

A PLACE to be YOUNG



**STRATEGIC PLAN
SUMMARY - 2017-2019**



WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

Sphere 17 provides a high-quality youth service to young people between the ages of 10 – 24, in the region of Dublin 17.

Most of the neighbourhoods that we serve are categorised as disadvantaged or very disadvantaged areas. We provide many different services to young people, based on their needs, issues and interests.

The services include educational and issue based group work programmes, one-to-one support, detached youth work (outreach), outings and residential activities, summer project, the Woodale Youth Justice Project and The Listen Project. There is plenty more information about our community, our service and our team contained in the full version of this plan.

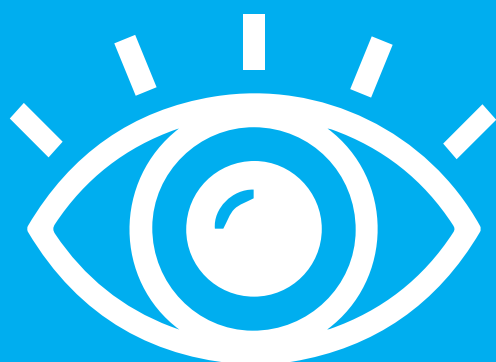
SUMMARY OF OUR GOALS

We have agreed on six key goals that we aim to achieve over the coming three years. The goals, and our plan to achieve them, are explored in more detail in the full version of this plan.



sphere17
regional youth service



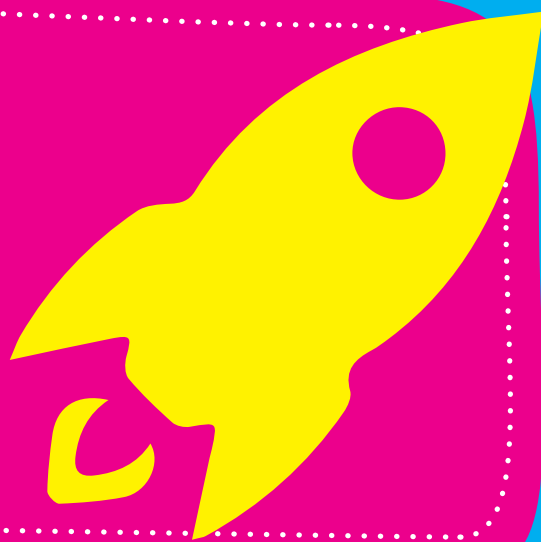


OUR VISION

Sphere 17 hopes for a future where all young people are valued. We want to see a society where young people have a voice, where young people are respected, and where they feel included, no matter what community they are from. We hope for a society where young people can get high quality support and have a real chance to be the best that they can be.

OUR MISSION

Sphere 17 believes all young people can achieve great things; some may need some support to do that. Our mission is to support young people to be the best that they can be. We provide support in different ways, for different young people, as they need it. We do this through drop-ins, group work, one-to-one work, outreach and outings.



OUR VALUES

YOUNG PERSON CENTRED: We are committed to being young person centred, where young people are the focus of the service.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION: We believe in voluntary participation as a core to our Youth Service provision; young people should always be using our service by choice.

EQUALITY AND RESPECT: We promote the acceptance and understanding of others through all service activity and we hold that all people have unique value, rights, needs, beliefs and potential.

DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH: We believe that Sphere 17 is a place of on-going learning and opportunity for growth.

SAFETY AND SUPPORT: We promote a safe and supportive environment in all our service provision.





Innovating Our One-to-One Support

We want to be leaders in the youth sector in providing high quality one-to-one support, so we want to improve this vital part of our work. We will provide all young people, who need it, with a programme of structured one-to-one support to meet their needs. We hope, by doing this, that young people in Dublin 17 can access structured one-to-one support to identify their needs and address these needs, if and when they need it.



2

Understanding Our Impact

We hear great stories about the impact our work is having on the lives of many young people. **We want to make sure that we are having a positive impact on the lives of as many young people as possible and that we are using our resources to affect a positive impact in all the services we provide.**

We will develop, pilot and implement a system of impact measurement, data collection and reporting on our impact, incrementally, over the three-year period. We hope that by doing this we will have a much clearer understanding of how our work is helping young people, so we can do more of what is working well, and continue to improve our service to make it the best it can be.

3

Providing Better Mental Health Supports

In Sphere 17, we regularly work with young people who are managing challenges in relation to mental health, and proactively addressing and supporting this is a priority for us. **We will train all staff to respond to, and refer appropriately, young people who may be experiencing mental health difficulties.** We hope that by doing this young people experiencing difficulties around their mental health will, when they need it, have access to high-quality information on the specialised mental health supports available to them, and how to access these supports.



4

Providing Better Youth Employment Support

Youth unemployment remains one of the highest in Europe. **We want to provide practical, tangible and young-person focussed support for young people who wish to avail of internships and employment opportunities.**

We will develop a young employment mentoring service in partnership with local businesses, which we hope will give young people attending our service positive experiences of work and work placement, and improved employability skills.

5

Improving Our Communications

We want to make sure that young people and other stakeholders are receiving the information they need from us, and about us, in the way that they need it. We will develop a communications strategy that clearly communicates who we are, what we do and our positive impact to a range of stakeholders, including young people, parents, the community, our funders and our partner organisations. By doing this, we hope our stakeholders will be able to find out what they need about our service from accessible, engaging and high-quality information online, on paper and in person.



6

Auditing Our Programmes

We want to make sure young people and other stakeholders have a chance to tell us if they're happy with the job we're doing. We're going to formally audit services and programmes, focussing on one to two areas of service provision each year. We hope that as a result of doing this, we will have a better understanding, on an on-going basis, of how well young people are enjoying our services. We'll also know whether we can improve how we are working with young people in any way, and where different parts of our service fit in with the overall range of services being provided to young people in D17.





This strategic plan builds on our previous strategic plan, which ran from 2014 – 2016. It provides a roadmap for what Sphere 17 hopes to achieve over the coming three years, and how we plan to achieve it.

For a full version of this plan simply drop in to one of our youth centres or contact us as detailed below.

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Written with support from

