Too busy - other interests	230	6.3
Activity / course not appealing / lack of interest / Changes sound very boring and no fun	192	5.3
Cost of traveling / activities	118	3.2
None of my friends go	85	2.3
Too many children / strangers	78	2.1
Cuts mean youth club / Young Farmers Club will not exist	77	2.1
Schoolwork	67	1.8
Time / day / frequency of club	63	1.7
Lack of confidence / anxiety	42	1.1
Age – I'm too old	41	1.1
Children / young people misbehaving / bullying there	32	0.9
Held at school	30	0.8
Do not agree with split age groups / one to one activities	29	0.8
Lack of structure / information / no regular meetings	20	0.5
Not enough information about the effect of the changes yet to determine	16	0.4
Illness	13	0.4
Not aware of the club	11	0.3
Lack of youth workers / no contact with the same youth worker	11	0.3
Discrimination in Club - provision not inclusive e.g. Young people with disabilities, due to their sexuality, language barriers	9	0.2
Weather	8	0.2
Not allowed by my parents	7	0.2
In trouble with the police	3	0.1

Language - too much use of English	3	0.1
Age - too young	2	0.1
	3,653	100.0

By looking at the differences in the themes within catchment areas, the 'no barrier' theme is seen to be high across all catchments, especially Friars, Tryfan and Dyffryn Ogwen. 'Distance / venue / travelling there' was higher in the catchment areas of Y Moelwyn, Tywyn, Ardudwy, Botwnnog, Dyffryn Nantlle and Brynrefail. A higher percentage of people in the Friars / Tryfan / Dyffryn Ogwen catchment area indicate that they are too busy - other interests. A higher percentage of people in the Glan y Môr school catchment area indicated that the cuts would mean that a youth club / young farmers club would not exist.

Differences can also be seen in different age groups. A smaller percentage of people over the age of 24 indicated that there was 'no barrier'. A higher percentage of the ages under the age of 11 and 11 to 15 had indicated that 'distance / venue / travelling there' would prevent them from taking part.

3.08 Do you have any further comments about the future of the Youth Service?

A more thorough analysis will be available in the coming weeks.