



Young People, Youth Organisations & their Communities

**London Funders
Children & Young People Network**

18th July 2018

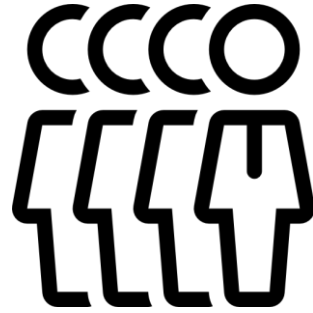
Background & Context

- **Significant attention on London's communities**
- **Young people acutely aware of how communities are changing**
- **Increasing recognition of the distinctive value of small, local charities**
- **Better understanding of what it would mean for communities to be powerful in the future**

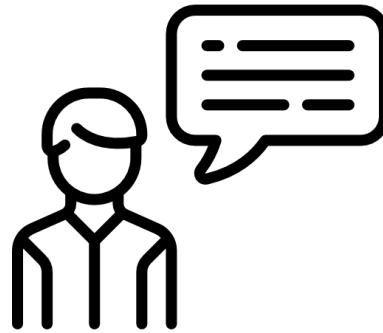
About the research



10 youth organisations



Peer-led interviews



Interviews with youth professionals

The role & value of youth organisations in strengthening communities

- **Creating connections**
- **Providing a sense of belonging & safety**
- **Recognising & celebrating difference**
- **Developing skills & confidence to actively participate**
- **Being known & trusted in the community**

The role & value of youth organisations in strengthening communities

A sense of belonging & safety

“It’s a safe place for us to come where we can enjoy ourselves and meet new people.”

“It’s like family.”

“There is a lot of crime around my area, there are bad things so you really want to just go off to some place where you can relax and be yourself, and get away from the bad things.”

The role & value of youth organisations in strengthening communities

Being known & trusted in the community

“We were already up and running, well-connected and know who needs what, where to go, know all the local authority places and so we could signpost people to where they needed to go. We’re something that’s established ...we’ve got an office, we’ve got a base, we’ve got people dotted around the borough that we can call very quickly in an emergency which has proved to be quite useful.”

How can we build on this?

- 1) Focus on the right solutions
- 2) Funding as an enabler
- 3) Protect physical spaces
- 4) Recognise destabilising forces

What role can funders play?

- Alternatives to project and programme-based funding
- Investment in existing community infrastructure
- Relationship-based vs. activity-based
- Outreach, referral, signposting
- Grant application process & language
- Impact of grant length on relationships
- Understanding the ecosystem

What next?

- **Save the date: Launch event, Monday 10th September, 5pm**
- **Come & talk to us!**

Thank you!

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