

those
at the margins



TREETS
H INITIATIVE

strategic

cause £100,000 damage

rl gang must be caught

outrage at arson attack

'unruly' youths

p tearing up your own estate'

a

able information from a variety of sources, including parents, teachers, the media and peer
life skills they need for teenage years when they are exploring their own identity and
lution, critical thinking, decision making, communication and earning a livelihood.
e and supportive environment that includes adults who care about them.”

(The State of the World's Children Report)

4

	t	w	t	f
			1	2
6	7		8	9
13	14		15	16
20	21		22	23
27	28		29	30

SECTION II

Street Work As a Real Method of Listening to Young People

Socio-Economic Conditions

Existing Youth Provision

The Cost Implications of Social Exclusion

Developing an Effective Response: Moving from Negative to Positive

What is Street Work?

Engaging young people on their terms

Target Group

'Dealing with Young Men'

SECTION III

Off the S

Background

Structure

Serving a

Strategic

Mission S

Key Objec

Core Val

How Ou

Work Cu

Impleme

Funding I

Outcom

Partners

History o

Example

people in the 21st

people in Northern

ch

contents

dictor of how much an individual will cost society. The cost is large and falls on many agencies, could be cost effective.”

(Financial cost of social exclusion, Scott, Knapp, Henderson & Maughan)

4

t

w

t

f

4

5

6

7

11

12

13

14

18

19

20

21

25

26

27

28

ce since 1996.
 rs and concerns
 le on the
 . It was an
 control of an
 ecked. In an
 getting young
 ething more
 nunity Youth

ord

e outset and
 t they not only
 but were
 n a high level of
 yielded a
 ole who were
 anti-social
 ach out to those
 rovision and for
 a to the 'norms'
 y.

ed by Off the
 olunteers and
 nd in creative and
 al methods of
 k much has been
 young people

within the Greater Shantallow Area. Off the Streets was and is an attempt to respond positively to concerns voiced.

As we settle into the new century we are faced by many challenges at both macro and micro level. Much has changed in the world in recent times, be it political, social or economic but for many much of the hopes and aspirations of a new century has failed to materialise. The Greater Shantallow Area is still faced with many challenges including unemployment, deprivation, low income and poor educational attainment among many things. For many prospects are poor and the opportunities to move beyond this are even less so.

The Greater Shantallow Area has and will continue to grow over the next decade. This will bring with it many new challenges not least of all how we respond to growing youth population in the area in terms of services and provision. We are all aware of the issues and challenges that we face. It is our shared responsibility to meet these challenges head on. There is a need for a holistic response to engage young people in mainstream society that they feel part of and have a hand in shaping. There is a need for us to work in partnership to maximise resources and provide ease of access to all young people.

What you hold in your hand is Off the Streets response to this challenge. Much work has been accomplished over the last two years - services and provision have been maintained whilst a review of the rationale for the setting up of the project has been completed. A vision has been created; a positive pro-active approach has emerged leaving behind one of a reaction that was relevant in 1996 when on-street behaviour was merely a growing concern.

In this document y
 out before you in
 Every attempt has
 define the context
 clear rationale so a

There is no doubt
 endorsement and
 and statutory prov
 in terms of resour
 in partnership wit
 leading role in resp
 among young peop

Off the Streets has
 play within youth p
 Area. It can very
 yet because of the
 autonomous and i
 its users enabling i

As Chairperson of
 document and cor
 an interest in the a
 understand the im
 effective response
 the Streets has cle
 hand and challeng
 re-engaging young



nt to you this
rgy has been
re we feel
before you. It is
on of Off the
assert our
g to the on-
the Greater

tion

ent we have been
maintaining a level
across the
pted to put
of staff,
nt needs, changes
thoughts, ideas and
carefully on our
e do our work
terests expressed.

tried to envisage
establish
We have explored
t the bigger
g at the global
lications for local
vant factors in an
can put issues
approach to our
r picture' can
g people face at

We have sought to encourage an approach that views young people in positive terms, an approach that looks upon young people as a resource to benefit the wider community and not as a problem to be dealt with. Much of what we see and hear of and about young people is negative in nature and content and approaches from the perspective of dealing with them rather than look upon them as a resource that can not only contribute but can be utilised by the wider community. We all have a responsibility in helping to alter the culture of how we view young people. We all must play a role in addressing our own perceptions of young people.

Off the Streets was originally set up to respond to the issue of young people on the streets. By implication our own terms of reference is about getting young people off the streets and into something more positive. In reality we



wouldn't dream of asking adults to come off the streets so why should it be any different for young people? We must approach our work with young people in the vein of providing credible and viable alternatives to becoming engaged in anti-social and risk-taking behaviour. We can only do this though if we look upon young people in a different way. This is not in any way an attempt to ignore the behaviour that is often associated with youth culture, be it drugs, drink, joyriding, vandalism, etc. We can easily list the issues.

Much has been said about it but if we are to make a difference we must adapt our approach. Until we do this

we cannot fully un
challenges and issu
be unable to develo
adults we cannot e
adult world without
a moral and ethical
transition to adult
accept the notion o

We advocate Stree
this process, at leas
anyhow. Within Of
recent times we ha
programmes, in par
prevented us from
has in itself detract
those who are leas
Street Work is a tr
workers to build a
their terms and on
sporadic and short
commitment in ter

We believe that we
approach. We have
in the area and in t
programmes. We h
and how we propo
identified what we
picture of services

After taking stock
are now in a positio
young people across

and a half contains, ... deaths, wholesale ... violence."

our society e.g., ... acceptable and ... from where ... where you work, ... than not ... ars.

ng young century

trying to ... latest challenge we ... of the most ... any society in ... has come under ... with the many

assembly, Equality ... e's been ... reviews of the ... l Government, ... N, promoting ... tening up of ... Quality ... ndards. All this in ... education and 4 ... ncture in our ... termine the nature

g and difficult period ... rk together for the ... r our society. Our ... peaceful, inclusive,

prosperous, stable and fair society, firmly founded on the achievement of reconciliation, tolerance and mutual trust, and the protection and vindication of human rights for all" (Programme for Government, 2001)

We are also affected by events beyond our borders. We need to take stock of the changes that surround us. The Global Economy is growing, information technology has brought us closer together, debt is crippling developing countries whilst the disparity between the wealthy and the poor grows all the time. Also, there is the inability or the lack of resolve among nations to tackle environmental issues, climate change has brought many natural disasters and in it's wake a trail of destruction, death and displacement of hundreds of thousands of people. Events of September 11 along with war, famine, starvation, poverty and population shifts, has stretched the resources and willingness of many countries.

