





Tamar View's Youth & Community Work strategy 2014-2017



# Thanks go to the following organisations/individuals for helping to shape the contents of this document.

Affinity Sutton Housing

Councillor George Wheeler

Plymouth City Council Homes & Communities Department

Plymouth City Council Youth Service

Tamar View Community Complex Ltd

The Eddystone Trust

The Zone

Wiser Wonga

#### **KEY DEFINITIONS:**

Young people - for the purpose of this document, any reference to young people includes those aged 5-25-years-old.



We have an opportunity to do something brave. To do something incredible. We have to dare to be United. Innovative. Creative. We aim to build hope in a community where it is sometimes lost. Be the change that you wish to see in the world. Mahatma Gandhi

Once children reach school age (5-yearsold) they and their families receive limited access to opportunities in the community. There is a distinct lack of provision for this age group. As children become young people, there again is little support and a lack of opportunities and things to do. This breeds lots of social issues and Barne Barton scores highly for drug and alcohol misuse, teenage pregnancy, domestic violence, poor education, poor housing, and more in the IMD scale. Tamar View is at the heart of tackling these issues and, with the support of local organisations, is making inroads to some of these problems. This document sets out a vision for change. A vision that can be implemented and can work if organisations come together and work for the benefit of the people. It has become clear that to make change in the community, work with children, young people and families has to be consistent. All three areas need tackling simultaneously to ensure effective outcomes. As service providers, we need to ensure that the soft, long-term outcomes for the community are the focus of our work and the quick fire, quick-win, hard outcomes have less priority. This is the only way that we can make lasting change in Barne Barton and ensure future generations have the access to education which can give them the confidence, self-esteem and the desire to make their lives as positive and fulfilling as they desire. The people's long-term future must be our priority.

#### Peter Neale

Chairman - Tamar View Community Complex Ltd



Throughout our work with Children & Young People, we will:

## BE CREATIVE

We explore new ideas and approaches, looking for what will add real value

### USE EVIDENCE

We base what we say and do on research with the community and our own experiences working in Barne Barton

## BE

We will work with our partners to achieve the best results

# WORK WITH

We are open and honest and do what we believe is best for our community

### **BE INCLUSIVE**

We value diversity and will work to make sure that the opportunities we provide are open to all

We must view young people not as empty bottles to be filled but as candles to be lit. Unknown



## Why bother with youth & community work?

Youth and community work is about consistency - it's about being there for people and ensuring individuals can realise potential and feel valued. It's about empowering and enabling people to learn and develop as they see fit, at their pace and in the way they choose. It's about flexibility and investing the time and care that facilitates the inidividual's journey and development. It's about challenging stereotypes and discrimination, helping children and young people to see their own value, especially with those who have been subjected to considerable discrimination and damage from their families, communities and society. It's about meeting the individual at their place and working with them to develop aspiration which leads to achievement and success - in whatever form that may be. It's about equipping

people to become active citizens which involves empowering them to be the best they can be and to see the best in others and their community. It's about enabling a positive contribution to society. These values can be extended to children's work and community work and are the fundamental foundations of Tamar View's delivery over the next three years. We aim to come alongside the community and deliver a consistent service that has real, deep impact.

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future. Franklin D. Roosevelt





To give children & young people positive opportunities and experiences...







Influence and make positive changes for themselves and their community... A part of something special that will lay foundations for adulthood allowing them to grow into the individual they dream of being.







Through consultation with the people of Barne Barton, through observations and through work with children and young people from the community, the following needs have been identified:

- Children and young people require access to structured, informal learning opportunities that can build community cohesion, safe risk-taking opportunities, and opportunities for mental, physical and spiritual growth and development.
- 2. Children and young people require opportunities to engage in sportbased activities that can help to tackle unhealthy lifestyles.
- 3. Young people need education around areas such as sexual health, drug and alcohol misuse, diet and exercise, lifestyle choices and gaining employment.

- 4. Families need access to support that can help them break generational cycles of negative behaviours.
- 5. Children, young people and families need more facilities that are safe and accessible.

Praise youth and it will prosper. Irish Proverb



Evidence is available from a consultation by the Neighbourhood Forum, a consultation by the Community Ambassadors young people group, the Plymouth City Council and NHS Area Profile, and the National Census.

Examples of provision asked for in previous consultations:

- Sport and Leisure provision
- Music provision
- Food and cookery provision
- New Youth Centre
- Activities at Bullpoint Barracks
- Swimming Pool
- Adventure opportunities
- Football for older young people
- Computer game tournaments
- Volunteering opportunities
- Skating facilities
- Community events such as treasure hunt, music, BBQ





To develop a culture where partner organisations will strive to support a diverse and vibrant community, committed to developing a holistic approach to empowerment that allows opportunities for all so children and young people can feel respected, happy, involved and valued.

> If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change. Wayne Dyer



Based on the need and the evidence gained, Tamar View's long-term targets for its work with children & young people are:

### SUPPORT We aim to regularly work with over 200 children & young people from Barne Barton by 2017

We aim to facilitate relevant training opportunities to individuals not in education, employment or training

### FACILITATE

We aim to help young people make a positive contribution to the community through social action

### BUILD

We aim to build volunteering opportunities for young people by developing links with local businesses and organisations

### GROWTH

We aim to help young people build their selfesteem, confidence and self-worth through social and personal development opportunities



From our vision and targets, we hope to achieve the following outcomes with young people:



- A grounded basic offer in place and promoted.
- Wider engagement with young people and organisations.
- A co-ordinated approach to delivery.
- Quick wins for immediate participation and relationship development.



- Young people involved in decision making and influence of community led facilities.
- Half target audience engaged in provision.
- Young people suitably up-skilled to enable leadership opportunities.



- Sustainable lives i.e. into work.
- Active participants in Neighbourhood Plan.
- Young people to lead on development of dedicated space for community use i.e. a Youth Centre.



### To reach these targets and outcomes, we will, with flexibility:



- Branding designed and project promoted #daretobe\_
- Outreach and detached work implemented.
- Community Ambassadors to launch project in response to consultation.
- Links developed with partner agencies.
- Volunteers/student placements sought

### **CORE OFFER:**

- I. Youth Café support group
- 2. Community Ambassadors social action
- 3. Young men's group
- 4. Young women's group
- 5. Sport related community work
- 6. Drop-in session led by Ambassadors



- Signpost service users to other organisations i.e. The Zone.
- Develop provision around sport and leisure; music; food and cookery.
- Development of training and accreditation for service users.
- Young people to be influencers of Neighbourhood Plan.



- Community Ambassadors Project to deliver social action.
- Ambassadors to lead on development of Youth Centre.
- Sexual Health provision implemented throughout community.



The children & young people of Barne Barton need our work. They need access to positive relationships with adults they trust. They need to feel like there is hope. Like they have a future. Like they belong.

If we can achieve these things then we can give the children and young people the chance to experience new, exciting opportunities and build a positive future for themselves. Tamar View has opened up opportunities for the Community Ambassadors (pictured right) in the short time they have worked together and now positive community engagement is starting to happen. We are beginning to have an impact.

Success of this project will not be seen in the quick wins so often wanted. Success will be achieved when the community can see that its future can be whatever it wants it to be - and young people have the opportunity to be a part of that community cohesion and development.

