



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
Department for Communities



Education and Training Inspectorate

Report of a Follow-up Inspection

**Caw Youth Centre
Londonderry**

June 2016

FOLLOW-UP TO THE INSPECTION OF THE CAW YOUTH CENTRE, LONDONDERRY

The Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) carried out an inspection¹ of the Caw youth centre in September 2014, when the overall effectiveness was evaluated as satisfactory².

The inspection report highlighted the following areas for improvement:

- to prioritise and plan for realistic measurable outcomes to address the identified needs of the young people more appropriately;
- to evaluate the impact of the youth work provision more effectively to ensure it meets the needs of the young people; and
- to support the young people, particularly those who attend the intermediate and the senior section, to ensure they develop a range of coping strategies and resilience to manage their own behaviour effectively.

The post-inspection action plan was of a good quality, and identified the actions the organisation had made, and planned to make, regarding the areas for improvement identified in the report. In addition, the staff reported that they were very satisfied with the level of support received from the Education Authority (EA).

The ETI carried out two interim follow-up visits during the period 2014/16 and met with staff from the EA on both occasions.

In the interval since the original inspection, the following key actions which affect the work of the centre have taken place:

- there has been no full-time leadership for significant period of time during the last twelve months, including at the time of the follow-up inspection;
- the youth centre has reduced the opening times from five nights to three nights each week;
- there have been significant personnel changes in the part-time staff team;
- a new part-time youth worker-in-charge has been appointed; and
- the EA has provided additional training and support for the staff of the centre, facilitated by the work of the team leader.

Key findings

- While there is some evidence of better planning and more effective group work programmes, there remains a lack of evaluation of the programmes that did take place, and there is little measurement of the impact of the outcomes for the young people.
- The curriculum and programme of activities have improved to offer a more engaging range of experiences for the young people.

¹ See inspection report at [Youth Inspection – Caw Youth Centre, Londonderry | Education Training Inspectorate](#)

² From September 2015, the overall effectiveness of a school previously evaluated as satisfactory will now be reported as having important areas for improvement.

- For a small number of senior members there has been good progress in the development of their leadership skills.
- The attendance of the young people over the past three months is low.
- There is insufficient evidence of meaningful consultation with the young people, and the poor behaviour of a minority of them remains an area for improvement.
- The absence of full-time leadership and management within the centre is impacting negatively on the development of the quality of the provision.
- The meetings of the advisory committee have been infrequent and the connections with the community need to be strengthened.

Overall effectiveness

The centre needs to address important areas for improvement in the interests of all the learners. The follow-up inspection has identified the following areas for improvement:

- to develop further the range of programmes to engage more young people and meet their identified needs more effectively;
- to provide additional support and training for the staff to help deal more effectively with the poor behaviour of a minority of the young people; and
- for the EA and the advisory committee to work together more effectively to develop an improved strategy for the centre, to include wider community involvement.

The ETI will monitor and report on the centre's progress in addressing the areas for improvement. The ETI will conduct a further follow-up inspection in 12-18 months.

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