Within our own continent of Europe, we are faced with many problems on a social, political, economic and environmental agenda, which will have implications at both micro and macro, level. Many challenges are posed as we struggle to come to terms with what it means to live within this rapidly changing and developing continent.

"Demographers have observed that, under pressure from economic factors (employability, unemployment, etc) and socio-cultural factors, young people are, on average, older when they reach the various stages of life: end of formal education, start of employment, starting a family, etc. A second point concerns non-linear paths through life. Today 'our various life-roles are becoming confused'....Paths through life are becoming less linear as societies no longer offer the same guarantees. Third, traditional collective models are losing ground as personal pathways are becoming increasingly individualised. 'The organisation of individuals' family, marriage and career plans is no longer standardised.'....Young people are now less committed than in the past to the traditional structures for political and social action....Most show a clear will to participate and to influence the choices made by society, but they wish to do so on

a more individual c ... authorities to bridg ... to express their opi ... society offers. Failu ... on

The collapse of the nations, the redraw has brought growin groupings often en former neighbours nationalism, the de more economically impact of pre-accept instability. The int some swelled the r and the influx of fo some of the issues the EU have attempt

Whilst many of the contemplate their Northern Ireland i indirect effect at lo creates among con shirt industry has l suffered as a result areas such as Asia.

"The impact ... corresponding poli ... last twenty year ... expectations. Childr ... by the troubles and ... the chances of obta ... or duration of tha ... obtain jobs....The ... expectations of life ... life chances has p ... people some of wh ... to the norm

ing are hyperactivity, impulsivity, and attention deficit; marital discord between the child's parents; deprivation.. Separation from a parent for reasons other than death or illness is also children with two risk factors are four times as likely to become offenders as those with one or greater still."

(Preventing Crime and Violence, Jonathon P Shepherd, David P Farrington)

4

	t	w	t	f
1		2	3	4
8		9	10	11
15		16	17	18
22		23	24	25
29		30		

we face because
 outh work
 e it is essential that
 ions and reflect
 ly regarding the
 -making

ing to enter the job
 ey are switching
 learning; but above
 ch more varied than
 k and the social
 ating role that they
 omous status later

fragility, a loss of
 g systems, and a
 ditional forms of
 nisations. Some of
 eir own concerns
 nd for their elders.
 n indifference or
 of expression which
 rargins of democratic
 uence policies, but
 of doing so.”

rtment for
 d Nations
 ildren refers to
 erty by 2015, but
 tions real
 uggesting a change
 ew the rights of
 uly to identify
 effective.

what is the impact on young people in northern ireland?

*“Young people in Northern Ireland thus live at the interface of two types of transition, one societal and one personal and have to cope with the many challenges which both transitions evoke.”
 (JEDI Audit, p72)*

At a personal level the needs and desires of young people in Northern Ireland have changed so dramatically from that of the aspirations expressed in the latter half of the 20th century. Demographic changes including population shifts, greater mobility, vastly changing lifestyles, the creation of home entertainment such as video, satellite T.V., computer games, mobile phones, developments in IT, an increase in



pressures to perform academically, get a job, have money in the pocket, conform to peer pressure, in addition to the growth of particular sub-groups: unskilled and less skilled young people and young adults, male violent group culture, constituency of lone parents (Wilson, 1998) and the attraction of a more deviant culture, reflect some of the many changes among young people. Traditional youth work is finding it more and more difficult to provide alternatives to compete with the above.

For example, recent who, at least once out in the evenings. The same study also watch TV or video weekday. However have helped to create people, the conflict

In 2001, 93% of 20 (helpline set up by were under 21. An talked about were Relationships, Parent Youth Quest survey worries among you return to the trouble there have been of family structures, the NI losing it's Object in IT, etc.

Just under 40% of and an estimated 3 grow up in the con are often isolated v movements. There Northern Ireland. benefits and are m health and live in l

In 1999/2000, almo themselves as hom family dispute, mar statistical evidence Morrissey and Smy been at the highest percent of all victim group have the high Northern Ireland.

olds, found around
g on a weekly or
drank on a
ular' to be daily,
e sample were
irregular and one
y, among year
al of 340 people
d by poisoning and
icides and motor
15-34

nt rate in NI was
July 2001, 12, 373
employment related
benefit. The total
es as under threat
rganisations
ged 11 - 25. At the
ycle attacks had
to 29 are over
ult as any other
d violence in 1997
are almost three
s.

itions for g people

uture', an allusion to
decision-makers.
e in the present, and
not actually relevant
n Northern Ireland
ation that will effect
(Smyth, 1999)

An indication of how little input young people have into decision making processes is evident in a survey of partnership boards carried out by Horgan and Rodgers in 2000. From 19 that responded none had a board member under the age of 25. Green, 2001 reported that less than 0.05% of reps on the boards of public bodies were under 25 and only 3% were involved in a traditional political party.

“Resistance to the inclusion of young people stems from many concerns, but is commonly articulated in doubts about young peoples competency to engage in complex decision making processes. In the same context, it has been found that while surveys of young people repeatedly conclude they want to have a voice- young people are often deeply cynical about the sincerity of involvement initiatives when faced with the opportunity to participate. A climate of mutual suspicion does not augur well for the effective and genuine inclusion of young people, and poorly motivated events or initiatives can reinforce such scepticism. This explains why literature on youth involvement puts particular focus on perceptual dimensions such as attitudes, relationships and trust.”(Smyth, 1999)

The realities and pressures among life of young people is vastly different and less compromising than that of their parents and grand parents. Much of the support mechanisms and structures of family life so apparent in the last century have all but broken down or disappeared leaving many young people more isolated, less informed, more vulnerable and at greater risk.

Research by the Youth Council for Northern Ireland found that young people in NI aged 16 to 29 are over three times as likely to suffer violent assault as any other age range. It also concluded that almost 70% of lone parents (of which there are 81,000) rely on state benefits and are more likely to experience debt, stress, poor health and live in low amenity housing. Our community, i.e., Galliagh, has the highest rate of Teenage pregnancy in the Western Health Action Zone.

