



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Research and Library Service Briefing Note

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Northern Ireland Departmental Funding of Youth Groups

1 Introduction

The following paper was commissioned by the Committee for Employment and Learning to identify the level of funding provided by NI government departments to youth groups in Northern Ireland.

Preliminary discussions with Youth Action NI identified that five government departments provide the majority of funding to youth groups/projects. These departments are:

- Department for Employment and Learning;
- Department of Social Development;
- Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety;
- Department of Education; and
- The Department of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

For the purposes of this paper the following definitions¹ have been applied:

- “Youth” is determined as anyone aged 24 and below;
- A “Youth Group” is a voluntary or statutory organisation where a group of young people who gather or meet as a youth group (for example – a youth club); and
- A “Youth Project” is a project directly targeted at young people by a voluntary or statutory organisation (for example, such as a local community group having a funded project which encourages young people to take part in training activities).

Each of the Departments were contacted and asked to provide the following information:

- How much funding has the Department provided for youth groups/programmes over the last three years, broken down by year?
- How many youth groups/programmes has the department funded over the last three years, broken down by year?
- Under which programme/programmes was the funding provided?
- Would it be possible to get a list of the youth groups/programmes which received funding in 2009/10 or 2008/09 and how much?

As can be expected a large amount of data was generated as a result of the requests. The table below provides a general summary of each Department’s spending on youth groups.

Please note: this paper does not provide an exhaustive list of all government funding provided to youth groups/projects in Northern Ireland as it targets specific Departments. In addition, individual departments define youth groups and youth projects in a variety of ways, which is reflected in the data gathered.

As such this paper should be considered as a “snap shot” and providing a general guideline of youth funding in NI only.

¹ The age is defined via NEET definitions, with Youth Group and Youth Project based upon discussions with groups such as NICCY and Youth Action.

2 Findings

Table 1 below provides a summary of the information received from the five government departments for four years.

Table 1: Selected Departments Youth Funding

Department	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Department of Education ²	£33,000,000	£34,000,000	£35,676,000	£32,827,000
Department of Employment and Learning	£296,640.00	£331,293.00	£825,998.60	-
DHSSPSNI	-	£6,138,636.00	£6,560,846.10	£7,281,520.00
Department for Social Development	£1,808,241.66	£3,549,625.27	£2,201,697.84	-
OFMDFM	£3,131,925.36	£3,097,690.90	£3,127,930.03	-

Please note, all cells marked with “-“denote years for which data has not been supplied.

As can be seen in Table 1, the Department for Education provided the largest amount of funding. The vast majority of this funding was delivered to the Education and Library Boards.

DEL provided the smallest amount of funding to youth groups/projects with the DHSSPSNI providing the second highest level. DEL funds two main youth programmes – Opportunity Youth (Training for Success) and Youth Action NI (Apprenticeships NI), with the majority of the funding being allocated to Opportunity Youth.

Ruling out the large amount of funding provided to the ELB's by the DHSSPSNI reveals that a variety of community and voluntary groups access the funding across Northern Ireland.

OFMDFM's funding of youth projects appears to be centred in and around North Belfast with £2,556,69.90 of its 2008-09 funding allocated to groups in this area (under summer intervention funding and the Community Empowerment Partnership).

Please find included with this paper data tables that provide additional information regarding the groups and programmes that received funding from each Department.

² Please note, for years 2007-08 and 2008-09 Youth Funding was sourced via the Departments Annual Resource Accounts

DSD Funding

Totals

Sum of GrantAwardAmount		
FinancialYear	FundingProgrammeTitle	Total
2007/2008	07/08 Homelessness	£224,500.00
	Areas At Risk (Dunclug Action Plan)	£11,029.76
	Areas at Risk Pilot Programme	£51,080.23
	Community Investment Fund	£77,589.00
	Community Support Programme 05/06	£0.00
	Community Volunteering Scheme 2006/2010	£100,667.00
	Local Community Fund 07/08	£219,727.26
	Modernisation Fund	£73,905.00
	Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan	£5,292.50
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2	£163,289.36
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Inner West Team	£239,388.02
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 NWDO	£193,233.73
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Outer West Team	£136,624.06
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Southern RDO	£32,195.00
	NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PHASE 3	£1,073.74
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase II	£193,558.72
	Support for Regional Infrastructure	£85,088.28
	The Modernisation Fund (Capital Programme)	£0.00
2007/2008 Total		£1,808,241.66
2008/2009	Areas At Risk (Dunclug Action Plan)	£2,396.47
	Areas at Risk Pilot Programme	£83,702.50
	Community Investment Fund	£74,726.80
	Community Volunteering Scheme 2006/2010	£109,181.59
	Homelessness 08/09	£258,500.00
	Local Community Fund 08/09	£193,686.92
	Modernisation Fund	£77,247.00
	Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan	£141,058.85
	Neighbourhood Renewal Fund NWDO	£79,384.07
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2	£84,195.52
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 BRO North	£20,147.82
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Inner West Team	£154,547.36
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Northern RDO	£82,615.00
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 NWDO	£81,949.88
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Outer West Team	£474,270.61
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Southern RDO	£435,963.75
	NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PHASE 3	£16,268.26
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase II	£200,338.71
	Support for Regional Infrastructure	£90,717.59
	The Modernisation Fund (Capital Programme)	£747,751.57
	Volunteer Bureaux Initiative 2008/2009	£140,975.00
2008/2009 Total		£3,549,625.27
2009/2010	2009/10 Community Development	£23,450.00
	2009/10 Homelessness	£251,000.00
	Areas At Risk (Dunclug Action Plan)	£53,673.00
	Areas at Risk Pilot Programme	£72,199.08
	Community Investment Fund 2009/2012	£69,859.56
	Community Volunteering Scheme 2006/2010	£37,139.00
	Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan	£50,873.72
	Neighbourhood Renewal Fund NWDO	£495,413.32
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2	£61,117.15
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 BRO North	£29,476.88
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Inner West Team	£157,981.19
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Northern RDO	£73,944.07
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase 2 Outer West Team	£171,617.88
	NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL PHASE 3	£37,418.37
	Neighbourhood Renewal Phase II	£175,142.19
	The Modernisation Fund (Capital Programme)	£441,392.43
2009/2010 Total		£2,201,697.84
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(blank) Total		
Grand Total		£7,559,564.77

Year	Total (£)
2007/08	£1,808,241.66
2008/09	£3,549,625.27
2009/10	£2,201,697.84
Total	£7,559,564.77

Source: Department for Social Development