Quality Standards for Youth Clubs/Groups

National Quality Standards for Volunteer Led Youth Groups

In 2013, The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) launched the National Quality Standards for Volunteer – Led Youth Groups.

National Organisations and the Youth Service of Cavan and Monaghan ETB will host Information and Briefing sessions locally so that affiliated and non- affiliated youth clubs/groups can become familiar with the Standards and the rationale for introducing them. The Standards will be implemented with the youth clubs/groups funded by the DCYA under the Local Youth Club Grant Scheme on a phased basis into the future.

National Quality Standards Framework (NQSF) for Staff Funded DCYA Projects

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs (DCYA) introduced the National Quality Standards Framework for Youth Work (NQSF) in January 2011. The NQSF applies to all staff-led youth work services/projects and programmes which are funded under the following DCYA Schemes:

- Youth Service Grant Scheme
- Special Projects for Youth
- Young People's Facilities and Services Funds 1 & 2
- Youth Information /sessions

This primarily is a support, development and assessment tool that provides youth services with the opportunity to articulate through a common language their youth work practice. The implantation of the NQSF is resulting in an improvement in good practice and it is addressing the developmental needs of young people to an even greater extent and in a more cost effective manner.

The rational for the development of the NQSF initiative is to:

- Provide a support and development tool to organisations and projects
- Establish standards in the practice and provision of youth work
- Provide an enhanced evidence base for youth work
- Ensure resources are used effectively in the youth work sector
- Provide a basis for whole organisational assessment

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