The issue of young
been dominating th
period of time. The
uncertain whilst th
unpredictable. Cre
required and this ir
the rationale behin
Project and the pre
go on to talk about

challeng youth p

*“The single most im
a child’s developm
talents best suits hi
We’ve completely lo
to an education wh
be a college profess
according to whethe
We should spend
helping them to ider
cultivate those. Ti
many, many diffe*

Providing a service
the needs of young
economic environr
intensity of a politi
practitioners has ir
since the signing of
transform society, t
our ideas and opin
trust is secondary

The emphasis on d
existing relationshi

administration, the
a vastly different
the 20th century
an already
as pivotal
ent to

*...creating an atmosphere
can be imagined by
...ion" (Wilson, 1998)*

nt years has not
ent and
ers to alter their
l for the rights of
-engage those
rganised

*...ntly want to have a
seek and deserve a
ent, relevant and
le develop, grow and
services which are
ange....The changing
Northern Ireland
(NI) Order and the
to involve young
y"
p, 1998)*

ny political, social,
nts including the
changing youth
s now providing
nd to this is
rk practice. Ideally,
ere young people
all levels, readily

equipped with political and analytical skills and the ability to articulate arguments and engage in debate. Failing this, young people should at least have the most basic of life skills so that they can make the transition from adolescence to adulthood. It is our duty to try and help facilitate this transition.

Young People no longer see youth provision as among their priorities but as one of the many alternatives available to them. Young People want the option of choosing from their desired list of priorities but without the obligation of having to be part of a service all of the time. As the eighth session of the UK Committee on the Rights of the Child in 1995 concluded

"Children and young people in our communities are the responsibility of a bewildering array of agencies: Social Services, Education, Housing, Health, Youth and Community Services, Leisure and the many organisations within the voluntary sector."

implications for our own approach

Many sectors (youth, education, justice, government, voluntary, etc) have been recently engaged in reviewing their approach. Common themes tend to surface including better co-ordinated and long term strategic thinking, partnership, sustainability, equity, equality of opportunity, targeting social need, promoting social inclusion, etc. The Voluntary and Community Sector is probably best placed to provide the environment to allow young people to explore the rapid social, economic, political and technological change within a global context.

Clearly in an evolving society such as ours and given the opportunity free from the threat to both Peace and Political Processes, we have a tall order to remain in touch, to stay

informed, as much
young people. We
partnership across
in-hand with other
and identify gaps in
at all levels that is
interest in young p
practitioners, polic
importantly young

Those working dir
in a privileged posi
people in processe
Work itself in rece
based, e.g., Save the
addition to many g
defining youth wor

*"...the European C
learning, mobility, er
and xenophobia are
ha*

Youth Work alread
these areas. We m
advocating on their
difficulty in articula
wisdom, tradition a
to voice their own
the challenge of re
group head on, a g
in danger of disapp
Young people who
in the past now fin
leading to their inv

The Review of the
addressed, among t
male offenders. It
young people, pers

the choices leaders make. We call on those we have called on before to join us in a new global
those whom we have never met to join us in the global movement for children”

(Graca Mucher, Nelson Mandela)

4

	t	w	t	f
			1	2
	6	7	8	9
	13	14	15	16
	20	21	22	23
	27	28	29	30

this can be
 , young people
 er education/
 s could further
 ibility to
 be creative and
 ve have been
 ve in.

ent now, more than
 that children and
 g processes within
 lity measures, many
 th participation of
 structural decision
 s on consulting them
 roves the need for
 value fully the
 ce to organisations,
 n, 2001)

ould we ming for?

many concerns
 d marginalisation,
 recognition of
 young people in
 e and better
 mation. Active
 rtunity to
 y possible through
 e and experience.
 oung people by

“It is on the ground, where young people can see the results of their personal commitment, that active citizenship becomes a reality. It is by taking part in the life of schools, neighbourhoods, local districts or associations that young people can acquire the experience and the confidence they need to go a step further, either now or later in public life - including at European level. It is by throwing themselves into social activities which are open to

- Building positive awareness/active
- Respect for individual personal choices
- Involvement in



all, without any form of discrimination, that young people can make their contribution to a more solidarity-conscious society and live citizenship to the full”

The review of the Youth Service defined a set of objectives, which can guide our practice and help tackle some of these issues. In short it draws attention to a number of issues including:

- Personal Development and Social Education
- Promotion of health and well being

- Understanding peace building

We very much identify contributing to the enhancing the leadership very much helping



Real Method of Listening to Young People

Conditions Council area

is a long and proud response to many things the height of commitment and unpaid, who many large town or operates within reality. 'The the creation of the has suffered from that the city needs each of the challenge one of the

area is 106,000 and 1998 as also has a metre compared . It has a very being aged under and 17. This is under 14 a. The in Northern Ireland unemployed for e unemployed for lex, Derry is the

ow area

y area is around Peripheral to the

main Greater Shantallow area, a network of strategic roads dissects this community whilst a lack of on-estate facilities and low car ownership increases the sense of isolation. Physically the area is too open and lacks definition. Since 1971 the population of the Greater Shantallow Area has risen by over two-thirds. It has a very high proportion of young people with 43% of the population under the age of 17 and almost 60% of households under the age of 25. According to NISRA, statistics available for the 1999/2000 period showed that the Greater Shantallow area has a population of 7613 under the age of 18 of which 3560 are aged between 10 and 17.

The average household size is 6, well above the average sizes for both the DCC area (3.4) and Northern Ireland (2.9). In fact 74% of 2,053 local households (Galliagh) contain 6 or more persons compared with a NI average of just 26%. The Shantallow area is composed of 5 electoral wards, Shantallow East, Shantallow West, Carnhill, Culmore and Pennyburn. Shantallow West, East and Carnhill are in the top 10% Multiple Deprivation Indices as determined by Robson. Shantallow East and West is also in the top 3% of electoral wards for Income Deprivation whilst Carnhill was in the top 8%. All three figured in the top 6% for education deprivation and again top 8% for health deprivation. Shantallow East was first for Child Poverty deprivation. Indicators of need for these wards also showed there were 2386 lone parents on welfare benefits whilst upwards of 5000 dependants in receipt of Welfare Benefits and Family Credit. Eighty-seven per-cent of tenants are in receipt of Housing Benefit.

