

# Spotlight on Youth Service

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21<sup>st</sup> July 2016

# Background

The Integrated Youth and Community Service (IYCS) has c183 staff operating from 25 venues. The IYCS delivers targeted youth support, peer education, youth participation projects; and SLAs offering SEND; specialist sports, LGBT and performing arts provision. The IYCS is supported by admin staff, quality assurance, volunteering and other support functions.

# Developments in the IYCS

1. A management review of delivery at youth centres identified a need to ensure that youth centres were open according to their published timetable; and to ensure the provision of high quality youth work.
2. A separate full review of the youth service began in January 2016 to find out what stakeholders including young people wanted from their youth service.

# The interim delivery model

Eight key youth centres (the location of centres is still subject to discussion):



# The interim delivery model

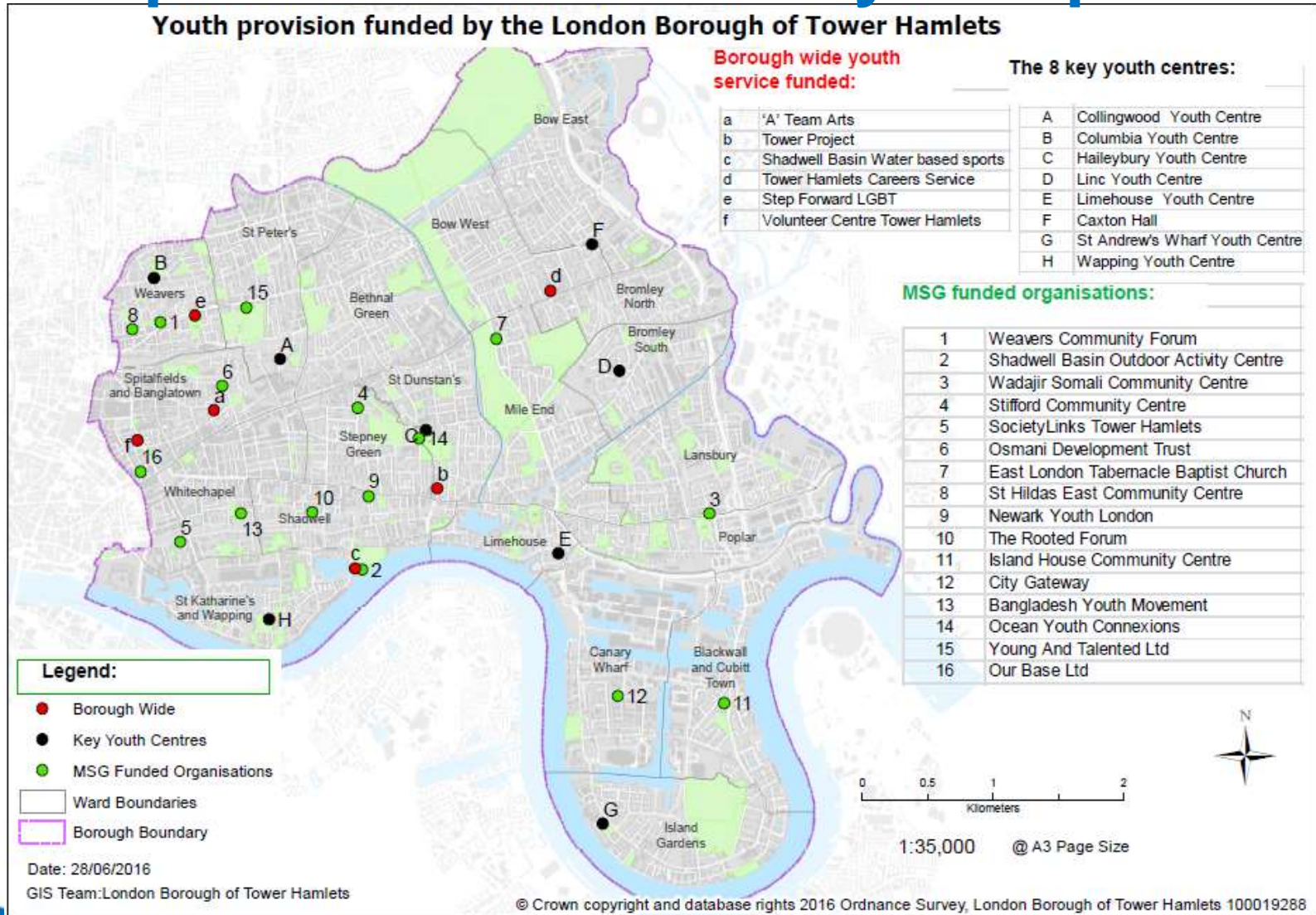
- **Specialist youth projects:** All 8 youth centres will now offer girls work; and BME projects will be provided
- **A Youth Service 2016 Summer programme:** A summer day programme will run from 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August. A summer nights programme will also be run from the 8 key youth centres from 6 pm to 9 pm.
- **Extended youth centre opening:** From September 2016 youth centres will open from 3.30 pm.
- **Externally commissioned youth work:** From September 2016 in 10 wards (Shadwell, Whitechapel, Stepney Green, Poplar, Lansbury, Spitalfields & Bangla Town, Bethnal Green, Mile End, Bromley North, and Bow East).

# The interim delivery model

Will provide:

- 6 day a week opening.
- Sufficient staffing to run multiple activities in each youth centre.
- High quality term-time and holiday youth activity.
- Partnership opportunities through commissioning.

# A map of all LBTH funded youth provision



# The Youth Service Review

Began with a survey of key stakeholders from March – April 2016.

- In total 575 surveys were completed.
- 446 surveys completed by young people; 31 completed by parents/carers; and 98 completed by key stakeholders



# Findings: Young people

The top five activities that young people were interested in were:

- 30.9% sporting activities, 23.5% workshops /courses/ training; 15.9% day trips, 7.9% indoor activities, 4.1% outdoor activities.
- They also placed a high level of importance on planned trips (54%), receiving advice about employment, education or training (48%); achieving a accredited qualification (47%).

# Findings: Parents/Carers

- 51.7% said that they knew about the activities that their children could participate in at their local youth facility but they wanted to be kept informed and updated about those activities by email and other means (55%).
- Parents/Carers liked the fact that whilst at a youth centre their children were supported by professionals (96.3% ); were safe (96%); could learn things that they did not learn at school (55.6%); and had a say about the youth programme content.

# Findings: Key stakeholders

- Stakeholders had a number of concerns about young people including youth anti-social behaviour and youth crime (37%); and lack of youth activities (19%)

Their priorities for future engagement with the youth service included:

- Improved partnership and joint working
- Support around training
- Improved communication with the youth service.

# Eight recommendations

- a) The views of young people to be embedded in the youth service review.
- b) Young people to be consulted about youth centre activities.
- c) Youth activity programmes to include sporting, leisure, and outreach activities; courses/training/ workshops and innovative projects.
- d) Provided sufficient physical space in well-equipped youth centres.
- e) Processes and systems to be developed to support parents/carers being updated about youth activity programmes.
- f) Youth activity programme information and timetable to be published and made available via electronic media.
- g) Partnership work to be undertaken with stakeholders to address their concerns for young people; and their priorities for partnership working.
- h) Consideration to be given to the creation of an IYCS stakeholder partnership forum.