

**FALKIRK COUNCIL CORPORATE & NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES
FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC POUND ANNUAL REPORTING STATEMENT
2011/13**

Organisation Name	Falkirk Community Trust
Project	Sport 4 Youth
Agreement Dates	1 April 11 to 31 March 13
Name of Lead Officer	Linda Scott

A OVERALL ORGANISATION AIMS

Summary of Key Aims & Objectives

The project is delivered by the Trust and supports a diverse population of young people through a sports activity outreach programme across the Falkirk Council area although the project specifically targets young people in the SIMD 15% category areas. The aim of the project is to introduce sport and physical activity to young people, steering them towards regular participation at centres, clubs, etc. The project aims to create an alternative route for young people to become involved in sport, contributing to their health and well-being and diverting them from the risk of being involved in anti-social behaviour or crime and, therefore, contributing towards a settled community. The project seeks to maintain an infrastructure which promotes a long-term engagement in sports activities and ultimately enhance individuals' self-esteem, self awareness and overall well-being.

List of Agreed Outcomes

The project will maintain the contribution to the health & well-being of young people participating in the project. The outcome of this form of engagement is that young people are diverted from anti-social behaviour or crime and this, in turn, provides the opportunity for holistic learning & increasing individual's self-esteem. Young people can gain a sense of achievement at being involved in some constructive activity & feel positive about themselves.

The benefits gained can then have an indirect effect on their employability. The process of skills acquisition, working together in a team & levels of commitment are all transferable social & life skills. These are important elements of personal growth which can contribute to & help gain employment, demonstrating to potential employers the acquisition of necessary life skills.

These skills can also be developed within the sporting activity & lead into opportunities of training to coach or lead activities & thus open up the prospect of work within sport or leisure. This could take the form of Sports Leaders Award or Early Touches course.

<u>2012-13 outputs</u>		
	Annual Target	Achieved
No. of sessions delivered	480	420
Average no. young people attending	800	<u>733</u>
213-14		
No of sessions	8 weekly	
No. of young people involved	160 average / wk	

No. of training courses for young people	3 per year
<u>Why Service/Project is Funded Externally Rather than by the Council</u> <p>The service provided by this project is not a statutory one.</p>	
B ACTUAL PERFORMANCE vs. OBJECTIVES / AGREED OUTCOMES	
<u>Summary of Key Achievements</u> <p>The project has delivered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boxercise sessions in the Bo'ness area in conjunction with the community learning team that have supported the initial engagement with young people and helped build their self confidence. • Football sessions to 16-18 year olds in Camelon engaging these young people in regular activity. • Football sessions for younger children attending the Dawson Youth Club. • A football festival with teams from Bo'ness, West Quarter and Westfield. • Skateboarding facility <p>A number of the project outcomes detailed in section A are not tangible so are difficult to evidence or measure. However, the aim of the project to introduce sport & physical activity, & engendering continued involvement, will be a conclusion or movement on for the participants. Steering participants towards regular participation at centre, club, league or other activity provision will be a natural end in itself. Some success has been achieved with informal self-determined groups or clubs starting up & this opportunity can only help to develop the work to formalise such groups.</p>	
<u>Summary of Key Issues/ Challenges Facing Organisation</u> <p>The project's coaching team has no spare capacity to deliver additional sessions in the current programme.</p> <p>Weather conditions cause some disruption to sessions, particularly the outside pitches.</p> <p>Incidents outside the sports hall have caused problems that are largely out with the control of the Sport 4 youth staff members.</p> <p>Drop in participant number over the school holiday periods when access to community education facilities are restricted.</p>	

How has Organisation Contributed to Council/ Service Priorities

The project focuses on engaging young people in deprived communities and helps to achieve the Council's Poverty strategy aims by:

- Increasing the number of young people participating in post 16 learning
- Increasing skills and qualification of the workforce within the Falkirk Council area
- Promoting health and wellbeing across our communities
- Increasing young people's confidence and self esteem; and
- Reducing the potential for our young people to develop harmful lifestyles.

List any Areas where there has been Shortfall in Performance

The project has fallen short of achieving its targets both in terms of the number of sessions and the number of youths participating for the reasons outlined at the issues/challenges section above.

How often are Review Meetings held with Lead Officer

Annual meetings but quarterly monitoring reports are submitted. The project is also monitored by the Trust as part of its overall activities.

C FINANCIAL / RISK ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

Total Support Provided (Financial & In- Kind Contributions)

£77, 274 in 2011/12, £38,637 in 2012/13.

Last Period of Submitted Audited Accounts

The finances are part of the Falkirk Community Trust, which is part of wider financial monitoring arrangements.

Future Risks (Financial, Operational or Structural) Faced by Organisation

The Trust would endeavour to continue the project by drawing down funding from other sources. This is currently being explored by the Recreation Team in conjunction with the Trust's dedicated funding officer.

Overall Risk Rating (Low/Medium/High)

Low/medium

D CONCLUSIONSSummary/ Opinion of Organisations Overall Progress During Year

The project has achieved a number of successes and has experienced challenges as well that it is working to overcome. Less tangible but equally important as a measure of success is the added benefits of taking such an outreach programme to youths and breaking down barriers for those young people who traditionally have not engaged with more formal types of activity. The young people involved can gain a sense of achievement at being involved in some constructive activity. The wider benefits of involvement include an indirect effect on employability because of participating in the process and acquiring skills such as team working and social and life skills. The project could also lead to young people developing a career in training or coaching.

E COMPLETED BY

<u>Name</u>	Linda Scott
<u>Designation</u>	Policy Officer
<u>Date</u>	15 August 2013