The area is also particularly deprived and impoverished in terms of employment opportunities displaying high levels of sustained long-term unemployment both in comparison with the Derry City Council area and the wider Northern Ireland community with figures for long-term unemployed put at 55.59%. The combined effects of long-term unemployment, poverty and the impact of 30 years of political conflict have all had a detrimental effect on the

social, economic ar

Research carried out found that "...long t debilitating charact unemployed for mo "need for the intro education and train and marginalised p

It also reaffirms pro unemployment, ber educational attainm with a lack of facilit and high levels of a health, low self-est well being right acr

It makes recomme young people advo interventions "part primary to second children the tailorin "effectively tackle s The report identifi Sexual Health and Awareness, Healthy Self-Esteem, Educat Skills, Peer Educat Social and Physical Support.

Shantallow

Off the Streets itse Galliagh, an area wi 2001 a Community the Galliagh area re

al Method of Listening to Young People

al behaviour by
ervised children,
ers (71.6%),
om young people,
roaming dogs, use
ual assault, break-

listed. Negative
rug and solvent
vandalism, graffiti
er, noisy
, unsupervised

Derry Health
major element
factors included
drug use (74%)
ows that there
including bullying
(%) and child safety
rted being affected
e Audit, residents
s for young

programmes
of a safe and
ative and creative
their potential as

solely to Galliagh
cross Northern
med at the
'99 and
D call outs for fire
alarms and to deal

with 57 car fires. Often when the fire services are called out they are attacked by young people throwing stones, attempting to damage equipment and occasionally attacking fire fighters and most recently ambulance crews.

For many residents there is a great sense of pride in their community built up over many years but in recent times this has been tested immensely, so much so in fact, that at the time of the Community Safety Audit, 9.7% of residents had asked for a transfer or their tenancy was terminated. It's generally accepted within the Shantallow area that boredom and the lack of facilities for young people is a contributing factor to much of the anti-social behaviour within the area and most particularly in the immediate Galliagh area. This is backed up in the Community Safety Audit when over 90% of those surveyed said that services for children and young people were inadequate. There is also a perception among young people that the range of youth services currently available are not attractive and are inclined to reinforce the sense of alienation that young people feel by imposing too many rules and regulations.



time voluntary) and
are a number of ot
operation are mini
Shantallow Contro
membership numb
ages of 12 and 18.
of existing provisio
area then the perc

percentage of your
provision has been

existing youth provision

Most of the existing Youth Provision in the Greater Shantallow Area is served by Shantallow Controlled Youth Club (full-time statutory), Pennyburn Youth and Community Centre (full-time voluntary), St. Joseph's Youth Club (part-

the cost
social ex

Trying to respond
Understandably, pe
their homes witho
property damaged

identified a wide variety of quality volunteering opportunities for young people in the
to identify their needs through review meetings with their Volunteer Co-ordinator. With the
encouraged to develop new skills whilst benefiting their local community”

(Sinead Tierney, Volunteer Development Agency)

t 04

	t	w	t	f
	31			
	3	4	5	6
	10	11	12	13
	17	18	19	20
	24	25	26	27

Real Method of Listening to Young People

of anti-social
uals are threatened
fix solutions
reality is

of all requires an
and secondly, an
and effectively. The
pieces of research,
(and Farrington) and
study of antisocial
person and
costs of anti-social
to much of this.
we invest in
basis we will save

ent offending are
cit; marital discord
tic parenting; and
rom a parent for
important. Evidence
nce shows the
sk factors in the
tiate each other:
as likely to become
th more risk factors
rates of assault on
duced when 1200
as inspectors.”

or predictor of how
is large and falls on
to prevention, which
or individuals with
£70 019) than for
23)”

“The term “conduct disorder” refers to a persistent and pervasive pattern of antisocial behaviour in childhood or adolescence.....Conduct disorder is strongly associated with social and educational disadvantage. It occurs four times more often in families with unskilled occupations than in professional families. The antisocial behaviour tends to persist.

40% of 8 year olds with conduct disorder are repeatedly convicted of crimes such as theft, vandalism, and assault in adolescence.90% of repeating juvenile offenders had conduct disorder in childhood. In adulthood these individuals continue offending and have erratic employment patterns in unskilled jobs, violent relationships with partners, and few friends. They do not participate in mainstream society and remain socially excluded.”

“In the United Kingdom the Audit Commission reported the expenditure incurred by young offenders. Identifying them costs the police £1200 and successful prosecution a further £2500. A week in a local authority secure unit costs £3450. Our own pilot study, of children aged 4-8 referred with conduct disorder, found that the mean extra cost was £15 282 a year (range £5411-£40 896). Of this, 31% was borne by families, 31% by education services, 16% by the NHS, 15% by state benefit agencies, 6% by social services, and less than 1% by the voluntary sector.”

“We could not assess many costs because the original survey was not designed for an economic study. No costs were allocated for use of social services, voluntary organisations, primary health care, lost employment, divorce (other than public legal costs), undetected crime (which is several times more common than detected crime), the costs to victims of crime (which can also be large), parents’ or partners’ use of services arising from the participant’s behaviour, indirect costs to families, or psychological impact, such as the distress and lack of friends of individuals with antisocial behaviour or the unhappiness of their siblings. For some events the dataset did not include frequency, so only one episode was costed (foster care, residential child care, exclusion from school, divorce, recipient of domestic violence, abortion). Abortion and domestic violence were only costed for index female participants, not partners of male participants.

No assessment w

*“Antisocial behavior
total cost of public
after allowing for
family of lower s
steeply with incre
conduct problems a
much and individu
much as*

*“The extra cos
range of agencies &
costs were by far
cr*

*“The impact on p
2.8% of the popu
and a further 9.2
typical for the Un
of the popul
pu*

*“There are effect
children, but they a
programmes have
university trials in th
they can be equal
United Kingdom. T
are likely to save n
family based
management and s
In contrast, inter
teenagers are mu
for implementing e*

Real Method of Listening to Young People

effective ing from positive

ership to guide the
ding them with skills
tion, decision-making
ng poverty, armed
ture.”

e World's Children,
of Decade Report)

community
personal
ally the type of life
Previous research
7 year old age
sionary
may not be

conomic,
s. OTS sympathises
liate and greater
address these by
people through a
ctivity for those in

et work?

ork. Street Work
uth work practice.
n be found in most

if not any youth setting. What separates Street Work from normal Youth Work practice is that it takes place on the Streets and not in any of the settings normally associated with youth work. Also, the worker becomes the resource, as opposed to the resources normally found in youth clubs.

street work is also known as detached youth work

“Detached Youth Work is a model of youth work practice, targeted at vulnerable young people, which takes place on young people’s territory such as streets, cafes, parks and pubs at times that are appropriate to them and on their terms. It begins from where young people are in terms of their values, attitudes, issues and ambitions and is concerned with their personal and social development”

(“Thinking on Your Feet”)

Street Work is a particular methodology, often undertaken with young people who do not normally access mainstream youth provision due to a lack of awareness (of services available), as a result of exclusion, or services provided lack an attractive dimension or a point of interest. It is in many ways a response to the changing face of youth provision when the youth centre was the main focus of delivery. It is an attempt to engage young people on their own terms, in their own natural environment and on their own territory (which gives them power and ownership) with a view to further involving them in other work.

