



## YOUNG SCOT: ACCESS ALL AREAS

### The Young People's Integration Project



Young Scot is the national youth information and citizenship charity. We provide young people in Scotland, aged 11-26, with a mixture of information, ideas and incentives to help them become confident, informed and active citizens.

We do this in a variety of formats, including books, magazines, online, phone, etc, so young people can access information in a way they are comfortable with. It is our hope that the information we provide will enable them to:

- Make informed decisions and choices
- Turn their ideas into action
- Take advantage of the opportunities available to them in Scotland and the rest of Europe
- Have the confidence and knowledge to take their place as active citizens in their communities: locally, nationally and globally.

**“Young Scot: Access all Areas” is a new project aimed at empowering young people from ethnic minority, refugee, asylum seeking and faith groups to influence service provision in their local area, enhance access and promote inclusion.** It was developed with a view to involving young people in democratic processes and promoting “informed participation” in local civic structures.

Working in partnership with local agencies and using a **Local Investigation Team** model, groups of young volunteers will be supported to plan and deliver a research project on a topic of their choice in relation to service provision in their area. Each team will comprise of ten young people, who will be trained in action-based research and consultation techniques. With the support of a Young Scot representative and their local worker, they will go out into their local areas to seek the views of young people and other community members. They will then be tasked with drawing their findings together to produce their own set of conclusions and recommendations to share with key policy and decision makers such as Community Planning Partnerships. It is hoped that the recommendations will help sensitise local services, as well as Young Scot's products and services.

The project seeks to benefit young people in a variety of ways. By the end of the project, young people should:

- Have developed a greater understanding about the information and services available to them in their local area
- Have developed stronger links with other young people in their area
- Have developed a greater understanding of civic structures
- Have gained new skills in action-based research, acquiring an accreditation
- Be able to confidently express their views about local services
- Be empowered to influence and sensitise mainstream services



Young Scot recognises that there has already been exemplary work done in the field of youth participation and engagement by Dialogue Youth, local organisations, and young people themselves. Our goal as a national organisation is to build on this good work in order to sensitise services locally and nationally.

We are seeking to build long-term trusting relationships with local partners, who will play an integral role in this project. Using their local knowledge and practical experience of working with young people, they will support the young volunteers for the entirety of the project, right up to the reporting and evaluation stage. Therefore a commitment of up to a year is required. For this reason, Young Scot is offering a contribution of £1000 to local partners to cover their expenses. This can be used at their discretion, but it is intended to meet the costs of youth worker time, rewards for the young people, etc. In addition, the core project expenses such as room hire, materials, travel costs, etc. will be met by Young Scot.

If you are interested in getting involved or finding out more about the project, please contact the project development officers Lesley Anderson or Lauren Bruce on 0131 313 2488 or on [accessallareas@youngscot.org](mailto:accessallareas@youngscot.org)

For more information on Young Scot, log on to our corporate site at: [www.youngscot.net](http://www.youngscot.net)

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