



Area Partnership Voluntary Sector Report – Victoria Park

WARD: VICTORIA PARK

ORGANISATION NAME & CONTACT

The DRC Youth Project (SCIO) – Gerard Espie

What are the key issues and trends facing your organisation in the ward?

- Drugs and Alcohol
- Youth unemployment
- Ongoing cost of living crisis

How are you addressing these issues?

- **Streetwork and Diversionary Activities**

Our street work team are out engaging with young people where they often choose to socialise, talking about what matters to them and why. During street work sessions we build relationships with young people, chat about risk taking behaviours and focus on the consequences of these actions. We also highlight the support, initiatives, and activities we offer, plus look to develop session work and activities based on the interests of those we encounter. We thank the area partnership for their ongoing support in offering young people in the local area alternatives to hanging around the streets on the nights we don't operate youth club services. The boost in street work and diversionary activities has not only been beneficial and educational for the young people involved, but has also given the local community some extra respite and reassurance as well.

- **Free BMX sessions at Glasgow BMX Centre**

We run free BMX sessions on Friday nights at the pump track outside Glasgow BMX Centre, with young people being able to borrow a bike and helmet to ride the track for the evening. This was born out of a 6-week programme in 2021 aimed at reducing anti-social behaviour in the area surrounding the pump track. As well as having access to a loan bike, young people also had the opportunity to receive coaching from Glasgow Life coaches, with 4 last year achieving their Level 1 and 2 BMX certificates as a result. BMS sessions take place on: Fridays 6-8PM Glasgow BMX Centre.

- **Pathfinder – Youth Employability Programme**

In partnership with Workingrite, we continue to deliver our award-winning work training programme 'Pathfinder' in Ward 12. Pathfinder is a unique, holistic employability support service open to young people aged 16-24 in NW Glasgow. On Pathfinder, we find local businesses who are willing to support and mentor young people while on placement (which lasts up to 13 weeks). We establish links with placement providers who offer a route into FT employment or a Modern Apprenticeship when each placement is completed. Young people earn up to £110 p/w on

placement (plus travel costs) and access essential training, accreditation & support. We are currently working together with WSHA to provide support for 5 WSHA tenants.

For more info please contact: gerard@drcyouthproject.co.uk

- **North-West Community Pantry**

The North-West Community Pantry continues to be well used by members of the public from all throughout the North-West of Glasgow. The shop currently opens to the public two days per week, with referral support coming in from partners at NHS, Kingsway Community Connections, Glasgow Helps and Glasgow Council on Alcohol. The shop also continues to provide a platform for local young people to gain work experience, with 30 young people having volunteered their time since April.

For more info please contact: jamie@drcyouthproject.co.uk

General Update

What is new? What is coming up? Future events?

- **DRCYP working in partnership with Victoria Park Community Trust**

The DRC are working together with VPCT members on a youth consultation with young people from Whiteinch and the surrounding areas. The consultation focusses on what young people would like to see in their local green space, with the aim of delivering on the outcome of the consultation, something (be that an event, piece of equipment etc) that will increase the number of young people visiting the park. The DRC Youth Committee played an active role in the consultation and are open to supporting the development and delivery of a proposed youth event in Spring next year. This project has been funded by the WSHA Community Project Fund.

- **Mybnk – Personal Money Management**

We continue to host sessions for young people (aged 16-24) with our excellent partners Mybnk in The Whiteinch Centre. Mybnk work together with young people to explore topics such as saving, budgeting, debt and finance. The feedback from young people attending is always positive and people come away from the sessions learning key life skills.

For more info please contact:

info@drcyouthproject.co.uk