It stems also from the belief that if we can’t draw young people in then we must go out and get them. This is also founded on the assumption that there is a reason for wanting to do this. In our case, there is a need to engage young people on the streets in the Greater Shantallow area because the vast majority do not access existing provision

and among those who do, the habitat there is a culture of risk taking behaviour and its effect on them and

The benefits of Street Work. Because of its nature, it offers greater freedom of movement, there are less rules and regulations, it tends to lend itself to a genuine dialogue between the worker and the young person can be established. The young person has the opportunity to be challenged (and the worker) as they own their own terms of making an impact. Those on the street are at risk of becoming isolated, therefore there is a need to build relationships with them, broadening not only their horizons but their behaviour but

engaging on their

Merely engaging young people is fruitless unless we are able to get them into. We use street work to engage and maintain relationships to sustain this the approach to negative behaviour is a street work approach: contact and support this with a view to (in other terms) enabling us to engage in activities. We will work with young people to meet their needs.

al Method of Listening to Young People

et group

immediate
can be deemed
to child and from
line between
ely to be harmful
e wider

ange of young
d in 'anti-social'/
nfident and
low Area.
ous peer groups
ng them into
efore puts them

se characterised
oyment prospects,
etc. However,
with young people
n act as role
ctice that will help
ed in any

are wholly
ement of projects
of our
nity to enter
growing

comprise mainly
nt number of
s, figures over the
onstrated a higher
e want to use
kle the issue of

young men's place locally within the Greater Shantallow Area. Work with young men is only a recent development and only in response to the challenges it poses. There still exists a wide gap in resource and practice available in working effectively with young men. Off the Streets wishes to respond directly to current need in an effort to better inform current practice and delivery.

Derry Healthy Cities found in their research that many young men feel disenfranchised from the wider community. Factors included a lack of and unattractive facilities including inappropriate opening times, few employment opportunities and unattractive programmes and activities. They **“did not consider academic achievement of any great importance”** and felt that the community had little care for their needs, i.e., **“they were left to their own devices to roam streets with nothing to do....they were only doing as their older siblings and parents had done before them”** and were blamed for all that was wrong in the area. Additionally, health matters were not considered important enough to be prioritised and therefore were unaware of services in the area. The report also confirmed the use alcohol and drugs on a regular basis whilst sexual behaviour was irresponsible and often disregarded the needs of their partners.

According to the report what young men wanted most was **“a safe environment, where they could just hang out without anyone annoying them or setting down strict rules”** and facilities that opened at a time that **“related to their lives, not closing at 9pm and were available at weekends and during holidays”**.

‘dealing with young men’

A recent report by YouthNet (funded by the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation) offers some indicators as to how we should try to engage young men. “Young Men & Violence....Thematic Initiative” reports on three different

projects involving 4
between young me
in it for all those w
Off the Streets was
‘Be A Sport.’



It was assumed pri
unwilling to talk ab
found that given th
of delivery of the v
also found that vio
to perceptions of r
**“skills and strategie
unwanted violent i**

The report indicat
be undertaken bef
addressing the issu
on the complexity
attitude whilst pro
Programmes shoul
within settings that
**“intermediary orga
process and well e**

Other recommend
greater partnership
funding to develop
to **“stimulate debat
developed within t
and emphasis shou
to develop appropri
the development o**

Off The Streets and wholeheartedly support their efforts to engage young people in dynamic belief we have in their work can be measured by our recently forming a partnership with D programme. We wish Off the Streets every success in their efforts to secure long-term fully and effectively.”

(Darren Kirby, Project Manager, Greater Shantallow Area Partnership)

ember 04

	t	w	t	f
		1	2	3
7	8	9	10	
14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24	
28	29	30		

Community Youth Initiative

Background

It was formed in response to concerns from parents, local City Council and the community regarding the misuse of the streets of the area, leading to an increase in 'anti-social' behaviour and misuse of the streets, including behaviours that are harmful to the community.

Projects in the area are currently operating in a variety of ways, including a range of activities in the past such as individual and group work. Young adults (of 16-25 years) who have effectively been mainstreamed into mainstream services by local providers.

Structure

The initiative works with an elected local authority management structure, a range of services from the public authority, etc. It uses its vast resources and the professional expertise of its staff and procedures for protection in terms of health and safety, Child Protection, Targeting, Monitoring/Reporting, and likely to be supported by services, Education

Identifying a need

It responds to the needs of young people on the

streets of the Greater Shantallow Area whose behaviour is a cause for public concern. It aimed to do this through a variety of measures including:



- mapping the geographical area and conducting an audit of anti-social behaviour, so as to allow for accurate targeting of resources
- liaising closely with young people in developing an action plan which will be relevant and attractive to them
- liaising with statutory, voluntary and community providers of services, eliciting their support for the initiative
- drawing upon partnership with appropriate others, an action plan for the area, which will reflect the recreational, social, physical, cultural, educational and personal development of young people based upon research into their needs
- liaising closely with parents, householders and local adults and recruiting volunteers to assist in delivering the services of the initiative.

However, Off the Streets has recently embarked on process

of reviewing its position with funding and raise its profile to this review taking into account young people's target group.

As a result of this consultation and participation in the review and working with the community, the Service in addition to its current work we have been working on our mission statement, and on what it is we want to achieve, objectives that will be relevant across the Greater Shantallow Area in a fashion underpinning

Strategic

When developing a strategy, the views of young people in the community, youth services, monitoring and evaluation, the ideas of our clients, the LFI's Community Learning and Economy Agency have been consulted with an outlet for the future of the project.

