

Background

The Youth Club Young Volunteers programme came about as a result of youth workers in the field requesting a central resource for the training of young people taking a Senior Member role within their club or project.

The principles of this programme's development were:

- to offer a flexible 'off the shelf' training package to young people
- to be flexible enough to meet the needs of individual units / clubs / projects
- to be modular
- to offer consistency of approach across the county
- to provide a training resource pack that can be photocopied and adapted for individual clubs or projects
- to provide a progression route for young people who were already undertaking additional responsibilities.

Thus Youth Club Young Volunteers was born!

In 2007 a pilot programme took place. Each area identified a team of young volunteers who then:

- undertook an initial lead-in training programme
- participated in a weekend training and team building residential
- undertook additional responsibilities within their club or project i.e.
 - ☆ interviewing to recruit staff
 - ☆ programme and event planning
 - ☆ forming members' committees
 - ☆ running the coffee bar
 - ☆ specific project work e.g. healthy eating
 - ☆ engagement with county initiatives e.g. Youth Funding Panel / UKYP / Museum Project
 - ☆ giving presentations within their communities to adults / key figures and young people
- Attended a second residential towards the end of the year with 2 specific objectives to:
 - ☆ Provide additional training support
 - ☆ Celebrate and share good practice

Trained young volunteers were then encouraged to develop the work further on a unit or area basis. The programme was evaluated by young people and youth workers. This was used to inform the development of this pack. Youth Club Young Volunteers programmes (either county-wide or unit-based) have continued since.

This new and revised on-line pack will continue the tradition of supporting youth workers to enable young people to develop to their full potential.