Delivery of our services is in line with government policy. The Outer North Integrated Strategy "Providing opportunities for young people out of alienation and

In its own Strategic Plan, the Partnership identifies young people who fall into the "S

ion of how to
easing concerns
ilities.....much of
.”

erly resourced
core issues
oment of
s, capacity
ning and
navioural

rtment for
identifies that
st be replaced
ed approach”.
Strategy &

s in partnership
and Community
rly in areas of
s, community
mmes that will
king behaviour”

ving Services’

areas of social
ves to improve
hese areas in
evelopment of
the success of
ontact point for
d referral to
roach such
the promotion
inclusion and

critical assumptions

In attempting to respond to current and future need we have to take account of the environment we work in. We have made a number of assumptions that informs our approach. They are as follows:

Anti-Social Behaviour will continue

It seems inevitable that with the growing youth population, lack of investment in the area and without a co-ordinated approach among all the various key players anti-social behaviour is set to continue. There is a sense of powerlessness among the community and combined with frustration and confusion as to how to best respond and mixed messages from the Criminal Justice System the trend for young people to engage in anti-social behaviour is set to continue.

The negative perception of young people will grow as a result of anti-social behaviour

Statistically only a small percentage of young people are involved in criminally motivated and anti-social behaviour. Unfortunately the result is the same - an often negative perception of all young people. This undoubtedly makes our task much tougher. One of our main responsibilities is to challenge perceptions of how young people are viewed by the adult world.

Less and less young people will use mainstream provision

The drift away from mainstream provision continues. Young people are much more selective in their decision making as to how they spend their leisure time. The challenge is for both formal and informal mainstream provision to engage young people more effectively.

Employment pro improve immedi

The Greater Shan percentage of une signs that this will the near future. T unemployment an brings respect, cor individuals. Enhanc men can help cons behaviour.

There will be lit provision in the

Other than maint occasional addition exists no long-term provision in the G increased provisio pressing.

PEACE II moni limited resource

A number of proje PEACE money. W Therefore we hav the voluntary sect pressure on other will competition fo

At Off the Streets deliver on some o position within the work, approach to creative and alterr that have beset th

Community Youth Initiative

incorporate the
r young people in
conclude with the
space, safety and
a area. It will
it builds on the

Based on the
ording to needs:
Shantallow and
more additionally
and thereafter.

se areas of the
anti-social behaviour
Street Work aim
g people. Funding
each ward and
rs whose
those young
ormal or

Work further by
to requests from
r needs that have
ill allow Street
relationships with
able to them.
eir time to
ce and

orkers will
ividual young
g relationships
create a holistic
arents and
openness,
les parents

We will make use of our contacts in communities throughout the Greater Shantallow Area to secure support for our work whilst our Advisory Panel which includes representation from Education, Social Services, Probation, Justice System, etc will allow us to benefit from professional advice so as to target resources effectively.

As the need for our project intensifies and with it our work, additional posts will be created including two middle management positions of Practice and Operations Managers. In addition to Street, Referral and Family Liaison Workers, a Practice Development Officer, Health and Well Being Officer and Counsellor will also be secured. Operations will be composed of full-time posts in Administration, Training, Volunteering, Human Resources and Personnel, Finance, Networking, Public Relations and Community Relations.

Just as our Strategic Plan has evolved so to has the vision of how we will deliver our services. The creation of a new Mission Statement coupled with a review of our Aims and Objectives we now find ourselves in a better position to deliver our services and respond to the needs of young people within the Greater Shantallow Area.

vision

Young People are respected as equal members of the Community and are viewed as a Resource with a positive contribution to make to the life of the Greater Shantallow Area.

mission statement

We aim to address the negative perception of young people in the greater Shantallow area, by providing positive experiences and learning opportunities through a range of holistic, inclusive approaches.

Aims

- Identify issues r people in the G
- Create a safe en their full potent
- Minimise the op involved in risk range of learnin

Key obje

- Provide a ser listen, support difference to and in doing s esteem, awar
- Establish, ma relationships families thro through first Street Work Shantallow an approaches s young people
- Addressing n recruiting and in programm suffering from risk-taking be
- Increase awar available to y engaging in n



	t	w	t	f
				l
5		6	7	8
12		13	14	15
19		20	21	22
26		27	28	29

present in a range of contexts and acts as a bridge between youth and the mainstream



community and issues of risk and develop people who are

of alienation felt in Shantallow leadership genuine constructive role

and work with agencies to

people when negative

core values

Freedom

Providing opportunities for young people to be themselves

Openness

Encouraging an honest approach in all our endeavours

Honesty

Upholding our beliefs and aspiring to be true to young people in our efforts

Commitment

Dedicated to serving and advocating on behalf of young people in the Greater Shantallow Area

Opportunities

Creating appropriate frameworks for young people to visualise their potential

Team Work

Working together to ensure maximum quality provision for young people

Acceptance

Working with young people on their terms and at their level

Approachable

Ensuring that young people feel comfortable enough to approach us at any time

Non-prejudicial

Offering a non-judgemental approach

Flexibility

Provide services that are both pro-active and re-active in nature

Holistic

Formulating a need

Inclusive

Ensuring that all young people have access to our services

Dynamic

Always striving to meet the needs of young people and different

how our the youth curriculum

In addition to the national curriculum, the voluntary sector reference the Youth Review of the Youth A Model for Effective attempting to demonstrate that of delivering quality attempts to maintain

The re-launch which acknowledges that

"...a central theme shared youth work organisations for v

Whilst our practice we tend to look up only contribute to to broaden the scope young people.

Community Youth Initiative

of areas not least education and training. Other differences and involvement in peace at all levels

and developing a sense of positive self-esteem

activities are already being offered as clear evidence of progress in our efforts to meet the needs of young people means we continue to develop our curriculum

strategy

off the Streets is a social, economic and cultural initiative including drink and drug use, joyriding, truancy, poverty, poor health, lack of opportunities,

to incorporate activities including sports, arts, culture, boredom, mental health, citizenship and community development for 10-19 age group and 13-17.

by providing young

- actively re-engage in their communities through a wide-ranging and diverse programme of activity that is designed to develop and promote trust, reconciliation and healing between young people and adults in a bid to promote positive relationships
- plan, organise and participate in and contribute to local, regional, national and international programmes, workshops and events that explore the nine identified themes so as to promote personal development leading to a growth in confidence, stature, maturity and responsibility
- increase their knowledge, understanding and ability to deal with a range of issues by providing training and opportunities to develop effective management and coping strategies
- develop a sense of responsibility with regard to concerns among local residents
- encourage understanding and appreciation for the wealth of experience, knowledge and diversity and commonalities present within communities in the Greater Shantallow Area
- examine and explore a range of terminology and practice normally the domain of 'professionals' so as to demystify and break down barriers that creates isolation between young people and the wider community
- create a more effective understanding of the formal and informal Criminal Justice System, its implications for and impact on young peoples lives
- participate in training and opportunities that arise during the course of the project
- share issues, ideas and concerns within an inclusive and safe environment by providing space and time for discussion and debate

- acquire new skills and experiences while nurturing self-esteem

funding

In order for us to achieve our vision we require a commitment from our partners and resources. We are seeking funding for the next 3 years in

Year 1: 1 April 2018

Secure Core Running Officer posts for a 12 month period alongside current Youth Outreach Workers. The period ends in August and the following period it is also necessary to secure Administration and a number of Street V

Year 2: 1 April 2019

Increase the number of posts from 4 to 6 and secure Family Liaison Workers. Also, employ a Human Resource Referral Workers and both assigned to Human Resource and to respond to the staffing brings.

Year 3: 1 April 2020

Increase level of Street provision to 8, 4 additional posts will include Family Development Workers

Year 4: 1 April 2021

Increase level of Street provision to 10, 5 additional posts will include Human Relations, Network

Community Youth Initiative

benefits

funding Off the
and engage with
also allow us to

ve & creative ways.

new, in a bid to
social and risk
of street work.

engaging young
relationship that
ple into our remit.

ow Area so as to
going need among
at all levels.

of Street Workers
cts and
th action plans on

ets.

ociable hours and
ll be able to reach
rly those most

involves co-
developing projects
Programme,
liagh Youth Forum,
and a range of

- maintain new and existing partnerships so as to advise, support and further the aims of the project with a view to enhancing staff, programmes and purpose build capacity within the organisation.
- develop our current premises as a Resource Base for young people and the wider community with IT, Arts, Photography and 'Chill Out' Capacity.
- develop an effective referral process that will be used, supported and endorsed by agencies like Foyle Trust, Probation, etc in an effort to address the issues of marginalisation and social exclusion among young people.



- develop new and innovative responses to tackling 'anti-social' and risk-taking behaviour through the culmination of experience and practice gleaned from Street Work Leadership Programme.
- the development of innovative practice that aims to create space, safety & security for young people including later opening hours.
- develop further volunteering capacity of young people across the Greater Shantallow Area through the Millennium Volunteers Programme.

- develop a research practice, help id
- ensuring on-going policies and pro development of effective operat and procedures
- develop an effec profile our wor communication
- develop Cross-exchanges, train
- develop Interna exchange, traini

partners

OTS has proven its relationships with a GSAP, Waterside D Clonleigh Resource House, Shantallow have been built with Department of Edu Service, Housing Ex Community, etc ac voluntary, statutory the long-term succ

Off the Streets also community and wid positive links with the 5 electoral war with many of these



	t	w	t	f
	2	3	4	5
	9	10	11	12
	16	17	18	19
	23	24	25	26
	30			

Community Youth Initiative

and the Greater positive working including the Greater Shantallow Controlled Youth Club, Women's Group, Shantallow Area few.

contacts on Lifford and department, in Israel, Lubelska net work projects . We have also Programme, the e Community in

tact and ne work

w Area n evaluation of ating to contact We have also programmes in a ty of contact

for the year, June project team of t contact with the contacts down by gender, youngest, to 25 the

oldest. The total number of participants on the programme of activities was 337, where the gender breakdown was 182 females, which represents 55% of the total, and 155 males, representing 45% of the total. The programme of activities, 25 in total, reflected a participation rate of 71.8%, which, by definition, was much higher than any comparable programmes run by other organisations, for example, the WEA, throughout the Derry City Council area.



Peer Education included exposing the volunteers/ participants to other groups from different estates to reduce the gang mentality that existed within the different areas in the G.S.A. The statistics show that a total of 340+ young people participated in the programme from Oct 2000 to June 2001. The two part-time workers have extended the area of remit to include all the estates within the G.S.A, although two significant areas have not been, to date, visited, namely Culmore Village and Pennyburn. The area has continued to grow with the construction of the Cornshell, 350 homes, and Rosnagalliagh, 150 homes, both of which have been visited by the staff. All of the partner organisations referred to the undeniable success that the

OTSCYI have achieved in respect to the attendance rate of over 70%.

program

- 'Dusk to Dawn' Fergleen Park
- Beauty Therapy
- Completion of Photography
- Development with Lifford and Tullyally District
- Continuation of ACCORD Project
- Galliagh Youth
- International young people
- Education for Poster Campaign
- 'Angels and Demons'
- Street Work

program

- Galliagh Youth and Education St. Columba's

Community Youth Initiative

Committee and
the Youth Forum
h Parliament at
an Outdoor
amme

certificate

Community
n
amme.

two
pursuits

with young

on of the
ne.

y Traveller
uth Club and

women.

s in 2001

17 young people.

- **Football in the Community** involving 20 young people.
- **Car Mechanics course** involving 17 young people.
- **Personal Development Programme** involving 17 young people.
- **Two Outdoor Pursuits Programmes** involving 30 young people.



example good pra

ACCORD 'Jim' w
Streets by St. Brigid
Education Welfare
Programme with ve
reading and writing
Essential Skills and
developed a great i
'flair' for the subject
own Website. As a
has gone on to att
Access Course.

Dusk to Dawn
up in response to t
unruly or anti-social
Galliagh. It also ser
Galliagh Communit
frequency with wh
were they are likely
behaviour centred
the area. The proje
if young people are
certain time they a

Using hours from t
Outdoor Pursuits
session. The progr
between the hours
an evaluation of the
and residents. Alth
term the impact wa
the effect that resp
can make but if res
of work.

Community Youth Initiative

es included the
 d not know what
 Monday morning
 your friends”....”It
 s treated us like
 my fears.....my
 came together

worked
 t time in a while, I
 t went very well it
 end nights but it
 bably be all back
 rinking going on.....I
 eople who were
 ved it and it did
 ated....They should

if not all went on
 ect, again
 fectively engaged
 n.

ets in partnership
 ography course
 d social
 ung female
 project and lead

agers experiences
 led to show a
 ing photography
 ple involved in
 nd develop
 sible for first
 e camera shots to
 crucial to the

success of the project that the participants had an input at all stages of the project and had ownership. The young people enjoyed the process and had fun at all the stages outlined above. Their final work was showcased at an exhibition in the Context Gallery with other groups who took part in the Arts programme.

Education for
 partnership with St
 Citizenship ran a si
 develop communic
 three young female
 to highlight and we
 project throughout



The young people developed new skills and developed new interests as a result of the project. Of the group of five, two members were active Millennium Volunteers and placed in Youthfirst to deliver 200 hours of volunteering. Through leaders evaluations it was obvious that young people built up self-esteem and confidence and improved social skills. The work of the young people is now exhibited in the offices of Off the Streets Initiative.

The young women
 theme. They wante
 and try to do some
 they believed to ac
 distribute a poster.
 problem of joyridin
 targeting the probl
 draw up a list of pe
 demonstrated that
 promotes young pe

Education for Citizenship Programme in St Columb's Park House over the last 3 years. Off the Streets and publishing posters to campaign against the growing issue of joy-riding. The representative from Off the Streets is highly committed and dedicated, and their feedback has been invaluable for the development and improvement of the Project. Steering group for the Project along side UU, QUB, WELB, Public Achievement and young representatives from Off the Streets in the future."

(Helen Henderson, St. Columb's P

ember 04

	t	w	t	f
		1	2	3
7	8	9	10	
14	15	16	17	
21	22	23	24	
28	29	30	31	

Community Youth Initiative

programme we assisted
 in which they
 responsibilities and
 their own
 process although
 took to accomplish

ets Initiative
 change with
 involved a planning
 Vienna in
 one member of
 week long
 7 young people
 to Vienna for

started in April 2003
 the group, Off
 forum to ask them
 They felt that
 could be best and so
 had eight places
 part in the
 dance and
 eight. One
 for personal

ed rap,
 eb design, video
 cultural diversity
 re the young
 mbers supervised

the sessions to get to know the young people better.
 The group also went on an overnight Residential prior to
 the trip.



Whilst in Vienna the group interacted with young people
 from Vienna and France, took part in workshops and
 exhibited their work. The programme was long and
 demanding but the evaluations from the young people show
 this to be a worthwhile, exciting and successful programme.

Community Leadership Programme Video Project

Off the Streets received funding through the
 Community Leadership Programme (funded by the
 International Fund for Ireland) to complete a project to
 enhance the group. It was felt by staff and Management
 Committee that there is a lot of negative publicity about the

area and that we c
 show a more posit

We recruited six y
 release in the local
 included script, pra
 groups, interviewin
 footage of the area
 annual Presentation

Millennium Volun

greater example of
 helped saved some
 happened to Paul, c
 carrying out client
 lining' with two oth
 man in his late 30's
 drunk and in a dep
 Paul, quizzing him a
 man walked on bef
 the Craigavon Brid
 another member o
 and made their way
 member of staff as
 keeping the man w
 ambulance arrived.
 experience the foll

	t	w	t	f
4	5	6	7	
11	12	13	14	
18	19	20	21	
25	26	27	28	

Management Committee

Advisory Panel

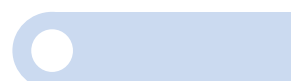
Chairperson	Frank Rafferty, Galliagh Community Development Group
Vice Chair	Vacant
Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	Rosemary Doherty Galliagh Women's Group
Member	Marie Gillespie Galliagh Women's Group
Member	Catherine Mc Cann, Outer North Community Safety Task Force
Member	Kevin Mc Dowell N I Housing Executive
Member	Frances Healy Derry Bytes Project
Member	Anne Corr WAVE Trauma Centre
Member	Martin Connolly Community Drugs Awareness Office
Member	Maurice Richmond Greater Shantallow Community Arts

Further Education Education Welfare Children
Children
Children
Youth Justice Youth Health Health
Community Develo Community
Community Community Safety Community Safety
Community Relatio
Business
Media Independent

tion for

' Report

e



...e got on and we had great craic. No one made me feel bad at any time throughout
... a good mood within the group. I enjoyed the workshops.” (Tommy, 16)

ry 05

	t	w	t	f
	1	2	3	4
8	9		10	11
15	16		17	18
22	23		24	25

accountants and auditors of Off the Streets Community Youth Initiative for the past four years and have confirmed that our experience to date has been of a dedicated staff supported by an able committee of the strict financial controls coupled with sound money management, which has been prepared to implement, and follow, all recommendations which we have made.” (Noel Crossan, Bradley McDaid)

Higher Education has worked closely with Off the Streets on a range of programmes over the past three years. The experience has been very professional and OTS has a track record of targeting and engaging with the most marginalised young people in developing a range of innovative courses to meet the needs of young people. We look forward to continuing this work in the next few years and extending the range of programmes offered (Gerry Gallagher, NWIFHE)

National Institute for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (NIACRO) established a community safety project in the Shantallow area based on a partnership approach to problem solving. It was therefore extremely important that organisations such as Off The Streets/Gallagher/Shantallow, not only support the project but actively take part in the implementation of an area which will reduce crime, the fear of crime and antisocial activity.”

NIACRO has fully supported our approach since the beginning. Not only have they contributed to the Community Safety Initiative but they have developed a number of programmes to address the various issues in relation to young people at risk. NIACRO has also supported such as Off The Streets Initiative. We look forward to their continued contribution to improving the quality of life in the Shantallow area.” (Donnie Sweeney, NIACRO)

h 05

	t	w	t	f
1		2	3	4
8		9	10	11
15		16	17	18
22		23	24	25
29		30	31	

especially taking the photos and developing them all. I helped out by creating ideas and by setting of a camera, producing and developing photos. I know stuff now I didn't know before and get involved in more things." (Kerry, 16)

m. I learnt more about Galliagh. I learnt the process of editing, recording and interviewing. I enjoyed talking about Galliagh, I enjoyed making the overall video, and also writing the

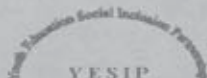
nothing I didn't like. I came nearly every week I was quiet at the start but then more on teamwork and about other people's opinions. I learnt that I can start something and then



OFF THE STREETS

COMMUNITY YOUTH INITIATIVE

Off The Streets Community Youth Initiative acknowledges the support of its funders



Education and Culture

Youth



the
Tudortrust



MILLENNIUM VOLUNTEERS